

The Llano Colonist

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CARL GLEESER—Editor.

The Federal Statistics show that the cost of living in the United States is now from 26 to 31 per cent higher than it was in 1913. What about the wages? They have gone so high that they can't be found anywhere!

The British Co-operative Wholesale Society is reported to have taken over an entire coal mine, the Shibboleth Colliery, to secure coal at labor cost for the 4,500,000 families now supplied by its retail stores, and there can be no question but that the British co-operators will make a big success of the venture. It may be news to many Americans that co-operative coal-mining has been previously carried on successfully in the United States, notably in the State of Kansas at Osage City. Twenty-five years ago, organized as a voluntary Labor Exchange, they carried on operations successfully for a number of years. I visited them on Labor Day in 1898 and was one of the speakers at the celebration of that day, and what I saw, and what they told me, showed these workers fully competent to successfully operate an industry with which they are familiar. And what more than anything else delighted me was the fact that men from practically all the different nationalities of Europe and natives of America could work together harmoniously in co-operation.

"Co-operative coal mining is also carried on to-day in this country. The entire town of Himelville, W. Va., attests the success of the Hibler Co-operative Coal Company, owned by 1400 miners, who also own the local bank, a co-operative weekly paper, and an electric power station to supply their homes with light at cost. In the Tug River district of Kentucky the workers have organized the Nebo American Coal Company, with a capital of \$240,000 supplied co-operatively by the miners themselves. The United Mine Workers' Co-operative Store at Boonville, Indiana, owns its own co-operative coal mine; and a co-operative mine at Dugger in the same state has a production of over three hundred tons a day.

"There can be no peace in the coal industry so long as greed for profits and not service is the aim of the men who control it. It is an economic and social crime in this twentieth century for the men who do the hazardous, heavy work of mining the coal that keeps us warm and turns the wheels of industry, to be compelled to strike in order to secure a living wage and a fair condition of labor. There is only one way to end this crime, and that is by co-operative ownership and control of the nation's coal resources for the benefit of all instead of a privileged few."

Pity those who have lived without loving.—Arsene Houssaye.

President Lincoln abolished chattel slavery, but established wage slavery for both white and black by delegating to private banks the privilege of controlling money and credit and charging interest for it use (7% or more per annum to the bank and 3% to the Government to pay the bank's interest on the bonds that secure the bank notes).

Money at 10% per annum compounded quarterly, doubles in seven years; thus \$100 in 7 years calls for \$200; in 14 years, for \$400; in 21 years, for \$800; and in 28 years, for \$1,600 in payment, although money does not increase itself, is dead, inert, whether paper or metal. Yet, interest increases the debtor's obligation to pay money which does not exist, a natural impossibility, and ruins them financially because of inability to perform an impossibility.

Fifty years later the Industrial Commission reported that "the rich two per cent of the people owned 60 per cent of the wealth." In 1922 it is reasonable to estimate that the rich two per cent of the people hold interest earning securities or claims against the people equalling or exceeding the total wealth of the United States. And they show no desire to put their thieving money into productive or commercial channels, but seem to be obsessed with a mania to invest only in non-taxable securities, to escape paying any share of the public expense.

Twelve of the 113 war-time prisoners in America are British-born. Richard Brazier was a metal worker in Birmingham; Joe Aates was a miner at Cleator Moor; Ted Frazer hails from Manchester; Sam Scarlett was a member of the old Amalgamated Society of Engineers in Glasgow. Others of English origin are Charles Lambert, Bert Lorton, J. A. Macdonald, Don Sheridan, Frederick Esmond, Harry Lloyd, Herbert Hahler, and William Moran.

Thousands of leaflets summing up the plight of the political in the United States are being circulated by the Class War Prisoners' Release Committee here.

"Brutal persecution still continues in America against workers active in defending the interests of their class," declares the committee in these leaflets.

The pecan saved the day for the farmers of Louisiana. It is estimated that approximately \$8,000,000 worth of pecans were sold from the native trees which grow wild on the alluvial land over the state.

It is impossible to improve men without showing them up as they are.

BY THE WAY

The contest between the fly and the swatter now begins. The swatter has flies rush in where angels soon will tread.

Sheep men in North Carolina have developed a plan to send their wool direct to the woolen mills, which has proven satisfactory to the grower and the manufacturer.

Mrs. Hartung sobbed her story while she held her baby close to her breast in a Chicago court where her husband was held for burglary. "My husband was out of work; we had spent all our earnings, and were hungry. We appealed to relatives but got no help; and fearing that our baby would starve, we put the baby in the carriage and I watched outside the homes while my husband went in and rifled the ice boxes for food." Her story was verified by the police who stated that the home which he had entered were not molested, excepting the food that was stored in the ice boxes. "Six months in jail. Next!"

