

# The Butte Daily Bulletin

Issued Every Evening, Except Sunday, by THE BULLETIN PUBLISHING CO.

Entered as Second Class Matter, Dec. 18, 1917, at the Postoffice at Butte, Montana. Under act of March 3, 1879.

PHONES: Business Office, 52; Editorial Rooms, 292.

BUSINESS OFFICE AND EDITORIAL ROOMS, 101 SOUTH IDAHO STREET

## SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

One Month.....\$1.00 Six Months.....\$5.00  
Three Months.....\$2.75 By the Year.....\$9.50

The Daily Bulletin is on sale every day at the following places in Butte.

Jacques Drug Co., Harrison and Cobban.  
George A. Ames, Jr., 816 12 N. Main St.  
International News Stand, S. Arizona St.  
Palace of Sweets, Mercury and Main Sts.  
Everybody's News Stand, 216 S. Montana.  
Depot Drug Store, 323 East Front St.  
P. O. News Stand, West Park St.  
Harkins' Grocery, 1023 Talbot Ave.  
Helena Confectionery, 735 East Park St.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1919.

Has your local union contributed to the new workmen's compensation fund? If not, take the matter up at your next meeting. All contributions should be sent to the Cascade Trades and Labor Assembly, Great Falls, Mont. See that the petitions are signed up and sent in as soon as possible.

## WHAT OUR CHILDREN ARE TAUGHT.

A text-book published by the American Book Company—a concern which is, by the way, unfair to organized labor—is furnished teachers in the Butte schools for class-room use. This work is called "A School History of the Great War."

On page 117 is found this delightfully sympathetic account of the Irish revolution in 1916.

"Some of the more radical among the Irish Home Rule party had formed an organization known as Sinn Fein, an Irish phrase which means 'for ourselves.' Their aim was to make Ireland an independent nation. The leaders of this group got into correspondence with persons in Germany and were promised military assistance if they would rebel against England. The rebellion broke out April 24, 1916, without the promised help from Germany. For several days the rebels held some of the principal buildings in Dublin. After much bloodshed the rebellion was put down and Sir Roger Casement, one of those who had been in communication with Germany, was executed for treason."

Thus does this "history" dismiss the struggle of the Irish people for freedom from oppression!

Nor are the Russians treated any more kindly.

"On page 123, in speaking of the Russian revolution, which freed 180,000,000 people, it states:

The revolt was led by two of the most extreme members of the party, Lenin and Trotsky, who had at their disposal large sums of money furnished by Germany."

This lie has been exploded so often that only the most astounding disregard for facts could have caused its incorporation in a school history. Whatever Lenin and Trotsky may be, it has been proved to the satisfaction of both Germany and the allies that they were not German agents as this work infers; their propaganda entirely demoralized the eastern German armies.

The tender regard for the interests of wealth and privilege is again shown on page 156, where it states:

"Soon after war was declared, the railroads of the country placed themselves at the disposal of the government in order to take care of the increase in transportation service required by the state of war."

"Placed themselves at the disposal of the government?" is rather good considering the fact that the government was forced to take the roads over in order to relieve the traffic congestion that threatened to disrupt the industrial life of the nation and considering further that the roads left no stone unturned to prevent the government taking control.

This is indeed a reliable work.

The stereotyped explanation of the rise in prices—blaming it on labor—is also adopted by this children's guide on pages 162-163. It says:

"When the government wants a great quantity of ammunition for which it is willing to pay a high price, the manufacturer, desiring to obtain an increased number of workmen quickly, offers unusually high pay. This attracts workmen from other industries, and the latter offer still higher pay to their workmen. In this way, wages rapidly go up and things that have to be produced with labor, like coal, or houses, or ships, rise enormously in cost."

Few workers will subscribe to this sketch of the workers' paradise that this country was supposed to be during the war.

The fact that wages always lag behind the cost of living and that wage-increases are never secured until prices have risen seems to be unknown to the compilers of this masterpiece, but as long as labor is the class that gets the worst of it, it is doubtful if many will notice the errors.

"The School History of the Great War," compiled by Albert McKinley, Ph. D., professor of history, University of Pennsylvania; Charles A. Coulomb, Ph. D., district superintendent of schools, Philadelphia, and Armand Gerson, Ph. D., also a district superintendent of schools in Philadelphia.

The fact that the steel-trust owns the state of Pennsylvania and with it the public school system, may possibly account for some of the more glaring mis-statements of fact when the truth would injure the financial interests associated with the steel-trust.

