



THE Washington Socialist



WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE! YOU HAVE NOTHING TO LOSE BUT YOUR CHAINS. YOU HAVE A WORLD TO WIN

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No. 216.

COMMISSIONER SALTER TO SPEAK AT MOUNT VERNON

Big Mass Meeting to Be Held Saturday

Everett's commissioner of public works, comrade J. M. Salter, is to be the principal speaker at a big mass meeting to be held by the citizens of Mt. Vernon next Saturday evening. A full discussion of important civic problems is scheduled, and comrade Salter may be depended upon to put something over that is worth while.

ANOTHER SOCIALIST SCHOOL TEACHER IS BEING PERSECUTED

Lizzie Jones Reported As Busy Again

The Washington Socialist has just got word of another Socialist school teacher who is, it is stated, being subjected to the petty persecution of County Superintendent Lizzie Jones. We are quietly investigating the case, and expect soon to be in a position to present the case in detail, showing how well-qualified teachers are subjected to all kinds of annoyances and inconveniences because of their political affiliations, even to having the paycheck held up at the pleasure of her ladyship, acting for the class and for the politicians she represents. We're watching your work, Mrs. Lizzie Jones. It is to be hoped that every member of the working class who can vote at the school election next month will get behind the candidates who represent their interests, and not those of the capitalist class politicians and profit-mongers.

FARMERS ARE WISE SAYS BRUCE ROGERS

Comrade Editor: I am unable to withhold congratulations on your reply to the farmer correspondent. Your statement is courageous and none-the-less admirable, but the fact is it will have the approval of the farmer Socialists of this state and will win for the paper their active support.

There will be no troublesome farmer question in the movement in this state, unless the wage earners in it should become too unsound and "yellow" for the farmers to tolerate, for the very good reason that the farmer members of the party are, on the average, the better informed, and actually under less illusions of all kinds. It is anomalous, I know, but true. On an exhaustive lecture tour I was apprehensive when approaching an agricultural local, but I had my mind made up that I would quit the circuit and come home before I would trim my talk a bit, and it is lucky for me I did not. Behold the farmers taught me things about a revolutionary position. The brush farmers of the coast side, the desert farmers of the Quincy and other valleys, the mountain ranchers of the Colville and Okanogan districts,—believe me, they are there with bells on. Most of them think of themselves at best as but refugees from the industries and when offering good large farms the Socialists consider that they are but tenants of the capitalist state.

It is not generally known but in the days of the split, if one may refer to it, the farmer members were the backbone of the regular organization. When the personal fight was being waged on State Secretary Bostrom, if a referendum had been conducted among the farmers only, east of the mountains, they would have sustained him. This was the big mistake of the secession movement. Our farmer Socialist is no chin-whiskered bumpkin to whom you can peddle political bunk and green goods. It will be remembered that the farmer delegates at the last state convention refused to get excited when a Marxian waved his arms wildly and told them "what was what." They got on their feet and gave notice that they wanted no special sop thrown to them.

Take the E. E. Martins, the Jensens, the Hopkinsons, the Lytles, the Cubages, the Oberges, and dozens of others I have in mind and you have the salt of our movement.

BRUCE ROGERS.

AMEN, BROTHER!

And speaking of statesmen, most of them are rather expensive luxuries when one considers their actual contributions to the welfare of the nation.—Tribune.

INSISTS KELLY PURCHASED HOUSE

Salter Finds Fault in the Way Purchase Was Made for the City

(From The Evening Herald.)

Commissioner J. M. Salter, who has consistently stood out against the letting of the Everett avenue bridge-tender's job on a contract basis, had an opportunity this morning to take another fling at the bridge business as put through by Mayor Clay and Commissioner Kelly over his opposition.

The mayor suggested that the city should buy a small building to install at the bridge for the use of holders of the contract. A building located at that point has been supposed to belong to the city, but a search through the records proved the house belonged to Peterson, who formerly acted as bridge-tender. The mayor said the city could buy a five-room house located at 2916 Everett avenue and owned by the school district for \$100, which he considered a bargain.

Further discussion brought to light the fact that Commissioner Kelly bid on the building and that his offer of \$100 was accepted by the board of education. Commissioner Salter said as the question had never come up at any session of the city council, then the acceptance of the bid meant that the house belonged to Commissioner Kelly, and, said the commissioner of public works, that being the case the city could not buy the building from the commissioner.

City Attorney Davis held that as Commissioner Kelly bid for the city, a resolution to purchase would be in order, inasmuch as the bidding action was a necessary preliminary to the action of purchase. Mayor Clay stated that he believed the building to be worth \$400. He and Commissioner Kelly thought the purchase should be made because when the present bridge-tenders assumed the work at low estimate they were given to understand that the city had two houses for them to live in.

THINGS DOING IN BUSY BIRMINGHAM

Will Build Hall

EXPECT TO ELECT COMRADE GOLDTHORPE SCHOOL DIRECTOR

"The Greatness of Birmingham" was again demonstrated when the comrades of that thriving community met around the festive board Saturday, February 6, to show the more progressive inhabitants how to do things just right. There was a most interesting program offered to serve as a prelude to one of the best cooked and well served suppers ever given in Western Washington. This is what they all said, and eating's believing. A notable feature of the evening's jollification was the success with which the children present were cared for and entertained. They were guests of honor right from the word go! And it was all gratis for them, too. Adults gladly paid 25c per plate, and it was some money's worth, at that. There was an orchestra of "Class A" music, enjoyed not only by the residents of Birmingham, but by visiting comrades from Seattle, Sylva, Florence and Stanwood.

The music was rendered by local talent, and the whole brilliant affair was ably managed by the ladies of the Socialist local. The hall was crowded to its full capacity. Will Build Own Hall. Again attesting the "Greatness of Birmingham," the live wires of the local have already started a fund for the building of a Socialist hall, and all indications point to a speedy culmination of the plans laid. Eight new members have just been added to the Socialist forces, and a vigorous campaign is in progress looking to the election of comrade Goldthorpe for school director, three-year term.

MORE GOOD NEWS

Comrade Bruce Rogers reports that The Washington Socialist is on sale at four newsstands in Seattle. The paper is making great hits in Seattle these days.

The gist of the supreme court's decision appears to be that a worker has a right to join a union whenever he is out of a job.—Springfield Republican.

OUR CONFUSED, INCONGRUOUS PLATFORM DECLARATIONS

SHORT AND TO THE POINT

National Ex. Com. Seeks Advice and Gets It.

Frans Bostrom Points Out Conditions That Must Be Fundamentally Changed.

Having been elected a sub-committee of one, by the national executive committee Socialist party, to obtain and compile opinions from "prominent" Socialists as to what should be done next in order to capture offices in the election of 1916, comrade J. Stitt Wilson issued a circular letter of inquiry, as per resolution of N. E. C. State committeeman comrade Frans Bostrom, was kind enough to furnish The Washington Socialist with copies of the aforementioned resolution, Wilson's letter, and his own reply. As is usual with him, our committeeman rendered an opinion that was short and to the point, and we take pleasure in reproducing it below, first quoting the N. E. C.'s resolution:

RESOLUTION

Whereas, the failure of the democratic party to cope with the economic struggle of the masses and the growing consolidation of reaction in the republican party, together with the utter disintegration and rout of the progressive party, presents a crisis in American economic and political conditions that is the supreme opportunity of Socialist philosophy and Socialist party activity.

