

**S**ECRETARY OF WAR GARRISON and Secretary of the Navy Daniels have both publicly admitted the truth of the Appeal's charges against the United States army recruiting methods. Garrison blames congress for the conditions existing in the army, while Daniels says: "Only in exceptional cases has the navy been making good its promises." Such widespread interest has been aroused by the Appeal's articles on conditions in the military department of the government, that these high administration officials have been forced publicly to apologize. The Appeal does not question the sincerity of these officials and we shall give them ample time to remedy the evils we have pointed out. In the meantime the Appeal will continue doing what it can to protect the sons of the working class from falling victims of the snares laid for them by unscrupulous recruiting officials in every part of the country. The Appeal's interest in this affair is not confined alone to the protection of these boys: this crusade has a deeper significance. I want the public to understand thoroughly what kind of a fighting machine is being built up to be used for the coercion of the working people when they strike for better conditions. The United States army has long ceased to be an army of protection to the American people. It has been transformed into an army of oppression and will be used as such when the workers can no longer be held in subjection by the subtle and cunning schemes of the politicians. It is against that time that the Appeal has started this crusade that the public may be informed of all the facts relating to the military establishment of this country. In the not distant future every real patriotic American will commend the Appeal for the work it is now doing. I earnestly plead with you to enlist in the Appeal Army and help us in this work.

**SO** long as Waldo H. Coffman is allowed to remain in the military prison at Leavenworth, every Socialist stands branded as a criminal. What is your answer?

Founded 1885 by J. A. WAYLAND  
FIFTY CENTS A YEAR  
Clubs of four or more (40 weeks) 25 cents  
4 Years, \$1. Life-time, \$5. Foreign \$7.  
This is Number 928  
Expiration Number 28

# Appeal to Reason.

Entered at Girard, Kansas, postoffice as second-class mail matter  
Girard, Kansas, U. S. A., September 13, 1913

**WALDO H. COFFMAN** was convicted on the "testimony" of three guardhouse prisoners who have been granted their freedom as the reward for their infamy.

## First Steps to Get Coffman Released Are Taken

**D**IRECTED by Fred D. Warren to go to Fort Leavenworth, Kan., to interview, Waldo H. Coffman who is now incarcerated in the United States military prison, I went there accompanied by Ben Warren of the Appeal staff. After a great deal of red tape I finally faced Lieutenant Colonel Slaven, the commandant. I asked him to let me see Coffman.

"What do you want to do for the man?" he asked in a tone of astonishment. "I want to get him out of here," I replied.

For a moment he seemed speechless. Then he telephoned that Coffman be taken to the reception room and that he be allowed to converse with him for one hour.

I went down to the reception room. Coffman was brought in and we were going to sit down together to talk, but the guard directed Coffman to sit at one end of a 10-foot table and I at the other. When I found that the guard was going to remain and listen to the conversation I talked loud enough for anybody in any reasonable distance to hear all I said. I proceeded to inquire about the case and this the boy told me.

A corporal at Fort Stevens, Ore., by the name of Shade wanted to borrow some money from Coffman. Knowing that he owed everybody he could get in debt to, he refused to let him have the loan. A month or two afterward Coffman was one day called in by Colonel Straub, the commanding officer at Fort Stevens, and asked if he were a Socialist. He told him he was and the colonel then accused Coffman of being a ring leader among the soldiers and of distributing Socialist literature. Coffman admitted being a Socialist, but denied that he was a ring leader or any leader at all. Straub was quite vicious in his denunciation of Socialism in talking to Coffman and on the day following the interview with Straub, Coffman was arrested, placed in the guardhouse. When Coffman demanded to know the charges against him he was informed that, Shade had said that at the time of the death of Vice President Sherman that he, Coffman had used a foul term in regard to Sherman, and that about a month thereafter Coffman

had used vulgar and obscene language in speaking of the flag of the United States. A court martial consisting of five officers, of which Captain Macey was the president, was convened for the trial of Coffman on these charges. Shade had given as the name of one of the witnesses who heard these things from Coffman a man named Jesse M. Lowe. When the trial was called Lowe was in San Francisco attending a government cooking school so his deposition was taken by the government in the prosecution's case. In the deposition Lowe denied that he ever heard Coffman use any such language or expressions at any time or place and completely exonerated Coffman.

Shade testified in substance to the charges he had made and when he was through testifying, Captain Edwards of the army, who had been appointed to defend Coffman, notified the court that he wanted to recall Shade for cross-examination at some later time.

That night, being the night of the day that Shade testified, Shade deserted and ran away and has never been seen since. He went to Coffman before he left and told him he was going to desert and that he had done wrong and had lied about him. The trial was continued, waiting for Lowe to come back from San Francisco; notwithstanding the prosecution had his deposition. When Lowe came finally the first man to meet him was Captain Long of Coffman's company, and the man who had signed the charges that were filed against Coffman. When Lowe was put on the stand he testified in substance to what Shade had said. He was asked why he changed his testimony from what he testified in his deposition. He said he had forgotten, but that he now remembered.

The 78th article of war reads as follows: "All members of the court martial are to behave with decency and calmness." But when a witness by the name of Harris was called in Coffman's defense, Lieutenant Townes, one of the members of the court, said in an undertone but plainly audible throughout the room, "He is the biggest liar in the court." Then all of the members of the court laughed quite boisterously. Captain Edwards, Coffman's counsel, demanded the reason for their laughter

and the court adjourned to prepare the answer. When they came back their answer was that they were laughing because Harris had been before them at a court martial for trial once. After Harris' testimony was introduced another private soldier by the name of Thayer was called in the defense of Coffman. He began testifying without being sworn. Some one connected with the trial it does not appear just who it was, asked, "Aren't you going to swear this man?" Captain Macey, president of the court, said, "I don't think it makes any difference whether he is sworn or not."