The learned gentlemen named above should have no difficulty in securing, as a reward for their attempts to poison knowledge at its source, a few more degrees from the steel-trust's University of Pennsylvania.

## BUTTE WATER COMPANY SHOULD PAY FOR RESULTS OF ITS NEGLIGENCE.

Competent witnesses, who saw the McKinley school building destroyed by fire, say that the water-pressure was extremely low and that this hampered the fire department to such an extent as to render impossible the saving of the building.

The destruction of a large school building in this city, where the schools are already overcrowded, aside from the property loss, works a hardship on the children whose instruction is interrupted during the middle of the school year. They will have to be crowded into other structures with the danger to health that it implies.

Despite the statement in the Post of Monday evening, evidently inspired by a desire to defend the Butte Water company from criticism, to the effect that considering that a number of domestic faucets were running, the pressure was really very

good, it is the consensus of opinion that the reverse is true.

We are of the opinion that the contract of the city with the Butte Water company calls for a stipulated pressure at the hydrants. If the destruction of the building was a result of the low water-pressure, the school board should be able to recover from the Butte Water company damages equaling the difference between the insurance and the cost of rebuilding the structure. The court would probably also allow a certain sum for punitive damages.

In view of the exorbitant prices charged by the water company for its service—or lack of it—there appears to be little excuse for not maintaining an adequate pressure in its mains.

It is probably fortunate that the children were not in the McKinley school at the time the fire occurred; even with the efficient fire-drill system maintained, there is always danger that some little lot may be isolated.

Perhaps, though, the Butte Water company only allows its pressure to run down on Saturdays, endangering the lives of the fire-fighters alone.

In view of the facts so far established, we believe that the school board should fire a shot across the admiral's bows, heave him to, and bring him into port—we mean court.

## RUMANIA AND OIL.

We have on more than one occasion referred to the importance of crude-oil to modern imperialism, and to the fact that most of the "peaceful penetrations" of backward nations—finally ending in conquest—most of the plans for intervention in Mexico and elsewhere, in fact all recent adventures in imperialism on the part of the great powers are prompted by a desire to obtain monopolies of the oil resources of the world.

England's war on Russia, her hold-up of Persia, our own brawl with the republic to the south, the Japanese alliance with the house of Morgan, all can be traced to the rivalry for the control of the supply of the modern fuel.

It will be recalled by those who have followed developments in eastern Europe since the signing of the armistice, that Rumania has been allowed almost a free hand in the Balkans and that the peace conference, the allied powers in fact, have been strangely lenient in dealing with her. She has been allowed to plunder and ravage helpless Hungary without interference; permitted to loot that already starving nation and to commit unnameable atrocities upon the conquered populace.

No page of history is blacker than the record of the dealings of the allies with a nation that had surrendered upon promise of bread and peace.

The well-meaning humanitarians who are puzzled and unable to explain the brutality of imperialism because they believe that the knowledge that certain things are wrong acts as a deterrent, fail to understand that the imperialists have never yet surrendered their ambitions because they could only be realized by wholesale murder. The latitude allowed the Rumanians, the lack of interference with their fiendish practices, can also be explained by the oil hypothesis.

Rumania is rich in oil, but lacks capital with which to exploit it; the oil-kings are desirous of placating Rumania at the expense of other nations who do not possess this precious fluid. In return for the favors shown her she is expected to allow exploitation of her oil fields. Her own population is oppressed to the limit, the land is held by a few nobles and therefore a supply of cheap labor is guaranteed to the oil-magnates.

The oil situation in Rumania is well described by Edward J. Bing, United Press Staff correspondent in the following article:

Vienna. (By Mail.)—In view of the general shortage of coal here, the question of the production of other fuel has again become extremely important. Special attention in financial circles is being paid to oil and petroleum which eastern Europe used to produce in abundance.

The exportation and the equal and judicious distribution of the material, however, is rendered particularly difficult today by the exceptionally grave political situation of the producing countries as well as by the devastations of which this territory was the theater. This refers above all to the oil wells of Galicia and Rumania, while the oil occurrences of Baku, on the Caspian Sea, and Kerkuk-Chanik still deserve the greatest attention in the Far East. The extraordinary abundance of the latter's products was one of the principal reasons why the British naval craft reconstructed for oil heating.

