

Industrial Democracy

American Appeal

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No Wrong Can Live Long Under Free Discussion

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Sacco and Vanzetti Sentenced To Death

U. S. Supreme Court Forbids Union Boycott of Scab Goods

Putting Companies on Unfair List Held as Violation of Anti-Trust Law The Sherman anti-trust law which has never effectively dissolved a trust and has actually justified and upheld the existence of several, has been established as an instrument to smash labor organizations, and perpetuate the servitude of the workers by a ruling this week of the majority members of the Supreme Court of the United States.

Clemenceau Won't Publish Facts He Says Will End War PARIS—Georges Clemenceau, "the Tiger," again has refused to write his memoirs, according to the weekly magazine Aux Ecoutes, which quoted the wartime premier as saying: "I have seen too much and know too much. If I wrote my memoirs not a man would go to war, even if the security of his country demanded it."

Coolidge Prevents Filipino Canvass On Independence "Not Ready Yet," "Too Ignorant," "Would Hurt Capital," Are President's Arguments Plainly breaking faith with the Filipino people in a most abandoned manner by violating the sacred pledge given by the United States Government during the Spanish-American war that the United States would not violate the independence of the Filipino people, President Coolidge vetoed the measure passed by the Filipino legislature providing for a plebiscite to determine how the Filipino people stand on the question of independence.

Nicola Sacco and Bartolomeo Vanzetti will die in the electric chair on July 10, 1927, if the tremendous storm of labor and liberal protest now rolling around the world and echoing through every civilized country does not save them. The sentence was pronounced by Judge Webster Thayer of the Massachusetts Superior court following a decision of the Massachusetts Supreme court upholding Judge Thayer's refusal of a new trial to the victims. There remain but two legal courses by which these prisoners may be saved from death. One is an application to the United States Supreme court on a writ of certiorari, the other execution of Sacco and Vanzetti by the United States Government in exercise of executive clemency. The latter course is being taken now. FIRM, INTELLIGENT, DETERMINED PROTEST BY ALL THE SOCIALIST AND LIBERAL FORCES IN AMERICA AND THE WORLD MAY BE NECESSARY TO CONVINCE GOVERNOR FULLER THAT THE WORLD'S SENSE OF JUSTICE AND HUMANITY HAS BEEN VIOLATED AND THAT REFUSAL BY HIM TO LISTEN TO THE PLEA FOR MERCY WILL BRING DOWN ON HIS HEAD A WORLD-WIDE OUTHRAGED PUBLIC OPINION.

British Tories Turn Fascist And Aim Death Blow at Labor

Mexican Workers' Loyalty Nips U. S. Revolt Conspiracy Counter-revolution Flutters Before Solid Ranks of Labor and Army Startling admissions by American correspondents of capitalist newspapers reveal the humiliating defeat of the main plan upon which the Coolidge-Kellogg administration has been relying to coerce Mexico—the overthrow of the Calles government by a revolt of the reactionaries. After planning a counter-revolution against the labor-peasant government centering largely in El Paso, Texas, getting arms and munitions across the border, fomenting religious revolts in more than half the states in Mexico, causing numerous blood-bathes, including the blood-bath of Toluca, and after the U. S. administration had evaded the anti-smuggling agreement which prohibited the shipment of arms across the border, the agents of capitalism confessed that the expected "revolution" has floundered, giving the most significant and interesting reasons for this turn of events.

Ten Years After (The U. S. declared war April 6, 1917) San Francisco, April 6.—Mrs. Ruth Stone Robinson, widow of the first officer to fall in action during the battle of Belleau Wood, in the war to save the world for democracy, was so neglected by her country that in utter poverty she turned on the gas and killed herself in a small San Francisco cottage. Only 2c was found in the house, but there were a number of bills and several letters requesting payment of overdue accounts. Mrs. Robinson's husband was Lieut. Caldwell Colt Robinson, of the U. S. Marine Corps.

Laws Would Destroy Unions and Party—Workers Rally for Supreme Fight LONDON, England.—In parliament as well as outside a battle royal will soon open over the new trade-union and trade-dispute act introduced by the cabinet in the house of commons. The new bill is the most drastic act of its kind ever presented in the British parliament and the changes in the trade-union laws are so sweeping that if the bill is passed the unions will not be more than workmen's clubs. Following are the main features of the new bill: 1. All general strikes are illegal. 2. Persons refusing to take part in any legal strike are to be fully protected. 3. Intimidation by pickets is prevented. 4. Use of a political fund is regulated. 5. Civil servants are prohibited from leaving the service of the crown unless the organization is confined to persons employed under the crown, is independent of any outside trade union and is not associated directly or indirectly with any political party. 6. It makes it illegal for local authorities to demand trade-union membership as a condition of employment. The new bill provides heavy fines and imprisonment for those taking part in illegal strikes and also prevents trade unions from asking political party contributions from their members unless they express their willingness in writing to do so. The attorney-general is given power to sue for injunctions to prevent such contributions. (Cont. on page 11)

Militarists Would Drown Senator for Nicaragua Opinion

WASHINGTON, D. C.—For declaring that the government was sacrificing the lives of American youths to protect the investments of a few, Senator King of Utah while on board the Transport St. Michel during his recent Central American tour, was abused by an officer and virtually threatened with being thrown overboard by a soldier. Senator King's remarks were made during the course of a speech aboard the vessel after he had been debarricaded from visiting Haiti. They referred to the administration's present military occupation of Nicaragua. Following the speech a young army officer roundly berated the senator for his remarks. One of the enlisted men who heard the exchange between Senator King and the officer then is alleged to have declared: "What shall we do, lieutenant, throw him overboard?" The incident has been referred to the War Department.

Socialists Elect Two to Milwaukee City School Board

Receiving 38,310 votes, Mrs. Meta Berger was re-elected to the school board in Tuesday's election and Martin C. Baumann, also a Socialist, was elected to the board, polling 32,152 votes. It was Mrs. Berger's third reelection to the board since she was first elected in 1909. On completion of her new term, Mrs. Berger will have served 21 consecutive years. With the exception of Edward Schroeder, nonpartisan, who received 10,883 votes, Mrs. Berger, supported by nonpartisans and Socialists, received the highest number of votes cast for any school board candidate. In nonpartisan wards she received a total of 18,347 votes, running second in the 19th, 22nd, 23rd and 13th wards, all nonpartisan. In order of their standings, the number of votes cast for the various candidates on the basis of unofficial returns are as follows: Edward Schroeder, nonpartisan, 40,883. Mrs. Meta Berger, Socialist, 38,310. Loyal Durand, nonpartisan, 32,541. Mrs. Elizabeth M. Mehan, nonpartisan, 32,373. Martin C. Baumann, Socialist, 32,152. The Socialists have three holdovers and will have five members in the new school board. Judge William F. Quick, Socialist candidate for judge of the civil court, received 37,224 to 38,876 votes for his "Nonpartisan" opponent in a county-wide poll. Judge Quick carried all Milwaukee city by 656 votes.

From The Pen Of Debs (Compiled by Theodore Debs) The Easy Way to End War We are all opposed to war. Let us put an end to war and lose no time about it. How? Easiest thing in the world. LET THE CAPITALISTS DO THE FIGHTING! That and that never be another war. Not even a skirmish. They are not fools enough to go out and kill one another and the fools they hire for that purpose they hold in contempt. The capitalists tell us it is patriotic to fight for your country and shed your blood for the flag. Very well! Let them get the example. It is their country; they own it and therefore according to their logic it is their patriotic duty to fight and to die for it and be brought home riddled with bullets and covered with flowers as shining examples of patriotic duty to the youth of the nation. It is one thing, ye uniformed slaves, to fight for your country and another thing to fight for Rockefeller's oil derricks. You never had a country to fight for and never will have as much as an inch of one as long as you are fool enough to make a target of your bodies for the profit and glory of your masters. Let the capitalists do their own fighting and furnish their own corpses and there will never be another war on the face of the earth.

