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Good Work.

We cannot refrain from expressing our approval of the good work of County Attorney W. T. Eckstein and Sheriff W. J. Julius in the recent criminal matters which were so efficiently and economically disposed of.

Although a term of court intervened immediately after the commission of the Sleepy Eye burglary, giving the criminals a running start of about four weeks, the county's peace officers being busily engaged in court, the work was taken up and carried through with such dispatch that in six weeks time the matter was closed with the two Pfeifers and Brooks now in the state penitentiary at Stillwater and the "fence tools", Norman McClellom and Max Schaefer, safely lodged in jail in St. Paul.

The securing of the evidence against these men was an arduous task. Examination of evidence, thread by thread, was made in the privacy of the county attorney's office, Mr. Eckstein acting in the capacity of his own stenographer, thus saving expense to the county and also preventing any possibility of "leaks". When the work was completed, the county authorities had the whole story and the next thing was simply to pull in the net, a process which was not so simple after all, but which was made much easier after the thorough preliminary work. When the culprits were all caught, they found that the evidence against them was so complete that there was nothing to do but to plead guilty, incidentally saving the county from long drawn out and expensive jury trials in the regular term of court as well as the board bill of the defendants till that time.

Norman McClellom and Max Schaefer will be tried in Ramsey County, which lets Brown County out of the expense of prosecuting them. Max Pfeifer, Raymond Brooks and Wm. Pfeifer were taken to Stillwater last Thursday.

We expect money to be spent in prosecuting criminals. That is what we have a county attorney and a sheriff for. Without that, we would have anarchy. But when efficiency in office is coupled with economy as well, we have double reason for our approval.

Two More Straws.

The parliamentary elections in the Province of Manitoba, Canada, and the primary election in the State of Nebraska, both last week, are two more straws showing how the political winds are blowing.

In Manitoba, the farmers' party captured 35 out of a total of 52 seats, getting a clear majority of 18 votes in the provincial parliament over the combined vote of all other parties.

In Nebraska, progressives were nominated over reactionaries in both the Democratic and Republican parties for United States senator and all the state offices.

These are sultry days for the reactionaries.

The Darkness Before the Dawn.

"The man behind" the Northwestern Service Bureau seems to be using it mainly to "press agents" himself this year, what with a double column cut in Western Newspaper Union plus (too precious for publication six months ago) and editorials of fulsome praise nearly every week. Candidates are seldom mentioned.

In the meantime, Hon. Henry Arens, true blue progressive, has resigned from the state committee. He was the only member of the committee with the necessary qualifications for leadership, but he was in a minority, having the support of only one out of the other four. That leaves that committee dominated more than ever by a man who has received a great deal of favorable, but unearned, publicity during the past four years.

Some people seem to work on the theory that what they made they have a right to destroy.

But then it is always darkest just before the dawn.

The Price of Coal.

Due to misinformation peddled by the kept press of the country, many people shake their heads at the striking coal miners. "People don't know when they are well off," we hear someone say, and "It's foolish to quit work and strike during these hard times when work is so hard to get."

But when you know that the coal miners were employed, in normal times, only 125 days out of the 365 days in the year, you will understand

that they have to get enough wages for 125 days' work to feed, clothe and house themselves and families for 365 days. When the discussion is on how much these men received a day in pay, the figures are misleading, because they are forced to be idle almost two days for every one day that they get a chance to work, in normal times.

Coal miners, in normal times, have had a chance to work less than three days a week, on the average. They are paid by the day for the days they work only. The owners of the mines control the number of days they operate the mines. The owners are on a strike, in normal times, about two thirds of the time. Do you ever hear any holler about that in the kept press?

Propagandist news writers tell us how much the miners were paid a day, and to those of us who were not informed as to the true facts, it sounded big. Most of us didn't know that one day's wage had to pay for three days' living. When miners made a demand for a four day week, paid writers made much of it in denouncing the "lazy" workmen who didn't want to work more than four days a week, when the fact of the matter is that they were then working only a little more than two days a week and their demand was for more work because they found it next to impossible to live on the wages they earned for only two days a week.

