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# THE TOILER

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## What Political Prisoners Think of Amnesty.

Leavenworth, Kansas Apr. 4 1920

MY DEAR ALLISON  
A letter from a political prisoner is no longer a thing out of the ordinary. The only strange thing about it is that it is written by a victim of the cowardly subterfuge of commercial highwaymen, the Espionage Act, is the fact that such a law can be seen on the statutes of a nation, hitherto declared to be founded on justice, I place my verb in the preterit, (hitherto), purposely, for no person with any intelligence and moral honor, will affirm that any such thing as justice obtains now. Judging from the description given by Hitchcock on the prison at Atlanta, I am disposed to compliment myself on my location. We have no "enforced" attendance at "divine service," and this to my materialistic and rationalistic mind, is an improvement. No one attends any church service, or "religious worship" unless he elects to do so, although we have all kinds of piffel from ouija board supporters to the "Faith of Abraham."

Another very marked difference between the two prisons is found in the general treatment of men. Any man can write whatever he pleases so long as he is not obscene, profane, insane or something else naturally inspired by his surroundings. There are about four hundred men here who refuse to accept the charge that they are criminals. In spite of the pious silly stuff put out by Pontius Pilate, the Quaker ex-honorable custodian to the contrary we know that we are victims of class hate and political combination, and that our sins consist of pleading for the object which our sacred oracle declared to be the reason for plunging this nation into the murder-fest of Europe—democracy. But in spite of the bloody lessons of the criminal profiteers, we still see workingmen clinging to the nasty smoot of the elephant, the ugly prehistoric relic of the Stone Age, or fondling the tail of the stupid mule adopted as the mascot of a party of intrigue, mob rule, ignorance and fear. There is more hope of a maddog exhibiting the disposition of love than there is of a workingman finding his rights supported in the clique of the elephant; and a rattle snake in "dog days" is a safer plaything for a baby, than is the mob headed by the mule for the defense of justice to labor.

"Samuel the prophet," running around the country talking about "rewarding our friend and punishing our enemies"; is either a stupid old ignoramus, or he is the most calloused hearted hypocrite on earth, (except one, and his long illness, declared by many to be a mental break down, forbids me even hinting at the identity of the exception). Labor has not a friend outside of the ranks of conscious solidarity of material interests with it.

Any exception to that test rule is a sentimentalist, and in a crisis will join the Russels, Spargos, Mitchells and Sinclairs. All this talk "Amnesty" is wasted breath and energy. Wall is against it, and the administration of things political, is as completely the reflected desire of the blood handed jingoes, as is the image reflected from a mirror the features of the man before it. Leonard Wood is the full incarnation of the system and the age, and from the gentleman with the wrecked vision to the last white washed flunkie of capitalism, the whole cold blooded bunch of tory stool pigeons secretly indorse his efforts to win the nomination for president, and every act and word contribute to the success of the scheme. If Wood is not nominated it will be because the munition vendors, the bond shavers and trade grabbers fear that there is more real manhood in this nation than at present seems to be the case, and the flunkie will be picked with the hope of putting an awakening set of Henry Dubbs back to sleep. His theory of "shooting or shipping" is the legitimate philosophy of militarism. A young, innocent youth snatched from home and sent three thousand miles to have his heart blown into jelly and his brains into froth, a bullet hole in his breast and his limbs blown off while his mother is evicted from a rented shack by some hog jeweled speculator because the poor creature cannot pay ten prices for the ram shacked level is not the kind of Americanism entitled to the "100%" brand, but, according to the open charges being scattered over the country just now, that is just about what we have selected to head the machine for the next few years.

The tap root of the infamous tree of which militarism is the most essential support, is the profit system, and the men who are playing a game of political deck stacking under pretended hostility to armament and national murder will support the most heartless jingo at a general election after the financial highwaymen purchase his nomination in the primaries. Borah said as much in his speech at Detroit recently. Solomon the ancient polygamist whom "reverend" gentlemen quote with approval understood the thing when he squinted up one eye and looked sweet at the ebony colored girl from Egypt whose ancestors had experienced some trouble with a general strike of the one big union led by Col. Moses, said: "The ox knoweth his master's crib". These modern political oxen will hallow all over the pasture as to which shall be the main bull, but they will return to the crib after the bellowing. Every man in prison for expressing political opinions at variance with those sanctified looking wolves who carry a bible in one hand and a pocket watch in the other, (Continued on page 2.)



"Sorry, Buddy, can't do much for you—you see, these fellows who worked so faithfully behind the lines" naturally expect the customary rakeoff—we have to look after them first."

## The Soldier and the Bonus

— Bill Smith. —

By the time the picture in our weekly art gallery meets the eyes of our readers, Congress may have passed a Soldiers Bonus of some sort. But nevertheless it still presents the moral that it was intended to convey. It will be readily recalled that when the last loan was issued, the 5th or Victory they named it, the public was informed that at least one, and perhaps two more might be required to cover expenditures incident to the war. No one outside the workings of the invisible government at Washington could tell the reason for these, but as all know, they were never issued. And the methods used to float these loans! Time is clarifying things

that were vague and uncertain in the confusion, the clamor and hysterical shrieking, that was every where during the war. The brutal tactics used—the black page that a decent person would invariably persecutions—will make a scarcely wish to read. The passing time is now showing that these bonds were forced upon those who could ill afford them, while the vicious hungry bands of capitalistic avarice were to profit by them! Thievery then, as now—wore the halo of patriotism! Many will recall the maledictions brought down upon a high Brazilian official who wrote from Chicago to his wife in South America, disputing our claims to democracy, and saying of these loans, "America has 30,000 millionaires

alone who could well absorb these loans with no great inconvenience, but instead they are being forced upon the laboring classes, and for a very obvious reason." Do you wonder that a paid capitalistic press should not thoroughly damn a man for spilling the beans like this? The market price for Liberty Bonds in the New York market to-day—for a hundred dollar bond—runs from \$90.50 to \$96.50—the \$90.50 being the 3rd loan of 4 1/2% and the \$96.50 being the 5th of 4 3/4%. It would insult your intelligence to explain why these countless thousands of bonds are on the market, as you well know they are sold (Continued on page 2.)

## Communist Labor Party Battles in Court.

Oakland, California.  
March 31, 1920

DEAR COMRADE:—  
Received the copy of the Toiler you sent me to day and was certainly glad to get the news and to know that you are still on the job.

We are not so fortunate out here. Oakland was immune from the attacks of the plutes during the war but they are making up for lost time now. They do not like the platform and program of the C. L. P. More proof that it is a good one, so they have arranged to bundle us all off to jail. Comrade Anita Whitney, of our S. E. C. was the first to be convicted. She managed to get out on bail. Comrade John Wieler was the next to be convicted in the worst kind of a kangaroo court. Comrade Whitney was convicted on one count and got from one to 14 years but comrade Wieler was convicted on four counts and got just a little jolt of from one to fourteen on each count which the law did not provide should run concurrently so it amounts to only 56 years. And while Comrade Wieler sat with two little boys in his arms and another close by the judge handed him the 56 years without a blush. It is improbable that he will be admitted to bail pending an appeal.

Comrade James Dolsen, State Sec. Treas. is now on trial and it is going into its second week. He is defending himself and I can assure you he will get away with it if any lawyer can altho he has never studied law. They are going to earn their money before they put him over. With a cool, placid smile on his face he keeps them snarling and barking continually. He threw the court into a fever when he asked a prospective juror if he would convict him for advocating "lawful terrorism". "What's that, what's that?" growled the prosecutor and judge in the same breath. (The law provides punishment for advocating UNLAWFUL terrorism). Anyway, it took the judge 15 minutes to sustain the objections.

Seven more of us here in Oakland are slated for the jute mill. My case will be called tomorrow, the 1st but will probably be put over till after Comrade Dolsen's case is out of the way. J. Ragsdale's case is set for the 9th of April, Edrie B. Smith's for the 15th. C. A. Tobey's for the 20; J. E. Snyder's for May 3rd with the cases of Alanson Sessions, J. G. Reed, Clarence Tobey and P. B. Cowdery waiting a definite date. At least a dozen fellow workers are already at San Quention so by the time we arrive we ought to have a goodly committee of welcome.

