

THE ETHICAL UNJUSTIFI- ABILITY OF THE EXCESS PROFITS

The unjustifiability of the excess war profits is a much talked of topic, apparently started for the purpose of creating a belief that the excess profits are to be really curbed.

"Excess war profits are ethically wrong and economically unsound. They are obtained by coining the sacrifices of the great body of the people into money. They are a species of highway robbery wherein the victim, the common man, who pays the ultimate tax while engaged in a struggle for his life with the enemy, the footpad goes through his pocket."

The above statement was made by Frank E. Packard, member of North Dakota State tax commission, who states also that Dr. Arthur Sellwyn Brown, who writes for the Wall Street publications, is of the same opinion. We do not doubt the "ethical justness" of the statement, but as far as the war profits are concerned they are just as justifiable as any profits. The ethical aspect of robbery does not depend on the place where it is committed.

If it is ethically right to take something from the workers in some cases, without giving an equivalent for it, the limit is hard to set.

It will depend upon the definition of bourgeois economists and judicial authorities, whose purpose it is to provide the robbery perpetrated by capitalism with the shield of legality.

LEATHER RINGS WITHHOLD HIDES TO BOOST PRICE

Washington, Nov.—After the American people—100,000,000 of them—have been held up by the hide and leather pirates and robbed of several dollars each, on the average, it has been discovered that the country is not experiencing a real shortage of hides at all.

The hides are hoarded by the hide and leather trust. There are more hides in storage in the United States today than at any time in years past.

Leather ought to be cheap. Shoes ought to cost within a few cents per pair of what they cost last season.

The public has literally been robbed, through an artificial shortage in the hide market, of between a quarter and a half a billion dollars in war profits for the benefit of the hide barons.

These amazing facts it was learned from authoritative sources here tonight, are at the bottom of the demand that the government begin to fix prices on hides and leather. It is probable that a committee of hide dealers and tanners will be chosen soon by the war industry board or the council of national defense, to advise the government as to just what would be a fair profit for the corporations that have bought up and held the hides that drive shoe and glove prices almost out of reach of a million poor families in the United States this season.

If something is not done soon the hide trust may be able to force the public to pay famine prices for all its hoard of raw leather. This will mean additional hundreds of millions in profits for the trust.

At present the stock is accumulating, as the cost of shoes and gloves is so far beyond the means of the average family that the number of purchases in the retail stores has fallen off, and leather manufacturers refuse to buy more hides than they can use at once in the trade.

Meanwhile, however, the profit on the smaller volume of business has enriched the hide companies, and with every day they make a greater gain in proportion to the goods handled.

Two of the biggest hide concerns in the country are owned by two of the biggest meat packers—the Armour and the Swift companies—and they share in the "killing" in the hide market.

Representatives of the hide barons are prominent in the shoe and leather committee of the council of national defense which advises the war industry board

STATE FAILS IN WEINBERG CASE

Mr. McKenzie. This police order is the best evidence of what the particular orders were that day. The officer has testified here as to what his duties were on that occasion and as to what orders he had received, and here we expect to follow this up and show each and every one of the orders were obeyed, both by Captain Matheson and Mr. Bunner and all the men under him, namely, that no jitney bus went down Market street on July 22, 1916, after 1 o'clock.

Mr. Ferrari. If that is the purpose we object again on the ground that that would be an improper way of proving a fact.

Notice how zealous Mr. Ferrari is in throwing every obstacle in the way of proving the most vital fact of the case, viz., the presence of an automobile at Market and Steuart streets. We'll proceed.

Mr. McKenzie. Of course, Lieutenant Bunner, you followed those orders to the best of your ability.

Bunner. TO THE BEST OF MY ABILITY, YES.

Mr. McKenzie. You did not see any automobile turn into Steuart street from Market street that day, did you?

Mr. Ferrari. I object as incompetent, irrelevant and immaterial, calling for negative testimony.

The Court. Let him state what he saw. He was there. He had placed himself there.

Bunner. I DID NOT.

"No Automobile," Says Moffitt, a Victim

Samuel Moffitt, a ship caulker, who was severely wounded in the explosion, took the stand next. On direct examination Moffitt testified that he was standing fifteen feet from the point of the explosion. "My hands were all broken up," he testified as to his injuries, "and the blood was running down my leg and into my shoes. I was blown out into the middle of the street. My hearing has been affected by the explosion and my hands are permanently deformed."

On cross-examination he testified:

Q. You arrived at that position, Steuart and Market streets, at what time?

A. ABOUT HALF PAST ONE.

Q. During the entire half hour there were you facing the street?

A. Yes, we were looking into the street, looking at the parade.

Q. Did you see any automobile go into Steuart street during the time you stood there?

A. I DID NOT see any automobile go into Steuart street when I was there. It was blocked from Mission to Market street.

Moffitt should know if there was any automobile there at the time claimed by the state. Ferrari can't dispute the fact that Moffitt was there. The scars on his body and hands prove that.