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Twelve Liberal Professors Ousted for "Radicalism"

NEW YORK.—Twelve professors of the West Chester, Pa., State Normal School have been discharged for alleged radicalism, according to information conveyed to the American Civil Liberties Union by the Teachers' Union. No official cause is given, but it is understood that "radicalism" is the ground. The professors declare they will fight the action of the Board of Trustees. They say they will make of it a national academic freedom issue. Trouble began at the West Chester Normal School last month when the Normal Liberal Club was attacked by the American Legion for circulating information conveyed to the American Civil Liberties Union by the Teachers' Union. No official cause is given, but it is understood that "radicalism" is the ground. The professors declare they will fight the action of the Board of Trustees. They say they will make of it a national academic freedom issue. Trouble began at the West Chester Normal School last month when the Normal Liberal Club was attacked by the American Legion for circulating information conveyed to the American Civil Liberties Union by the Teachers' Union. No official cause is given, but it is understood that "radicalism" is the ground. The professors declare they will fight the action of the Board of Trustees. They say they will make of it a national academic freedom issue.

May Day Number to Ec Appeal's Best Issue

Dr. Harry W. Lailler, feature editor of the American Appeal, is lining up a splendid array of prominent Socialist writers for the May Day issue. We can assure the readers that the May Day issue will be the best special edition of the Appeal yet published—just the thing to interest and convert new readers. It will be in your hands for distribution the Saturday before May 1. Order bundles NOW at the rate of 2 cents per copy, \$1 for 50 copies; \$2 for 100 copies.

Cantonese Not to Blame At Nanking, Says American

(The American Appeal is indebted to The Nation, liberal New York publication, for the following version of the affair at Nanking, China, which seems, as this is being written, dangerously close to plunging the world into war.) The following report of an American investigator brings out startlingly the fact that the ultimatum of the five leading imperialist powers to China over the Nanking affair, which may result in world-wide war, is based largely upon war propaganda, exaggerations and misrepresentations. NEW YORK.—The only American killed at Nanking, J. E. Williams, Vice-President of Nanking University, was shot as he drew a revolver on the threatening Chinese soldiers, according to a report cabled to THE NATION from Shanghai. Four other Americans who were with Williams when the shooting occurred were not injured. G. A. Kennedy, an American resident in China and a graduate of the Columbia School of Journalism, is responsible for the statement. Mr. Kennedy went to Nanking for the purpose of investigating the outrage. His report states that there were over 27,000 soldiers of the Northern army in Nanking when the first Nationalist soldiers entered the city at 3 A. M. on the 24th of March, and that it is impossible therefore to hold the Nationalists responsible for what occurred. The attacks on foreigners in the morning and afternoon of that day, resulting in the deaths of one American, two British, and one Japanese, and the looting of the consulates of those countries, cannot be conclusively fixed upon the Nationalist soldiers. The first of the four foreign deaths, that of J. E. Williams, vice-president of Nanking University, occurred at 8 a. m. on the twenty-fourth. It has been proved that four other Americans were with Williams at the time the soldiers threatened. Williams drew his revolver and was immediately shot dead. The others were not hurt. The three other foreign deaths occurred in the late afternoon before the bombardment, which was at 4.30 p. m. The Nationalist general entered the city at 5.30. The foreign houses burned or looted were all on the route taken by the Northern army in their efforts to escape from the city. Foreign houses were not the only houses looted. Hundreds of Chinese were robbed and many killed by the soldiers, presumably, again, Northerners running amuck. The physical effects of the bombardment of the British and American war vessels are comparatively slight. About fifty Chinese houses were wrecked, and one foreigner was probably under one hundred. But this is uncertain, as they have not yet been recorded.

Sweden and Austria Take Anti-War Vow

Stockholm.—Sweden and Austria have exchanged final ratifications of a treaty making war illegal under all circumstances. Sweden has concluded similar treaties with Norway, Finland, Denmark, Poland, Belgium, Czechoslovakia, and Germany. In all these countries the Socialist party, which originated this peace plan, is the strongest of the political parties. The plebiscite ought to be discouraged because it is part of the agitation in the islands that is discouraging capital and labor and is delaying the arrival of the day when the Philippines will have overcome the most obvious present difficulty in the way of an unaided government. (Don't agitate your own interests. Don't discourage capitalism and imperialism. The longer you leave them alone to grab your country and intrude themselves in your governmental and industrial system the quicker you will be free and independent.)

Mellon to Ask Tax Slash for the Rich

Andrew Mellon, billionaire secretary of the United States treasury, is to put forward as the major feature for his tax program in the next session of Congress, the repeal of the inheritance tax and the reduction of the tax on corporation earnings from 12 1/2 per cent to possibly 12 per cent. Reduction of the apytax rates on individual incomes of moderately wealthy individuals. While thus lightening the burden of taxes on the super wealthy and to a less extent on the moderately wealthy, his program will favor the retention of the most of the wartime excise taxes now remaining, such as the tax on theater tickets of which the poor pays the bulk. Mellon's attack on the inheritance tax is for the purpose of preserving the great super fortunes in the hands of the present dangerously powerful families owning them.

U. S.-Armed Force Starts Drive to Crush Nicaragua

MANAGUA, Nicaragua.—The conservative offensive began this afternoon with an attack against the liberal forces east of Tierra Azul. Tonight Gen. Bartolome Viquez, field commander in chief of the conservative forces, reported that 300 liberals had been surrounded on Monte Bonita hill, overlooking Tierra Azul. The conservatives claim to be well supplied with everything necessary to carry on the offensive which, they assert, will bring an end to the liberal movement within a week.

Emergency Drive Ends This Week—Thousands Prepare for Last Lap

THIS IS THE LAST WEEK OF THE EMERGENCY DRIVE TO START THE AMERICAN APPEAL ON ITS UPWARD PATH TO BIG CIRCULATION. The time for closing the drive has been extended to April 23, since the week ends on that date. There is every indication as we go to press that there is going to be a glorious response to this drive. Many Army members and readers who have been collecting the \$5 worth of subs necessary to obtain the Debs photo are preparing to cross the line in the eleventh hour. Come on, comrades, let's all get in together in the last lap of the race. Let's jump up the Appeal circulation thousands in one final crushing stroke against capitalism and war. The effect will be inspiring. It will carry us on quickly to bigger things. ONE LITTLE SUB EACH BY THOUSANDS OF YOU, AND THE THING IS DONE. BE ONE AMONG THE THOUSANDS. Be one to help fulfill the supreme need of the hour for a fighting organ of enlightenment that will shake the nation in this critical period. BE ONE TO MAKE DEBS' PAPER POWERFUL—TO HELP FULFILL HIS CROWNING DREAM AND DYING WISH. Enter one or more subs on this blank and return it to us AT ONCE!

Emergency Subscription List For Greater Circulation

AMERICAN APPEAL, 2653 Washington Blvd., Chicago, Ill. RATES \$1.00 A YEAR; 50 cts. 6 MONTHS Here is my contribution to save Debs' paper: Table with columns for NAME, Rural Route or Street Address, Box No., City, State, Amount Paid, Remitter.



