

# LABOR NEWS

## THE PHILOSOPHY OF DISCONTENT.

(By S. E. F.)

There are few people of the labor world, and still fewer of the "elect" who gloat over the humor or poignancy of destructive criticism who would not resent the appellation "agitator." And perhaps less there are of either class who see in these very potent means of appealing to the passions or prejudices of the people the "philosophy of discontent."

It is no use of us idealizing others, and still more futile would be the same methods in their application to ourselves—less excusable—for, after all, introspection is within mental scope of every one of us. The philosophy of discontent is the chief tactic of politicians (cowardly as it is), hence the timeliness of its discussion.

The difference in the thinker's scheme of using discontent and that of the haphazard, loose methods of those who think they think is chiefly in the arrangement of the means of agitation—their ends are the same. The Socialist recognizes the fact (uncomplimentary as may be to his class) that in the present state of average intelligence men are most quickly, if not most efficiently moved, through either their prejudices or their passions. He also realizes, and this assumption is backed by all history to date, that where either of these primal characteristics is appealed to as an initiatory impetus, the "mob spirit" in men, the stampeding one in lower animals, invariably breeds leaders. Of course, recognizing that leaders become necessary under given circumstances, the "born leader" lends his best efforts to creating that condition, ego "mud slinging" becomes "the philosophy of discontent."

We have in the platforms of all three of the great political parties the finest illustrations of "the philosophy of discontent." The differences between the degrees of the appeals to our baser proclivities is as the comparison of an adjective. The places of the two greater parties will be "positive" or "comparative," according to the creed of the person considering them, but there will be a two-thirds majority in assigning to Socialism the "superlative" degree of destructiveness. In fact, the Socialist admits that his propaganda is destructive, but under the assumption that all the evil (including profiteering) from which we suffer and complain, is of, for, and by one or both of the older parties, he philosophizes that these must be destroyed before his more narrow "class psychology" can take root.

The writer doesn't like Socialism, for any one of a thousand reasons, any better than he does "the philosophy of discontent" of either of the older parties to iniquity. The chief reason is, however, that he believes in individual responsibility, direct taxation and pain as a corrective rather than "twilight-sleep" methods in sociology. He don't believe in the "longest way around" when cross-lots offers no greater impediments. He don't believe in making an impersonal institution (government) do his dirty work—"in passing the buck" of personal responsibility. He don't believe in "leaders," labor, political, or social, except as a penalty for ignorance and laziness, and all this because he believes in democracy to the full extent of its practicability.

No one will be able to prove to the most casual minded voter, and no honest person will try to defend the older parties from the charge, that their somewhat smelly efforts are chiefly in direction of "fooling all the people all the time"—at least efforts not devoted to phylandering with organized labor—into a belief that they are and have been antagonistically intended as regards big business and lesser profiteers. If they do, the following quotation from a United States supreme court decision should serve to disabuse them: "There are eighteen thousand times as much law and decision for property and property right as there are laws and decisions for humanity and human right."

"What is the answer," you ask? "We must play the game," you remark, "or we can't change the rules, and have no right to kick."

Correct. Vote for men (or perhaps better, women) of the right public moral structure and mental attitudes, rather than for measures that are created by leaders, perhaps, as placebos for your ills, real or imaginative. Laws don't exist (as labor has found out to its sorrow) without men of the proper viewpoint to invoke and prosecute them.

So, after all, it is the "image of God" to whom we must look, rather than institutions builded by the "philosophy of discontent" which have their roots grounded in either "class interest" or "personal privilege."

Remember that the "peaceful revolution" of the penny radical or

the Millennium of the dollar conservative, opposing forces of "leaders," cannot be brought about without constructive action; and such is not the child of sociologic flatulency as portrayed by political leaders who consider and condole with "the cattle" for "three weeks before election" for the purpose of more easily leading them to the shambles and raising themselves to positions of preferment and power.

But "play the game" on the basis that "the disease must be eradicated from its vehicle, or the vehicle will be eradicated by the disease."

### AN ALARMING ATTITUDE.

In connection with "the philosophy of discontent," so largely used by our "leaders," what can be the effect of the application of the government's propaganda during "the war for democracy?"

Consider these topics. Deportations of workers from Bisbee and Jerome (Ariz.) regardless of affiliation.

The application of injunctions to labor leaders sworn to follow the mandate of the rank and file. Arrest and detention of suspects,

despite the writ of habeas corpus, and prosecutions (as in Portland) for availing themselves of the provisions of free speech.