Naturally as we are all subpoenaed in all the trials, we are spending most of our time in the courts but at that (Continued on page 4.)

# BIG BUSINESS BUYS THE CHURCH

— Skygac. —

There is something inherently wrong with any religion to which men must be driven against their better judgment and something doubly and damnable wrong with any religion which has to depend upon the millions of the millionaires for the spread of its propaganda.

This is an age of propaganda. The late war witnessed the development of the art of skillful propaganda to a degree of perfection never before thought possible, much less obtained. The various "drives" (drive suggests driver and a flock or herd to be driven) of the war-time period taught the drivers many skillful little tricks in the art of handling the mob—the common herd. There were drives for the red cross, drives for the Salvation Army, drives for the Y. M. C. A., drives for the K. C. s., drives for Community service, drives for war budgets and community chests, drives for the various liberty loans. The lessons gained in this way are now being applied to the Interchurch World Movement, an organization ostensibly formed to spread the gospel of the meek and lowly Jesus, but in its advertising campaign it has repeatedly "spilled the beans" and allowed its REAL purpose

to become apparent. The I. W. M. is composed of thirty of the leading sects and creeds and financed by the big business men of the civilized world. In an advertising campaign of such magnitude that more than a half million dollars has been set aside for advertisements in the Japanese press alone, a campaign so far reaching that even the little local county papers of more than two thousand counties get a whack at the appropriation, they have allowed the truth to slip in to such an extent that the plan and purpose of the Interchurch World Movement stands revealed in all the hideous nakedness of its prostitution with mammon.

As a nation we are a people of great faith. We take our religion, our politics and our economies on faith. Somebody told us something in church or Sunday School and we believed it. We did not accept it AFTER a thorough investigation as to its truth or falsity, we simply grew up in the faith and knew it was so because somebody said it was so and that settled it. In the same manner we grew up Republicans believing in a high protective tariff prosperity and the full dinner pail, or Democrats believing in free trade, not because we knew and

could EXPLAIN what it was all about but because it had been the faith of our forefathers and was "good enough for me".

We got our knowledge of values and economies from the same source in the same manner. Everybody KNEW (?) that both capital and labor was necessary in the production of commodities and that capital gave labor opportunities for employment and hence the growth of capitalist industries was the thing to be encouraged, and we believed it—as a nation. True there were some—more daring or far-seeing than the rest of the herd, some who were not content with running in the same rut wherein their fathers ran, who tried to tell us as did Lincoln, "Labor was prior to and antedated capital and was deserving of the greater consideration"; that the worker in effect paid the capitalist employer for the privilege of being allowed to work, but these few were usually hooted down by the unthinking mob, who always hoot at any new idea just as certainly as a dog will bay the moon.

There are many "friends of labor" (besides the politicians who are seeking "the labor vote") who believe that labor should not mix in politics and above all should not "attack religion"

holding religion to be a private matter and any discussion of it liable to be a means whereby the solidarity of labor might be destroyed. In my opinion these "friends of labor" have never analyzed the plan, purpose or function of religion. Those who have analyzed the plan, purpose and function of religion have found it to be the most efficient method whereby a master class may keep a slave class in subjection and contended with its slavery.

The church in the past has always preached, "obedience to those who are your masters" and upheld whatever monarch, king or ruler who happened to be in power. Today as ever in the past, the church is the bulwark standing between the "respectable" robbers of labor and the wrath of outraged toil. The advertisements of the Interchurch World Movement admit this in a manner most refreshingly. In the "Literary Digest" for March 27th 1920 there appears a two page advertisement that is packed full of damaging admissions on the matter is understood.

The advertisement shows a skyline of a modern city with a gleaming cross for a background and the one word, "Faith" followed by this statement "Not political Doctors but good old-

fashioned Doctrine—that's what the world needs most." Continuing it says: "What is the cure for the world's present troubles—for unrest and covetousness and fear?

Legislation?  
Industrial Compromises?  
Political readjustments?  
We've tried them all and they do not satisfy. We are hungry and thirsty for Faith."

I have long maintained that the Church has ever been the enemy of progress.

Surely the foregoing is proof sufficient. By implication the Interchurch World Movement is advertising that that it is all a mistake to attempt to remedy wrongs by legislation or industrial action. In effect it says, "You do not need industrial compromises. You do not need social readjustments, you do not need better wages, better living conditions, better opportunities for yourself or your wife or your children. Just do nothing and be nothing except a blind "holder of the Faith!"

"The world needs a "genuine religious revival" cabled the London financial editor of the New York Evening Post and he added, "This is the view of hard-headed business

men. "What hard-headed business men are now proclaiming the churches of Jesus Christ have always proclaimed"—such is the trend of the advertisement. Then follows some testimonials from recognized leaders of the House of Mammon.

Charles M. Schwab, of Bethlehem Steel Trust fame, is quoted as saying, "It goes without saying that I am a firm believer in the fact that in a strong religious sentiment lies the firmest foundation for the preservation of our civilization." One needs only to remember that "our present civilization" is based upon the daily systematic robbery of all who toil through the medium of the legalized

**BIG BUSINESS BUYS THE CHURCH.** wages-system. The robbery is legalized but it is robbery just the same. Some years ago Mr. Schwab voiced an intellectual conviction that NOTHING could stop the onward march of Socialism. Now he is expressing a hope that a "strong religious sentiment" may do the trick but I fear his intellectual conviction will be verified while his hopes are to be withered.

Next in order, Mr. Josephus Daniels, Secretary of the Navy, is quoted, "The only real and permanent solution (Continued on page 4.)

# TOILER

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CLEVELAND, OHIO, FRIDAY, APRIL 16th 1920.

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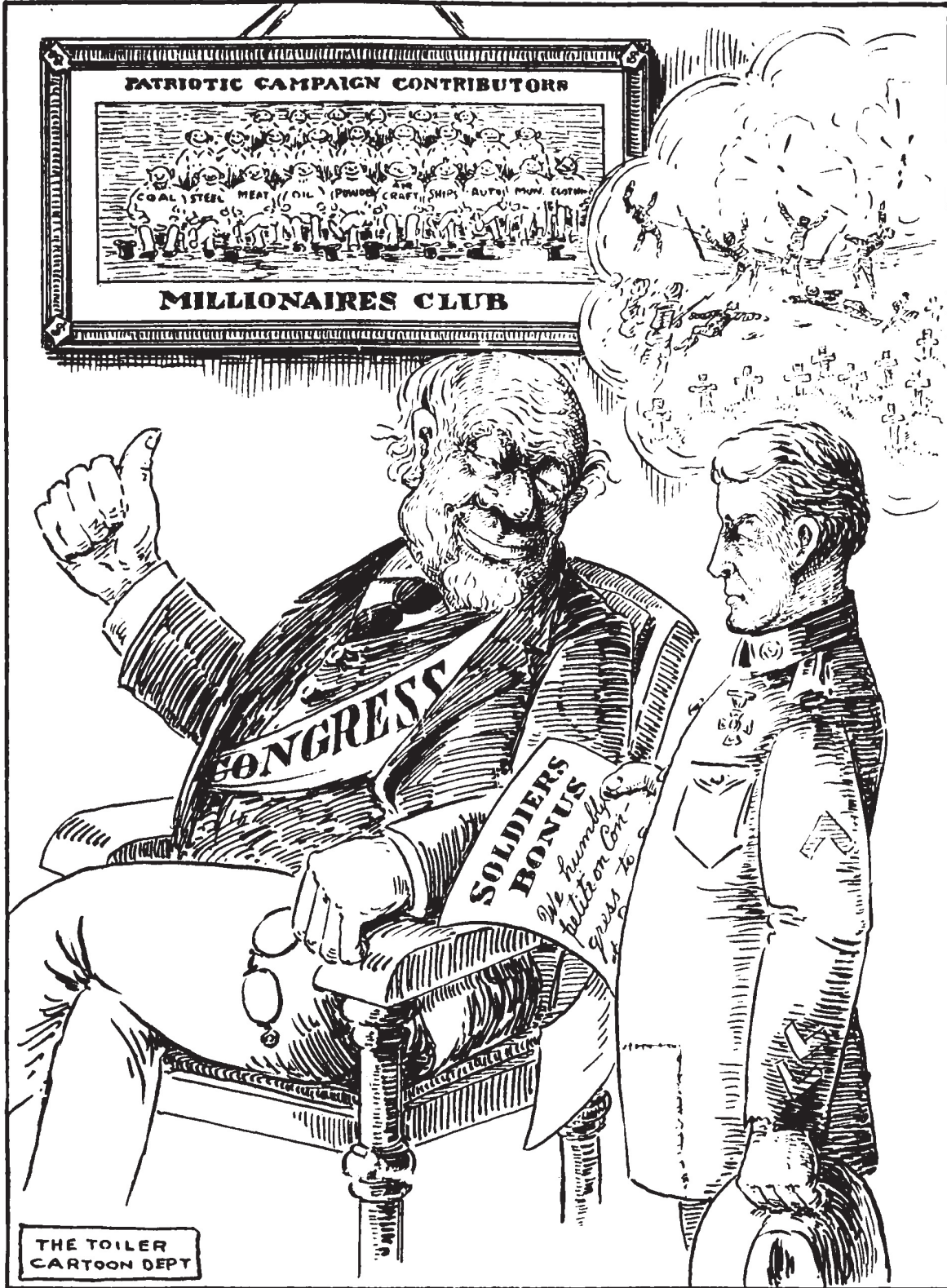
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"Sorry, Buddy, can't do much for you—you see, these fellows who worked so faithfully 'behind the lines' naturally expect the customary rakeoff—we have to look after them—first."