Resolved, that we appoint a committee of one from our committee to enter into an extensive personal correspondence with all state secretaries, state committeemen, and prominent writers and speakers, workers

and legislators in our movement, to secure from them the frankest criticisms of our present party activities and recommendations as to the most important steps we should take to strengthen and extend the power and influence of our movement, and to insure that success at the polls in 1916 as the political opportunity and economic conditions demand.

Resolved further, that said committee shall edit the result of this correspondence and present same to our next session as a help in outlining our party activities for the campaign of 1916.

BOSTROM'S ANSWER

Tacoma, Wash., Feb. 15, 1915. J. Stitt Wilson.

Dear Comrade: Replying to your circular letter of January 1, in which you request criticism and suggestions for the good of our organization, I wish to say:

That while there are many very grave errors and blunders in the management of the party affairs and the position the organization has taken toward organized labor is untenable, conditions which must be fundamentally changed before we can hope to amount to much, there is one cause for the failure of the party to advance, which so utterly overshadows all other causes that nothing else is worth mentioning before that cause is eliminated.

That cause is the incongruous, confused, inconsistent platform declarations in favor of every populist reform ever conceived.

Were the party the political expression, exclusively, of the working class, i. e., were all the party members workmen and working women, then there could be no other fault to find with "immediate demands" than their uselessness. The same, of

course, holds good with any other class homogenous party. But since the peculiar conditions existing in this country, render it impossible to organize a political party exclusively working class, it follows that the platform must contain nothing else than what every individual of its heterogeneous membership can readily subscribe to, if harmony is to prevail.

That single demand, is the conquest of the powers of government for the purpose of the introduction of the cooperative commonwealth, i. e., the revolution. Universal suffrage and a shorter working day would probably be considered a matter of course, almost unnecessary to mention, and would cause no disruption. But, it is certainly useless to expect taxpayers to vote to tax themselves out of middle class existence, and unreasonable to expect any intelligent worker to vote for lower taxes, municipal ownership, etc., ad nauseam. The attempt to perform such unnatural feats is what has made many sensible men cautiously watch the party from a safe distance, instead of actively participating in its work. It looks too much as if our offer to serve every class except the millionaires, were merely a vote catching device. The citizenship of America is none too intelligent, but it is just barely possible that while it expects to be fooled by old party politicians, it considers it unnecessary to take the trouble to change parties for the purpose of getting the same service from people who glibly promise unattainable things.

At any rate, there can be no peace in the party, and should be none, until the party becomes single minded and consistent in its purpose and glittering generalities, bombast, reform takes and all other opportunist buncombe is relegated into innocuous desuetude.

FRANS BOSTROM.

Capitalism's Triple Alliance of Superstitions--Workers Enslaved

A VERY IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION

The following article taken from the New York Call, fully explains one of the chief functions of the public school.

Now, comrades, let us shut off this source of the masters' power over the minds of the workers. Let all working-class voters March to the polls on Saturday, March 6th and cast a ballot whereby the workers vote themselves into control of the public schools. The school system is already socially owned; now let us see to it that it is hereafter democratically managed and controlled in the interests of the majority, the working class.

Let us educate our children fully. Let us have no more of acquired ignorance, deliberate perversion of the minds of children in the interests of capital—for this is what the schools are now used for by capitalist politicians and business men.

Read the article following; blue-pencil it, and pass it on to your neighbor:

THE SECRET OF CONTROL

PROF. ELLEN HAYES

Keep him ignorant and you will keep him submissive. Since its discovery no age has neglected to pass along this unfailing recipe for the management of the masses of mankind. But the ignorant are of two sorts: those who know that they know not, and those who know not that they know not. Because submissive acceptance of a poor, hard lot is liable to be impaired by a desire for knowledge, it is a favorite policy of all who set out to rule to encourage the latter form of ignorance. This is accomplished by outfitting the dependent learner with falsehoods and half-truths, and thus inducing him to believe that he knows when in reality he knows not. His condition is fairly well described as one of acquired ignorance. A slave may be tied to his hut and his hoe by refusing him knowledge of the points of the compass and the direction of a land of liberty; or, he may be told that a far southern

star is near the North Pole and shows the way to freedom; he is then likely to travel only further into slavery.

Unquestioning obedience to authority, reverence for position and wealth, contentment with one's lot are the three superstitions, masquerading as duties, which have been most persistently encouraged as further contributing to acquired ignorance. The priest and the politician—with the all too frequent aid of the schoolmaster—are efficient agents in imposing upon the unsuspecting common man this triple alliance of superstitions. Once under such thrall the rest is easy. With distorted data and false premises, through sheer trampling on the minds of men, the forces hostile to freedom and brotherhood seem to be carrying the day.

It is extremely inconvenient, in the estimation of a capitalist aristocracy, that mere common workmen should have the ballot. But try dollars and drinks; if they fail to secure votes, sophistries will win, anyhow. The public school system implies risk for rulers; but if a child can be led to read the wrong thing his knowledge of reading, so far from rendering him dangerously independent, will serve to make him a contented bit of cement in the economic and political structure built by the masters for their own glory. A spelling book and a vote, and it is early morning yet, with plenty of time ahead for freedom and brotherhood to set up their banners. Socialism in this hour flings forth to the whole world an absolutely unescapable challenge. To them that are ranked of high degree it says: "Bring your knowledge, all of it, into the open. Strip away every unfounded assumption, all false logic, all unwarranted conclusions. Let us hear the straight story of history; let us see the actual results of science—and then deny Socialism if you can!" To the wayfarer proletariat it says: "Break the superstitions which have so long bound you; rise and be men. You shall have truth and it shall make you free; for the ignorance which the masters devised and laid upon you to your hurt has fallen to shreds and cannot harm you any more."

HERE'S A QUESTION

(From The Peninsula Free Press, Port Angeles, Wash.)

Over 300 people gathered at the opera house Thursday evening to listen to one of the most noted authors and speakers in America. One book he has written is in its 11th edition and 150th thousand. It is barred from most of the Carnegie libraries. Millions of pamphlets taken from the book have been sold. The speaker is a man who for five years has been a lecturer for the New York City board of education. His subject was "War Against War," a subject that right now, with the United States face to face with the grave question of perhaps being pushed within the next few days into the international carnage at a cost of hundreds of thousands of lives of American boys, ought to be, and is, the most tremendously important subject that can be discussed by American citizens. Our two leading contemporaries were published as usual yesterday. There was a column in one paper about a valentine party, and a column about the opening of a social hall was given a position of honor in the other paper. But nowhere in all their columns was there even a line referring to this important meeting that so interested hundreds of our citizens and at a time when war with all its horrors may at any moment vomit forth death and famine in our homes. Not a line, not a word! If this is their idea of "news" perhaps it explains why The Free Press found such a warm and welcome spot in the hearts of so many hundreds of Clallam county citizens with the very first issue, and why each week it finds many new names added to its subscription list.