Refusal, as in the iron industry, of employers of labor to deal with duly chosen representatives of unions—men they "cannot get" in the course of industrial laws.

The Kansas labor law as applied to men and the elision of the right of eminent domain, in consideration of necessities and utilities.

What do you think of it, Americans? What will be the result of adherence to these policies?

### STOLEN FROM EXCHANGES.

Wall street may be deaf to the demands of the farmers of the west, but it can always hear a good crop report.

We ought to expect it to hurt a little. Being bled white by profiteers is a good deal like painless tooth pulling—that is, painless to the operator.

No one will accuse the Wall Street Journal of Socialism or exaggeration of farm losses; hence we might

assume that the stock speculators' favorite paper is on the safe side of the truth when it says, in its issue of June 16, that "price on farm products are today only 65 per cent more than in 1914, but on the goods which the farmer must buy from the city there has been an average increase of 185 per cent over the same period."

At that, Nero's fiddling while Rome was burning would be less objectionable than the political horn blowing under similar circumstances today.

### "CAN'T STRIKE" LAWS FAIL IN AUSTRALIA

MELBOURNE . Australia—Anti-strike legislation, compulsory arbitration in various forms, and wages by law have failed to fulfill their widely heralded purpose in Australia and the government has called a conference of employers and employees throughout the commonwealth. The call states that an effort will be made to arrive at a better understanding between the two parties, and that the solution of the question is mainly in their hands.—Illinois Tradesman.

## These Firms Believe in "Live and Let Live"..They Deserve Labor's Patronage

**Ford**  
THE UNIVERSAL CAR.  
Sales and Service  
260 No. High St.  
**Good-Year**  
Tires and Tubes  
ACCESSORIES  
Insist on Genuine Ford Parts  
  
**Fordson**  
FARM TRACTORS  
Front and State Streets

**Dad's Pool Hall**  
And  
**Soft Drink Parlor**  
  
**WORKMEN'S HEADQUARTERS**  
  
Basement Masonic Building  
Corner of High and State Streets

**Our Permanent Policy**  
We operate all our stores on a well defined plan that assures the people in every community where we are located—Better Service and Lower Prices.  
To accomplish our aim we have eliminated many of the expenses that the average one-store-merchant encounters.  
**In Buying—**  
We Buy for Cash.  
We Buy Principally from manufacturers.  
We Eliminate Middlemen's Profits almost entirely.  
We Buy only Dependable Merchandise.  
We Buy in Vast Quantities.  
We Buy at Lowest Prices.  
**In Selling—**  
We Sell at Small Profit.  
We Sell for Cash Only.  
We Sell at One Price to Everybody.  
  
**J. C. PENNEY CO.**  
A NATION-WIDE INSTITUTION  
Store No. 132

**Co-Operate With This Store**  
  
IT WILL PROVE TO OUR MUTUAL BENEFIT  
  
**We Buy Only for Cash  
Sell for Cash Only**  
  
You eliminate those heavy expenses of the credit stores. The largest and most complete stock always on hand. Groceries, Dry Goods, Shoes, Suits, Underwear, etc., always for less  
  
**People's Cash Store**  
  
SALEM

**Children's Wash Dresses**  
Unusually Attractive in Style and Price  
Cute little dresses for children, 2 to 6 and the more girlish ones for the older girls 10 to 14 years, modeled from fast color fabrics of quality that will stand frequent tubbing.  
**LADIES' STORE**  
466-474  
State Street  
  
**MEN'S STORE**  
416  
State Street

There Is No Substitute for Butter  
**Buttercup Butter**  
MADE IN SALEM  
**CAPITAL CITY CO-OPERATIVE CREAMERY**  
  
Our Ideal—  
The Best Only  
  
Our Method—  
Co-operation

**Dr. O. L. Scott**  
P. S. C.  
**Chiropractor**  
The Only Straight Graduate in Salem. A Chiropractor removes the cause of Disease and Does Not Use Electricity, Vibrator or Baths. Do not say Impossible. Investigate  
  
Hours  
10 to 12 and 2  
to 6  
309 to 312  
U. S. N. Bank  
Building  
Phones  
Office 87  
Residence 328R