# The British Labor Movement.

By Felix Morley.  
ARTICLE III.

London—The recent by-election results in England are something far more significant than a swing of the political pendulum. The smashing victories which the British labor movement is now recording at the polls really express a new psychological change in this country. The first of these is the growing political consciousness of the trade unions. The second is the growing realization on the part of the so-called middle classes that the labor party alone gives positive and definite promise of a better England. Workers of hand and brain alike are rallying to their party—the labor party—in tens of thousands. In ever-increasing numbers they are expressing through the ballot their demand for national and international justice.

The above is part of the answer given by Edgerton P. Wake, national agent of the labor party when I asked him to account for the recent remarkable triumph of the political labor movement in Great Britain. Wake's office and the mechanics of his duties are closely akin to those of the Republican or Democrat national party chairmen in the United States. He is the general entrusted with all the major organization work of the British labor party and his efforts are said to be largely responsible for the singularly efficient political machine which labor has built up since the last general election. Yet to make a personal comparison between Wake and, say, Will H. Hays, would be much like comparing Abraham with Uncle Joe Cannon. Like a majority of the British labor leaders the vision of their national agent is focussed on the horizon of humanity and not of politics.

Much of the present landslide to the labor party is due to the clear platform of policy on which every election campaign is fought. This program, generally known as "Labor and the New Social Order," was affirmed by the national executive committee of the party when labor withdrew from the coalition government at the end of the war and is a striking contrast to the tissue of compromises on which the unnatural Coalition party and the Independent Liberals both take stands. The labor platform provides in brief:

For a peace of reconciliation, leading to a world without military alliances, economic barriers, or secret diplomacy; for immediate peace with soviet Russia; for a repudiation of imperialism based on force, and for complete self-control in Ireland, India, Egypt, and other subject peoples under the British empire; for nationalization of the land and socialization with democratic control of all vital public services, such as mining, railroads, shipping, canals, electric power supply, and milk distribution; for the conservation of wealth to pay war debts, and for limitation of armaments; for the democratization of education; for the complete abolition of military conscription, whether or not vested in universal military training; for the immediate repeal of all legislation restricting civil or industrial liberty, including amnesty for all political prisoners; for putting in hand urgently needed public works as a safeguard against unemployment, including the building of "at least a million new houses" at the state's expense, these to be let to the workers in congested districts at moderate rents; and for local potion in the liquor traffic.

This platform has a direct appeal to the war-awakened social consciousness of England and is in large part responsible for the present successes of the labor party. It is not as completely Socialistic as some desire, but it certainly provides a handful of stout coffin nails for capitalism. It compares with the vague formulae of conservatives and liberals as day compares with night, and it has the outstanding virtue of being a program indorsed ungrudgingly by every element in the labor movement without the internal splits which are the most potent weapon in the armory of the common foe.

A good party program combined with an aroused social conscience are fundamentals, but by themselves these will never win a majority in parliamentary government. There are other important factors which must be understood to get at the reasons for labor's rapid rise toward political supremacy. One of these was touched upon by Wake in speaking of "the growing political consciousness of the

## What Political Prisoners Think of Amnesty.

(Continued from page 2.)

hand and an automatic in the other, and who hide the crimes of starving babies by blockades, wives and daughters driven to suicide, prostitution or insanity by being reduced to the depths of poverty and the wilful murdering of men for profit, under a washing of lamb's blood, are living examples of the kind of generosity fostered by capitalism. That any wage laborer or little craftsman or farmer, can be deceived year after year to the point of supporting the huge juggernaut is one of the marvels of human psychology. Such a non-descript is only capable of seeing beauty on the many sterner of an elephant or wisdom in the head of a brainless ass. The frenzy of war, carried on the insane lips of such birds, can be counted upon to justify every crime and act of mob cowardice on earth when the grafters want an orgy of blood in order to rob and pillage the world. The poor tools will beat up, rob, burn out, slander, tar and feather, jail and murder their neighbors and see helpless wives and children beg their bread from the hands of

charity, and boast of their cowardly deeds as patriotism and one hundred percent loyalty. I know personally that I am writing the truth, for I am a victim of such infamous things. Because I left the ministry and undertook to help establish justice among men in Oklahoma, I am here in prison, while my wife and four helpless children, the oldest one only seven, and the baby only two years old are gracefully suffering all the privations of outcasts at Guthrie, Oklahoma. My wife is an English woman. I married her in London. She lost two brothers in the war. I am an American, and descendant of Elias Hicks founder of the Hicksite Quakers. But what is nationality? What is citizenship? While I wore the robe of minister and apologized for the infamies of robbers, and taught: "Servants be obedient to your masters", I was popular. I went to India and other places where there live off the fruits of toil, but when I joined the Socialists and became active in the efforts to humanize the

# The Soldier and the Bonus

(Continued from page 1.)

turned soldiers, with what Australia, New England and Canada, have done for their boys,—must admit, that at least, ours have been very shabbily treated. All sorts of relief measures have been introduced, but like congressional "investigations" they have amounted to nothing, except of course pyrotechnic barrages of hot air. But like Banquas' ghost this bonus question "would not down". Hence but very recently Congress came out flat footed and declared that it was impossible to grant this bonus—it would take a billion and half dollars at least to do so—it would disturb business conditions—it would burden the people etc. etc. But a horrible hair raising jolt awaited these dignified conservators of the public welfare. It was but a few days after Congress had decided to allow the boys to go barefooted this summer,—until cute little billet-doux came drifting from the West.

Nervous senators and perturbed representatives,—read some of these notes on the floor of Congress—these were all of the same import—one from a governor—saying in substance: "Since Congress has definitely rejected the soldiers bonus, the returned service men of the West are joining the I. W. W. by thousands."

What!!! Hells fire and Blue Blazes!!! The hot air balloons were corked and the Ways and Means Committee got busy,—and as said—by the time you see this most probable bill will have been reported out by this Committee. Then the usual political jugglery and sleight of hand work by the two great game gangs for political effect in the coming election.

But oh! my fellow workers there is a mournful and tragic side to this! What will the poor buzzards, and vampires of capitalism do,—seeing that they are deprived of their lawful prey, and their "constitutional" graft and pillage? And this bonus will not rest on a bond issue,—it will be paid, it seems,—from an increased "luxury tax." Now watch the pipe smokers and the kid in cream cones eaters get it in the neck again! Could we draw on the thirty "thousand millionaires" mentioned by the Brazilian official to help us out? We wot not.

Let us now ask a hypothetical question:—Do you think that if this bonus measure had been swung,—say as the 6th Loan, and it were so fixed in the neck again! Could we draw on the thirty "thousand millionaires" mentioned by the Brazilian official to help us out? We wot not.