HERE'S A SUGGESTION

In France, before the revolution, there was a humane (?) law that forbade any nobleman from shooting more than two workmen a day merely for sport. Why not have such a law now against killing more than two wage-slaves a day for mere profits?

ROMANCE OF TWENTIETH CENTURY SCIENCE

Maynard Shipley's Illustrated Talks on Evolution.

Beginning Friday evening, March 5, Maynard Shipley will begin a series of weekly talks on "The Romance of Twentieth Century Science," which will be a summary of the astonishing achievements of modern science in astronomy, geology, biology, and anthropology.

The course is to be given under auspices of the Young People's Socialist League.

The ever interesting questions concerning the structure and content of the visible universe, the origin of the earth and the development of life thereon, the pedigree of man, and all the absorbing problems comprehended in the great question of "how things came to be what they are," will be briefly discussed in such plain, simple language that even a boy or girl of 14 years can understand.

Each lecture will be fully illustrated by interesting stereopticon views, prepared especially for this course. No pains will be spared to make this series of lectures thoroughly enjoyable and profitable.

"Wonders of the Heavens"

The first lecture of the course will be "Wonders of the Heavens," an entertainment which has elicited the warmest praise of audience and press wherever it has been given. This lecture comprehends in its subject matter the solid foundation on which all other knowledge of the earth and life thereon must be based. Strange as the assertion may seem, to some students, the fact nevertheless remains that sound views even on economic and social questions, must be based on an intelligent understanding of the sublime truths of modern astronomy.

This fact was long ago recognized by Sir Edwin Arnold in declaring that: "It is astronomy which will eventually be the chief educator and emancipator of the race."

The great French astronomer, Camille Flammarion, has well said:

"When men know something of the earth, and understand the modest position of our planet in infinity; when they appreciate better the grandeur and the beauty of nature, they will be fools no longer, as coarse on the one hand as credulous on the other; but they will live in peace, in the fertile study of truth, in the progressive development of the reason, and in the noble exercise of the higher faculties of intelligence."

WHAT OTHERS THINK OF SHIPLEY'S LECTURES

THREE TYPICAL APPRECIATIONS

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

San Francisco, Cal., April 19, 1911
I wish to convey to you the thanks of the Board of Education and the Lecture Bureau for the very interesting and valuable lecture which you gave for us at the Mission High school. The many comments that have come to me all give the lecture high praise. I hope that some arrangement may be made whereby we may hear you again. Respectfully and with best wishes,
M. E. BLANCHARD,
Principal, Mission High School, and
Director of Department of Education, Lecture Bureau, San Francisco.

STOCKTON HIGH SCHOOL

Stockton, Cal., April 22, 1910.
Mr. Maynard Shipley, Oakland, Cal.:
Dear Sir—Many of the teachers and students have expressed themselves as having been highly pleased with your lecture last Thursday. It was certainly a talk that the students of any school would enjoy. The lantern slides were excellent.
Yours very truly,
ANSEL S. WILLIAMS,
Principal.

FROM RICE INSTITUTE

Dear Sir—Permit me to thank you for the splendid lecture you gave us last Sunday, and to ask if you could give us another lecture along astronomical lines two weeks from Sunday. Our patrons were more than delighted with your lecture, "Are the Planets Inhabited," one of them declaring that your revolving representation of our solar system was worth \$5.00 to see by itself.
Hoping to hear from you at your earliest convenience, I remain,
Gratefully yours,
DR. A. C. RICE,
Manager Rice Institute, Oakland, Cal.

EVENING HERALD APPLIES SOCIALIST PRINCIPLE OF 'ECONOMIC DETERMINISM'

Material Basis of Moral Codes Exemplified

HARD TIMES MAKE DIVORCES LESS IMMORAL TO PROFITEERS

Everybody knows, or ought to know, that many of our patriotic forefathers, including Honorable John Hancock, were criminals, to-wit, smugglers. They needed the money. The God-fearing blue-law colonists did not think ill of these worthy "founders of this great republic." Most of them were in on the profits; which makes a whole lot of difference in both morals, law, and religion.

Chattel slavery was very immoral in the eyes of men and women who could derive no coin of the realm from buying, selling, or working negroes, and a Bible-sanctioned Heaven-ordained institution to those who found chattel slavery profitable. And just so, not many years ago, it was considered a sin to work on holy days, or that saint's day. But the rise of capitalism made holy days, or holidays, more or less a nuisance to profit-mongers, who had to pay the cost of a wage-slave's "keep" whether he worked or prayed. So the prayers were cut out, or curtailed, or made on the wage-slave's own time—that is, bed-time. Only two or three years ago the Pope announced that certain still observed holy days—holidays—need not be observed as formerly. The profit-mongers had put his Holiness wise, and prayers had to make way for profits, as always.

Now comes Reno with its example of how profits affect the laws and morals of a community. During the prosperous days of the gold-field rushes, Reno got all swelled up to imaginary metropolitan dimensions; believed it had a "future" based upon substantial backing—a great desert that was to be made to blossom and bloom like the Garden of Allah, or something. But it didn't happen that way. So Reno needs its divorce colony, its prize ring, roulette tables, anything, in fact, that will bring dirt to its mills. And here is how the Everett Herald unconsciously subscribes to the great Socialist principle of historical materialism—the principle that man's institutions spring from and are controlled by the economic necessities of the ruling class:

The country should not be too harsh in its criticism of the backsliding Renolites. All know that to keep aloft on the pinnacle of municipal morality is a dizzy achievement and that those who hold that precarious position ever and anon take disastrous tumbles. And there's always a good reason for those tumbles,—aside from sheer dizziness. Reno had the divorce business developed to a fine point and then Nevada reformed and Reno's industry was dead in a night. And at about the same time prize fighting went into eclipse, chiefly because white hopes were only hopes. So here was Reno, doubly stricken, and the Reno purse was afflicted. And then came the European war and, of course, the democratic tariff. Reno simply was forced to recoup. So the natural thing to do was to start the divorce mill grinding again. Doubtless Nevada's moral convictions on the question remain unchanged; they've simply been laid away in mothballs until a day comes when the money is not so badly needed.

HEALD'S BUSINESS COLLEGE

To Whom It May Concern: Professor Maynard Shipley's lecture, "The Wonders of the Heavens," proved to be an entertainment of unusual interest to all who heard it. While his discourse was entirely free from dry technicalities, he was able to impart, in an exceptionally pleasing manner, much solid information relative to what were indeed "Wonders of the Heavens." I cannot speak too highly of the beautiful illustrations used during the lecture. The mechanical devices giving moving pictures of celestial phenomena were most interesting and instructive, and added much to the enjoyment of what all present pronounced a most edifying and delightful evening.

It is with great pleasure that we offer this little tribute of our appreciation.
T. B. BRIDGES,
(Business Manager, Heald's Business College of Oakland.)