Captain Macey by his tone and his expression evidently intended to convey the idea that he for one placed no credence in the witness. Thayer Coffman was tried under the 82d article of war which reads as follows: "All crimes not capital, and all disorders and neglects, which officers and soldiers may be guilty of to the prejudice of good order and military discipline, though not mentioned in the foregoing articles of war are to be taken cognizance of by a general or a regimental, garrison, or field officers court martial, according to the nature and degree of the offense and punished at the discretion of such court."

It will be noted that the court martial has the right to determine what, if anything, comes under this section and to determine what is to be the prejudice, of good order and military discipline. Another most significant thing in connection with this 82d article of war is that the court is allowed to punish at its discretion. That is, there is no limit to the amount of punishment or kind of punishment which the court martial can inflict.

Coffman speaks in high terms of Captain Edwards, the army officer who defended him. Edwards tried to get the trial held at another army post away from the influence of Colonel Straub and Captain Long and the officers who composed the court martial, but the application for the change of venue was refused and Coffman was forced to try before a hostile jeering, mocking court. Coffman told me that he had asked permission to subscribe, after he got to the prison at Leavenworth, for the Appeal to Reason and that he was told he could have any book or paper that is published except the Appeal to Reason. That paper he was told he could under no circumstances have sent to him in the prison.

I never felt so proud of the Appeal in all my life as I did when I found from the officers and from Coffman that the Appeal was forbidden in this prison. I then appreciated more than ever its wonderful power and I also realized that it was refused admittance, only because of the truths it published. Now as to my conclusions on this case against Comrade Coffman: I have had twenty-five years active experience as a lawyer. During that time I have had dealings with hundreds and hundreds of men charged with crime, sometimes as public prosecutor, sometimes as counsel for defense. My experience has been such that I always feel safe in my own mind in determining after talking with a man as to his guilt or innocence. I do not now remember of a single mistake I have made in this particular in the last fifteen years.

After talking with Waldo H. Coffman and observing him carefully during our conversation, I state to you, it is my sincere belief that he is absolutely innocent of the charge of which he was convicted. I also firmly believe that the case against him was deliberately and wilfully prepared and made out of perjured testimony. I am convinced that his only crime is being a Socialist.

Now the question is, what shall be done to secure the release of this comrade of ours who is unjustly imprisoned? I have sent for a copy of the record of his trial. When it reaches me and I have had time to examine it thoroughly we will determine just what shall be done. One thing is sure, Waldo H. Coffman must not be allowed to remain in prison suffering punishment for something he did not do. He has told me that he is innocent and he tells it in a way that will convince any one that is unprejudiced. If it is a crime to be a Socialist now is the time for us to find it out.

This we know: A clean-minded, honest, intelligent Socialist boy, is illegally restrained of his liberty in a dungeon at Fort Leavenworth, Kan. This is no time to skulk or dodge. We must all stand up and be counted. If the Socialists of America, are in fact, this boy's comrades, they should show it in such manner that no one can be mistaken.

The following editorial from the St. Louis Times, a capitalist newspaper, shows that the Appeal's articles on the army have aroused even capitalist editors to protest against the crimes of the war and navy departments: "The United States government is just now engaged in luring men into the army and navy under false pretenses. There was a time when the government told the boys of the country when they should join the navy and army for patriotic purposes. It was the greatest country in the world, this last phase of the statement being entirely true. Just now, however, the billboards print flaming pictures idealizing life on land and sea making first and foremost the point that there is much travel and no expenses to be paid. It is a lure for the loafer. The pictures accompanying the lure are untruthful, they present life as it is not and they leave out of the story all of the evidences of rough work that every soldier and sailor must have. In other words, the United States government is covering the billboards of this country with fake advertising which has the effect of committing a fraud upon the young man to whom the appeal is made. A few years ago Christian papers made considerable capital out of a large statue of Christ erected on the line between Argentina and Chile in South America, bearing the inscription: 'These mountains may crumble into dust but the people of Argentina and Chile will never again break peace. Subsequent facts show that capitalism makes light of such declarations and causes the Christians to backslide. Argentina has ordered a 28,000-ton dreadnought and a citizen of the country, being questioned, said they wanted it in order to protect the Christ of the Andes! A boot is a fellow who provides food, drinks, electric fans, leisure, hammocks, shades, sea-breeze breezes and recreation for his boss, but lets himself, his wife and his children swelter in the fierce heat of an August sun. Yep, 'boob' is right. That's the only name for such a specimen."

heard Coffman make the alleged remark about the flag, was missing. The story of the murder of Private Crawford, which was given out to the newspapers, has proved to be an evident frame-up to further the general conspiracy against Coffman. Crawford was to be a witness. He disappeared. About the same time another soldier, named Thompson, a marine, died, disappeared, after declaring that he was going to "bump himself off." Sixteen days later a body in an advanced state of decomposition was found in Gray's harbor and was buried as an unknown. Colonel Straub heard of it, sent an officer to have the body exhumed, and pronounced it Crawford. An inquest was held and a "jury" was induced to declare that the deceased had died by strangulation. Instantly Colonel Straub ordered Coffman's friends under arrest—boys who stood ready to testify in favor of the accused—and stories were sent out that the colonel was in possession of evidence to fix the "murder" on them. After that it was easier to persuade Fort Stevens soldiers to testify against Coffman than it was before! In his hunt for "something against Coffman" Colonel Straub questioned, and incidentally bullied, more than 200 soldiers at the fort. One of his questions is said invariably to have been as to whether the man before him was a Socialist. In one particular case, when the soldier replied in the negative, the colonel inquired his opinion as to the number of Socialists at the fort. When the soldier replied that he thought there must be a hundred the colonel cried out with a curse that it didn't hurt him a bit and if the guardhouse was not big enough he would build another.