Appeal Army Scouts Back Up Emergency Drive

The Appeal is receiving many messages and sub backing up the One-Month Emergency Drive. We are printing extracts from a few of these to show the splendid spirit that actuates our most loyal and active workers.

order. I will try to send you another order and get another photo before they are withdrawn as prizes."—J. J. Duhamel, Medford, Oregon.

and a sub. You say, 'Do your duty, and perhaps you will think I am not doing mine when you see this \$2. The war left us living on a small farm. We are both over 70 and have but very little surplus. I am sending the Appeal to a man who will not be afraid of it and who will read it.'—Ellen D. McGow, Oxford, Wis.

blank. Among the Army Scouts who hit right back at us with Emergency Subscription blanks clipped from the Appeal were: W. S. Vanderburgh, Honolulu, T. H.; F. H. Peterson, Mesa, Ariz.; Andrew Janis, Chicago; T. Eigenbrod, Pittsburgh; J. R. Ziegler, Pollockville, Alta. Canada; Ralph W. Gilman, Baldwin City, Kans.; John Bristol, Chicago.

Many Party officials and Socialists of prominence continue to set an example for the rank and file in the Emergency Drive. Here is one that breathes the spirit of flaming youth: 'Here is \$2 for 3 subs on an American Appeal ballot. Practically all the members of our circle are subscribers, and now we are going after the rest of the people in the city.'—Y. P. S. L., Circle 1, Bronx, N. Y.

'Here is \$5—my answer to your appeal for help. Sorry I can't do more right now, but later on hope to be able to do more. I am enclosing a sub to add more to the Appeal list. This subscriber is leaning our way and I want to see that he comes over to Socialism.'—J. J. Denninger, Le Mars, Iowa.

'I have not been getting my paper for the last three weeks. I would like to have it, because I always like to read the real news and facts about the world.'—Albert S. Horne, Greenville, Pa.

Socialist Party News

New England District Debs Memorial Radio Banquet The local committee for the drive for a radio broadcasting station as a fitting memorial for Eugene V. Debs will hold a banquet at the American House in Boston, May 6th. The price per plate is \$2.00. If you do not get an invitation, please send in your reservation to the State Office, 21 Essex Street, Boston, any time. And if you belong to an organization try to take a collection there for the radio.

speeches to voters in his or her community. Comrade Wismer of Ithaca was the first to respond, declaring that he would mail out as many copies of this speech as the State Office cared to send him.

Notice to Members In voting on the National Referendum to amend the liquor plank of the National Platform—if you vote YES, you vote to strike this plank out; if you vote NO, you vote to retain it.—William H. Henry, National Executive Secretary.

Debs' Photograph Withdrawn Saturday

Get that \$5 worth of subs or sub cards THIS WEEK and earn the Debs' photo. This is the last week Debs' photograph—the last he had taken—will be offered as a mark of honor for service to the Cause.

Appeal Army Activities

Fund Report Contributions to the American Appeal Promotion and Sustaining Fund showed a most encouraging rise during the week. Whereas the total gifts the previous week were \$22.79, they jumped during the week to \$32.00.

On Pledges With the last stretch in the Appeal One-Month Emergency Circulation Drive before the Army, it is showing increasing speed. The week just past showed an increase of almost 465 over the previous week.

Prize Winners You have only a few days left in this report race before you will receive the privilege of getting the last photo Debs had taken of himself as a mark of honorable and meritorious service for the Cause of Socialism.

Chicago Yipsel News

On Friday evening, April 15th, there will be a meeting of the Young People's Socialist League in Douglas Park Auditorium, Kezize and Ogden Avenues. The speaker of the evening will be Geo. R. Kirkpatrick and his subject, 'Some Delusions and Confusions Concerning Nature'. This promises to be a most interesting lecture, and we urge all members and their friends to attend.

Kentucky

John J. Thobe, State Secretary of Kentucky, comes in for a supply of dues stamps and subscriptions to the American Appeal, and informs us that he expects to reorganize Covington and Newport in the right near future.

Answer to Last Week's Quizzer

(Last week's quiz questions asked 22 test questions for Yipsels to answer. Here are the answers): 1. May 1913 at a meeting of the National Executive Committee of the Socialist Party.

Sacco and Vanzetti Sentenced to Death

With such an array of evidence of bias, injustice, and of new evidence, these men have been sentenced to death. BECAUSE THEY CANNOT OBTAIN A NEW TRIAL IN THE STATE OF MASSACHUSETTS.

World Rises in Protest

The sentencing of Sacco and Vanzetti to the electric chair has shocked the sense of humanity in every country in the world. From every European and South American country, protest against the execution of these two men has come.

Vanzetti's Reply

Upon receiving sentence Vanzetti, speaking for both of the defendants, replied to Judge Thayer in a speech which rang with defiance of judges and the class and system he represents.

Two Fine Debs Pictures Order Now

We have two fine pictures of Eugene V. Debs that our comrades and many others who were friends of Debs will want. The prices are made unusually low, so that all the friends of Debs may secure one for their homes.

This Is What You Have Been Looking For

'AMERICAN COMMUNISM,' by James O'neal, a standard authority on this question that you cannot afford to be without. \$1.50

Maryland

Clarence H. Taylor, was nominated for mayor by the Socialist Party at a convention Saturday. Others nominated were Dr. S. M. Neistadt, for city council president, and Richard Schneider, for comptroller.

Illinois

An elaborate program for the May Day celebration has been planned by the Arrangements Committee. The local Yipsel circle will present a playlet, Mandolin orchestra will render some musical numbers, singing of international songs by the audience, and May Day addresses by Comrades Andrew Lavin and George R. Kirkpatrick will make up the afternoon celebration.

Argentina Aflame

BUENOS AIRES.—The Sacco-Vanzetti protest strike, called yesterday by port workers, bakers, and taxicab chauffeurs, was intensified today with the announcement of the passing of the death sentence on the two men, at Duham, Mass.

Germany and Switzerland

BOSTON.—Governor Alvan T. Fuller is the recipient of a telegram from the Rote Hilfe Deutschland, a workers' organization of Germany, requesting that he pardon Sacco and Vanzetti.

The Labor World

Oldest continuous weekly Socialist paper in the U. S. Room 208 Grant Bldg. San Francisco. Cameron H. King, Editor. Lena Morrow Lewis, Mgr. Ed. \$1 per year.

Volks-Stimme

German Socialist Weekly Subscription Rate, \$2.00 Per Year Write Today for a Sample Copy VOLKS-STIMME 107 No. 9th St. PHILADELPHIA, PA.

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# NEWS AND VIEWS

## Desperate War-Baiting by the Powers Imperils World

Two war acts of a startling nature by the world's five leading imperialist powers against Russia and China brought the world perilously near the precipice of war this week. Only the sensible and praiseworthy decision of the Soviet government to ignore an act that if committed against any imperialist power would have precipitated a clash of arms within a week saved the world from a conflagration.

The forbearance of the revolutionary government of South China under conditions that would have caused a capitalist nation to persecute its persecutors again saved the world. In both cases the workers of the powerful nations placed in a very difficult position to fight for things that ordinarily provoke imperialist wars and have thus set an example for the future.

Bearing every mark of a deliberate conspiracy by the leading imperialist governments to bait and trap Russia in a declaration of war against Northern China for the purpose of a double, of destroying the soviet power, (Gang Tsao-lin, war lord of North China and tool of imperialism, with the full assent and connivance of the powers through the Dutch minister, dean of the diplomatic corps, descended upon the Russian embassy, violating a precedent established by the imperialist powers, arresting many Russian and Chinese, seizing large quantities of documents and destroying property.