As to the bonus:—Anyone who cares to compare the treatment of the returned soldier and met a few reverend lions in debate and was placed on the ticket for the Senate, I dug a chasm as wide and deep between myself and the tool of mammon as that indicated in the fable of Lazarus and the gentleman in "fine linen." The war gave the excuse for evening up personal and political grudges. I was one of a number of men who were pronounced "dangerous", and after engaging in a public debate with a Judge of an Oklahoma district on "Why the government should conscript wealth as fully as blood to fight the Kaiser", and gained the decision, I was arrested, dragged two hundred miles, placed under a \$10,000 bond, (which I filled), a jury was "chosen" and a bunch of swears, swore some great long swears about me not believing in murder, and a small sized worshipper of the "law" sentenced me to Leavenworth with a meal ticket stamped "Twenty Years", and then to mock my poverty assessed a fine of \$10,000. Of course the Constitution of the United States (1st Amendment) guarantees free speech and peaceable assemblage. The same document (VIIIth Amendment), guarantees that no "excessive bail" shall be demanded, and that no "unusual" "crucel" nor excessive punishments shall be imposed, and these Judges take an oath which pledges them to uphold and enforce the Constitution in every particular, but they have no more compunction of conscience against perjury than has a thiefing tom cat against pilfering a cupboard.

The kind of democracy secured to the world by the war can be seen in the fact that the British dominion has been extended to include mere added territory than is contained in the United States including Alaska. The Union Jack, instead of being made the flag of democracy and brotherhood, has been turned into a bloody napkin in the wake of bomb planks and forty two centimeters; while Egypt, Persia, India, Tibet, the Soudan and East Africa, are in revolt against the usurpation of the grafters, and Ireland is putting the shams of British pretense in the spot light of the world. The Supreme Kangaroos, in the Steel Trust and stock dividends decisions have fully vindicated every charge put against that legal juggernaut by liberals and radicals that it is the "bulwark of capitalism". The persecutions launched against the penniless workmen in this country by the little-sold pretender at Washington breathes the very spirit of the masters, who own him. Anti-strike laws, injunctions, paid spies and thugs, fake reports of bomb plots, possibly made to his orders, lies about campaigns against the profiteers, the shameful surrender to the packers, the sixty different scandals growing out of the war activities, the hypocritical pretense regard-

# The Black Sheep.

Chapt. XXVI.  
Westward Bound.

Before he left Anderson saw to it that the boy had bed and board for the night, and also that he had a few dollars in his pocket, but try as he would he could not get the youth to accompany him. Anderson had his mind firmly set on this point, he decided that it were best to have the others turned loose also, although he did not admit this to the boy.

It was rather late before he left the pool hall and Jack went to his room and waited for the hours to slip by. At last the pool hall was closed and there was not a soul to be seen upon the streets when he cautiously made his way to the rear of the jail building. Here with the assistance of a ladder which he had found in the ally he climbed up to the little barrel window that overlooked his companion's cells and lost no time in knocking out the glass, after which he informed his friends that was out and was unable to get back in, but that he would stay on the job until he was either put back in or had them out.

This amused his friends greatly, although they cursed him soundly for breaking that window and letting the cold wind directly in upon them. There was no more sleep for them that night. The place became too cold. So the two persons spent the night in arguments as to whether conduct such as Jack's was really essential to class consciousness. Collins maintained that it was. He was a stickler for loyalty and would ruthlessly exclude from any organization to which he belonged any one who was in the slightest degree disloyal. It made no difference to him whether the disloyalty was due to weakness or to malice, or to ignorance. To his mind organizations should be built up thru the grouping together of the common minded, and the ruthless exclusion, and expulsion of those who were to any degree contrary minded.

It was his idea that members of an organization be it political or industrial ought to have the utmost regard for each others feelings and think on all subjects exactly like Collins. Jack had pointed out this mental characteristic more than once during the days he was in jail, but Collins could never see it. Now it was Rudolph who pointed out again by saying, you like the kid because he does what pleases you. He is loyal to you. It is not that you admire his democracy. You do not know what the word means. You are a blonde beast that wants to associate with its kind, and seeks to trample all others under foot. You forget that the problem we have set ourselves is one which concerns the toiling masses, white and black, Jew and gentile. It is a problem of industrial evolution. You make it one of personal morality. This might be a good world if you were boss of it but you ain't goin' to be boss." Then Rudolph sailed into a long argument in proof of his contention that Jack had acted from pure idealism and not thru a sense of labor's solidarity.

But argue as they would they could only agree to one thing that the kid had in him the right stuff to make a good working class fighter, if his philosophical bend of mind did not destroy his usefulness. Early the next morning Anderson called up Duffy and Smallhead and persuaded them to let the other two out so as to get the whole lot out of town on the eleven forty train. Thus it was that about nine A. M. the jailor brought the other two men their need additional cover, these cold nights. He then left incidentally getting to lock their cells as well as the outer door. They were not slow to take the hint and in less than fifteen minutes after he had left they passed the pool hall where Jack joined them. The boy wanted a little time to call Anderson and thank him for his kindness as he put it. The fact of the matter was he was trying to learn Olive's name and more about her. But Collins would give no reprieve. "Oh damn the Bourgeois! Let's get out of this hole before something else happens. Remember you busted that can window."

So it was that the trio made their way down the railroad track where they waited for the first west bound freight. That evening they landed in Minot and four days later after a cold and dismal ride across the Montana plains and over the snow capped Rockies Jack for the first time in his life entered the Priest River forest. Here they were thrown off the train by an irate brakeman and Jack and his companions enjoyed a walk of about twenty miles to the next station.

It was a wonderful trip along the turbulent waters of the Priest River, among mountains which towered skyward covered with mantles of evergreen. Toward nightfall they boarded another train and in the morning found themselves in the city of Spokane. It was the boy's first experience in so large a town. Everything was new to him. He had it all to learn. Incidentally he was a source of much amusement to his companions. He offered to pay his fare in the hotel car conductor how much he would charge to haul him to the park his companions nearly collapsed. But their amusement was short lived. The boy soon shed his verdure and became familiar with city ways.

During the time they were in town Collins made it his business to hold forth from a soap box down on Steven's street and it was here that he learned the meaning of such different organizations of the working class as "Starvation Army, Mission Stiffs, Stew Bums," and a variety of other descriptive epithets designating the different strata of the migratory worker and non-worker.

During the day, he followed Collins to the library and busied himself with a variety of books. The library was his favorite haunt. But as staying in the city costs money he told his friends that he was going to look for a job. A task which at that time of the year

was not easy and no one knew this better than Collins. He frankly told the boy that it were better for him to live cheaply and spend the winter in study than to try at this time to find employment. He told Jack that in a few days they would go out to a place on Coner D'Alane Lake and there "hole up" for six weeks or two months until spring work opened up in the Palouse, or until the weather got so that a man might get a job railroad grading and work with some comfort. "You'll never get rich working kid, and my advice is use all the time you can get to improve yourself and work when the pay is good and the weather is with you. The only way you can get any joy out of life is by using your head in the management of your affairs."

Argue as he would Collins had no effect upon the boy's determination to get sufficient money with which to achieve a college education. He wanted to rank among the best in the world and by the best he meant the most learned. It is true that at the cabin on the shores of Lake Couer d'Alane, among the virgin pine woods he applied himself assiduously to a systematic study of Marxian Economics while Collins encouraged him in the reading of working class history. Both Collins and Rudolph were trying to do what the whole world is trying to do, make religion for ages has tried to do, make a man what by nature he is not. Mentally Jack could grasp the idea of their socialist faith. He saw the ephemeral justice of it. He sometimes became even enthusiastic as to its possibilities. But it never became a spiritual fact with him. He learned socialism; he did not become socialized. His mind was that of a naturalist rather than that of a sociologist. He seemed to have but one idea and that was to get a job and save money with which to go to school where he might sharpen his tools of research.

While at the cabin he daily scanned the advertisements in the news papers and tried to persuade his companions to go with him in search of a job. But these old veterans would not budge. They had "holed up" for the winter. And the winter was their playtime. The time they spent in companionship of books. The hours in which they communed with the mind of civilization. They had no ambition to cope with capitalism during the season of bad weather.