In another instance, when Colonel Straub questioned a soldier as to his political opinions the man replied that, while he did not belong to the Socialist party, he believed in the principles of Socialism. Straub cried out: "If that's the kind of damn cattle you are, get out of my office!"

Word was brought in by Colonel Straub by one of his stool pigeons that a certain soldier friend of Coffman who had just been discharged from the army and who was familiar with the case and conditions generally at Fort Stevens was giving information to the

Socialists at Astoria. Whereupon the colonel telephoned the police department of Astoria to "vagr" the man. I make these statements from reports sent to me, not by one person alone, but by a number, whose stories tally. Don't you think that these things taken together, are damning evidence of a conspiracy?

Don't you think these matters of sufficient importance to render an investigation of the conduct of Colonel Straub obligatory upon the secretary of war, if not upon the president himself? The reviewing officer, who confirmed the findings, made much of the fact that Coffman did not take the stand in his own behalf. Coffman failed to take the stand only on the advice of his soldier counsel, which was in opposition to the advice of his civil counsel.

Probably Captain Edwards, subordinate of Colonel Straub, did not deliberately double-cross Coffman when he advised him not to take the stand. The reason he gave for his advice was that the prosecution had failed to make out a case, that no defense was needed, and the verdict must be "not guilty." There is nothing to show that Captain Edwards was not sincere in this. Certainly if the verdict had been in accordance with the evidence, the verdict could have been "not guilty." But it happened to be otherwise, and Coffman's taking the advice of his army counsel is used as a confession of guilt on his part!

The whole affair is rotten to the core. Coffman is in stripes. Colonel Straub is at liberty. Cameron, Kurtz and Johnson are in the Fort Stevens guardhouse. Colonel Straub rules over an army post, draws a large salary and passes as a "gentleman." Socialism is being "stamped out" at Fort Stevens. The record of Colonel Straub is clear upon the pages of the war department. What are the lovers of fair play in America going to do about it?

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The following editorial from the St. Louis Times, a capitalist newspaper, shows that the Appeal's articles on the army have aroused even capitalist editors to protest against the crimes of the war and navy departments: "The United States government is just now engaged in luring men into the army and navy under false pretenses. There was a time when the government told the boys of the country when they should join the navy and army for patriotic purposes. It was the greatest country in the world, this last phase of the statement being entirely true. Just now, however, the billboards print flaming pictures idealizing life on land and sea making first and foremost the point that there is much travel and no expenses to be paid. It is a lure for the loafer. The pictures accompanying the lure are untruthful, they present life as it is not and they leave out of the story all of the evidences of rough work that every soldier and sailor must have. In other words, the United States government is covering the billboards of this country with fake advertising which has the effect of committing a fraud upon the young man to whom the appeal is made. A few years ago Christian papers made considerable capital out of a large statue of Christ erected on the line between Argentina and Chile in South America, bearing the inscription: 'These mountains may crumble into dust but the people of Argentina and Chile will never again break peace. Subsequent facts show that capitalism makes light of such declarations and causes the Christians to backslide. Argentina has ordered a 28,000-ton dreadnought and a citizen of the country, being questioned, said they wanted it in order to protect the Christ of the Andes! A boot is a fellow who provides food, drinks, electric fans, leisure, hammocks, shades, sea-breeze breezes and recreation for his boss, but lets himself, his wife and his children swelter in the fierce heat of an August sun. Yep, 'boob' is right. That's the only name for such a specimen."

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## Don't Be Fooled!

The war department at Washington through members of congress is circulating copies of the formal charges against Coffman in order to prejudice the public against him. Read Turner's article, "How Coffman Was Railroaded," and you will readily see that the war department is trying to besmirch the young man's character with charges NEVER PROVED. Coffman was never given a fair trial. Tell your congressman this fact.

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## Soldiers Abused by Medical Officers

**BY JOHN KENNETH TURNER**  
The general effort on the part of the officers to "run them out"; that is, to discriminate against them, discourage them against re-enlisting, or even deliberately to "job" them into a dishonorable discharge, merely in order to save to the government the pension that would be theirs after the full thirty years' service. In connection with this point—economy—we might refer to the marvelous liberality which the government bestows upon any persons dependent upon an enlisted man who dies in the service. The law reads: "In case an enlisted man on the active list dies from wounds or disease not the result of his own misconduct, his widow or any other person previously designated by him is entitled to an amount equal to six months' pay at the rate received by him at the date of death, and so on such part thereof as is expended by the government for interment." "Six months' pay at \$15 a month, \$90; less \$35, leaves \$55. Is your son's life worth this tremendous sum?"

THE recruiting circles say: "You have a certain position with assured health and pay." Also "board, lodging, clothing, doctors, medicines, everything for physical comfort and athletic training is free." The recruit thinks little of the promise of health, doctors and medicines, for he is already in good health—he would not be accepted if he were not—and always expects to be. He does not know that the percentage of sickness in the army is greater than it is among men of the same age in civil life, although all men in the army are required to be well at the start. The reason is that, unnatural and unhealthy as is the life of the average man under our twentieth-century civilization, army life is more unnatural, more unhealthy.

The army is obliged, by every canon of decency, to take physical care of its enlisted men—as well as a sportsman takes care of a fighting dog—but it doesn't do it. Medical care is promised and in this case no special blame can be attached to the "men higher up" for the service is paid for; doctors are hired and rank as commissioned officers. Nevertheless, the men complain of neglect on the part of the doctors. Why? It is not because men who become army doctors were born especially vicious, but because the general attitude of the army authorities—the commissioned officer class—is contempt for the enlisted man. His life, health, comfort and feelings are of very little value. He gets no consideration.