Following swiftly on the heels of this event, which was stationed around the Russian consulate in Shanghai virtually holding the members of the consulate prisoners. This happened in the international settlement, a territory owned jointly by the imperialist powers, and could not have happened without their consent and connivance. It was an act of war against Russia.

Directly following these obvious attempts to draw Russia into an unequal war, came the highly provocative and insolent demands of the five leading powers to the Chinese government growing out of the Nanking affair. Despite the fact that Chinese investigators and an American investigator, whose report is printed on page one, assert that the crime of foreigners occurred before the Cantoneses army entered Nanking, the powers demand punishment of the murderers, abject apologies in writing, cash reparations and a humble promise that such acts will not be committed again. The revolutionary government of China must do these things or suffer the consequences.

This is a war ultimatum that leaves the Chinese government no alternative but to accept the powers' version of the incident, belie its own

version, debase itself, or be attacked. This war move of the imperialists comes on top of a series of provocations particularly by the British which the Chinese have embodied in a counter-demand for satisfaction. The Cantoneses charge that British war planes pass continually over Chinese territory, that the British raided the Great China university on Chinese territory clubbing and dispersing students and destroying property; that the British have been cutting Chinese wires in the war zone and have established their outposts outside of the international settlement in Chinese territory.

Backed by Coolidge and Kellogg the British policy of highly repressive measures toward the Chinese revolution has prevailed. Great Britain, the United States, France, Italy and Japan present a front more menacing to the cause of the workers, social progress and true democracy than any other since the World War. United opposition to imperialism and war by the workers of the various countries is the supreme need of the hour.

## Rise and Fall of the Ford Stores

After making a success of his system of organized mass distribution that startled the merchants of Detroit into an excited mass protest, Ford has bowed to their indignant demonstrations and has agreed to bar the public from his store in the future.

The whole affair has brought out strikingly the absurdities and insanity of the present system and has opened up possibilities of something far better to thousands of persons.

Taking a leaf from his great system of mass production of automobiles, Ford established ten years ago a store for the benefit of his employees. The reason for the Ford store was to keep down the cost of living to his employees in order to avoid raising their wages. The same method of mass activity and economy on a tremendous scale that made the Ford manufacturing enterprise a tremendous example of mass production in the United States, in ten years built up the largest retail grocery and provision store in the world. The sales rose to \$12,000,000 per year after he threw this store open to the public. Goods were handled in great quantities but at low sale prices in the most economical manner possible, in which the customer did most of the work. Profits, says Ford, were held down to \$400,000 a year, or about 3 per cent.

The merchants of Michigan became thoroughly alarmed. With their makeshift, competitive methods and small scale stores they could not compete with this new system of mass dis-

tribution. But they were not good sports. They were not true to their professions about "free competition and let the best system win." When they could not compete with the Fordized system of distribution they resorted to warfare, brute force, to perpetuate their poorer and more wasteful system. The Michigan Retail Grocers' association served an ultimatum on Ford that if he did not quit selling to the public, they would institute a general boycott against all of his products.

Ford met with them and agreed to their demand. In other words these big and little capitalists got together and agreed to perpetuate an inferior and more wasteful and expensive system of distribution for which the consumer will have to pay the last farthing in order to keep themselves in jobs.

Ford's attitude and the attitude of the Michigan merchants is characteristic of the present system. Under the present system the private owners consider only their own interests. They go continually to the utmost lengths to perpetuate a system of criminal waste and artificial poverty in order to maintain their own incomes and power. This class of big plunderers and little pilferers alone stand between the people and the system of mass production and mass distribution that would produce abundant wealth for all. Some day we will have sense enough to slake them off from our backs.

## Behind American Imperialism

American loans to foreign governments and foreign enterprises in the first three months of this year have greatly exceeded the loans made in the same period last year according to department of commerce statistics. In the first quarter of 1927 we sent \$29,000,000 abroad and thus far this year we have sent \$37,000,000.

We are exporting capital because it brings a larger return when invested abroad than it would if invested in this country. Our government pays 4 per cent on its foreign borrowings. Some stable governments pay 7 or better. Investments in private enterprises abroad pay, generally speaking, a larger return than if the money were put into American enterprises. Foreign securities are attractive specially to small investors whose scale of living is directly dependent upon the rate of return on their investments.

Inevitably the increasing of our stake in foreign lands will modify our foreign policy. Our government cannot allow their property to be confiscated. The time must come when our government, as a matter of national policy, will protect the investments of American abroad, just as Great Britain protects the foreign investments of her nationals. So-called liberals who protest against this tendency, already clearly foreshadowed, are haying at the moon.

## Supreme Court Bans Boycott By Labor

held that the refusal of members of a union to handle or work on material made by nonunion labor is an illegal restraint of interstate trade and a violation of the Sherman anti-trust law.

The decision came in the case of twenty-two Indiana quarrying companies asking for an injunction against the Journeymen Stone Cutters' association of North America which had instructed its members not to handle the product of the appellant companies. The lower courts had denied the injunction, but in today's

## Is America Still in The Dark Ages?

Incredible corruption connected with the failure of the Indiana senate to impeach Circuit Judge Dearth of Muncie throws a startling light on the widespread Ku Klux Klan movement, the appalling ignorance of democracy among the American people, the far-reaching spirit of bigotry, lawlessness and violence, and the incredible corruption of politicians and public officials.

What has happened in Indiana has happened more or less, or can happen in the many states where this monstrous mob movement gained power or influence.

Judge Clarence W. Dearth of Muncie has been found not guilty on the articles of impeachment by the Indiana senate. Conviction required a two-thirds vote. On all but two of the articles a majority of the senators voted guilty. It is conceded that the Indiana Klan was one of the factors which saved the judge. The Republican organization in the state was another.

Judge Dearth had no answer, among other charges, for a method of picking juries in his court which packed them with drags. He got the jurors wanted by appointing as jury commissioner a man who was in his Methodist Sunday school class, but who was admittedly not qualified legally for the office. There was also in the proceedings the record of Dearth's fight with a newspaper in which the judge went to extremes of coercion.

Indiana has been one of the American states distinguishing itself by organized terrorism of opinion and conduct under the inspiration of masked gangsters. The Klan had a criminal, Stephenson, for a leader, and he is now in the penitentiary. The drags had a leader, Shumaker, who tried to intimidate the Supreme court and he is now trying to keep himself from punishment for contempt.

The Klan is a creation of primitives with elements of voodooism, attractive to thought leadership and to constituents of primitive life, superstition, masked violence, secretive imbecilities, and terrorism in the name of high principles.

And so it came about that American citizens in Indiana were judged by their religion, condemned because of their race, illegally punished because of their opinions, hounded because of their personal conduct, and a state of terror was substituted for a state of law. Intolerance took the place of individuality and good nature, in the present day. The Klan is essentially autocratic in its nature and consists in the despotic rule of a small class of powerful private owners. We have tried to live the sham of political democracy and industrial autocracy until the majority of the people have lost all comprehension of democracy.

WE CANNOT CONTINUE ON THE PRESENT BASIS: WE MUST GO FORWARD TO INDUSTRIAL DEMOCRACY, OR BACKWARD TO POLITICAL AUTOCRACY.

## Big Corporations

**Rolling in Wealth**  
NEW YORK.—"The big corporations are getting richer and richer and shareholders of most of them are getting a big share of the prosperity they are enjoying," says the Wall Street Journal.