How the law can be twisted and untwisted to suit, was demonstrated in New Orleans last week. The City had entered into a contract with the street railway for the use of its street for a stated term of years and at a stated price. The agreement was entered into between the City and the street railway company, that no charge for passenger rates should ever be more than five cents per mile. Now the courts have decided that the City was all wrong; that it had no right to tell the street railway company the price of a fare about the City streets. The courts decide that, although the City is a "rate-making body," still the city cannot make rates. Beat that if you can, Mister Reader!

"I want a good book, some knitting, a rocking chair, and a house full of children," said Mrs. Leonora Medeira, a woman lawyer of Chicago, who has been in politics for the past ten years, and was public welfare commissioner under Mayor Harrison of that city. "For the glamor of public life I gave up my home, my husband and my children," she said. "It doesn't pay. I am going to abandon this life and take my god-given place within the family circle. Perhaps I am a bit old-fashioned; but I am going to quit the law and the practice of politics that goes with it, and go home and bake apples for the kiddies. To hear them say 'Come home, mamma, won't you,' is teaching me that I am not, nor have been, doing my duty to these babes of mine. So farewell to public life." were her parting remarks.

There is a religious war in Ireland. The North and the South hate each other with an intensity that defies description, and nothing seems to appease the hatred that has been engendered there. This comes from a systematic campaign began centuries ago by interests now long since obsolete—but it pays some people to keep such a thing going. And you will always find the man who will tell you that the other fellow is no good for this or that reason; because his ancestors many years ago shot your ancestors, or some other foolish nonsense that should have been forgotten long ago, if we humans are to live with each other on this planet in peace with each other. Watch out for the man who will set your mind against some other man for personal reasons.

Who has not heard of the "millionaire Hobo" or tramp? Few have believed that such a person ever existed, yet here we have the statement of Mrs. Graham Duffield of Chicago, who had come to New York finally to see if she could not locate her 18-year-old son, who had decamped from a private school some six months ago, and had not been heard from since. She employed the best detectives that Chicago had and they soon located her boy slinging hash in a cheap Bowery hash house, where he got \$10 a week and board for his services. When pressed to go home with his mother, he declined until she informed him that he was a millionaire in his own right, and would come into full possession of his wealth in three years. Then he gave in and went home in a special train. The boy had on the crudest kind of overalls when found, and stated that he had gone to sleep many a night hungry. He told some of the most startling tales of his adventures among the down and outs, and declared that when he came into the possession of his thirteen millions he would use it to alleviate the wrongs that the down and outs now suffer from in all parts of the country.

According to the latest statistics from the different countries in Europe: England has 2,300,000 out of work. Ireland's industries are idle from internal strife. France has 1,000,000 unemployed, and another million at work in reconstruction at starvation wages. Austria only needs the preacher to say

the last few words to see her finish as an industrial nation. The Scandinavian countries can no longer run the industries of the separate nations that constitute Scandinavia for the want of consumers for her products. Germany is working with a vim to supply all that will buy the goods that she will sell for any price, and as a consequence of this the German is to-day getting less of the good things of life in return for the energy expended than any other nation on earth. Italy is trying to borrow money to sustain the life of the nation. Bread! bread! is the cry heard on the streets. Portugal and Spain are overrun with poverty and unemployment. The soldiers must keep order with the bayonet on the public street.

And we wonder why! It is the same old world as ever; there are as many people with hungry mouths as formerly; they all need to be fed and clothed. And, notwithstanding the immense loss of human life during the war, there are to-day more people in the world than there were before the war. Do you know what is wrong with this old world of ours? Better get wise, ask questions, then dissect the questions until you find the solution to the great problem: Every one has some idea except you; now it is your turn to settle the question with yourself.

After four years of determination, combined with pluck, the Peruvian government and American doctors have ridden Peru of that monster, yellow fever.

"It was a test of human endurance and intelligence against ignorance and opposition, and we won," said Dr. Henry Hanson. "Our chief obstacle was the ignorance on the part of the public. In one town the whole population rose against us because we closed the churches. Nothing could have made a sane people more angry; the town was doomed; yellow fever was all around; people were dying by the hundreds daily; they went to church every day to pray for the recovery of some member of their family, and unconsciously spread the disease. To tell them this simple fact was like putting out a flame with oil. They mobbed our office, attempted to kill our director, and we had to escape through a hole made in the roof of the building. We were eventually compelled to withdraw from that place because of the bitterness of the inhabitants, and left them to the mercy of the Creator. Afterwards the town was entirely wiped out by the scourge. The outside world will little realize the immensity of the work carried to perfection against all kinds of odds until we brought the country back to health. The inhabitants were dying by the thousands, and no matter what efforts we made to appease their sufferings, there was the same opposition shown until we appealed to the Peruvian Government who sent soldiers down to quell the aggressiveness of the people. But the grand work is done and yellow fever is no more in Peru. The four years spent there has added twenty years to my life. Saving an ignorant mob from themselves is an unenviable task and is unconceivable to the ordinary individual," was the statement given by Dr. Hanson.