The common soldier is not only subject to neglect on the part of the doctors, but to malpractice. It is so common to object to vaccination, for example, or typhoid, that the doctor, practically a major operation, but practically he cannot; for he is at the mercy of the army surgeon and must take what he is offered or suffer the consequences. In visiting army posts I heard a number of tales of remissness by the army physician which resulted either in death or in permanent disability. One of them, told by a former first sergeant of infantry, was as follows: "As first sergeant of the company it was my duty to place upon the sick report those of the company who reported sick to me. One morning a musician of the company, a boy not more than seventeen, reported sick. I placed him on our sick report, and took him to the hospital for examination and treatment by the surgeon. The boy stated to the surgeon that he was feeling very badly and did not want to go to the hospital. Without examination of the boy the surgeon marked him for duty. I had good reason for believing that the boy was sick. I ordered him to his quarters and to bed, and arranged with the sergeant major that he be excused from duty that day. The following morning again took the boy to the doctor, who again marked him for duty. I again arranged with the sergeant major as before. The next morning when I reported sick to the doctor, the doctor, who had seen the color of a lemon, and when the doctor marked him for duty, I could not restrain myself and in violation of good order and military discipline, I told the doctor that the boy was sick and needed medical attention at the hospital. He reported sick to me. The doctor, who had seen the color of a lemon, and when the doctor marked him for duty, I could not restrain myself and in violation of good order and military discipline, I told the doctor that the boy was sick and needed medical attention at the hospital. He reported sick to me. 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### Calendar of Cases

**Kansas City Star Case.**—In the suit of the APPEAL against the Kansas City Star for \$200,000, depositions have been taken by the attorneys for the Star in Arkansas, Idaho and California. The purpose of the Star seems to be to wear out the patience of the APPEAL and exhaust its resources as the testimony already taken has no bearing whatever on the case. It will be tried in the Kansas City, Mo., courts during the fall term; the exact date has not yet been announced.

**John Witman Case.**—This case is still dragging through the courts where it has been for nearly one year. John Witman was injured eight years ago in a coal mine near Girard, the injuries being due to the neglect of the coal corporation in complying with the law for the protection of miners. The statute of limitation has long since expired in his case. By making promises that were never fulfilled, the company persuaded Witman to take no action against them until after the time limit had expired. The APPEAL has undertaken to get Witman's case back into the courts on the ground that he was defrauded of his legal rights.

**Pat Quinlan Case.**—Pat Quinlan was arrested during the textile strike in Paterson, N. J., railroaded to the penitentiary for an indeterminate sentence of from two to seven years. Officials refused collateral bail. The APPEAL advanced \$5,000 cash. Quinlan was released pending the hearing of his case in the supreme court of New Jersey next November.

**Wayland Case.**—The suit against State Representative Veach of Oklahoma for circulating slanderous stories against the memory of the late J. A. Veach has already offered to retract the statements made against Wayland. The retraction was couched in such vile and insulting language that the APPEAL refused to accept it.

**Harry Bone Case.**—The case against Harry Bone for malicious persecution instituted by Comrade J. I. Sheppard will be heard in the district court at Fort Scott in January. Bone was United States district attorney under Roosevelt and Taft and used the power of his office to procure false testimony against the APPEAL editors and their attorneys. All the cases instituted by Bone were won by the APPEAL. Prosecutions fell flat.

### WILL YOU GET RECRUITS?

In every town and city of any size there is a U. S. army recruiting office. On the walls of every postoffice hang posters urging all able-bodied young men between the ages of 18 and 35 to join the army. In the military prison at Leavenworth are about 1,000 young men who at one time or another answered this call to "see the world" and have a good time (?) generally. Among the number is Walter H. Coffman serving a court martial sentence of one year for being a Socialist.

For being a Socialist Coffman is branded as a criminal. As it now stands every member of the APPEAL Army is a criminal. How do you like it? What are you going to do about it?

Here is what the APPEAL is going to do about it. It is going to call upon every Socialist worker to become a recruiting agent for the Army of the Revolution. In every community—in your community—on a dozen or more able-bodied young men between the ages of 18 and 35. Get the names and addresses of these young men, make a list of them and then make it your personal business to see that they read the APPEAL. Get the other "criminals" to help you in this work. You can do this in three ways:

1. Subscribe for a bundle of APPEALS and hand them a paper each week.
2. Get them to subscribe and pay for the paper themselves.
3. Pay for their subscriptions yourself.

Every Socialist local should take up this matter and raise a fund to send the APPEAL to every able-bodied young man between the ages of 18 and 35 in its locality.

These young men are entitled to know the truth and the APPEAL with your help will give it to them.

### IT HAS DONE MUCH.

Capitalism is so good to the children it has a right to criticize the intention of Socialists relative to the little ones.

It kills half the children who are born before they reach the age of twelve years, through unsanitary conditions which it creates.

It puts the little ones into the mills and factories before they are fit to bear the burdens of life, thus rendering them permanently dwarfed in body and mind.

It keeps them out of school. It puts them on the street. It makes their fathers drunkards for profits and their sisters prostitutes as a means of making a living otherwise denied them.

It turns them into industry but half developed and prepared for the work of life.

It turns the white slaver to hunt the girl—for profit; the boy it seeks to allure by lying promises into the army and thus to slavery and death.

It creates the slaver for the child. It does not fully nourish one child out of three.

It denounces the Socialist for proposing that child slavery and white slavery shall cease. It is against a condition that will provide homes for all, even for those who are left orphans as children. It denounces as dangerous the idea that all children should have free dental and medical attention, and that all children should have opportunity.

Oh, yes, capitalism has done much for the children. It has made the world a hell for them.