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ORGANIZATION NEWS



FREELAND'S NEW HALL.

Freeland celebrated the opening of their big community hall on February 20th with a regular old-fashioned country dance and supper. Everybody danced from six to sixty and also "like sixty." Everybody and all their wives relatives were present from the surrounding neighborhoods. There was music galore. We guess everybody in Freeland plays something. Then there was Doc Cowles, of Everett, with his clarinet, and Jack Moore, of Greenbank, with his fiddle. Jack is one of those old fashioned fiddlers that make a violin talk, chuck full of the music of his days as well as in up-to-date stuff. The old fireman's dance, which he called while leading the orchestra, was the hit of the evening and by special request was repeated. If you ever have Jack play for a dance in your town, ask him for the Fireman's dance. We danced all night till broad daylight and some of us went home with the girls in the morning. To be real accurate the dance broke up at six, and those who came by boat went aboard the Alverine for a one-hour wait until the boat pulled out. As the Freeland-Classic-Greenbank, etc., bunch are mostly Socialists, the Washington Socialist sent comrade F. G. Crosby over to represent the paper. Say hello to the comrades and gather in any floating coin of the realm on subscriptions. Did he enjoy himself? You bet he did, every minute of the time, and hopes he will get an invite to Freeland again.

F. G. CROSBY.

LOCAL EDMONDS TAKES HINT AND ELECTS PRESS COMMITTEE

"Greetings from Edmonds."

It seems to the writer that chickens are extra fond of roosting at home; for, acting in good faith on the suggestion in The Washington Socialist that each local elect a press committee to report local news to the party paper, the writer was nominated to fill that position before his motion was seconded. But vengeance is sweet, for I will leave it to any member of the party, if it is not very democratic to use such steam-rolling tactics.

Nor were there two nominated for the job; and when a protest was made the chair overruled it, so I will "ball out" the whole bunch for trying to poke fun at such intellectual beings as Maynard Shipley and myself. We are successes wherever you put us, but we can not do it all. We wish to hear from the rest of the locals.

There is lots of news here; it is going to waste; but you can not have it for nothing. Even exchange is not cheating. So come through, locals, and build up a party paper. Comrade Hodgins is doing her share. Comrade Shipley is doing his best, but we must help. For my part I will report as long as I am permitted, no matter where I am. Don't be afraid of saying too much for the editor can cut it down.

The pleasure was mine of attending Cedar Valley Local's business meeting last Saturday night. They have a live little local over there. They arranged for a social evening the 13th of March. Comrade Leister, of Local Edmonds, addressed the Local and made a splendid talk on the fallacy of the "good man" theory.

A LOCAL SCIENCE CLUB ORGANIZED

Local Edmonds have organized a Social Science Club for enlightenment and entertainment. The subject for the next meeting is "patriotism."

The capitalist school board held a mass meeting in Edmonds last Saturday for the purpose of white-washing itself. A Zaphar Howell the Third was the self-appointed chairman, although he did not go through the form of qualifying himself, but took the floor at 2 p. m. and "howled" continuously except when he would hand the brush to "Aunt" Lizzie Jones to operate while he caught his breath; or was butted into by some of the patrons of the district.

Mrs. Jones plead ignorance but not incompetency and Howell said ditto.

The audience was informed that the district had sunk from sixteen to twenty-seven thousand dollars in the hall in the four years of his administration, but she said it was worth it though, for seven of the pupils of district No. 15 had been on exhibition at the fair. And she concluded by calling it efficiency.

Someone asked why the debt grew so fast. She looked at him calmly and said, "Interest." Of course that did not penetrate the Henry Dubbs, but just wait.

WALTER REECE, Press Committee.

LOCAL VANCOUVER NEWS

COMRADE DYE ASKS SOME PRACTICAL QUESTIONS

Dear Editor:
Times are getting no better fast. The plutes have been telling us for two years that prosperity was only thirty days ahead of us; but it seems that we do not make much progress catching up with it. Thirty days, yes, that's what they said two years ago; and now they say, "Only wait thirty days longer."

I know it is very discouraging, but what are you going to do about it? What is going to be the outcome? What will it result in? How much longer will the people be put off with this thirty-day promise? How many people in this little town (and I know it is worse in larger places) will say, "I must have help; I have not had a bite in my house to eat for two days, and I can not get a thing to do." Many people would surely have died for want of food if it had not been for charity. But already charity is beginning to sway, and groan under its awful burden.

Now what are you going to do? Will some one answer? Are you going to submit yourselves and family to be starved to death? Are you going to be cowed like a whipped dog, or will you raise your head like men and women and make one awful struggle for life and freedom?

I know they are promising us everything, if we will only wait thirty days. But let me tell you something: I know this has been a hard winter; I know when spring comes it will relieve the situation, to a certain extent; but next winter will be so hard that it will make us think we had prosperity this winter. And if the working class do not get together and change this system, for they are the only power on earth that can bring about a change,—the death rate from starvation will grow until it will equal that caused by the European war.

Now what are we going to do about it? What is the use of trying the republicans again, they can not do anything for us. There is only one remedy, and that is for the working class to unite, and work together as one at the polls in 1916. Vote the Socialist ticket straight, regardless of who is on it.

WOMEN DO GOOD WORK

We have a committee of lady comrades in Vancouver looking up all the prospects. They are doing a lot of good, and will soon double the number of our local. We cannot say too much for these good comrades, and if we would all get in and work together like they are doing you would see a change quick.

The committee on comrade Kirkpatrick's meeting is getting busy and we are all looking forward to a great meeting. I hope to see more from comrades scattered over the state.

Yours for the Cause,
O. E. DYE.

Dr. Foote's Plain Home Talk, a cyclopedia of popular medical and social service, \$2.00 at Hill's Book Store, 2929 Colby.

INTERESTING LECTURE BY COMRADE BARTLETT

(Editor's Note.—This notice was inadvertently omitted last week.)

Taking for his subject, "History and Its Actors," comrade Mark Bartlett gave a very interesting and instructive talk Sunday evening, February 14th, at Socialist headquarters. Many striking points were brought out by the speaker illustrating the principle of economic determinism, also showing the effects of the class struggle.

Next Sunday evening will be devoted exclusively to the transaction of business and to whatever may come up under "good and welfare." Every live Socialist should try to be on hand at these weekly business meetings, as much business of importance remains to be attended to by no one else than one's own self!

Ten copies of the Washington Socialist for ten weeks will cost you \$1. Let us send you a bundle so that you can build up the Socialist movement in your locality. Get your local interested in this.

COUNTY CONVENTION TO BE HELD

The annual county convention of the Socialist party of Snohomish county has been called March 21 in Everett. Every local should send its full representation as important organization matters will come before the convention.

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THE WAGE WORKER AND FARMER

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"Why do the workers do it? Because the capitalists own everything the workers must use in order to live, and the latter must use that former dictate. Moreover they have fortified themselves by making their own laws, making the process of exploitation legal, and by drafting from and training the slave class for the army, the navy, police force, Boy Scouts, militia, law courts, public schools, 'public' press, etc.; all of which are directly used to either forcibly, if necessary, defend their position as robbers of our class, or, what is better still, teach them that the robbery does not take place."