After about three weeks of the cabin Jack became thoroughly restless and all agreed to go back to Spokane for a few days. When once more in the city the boy made up his mind that happen what might he was going to get a job. He walked down Railroad Avenue and scanned the boards of the employment offices for suitable work. He noticed an advertisement for railroad help on the Chicago Milwaukee and St. Paul and he went in to inquire about it. He bought the job for two dollars, and then discovered that it was located in Montana, as well as that it would take nine dollars to get there. But he had the money and was bound to work. So after giving Collins and Rudolph an opportunity to tell him what they thought of him, he was on his way. Two days later he arrived at the place designated, with four or five other men sent out by the same employment office and was put to work. He noticed that when he came to this camp several men were leaving, but he was bent on making money and resolved to let nothing disturb him. He worked four days during which bad food gave him indigestion, and quarters so filthy that his clothes became alive with vermin. The foreman on the job was a big burly, illiterate sort of a fellow, who was not at all choice in the language he used toward the men. At the end of the first day there was a group of new workers came into camp, and a corresponding number were discharged; it seemed to be a daily routine. Collins had explained to him, but in spite of his experience at Anamosoe he was inclined to look upon it more as theory than fact.

The game was to collect a free from the man for employment to employ him a couple of days, then to discharge him, and collect fees again off of new man who came to take his job. It was just four days when Jack got his "walking papers." When they had charged him for board, room and hospital fees, he owed the company thirty nine cents, which they generously donated. He was now really broke and three hundred miles away from his friends, with the snow clad Rockies between him and them. He decided to go back on foot or freight and it was during this trip that experience proved to be the best teacher.

It was fortunate for him that he was in splendid physical condition, and that for the first two days of his journey back to Spokane, the weather was unusually mild. He walked the first day up the railroad track, never stopping to eat and kept on walking all the next night and the next day. Two days and a night during which he took nothing but water and covered the distance of one hundred and ten miles. It was during the afternoon of the second day that he began to feel exhausted and eager for rest. Toward evening he stumbled into the waiting room of a little telegraph station on the road. He had no sooner sat down upon the seat, then he was fast asleep, and did not awaken until the station agent two hours later shook him by the collar and told him to get out as it was time to lock up. Jack told the man what had happened to him and the agent informed him that he heard that story every day. That the working class would have to learn not to be roped in by employment grafters, so saying he pushed the boy out of the door and locked it.

To his perfect dismay he found that his limbs were so sore that he could hardly walk. Still he trudged on until the night fell like a cloak of blackness over the mountain region and with it came a biting cold that seemed to grip his vitals. From time to time he caught himself telling the girl at Anamosoe his troubles, in fact he held imaginary conversation with her as he

(Continued on page 4.)

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## The Leaven is Working

The hopes of those who expect the lion and the lamb to lie down peacefully together are bound to be withered. Even in America—the despair of some revolutionists who proclaim the impossibility of American workers ever awakening to the fact of their exploitation, the red menace—discontent, hunger, impossible living conditions is stalking forth upon his rounds.

The switchmen's "unauthorized", "illegal" and "headless revolution" brings one up with a quick jerk of realization of the fact that all the elements of real working class uprisings are with us and liable to break out at any moment. And calling the insurgents names as the capitalist press is doing will not alter the conditions that underlie this latest revolt, nor will they have a soothing effect upon the minds of the strikers.

Five years of world-wide destruction of life, property, wealth of all descriptions has rendered the capitalist machine of government and production incapable of working to the satisfaction of the world's workers. It is breaking down, incapable of feeding, housing and clothing the inhabitants. All the world's in turmoil, nowhere is there a sign of coming peace and a basis upon which human life may continue its existence—nowhere but in Socialist Russia, which is solving the problems of production by first eliminating the exploiters of the masses.

The switchmen's strike contains in it all the elemental characteristics of a revolution. At the bottom lie insufficient incomes to enable the workers to live. They have tried all "legal" methods to increase their wages. Failure has resulted. The machinery which they have heretofore functioned through—the craft unions, now prove utterly incapable of securing to the members a livelihood. The weapon which has heretofore been used in a redress of grievances utterly fails in the hour of crisis. The wise ones among the rank and file seeing its uselessness discard it. And here develops another characteristic of revolutions—the rank and file seize authority. Along with the former weapon is also discarded the conservative officials of the union. Power and authority are seized by the rank and file. They take their destiny into their own hands. All authority save their own is cast away. The stage is now reached where the fight is on between the revolutionists and conservatives for power.

A further development along lines followed by revolutions is apparent. The union officials, feeling their power slipping from them, go over to their historic enemy—in this case call upon their exploiters and the capitalist State for assistance in putting down the revolt. The union heads deserve the brand of Cain for this traitorous act to Labor. Nothing could illumine more brightly than this infamous act the suppliant and renegade character of old line, conservative trade unionism. For years the A. F. of L. brand of unionism has been disintegrating. The loss of the steel and coal strikes have filled the workers with discontent and have convinced them of the futility of craft unionism. More than one rebellion has broken out against the union officials who are straining every nerve to keep the rank and file in leash. The rank and file are demanding a new deal and a clean deck.

To what extent the switchmen's strike will spread cannot be determined at this time. It has already paralyzed industry in many cities and adherents are walking out in increasing numbers. Meanwhile, the "regular" officials are crying frantically for "loyalty" on the part of the membership and seeking an alliance with the capitalist State and the railroad owners to assist them in breaking this revolt of the masses against an impossible economic condition and an outgrown form of labor unionism.

Whatever be the results from a material standpoint, it will have a tremendous educational effect upon labor. America seems on the verge of that condition which begins with spasmodic bubblings of discontent and ends—in victory of the workers.

## In Orderly Sequence

We are afforded a glance at a late development of the class struggle in the local landscape. Behold a picked group of Cleveland city police at target practice with machine guns! A new thing indeed. Rows of railroad ties stood on end, trees, answer for targets. A veteran of the World Massacre is in charge. The suburban atmosphere is charged with all the smells and noise of battle the no blood flows—as yet.

Such a phenomena raises numerous questions in the mind of the curious. Indeed, since the war to end war was fought and won with such overwhelming success and suffering humanity cries for peace and a beating of swords into plowshares—it is a curious thing to see a police squad training in the use of the latest murder devices. Are 18 inch clubs and automatics insufficient to keep order in a Christian nation which has just concluded a victorious war for Democracy and Righteousness?

The answer is furnished by the police themselves. After one such demonstration of the arts of war, a question from a spectator as to "What's the grand idea," the answer was given, "We expect a lot of trouble on May Day!"

Such an act of self delusion can be precipitated by only one thing—fear of a just retribution. Machine guns follow in logical sequence the course that has been followed by the capitalist dictatorship in its treatment of Cleveland workers. Time was when worker-citizens of Cleveland legally elected two councilmen and a member of the school board to represent them in the governing of the city. Soon after, they were unseated at the behest of the profiteers and political potroons who infest the city hall and the Chamber of Commerce.

Having ruled out of office the representatives of the workers, steps were immediately taken to see that no more were allowed to enter the sacred precincts of the governing body of the bourgeoisie State. Having nullified the workers' franchise it was arranged to disfranchise them completely. The political party of the workers was set upon by as conscienceless a crew of pirates as ever cut a throat or throttled justice. After eighteen months of unremitting terrorism, raids, searches, unlawful seizures, persecutions, arrests, spying, insults, destruction of thousands of dollars worth of property, we find the task about complete. The workers of Cleveland ARE disfranchised insofar as using their ballot in the interest of their own class. They can neither write, speak nor vote as free men, but must comport themselves at all times and places in conform-

# EDITORIAL & PARTY NEWS PAGE

## Proletarian Science History

— By W. E. REYNOLDS. —

An economic interpretation of history especially arranged for use as a text-book for study classes, or for home study.  
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### OUTLINE CHART FOR AGE OF LOWER SAVAGERY.