This is not serious, but merely interesting, or amusing.

Some years ago, Ole Hansen, of Seattle, won sporadic fame by crushing in a spectacular manner a general strike.

Patter on the back by Capital, Ole known by the red-eared strikers as "Holy Ole," lectured over the country to explain how he did it. He became the pampered pet of parlor and other capitalists.

Seattle became so small for Ole, who aspired for presidential honors. At least he was accused of it. His forceful methods, and high-pressure self-advertising seemed to point out Holy Ole as the ideal man for the place.

Then the bright lights of Los Angeles claimed Holy Ole and his high ideals of crushing the working class were absorbed by the higher capitalistic ideal of making money.

Meanwhile, the holy one wrote a book, "Americanism or Bolshevism." Having observed Bolshevism from the vantage point of Seattle splendidly fitted Hansen to handle the subject. In one of the second hand book stores of Los Angeles there is a huge pile of Holy Ole's masterly literary effort.

Now, however, the master of Seattle is selling real estate out on Slausen Avenue.

And here's the strange, strange thing.

Red flags are flying on the tracts, bearing the caption, "Ole Hansen."

The use of the red flag by the holy one is at least surprising.

Emma Goldman, shipped to Russia against her will when deported from the United States, has studied the land of the soviets with care and is now telling, through the Hearst press and other papers, how horrible it is. It is only fair to mention that the Hearst press states that it takes no responsibility for the truth of the articles, but merely for their authenticity.

Emma Goldman, agitator for many years, finds Russia a land where pov-

erty is quite universal, but she complains that it is unequally distributed. Then she shows a few trivial instances to prove her case.

Emma complains of the processes of government, and the centralization of power. She makes accusations of bureaucracy.

There is something reminiscently familiar about the tone of her writings. Familiar to any one who has participated in any co-operative movement, or in any effort to improve the lot of the people.

It is to be feared that the vehement Emma is more deeply enamored of her own peculiar propaganda than she is of the desire to help the multitudes.

Possibly the authorities of Russia did not ask her advice. It may be that she was not a welcome guest, but merely a tolerated one.

At any rate, believers in any of the principles of the Co-operative Commonwealth, and spokesmen for groups most of all, should refrain from leveling the finger of scorn and using the capitalistic press to discredit the efforts of comrades in the face of overwhelming odds.

Those who have viewed Emma as a somewhat fanatic propagandist with whom they might not agree, but for whom they have at least held some measure of respect, are likely to feel disappointed to find that she is not above abusing her comrades, and to aid and abet the capitalistic nations of the world in their brutal campaign against struggling, starving Russia.

Emma Goldman can justly be accused of having turned her back on the masses. She is now being used as a tool of capitalism.

Emma, the super-red, shades to pink, then changes and becomes black.

Fortunately, her power is not great.

The Genoa conference is about to convene, and the Russian delegates to that convention have arrived in the dead hour of the night. They are guarded by the local military to prevent attacks by fanatics. This convention attracts the attention of the world because on its success depends the future of the world for the next ten years. L. Krassine the Russian representative to the convention, says: "France is most insistent of all nations that we restore 'private property' in Russia. She intends to demand that we restore all confiscated lands to their former owners, irrespective of and from the fact that the land owners of Russia comprised but one tenth of the whole people. To that demand there is but one answer. France, during her revolution, confiscated the lands of the ruling classes, and France, after the revolution, did not restore them.

"We in Russia have done what France did 150 years ago. France was condemned then as we are now, but no one will dare deny that the redistribution of the confiscated lands among the peasants of France has made France the richest country per capita in the world. What France has done for her children we can do. We, too, hold the great ambition to be the richest country per capita in all the world. All we ask is for France to attend to her own business and not meddle in ours. How would you Americans like it if France or any other country came to your home land and demanded that you make and unmake laws to please the Frenchmen at the expense of your own countrymen? Ask yourself that question and you will get a true outline on what the Genoa conference is all about.

FARMER-LABOR PARTY

VICTORIOUS IN IOWA

(By The Federated Press)

Clinton, Ia. —The Farmer-Labor party re-elected H. W. Cowles as mayor by a majority of 300 votes, and won three out of the nine members of the city council. Cowles made his run against a Republican, the Democrats fusing with the Republicans and failing to place a candidate in the field in a futile effort to defeat Cowles.