The 1926 report of five corporations show a total of \$720,161,159 cash and marketable securities at the end of last year, compared with \$629,415,830 at the close of the preceding year, a gain of \$91,665,329, or 15 per cent.

The corporations are United States Steel, General Electric, General Motors, American Telephone and Telegraph and Allied Chemical.

At the close of 1922 these five corporations reported \$164,190,114 cash and marketable securities, an increase since then has been \$256,300,714, or 55 per cent.

"What applies to the above five companies in the matter of increased cash holdings, applies to scores of others," says the Wall Street Journal.

## Mexican Workers Nip Revolt Plot

across the Mexican war front has convinced them that the revolution and social revolution has failed because the revolutionists developed no leader and failed to make a close corporation of the revolution.

"From the start government secret service men kept in close touch with every step of the revolution and the numerous revolutionary meetings. No arrests were made until the revolt burst forth and even then the police waited until the revolutionary leaders could be caught in the act of plotting a revolt. The revolution was arrested and troops were held in readiness to suppress it."

"Events moved swiftly. Prominent revolutionary leaders were arrested, court-martialed and shot. Troops moved along all the railways of the troubled areas and all points of contact between the rebels were prevented from descending from the hills, as they had intended."

## Rulers Afraid to Fight

"The church leaders, landowners, rich merchants, and capitalists of the old conservative families and the aristocracy, who were interested vitally in a revolution, stood back and watched the moving of events, contributing, as always, sparingly to the funds for the revolt. The brunt of the task was left to the Indians and peasants, and the army and police forces who believed that discontent and artificially inspired revolt would necessarily result in a successful revolution. Meanwhile the minister of war was moving swiftly along the whole war front."

Further investigation showed that all attempts to corrupt Calles' splendid fighting army had failed. The loyalty of this army purged of reactionary officers and drawn from the workers and peasants has made the boasted counter-revolution impossible.

## A Real Workers' Army

Cornyn quotes "a prominent army general" as saying in explanation of the army's attitude:

"The army has remained solidly with the government for the first time in Mexican history because it is the best organization Mexico has had since the days of Spanish rule. The general accepted the revolutionary tradition behind it. This prevents it from going into the hands of revolutionists. Gen. Obregon's army of more than 100,000 is not comparable with President Calles' army of 60,000 in discipline, training and faithfulness to the reconstruction program of the government."

The Dr. La Huerta revolt in the spring of 1924 carried with it a reactionary element forming 50 per cent of the army. While the revolutionists were fighting, the army and the new military aggregation out of the pro-government elements. When the revolt ended the army contained more than 100,000 men. This President Calles reduced to 50,000, retaining only the most competent and faithful of the most competent, unprincipled higher officers. The soldiers are educated in army schools and are inspired by army traditions and military faithfulness.

"Why haven't the revolutionists, as the general pointed out, as soon the army officers?" I inquired.

"They would like to sweep away everything the army stands for," the officer said. "To do so they have worked in secret. In the revolutionary party are people who can find a common ground with the officers of the Calles' army, who have nothing to gain from the ultra-conservative revolution."

## Workers Stand Solidly

In his own manner this correspondent explains further how the dominance of the workers in the towns and cities has made the counter-revolution impossible. He says:

"As passed through the various states I found state governments, city and town administrations and political organizations of a multiplicity of complexions behind President Calles. They form the new ruling class which has grown up since the overthrow of Porfirio Diaz in the spring of 1911."

"Guadalajara, like every other town through which I passed, is paraded with innumerable signs, each representing some organization that has sprung out of the seventeen years of revolution and reconstruction.

"Here one finds labor organizations of various stripes and colors. They quarrel among themselves, but are solidly behind the government when it is threatened by the ultra-conservative revolt. Socialists, communists, agrarians, social uplifters, and yellow labor organizations denounce one another, but they all come together in defense of the government in the face of the common danger.

"These societies and their members form the eyes and ears of the government in every city, town, and village in Mexico. This helps to explain why insurgents have not been able to suborn the army and induce the generals and city governments to betray the federal government and deliver their garrisons and cities over to the rebels."

# APPEAL'S FEATURE DEPARTMENT

Harry W. Laidler, Editor

## Post War Socialist Thought

### Nature of the Socialist State In Six Articles Article I

(The following interesting and highly instructive series of articles on the development of Socialist thought since the World War are from Dr. Laidler's new book on Post War Socialist Thought, which will be issued about May 1. Don't miss these articles if you want to keep abreast of Socialist thought. They will have a high propaganda value in teaching the new Appeal reader just what Socialism is.)

—M. E. K.

### Dr. Harry W. Laidler

Since the World War, aside from discussing the socialist versus the communist method of arriving at a cooperative system of industry, socialists have been giving much attention to the nature of the socialist state toward which the international labor movement is directing its forces.

### Webb's Picture of a Socialist Society

One of the most thorough of the attempts made to picture a cooperative commonwealth, in the light of recent developments, is found in Sidney and Beatrice Webb's *Constitution of the Socialist Commonwealth of Great Britain* (1924). This volume was written in response to a request of the International Socialist Bureau that the constituent socialist organizations submit to the International Congress a suggested constitution for a nation desirous of organizing its life upon socialist principles.

Fundamental to socialism, according to the Webbs, is democracy, which has for its object not merely the negative one of preventing individuals or classes from exercising power contrary to the desires of the people at large, but also "the positive one of obtaining for all the people in the fullest degree practicable, that development of faculty and desire dependent on the assumption of responsibility and the exercise of will."

### Spiritual Value of Democracy

"People," declare the Webbs, "have sometimes forgotten the spiritual value of democracy. The very necessity for obtaining that consciousness of consent involves the substitution of persuasion for force; implies, therefore, that those who are superior

in will-power or intelligence consent to foster the use of the force to compel other men to obey them and seek to convince the average sensual man so that he too may exercise his intellect and his will. The very consciousness of being engaged in cooperative enterprise, determined on and directed by common consent, is a stronger stimulus to self-activity, imperfect though it may be, than the docility of slavery. Hence there is, in all the armory of sociology, no so effective instrument of popular education, no such potent means of promoting the social instinct, of thought and feeling in the whole mass of citizens, as popular government."

### Social and Political Parliaments

Politically, Great Britain under a socialist regime, should have a two-chamber legislature, one over and one under, not as at present representing the lords and the commons, but one chamber, the political parliament, in charge of the national defense, foreign affairs, the policing of the country, etc., and the other, the social parliament, in charge of the economic resources, health, education, transport and communication, the organization of scientific research, the encouragement of art, literature, music and the drama, and control over finances. This Parliament, situated in the nature of a parliament, should direct the state enterprises, but would appoint numerous committees whose duty it would be to supervise various industries and to see that the general policies of these industries conformed with the public welfare.

### Geographical Representation

The Webbs believe that both parliaments should be elected, not according to geographical areas, "As it is the interests of the community as a whole that the social parliament is to safeguard, and not those of particular geographical areas, the representation of consumers—and what has to be weighed in each case are the claims of the future against the immediate demands of the present—this Assembly, like the political parliament, must elect its members, not on the basis of geographical areas, but on the basis of ill, active or superannuated, home-keeping wives or vocational workers."

### Extent of Social Ownership

In providing a scheme for the ad-

ministration of industries under socialism, the Webbs again draw attention to the fact that all industry will not be uniform. While most of the industries will be socialized, there will be a number of "unsocialized" businesses, "such as the whole range of individual production in horticulture, peasant agriculture and artistic handicrafts; the purely personal vocations of the poet and artist; the production of many minor industries and services that may be most conveniently conducted on an individual basis; possibly the experimental production of some new inventions and devices not to mention the cooperative organization of religious rites and observances."