Social Ownership the Remedy.
"The only logical remedy, then, is for the workers to take possession of all the necessary means of production and produce for use, not for profit, for then there would be no one to make profits out of. Instead of receiving in wages one-fifth of what they produced, they would get their entire product, or its social equivalent."

"With the workers in possession of the wealth producing machinery and natural resources exploitation would necessarily cease automatically—not because any one was so good as not to wish to exploit others, but because the power to do so had vanished. All having the opportunity to produce for themselves and retain the full product of their toil, none would be so foolish as to work for another and surrender a part of his earnings to his employer."

"Where do you belong, Friend Farmer? With the workers or the shirkers?"

How Shall We Obtain Possession?
"First: By informing the rest of our class that they can expect no redress from the enemy, the capitalist class. By educating them to a conception of their true position in society, that they may understand how they are kept in poverty, misery and slavery."

"Secondly: By organizing for the capture of the political power. Once this power is in our hands we will have captured the weapon upon which the capitalist class depend to enforce our submission to this system of slavery."

"This is the mission of the worldwide Socialist movement. We now have a voting strength in all countries of nearly ten millions, all aiming for the same goal, and all understanding that the salvation of the workers must be accomplished by the workers themselves."

"No political trading" is our watchword.
"The world for the workers, and all the fruits thereof—nothing more, nothing less."

"Study—think—then act."

The above is from a pamphlet entitled, "The Wage Worker and Farmer," by J. Pilkington, a farmer. It emphasizes the identity of interests of these two sections of the producing class, and deals with the problems of the farmer. It is on sale by The Washington Socialist for 15 cents a copy, post paid.

EVERETT Y. P. S. L. NOTES

The league held its first real study class last Monday. Mary E. Marcy's Shop Talks on Economics was used and a general line of topics discussed.

Ellen Moore is interested in the study class. She will soon know more than any other Moore and will be able to tell more of her friends more than they ever knew before.

Don't read the Y. P. S. L. notes. They are hard on the eyes.

Dougherty, Norton, Chamberlin and Ulonska are coaching the baseball team.

The league has arranged for a series of stereopticon lectures by comrade Shipley. The lectures will be on the subject "From Star Dust to Man." Everybody boost. Get your tickets from Dougherty.

Bill Norton has a "jitney" of his own. He runs it on Hewitt avenue—in the Stokes building.

Hazel Arnold caught one last Friday. Make him buy you good chocolates Hazel.

A full line of staple groceries and Scandinavian specialties, new goods just arrived, at Eldem's Grocery, 270 Lombard. Phone 477X.

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Corona Blend, 3 lbs.-----\$1.00
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Yakima potatoes, Yakima alfalfa and wheat, hay at wholesale and retail. Both phones 478X Ind., 378 Sunset.

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NEWS IN BRIEF PEARSON'S

By H. W. WATTS

The dividing line between a damned fool and a patriot is very hazy, according to Secretary of the Navy Daniels.

A battle between Socialists and police marked the climax of Nashville, Tenn., Socialists to prevent the ejection of tenants for the failure to pay rent.

Ray Vance, St. Louis, expert statistician who has been connected with the bureau of economics, declares that the wages of engineers and firemen increased 11.3 per cent and cost of living 13.5 per cent in three years.

The women employes of the United States government employed at Frankfort Arsenal, Philadelphia, have had their wages cut to less than \$7 a week. They also work all night shifts contrary to the law in Pennsylvania, which prohibits the employment of any woman in manufacturing after 10 p. m.

England is making loud complaints because men are not enlisting in the army. One city with fifty recruiting stations was able to supply only 400 men. The Boy Scouts have been used for the purpose of stirring up enthusiasm and still it is complained that the men are more interested in the theatre and football.

An Italian fruit dealer of Hackensack, N. J., has made the statement that it was he who made the speech while the Paterson silk strike of 1913 was on and for which Patrick Quinlan was indicted and sentenced to seven years imprisonment.

"WAR AGAINST WAR"

(From Everett Morning Tribune) George R. Kirkpatrick, author of "War, What For?" and an earnest worker in the cause of peace, delivered an interesting lecture in the People's theatre on Sunday afternoon. His subject was "War Against War" and the large audience listened with deep attention and appreciation to the arguments set forth against war as an institution and against militarism in general. The speaker treated his subject solely from the socialistic viewpoint but many of his arguments were sound from any viewpoint and his exposition of some of the causes of war were convincing to his audience.

Mr. Kirkpatrick might be termed a specialist in his line just as there are specialists presenting arguments on the other side of the question in the press and in congress at the present time, and it is in part to offset the tendency to militarism that the lecture, which will be given in many cities was prepared.

The lecture was under the auspices of the local socialist organization and it is safe to assert that there is no one in the country better fitted to undertake a crusade against war than the speaker at Sunday's meeting.

LARGE AUDIENCE HEARS LECTURE ON WAR

(From Everett Evening Herald.) An audience that nearly filled to capacity the People's theatre yesterday afternoon heard George R. Kirkpatrick, author of "War, What For?" deliver an address upon "War Against War" under the auspices of the local organization of the socialist party.

Kirkpatrick is making a swing entirely around the United States, seeking to arouse opposition to militarism by presenting the socialist viewpoint that all wars have their seed in the present order of society, industrially, and that wars are inspired only by greed of dollars among those who can bend war's horrors to their personal enrichment.

That the speaker has given much thought and time and research to the preparation of his address as given here yesterday was apparent to every hearer. He presented arrays of statistics that covered a wide range of time and a great variety of situations, purporting to show that whenever nations called into the field their armies certain commercial interests reaped vast personal fortunes.

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And, with all this, Pearson's still prints as much fiction and entertainment articles as other magazines. If you want plain facts instead of pretty pictures buy a copy on the news stand for 15 cents, or subscribe by the year for \$1.50.

By special arrangement with Pearson's we are able to make you the following clubbing offer.

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Can now supply you with anything you want in either coal or wood.
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FREE LEGAL DEPARTMENT OF THE WASHINGTON SOCIALIST
Address all questions to Attorney Peter Husby, 216 Stokes Bldg., Everett, Wash.

Editor's Note: Free legal advice on any subject is given in this column to Washington Socialist subscribers. Are not fifty-two copies of this paper and a legal adviser for a year worth \$1.00? Tell your neighbors about this great offer.

Q. As a subscriber to the Washington Socialist, I would like some information:

While digging up soil in the parking strip in front of my two 25-foot lots here, between 17th and 18th streets on McDougal, on account of preparing it in shape for seeding to grass, I accidentally discovered an old draining trough about two feet wide by two feet deep, and about a foot from the sidewalk, running parallel with it, and only four inches from the top of the ground. This trough undoubtedly was used before the street was graded for drainage, and ought to have been removed when the street was graded, instead of covering it. Some day the city of Everett will have a sum of money to pay, on account of boards decaying on top and persons stepping through, perhaps resulting in an accident.