WISCONSIN STATE CAPITAL

OPEN FOR FREE SPEECH

(By The Federated Press)

Madison, Wis. — Freedom of speech won a victory in Wisconsin when Governor John J. Blaine decided to allow Mrs. Kate Richards O'Hare, jailed 14 months during the war as a political prisoner, to speak in the assembly chamber of the capitol, despite the protest of the American Legion.

Mrs. O'Hare is being brought to Madison by the Social Science club of the university, which secured the assembly room without attempting to obtain a university hall, in view of the attitude of the university authorities toward certain liberal and radical speakers.

NO STRIKE-BREAKERS WANTED

(By The Federated Press)

Seattle.—This city has 8,000 unemployed, and needs no 300 strikebreakers to take the places of men striking at the Renton car shops, was the word flashed to Portland from here to forestall scab herding in that city recently.

COAL MINE OPERATORS DISREGARD LAWS

(By The Federated Press)

Pittsburg. — Following the southern Ohio coal operators in their attempt to disrupt the United Mine Workers of America, the Pittsburgh district operators, who have violated their contract by refusing to meet the miners' international officers in conference, have now made an offer of a separate agreement with the miners in their district. This announcement follows reports from Washington that President Harding and Secretary of Labor Davis will make no further attempt to induce the operators to live up to their contract with the miners.

WISCONSIN GOVERNOR

PROTECTS FREE SPEECH

(By The Federated Press)

Madison, Wis. — With Adj.-Gen. Alonzo Holway in the chair, quelling an outburst at the beginning, the Kate Richards O'Hare lecture in the State capitol, against which members of the American Legion had made threats, was listened to without further interruption by an overflow audience.

A protest meeting by the legion the night before broke into disorder when an ex-service man attempted to defend the Social Science club of the University of Wisconsin, of which he was a member and which had invited Mrs. O'Hare to speak. Legionnaires objected to Mrs. O'Hare because of her conviction as a war-time political prisoner.

Governor Blaine was unmoved by the Legion protests, refusing to bar the Social Science club meeting from the capitol, which had been engaged because the university authorities are too reactionary to permit certain liberal speakers on the campus.

A PLUTOCRATIC CONSPIRACY

(By The Federated Press)

Chicago. — A small group of powerful corporations to-day control the jobs of nearly all American workers and fix the pay rolls of American industry. These interests control the prices of basic materials to such an extent that they can lock out customers. Thus they can strangle industry either by maintaining prices which are entirely out of proportion to the level of wages, or by cutting the spending power of labor as a consumer through big reductions in pay rolls.

B. M. Jewell, president, railway employees' department, A. F. of L., offered statistics to establish the above facts in his argument before the United States

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Classified Section

TRADE FOR LLANO STOCK.—

160 cres in Minnesota; fair buildings; drilled well and windmill; mail and phone; 8 miles to town; 1 mile to school. About 40 acres wood; 30 acres fenced; 50 acres in tame grass; balance natural meadow. Lime-clay soil. Price \$35 an acre (\$5600.00). Time on \$1200 at 7%; balance in cash. Will take Llano stock up to \$1900.00 as cash, par value.—C. J. S. care Llano Colonist 147

WILL TRADE FOR COLONY STOCK—

40 acres of bottom land, mostly under cultivation, under Cottonwood Ditch, Cottonwood, Cal.; Five miles from town and three miles to railroad; best land around this part of California. Will take \$1500 Colony stock, balance easy terms.—H. A. Aaby, Cottonwood, Cal.

FOR SALE. — 41 acres of land; 12 acres cleared and under cultivation. 4-room house, and barn. 100 peach trees; 20 apple trees; 20 grape vines; strawberries, blackberries, and dewberries; some figs. Well improved—terraced. Price, \$1100. Main road. A. E. WELDON, Rte 1, Box 63, Leesville, La.

FOR SALE—500 acres; 30 in cultivation; lots of good timber on balance; good house; two tenant houses. \$10,500 for all. — See G. T. Pickett, Llano Colony. 38

FOR SALE—102 acres; 32 acres cultivated; 2 good houses; 2 barns. Price, \$5,000. Close to Colony hotel. See George T. Pickett. 39

FOR SALE—200 acres near Pickering; 30 acres in cultivation; good timber on the balance; hummock and black land; good six room house with two brick fireplaces; a bargain at \$4500.—See Pickett Llano Colony.32

FOR SALE—55-acre farm near Pickering; 45 acres cleared of stumps, well-fenced and cultivated; family orchard of mixed fruits; two good houses; barns and other buildings. Price \$3,300.—See G. T. Pickett, Llano

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