Why won't the mine owners let their men work more than two days a week? Because by working two days a week, enough coal is mined to supply the demand and there was a surplus of 70 million tons beside at the time the strike started. If more coal should be mined, there would be "over-production" of coal and in the scramble to get it sold, the price of coal would drop. The owners want to keep the supply of coal low enough to keep the American coal-buying public on the anxious seat to make the high price easy to get. The explanation of the high price is always that "labor cost" is so high. And again, most of us don't know that the coal which we pay \$11.00 a ton and more for in New Ulm, only cost \$1.72 a ton to dig in Illinois, and that the cost of digging coal in Indiana, West Virginia and Pennsylvania averages \$1.95 a ton for which we pay \$14.50 in New Ulm. That doesn't look as if the high price in New Ulm should be blamed to labor, does it? And it is a cinch that it isn't the New Ulm dealer who gets away with the big rake-off.

President Harding has now shown how completely his government is a capitalist government by ordering the mines operated by the present owners under the exact terms asked by the owners and "drafting" the men to work under the new rules laid down by the owners, the work to be forced under protection of the American flag. This act by President Harding, an official declaration of war against organized labor, is so contrary to every fundamental principle of justice as to be almost unbelievable. And yet it probably is the best thing that could ever happen. Big wrongs are not righted, as a rule, until things become so rotten as to stink to heaven. This act of Harding's, coming on top of a long series of injustice to labor should awaken the civic righteousness of the nation culminating in mass action at the polls.

Labor needs to be slapped real hard to awaken to the fact that the ballot is more powerful than the strike.

MINNESOTA UNIONS ASK MCADOO TO STAY AWAY

At an informal meeting of the legislative committee of the "Big Four" transportation organizations held at Crookston last week, it was decided to send William G. McAdoo a telegram requesting him to refrain from entering the Minnesota campaign in behalf of Mrs. Anna Dickie Oleson, Democratic candidate for United States senator. The brotherhoods have endorsed Henrik Shipstead, Farmer-Labor candidate.

According to reports, the brotherhoods will not object to William Jennings Bryan or Senator Pat Harrison entering the state in behalf of Mrs. Oleson, for these last two are no longer considered progressives by the railroad workers.

BROWN COUNTY BANK MEET

Last Wednesday the Brown County Bank Association held its annual meeting at Sleepy Eye. The principal business of the meet was the election of officers. F. H. Krook of New Ulm, who had served as vice president of the association for the preceding year, was chosen president, and E. L. Nippolt of Springfield was elected to Mr. Krook's former position. J. Z. Herzog of Sleepy Eye was re-elected to serve as secretary and treasurer of the organization for the ensuing year. Last year's president was F. D. Reed of Comfrey.

Three local banks were represented at the meet: F. H. Krook and O. M. Olson of the Citizens' State Bank; L. B. Krook of the Brown County bank; and A. L. Boock of the Farmers' and Merchants' State Bank. No representative was set by the State Bank of New Ulm. Delegates from Sleepy Eye, Springfield, Comfrey, Evan were present, besides those from New Ulm.

BUSINESS MEN'S AID TO FARMERS

NEW ULM BUSINESS MAN ASKS SPACE IN REVIEW FOR BROOKHART'S VIEW.

IOWA MAN SHOWS WHERE BEST INTERESTS OF LITTLE BUSINESS LIES.

A prominent business man of New Ulm has called the Review's attention to excerpts of a speech by Colonel Smith W. Brookhart published in a Minneapolis newspaper with the request that at least some of it be republished for the benefit of Review readers. Colonel Brookhart won the Republican party's nomination for United States senator in the recent primary election in Iowa. The speech referred to was delivered before the Commercial Club of Iowa City about two months before the primary election and is, of course, mainly addressed to business and professional men. There is, however, much meat in it for farmers and workmen as well.

Brookhart To Business Men.