Economic Interpretation.	
Beginning	Unknown except through Geological, Archeological and Biogenetic research.
Tools and Weapons	Sticks and stones.
Transportation	None, except natural locomotion.
Subsistence	Fruits, nuts, raw fish and shell-fish, edible roots, bark, worms, grasshoppers, locusts and other insects.
Shelter	Natural shelter only, such as trees, ledges, caves, etc.
Clothing	None.
Environment	Tropical and Semi-Tropical climate. Tree life. Changes caused by geologic phenomena. Natural environment only.
Organization	No conscious organization. No family life. Gregarious herds.
Arts and Institutions	Sun and ghost dances. Germs of nature worship.
Duration	An immense period of time, variously estimated. Probably millions of years.

### CHAPTER FOUR.

#### A Scientific Interpretation of Historical Epochs.

#### SAVAGERY.

The epoch of Savagery is divided into three ages, Lower, Middle and Upper.

Lower age: This dates from unknown antiquity.

The first men had no history—except as animals have history, and left no history except such as may be read from the record of the rocks, wherein we find the bones of early man and the animals he had eaten or by whom he had been eaten. Prior to the advent of modern science, but little could be known of this remote age. Today, thanks to the development of the sciences of biology, geology and archaeology, the story of the past is slowly but successfully being retraced.)

Haeckel\*\*) says that "The ontogeny of the individual recapitulates the phylogeny of the race."

The term ontogeny means the development of the individual from inception to death. Phylogeny means the development of the race from protozoa to man.

The Law of Biogenesis teaches us that in its development from the parental cell to maturity, each individual passes through all the stages through which its race has passed in its evolution from the primordial protozoa to the present time.

A typical illustration of this law is to be found in the destructiveness of children. A stick in the hands of a small child, instantly becomes a club wielded for destructive purposes, as many a household pet can testify. A stone to a small boy is merely an excellent something to throw regardless whether the object aimed at is a window, a bird, a dog, a cat or a playmate. The reason for these activities is to be found in the fact that sticks and stones were man's first tools.\*

In the lower age of savagery the chief desires of man were to satisfy hunger, keep warm, and out-wit the other animals.

A study of the skulls of men of this age shows that in thought and action they were brute-like.\*\*)

The tools of lower savagery were sticks and stones; the shelter, trees and caves, (natural shelter only as man had not yet learned to build). No clothing was worn. Mankind at this period was just a gregarious horde of human animals living on worms, locusts,\*\*\*) grasshoppers, fish, shellfish, fruits, nuts and succulent roots.

Man in the age of lower savagery, had few words, little communication of ideas, and these mostly by sounds, signs and gestures. He was almost entirely at the mercy of the hostile forces of nature.

Savagery may be defined as that period of human history dating from the time man first assumed an upright posture to the time of the development of the arts of agriculture and pottery-making. It marked the beginning of man's conscious mastery of the hostile forces of his environment.

Man's first great achievement was the development of his ability to stand erect, which gave him the free use of his front feet to use tools and carry burdens. It is maintained by some scientists\*) that the ability to stand erect and to use tools brought him in more intimate contact with a variety of objects, thus necessitating the coining of words to distinguish one from another, hence the development of articulate speech is synchronous with the development of tools.

ty with the will of the capitalist class—expressed by rules laid down by the police and the Loyal American League, who are the agents of the bourgeoisie.

Reaching the present stage, what is the next step which must logically be taken if the workers are to be kept in submission? Since force has proved to be the magic wand to render subject the slaves of capital, why not accentuate its use and influence? And, since discontent is even more rife today, than previously among the slaves—the machine gun suggests itself.

... 'Tis true, we anticipate to immediate use of it. Considering present circumstances we can't imagine any use for machine guns, nor even a "hilly" on May Day. The daily press informs us that May 1st will be celebrated as American Day. Being such, we presume that the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution and the various Amendments will be read and considered deeply and prayerfully by every straight thinking dweller of Cleveland. We recommend that they do so. Especially do we recommend that each inhabitant "learn by heart" the first Amendment and take it as a rule of his political and civil life.

Should these suggestions be followed in the administration of city affairs and ALL its inhabitants adhere strictly thereto, we are positive that the bitter mouths of machine guns would be closed with rust. That would mean the peaceful passing of the capitalist dictatorship—but history teaches that no ruling class ever passes from power except thru a sea of blood of its own making.

The elemental forms of language may be traced to the animal world. The warning cry of the cock upon sight of a hawk may be distinguished by any one from the call he uses to notify his harem of the discovery of another fat worm. The purr of a cat is readily distinguished from its nocturnal lovesong.

The language of animals may be said to be vocalized expression of mental reactions to definite facts in its environment that may affect the individual for weal or woe. Human language differs from the language of other animals in this; it has evolved definite sounds for definite things, while animal language has certain sounds for various emotions. A dog howls, whines or barks according to his mood.

Human language began in the lower age of savagery, evolving from sign and gesture language, and marks the second great achievement of man. Without language as a vehicle of expression no high order of thought is possible. No high order of language is possible without a high order of social development. The vocabulary of all savage tribes is very limited.

Thought is a mental reaction to experience. Man can not articulate that which he has not experienced, hence it follows that the greater the social experience the more ample the individual vocabulary. The vocabulary of this early age was limited for the reason that the racial experience was limited.

Man in lower savagery had no conscious social organization. During this age the faint beginning of a primitive marriage system developed out of promiscuity. Rudimentary forms of religion also developed in the form of Sun dances and kindred nerve-reactions.

Primitive religions rose from the nerve-reaction which primitiv man experienced at the coming of the dawn. To tree-dwelling man the night was a time of terror. Large poisonous reptiles glided noiselessly through the trees and monstrous carnivora prowled along the ground. To escape being crushed by the one often meant being crunched by the other enemy. It was thus that the night was a time of continuous nerve tension which was suddenly released at the coming of the light, manifesting itself by shouting and dancing, for now the enemies were visible and could be the more easily eluded. Modern religions still describe evil as darkness and good as light.

This age of human history closes with the discovery of the utility of fire.

\*) "The Men of the Old Stone Age" by Henry Fairfield Osborne. See also, "The Stone Age in North America," by Warren K. Moorehead. (2 vol. 1910).

\*\*\*) "Riddle of the Universe."

\*) The reader is referred to an excellent work on the Biogenetic Law by Professor J. Howard Moore, entitled, "The Law of Biogenesis."

\*\*\*) Huxley's "Man's Place in Nature."

\*\*\*\*) "His meat was locusts and wild honey."—Bible.

\*\*\*\*) Professor Garner in "Researches on African Apes."

### QUESTIONS FOR CHAPTER FOUR.

1. What is meant by the term savagery?
2. What is meant by the lower age of savagery?
3. Name the duration of lower age of savagery.
4. What sciences teach us of the history of early man?
5. What is meant by the terms, archeology, geology, biology? antogeny? phylogeny?
6. Who was Haeckel?
7. What is the Law of Biogenesis?
8. Show by illustration, other than the text, your concept of the biogenetic law.
9. What were man's first tools?
10. What was the chief desires of primitive man?
11. Name the foods of primitive man.
12. What were the primitive styles in clothes?
13. How did primitive man communicate his ideas?
14. What was man's first achievement? Second?
15. What is thought?
16. What influence upon the expression of thought may be traced to the use of tools?
17. Have animals any form of language?
18. Give illustrations, other than the text, of animal language.
19. What causes language to grow?
20. Explain the social organization of lower savagery.

(Continued next week)

## The Lesson of Albany

Walter B. Dillon.

There is much food for thought for all Communists in not only the result of the investigation that took place at Albany, N. Y., but the actual testimony and statements made by the defendant Socialists. In fact, we as Communist workers are far more interested in the attitude adopted by the defense at Albany than we need be in the result of the whole farce.

At this point, however, in view of the fact that this is a presidential year, we must look the matter fairly in the face from a purely political angle also. We are vitally interested in the outcome of this legislative tangle, first, as showing the limits to which Capital is prepared to go to dominate the state, and second, as demonstrating conclusively the duplicity, depravity and utter worthlessness of such "leaders" of Socialism as Hillquit, Stedman, et al.