The federal government just found a Missouri corporation guilty of selling a meat coloring that contained ingredients dangerous to the public health. They who had been poisoning the people by whole-loads were severely punished. Oh, no, they were not sent to the penitentiary, like a man who criticizes the army, would have been. But they were fined \$10! Now say that there is not justice for the master class, will you?

### THE slave who thinks is on the road to freedom.

LABOR and capital might get along if it were not for the capitalist.

SOCIALISM will not break up the home, but its benefits will break into the home.

CAPITALISM is the general name for poverty, vice, wretchedness, misery and hell.

GOODNESS is often the product of a full stomach. Crime often comes out of hunger.

THE agitation against Socialism is inspired by agitation in the ranks of the masters.

THE more you acquire the more you require. The more you aspire the more you require.

SOCIALISM will throw a fit into "profit" under "interest" and put an "ent" to "rent."

CAPITALISM has placed the entire world under arrest, that is to say, under arrested development.

WHY is a militia maintained for the special use of millionaire mill owners and other capitalist robbers?

THE worker is entitled to the pursuit of happiness. The real thing goes to the fellow who robs the worker.

THEY who shoot at free speech find their guns have a strong recoil and no slinger can be attached to them.

STARVATION after all cannot be so bad. The workers prefer it to leaving their party and voting to end it.

GOONS are people who work themselves to death that their masters may revel in luxury. Don't be a goop!

AMERICA is becoming a nation of humorists. Ask a man why he is a republican or a democrat and you will find it so.

A SOLDIER may have a silver lining, but it takes a golden staphylococcus to be able to turn it wrong side out and get the coin.

ONE of the Katzenbachers kills said "Too much is enough." It is. We have had too much of capitalism, and that is enough.

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Do you ever see a rich man dig a ditch? Why not let him try it and see how it goes? The only thing the rich man digs is you. Put him at work digging ditches and he won't have time to dig you.

The workers have been exploited through all ages. Whether they shall be exploited for all time to come depends entirely on the workers.

SOCIALISM is not a fad. It is not bad. It is not sad. It is not mad. But once it is had it will make the world glad. (This is all right. The poet is licensed.)

CANADA is paying \$1.65 a year to keep up the militia. If the capitalists want men to shoot down the workers why should the workers pay the bills?

CANADA is buying hundreds of acres of land on which to drill an army for killing the workers who object to being robbed, but not an acre to employ them so that they may escape robbery.

THE "great directing mind" of industry merely directs that you give it the most and best and take the leavings for yourself. It would be well to use your mind in directing things for a while.

THE reason you are poor is because you receive two dollars for making an article and then are charged ten dollars if you wish to purchase it. Why should there be a system that admits of such ridiculous situations?

THE great trouble with those who fight Socialism is that they attack dogmas, imagining that they are Socialism. The fact is that Socialism is living and moving. It is not touched by words or by attacks on words.

**Who's to Blame?**

A train collision killed a few, investigation shows sharp, the probe was deep, but "no one was to blame."

The overworked mother, true, had fallen faint, asleep, but that was not the railroad's fault—the probe was sharp and deep.

A hundred souls, a thousand souls were sacrificed to fame.

The probe was long, the probe was deep, "no one was to blame."

"I have called the audience the boss of life was die."

To transportation of the mob, said Twelve Good Men and True.

Pray that we grow not bitter, but it makes this better, that of crushed out youth, this tale of needless death.

No single name shall bear the blame, so might we not as deep as the cost of living rises high, but the cost of life is cheap.

**Henry Dubb Tries to Please His Master's Boy.**

BY RYAN WALKER

MY LITTLE MASTER, THERE ARE BEARS AROUND HERE, BUT ME AN' JUNIOR WILL GET SOMETHING TO EAT.

I WANT YOU TO CATCH SOME LITTLE BEARS IN A LITTLE HOLE OVER THERE.

NOW, JUNIOR, ALWAYS PLEASE YOUR BOSS'S DO FAVORS FOR HIS BOY AND YOU'LL GET REWARDED.

THERE'S THE HOLE, BEARS ISN'T IT? I'LL BET IT IS A RABBIT.

I GOTTA GO DEEP, BUT I GOT EM JUNIOR!

I'M A HENRY DUBB! SKUNKS!



### Kill Eight-Hour Law

BY LUCIEN BAINE, Staff Correspondent APPEAL TO REASON, Washington, D. C.

The democratic party has just shown where it stands on the eight-hour day. Woodrow Wilson's attorney general, J. C. McReynolds, has handed down a decision nullifying the federal eight-hour statute, in so far as it applies to work done on the post roads under the so-called "federal aid" act of August 24, 1912.

This action of the attorney general means, first, that workers employed in building roads for the United States government will be worked as many hours a day as the private contractors see fit to work them. It seems, second, that the legal adviser of President Wilson's cabinet is against the eight-hour day. It means, third, that as far as the post roads of the United States are concerned, the federal law will be violated. It means, fourth, that the long, costly and wearisome fight on the part of organized labor for the establishment of an eight-hour day for the employees of the federal government, has failed. It means, lastly, that the Wilson administration has forfeited all right to be called friendly to the labor movement.

Here is the story of this cowardly decision:

In the post office appropriation bill of August 24, 1912, \$400,000 was set aside to be expended under the direction of the federal government, in co-operation with the various states, to build good post roads. It was assumed by officials of the department of agriculture, which had charge of the work, that of course the federal eight-hour statute would apply. But the states of South Carolina, Georgia, Virginia, Iowa and Minnesota objected to the eight-hour law requirements. Minnesota objected so strongly that the assistant attorney general of that state made a special trip to Washington in order to secure an opinion from the attorney general favorable to his side of the case. On July 31 he got exactly what he wanted—and the workers of this country got the first definite information as to where the Wilson administration stands on the eight-hour day question.