Here is what Brookhart said in part to the business men of Iowa City:

"I come before you today neither to flatter nor to entertain, but to present to you the plain facts of an economic situation which I believe to be epochal in the history of our country. There is much in good fellowship, more in fraternal kindness and everything in the Golden Rule, but there is nothing in a pretense of these things when the hard facts of a so-called competitive system deny them. I therefore propose to analyze and dissect this system before you with the keen criticism of the farmer who produces his bread and yours in the sweat of his brow; of the laborer who produces clothing, shelter and equipment for himself and for you in the work of his hands; of the brain worker who trains the child mind, guards the health and keeps the record of all business and all civilization; of the soldier who volunteers his life in a \$30 per month draft for his country and for humanity while wealth reaps billions in profits out of the blood money of war. Since the farmer produces the food of civilization, since labor produces its clothing, shelter and comforts, and since the soldier protects and preserves it, the three have the primary and basic claim upon civilization for its rewards. Has this claim been heeded by the economic system of our country?"

Should Be Like a Pyramid.

"I shall not take the time to trace the details of our economic structure, but will designate the parts in the familiar terms known to all. It should be built like the pyramids with the broad volume of net profits at the bottom for agriculture, then for labor, then for the reward of the soldier and tapering to the apex with the net profits of distribution.

Is An Inverted Pyramid.

"In fact it is an inverted pyramid. Agriculture is at the bottom, but its net profits are an apex and not a foundation. Labor is next with unemployment and diminished earnings. The soldier is next with broken platform pledges. Little business is next, crumbling and falling in failure and dissolution because it is tied to big business above and has no adequate support in the stability of labor and farmers below. Spreading out over all this is the transportation trust with its \$7,000,000,000 of watered capital supported by a legislative guarantee which is worse than a mortgage upon the farm and labor earnings of the country. Closely allied is the telephone trust which is unable to live upon 8 per cent in these hard times and accordingly raised its dividend rate to 9 per cent the first of last July, (1921) another mortgage upon the common people of the United States. This inverted pyramid of profits is completed by the beef trust which deflated itself by substituting war profits secreted in its book accounts for its paper losses, by the steel trust which discharged its men and held its gains, by the coal trust which never has seen the top of prices, by the money trust which believes the minimum earnings of a New York bank should be 28 per cent by divine right, by the sugar trust, by the tobacco trust, by the millers' trust, by the cotton trust, and by the oil trust which has taken 200 per cent in New Jersey for the past 12 years and which took a 2,000 per cent stock dividend in Indiana in 1912 and 150 per cent annual cash dividends over all since.

Up To The Business Men.

"The farmer and the laboring men have put on their spectacles and taken a look at this inverted pyramid of profits. They have decided to quit fighting each other for the bottom place and to join hands and fight the combinations for the top.

In this fight there is no neutral ground. It is now up to you to decide whether you will join with producing labor on the farm and in the factory to build a solid foundation of stabilized and limited profits for the earnings of capital, or whether you will continue suspended by the balloon of

high finance until its chain store idea has dropped you upon the rocks of disaster.

Organization.

"What is it that has turned this pyramid of profits upside down? Organization. Every one of the trusts which I have described is operated by an organization as autocratic and as efficient as Napoleon's army. All are federated together in the United States Chamber of Commerce and united for thought and action as closely as the allied armies under Marshal Foch. They are protected by charters of incorporation, which afford the most efficient machinery for collective action and the private fortunes of the stockholders are exempt from liability. Among these corporations, gentlemen's agreements have become more powerful than anti-trust laws even in the Supreme Court of the United States.

Labor has partly organized, claiming the same rights of collective action to which it is certainly entitled, but which are still largely denied.

Capital Decided to Strike.

"At the beginning of 1920, the farmer was still prosperous. Credit was plentiful, prices good, freight rates not yet risen, and a world demand far greater than production with buying power enough to more than take all our surplus farm products and with the profits of all other capital far in advance of the farm.

It was under these glowing conditions that capital decided to strike. The decision was made in secret and carried out in stealth. Big business proceeded to make its own credit secure. For instance, one big packing company secured a 10-year loan of \$60,000,000, another of \$50,000,000, and the others in like proportion. These vast sums were obtained largely from the farmers through the country banks.

Farmer Was Called.

"Being thus fortified, the farmer was called. This was easily possible through the Federal reserve bank and hard to detect after done. Under the original scheme of credit allotment, the share of agriculture was small and it had been largely overloaned. For instance, the allotment to Iowa was only \$36,000,000 while one Chicago bank had an allotment of \$80,000,000 and one New York bank, \$145,000,000.