There are very few of us, perhaps, who needed the developments at Albany to prove the Judas Iscariot nature of the Socialist Party to the workers as the party is represented by such men as Hillquit, Stedman, Waldman and many others of their ilk. But to thousands of good and loyal Socialists who chose to remain with the old party rather than split away, such a lesson was absolutely essential to demonstrate the close affinity of such so-called Socialists to the Kerenskys, Scheidemanns, Noskes, Eberts and Thomases of Europe. Let us hope that the lesson was not lost on our honest comrades of the Socialist Party. From a purely political angle, however, we are much more interested. It is a fact that the men who were expelled from the legislature at Albany were elected to office by the votes of hundreds, perhaps thousands, of those who at the time were members or sympathizers with the Socialist Party, but who are now Communists or Communist Labor in affiliation or sympathy. Where are we going to stand when the acid test is put up to the electorate of these assembly districts again? That is what we must decide.

From all indications we are not going to be allowed to place a Communist Labor ticket in the field and through such a ticket exercise our right of franchise. If not, should we vote for the Socialists whom we know will be about as valuable to the working class and as powerful in their interests as Ebert in Germany or Kerensky in Russia? For myself, I most respectfully decline to waste my time voting for puppets of the bourgeoisie, but I am not sure that such is the attitude of all of us. Neither am I sure that to leave the fight open between the cohorts of Capital on the one hand and of middle class reformism as represented by the Socialists on the other hand, would be conducive to the best interests of the workers. In the long run, of course, the reaction will set in and we will logically take our places at the helm, but we should not stand aside and let the Socialists be crushed if by saving their skins we can prevent a great deal of suffering by the entire working class.

It is certain that in the event that the Socialist Party is wiped off the slate as well as ourselves, there will be a fact that the men who were ex-

(Continued on page 4.)

## The Lesson of Albany

(Continued from page 3.)

then be no liberal element capable of stemming the sweep of Capitalism gone mad with its own excesses. That means a long siege of White Terrorism for we must not blind ourselves to the fact that the workers of this country are far from being organized to take over control of industry, and yet too imbued with the idea that they are freemen to meekly submit to the Iron Heel. Hence, they will revolt, spasmodically and in small groups and be as ruthlessly repressed as under the Czar in Russia or Noske in Germany.

So, returning again to the point that there are many thousands of good, loyal Socialists who cannot as yet take the advanced stand that we do, and to whom must come the bitter experiences of the proletariat of Russia and Germany under false Socialists, it is perhaps the better and less painful method to give every aid and assistance to the political aspirations of the Socialist Party that we are capable of giving. They will hang themselves in due course of time, but in the meantime we will have avoided the worst features of White Terrorism.

There is another method we might pursue which appeals to my sense of humor as well as strategy. In many states candidates are nominated by primaries. Let us enter these primaries and nominate Communists on the Socialist ticket. If Hillquit, Steadman and Company do not like the candidates we place on their tickets let them take the fight to the courts or nominate independent candidates of their own. In either case they proclaim their colors to the workers.

If Capital is as sure of its ground in this country as it now appears to be, it will have no hesitancy in ruthlessly suppressing even Socialist political activity, but the passage of time is against us, and we must stem the tide of repression until we are better enabled to teach the workers industrial solidarity, the lessons so disastrously neglected by the Socialist Party in their fear of hurting the tender feelings of Gompers's A. F. of L.

The leaven of industrialism is fast permeating Sammy's pet unions and it is only a question of time when the A. F. of L. will officially drop its 19th century attitude and take up its rightful place in 20th century unionism. But they, too, like their prototypes in the Socialist Party, must go through the fire of baptism before they will be purified and ready to enter the new society properly equipped to manage it.

As COMMUNIST LABOR states in the issue of March 25th, we are rapidly adapting ourselves to the changing conditions under Capitalist Imperialism, and this is as true of the attitude we may from time to time be compelled to take with the Socialist Party and the A. F. of L. as it is of our own organization methods.

This article is written more for purposes of argument and comment than for a decisive plan of action. We must all act according to the plans that seem best adapted to the needs of the moment in a given locality or district. But at the same time there should be a well defined general plan around and into which all minor action should fuse.

While the lesson of Albany is plain to all of us, it is particularly applicable to New York City where all five of the defendants were elected. New York City Communists and Communist Laborites, therefore, must meet

## Big Business Buys the Church

(Continued from page 1.)

of the vexing problems which seem more acute than ever since the end of the World War, is the application of the Golden Rule." I quite agree with Mr. Daniels but for the sake of consistency and that same golden rule of doing unto others as we would be done by, why doesn't Mr. Daniels order the return of the Marines from the republic of San Domingo? Or for the same reason why doesn't Mr. Daniels give credit where credit is due? The Golden Rule is not an integral part of the Christian religion but is basically a part of the religion of Confucius, it having originated amongst the Chinese.

John Grieb Hibben, President Princeton University is quoted, "The spirit of Christianity alone can successfully cope with those influences in our country which tend to destroy our great institutions, both religious and political." Our great religious institution is the church, which has ever been a stumbling block in the pathway of human advancement. Our greatest political institution is the State, which is a class institution, maintained by one class for the purpose of keeping the other class in servitude. If the "Spirit of Christianity can be depended upon to save these institutions after they have outlived their economic usefulness then the spirit of Christianity can be depended upon to uphold and perpetuate slavery.

Hamilton Holt, Editor The Independent is quoted, "In these days of reconstruction when the very foundations of society are rocking, we need to stress the great moral principles of Christianity as they alone can save us." Save us from what? From being pried loose from the ill-gotten gains? Save us from losing our opportunity to rob and cheat and despoil the toiler?

Four others are quoted but it took Roger W. Babson, Business Analyst to word it so plainly that none can escape the conclusions herein reached. Babson says, "For our own sakes, for our children's sake, let US BUSINESSMEN get behind the churches and their preachers! Let us from this day give them more time, money and thought, for upon them, the value of ALL WE OWN ultimately depends." There is the cold raw, blunt, brutal truth. Labor has created all the values in the world, US BUSINESSMEN by the legalized robbery of the wages-system have come into possession of the wealth of the world until now, one builds and another inhabits, one sows and another reaps, one produces and another consumes. The VALUE of all that the businessmen possess is a stolen value—values stolen from labor—and labor is learning the truth about the robbery. The jails of the capitalist-controlled state are full to overflowing with the teachers of this great truth and still the state finds itself powerless to stop the spread of the truth about the origin and distribution of values. Now if the state fails of its function, we must get behind the churches and their preachers, for upon them alone can we depend to protect us and our stolen loot. Such is the wall of the business

particular situation as they think best. The rest of us will watch interestedly the developments.

But whatever the outcome of the Albany affair, one thing is assured. CAPITALIST IMPERIALISM has reached its zenith, and the workers of the United States are face to face with a foe that will neither ask nor give quarter.

How will the workers answer?

## Ruminations of a Rebel.

By Tom Clifford.

This old world is certainly "topsy turvy." The spirit of unrest prevails everywhere. The workers of Europe are no longer docile and obedient and are in open rebellion against their masters. Their refusal to return to their pre-war industrial slavery and produce wealth as of yore is the despair of the bourgeoisie, for if their erstwhile slaves persist in refusal to again place their necks in the yoke it is good bye to capitalism. The liquidation of the vast debts incurred by the nations participating in the World War can only come from the wealth produced by the workers, and the latter are manifesting no disposition to shoulder the burden. They seem to have arrived at the conclusion that the war was not of their making and are determined that those responsible shall suffer the consequences. What will be the ultimate result? Industrial chaos, followed by the gradual building up of a new society that will make wars impossible. Russia is pointing the way. The example is infectious.

Even here in the United States signs are not wanting of an approaching crisis. In spite of the strenuous efforts of the bourgeoisie to regulate industry so as to secure a greater output the workers refuse to be speeded up. In fact, they are sabotaging on the job. While the mass of American workers still remain unenlightened as to their real condition, they seem to be averse to piling up surplus wealth for the benefit of their employers. The bourgeoisie are frantically clamoring for increased production, yet the workers give no heed to their doleful cries—just put in their time, draw their wages, and spend every cent in securing what they deem necessary for their comfort and happiness. What will the harvest be? Wait about a year and see.