Can I force the city to either fill this trough up with dirt or else take it out entirely before paying my last installment on street grade this fall, amounting to \$25.00 and interest?

A. No! You will have to pay the street grade assessments willy-nilly. The city will have to take care of the old trough as a separate proposition, or take its chances on standing a damage suit.

SAVAGE SURVIVALS IN HIGHER PEOPLES

Biology teaches us that man is very like the other animals—that he seeks pleasure and avoids pain and may usually be relied on to follow a line of conduct that brings happiness to himself.

And yet it is only the human animal that marches to the battle front to deal and meet death. Since the war broke out in Europe the greatest biologists in the world have been trying to explain why man goes out to face death when he might remain safe at home. Such conduct is opposed to all we have counted on in the Socialist struggle to free the working class.

For this reason the study of biology is a most important one. It is the science of life and traces the origin, descent and evolutionary direction of man and explains the origin and use of his natural tendencies, emotions and habits.

Psychology and sociology have their roots founded in biology, because it is in the field of biology that we discover the instincts and habits that cause men to act in a certain way.

If we universally sought death on the battlefield rather than a life of industry, there would be little hope of man surviving long enough to bring victory to the world's workers. Biology teaches us why men may be forced or fooled into activities that lead the human race to extinction. And when we know how this may be done, we will learn how to prevent these things.

Dr. J. Howard Moore, professor of biology at Crane Technical Institute, Chicago, will conduct a course in popular biology starting with the March number of the International Socialist Review (published in Chicago) that will start at the foundation of science. The course will last one year and will deal with Savage Survivals in Higher Peoples, starting with the Origin of Domesticated Animals and their instincts surviving from their wild ancestors.

During the lower Eocene period the horse or ehippus, had three toes instead of a hoof. The fearful wild boar was the prehistoric ancestor of the masses of animated fat we see rooting about barnyards today. Our own hens still cackle and fly from their nests to attract imaginary predatory animals from the eggs they have laid just as did their foremothers in years gone by. Our own instincts are largely survivals from the lives of our primitive ancestors.

Prof. Moore's course in biology is just the thing for young folks and will be read with profit and pleasure by thinking men and women.

We have arranged with the International Socialist Review to offer a combination subscription of this periodical and the Review, both one year, for \$1.50. The subscription price for the Review alone is \$1.00. Bring your combination subs. to this office. If you will add 40 cents we will include a copy of Prof. Moore's Law of Biogenesis, just published.

A GOOD RESOLUTION

To Buy Where Your Dollar GOES FARTHEST

Ladies' Hose Good quality Black Hose at 10c	Come and See Those Balmacaans, Overcoats and Men's Suits that we are selling at \$7.50 Good Overcoats and Balmacaans \$5.00 Young Men's Suits, broken sizes and no two alike \$1.98	Those Good Shoes For women are going very fast. This is a reminder, if you want a pair at the small price of \$1.35 or \$1.85, which ever you may choose, do not delay. You will know better after you see them whether or not they are worth the price— \$1.35 and \$1.85
Men's Sox Black or Tan Sox, in fast colors and good weight 4 pair 25c	Men's Silk Lisle Sox A few left of those good Silk Lisle Sox 19c	Sample Shoes for All Low Price, but Good Quality MEN: Our sample Work and Dress Shoes are hard to beat for quality and price. We have them in good calf and chrome tan leather. We are giving you something good at— \$1.95 and \$2.85
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The Washington Socialist

Entered as second-class matter March 9, 1911, at the postoffice at Everett, Washington, under the act of March 3, 1879.

IND. PHONE 478Z

Published every Thursday by the Press Committee of the Socialist Party of Snohomish County, 1612 California St., Everett, Wash.

Maynard Shipley, Editor.
H. W. Watts, Business Manager.
Advertising Manager, F. G. Crosby.

Yearly subscription, \$1.00; six months, 50c; three months, 25c; single copies, 5c.

NEW BUSINESS MANAGER

Takes Charge of Washington Socialist

For several weeks we have been putting off making an announcement to our readers that we wish it were not necessary to make, namely, the resignation of our business manager, Katherine H. Hodgins, which took effect on February 1st.

Having been offered a remunerative line of work for which she is particularly well fitted, she decided that, inasmuch as she had served the paper gratuitously for thirteen months, she was justified in accepting the offer. She will, however, have some opportunities to serve the interests of the paper now that were not possible when her time was all taken up with the routine work of the office. She will continue to devote any spare time she may have in assisting the paper in every way.

OUR NEW MANAGER

We are fortunate in having been able to secure for business manager comrade H. W. Watts, who is, in every respect, well qualified to carry on successfully the work of business manager. Comrade Watts will continue the policy that has enabled us to enter the new year free of debt. Our wide-awake new manager has had valuable experience in newspaper work in the past, and knows that a conservative, economical policy, such as has been carried out for the past year, is the only safe policy for any Socialist paper.

Comrade Watts is active in all of the organization work, and is on the whole, a rebel like of which are all too rarely found. We wish there were ten million in the country like Watts. We have the utmost confidence in our new business manager, and we ask our readers to share this confidence with us.

..It was announced at the beginning of February that the paper was entirely free of debt, and that there was sufficient on hand to pay the print bills for one month. This was most encouraging in view of the fact that we have been on the up-hill grade for ten months, with this end in view.

But remember, comrades, that **WE MUST MAINTAIN THIS RECORD.** We must not lie down on our ears for a single minute. **THE WASHINGTON SOCIALIST** is growing in popularity every day, is making new friends with each issue. There should be enough **LIVE REDS** in this state to support a genuine Marxian paper, standing uncompromisingly for Internationalism.

Now our readers all know that we never ask for charity, or donations. But we do ask that you get out and get subscriptions. There is but one excuse for the existence of a Socialist paper, and that is, **TO TEACH SOCIALISM.** And we have not fulfilled this mission while there is one possibility of a subscriber in the state that has not been garnered. We simply **MUST** keep up our subscription list, or admit that the **Reds of Washington** do not want a strictly revolutionary paper.

Comrades, new subscribers do not usually come to a Socialist paper's support uninvited. Without its loyal "Army" of hustlers the Appeal itself would have to suspend publication within 30 days. Why not give the same earnest support to The Washington Socialist, a party-owned paper, as is given by so many of you to a privately-owned paper? We can and do furnish readers with what most of the old-time Socialists are beginning to admit is "a rattling good paper"—to quote a well known comrade's words. But we can't furnish the new subscribers. This must be done by volunteer hustlers, individually, or by the various locals. No Socialist paper can grow and prosper at this stage in the history of the movement unless it can obtain the loyal support of comrades who are in dead earnest, and who realize how necessary to our present and future progress is our own party-controlled press. Each one Get One, one new subscriber, this very week,—let this be our slogan, and let's act on it at the earliest possible moment!

Get your trunks, suit cases and ladies' hand bags—or have them repaired at Everett Trunk Factory, 2815 Rockefeller. Trading stamps.