And it must always be remembered that socialists accept, as one form of socialization, not only local government, but also the free and voluntary association of groups of consumers for the production and distribution of those commodities and services for which they feel themselves to have an exceptional need, or for which they prefer this form.

### Should Compensation Be Paid?

Workers, technicians and consumers should of course all be adequately represented in the management of the industry. The Webbs favor compensation for industries transformed into public property, such compensation to be raised largely by taxation imposed on those who have the ability to pay. Each owner, they say, should receive in compensation the fair market value of that which he is compulsorily disposed of, "Whether he is paid such a sum in cash, or in government securities at their own market value, or by an equivalent annuity for a term of years, or for life, is of no pecuniary importance. As the socialist commonwealth will certainly levy its revenue on the citizens in proportion to their relative ability to pay, the burden of compensation for expropriation will fall, in effect, almost entirely on the property owners of a class. No socialization without full compensation; no payment of annuities, or of the interest and sinking fund thereby incurred, otherwise than from the taxes on property ownership."

### Ramsay MacDonald's Industrial Chamber

We have also referred before to J. Ramsay MacDonald's portrayal of his ideal Socialist state, in *Socialism, Critical and Constructive* (1924). MacDonald urges the retention of geographical representation in the lower house of parliament. He sees no need of a second chamber similar to the House of Lords. He, however, tentatively suggests, in addition to the lower house, "an industrial chamber of limited authority which will act in the capacity of an industrial administrator in the industrial activities of the community."

## Labor And Prohibition

### Editor's Note

In the American Appeal of February 12 we ran a symposium on Prohibition. John Haynes Holmes wrote briefly for the Prohibition Amendment, and Dr. W. H. Hoan of Milwaukee and Judge Jacob Panken of New York argued for the repeal of this amendment. Following this symposium the editor of the Social Practice Department received a further contribution on this subject from Professor Irving Fisher, of Yale, formerly president of the American Economic Association, and one of the most prominent statisticians, health and prohibition advocates in this country. His article is worthy of a separate issue and will be followed by others of the pros and cons of prohibition from competent observers.

—H. W. L.

### By Irving Fisher

(Professor of Economics Yale University)

Practically the only argument advanced against prohibition is that elusive argument of "personal liberty." On the other side we have arguments of welfare based on hard facts.

If, in this short article, we dismiss the question of "personal liberty" with the mere suggestion that the brewers are organized to demand much more than their due share of this liberty for themselves at the expense, economically, of labor and labor's wife and children, we can better direct our attention to the consideration of hard facts.

### "Real" Wages Advanced

I have pointed out in my book *Prohibition at its Worst* (page 161) that the "real" wages of labor per hour, after making all due allowance for changes in the purchasing power of the dollar, increased 36 per cent between July, 1914, and January 1925; also that most of this sudden improvement came immediately after prohibition. Between 1922 and 1919, inclusive, "real" wages remained almost stationary. The fluctuations never exceeded 4 per cent above or below the average level for those twenty-eight years (excepting only once, in 1917, when it was nearly 7 per cent above.) Likewise, beginning with 1920, at a higher level, real wages have remained almost as uniform. This new level is 23 per cent above the old level.

Was it merely by coincidence that prohibition and higher wages came together? With the coming of prohibition wages rose suddenly from their old level, which had been kept without much change for a quarter of a century, to a new level where it

now is 23 per cent higher than the old level.

### Advance in Retail Purchasing

It was partly this rise in real wages that ushered in a new era of installment buying. We note that of the \$27,000,000,000 spent in retail sales during 1925, as recorded by the Department of Commerce, about \$5,000,000,000 represent the actual total spent in installment buying. Of this \$5,000,000,000 for the year, the cash-down payments amounted to about \$1,000,000,000, or 20 per cent of the amounts of the sales. Prohibition has done very much to reinforce the confidence of retailers in the future purchasing and consuming power of the buyer in future months, and possibly years.

### Effect on Efficiency

Even a small amount of liquor will affect a workman's efficiency. Experiments show that the equivalent of two to four glasses of beer a day will decrease the efficiency of work done by type-setters to the extent of 8 per cent and increase the time required for heavy mountain marches, for example 22 per cent, and impair the accuracy of rifle shooting under severe army tests, to the extent of 30 per cent.

### Return of Beer Harmful to Labor

The return of beer would be a bad thing for labor. It would slow down his productivity, lower his wages and reduce his buying power.

Of course the clamor for a Light Wines and Beer Amendment really means the return of beer rather than wines.

The laboring man must not be beguiled by silly talk and forget that "if course he don't want the saloons back, but he want light wines and beer."

The return of "light wines" and beer or of beer alone means the return of the saloon. There must be a place to sell beer. Beer means pretzels and hot dogs, and brass railing and sidewalk spittoons, and all the trimmings of the saloon. The

think I worked faster as a result of

(Cont. on Page 4)



# Criminal Waste and Mismanagement In Coal

## Factors Behind Present Attempted Wage Cut and Lockout

### Editor's Note

The pitiful waste of private operation of the soft coal mines of the country is vividly portrayed in a bulletin just published by the New York State Federation of Progressive Women. The bulletin first analyzes the present coal situation, the demands of the miners for a maintenance of their wages, hours and working conditions, and sets forth the claim of the miners of Illinois that the "day men" are only working 140 to 150 days a year, and make little more than \$1000 annually. We here reprint what it says on the question of waste.

—H. W. L.

There are now approximately 10,000 shipping mines in the soft coal fields. This does not include the small mines or "wagon" mines which serve their immediate localities.

### One Mine in Every Three Should be Closed

The industry has a capacity from 70 to 90 per cent in excess of the country's need. From 1890 to date the industry has at all times stood ready to produce more coal than the country could use. (Page 56—"The Case of Bituminous Coal" by Hamilton and Wright, Macmillan.) Most experts are agreed that one mine in every three should not have been opened. Miners are idle on the average, one third of every year. It is estimated that by every method of machine mining, 241,000

miners in place of the 660,000 now employed, could produce enough soft coal to meet the nation's present demands.

### Waste in Consumption

When the matter of the ruthless waste of men, and material assets, every citizen, whether a direct consumer of soft coal or not is immediately concerned. The one hundred and fifty million tons of coal burned annually under the boilers of railroad locomotives are burned in an entirely wasteful fashion. Coal that is burned in the old-fashioned beehive coke ovens which are still plentiful sends up in smoke valuable by-products (gas and ammonia) which could be used in one hundred and one ways. The gas, for example, is the by-product of coal tar, this is the equivalent of burning the corner drugstore. Both mining and distribution are wasteful and antiquated. Under the present methods of mining, one-third of the coal is left in the ground in a shape which can never be recovered. The "cross-hauling" of coal, that is, shipping it up and down the country, often over coalfields that are much nearer the consumer than the shipping mine is extremely wasteful.

### Reduction of Waste Under Federal Fuel Administration

During the War, The Federal Fuel Administration saved 160,000,000 car miles by zoning coal from the nearest mines to the nearest consumers. At the same time, high freight rates cost nearly as much to haul a ton

of coal from the mines in Southern Illinois to Chicago as it costs to produce the coal. It costs more to deliver a ton of coal from the car in Chicago to the bin of the consumer than it costs to mine the coal or to haul it from the mine to Chicago. If the facts were ascertained it might be found that it costs nearly as much to dump the ashes, cinders and clinkers from the basement of Chicago consumers as it costs to mine the coal originally and no one has ever figured the bills of most large American cities caused by the smoke nuisance.

