

PEOPLE MUST OWN RAILROADS, EXPERTS AVER

PRIVATE CONTROL OF PUBLIC UTILITIES STANDS CONVICTED - RAILROAD COMMISSIONERS REPORT.

Washington, Oct. 24.—Realization of the Socialist demand for public ownership and operation of the 257,000 miles of railroads in the United States is speedily inevitable. It represents the only adequate answer to the present breakdown of the transportation system which the railroad managers have imposed upon the people.

This is the revolutionary conclusion contained in the report made to the National Association of Railway Commissioners by the association's special committee on public ownership and operation.

The association, which is holding its 29th annual convention in the assembly hall of the new interstate commerce building, is made up of representatives from the state railway commission.

The special committee on public ownership and operation consists of E. O. Edgeston, California, chairman; John Guiber, Iowa; Shelby Taylor, Louisiana, and Carl D. Jackson, Wisconsin.

The Only Solution. "Irrespective of whether he is an advocate or an opponent of the theory that the interests of the people are best served by public ownership of utilities," declares the report, "the student must recognize the fact that public ownership, whether national, state, district or municipal, is gradually replacing both regulated and unregulated private ownership.

"In countries at war—that is, in countries where the state insists on a maximum of effort—the march in the direction of complete public control appears to be more rapid than in countries leading a normal existence. But the direction is clear in both cases."

The committee explains that this substitution of public ownership and operation for the public good for private ownership for private profit is the result of new economic conditions which the ownership-for-profit system does not meet.

"We are discarding existing business methods and standards as wasteful and unsound and are trying new ones. Nowhere has this change more clearly and more strikingly manifested itself than in the relations of our principal public utilities, the railroads and the people.

"When, therefore, a year ago, a duty of this committee seemed to be a dispassionate study of the pros and cons of public ownership and operation, the force of world events has since overtaken us and removed our topic from the sphere of theoretical discussion into a place of acute and immediate importance.

"And our conclusion is that the trend of the times is unmistakably in the direction of complete public control and operation of public utilities, especially of the means of communication such as the railroad, telegraph and telephone."

Twentieth century domestic commerce, the report sets forth, demands nationalized transportation services of a sort that can never be secured under private and divided ownership. Moreover, capitalists refuse to advance the money to extend and equip the railroads unless the government will guarantee what they call "adequate return" on their investment.

"There is no doubt," the report continues, "that additional billions of capital is necessary, and since regulation cannot permit the raise of railroad rates to a point where the necessary capital will be provided from net earnings, the necessary funds must come from the investors or the government."

The report on public ownership is scheduled for discussion tomorrow afternoon. The discussion promises to be a hot one.

Edward C. Niles of New Hamp-

shire, chairman of the New Hampshire public service commission, was elected president of the association, and James B. Walker, secretary of the New York public utilities commission, secretary.

GERMAN OFFICER IS EXECUTED BY MEN

British Front in France and Belgium, Oct. 25.—In one of the redoubts captured from the Germans Monday northeast of Ypres, according to reliable information, British troops found a German officer who had been executed by his own men. His hands had been bound behind him and he had been shot. Many tales are going the rounds of the British soldiers indicating much dissatisfaction among the various bodies of the German troops. Very often soldiers who are charged with desertion and other violations of the military law escape with slight punishment. According to prisoners this is something new for Prussian militarism.

Girls' Patriotism Put to the Test

WANTS HONOR GIRLS TO GIVE UP CANDY TO CONSERVE SUGAR

Miss Ailsa MacMaster, head of the Portland Honor Guard girls, after consultation with W. B. Ayer, federal food administrator for Oregon, has expressed a desire to put before the girls of the organization the question of "cutting out" candy. Miss MacMaster said that she realized what a vital and important matter it is at the present time to conserve sugar and other articles of food so much needed by the allies.

"I am sure that every girl in the guard will be willing to show her patriotism by not only abstaining from the purchase of candy, but by requesting their friends not to present them with candy," said Miss MacMaster this morning.

As a great deal of fudge and candy making is done in the homes, an appeal is to be made to the girls to refrain from making the home goodies. This question will be put before the girls at a meeting in the near future.

Local Notes

DO NOT FORGET

that no entertainment will surpass, if even equal, in all-around goodness the Dance at the Finnish Socialist Club Hall tomorrow evening. Admission 50c for gentlemen, ladies free. Music by orchestra.