"PROFIT-MONGER"

The phrase "profit-monger" is employed in The Washington Socialist with two different implications, according to the context. It may be well to explain just what meanings we wish to convey in the two instances. Generally speaking, we use the phrase as an expression of contempt, as applying to a class of persons who can see no object in life beyond increasing profits; for profits they live and move and have their ignoble being, and without profits they honestly believe "civilization" would come to an end and society perish. These are genuine profit-mongers, by instinct, breeding, and miseducation. We call them profit-mongers in the same spirit of contempt with which they wish to stigmatize the word "Socialist," as used by them in their ignorance and sordidness. We detect their stupidity, though we do not blame them for being what they are. We do not hate them, but we despise their contemptibly narrow outlook and their lack of social ideals.

In the second use of the phrase profit-mongers we mean simply those who by force of circumstances are technically dependent upon profits for a living, but whose ideals are social in nature and who personally desire to see a co-operative commonwealth established, in which fraternity and mutual aid, democracy and social service will be the dominant factors of civilization. These are the working farmers and the merchants of advanced ideals who live by work and profits through necessity, not from choice; who prefer a system of production for use, instead of for profits, but who, finding themselves in the minority, make the best of the situation, and try to beat the capitalistically-minded at their own game of profit-mongering. No odium attaches to the phrase profit-monger in their cases. Particularly is this true in the case of the hard-working wealth-producing farmer, himself one of the most hard-pressed, hard-worked, ill-requited victims of capitalism. Only technically is he a profit-monger. He is practically a member of the working class. His ultimate interests all lie with the working-class, and he should identify himself actively with the Socialists though some of his immediate material interests have to be sacrificed in support of the wage-earning proletariat.

SERVES THE STATE

Washington Socialist Goes Everywhere.

While this paper is technically owned and controlled, for convenience, only by the comrades of one county, it nevertheless functions as a paper for comrades and locals everywhere in Washington. A word of caution, or advice, from a local east of the mountains would be received at the editorial rooms in the same receptive spirit as though it were sent from Edmonds, Arlington, or Local Everett No. 3, or No. 1. Socialism is not a local matter. If you are a Red Card member, let us hear from you, wherever you are located.

PARTY-OWNED AND PARTY-CONTROLLED

Least there be some misunderstanding as to the use of the phrases party-owned and party-controlled in relation to The Washington Socialist, we wish to explain that we use these words in contrast with privately-owned and individually-controlled. This paper is owned by the Socialist party of Snohomish county, and controlled by a Board of Trustees elected in mass meeting, or county convention, of comrades in good standing. This Board, acting for the entire county membership, selects the editor, business manager, and advertising manager; also determines what their respective wages shall be. The policy of the paper is under their direct supervision; and comrades were elected at the last meeting who could readily respond to a call for a board meeting. It is understood that the paper shall incur no indebtedness in the name of the county membership. It's a case of pay up, or close up. We have paid up. With the energetic support of our readers, with the help of a voluntary army of sub-hustlers, we shall continue not only to pay up, but to grow up. Get into the battle, comrade; "come on in, it's fine!"

No paper serving the interests of the working-class ever grew or prospered just because it was an efficient educational and propaganda medium—just because it was "a good paper." If its subscription list ever attained any considerable length, it was because it had a bunch of "good" hustlers back of it. Workers, "subsidize" your own press by your PERSONAL EFFORTS; then the money part will take care of itself. We don't need much money. **WE NEED MORE SUBSCRIBERS!**

INTERESTING QUESTIONS

A comrade has sent in a list of very interesting questions for editorial treatment in these columns, and we shall certainly be glad to take up each one of them as fast as our limited space will permit. A very important question to the Socialist is the following: (1) "Is a farmer who owns his farm a member of the middle class?" (2) If so, why is a carpenter who owns his tools a member of the working class?"

(1) Yes. (2) A carpenter who owns his tools is a member of the working class, a proletarian, because he has nothing but his labor-power to sell; because he must find an employer before he can use his tools in earning a living—he cannot realize his labor with mere ownership of tools; he must have material, viz., lumber, nails, window-glass, hardware, etc., before he can earn his living as a carpenter. So he must sell his labor-power to a contractor, or capitalist. If he has all these things available, in his own name, besides owning his tools, and builds houses to sell at a profit, he ceases to be a member of the working class; he has something to sell for a living besides labor-power; he becomes a profit-monger, hence a member of the middle class. His immediate interests will become identical with all who have material to buy for manufacturing or building purposes; his concern will be profits, not wages. Insofar as he would be interested in wages at all, it would be in seeing them fall, so that the price of materials would fall proportionately.

Returning to the case of the farmer: he is also a profit-monger, having products of labor to sell for more than it cost to produce them, i. e., for a profit. If he employs help, it is to his interest to buy labor-power as cheaply as he can, so that he can meet the selling prices of competitors in the open market, and realize a profit on his products. The cheaper the cost of his supplies, machinery, groceries, harness, etc., etc., the greater his profits; so he is interested in low prices, and low prices can best be obtained on the basis of low wages for the working class who produce the things the farmer must buy. The non-Socialist farmer wants to "bust the trusts;" but it is the trusts and monopolists who are at present, on the average, paying the maximum wage and establishing better conditions for wage earners. Small, competing concerns are forced to grind down their wage-slaves to the lowest possible wages and the greatest possible number of hours' work per month.

To sum up: All who are vitally interested in gaining higher wages and a shorter and shorter work-day, and who have nothing but their labor-power to sell, who must find an employer before they can eat bread, are members of the working-class. All others are members of the middle or plutocratic classes, however ardent their desire for the coming of Socialism may be.

Note: As about one billion dollars of farm products must each year be disposed of in foreign markets, it is to the interest of the farmer that the average wages in the United States approximate as closely as possible the average of wages paid in the countries where his products must be sold. However, higher wages paid to wage workers in the United States would result in a greater demand for agricultural products at home; hence, higher prices and larger profits for the farmer, other things being equal. But other things are not equal. The question is too complex to treat of fully here.

THE SOCIALIST PRESS

By DAN HOGAN.
I want to see the Socialist press succeed everywhere.

Instead of having too many Socialist papers, as many are often heard to say, we really haven't enough.

Folks who run Socialist papers do not do so for the money there is in it, they run them because they have something to say—because they couldn't do otherwise.

Do not neglect your local paper. It is needed. It may not be large nor imposing in appearance, but it helps to keep your local movement on the map and you should keep in touch with it, and if it fails, don't let the cause of its failure rest with you.

ONE OF THE BEST

Every reader of this paper should procure a copy of comrade Pilkington's pamphlet, "The Wage Worker and Farmer," reviewed elsewhere in this issue. In our opinion, it is one of the best short studies so far published on the subject.

July 4 is to be "Peace Day" at the Panama Exposition. What other humorous features are being planned?—Kansas City Star.

Dr. Ross Earlywine, Dentist, 205 American Bank Bldg. Both Phones 725.