The signs of the dissolution of the capitalist system are so abundant they should be apparent to the most obtuse. The competition in production, in spite of the fact that there is no market in sight for the surplus, must inevitably eventuate in an industrial depression. When the storm breaks the inflation of the currency will augment the consequent suffering and destitution of the workers. Speculation has become epidemic and profiteering is a universal obsession. Even the manufacturers have imbibed the fever of speculation, and are largely producing for a speculative market. The bankers and financiers generally appear to sense the coming cataclysm, for they are curtailing their loans and otherwise preparing to weather the storm. Our inherently unsound financial system is at the point of breaking down, and since all business is based upon it, the whole capitalist system will collapse and the ruin will be complete. Well, let it come. Out of the debris will arise a new social structure that will be sound because scientific—a social structure that will guarantee industrial equity and world peace. I am ready for it. Are you?

Among the multitude of profiteers the landlord is bearing the brunt of adverse criticism. He is held up for execration because, forsooth, he insists upon enjoying the sacred rights of property. He contends, and rightly too, that he is in perfect accord with the right to collect in rent all the traffic will bear. The exasperatingly he ethics of capitalism, which give him amusing feature of the whole procedure is the fact that those who are vociferously denouncing the poor landlord for exercising his lawful prerogative are staunch supporters of the system that accords to him the incontestable privilege to skin, fleece or otherwise rob the luckless individual who is compelled to dicker with him for a place to sleep. Funny world, isn't it?

The long threatened insurrection against the arbitrary rule of union officials seems to have at last materialized in the present railroad strike now being conducted by a so-called "outlaw" organization, which is condemned alike by the railroad managers and officials of the "safe and sane" railroad Brotherhoods. The latter are appealing to the membership to remain loyal and urge them to "seab" on the "outlaws," declaring the strike is "unauthorized." However, it appears that the long suffering rank and file of the Brotherhoods have decided to support the strike even though it be not sanctioned by the respectable A. F. of L., and it threatens to become national in its scope. Now that the Brotherhood officials are forced to declare themselves, they promptly line up with the railroad managers, and are even calling upon the federal government to enforce the Cummins-Esch act to break the strike. This latest movement of the railway workers indicates that

## Communist Labor Party Battle in Court.

(Continued from 1st page.)

We are working hard with the O. B. U., which is now well under way and which will take on a landslide appearance in the next few days. It is catching like wild fire so at least the economic part of our program is being nicely fulfilled and the show steward system is being arranged for. The Los Angeles local of the O. B. U. is in full swing also. The carman's union, 1800 strong joined on mass last week. The local in San Francisco is keeping pace with the other two, so you see things are moving on the coast. Now wouldn't a threat of a general strike, in about six months from now, make that 56 year sentence look like the proverbial snow ball in the hot place???

Everything everywhere is ripening up nicely; keep up the good work, comrade, for about the time the plutes think they have us nicely stowed away they will have to do it all over again and just a little more beside.

Wishing you every success in the work. I remain,

Very Fraternally Yours  
John C. Taylor.

## The Black Sheep.

(Continued from page 2.)

walked along the track. Many a time he wished that he knew her name. He would write and tell her of his experience. Of all the wonderful country he had seen, but above all would he describe the inky blackness of this night.

At last as he slowly rounded a curve he drew closer he noticed a tall form down the railroad embankment, and as he drew closer he noticed a tall form throwing branches and chunks of wood upon a fire. Evidently it was some one camping for the night by the side of the railroad track. It did not take the boy long to make his decision. He was going to make himself an uninvited guest, even if he had to kill the man that was now in possession of the fire. With this resolution in mind he slid down the embankment and found a party of six who were jungling up.

## What Political Prisoners Think of Amnesty?

(Continued from 1st page.)

let it kindle the mobs and furnish themes for the Morgans and Woods, we know what it is doing. Debs recently said: "I am learning something at Atlanta."

Go on with the work. Write to the political and industrial prisoners often, send them a dollar occasionally with which to purchase things to help them keep their bodies from smothering under the strain. Their spirits are stronger than when they came here. The remedy which sweetens our days in jail. I hope you get the full force of my suggestions, Allison, for many of the men will not write so fully on the facts. I voice the sentiments of every real man in the prison, when I tell you that we are not crying for Amnesty. Write me. Hopefully  
William Madison Hicks, No. 13275.

## He Gets The Fish.

BY ANISE.

In a manufacturing town  
In the east  
Is a large PLANT  
Progressive, up-to-date  
In its ideas,  
And growing more prosperous  
Every year.  
And the owner of it said:  
"We are LUCKY  
In having on our force  
A real GENIUS  
An INVENTOR!  
You may be sure we  
TREAT him RIGHT;  
Why, every year we give him  
A whole month's vacation  
To go FISHING  
And his WAGES go on  
Just the same.  
He wanders off somewhere  
In the deep woods  
And sits on a LOG  
Overlooking a STREAM  
Letting his mind relax  
From the WORRIES

Of daily work,  
And somehow  
Every time that man gets back  
He brings with him  
A CORKING new IDEA!  
I guess they come to him  
In these quiet moods  
When he's UNWORRIED  
And has a chance to think  
Quite undisturbed!  
Well, anyway, each fall  
We can practically COUNT  
On a NEW invention  
That's what keeps us progressive  
And up-to-date!  
And we've made a lot of money  
Out of it!"  
Then somebody said: "WHAT  
Does the inventor get  
Out of that summer month  
From which YOU get  
So MUCH?"  
"Why," said the owner  
Of the factory,  
"HE gets—the FISH!"

## An Aye Opener.

That is what "Two Minute Talks on Today's Topics," published by "The Toiler," in my humble opinion, may without exaggeration be fittingly designated. Elmer T. Allison, the author, has certainly made a unique contribution to Communist literature. The startling events of the past two years and their evolutionary significance are vividly portrayed in the order of their occurrence. The evident intent of the author in presenting this retrospect is to keep these events fresh in the minds of the workers, whose besetting sin is failure to retain an intelligent grasp on world happenings and their relation to the changing social order. It is a pamphlet deserving of a place in any worker's library, for it can be read again and again with profit. Nothing has been recently printed of equal propaganda value, as it deals largely with social events of recent date and cannot fail to enlist the attention of the reader. The illuminated cover is an added attraction, but the contents is the stuff that "brings home the bacon". Wide awake Communists who know a good thing when they see it will not rest satisfied until they have placed a few copies in the hands of the unenlightened. I cannot recommend "Two Minute Talks" too highly.

Tom Clifford.

## Go To Kansas.

By Noah F. Whitaker.  
If monstrosities you seek  
Go to Kansas!  
On that living fossil freak  
Cast your glances!  
Yes, he's there, with legal whip,  
Herding labor lest it slip—  
Lest it take a flying trip,  
Where thought advances.  
Thank you old King Nero's dead  
Go to Kansas!  
Pillage kept and profit fed,  
There he prances:  
Gone full long, but back two soon,  
With his jig and rigadon,  
He's still fiddling his old tune  
While labor dances.  
Seek you rotten politics?  
Go to Kansas!  
There's where legislative sticks,  
Turn to lanes;  
There's where recent laws were made,  
That belittled and betrayed,  
And put labor in the shade  
To dim its chances.

## COME Get In Line Get a Sub.



A PAMPHLET for the non-socialist 10c. Address The Toiler.

"Government Kidnapers in Action"  
a Lecture by  
Marguerite Prevey  
at  
Toledo, April 18, 8 P. M.  
Labor Temple  
Marguerite Prevey will tell the story of her kidnaping from Columbus, Ohio, jail and illegal abduction to Chicago by government agents. Hear her.

they have grown weary of the duplicity of their officials and will no longer submit to their dictation. "One for All and All for One" is the rallying cry of the rebels, which means that they are at last recognizing the necessity of solidarity. It is about time.

ants, who are willing to sacrifice themselves to serve the country at Washington at the merely nominal salary of \$75,000 per annum, there is a notable lack of interests on the part of the public, most of whom don't care a damn who is to be the next President. The real issue in the campaign will be whether this nation is to remain "dry" or shift back to "wet."

Notwithstanding the columns of publicity given the Presidential aspir-