

**"It is a right to be maintained in peace or war. It is a right that cannot be invaded without destroying constitutional liberty. Hence this right should be guarded and protected by the free men of this country with a zealous care, unless they are prepared for chains or anarchy.—Daniel Webster on Free Speech.**

**DON'T YOU BELIEVE IT.**

"One swallow does not make a summer," neither do a few scissorbills make a shipyard crew. It is not a question of how many men the McEachern Co. has imported, it is a question of how many mechanics they have beguiled.

Ten thousand scissorbills could not build a decent ship by the year 1920, and, it is worth repeating, that a good carpenter need not scab in these days. Poverty sometimes drives him to it in hard times, but no such condition exists now.

Further, the spirit of the men in the Astoria Shipyard Workers' Union is absolutely unbreakable. They have taken the oath to each other, they have said the word to the employers, and they will now, to a man, leave the homes they have builded with loving care and turn their backs on Astoria forever, rather than crook the servile knee to a master.

These are men—real men. They are men in whom confidence can be reposed; men in whom the fighting spirit never dies. And should this nation ever find itself driven to the last trench of war, these are the men it will turn to in its extremity, and not to the characterless scabs and chambers of commerce who would bend down and lick the slimy boots of the Kaiser himself if anything were to be gained thereby.

**WHY NOT START AT IT NOW?**

Below is an editorial from The Oregon Journal, with which we agree in substance. But we would suggest that the "nut-crackers" be used even before the time specified by our contemporary, for it seems to us that some exceedingly hard nuts are being forced into labor's throat just at the present time. Under the caption: "Surplus Wealth" The Journal writes:

"Frederick Howe, the eminent liberal publicist, has an article in the October Atlantic on 'Financial Imperialism,' which makes good reading for the times we live in. He reminds us that the United States has now become the world's great depository of 'surplus wealth.' That means wealth which finds no employment for itself at home and therefore goes abroad in search of adventure and profit. The vicissitudes of the war are piling up surplus wealth in enormous masses in the United States.

"It would be a national blessing if it were evenly distributed. The actual fact is that it accumulates in a few hands. We need not remind the reader that if he himself had nothing at all and his next door neighbor had a million dollars their average, or per capita, wealth would be exactly half a million each. But the reader's half a million would be of a certain tenuous intangibility extremely annoying if he should try to buy a loaf of bread with it.

"In past decades England, France and Germany have been the great depositories of 'surplus wealth,' but they have lost this distinction. It now adorns Columbia's brow."

No indeed, capital has not changed its nature, nor ever will, and therefore a little preparedness is not at all out of order now, lest we find ourselves weaponless when we ought to be ready to meet the onrushing demon. Capital is preparing for "peaceful penetration" and is making quite a headway here at home just now. The constitutional rights of American workers are being trampled upon by capital. A fair example of it is seen here in Astoria, where soldiers are being used to prevent workers from enjoying the rights guaranteed them by the last legislature of the State.

The Journal is right in asserting that capital will seek investments after the war is over. It does, and it is bound by its very nature to do so. But what is it doing now? Lying dormant waiting patiently until the war has ended? Not exactly so. It is seeking investments at all times and under all circumstances; peace or war, capital never ceases to function as an exploiting factor in our economic affairs.

And such being the case, let us preserve enough democracy at home to have the right to use "the nut-crackers" when we have learned to use them.

**WHAT UNIONS HAVE DONE**

The next time someone asks you "what you have Unions for," don't pity his ignorance, but take the uninformed gentleman in hand and enlighten his mind to the greatest force for good that the world's workers have ever known.

Compare the long workday of thirty years ago to that of today. Explain to him how at the beginning of the union labor movement all of the different mechanics of labor were working from twelve to sixteen hours per day, and that now the eight-hour day is a fact in all of the organized callings, and that many of them are discussing the seven-hour day that they may enjoy to a greater degree the good things of life.

If the union's successful efforts in reducing the workday is not sufficient excuse for our existence, show your friend how the workers' agitation secured our free school system and its free school books. How we have raised wages and established a vast chain of benefits. How we have forced employers to safeguard life and limb. How shop conditions are bettered by workers standing together and protecting from blacklisting the fellow who has gone to the front.