"Only Vehicle at Scene of Explosion, an Ambulance," Says Another Victim

A. B. Powell, rigger and stevedore, permanently crippled by the explosion, succeeded Moffitt on the stand. "I was in perfect health before the explosion," Powell testified, "but now I have to use a cane all the time. I was over five months in hospital," he testified on cross-examination.

Q. Were there any vehicles going up and down Market street at that time? (1:33 p. m.)

A. There were no cars running. It was congested, no automobiles going by. Nothing going by.

Q. So they (the paraders in Steuart street) occupied the space between both sidewalks?

A. They took up the ENTIRE SPACE between both sidewalks.

Q. Did you see any automobile drive in there?

A. The ONLY AUTOMOBILE of any kind I saw on Steuart street previous to the explosion was an AMBULANCE. That was about two minutes before the explosion.

Powell was severely handled

on purchases of shoes and harness. If the hold-up of the public to this profitable tune has been permitted to go unchallenged until now, and possibly to continue for many months longer, due credit should be given the hide barons for sending their spokesmen to join the council committees in "doing their bit."

on redirect examination by his own, "the state" counsel, Mr. Ferrari. Ferrari tried hard to trip Powell as to the time he left his hotel which is a short distance from the scene of the explosion. He was positive that he left his hotel at 1:25 and reached the corner of Market and Steuart streets at 1:33. By this time Ferrari was awakening to the fact that his own witnesses were destroying his case and the little fellow was getting somewhat riled.

"No Automobile in Steuart Street," Says Dietrich.

Charles R. Dietrich, secretary of the state railway commission, also dealt a body blow to the FRAME-UP gang. Dietrich was standing alongside his brother, who was badly injured.

"I arrived at Steuart street at 1:30," Dietrich swore, "The First California Volunteers were lined up there, sixteen men to a line and about eight lines deep. I was standing there till the explosion occurred pretty close to the curb stone. NO AUTOMOBILE drove down Steuart street whilst I was there."

San Francisco Police Watching Ferrari & Co.

From the day the O'xman trial started until the present Detective Sergeant Tom Furman has occupied a front seat in Judge Dunne's court. At first the FRAME-UP gang took it that he was just whiling away the time and they confided some things to him that they were sorry for after. They finally got somewhat alarmed and last week Ferrari and Fickert went to Chief White's office to get an explanation of Furman's interest in them. They didn't get it right away. They got it a few days later. But the following dialogue took place.

Ferrari. "If you want to know anything about the trial, Chief, you can get it from the record—it is all there."

Chief White. "There are some things that are not in the record. I want to know them and I have sent Furman to the trial to be a spectator."

Ferrari. "Well, I don't want Furman in the trial at all."

Chief White (Sarcastically). "If you don't want him there, why don't you throw him out?"

Ferrari. "That is your business, White. You sent him there and you should take him away."

Well, Chief White didn't take Furman out of court and Ferrari didn't kick him out.

Furman was gathering data for the forthcoming federal investigation. The Bulletin announced the fact on Tuesday last. He got hold of very important information for the government and the gang is going crazy.

Nolan Goes to Trial Nov. 27

After being out on \$250 bonds for eight or nine months the discredited Fickert now announces that he will try Nolan and the trial is fixed for November 27. It is also announced that the prosecution will be conducted by Mr. Ed. Cunha. This is the impartial "gentleman" who announced some time ago that "the whole bunch should be strung up on general principles." He also said at the same time "he wouldn't lift his finger to get Mooney a new trial even if he knew that every witness for the state had perjured himself."

There is absolutely no evidence against Nolan. At first Fickert announced that a box of Epsom salts, found in Nolan's basement, had been used in the manufacture of the bomb which exploded at Market and Steuart streets. He attempted to prove this during Rena Mooney's trial, but fell down miserably. He put a young "explosive expert" on the stand and the kid swore with much gusto that Epsom salts was indeed a very deadly explosive.

In rebuttal the defense put Arthur Crane on the stand, an explosive expert of twenty years' experience. Crane had already been put on the stand by the prosecution as a recognized expert. Crane swore that Epsom salts was not the deadly explosive the kid declared it to be and that it was not used in the manufacture of any explosive whatever. To cap this the defense further proved that the wife of an oil magnate, named Hayes, had been using the salts as a bath ingredient and that her nurse had stored the salts in the basement of the Nolan home lest her mistress might need it again.

It is impossible to guess why they are trying Nolan. Perhaps they'll try to manipulate a packed jury and demand Nolan's hanging because of his past affiliation with the Los Angeles Labor Council, the San Francisco La-

bor Council, the San Francisco Metal Trades Council and his activity in the Los Angeles and San Francisco iron trades strikes of the past ten years.

That would be in line with the avowed Chamber of Commerce policy as expounded by Fickert and Brouillet and Company.

Vote for Brady

in San Francisco. One of the right kind is Police Judge Matthew Brady. Brady, it was, who held Frank C. O'xman to trial in spite of all the influence of the chamber of commerce and kindred organizations.

"Brady is courting political death, if he holds O'xman for trial," a well-known politician told many of us when O'xman was getting a hearing in Brady's court. But Brady held him. Now the word is going out to knife this courageous magistrate. Every chamber of commerce pimp is pulling for a certain nonentity, who's not worth naming. We should all work and vote for Brady. He's all right. He has the right kind of enemies. He must win.