While the petroleum and oil production of Asia is more or less in British hands already, there ought to be a good opportunity for the investment of American capital in Galicia and Rumania. American business interests, however, must be aware of the fact that one of the most urgent and indispensable tasks in regard to rational exploitation of the oil wells in that part of the world will be their reconstruction, aiming at bringing about the pre-war standard of production. While the output of mineral oil in Galicia—which centered in Drohobycz and the neighboring territories—was very great in normal times, a considerable number of wells have been choked and devastated during the course of the numerous battles which took place there between the Russians and the Austrians; even after the armistice and right now this territory is the subject of dispute between the Poles and the Ukrainians; the wells are partly in British and partly in American and Austrian hands.

As to the Rumanian oil wells, a considerable part of these is not now in working order, which is chiefly due to the military measures taken by the allies at the time of the German advance in Rumania. Although General Falkenhayn's experts devoted particular attention to the reconstruction of the destroyed wells, their work was crowned with limited success, and it will take a long period of systematic work to raise the Rumanian oil fields again to their pre-war importance. The Rumanian government is trying hard to achieve results in this respect and is reported to have lately concluded a convention with the Austrian government whereby they are to supply the Austrians with petroleum and other material of primary necessity in exchange for industrial products.

There is an exceptional opportunity at the present time for American capital to take an increased active interest in the oil production of eastern Europe; an activity of this kind on the part of the United States would be very much facilitated, first, by the exceptionally favorable rates of exchange for American coinage in those countries, and, second, by the marked readiness of the peoples and governments concerned to co-operate with America and to profit of her efficient business organization.

It can be seen from the above that there is method in the madness of the allies in dealing with Rumania.

The fact that a considerable portion of the oil resources of Rumania are already in British hands suggests interesting possibilities if attempts are made for their control by American capital.

"Is there any man or woman, let me say any child, who does not know that war is the result of commercial rivalries?" President Wilson's San Francisco speech.

## Listen to the Mucker



The Mucker—What is worth having is worth fighting for. The average man gets up on his dignity when some person or persons try to take advantage of him as an individual; he's right on the fight. Let the same advantage be taken of him through a corporation or through process of law and the average man may be stripped, starved and robbed of his eye-teeth before he will register a kick.

## THE STUDENTS' CORNER

(Under this caption will be run daily extracts from some standard work dealing with economics or history.)

The series begins with Shop Talks on Economics by Mary E. Marey. Questions dealing with the subject will be answered by the editor in this department. The space is limited, so make your questions as concise as possible.—Editor.

Having completed "Shop Talks on Economics," we begin a study of "Evolution—Social and Organic," by Arthur M. Lewis.

Students will find in this work the explanation for many natural phenomena, whose causes have escaped them. It deals with and explains the various philosophies and theories of existence that have arisen from time to time and contains much information not found in the ordinary textbooks.

It should be carefully studied for the reason that a thorough understanding of evolution is necessary for a true knowledge of life and labor, the most important factor in life.—Editor's Note.

(Continued from yesterday.)

Take a row of celery plants from which future seedlings are to be "selected."

In this instance, let us suppose, the quality desired is ability to resist frost. How is the gardener to know which of five plants are the "best" in this respect. He has no method of finding out with any degree of certainty. But nature comes along some night with a sharp frost and "selects" ten by killing frost. And the very act of this "natural" selection is to withstand the frost than their fellows.

Breeders of white sheep who supply the white wool market have a very tangible guide—they kill every lamb that shows the least tinge of black. But even here, nature is no to be out-done. In Virginia there is—or at least was in Darwin's day—a wild hog of pure black. One of its staple foods was known as the "paint-root." Any hog with the least speck of white on its body was poisoned by this root while its all-black brothers found it a health-sustaining and succulent food.

In an environment which remained constant and where a species of animals had reached a population which strained the limits of subsistence—food supply—those offspring which most closely resembled their parents, who had won out in that environment, would again succeed and be selected. While if the environment changed—became warmer or colder for example—those descendants which happened to vary in a direction making them better able to cope with the new conditions would be selected for survival against those who resembled their parents, which parents had survived in their day because they were adapted to the prior environment.

For example, a country is well supplied with water and it is as a consequence fertile and "green." In such a country green insects and green reptiles will be selected, because a green background will render them almost invisible to their enemies. Individuals of other colors will make their appearance by variation, but they will be such plain targets to their enemies, they will be devoured before they reach

breeding age and have a chance to reproduce the variation.