Love is Fleeting.

Four divorcees were consummated yesterday in the circuit court here, the grounds being the usual ones—either getting something they didn't want or wanting something they didn't get. They are now free to get into fresh misery.

Drops in the Harness.

Jacob Sold, a resident of Knappa, dropped dead with a shovel in his hands at Knappa yesterday. He was 65 years of age and his sudden death is thought to have been due to heart trouble. Funeral services next Sunday will be in charge of the Order of Red Men of Iverson.

Passports Denied.

The district exemption board has upheld the decision of the local exemption board in not granting passports to the following men of military age, who wished to return to their home lands: Adolph S. Alsos, John Cholberg, Thomas A. Iverson, Boring Johansen, Wilhelm Skang and Andrew A. W. Iverson. The reasons given were that this country needed them for a while.

Old Pioneer Ill.

C. J. Curtis, long associated with the social and political life of Astoria, is seriously ill in St. Mary's hospital from asthma, a complaint from which he has been a sufferer for years.

Young Soldier Dies.

Robert E. Crossaw, a young soldier 18 years of age, belonging to the 2d Company, O. A. C., died at Fort Stevens Wednesday morning from ptomaine poison, being stricken with the attack at Seaside on Tuesday. The remains, accompanied by his father and brother, were shipped yesterday to Salem for burial after an impressive military funeral held from the chapel of the Hughes undertaking parlors.

More About McEachern Co.

Last Wednesday the McEachern Ship Company, sent to union headquarters a compiled list of the names of the strikers they would take back. The list is said to have contained no name of a

striker who had been at all active in forcing union shop conditions. Consequently the Ship Workers' union voted not to return to this yard in a body and only a few union men have done so. The strike is still in force at the McEachern yards and men who wish to retain their self-respect are fast departing for other coast yards.

This expurgating of men who fought them fairly and squarely and in the open day, is a sample of the contemptible, petty-heartedness which rules the management of the McEachern yard.

The McEachern company thus forces the working class to give their new slave pens a wide berth. In their revised scale of wages they discriminate, their word is no good and there is nothing reliable nor honorable about them. No self-respecting man should have anything to do with them.

SHIPYARD LABORERS, ATTENTION!

Special meeting of the Shipyard Laborers' Union will be held Saturday evening at 7 o'clock, at the A. O. U. W. hall, 9th street, for the purpose of transacting numerous important orders of business.

ATTENTION!

Members of Local 1500 of the Ship-Carpenters, Joiners, Caulkers and Millmen. Special meeting of the Local will be held at the Logan Hall Monday evening at 7:30 o'clock, for the purpose of electing a president, and vice-president to fill vacancies caused by resignation, and for transacting such other business as may be necessary. By order of Local 1500.

CHAS. H. BEARMAN, Chairman, pro tem.

NOTICE!

All the present and prospective members of the Milk Consumers' League are hereby requested to be present at the general meeting which will be held at the Finnish Socialist Club Hall, Sunday, Oct. 28th, at 2 o'clock for the purpose of considering the incorporation of the concern; examining a draft of rules, and discussion of such other matters as may be brought forth.

TRUSTEES.

SPECIAL MEETING!

The Central Labor Council will meet in special session on Sunday, October 28, at 2 p. m.

CHAMPION TYPEWRITER OF THE WORLD.

No altogether ordinary person, ever gets to the top in any department of life. And those distinguished are always worth hearing from, or about.

"The Secret of Typewriting Speed" (Forbes and Co., Chicago, \$1.00) attracts attention because it is written by Margaret B. Owen, who has won the world's typewriting speed championship, three times. The last time she won by writing 137 words a minute for one hour, which means striking the keys twelve times every second and means writing faster than the ordinary person can dictate.

Her book is a complete guide to the art of typewriting, and to the trick of doing it speedily. It is carefully put together, but reads very delightfully, as the following little extract will show.

"Many girls enter the business world with the sole ambition of making a little more pin money than father can afford to give them (to spend foolishly) no doubt, for some absolutely unnecessary bit of extravagance) while they wait for some man to come along and marry them; act as their 'meal ticket,' as a slang expression so aptly puts it.

"Poor deluded girls! If they could only know that the most fascinating thing in the world is the constructive work, and that there is little work more interesting and important that exceptionally good typing, they might realize that the life of a worker in our field of endeavor is not so bad after all. No one should enter business just to kill time waiting for a Lochinvar to come out of the West, or some other direction—he may come, find out how wanting you are, and gallop back again."