Tell him that all of these gains have been made in the last fifty years. Before that time men were even denied the right to organize. Existing laws at that time declared that three workers gathered together in one group constituted a conspiracy. But despite obstacles men united. They formed debating societies and established labor papers. Slowly but surely they one at a time toppled over old ideas maintained by lawmakers, professors, economists and students. Upward they have climbed out of slavery and bondage, over 2,000,000 strong.—Detroit Labor News.

**Food Control To Be Absolute**

**BEGINNING NOV. 1, GOVERNMENT WILL ASSUME FULL CHARGE OF ALL NECESSARIES OF LIFE.**

Washington, Oct. 17.—Government food control will be absolute after November 1.

Herbert C. Hoover is putting the finishing touches today on a proclamation shortly to be issued by President Wilson, licensing dealers in 20 prime necessities of life.

The profiteers will be rounded up by the coming executive order, according to Hoover. Regulations will be issued checking speculation in foodstuffs and preventing hoarding, waste and restriction of output. "Unfair and unreasonable" profits will be eliminated.

Among the commodities to be placed under control are flour, bread, meats, potatoes, sugar, milk, butter and dairy products, rice, canned foods and staple vegetables.

Although regulation of a retailing business of \$100,000 or more annually, Hoover expects to exercise indirect control over the smallest corner grocery through his hold on meat packers, cold storage houses, millers, canners, elevators, grain dealers and wholesalers.

After November 1 no uncensored dealer can handle the commodities to be named by Hoover. Regular reports from licensed firms will enable the food administration to keep a strong hold on them. A legal department has been created to punish violations and interpret the law. The licensing plan resulted from over 200 conferences held with leaders in all lines of trade and has their approval.

"No business factor performing a useful function" will be interfered with, Hoover says. Elimination of some unnecessary middlemen may result from Hoover's determination to keep foodstuffs flowing from producer as economical a manner as possible.

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**Farmers On Trial**

**U. S. CASE SO WEAK 10 DEFENDANTS DISMISSED — NO UNLAWFUL ACT COMMITTED, SAYS DEFENSE.**

Abilene, Tex., Oct. 17.—Forty-one men are on trial here on charges of "seditious conspiracy" to defeat the draft law. The men are said to be members of the Farmers' and Laborers' Protective association, an organization which the government declares contemplated an eventual overthrow of the government at Washington.

This has been strongly denied by members of this association. They declare that the organization was formed for cooperative buying and selling among the farmers and laborers to enable both classes to successfully resist exploitation by capitalists.

Fifty-four men were originally arrested and indicted by the grand jury here, and all were arraigned at the opening of the trial. Arguments on demurrers at the opening of the trial resulted in the discharge of several of the defendants, and so weak did the case against others prove to be that the number on trial has dwindled to 41.

United States District Attorney Wilmot Odell in opening the case, which is being tried before Judge Whitfield Jack in the federal court, declared that the government would prove the association was a secret and "seditious" one, and that an eventual alliance with the I. W. W. was contemplated. The government also charges that some time in February, 1917, a meeting of the association was held in Cisco, Tex., called by the leaders for the purpose of promoting the conspiracy.

The defense declares that the resolutions introduced at the Cisco conference were such as any body of citizens had a right to propose under the right of petition granted by the constitution, and that no unlawful act was contemplated at the meeting.

The prosecution has closed its case on direct testimony and the defense has introduced a number of witnesses. There are still many witnesses to be heard and it is probable that the case will not be concluded before the middle of October.

**Both Sides Do Some Raiding**

Paris, Oct. 17.—It is officially stated that numerous civilians were killed when the German airplanes raided Nancy last night.

The French retaliated by bombing a half-dozen important German military establishments, it is given out.

Amsterdam, Oct. 17.—German papers declared here today that the Socialists will vote solidly against the ten billion marks war credit at the next reichstag session unless Michaelis resigns. The Socialists have decided to fight for the removal of Michaelis at the congress of majority Socialists at Wurtzburg, Bavaria.