But suppose desiccation (drying up) sets in. The country loses its water supply, as Krapotkin has shown to have been the case in Northwest Mongolia and East Turkestan, leading to the enforced exodus of the barbarians. Now green will disappear and brown or yellow—say brown—takes its place. While this change will not, so far as we know, cause insects and lizards to breed brown instead of green, it will ensure the survival of "selection" of such as are born brown and the destruction of those who breed true to their green ancestors. Now every atavistic return to green will be mercilessly weeded out, just as, when the country was well-watered and green, every sporadic production of brown was done to death.

This is the biological foundation of that environment philosophy which now pervades all our thinking. Change the physical environment, says the biologist, and the species will be transformed. Change the economic environment, says the Socialist, and, if you make the right change, the race will be redeemed. Both statements rest on the same fundamental laws.

As the many and highly important implications of this theory are fully dealt with in subsequent lectures, most of them will be passed here.

We may note, however, that when ever any nation in the modern world produces, in the development of its industry, a Socialistic variation, that new feature at once proves its utility and is "selected" in the Darwinian sense, because it constitutes an advantage over the previous form of social organization. In that particular. This is the reason why the trait—which is socialistic and revolutionary in its essential tendencies—is always victorious, in spite of the foolish ravings of the Hearst newspapers and the antediluvian twaddle of William Jennings Bryan.

But Darwin's crowning achievement is that he made the general theory of evolution impregnable by thoroughly and conclusively demonstrating it in his own field as a naturalist. From then on it was only a question of time as to when its application would be universal.

Socialism may be defined as the application of the theory of evolution to the phenomena of society. This is precisely what Marx and Engels accomplished, and this why their work is so fundamentally opposed to the conventional theories and theological superstitions current in their time, and so fully in harmony with all the latest achievements in the scientific world. History ceases to be a meaningless mass of war and famine, bloodshed and cruelty. It becomes a panorama presenting the development of society according to laws which may be understood and with a future that may be measurably predicted. It develops by the operation of

forces that no man or class can wholly stay or hinder. The power of those forces and the direction in which they are now making has been well set forth by Victor Hugo by a very striking simile in the following passage:

"We are in Russia. The Neva is frozen. Heavy carriages roll upon its surface. The improviser says: They lay out streets. They build houses. They buy. They sell. They laugh. They dance. They permit themselves anything. They even light fires on this water become granite. There is winter, there is ice and they shall last forever. A gleam pale and wan spreads over the sky and one would say that the sun is dead. But no, thou art not dead, oh Liberty! At an hour when they have most profoundly forgotten thee, at a moment when they least expect thee, thou shalt arise, oh, dazzling sight! thou shalt shoot thy bright and burning rays, thy heat, thy life, on all this mass of ice become hideous and dead. Do you hear that dull thud, that crackling, deep and dreadful? 'Tis the Neva tearing loose. You said it was granite. See it split like glass. 'Tis the breaking of the ice, I tell you. 'Tis the water alive, joyous and terrible. Progress recommences. 'Tis humanity again beginning its march. 'Tis the river which retakes its course, uproots, mangles, strikes together, crushes and drowns in its waves not only the empire of upstart Czar Nicholas, but all of the relics of ancient and modern despotism. That trestle work floating away? It is the throne. That other trestle? It is the scaffold. That old book, half sunk? It is the old code of capitalist laws and morals. That old rookery just sinking? It is a tenement house in which wage slaves lived. See these all pass by; passing by never more to return; and for this immense engulfing, for this supreme victory of life over death, what has been the power necessary? One of thy looks, oh sun! One stroke of thy strong arm, oh labor!"

(To Be Continued.)

## Flour Gold

(Panned by Jim Seymour.)

Oh, see the man! Is the man fat? Yes, the man is fat. Why is the man fat? Because the man has both feet in the trough and his snout buried to the eyes.

Upton Sinclair's latest book, "The Brass Check," is pernicious, insidious, anarchistic, law-defying, low, vile, unspeakable and bolshevistic. It is even published for principle, instead of for profit. Loyal and respectable workmen are tearfully cautioned against this damnable unwarranted attack upon our eminent honorable capitalist press.

This advertisement paid for by the Mental Bagnio ass'n, Arthur Pizz-Brain, president.

It is reported that Y. M. C. A. patrons who approve of slang are using the prayer, "Give us this day our daily punk."

Gentlemen, let us issue injunctions tying up strike funds; thus may we take the world's state from democracy.