A French writer says in the New York Call that the Socialist majority and minority factions in France are gradually coming to the aid and constitute the backbone of the opposition in the Chamber of Deputies (Parliament). "The day after the French peace note was published, Renaudel stated boldly over his signature in 'Humanite' that France should be ashamed to have permitted the Kaiser 'the honor of having been the first to make this proposition.' That the censor should have allowed his editorial to appear was clear proof of the growing strength of Socialism. Albert Thomas, as a member of the government, remained silent at that time. But, nine months later, Thomas was independent, and powerful enough to overthrow the Ribot cabinet and withhold his support from that of Painleve. Socialism (it cannot be over-emphasized) is in the opposition and for the first time since 1914 a unit on the side of peace. The next step may be the ousting of Painleve by Socialist votes in the Chamber and the succession of Thomas to the premiership."

Pennsylvania, the citadel of tariff-fattened capitalism, is also awakening and Socialism seems to be making great strides. Reading, a city of over 100,000 inhabitants, is one of the sectors in which a fierce onslaught was made on the Socialists because James H. Maurer, president of the State Federation of Labor, and a member of the Pennsylvania Legislature has been active in the

People's Council movement. In fact, the Council and Socialism were made the issue, and as might be expected, the machine politicians arrogated to themselves all the honor and glory of being the only genuine patriots in the town and the Socialists were charged with being everything from pacifists to traitors. When the ballots were counted it was found that the four candidates of the Socialists were leaders for the city commission with the state picked by the Chamber of Commerce and other "non-partisan" bodies as their opponents. The Socialist nominees are a cigarmaker, president of the Trades Council; a newspaper reporter, president of the People's Council; the president of the Musicians' Union; and a machinist.

In New Castle the Socialist candidate for the city commission was high man out, a similar result being announced from Erie, where a number of country candidates were also victors in the primary. In many of the small towns the Socialists showed surprising gains despite the fact that the machine politicians had hoped that by "buying" the "non-partisan" primary trick many of the workers would not go to the polls, which theory was realized to a certain extent only.

EVERY LITTLE MOVEMENT HAS A MEANING OF ITS OWN

General Isaac R. Sherwood, of Toledo, civil war veteran and Liberal Democrat who was re-elected last year on an anti-war platform, issued a statement on the recent primary election in Toledo, which he says gives an indication of the trend of public feeling toward the repressionist methods of the administration at Washington.

"Under the municipal code, recently adopted," he said, "the primary is to settle the question of who is to get on the ticket, only three being allowed to run for any office.

"The whole number of votes in Toledo is about 22,000. "Edward T. Usher, president of the Central Labor Council, composed of 91 local unions representing over 10,000 men, also editor of the Union Leader, a labor organ, and follower of Samuel Gompers in the present war, received only 524 votes in the entire city. This is official.

"Hayworth, the Socialist candidate, received 2579 votes, and is one of the three men nominated.

"The Socialists carried eight wards out of a possible 16. In seven wards they polled 10,504 votes, and in eight they polled 11,054, or more than half of the aggregate in the entire city.

"This is conceded to be the most remarkable primary ever held in Toledo. Last fall with a Socialist candidate running for congress, they polled only 2000 in the entire district. In one ward, this year, they polled 2628 votes.

"The result is very remarkable, owing to the fact that the Socialists apparently made no campaign. They endeavored to hold one meeting in Memorial Hall, but were driven out of the hall by the authorities. Then they attempted to have a meeting outside on the street, and the meeting was broken up by soldiers, so that they were unable to make any campaign."

"The Co-Operative News.

GERMANY'S "FEMALE" SOUL IS CAUSE OF THE WAR

"I was in Berlin when the German chancellor made his famous speech in the reichstag admitting that Germany had done wrong to invade Belgium, but pleading for excuse necessity and ending with the defiant proclamation: 'We must hack our way through!'"

"Thus does the typical primitive woman always forgive herself for breaking an inconvenient law, and then, in the very act of sympathizing with those she injures, fling herself to the furthest extreme of uncompromising criminality. 'We must hack our way through!'"

"When the chancellor's speech was published, all Berlin rocked with grief for Belgium and madly cheered the Prussian soldiers on their way to complete the devastation of that small unhappy state.