### Valuable By-products Lost Forever

In their report made for the Smithsonian Institute, two engineers, Gilbert and Pogue, found that there are 100,000,000 pounds of smokeless fuel similar in many respects to anthracite, ten thousand cubic feet of gas, twenty-two pounds of ammonium sulphate, two and one-half gallons of phenol and nine gallons of tar. These by-products, available from a ton of coal have a value of three times the present retail price of a ton. Under the present system of burning coal they are lost to us forever.

### Waste in Human Life

The hazardous nature of coal mining kills some two thousand miners annually and injures between 50,000 and 150,000 a year. These hazards, together with the higher intelligence and skill of the union workers as compared with the non-union miners,

justify the present wages. The miners insist that the average coal operator could effect more than enough saving through the elimination of waste in management, men and materials to maintain a decent American standard of wages. They point to the fact that bankruptcies of coal operators are practically a thing of the past, and that costly mining disasters, due to the employment of unskilled and low priced labor in those fields, are tragically common. They maintain that miners, engaged in a most hazardous occupation, earn but little more than the lowest paid wage earners in other and safer industries. That while the day wage is high the earnings of union men, due to irregularity of employment, are not equal to \$2000 a year, which is much less than the budget drawn up by the Bureau of Labor Statistics to cover the minimum requirements of "health and decency" for American workers.

### Have the Operators a Solution?

The Operators are apparently agreed that the soft coal industry has suffered from old fashioned competition. They are keen for consolidation of small mines into a few large groups, well financed and in a position to close down non-profit producing mines, thus reducing the total production. Some of the more extreme of the operators are for destroying the union altogether and establishing in its place company unions under the control of the separate Corporations. Others insist that it is an advantage to deal with a responsible organization of workers,

able to sign long term contracts but this is on condition that the whole industry is organized. They believe that the introduction of modern factory methods into the mine will succeed in eliminating surplus miners and restoring some sort of regularity of employment, together with a guarantee of a continuous supply of coal. Until these things are accomplished, however, they favor cutting wages.

### The Miners' Solution

At the last convention of the United Mine Workers of America, held in January, 1927, the union confirmed its long held policy of nationalization of the mine as the only solution to the present problem. Not much weight, however, need be attached to the public to this demand, as President Lewis has frequently expressed his indifference, if not his hostility, to any nationalization agitation. It was mainly through his efforts that a report of the Nationalization Committee appointed by the miners to draw up a plan for the running of coal, was side-tracked. This report urged that the coal mines be taken over (with compensation to the operators) by the government; that a Secretary of Mines be appointed and that the industry be run by representatives of the public, the miners and technical men. At this same convention, it was announced that plans were being formulated for a formidable organization campaign through the non-union fields. Apparently, the miners' leaders believe that much of the present confusion

in the industry will disappear if all the miners are organized.

### The Public's Solution

In 1923, the United States Coal Commission appointed by President Harding, brought in a most voluminous report covering practically every phase of coal mining in this country. Few Americans have read that report, the making of which cost \$600,000 of the tax-payers' money. All the facts needed for those who would work out a solution for the coal industry are in that report, but they are in the main undigested, uncorrelated and difficult to dig out. From time to time, President Coolidge has urged that the Federal Government be given power to take control of coal distribution in case of a "national emergency," but Congress has made no progress with coal legislation. Bills proposed, and notably those proposed by representatives of New York State, have merely promised with the situation and made no attempt to come to grips with the protection of the public. The report on the part of progressive groups of the bill introduced by Senator Wheeler of Montana for the setting up of a United States Coal Corporation with jurisdiction over the anthracite industry and set up a board of directors of miners and representatives from the anthracite consuming States. On the whole, however, the public has been left by its representatives to the mercy of profiteering operators on the one hand and implacable union officials on the other.

First, we should realize that the conditions in the coal industry are established for the sake of economic reasons, of financial and engineering antiquated methods of distribution and barbarous industrial relations in the non-union fields—all these combined with the many wastes above make the coal industry the worst conducted of all our large enterprises: It is the tragedy of waste that everyone suffers from, the innocent bystanders and wasters as well.

We should do all in our power to break down the barriers which separate operators and miners who are erect between the consuming public and this basic industry. We insist that coal is a continuing and great public interest as well as a matter for perennial industrial struggles between managers and men. We should insist that the vast mass of facts at hand, experts work out some plan for a continuing and economical supply of coal. We insist that while the operators are entitled to a fair return on his investment—and no more—the miner is likewise entitled to a wage which is healthy and decent living conditions. We insist that the miners have the right to collective bargaining. We should be misled by the current propaganda against "nationalization" but we carefully examine into the merits of this proposal, together with the merits of the United States Coal Corporation plan and the present system of unregulated competition.

# Industrial Worker Challenges Conservative Farmer Attitude

### Editor's Note

The following article was written by a worker in industry. It is entirely fair to the farmers? We would like to have some farmer reply to it.

—M. E. K.

### By C. O. Parsons

(Tooele, Utah)

Since the war the American farmer, instead of sharing in the increase of the national wealth, has lost at least \$500,000,000 in deflated and depreciated property values and low produce prices.

At the time of the war the American workingman owned the same amount of wealth that he does today, namely, nothing. I am positive that taken as a whole the American workingman owns less than nothing but is in debt notwithstanding that his productivity has increased by leaps and bounds, thanks to his efficiency and inventive genius.

We once heard of a business man or a financier investing anything, unless it was a new lie or new excuse for profiteering. The complex machinery of industry today, invented by workingmen, requires the cooperation of vast armies of workers.

The American workingman believes that a few financial parasites are responsible for the tremendous efficiency of cooperative production, the workingman's natural desire to improve on the prevailing methods of production is the compelling force behind the increasing tendency toward more efficient cooperation of many workers in production. A financier or exploiter of inventions is merely a parasite who reaps where the workingman sows.

The American workingman is the cheapest laborer that ever existed. Today his productive capacity in many times the productivity of the worker ten centuries ago, yet today he possesses even less wealth than the worker of that distant date. Then the artisan-worker owned his own shop. He received then just enough to replenish worn out tissue and reproduce his kind. The compensation of the worker today is measured by the same standard.

A worker's economic condition must be measured by the value of his product and the proportion he retains for his own use. If he is now ten times as productive as he was a thousand years ago, then it follows that he is a thousand times cheaper. If there has been no relative betterment of his standard of living, the worker today may live and eat a little better and enjoy a few more comforts of life, but that is not germane to the question, the fact remains that he now enjoys much less of the wealth he creates by hand and brain than he received then.

### Labor and Prohibition

(Cont. from Page 3)

return of beer means that all of the restaurants which now surround the factory and in which men now meet to eat and discuss things of everyday life, will be converted once more into drinking centers.

The saloon means "treating" where by a man feels who he is to wear his gala drink up his baby's shoes and his wife's overcoat. Is he enjoying that "personal liberty"? And is his wife or baby enjoying it? The saloon means more drunkenness. When a man is drunk he has not much real liberty to do anything but get into the gutter.

The quickest and safest way for labor to reach a new standard of living and real liberty to enjoy life is through prohibition.

It is hard to see how, in the face of all of the facts, labor can want to bring back forcing conditions merely because the rich man can afford to buy "good" liquor. If the rich man likes his silly "liberty" to poison himself, let him have it. Why should the poor man worry?

If any further evidence of the workingman's almost unbelievable cheapness to day were needed, the "numbers" of wealthy persons—millions and billions and vast hordes of other non-producing parasites he creates and maintains, stand as uncontrovertible testimony of the fact.