Attorney General McReynolds is a lawyer who, according to published statements in the newspapers, shortly before he became attorney general, gave the Standard Oil company legal advice as to how to get around the anti-trust laws enacted by the New Jersey legislature when Wilson was governor of that state. It is apparent, therefore, that he has the regular, capitalistic legal mind—and we all know what that is. Setting up his mind to work on the inquiry propounded to him by the assistant attorney general of the state of Minnesota, he evolved these remarkably circuitous arguments in order to nullify the federal eight-hour law. Read them carefully, for you will then see what it means to the workers of the country to have a democratic Standard Oil attorney general.

Taking this provision as a whole, I think it may be said to authorize the actual work of road improvement, contemplated to be done by the state or local municipality in which the road lies and to which it belongs, the federal government merely selecting the road to be improved, and through the secretary of agriculture to have the performance of the work, the cost of the same to be defrayed as provided in the act.

If this course be followed, the federal statutes regulating hours of labor will not apply. Laborers and mechanics engaged in such work will not be employed by the United States, but by the state or municipality, a public work of the United States within the meaning of the act of August 1, 1912.

McReynolds then goes on to say, in his best legal manner, that the law passed by his own party extending the eight-hour day to work done under contracts does not apply to the post roads, either. He has to admit that he work on the post roads is done under the supervision of the federal government. But he argues that since the United States does not sign the contract and since the United States is not having the work performed for or in behalf of itself, the eight-hour law must be thrown overboard.

The long and short of the matter is that if McReynolds wanted to uphold the eight-hour law, if, in other words, he had been hired by a labor union to find authority for a different view of the case, he could have done so. The only conclusion which a common-sense man can draw from McReynolds' complicated and muddy opinion is that since the interpretation of laws written for the benefit of the workers is in the hands of men whose interests are not the interests of the workers, the workers will always get exactly such decisions as that which Mr. McReynolds so learnedly and unjustly rendered.

Therefore, for the benefit of Mr. Henry Dubb, who voted last fall for the "democrat" because he believed what fake labor leaders said when they told Mr. Dubb that the democrats were his friends, I wish to warn Mr. Henry Dubb not to apply for a job on the federal post roads project. If he does, he will be sure of being pleasantly occupied more than eight hours a day.

Of course, this might be a good thing for H. Dubb because next time he might not to apply for a job on the federal vote for the democrats. He might learn that there is only one party for him—the Socialist party.



"What's wrong, Percival?" "I just happened to think that everything I've got on was made by a vulgar worker."

### Three for the Price of One

PEARSON'S MONTHLY, ONE YEAR ..... \$1.50  
APPEAL TO REASON, TWO YEARS ..... 2.00  
NATIONAL SOCIALIST, TWO YEARS ..... 1.50

Total ..... \$5.00

By special arrangement we are enabled to offer all three of the above named publications for the price of Pearson's alone, that is, Pearson's Magazine one year, the APPEAL two years and the National Socialist two years for one dollar and fifty cents.

Pearson's is the only magazine of its kind. It does not depend upon advertising patronage for support and it can and does print the facts—facts which every intelligent person wants to know and which can be found in no other magazine. It does print such facts every month, and in addition it prints the best stories of romance, mystery and adventure. The October number will have a real treat, by Allan L. Benson, "The Dollar Mark on the Constitution," also one by Arno Dosch, "The Romance in Legitimate Advertising."

Send \$1.50 today and get Pearson's Magazine for one year and the APPEAL and National Socialist for two years each. You can have all sent to one address or each one to a different address. Send your order direct to this office and not to Pearson's Magazine. Remember this is the greatest bargain ever offered by any publication.

### CO-OPERATIVE WORK.

Harper's Magazine for September contains an article on co-operative banking in Germany. This banking was originated in Westerwald by Herr Raiffeisen; hence is called by his name. The farmers were extremely poor, entirely dominated by the usurer. Raiffeisen united the farmers in a buying capacity and making all secure for each member established for them credit where they could not have it otherwise. The co-operative banking now numbers in membership one-sixth of the farmers in Germany and the business of the banks runs to \$1,000,000,000 annually. But of the extreme poverty, such as the American farmer has never known, has grown not only co-operative banking but also co-operative creameries, dairies, cold storage plants and many other things. The secret of the success of this banking was this to quote from Harper's article:

The centralization of capital exists in every country and as it does in ours. Much of this centralized money is made of poor man's savings. In Germany and France the same system prevailed until two years ago. A wonderful vision came to the little man kept his savings in his own control and combined this with his neighbor's, he could command not only the credit of which his possessions and his industry entitled him, but also a working fund of savings in a continually increasing amount.

If the savings, instead of being used in partial co-operation under government control, as it is now possible to use it in America where the demand made, the results would be a thousand-fold greater. For example, if instead of organizing co-operatives and lending private banks remain, the money deposited in postal savings banks were used in building roads under government control, followed with a demand for government monopoly of banking and money, we could proceed at once to socialization of all things instead of trying to make little capitalists out of every farmer.

Harper's very appropriately heads its story, "Every Farmer His Own Capitalist." It is far better to make the capital of America, if one may use the term, a public force, so that all may benefit from it instead of a few. It is easier to get the whole than the part. Capitalists are going to urge co-operatives because it is a sort of special privilege, a new form of capitalism. It may be helpful to the individual just as any capitalist enterprise that succeeds is helpful and may be wisely employed to a limited degree, but far more to the point is the ending of capitalism with all the exploitation that goes with it.

They who tell you Socialism will destroy the home are invited to explain why there are, according to official sources, 17,000,000 adults in the United States today who are unmarried. They are invited to show wherein this artificial condition, created by capitalism, is not conducive to immorality in the social relationship. It will be something for them to chew on for quite a while, and may possibly get them to do that unusual thing for them—think.