**DIRECTORY OF SALEM TRADE UNIONS**  
Name of Union. Name of Secretary. Address of Secretary.  
American Federation of Labor ..... Frank Morrison ..... Washington, D. C.  
Oregon State Federation of Labor ..... O. R. Hartwig ..... Portland, Ore.  
Salem Trades and Labor Council ..... J. N. Ganiard ..... 2274 N. Front.  
Electrical workers ..... L. J. Simeral ..... 380 N. Cottage.  
Metal Workers ..... C. G. Roberts ..... R. F. D. 4.  
Carpenters ..... John Nickelson ..... 2409 Cherry Ave.  
Painters ..... J. N. Ganiard ..... 2276 N. Front.  
Truckmen ..... R. L. Stover ..... 628 S. Com.  
Freemen ..... J. E. Hoenan ..... Masonic Temple.  
Musicians ..... Ivan G. Martin ..... 1285 S. High.  
Plumbers ..... John A. Humphreys ..... 1285 S. High.  
Timber Workers ..... Fred Peterson ..... 235 Wilson.  
Barbers ..... P. W. Hubbard ..... 112 N. Com.  
Street-car Men ..... Tad Cutler ..... 650 N. Twentieth.  
Bricklayers ..... J. V. Haughawont ..... 687 N. Front.  
Printers ..... C. G. Gray ..... 1249 N. Capitol.  
Machinists ..... Not Affiliated .....  
Engineers ..... Not Affiliated .....  
Canney Workers ..... McFarlane .....

For Coats, Suits and Dresses go to the  
  
Salem's Greatest Women's Apparel Store  
  
**Welch Electric Co.**  
Hot Point Appliances, Westinghouse Lamps  
American Beauty Irons, Hughes Heating Appliances,  
Red Seal Batteries, Electrical Fixtures, a specialty.  
When Wanting Anything Electrical Call at  
379 State Street  
Union Shop  
  
Phones: Store 381—Green House 369

**CENTRAL CIGAR STORE**  
CIGARS—TOBACCOS  
SOFT DRINKS—PIPES  
ALL LATEST MAGAZINES ARE HERE  
PHONE 746  
**KANE & SHAW**  
Proprietors

Call For **NYAL'S FAMILY REMEDIES** For QUICK RESULTS  
We specialize on the best Toilet Articles and Requisites  
**Crown Drug Co.**  
332 State Street  
Telephone 367 SALEM, OREGON

**Hauser Brothers**  
OUTFITTERS TO SPORTSMEN AND ATHLETES  
**DIXIE BREAD**  
FRESH DAILY  
**Salem Baking Company**  
**A GOOD PLACE TO GO**  
To  
Have Your Eyes Examined and Glasses Made—Work Guaranteed  
**HARTMAN BROS. CO.**  
JEWELERS AND OPTICIANS  
SALEM OREGON

**"Say it with Flowers"**  
**C. B. Clancey**  
FLORIST AND DECORATOR  
123 North Liberty St.  
Phone 1687  
**Lloyd E. Ramsden**  
**Dayton, Columbia and Heavy Service Bicycles**  
387 Court St.  
PROMPT SERVICE

**DR. C. H. SCHENK**  
Phone 1182  
Drugless Physician and Chiropractor  
Derby Building  
Corner Court and High Streets SALEM, OREGON

Phone 963  
Opposite Oregon Electric Depot  
BILLIARDS  
ICE-COLD DRINKS A SPECIALTY  
**THE ELECTRIC CIGAR STORE**  
OTTO A. KLETT, Proprietor  
475 State Street

Phone 120  
**WEBB & CLOUGH CO.**  
Funeral Directors  
Court Street at High SALEM, OREGON

EAT IT EVERYDAY  
**Weatherly ICE CREAM**  
It's Good for You  
Manufactured in Salem by  
**BUTTERCUP ICE CREAM CO.**

**Sweet Cider**  
Any Quantity  
Made from Select Oregon Apples  
**COMMERCIAL CIDER WORKS**  
1010 North Commercial Street

"STANDARD" and "HEADLIGHT" OVERALLS and JUMPERS  
\$2.75 and \$3.00 per pair  
LEE UNIONALLS \$4.00, \$5.00, \$5.50  
SHIRTS—SHOES—HATS  
**Schei's** Salem's Men's and Young Men's Store  
**White House Restaurant**  
362 STATE STREET  
MEALS AT ALL HOURS ROOMS IN CONNECTION

**HUGHES & TAYLOR Candy Kitchen**  
FRESH CONFECTIONS—CIGARS  
TOBACCO AND SOFT DRINKS  
371 North Commercial Street

**Help Home Industry**  
By Buying Local Products  
All Kinds Fresh, Cured and Smoked  
**MEATS**  
Pure Lard; Sausages, Etc.  
at  
**Steusloff Bros. Market**  
Court and Liberty Sts., Salem, Ore.