He boasts that he is the highest paid worker in the world and believes that the high tariff wall protects him in his high financial altitude. He sneers at the Chinese Coolie, yet it would require 10,000 coolies transporting goods on their backs to compete with one American railroad crew. But the coolie owns his transportation medium—his back—and consequently has a closer ownership of his job, while the railroad crew operates at the pleasure of a master, who virtually owns the men because he owns the machinery with which they work; and the coolie, in one several thousand, could not live on what the average railroad gets. Wages have very little to do with this question, since 10 cents may go as far in China as several dollars in the United States.

But the farmer who since 1914 has lost at least fifty billion dollars, not counting his reasonable share in the increased wealth of the nation, should know that the wealth of his neighbor, the wage-worker is represented by a zero, as it was in 1914, yet the farmer has been taught by the capitalist press to envy the wage-worker of his "high wages."

Whence has the farmers' more than fifty billion dollars gone? Into the coffers of Wall Street and the banks, of course, and the farmer knows it; yet he is now hoisting his distress signal to the crew of the Wall Street pirate ship in Washington. And what is he asking for? He is not demanding that the government make the rubbers on Wall Street discharge. Not on your life!

From 20 to 38 states have protective laws to cover all the above cases, but Missouri laughed these civilized laws of other states down, establishing forever the supremacy of capitalist humor in Missouri.

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### Farmers Headed For Peasantry, Meredith Warns

Unless the American farmer is able to obtain a fair price for his produce America is headed toward peasantry in her farmer class, such as exists in Europe, E. T. Meredith, former secretary of agricultural, asserted yesterday in an address before 200 members of the United States Egg Society at the Chicago Mercantile exchange.

Fundamental conditions of agriculture affect the entire country, he said, "for when prices are right profit is possible and the farmer cannot but manufacture and sell down and labor is therefore affected, he said, and since labor out of work is not buying eggs poultry wholesalers assist themselves by stabilizing the industry.

### Missouri Senate Kills Child Labor Law by Ridicule

NEW YORK—A bill to prohibit child labor and afford protection to children killed by ridicule heaped upon it by the capitalist lackeys in the Missouri state senate, says Wiley H. Swift, Acting Secretary, National Child Labor Committee.

The bill came up for consideration in the Senate various amendments, which virtually nullified the bill were humorously offered, and then adopted. "Smart" statements that a birth certificate was unnecessary because "the presence of the child was sufficient evidence of its birth" or that "its age might be determined by its teeth" appeared apparently to the sense of humor of the legislators, but the people of Missouri, before joining in the snipe, should consider Missouri's rank in child labor legislation as revealed by the Missouri Women's Legislative Committee.

This piece of criminal buffoonery by the Missouri lickspittles of capitalism has left the defenseless children of Missouri under the following conditions: Children under 14 may work in factories outside of school hours, Children over 10 may work in any capacity two hours after 7 P. M. A child of 14 may receive a permit to work without meeting any educational requirement. A child of 14 may receive a permit to work without showing any documentary proof of age. A child of 14 may receive a permit to work without a statement

### British-American Entente in China Admitted in London

LONDON—Do the American people appreciate that their government is "up to its neck" in the Chinese situation and that it is rapidly getting into a position where it will be almost impossible to back out?

If the American people do not see that it is because the State Department and the newspapers are not frankly placing the facts before them. Here in London it is taken for granted that the British Foreign Office has a complete understanding with the American State Department and that our warships and marines will assist in enforcing the "drastic measures" which Great Britain contemplates taking against the Cantonese.

Just how drastic those measures will be was disclosed lately in Canton. Tokio has adopted a policy of "watchful waiting," but all the influences of British diplomacy are being exerted to induce the little yellow men to come into the deal.

France continues to stay out and apparently has definitely decided not to use coercive force.

As things stand now, Baldwin's Tory government is prepared to present certain "demands" to the Cantonese. If those demands are granted, foreign business interests will retain their rights against the Cantonese dream of a new China will be shattered, and foreign employers will continue to exploit cheap Chinese labor.

If the demands are refused, then the naval and military strength of Great Britain and the United States will be used against the Cantonese. Just what form the demonstration will take cannot be stated at this time.

### Pan-Pacific Labor Called to Canton to Anti-War Meet

CHICAGO—The Federated Press has received the following cable from Canton, China, inviting American labor organizations to send delegates to the Pan-Pacific Labor congress which opens under official Australian and Chinese labor auspices in Canton May 1.

The Trade Union Congress of the Commonwealth of Australia has authorized the All-China Federation of Labor to call a Pan-Pacific Labor congress to meet at Canton May 1, 1927, under the joint official auspices of the two labor organizations. The trade union organizations of the United States are invited to send as many delegates as their resources permit.

Invitations have also been sent to the labor bodies of Canada, Mexico, the South American countries on the Pacific Rim, India, Japan, Korea, India, Indonesia and all European labor federations having connections with the far east through colonial or other affiliations including those of Great Britain, France, Holland and the Soviet Union.

It is stated that will be dealt with at the conference, the cable announces, include imperialism, threats of war in the Pacific countries, the international trade union movement, international regulations regarding wages and hours, immigration and closer relations between the labor movements of the Pacific countries.

# Workers' Share of Product Decreases on the Railroads

### By Leland Olds

That the enormous increase in railroad profits since 1920 has been achieved at the expense of wages is suggested by interstate commerce commission wage statistics for 1926. According to the commission the total amount paid to railroad workers in 1926 fell \$752,000,000 short of the 1925 total while the total receipts of carriers for 1926 were \$270,128,539

above 1920. Railroad wages for 1926 totaled \$2,290,441,936 compared with \$2,900,107,391 in 1925 and \$3,742,486,936 in 1920. The reduction in the railroad wage bill compared with 1920 has been accomplished in part by reduction in the average wages paid and in part by reduction in number of workers employed. The total employees of class 1 carriers, excluding switching and terminal companies, have been

reduced from 2,022,832 in 1920 to 1,782,404 in 1926. The average wage including salaried executives has been reduced from \$1,820 in 1920 to \$1,250 in 1926.

The average wage of workers employed by the railroads on an hourly basis in 1926 was \$1.65. This compares with \$1,569 in 1925, \$1,541 in 1924, \$1,556 in 1923 and \$1,554 in 1922. The advance in general level of railroad wages since 1922 has apparently been very slight.

### NEW ALARMING FACTS ON WEALTH CONCENTRATION

Chamber of Commerce patriots declare that all talk about the concentration of wealth in the United States is "red propaganda." If that be the case, Andrew Mellon should be arrested and deported as a red propagandist, for reports from the United States Treasury show concentration of wealth proceeding at an astounding rate.

In 1924, 75 persons paid taxes on incomes of more than \$1,000,000 each.

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# Ontario State-Owned Power Smashes All Past Records

TORONTO, Canada.—Although the great publicly-owned power system covering the province of Ontario, Canada, sold electricity to the people AT THE LOWEST PRICE IN THE WORLD during the fiscal year just closed, it closed the year with a net surplus of \$66,413.34, after providing for all expenses and necessary fixed charges, says the annual report of the Hydro-Electric Power Commission, presented in the legislature last week.

The report also shows that the province and cooperating municipalities have an investment in power undertakings and hydro railways totaling \$203,442,769.99. There was an increase of 100,700 horsepower in the generating capacity of the commission's plants over 1925, which enabled the commission to provide for all power demands and to increase the efficiency of the service.

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