**SCOTT NEARING BARRED IN OHIO**

**CINCINNATI MAYOR, SPIKING HIS MEETING, SAYS PEOPLE'S COUNCIL HEAD CANNOT SPEAK THERE.**

Cincinnati, Oct. 17.—Scott Nearing, radical teacher and chairman of the executive committee of the People's Council, is persona non grata to the authorities of this city.

This assumption of the purple robe by elected officials was published when permission was denied to hold a meeting which Nearing was to address.

When permission was first refused it was suggested that Nearing might change his subject, whereupon the city officials answered that "no topic upon which Nearing might speak will be acceptable to the authorities."

The original announcement was made by Mayor Puchta, through Safety Director Friedlander. Evidently new ideas are not considered safe for the inhabitants of Cincinnati.

"Socialists may hold all the

political meetings they desire in Cincinnati, but no meetings will be countenanced at which attacks are made on the government or the conduct of the war," was the ultimatum given to Otto Rucktaeschel, Socialist leader, when he protested against the mayor's order regarding the Nearing speech.

Another pacifist, Herbert S. Bigelow, of the People's church, was notified by the management of the Grand opera house that no 'unpatriotic' utterances must be made during the gatherings which are held there on Sunday afternoons.

**82 Jewish War Refugees Here**

**PARTY FROM JERUSALEM SAYS ONLY 2,000 JEWS OUT OF 65,000 ARE ALIVE IN HOLY CITY.**

An Atlantic Port, Oct. 17.—A party of 82 Jewish war refugees from Palestine and Jerusalem arrived here today after a journey lasting four months and one week. Most of the refugees were women and children, American citizens by marriage or birth.

The refugees told a story of great suffering and privation, in Jerusalem. When the party left there more than four months ago, food prices had risen 400 per cent. The value of money had depreciated one half. The Jewish population of Jerusalem not supplied with money was dependent upon the limited facilities of agents supplied with funds by the joint distribution committee of the American funds for Jewish war sufferers.

Only about 2,000 Jews remained alive in the holy city, out of a population of 65,000 at the beginning of the war. None will be left alive, it is feared, unless more relief be sent.

Leaving Jerusalem, the party went to Damascus and then to Aleppo. They were detained there several weeks and again at Constantinople, pending their release by the Turkish authorities. The refugees then crossed the Balkan peninsula and Austria-Hungary to Switzerland. There they were taken in charge by American Ambassador Stovall and sent to a French port. No submarines were sighted crossing the Atlantic. On this side the party was met by representatives of the relief committee.

**Coal Barons Defy U. S. Order**

**DEMAND EXORBITANT PRICES, GOVERNMENT FINDS — NO SHORTAGE COMMISSION SAYS.**

Washington, Oct. 17.—Government investigators are finding material evasion of the coal prices fixed, both mine and retail. The profiteers have by no means been checkmated by the president's orders, it is stated, but continue to demand exorbitant prices.

Proprietors of coal yards all over the country are secretly exacting high prices for coal by refusing to sell at the fixed price and yielding to the importunities of distressed consumers, who, in order to get supplies, will swear to secrecy regarding the prices paid.

Members of the federal trade commission and the fuel administration refuse to believe the alarming reports of a coal shortage of a lasting character. The threatened shortage will not fully materialize, it is stated, because the slowing down in production is due to the readjustment in the mining industry caused by the price-fixing measures of the president.

The price-fixing has halted the operation of wagon mines. The labor from these mines is being moved to mines of larger capacity. This readjustment is causing a slight falling off, which will not be permanent, it is stated.

The liberation of thousands of men now engaged in harvesting the crops shortly will fill up the ranks of the coal miners still further, relieving the situation. Also, it is stated, the wage increases being generally granted will prevent men from leaving the industry and will attract new men, thus considerably increas-

ing the number of available miners.

In view of these circumstances, the officials here feel sanguine that there will be no acute shortage of coal this winter. Miscarriage of plans is almost certain to result in the abandonment of the present price regulation arrangement and the adoption of the pooling plan which from the first has been favored by a minority of the trade commission.