Based upon resources, Iowa should have a federal reserve allotment of more than \$300,000,000, and the Iowa Bankers' Association says the total outside loans only amounted to \$150,000,000. Of this sum, the Federal Reserve furnished \$91,000,000 which was \$55,000,000 in excess of our allotment and this excess was called.

Farmers Forced To Sell.

"This forced the farmers to sell their product near harvest and of course the prices fell. We now know that the Federal Reserve Bank had over \$1,200,000,000 of unused credit at the time these loans were called, hence its action was arbitrary, but not more arbitrary than the system of allotting credit which gave Iowa only \$36,000,000. The result of this whole operation was a deflation of farm products of more than \$7,000,000,000 in 1920.

Foreign Price Went Up.

"There are no other substantial causes. The world demand for farm products was far greater than the supply. It is said the buying power of the world was impaired, but it was still strong enough to take all our surplus. The effect on wheat is a clear example. For 1920, the price went down an average of 70 cents per bushel to the American farmer and went up an average of 33 cents per bushel for exports. Three hundred and seven million bushels, the largest amount in our history, moved on this extra spread.

Labor Has Problems.

"The situation in relation to labor is even more pronounced than in the case of the farmer. It is claimed that labor primarily deposits about 25 per cent of the money in the banks of the country. Applied to the national banks, this would amount to over \$3,000,000,000 in 1920 and including



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Andrew Saffert NEW ULM, MINN.

all banks, it amounts to more than twice that sum. Not 10 per cent of this vast sum is ever loaned back to the laboring people. It is loaned to every kind of speculation and enterprise, often to the enemies of labor. If labor had the economic control of its own bank deposits, it would have a power for its own betterment far greater than all the strikes that have ever been organized. If the farmer and labor can co-operate together, the combined credit resources of the two will easily control the financial situation. They are entitled to control the Federal Reserve Bank itself.

Little Business Must Join.

"Why was no fight made for the rights of agriculture? Because little business was looking toward big business for its inspiration. When big business said, deflate the farmer and labor, little business shut its eyes and joined the chorus. A rude awakening is now at hand. The farmer is deflated all right and a large part of labor is out of a job and shortighted little business has lost its customers. Its own deflation is now inevitable, a result of its own shortsighted policy.

"And who won this ruthless game? Big business promoted the rise, gambled on it and won, discharged its men, promoted the fall, gambled on it and won again. The total relative holdings of big business are enhanced far more by the decline than by the rise, while the farmer, laborer and little business are shuttled into bankruptcy.

"In the face of these facts I demand, is it not time for little business to withdraw its blind support from the autocratic overhead and join with the farmers in their co-operative movements for economic freedom?"

NOTED AND QUOTED.

"It is rather interesting," says Bess M. Wilson editors of *The Redwood Gazette*, "to note that thru its columns one of our exchanges is giving a 'Course in Civics for Women.' Does that imply that such 'simple stuff' need not be read by men? Or is it published in the hope that being captioned 'For Women,' the men will surely read it? Or perhaps the women having gotten the instruction will enlighten certain other individuals, the identity of whom it would be better not to disclose? Or still again, can it possibly be a mere sop to man's superiority? What is the psychology of the heading anyhow?"

In her opening campaign speech, Mrs. Oleson, the Democratic candidate for the United States Senate, said nothing about Democratic principles, but waxed eloquent over the development of "statesmanship" under the Republican regime, and praised Senator Knute Nelson as a "statesman." These tactless statements definitely place Mrs. Oleson where she belongs,

among the reactionaries. No progressive in his or her right mind will vote for an admirer or imitator of such "statesmanship" as Knute Nelson typifies.—*Minnesota Daily Star*.

An exchange gives this recipe for tragedy: "Take one reckless, natural born fool. Two or three drinks of bad liquor. A fast, high-powered motor car. Soak the fool well in the liquor, place in the car and let him

If a man hasn't entertained an idea in 37 years, he always glows with pride when called a "good party man."—*Minnesota Daily Star*.

There is so much law there is no room for justice.—*Collon*.

We might make war less terrible by means of an international agreement to let privates stay back with the generals.—*Minnesota Daily Star*.

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