WILL BE PUBLISHED IN NEXT WEEK'S ISSUE

A summary of comrade Kirkpatrick's splendid lecture, "War Against War" will be published in next week's issue of this paper. No one can reproduce even an outline of a lecture by comrade Kirkpatrick; one must hear it, one must see it, for the author of "War—What For?" produces wonderful results by pantomime, gestures, facial expression. Anyhow, we'll do our best to give some of the facts stated in last Sunday's lecture.

The local paying the freight or express may have any quantity (up to 200,000) of War Leaflet No. 2, "How To Do It," by writing to H. M. Sinclair, secretary of the Socialist party of Oklahoma, 320 Scott Thompson Bldg., Oklahoma City. Comrade Sinclair also has a number of posters, "Starve the War—Feed America," which he wishes to dispose of in the same manner.

WHY IS IT?

Since listening to the tremendous lecture of comrade Geo. R. Kirkpatrick, given here, last Sunday, in the People's theatre, with every seat filled, from gallery to orchestra, we have asked ourselves (and others) over and over again this question: **Why is it** that the power and charm of Kirkpatrick as a lecturer is not on the lips of every Socialist from New York to San Francisco; from Tampa to Nome; from Quebec to San Diego? **Why is it** that his fame as an orator-teacher is not the subject of nationwide comment in our locals, in our party press, and in our party conventions? **Why is it?**

Why does Kirkpatrick not receive the same well-merited praise and advertising that is given, say, to comrade Debs? Kirkpatrick is as great a platform lecturer in his way as is comrade Debs, with his own inimitable charm, magnetism, and forcefulness. With a method of delivery at once humorous, eloquent, lucid, logical to a degree, appealing—nay, compelling, George R. Kirkpatrick's name, if he be accorded full justice, will go down in history as one of the three or four greatest orators America has so far produced. No one here that we have asked about Sunday's speech but freely concedes that it was as brilliant, interesting, instructive and eloquent a lecture as any of the very best they had ever heard, barring none. Many tell us that they enjoyed it the most of any speech they ever heard, to which we can but add our own confession. **Why is it** then, since we can stir up not one dissentient voice on the subject, that the fact is not widely and freely admitted by the Socialist press, generally, that George R. Kirkpatrick is one of the three or four greatest American speakers?

In imagination we hear some grouch mumble, "There you are, more of that hero-worshipping stuff." (That is, we would hear it if the said grouch weren't too busy hero-worshipping somebody else on his own account.) No, comrades, giving a worker in our grand cause all the credit he has earned by his hard work, study and talents is not hero-worship but simple justice. Kirkpatrick has it coming to him. Why withhold our full measure of appreciation in his case when we are so lavish in our adulation along beaten paths? Now then, are you ready? All right, we want to go on record with the following declaration: **George R. Kirkpatrick is one of the greatest public speakers of this century.**

Some of the lecturers who are conventionally named before Kirkpatrick pale into insignificance when honestly compared with him.

As this opinion is generally concurred in by the individual comrades around here, **Why is it** that we are always writing and speaking of George R. Kirkpatrick, when advertising his meetings, only as author of "War—What For?" Great a book as this is, proud as one might feel to be its author, Kirkpatrick should nevertheless rank higher as an orator than he does as the justly famous author of "War—What For?"

Any comrade, anywhere, who would not walk, if need be, 25 miles to hear Kirkpatrick deliver his tremendous lecture on "War Against War," is certainly willing to short-change himself. Kirkpatrick as a lecturer is in a class all by himself, loftily alone!

THEY THINK SO TOO

Since writing the above opinion of comrade Kirkpatrick's forensic ability, we find virtually the same high position assigned him by The Montana News, which says, in part:

"The Socialist platform has no speaker today more thoughtful, more forceful, or more convincing than George R. Kirkpatrick. . . . Every effective speaker must have a certain amount of dramatic power, and in this respect comrade Kirkpatrick is particularly gifted."

Just so. Kirkpatrick's dramatic power far transcends any that it has been our privilege to hear on any lecture platform.

DISFRANCHISED

By C. E. KLINE

It is quite well known now that the Socialist party lost about 25 per cent of its votes in the recent election.

Most of the comrades account for that loss as being a failure on the part of that 25 per cent of voters to demonstrate their qualification as Socialists.

But I believe this to be a mistake, when we consider the method of the capitalist class in disfranchising the workers. During the campaign of 1908 I told the comrades in Local Leavenworth, Wash., that panics and hard times, preceding elections, would from that time on be a systematic method of the capitalist class in disfranchising the laborers, until they have reduced the laboring class to such a low degree of political influence as to be able to impose upon them a complete disfranchise. In such a way, perhaps, as by introducing the old grandfather ballot, which provided that a man must be worth a certain amount of property to entitle him to the right to vote.

It is obvious that the hard times we have experienced in the last year is the cause of the loss of a large number of revolutionary votes. Since unemployment makes it impossible for the laboring man to remain in one place long enough to entitle him to the right to vote. As a result he is disfranchised for that election.

Now when we consider that five or six million men have been enlisted in the army of the unemployed, it is easy to suppose that some four hundred thousand of that army belonged in the revolutionary ranks. This explains why the rural districts, which are made up of permanent citizens, outdid the industrial districts on the Socialist vote.

Now my proposal is that we start a vigorous campaign for universal suffrage on the ground that a man be able to vote any place in the United States as long as he is an American citizen. Regardless of the time he spends in any one district before election, or his valuation of property.

This would give a fundamental basis on the political side of the revolution, which would turn hard times almost to an advantage, when we understand how education can be accomplished by economic pressure.

"FREE LOVE" IN CAPITALIST UNIVERSITY

Ann Arbor.—That 59 girls, unmarried and under 18 years of age, were accouched in the university hospital here since February, 1912, became known recently, with an examination of hospital records. A number of the girls were still in school and one was a child of 12.

Under Socialism, men and women of marriageable age will not be forced, through lack of funds for support of a family, to enter into ill-advised sex relations. Capitalism breeds "free love," sexual indiscretions, and prevents the founding of happy homes. The Ann Arbor revelations show typical by-products of an industrial system that has long since ceased to produce good fruit. Lay the ax at the roots, for a diseased tree cannot be made to produce wholesome fruits. Socialism will make possible the development of the best in human nature, and supply a poor culture ground for the abnormal and degenerate.

BLESSINGS OF POVERTY (?)

By J. M. SALTER

To be poor was considered a disgrace everywhere before the church exalted it as high as the heavenly throne. Says the priest, "Blessed are the poor," and this is echoed by the protestant preachers.

"Poverty is a blessing in disguise," prates the school master.

The politician agrees with all three. But the class-conscious worker can see no blessing in 10c beds and 5c lunches. Nor in the white, pinched face of his shivering, hungry child. He can see no beauty in the filth and vermin of a back-alley.

He says poverty should not exist, when nature is so lavish in her bounty.

Poverty is the curse of the age. It is the cancer that is destroying the very vitals of society. "It is the result of capitalism," says the militant intelligent Socialist. And he dedicates his life to the destruction of capitalism and the establishment of working-class co-operation, which means the total abolition of poverty, with all its "blessings" and exaltation—when suffered by the other fellow.

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