This pooling would provide for the selling by the various miners to a central government reservoir, whence coal would be dispensed at an average price slightly above cost.

Coal is now \$8.75 a ton for stove and nut, \$8.50 a ton for egg and broken, and \$7.75 for pea coal, and local dealers say that it is not likely to go higher, despite further reduction of the local supply through diversion of large quantities of coal to the west. This is the season of the year when the coal-carrying roads make haste to supply the west with fuel before the close of navigation on the Great Lakes.

**ROBBERS ARE BUSY**

Washington, Oct. 17.—The treasury department has made public attempts of munition manufacturers to evade seventeen million dollars of taxes. The government is taking immediate steps to make the manufacturers pay up.

**GERMAN BATTLESHIP STRIKES A MINE**

Petrograd, Oct. 17.—It is reported that a German dreadnaught struck a mine around Oesel island, apparently damaging her badly, though the vessel's fate had not been learned. On the war office's last communication with Oesel Island garrison.

**Local Notes**

Starting with this issue, the Toveri will receive United Press service and is therefore in position to furnish the latest news of the day, both foreign and domestic.

In doing so, we shall endeavor to justify the support we request from the public. From now on, if you don't see it in the Toveri,

it hasn't happened at all. Read the Toveri.

WANTED—An army of boys to sell the Toveri on the streets in the afternoons. Apply at the Toveri office.

**Mother and Babe Die.**

Mrs. Pajunen, wife of E. E. Pajunen, a well known dentist of Astoria, died in the city last night at the hour of maternity. The new-born babe died a few minutes later.

**Awful Poor.**

A divorce was granted yesterday by Judge Eakin to Patrick H. Keegan from Katherine Keegan on the grounds of desertion. The couple had been married four years, had no property, no children and no love for each other even.

**Another Little One Gone.**

Eino Oja, the 13-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Leander Oja, of Mayger, died in Astoria yesterday morning of spinal meningitis. The funeral is to be held this afternoon at 2 p. m. from the undertaking parlors of E. B. Hughes.

ORDER OF WASA will give a good time dance at A. O. U. W. hall, Ninth St., Astoria, Ore., Friday evening. Good refreshments served. Admission: Gents 50c, Ladies free.

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**Quit Your Slacking.**

The country is in urgent need of carrying ships and, it is reported, the members of the Astoria Chamber of Commerce will be appealed to soon to gird on overalls and go into the yards. This move is said to be prompted by the well known fact that the union ship mechanics are fast departing for closed shop yards along the coast and there are not enough of them left to do the work if the strike should be settled tomorrow.

Further, the ship workers' union of the United States will blacklist the Astoria yards if the strike fails, it is reported, in which case the members of the chamber of commerce will be called upon to go ahead and complete some ships in the open shop. Come on now. Quit your slacking.

**Noted Labor Speaker**  
**C. B. ELLIS**  
 WILL LECTURE AT  
**ROSENBERG'S HALL**  
 UPPER HALL  
 SUNDAY, OCT. 21st.  
 At 8:00 P. M.  
 ALL WORKERS WELCOME! Admission Free!

**"United We Stand, Divided We Fall"**

The time has arrived when the workingmen of the country must unite! Organized capital is strongly united in its efforts to crush the rightful demands of the workers. The so-called capitalist papers are always trying to form public opinion against the workingmen. They publish news and articles in the interest of the master class only.

The workingmen of Astoria and vicinity know this to be an absolute fact. The workingmen of this community can see there is only one paper in Astoria that is publishing the facts about the strike and that paper is "the Daily Toveri" (The Daily Comrade).

This paper has been published in the Finnish language only, for about ten years, but we saw the urgent need of a paper that could be read by the English-speaking people also, so we decided to do all we could to let all the people know the real facts about the strikes and all other matters important to the workingmen, which are kept dark by other papers.

**WILL YOU UNITE WITH US FOR YOUR OWN SAKE?**

Do you want the Daily Comrade to be YOUR COMRADE? You can answer this by simply cutting out and filling the subscription blank below. Bring it or mail it with the subscription price to:

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