### "Civilization"

BY GEORGE ALAN ENGLAND.

I SAW the stretcher being carried to the hospital, a pale and motionless body upon it. They told me a boy had stabbed himself. A boy! Why should any boy want to die? The question haunted me. I inquired. This is what I learned:

Felix Zweifart came to America a few months ago, from Germany. He had high hopes. He was young, strong, ambitious. He would work hard at the only work he knew, mining, and would soon win fortune. It was all so simple!

Felix drifted to Pennsylvania, in search of work, but found none. They told him there was work a plenty in Kansas. Using almost the last of his pitiful savings, he journeyed west, out to "the golden west" of all his dreams. Then reality dispelled the vision. In the Kansas coal field, work was not to be found. His money rapidly dwindled to nothing. The keeper of the boarding house where he sought refuge merely kept him on charity. At last he found a job—but he was required to furnish certain tools. Buy tools? Impossible! He could not even buy bread! He could not even purchase the opportunity to be exploited by the coal operators.

The boy grew sick with fear and shame. He could not write home for money. Pride forbade it; and besides, the old folks had none to give him. He could not work. His mate he dared not ask for help. Shame sealed his lips. Like a trapped rat, he shrank into the only hole he knew, his corner in the miners' boarding house.

Then catastrophe smote. This refuge too was taken from him. He was evicted, turned out, threatened with arrest for the unpaid bill. Ashamed, sick at heart, despairing, he slunk away like a criminal. For some days he tramped and starved.

All one hungry night Felix thought. He thought of the old folks, mother, father, the homeland he should never see again. Then, with how much of heroism we can not know, he drew his clasp-knife. He plunged the knife-blade thrice deep into his hungry, starving stomach. The knife, perhaps, might still the insistent pangs of famine.

He thought, now, that he should die—die, and have peace. He was, indeed, to die, but not so soon. The wounds did not prove immediately fatal. He lay bleeding, for a while, by the Kansas roadside. But even this was forbidden. He was arrested. The constable could not understand him. "Only another of them damn Bohunks!" thought he. Felix concealed his hurt. He was afraid. Though suffering anguish, he was brought on an electric car to Girard and flung into jail, charged with vagrancy.

So for three days he lingered there, unable to tell, unable to die, yet doomed. He could eat nothing. He continued to starve. At last his condition grew so serious that an examination was made. The wounds were discovered, and he was carried to the hospital. For three days more he lay there—dying alone, silent, uncomplaining, a hunted creature at the end of his warren.

I went to see him, with the thought in mind that he perhaps might have some request to make, some message to leave. A terrible sight awaited me. The starved and wounded boy lay there in bed, his face and arms those of a skeleton, his bandaged body swollen to an enormous size. His restless eyes roved here and there, imploring help. High fever burned him. His emaciated claws of fingers plucked the coverlet. Now that the end loomed near, he feared it terribly. He longed for life. He had found help—too late! But hope had risen once more in his tortured soul; hope destined soon to be annihilated in death.

"Blood-poisoning," the doctor said to me. "If he'd been treated inside of 24 hours after he stabbed himself, he could have been saved. As it is, there's no chance."

I stood beside his bed and talked with him, a little, in German. But there was nothing I could do. The boy had died of death already lay upon him.

I said good-bye, and left him. Next day they told me he was dead. The starved and swollen body had been carried off somewhere, I knew not where, nor cared to ask.

Such the life-story, the profound tragedy of a proletarian boy. His crime? Poverty. His punishment? Torture, despair, death.

And this is capitalist "civilization!"

During the year 1913 forest lands aggregating 213,415 acres have been appraised and purchased by the government as national forests and to protect the waters of navigable rivers. At the same time more than 3,000,000 acres of good farm land that belonged to the whole people have been dissipated and given into the hands of a few. The "trifle" has been a mighty poor one, because the acquired land is largely mountainous and unavailable for cultivation. The fact, however, that the government has assumed the power to buy lands and use them even as a forest reserve will some day serve as a precedent for the obtaining of other lands so that they may be used as great government holdings for the breaking of the force of landlordism and unemployment.

### Trinidad Miners Quit

SPECIAL TO APPEAL TO REASON, Trinidad, Colo.—Mayor Duntaway has called upon the chief of police to furnish protection to thirty-five miners who were discharged from the Delana mine, seven miles from Ludlow. The men, who say they were driven from the camp at the point of guns and berded for five hours in the Ludlow station, took refuge in the miners' headquarters, which was immediately surrounded by Baldwin-Felts detectives.

The detectives dispersed upon the arrival of a police detachment, but crowds lingered on the streets until a late hour.

"Mother Jones, the miners' Joan of Arc, has arrived in Trinidad. She came from the scene of the recent strike in the West Virginia fields.

Nineteen men have been discharged from the Colorado Fuel & Iron company's Robinson mine near Huerfano county. They joined in the meeting of union miners held last Labor day. The miners from the Delana mine say they attempted to go to work as usual, when the mine owners, with drawn revolvers, without giving the men an opportunity to collect tools or clothing, ordered the miners to leave the property. They reached Ludlow at one o'clock and were held in the station until seven o'clock.

Immediately following their arrival in Trinidad the men marched to union headquarters. A few minutes later the place was surrounded by Baldwin-Felts operatives and the appeal to the mayor for protection was made by President John McLeannan of the mine workers' district 13.

The discharge of the nineteen men from the Robinson mine was in conformity with a notice by the company, prior to Labor day, that all who attended would be discharged. Nineteen of 1,600 men have paid the penalty. Many of the miners are leaving of their own volition, knowing that grave trouble is brewing.