"In that whirlwind of emotion, the soul of Germany shook off its trappings and stared at the horizon, the eyes dropping tears, the mouth breathing flames. I saw the face of a woman, the face of a Medusa!"

"When it suits a woman to observe a law or to respect a convention, there is nobody more scrupulous in complying with the obligations thereby imposed, and nobody more indignant and virtuously outraged to witness breaches by others. But when it suits a woman to offend the code herself, she forthwith discards the law or convention merely postulated a counsel of perfection impossible for fallible human nature to follow faithfully.

"She is invariably astounded when called to reckoning for her sin, and she never fails to overwhelm with reproaches those who venture to reprove her, and to accuse them of hypocrisy.

"As soon as Germany saw a profit in breaking an agreement, she did not hesitate an instant to be faithless. England called her to account and for a moment Germany was dumb, stricken with amazement. When she found her voice again, she poured forth a torrent of reproaches. 'What?' said the chancellor. 'Just for a scrap of paper you will make war on us?' And all Germany shrieked in unison, praying Almighty God to hate and punish the English for their perfidy and damnable hypocrisy.

"The female soul of the (German) nation could not understand the nature of the crime it had committed; could not believe that it had committed more than a venial sin. It had acted just as a woman always acts when in a difficulty.

"And just as a woman always feels outraged when threatened with punishment by a man—whatever she has done—

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done to deserve it—the female soul of Germany felt outraged and aghast when masculine England menaced her with chastisement."

The author of this amazing philosophy is as a matter of course no European or American.

Here the matter is looked at with Eastern eyes and the easy style and careful logic of "The Judgment of the Orient" by the Chinese student and traveller Kung Yuan Kue-shu, would greatly commend it. Americans will simply enjoy the somewhat primitive, quiet Oriental view taken of the war, which comes as an entirely new reading of the wicked old proverb founded on a French saying: 'There's a woman in every mischief under the sun.'

Weighing 535 pounds, Houston's heaviest man, who was six feet five inches tall died recently from the effects of a stroke of apoplexy. A special casket was made for the body. By trade the man was a liquor and cigar salesman.

HIS DEFINITION.

A negro who was well known to the judge had been hauled into court on a charge of having struck a relative with a brick. After the usual preliminaries, says Everybody's Magazine, the court inquired:

"Why did you hit this man?" "Jedge, he called me a black rascal."

"Well, you are one, aren't you?" "Yessah, maybe I am one. But, jedge, s'pose some one should call you a black rascal, wouldn't you hit 'em?"

"But I'm not one, am I?" "Naw, sah, naw, sah, you ain't one; but s'pose some one'd call you de kind of a rascal you is, wh'd you do?"

Congressmen Exempted Themselves. Hidden meanings of that portion of the United States war revenue law relating to excess profits continue to come to light. The discovery has been made that the very first exemption made in the law under the excess profits sections relieves Senators and Representatives of the payment of the tax of eight per cent on their salaries in excess of \$6,000. The salary of a Senator or representative is \$7,000 a year.

Immensely patriotic, indeed, those gentlemen!

HALUTAAN TIETOJA

(27) Missä nykyään taaloja palaa teitset toverini Alex Pyykkö ja Ilmari Koskus? Paikattaa Kankaan polkaa kirjjeillä. Kaikilta kirjeet tervetulleita. Osoite: VICTOR KANGAS, Box 196, Anyox, B.C., Can.

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Fort Bragg, Cal.

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Tässä on nostate jauho jossa on 20-25 prosenttiin enempi nostate voimaa kuin muissa nostate jauhoissa. Se on kakinkertaisesti vaikuttava, joka tarkoittaa, että sinä on kaksi nostate kaasuainemäärää ainetta, tavallisen yhden sijasta. Sen kanssa voidaan sekoittaa taikina ja antaa seisoa kah- teentoista tuntia anti ennen paista- mista, ja täydellinen nousu on seurauksena.

Nykyaikainen valmis- tus antaa sille hal- van hinnan — 25c naua. Maksaa e- nempi, tahi yhti paljon vähemmäs- tä, on haaskaamis- tä. Lähettäkää 4c postimerkeissä saa- taksemme tämän uuden Crescent Keitto Kirjan.

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(Tämä kirja saatte vapaasti, ja pitkästi elä- jökassan suomaalaisen kodissa, sillä ette tiedä, koska tarvitsette sitä. Varokaa hembunkki- lääkkeitä ja turvaukset toisista. ...

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