### HALF WAY MEASURES.

Australia found it desirable a few years ago, in order to get population at all to break up the big landed estates and hold the land as a state monopoly. The land, instead of being sold, is leased for as long periods as the lessee may wish, payment being made to the government. The plan succeeded in causing an influx of population.

Now, however, the Worker of West- Australia declares that in spite of the government leasing the land at low rates, and in spite of the government controlling transportation, landlordism exists and the farming population is falling off just as it is doing in America. The Worker accounts for the peculiar situation in this way:

It is the mortgages and the interest robbery which dissolves the rural areas and causes the drift towards.

The so-called farmers' loans now proposed as a remedy in the United States for the drift to the cities, will be merely a means of further robbing the farmers in the interest of the city capitalists. The government furnishes the banks the money to lend. The banker lends the money at a good percentage of interest. Then he deposits the mortgage which he has taken with the government, and receives a large portion of its face value as bank notes that circulate as money.

In all ages the farmer has been subject to exploitation just as the wage worker has been. He can escape that exploitation only through the ending of the capitalist system.

### PRIVATE USE OF IT.

Now that the Panama canal is practically completed and the interests have got about all they expected out of Uncle Sam, they are beginning to show their hand. Not only do they intend to use this great property created by the people for private gain, but it is announced that the Panama Railroad company is going to become a great figure in affairs in the future.

This company was chartered by the state of New York in 1849, during the gold excitement. The railroad was built in such a reckless manner that it was declared that a man was buried under every tie. The republic of New Granada made great land grants to the railroad and these grants have since been ratified by the republic of Colombia and the republic of Panama. By the terms of the charter the railroad is expressly exempted from government restrictions as to charges and management. It was given privilege by charter not only to operate a railroad but also a steamship line.

It will now build ships and use the canal created with so much expenditure and time and money for the purpose of making profits and is beyond government interference. This is the program of capitalism—always criminal.

### Preparing for Quinlan Appeal.

While the APPEAL is standing behind the court and other legal expenses incident to reversing the verdict that sent Quinlan to jail, the New Jersey state organization, has assumed the lawyers' fees in that case and besides is fighting the appeal of Editor Scott of the *Levee* and defending Quinlan in some minor charges and defending Comrade Bruckman from a charge of malfeasance in office. As mayor of Haledon Bruckman did not execute the orders of the county sheriff, but kept order in Haledon during the strike in the two big silk mills there by appointing strikers as deputies and otherwise acting as a Socialist mayor should. Therefore, the New Jersey state organization needs money and the treasurer of the executive committee, George H. Strobel, 845 Lincoln Park, Newark, N. J., has been authorized to receive contributions for this purpose.

Following is a list of those who sent last week the APPEAL five dollars each for life subscriptions in order that this money may in part take the place of the \$5,000 the APPEAL advanced to get Quinlan out on bail:

H. E. Fox, James W. Foley, A. Ferns, James Daily, V. Enstrom, J. A. Perrin, James P. Kay, S. P. Scott, James Morrison, R. F. Reynolds, Adolph Steinberg, J. T. Fisher, N. C. Peterson, Ray Hillard, S. A. Johnson, William Strachan, Elmer E. Miller, Mrs. Emma Soper, Christian Meyer, Mrs. O. J. Bollinger, Hugh Murray, E. S. Whitman, George N. Lindsey, Daniel Johnson, Joseph Lehman.

### Free Law Library and Free Three-Year Law Course

The "One Thousand Law Class" closed August 21st and many hundreds who desired to be members of it made application to date, and so they have been writing us to organize another class and give them a chance.

We have, therefore, determined to begin enrolling students for our Home-Study Law Course in what shall be known as the "Wayland Class."

Enrollments in this class will begin September 10th and end November 30th.

We are naming this the Wayland class in honor of our comrade, J. A. Wayland, because all his life he was devoted to educating the workers. His favorite expression and the one most often used by him was, "The reason I am in this country is a sinners'." This great truth expressed in the words of our propagandist's own words will be the class motto.

From now until November 30th when enrollment in this class closes it will be the studied effort of this department of the APPEAL to Reason to turn this motto into the great truth which is the basis of our class so deeply that only death itself can efface it.

If wage slaves once realize that they are slaves, they will be free, and their ignorance will be all over with capitalism.

The capitalist class knows that by keeping within their own control the legislative and judicial powers of the country they are safe and secure in plundering and looting the workers.

Before we can make permanent progress as a political party and before the workers can protect themselves from capitalist attacks, our people must be educated in the law.

The task we have set ourselves and there will be no halting or turning back until in every community there are a sufficient number of Socialists who are thoroughly educated in law to occupy and administer all offices requiring legal knowledge. We want here and now will have trained trial lawyers, trained judges, trained prosecutors and defenders.

We have the best possible teacher within our own ranks from which copies of law books can be made. Between 2,000 and 3,000 Appeal law students are now preparing themselves to serve their friends and comrades.

These young men have served their masters and now they are looking to the day when their every effort will be bent to relieving the suffering of the people who are being oppressed. Those who are at all wise know that the only work in the world today that is really worth doing is that which is done for the emancipation of those who toil that others may live in idleness.

How to prepare for this work is the question that the true Socialist must debate in his mind. If you believe you can do a better service if you have a legal training, write us for information. If you are of your heart if you are a Socialist or a Socialist sympathizer, we will tell you how you can become a member of the Wayland Law Class. You will receive and receive a thorough legal education without leaving home or losing any time from your usual vocation.

There will be an opportunity given for many of the members of this class to get their books and education without cost. We keep in mind that enrollment in the Wayland Law Class begins September 10th and ends November 30th and that many of the members of this class will be educated free. Don't wait until a month later and then it may be too late. Write us now!

LEGAL DEPT. APPEAL TO REASON, Fort Scott, Mo.