New York on the Job

The New York Labor Union held a mass meeting on the other night to let the president and the newly appointed commission know that labor is still on the job. The following telegram speaks for itself:

New York, October 26.—Edward D. Nolan, 210 Russ Bldg., San Francisco: Five thousand workers assembled in mass meeting in Cooper Union tonight. Meeting addressed by Frank P. Walsh, Morris Hillquit, Anton Johansen and many other prominent laborites. We voiced our protest against the terrible outrage committed against you and our other brother unionists in San Francisco and expressed our faith and confidence that the prison doors will ultimately swing outward for you all.

JOHN COUGHLIN,

President Brooklyn Central Labor Union, Chairman.

Appeals Pending—Funds Needed

Tom Mooney's appeal before the state supreme court has been adjourned till November 23. Rena Mooney's appeal that she be admitted to bail has been laid over till November 12. Billings' appeal to the supreme court is still pending.

These appeals must be fought to a finish—and then some. We mustn't fight them half-heartedly. These prisoners of the San Francisco Labor War MUST BE FREED.

The defense is sorely in need of funds. Those soldiers of the "Class War" who can't get on the firing line should send their dollars to do duty for them NOW. Address your contribution to Edward D. Nolan, Secretary-Treasurer of the International Defense League, 210 Russ Building, San Francisco.

Get busy NOW.

ONE WORD FROM YOU

WILL DO IT. PINCHOT SAYS. IN THIRD APPEAL TO PRESIDENT.

The executive committee of the American Union against Militarism sent a telegram to President Wilson, urging him to make the recent assault on Herbert S. Bigelow of Cincinnati an occasion to "speak the word which will put an end to these outrages."

The committee states that this is the third time they have urged upon the president "the necessity of safeguarding liberty in war time."

On April 28 the president wrote Miss Lillian D. Wald, then chairman of the committee, in answer to a similar plea. "I will have the matter in mind and will act, I hope, at the right time in the spirit of your suggestion."

The union's telegram follows: "President Woodrow Wilson, 'The White House.'

"All the liberal elements in the country are roused to a deep sense of shame at the violent outrage done to Herbert S. Bigelow of Cincinnati, a man who has fought more powerfully for the ideals of American democracy than any other man in the middle west."

"We cannot afford to let this matter end with the apprehension and punishment of the criminals, even if local authorities can be trusted to proceed vigorously to that end."

"It is a national disgrace, the culmination of a long series of utterly unwarranted violations of the people's rights."

"It is well known that these acts have been committed in many instances, not by obscure and irresponsible elements, but

at the instigation of powerful interests—and that the authorities have not been active in their prevention."

"One word from you will put an end to these outrages and to the vicious practices of many newspapers and organizations which openly encourage mob violence."

"For the third time we call upon you to speak this word, to charge federal, state and city officials throughout the country that their first duty is to protect the people's rights."

"In April you assured us, in answer to an earnest plea, that you agreed with us as to the necessity of safeguarding liberty in war time, and that you would act at the right time."

"With all respect, we urge that the time has come."

"Can you not make it your immediate concern to restore to the people of this country those priceless civil liberties which have been recognized since the beginning of our national life as the minimum essentials of American democracy?"

"AMOS PINCHOT,

"Chairman."

When asked if the committee was not satisfied with the strong denunciation of the Cincinnati outrage by Secretary of War Baker, Pinchot said:

"Secretary Baker's words are good as far as they go, but that is not enough. Things have gone so far in America today that nothing but a direct charge to federal authorities throughout the country by the president will serve to protect the people in their constitutional right of free speech and assembly."

HERVE CALLED TRAITOR TO THE WORKING CLASS

Paris, Nov.—The Socialist organization of the Seine district, with only two dissenting votes, adopted a resolution to move at the national convention at Bordeaux the expulsion of Gustave Herve from membership. The resolution characterizes him as a traitor to the working class.

The executive committee of the Socialist party of Italy elected its general secretary, Lazzari, a fraternal delegate to the national convention of the French Socialists, to bring greetings and the purposes of the Italian Socialists to the attention of the French and to further the mutual relations in favor of the International.

GREELEY'S WISE ADVICE

More than half a century ago, when the country was growing up, land was plentiful and opportunities were far more plentiful than they are today. Horace Greeley, the celebrated journalist, wrote editorially in his paper, the New York Tribune:

"Dream not of getting suddenly rich by speculation, rapidly by trade, or anyhow by a profession; all these avenues are choked with eager, struggling aspirants, and ten must be trodden down in the press where one can vault upon his neighbor's shoulders to honor or wealth."

Greeley's advice was addressed to the poor boy who was ambitious to become rich or famous. If it was true then, how much more does it apply to the conditions of the present period? Then the country was young and growing; now it has largely grown up. Then there was a plenty of land, and almost any man could be his own farmer; today thousands are farm tenants and are farming for some landlord. Then opportunities beckoned on every hand; today the only opportunity that lies before the poor boy is to work for somebody else for wages with practically no prospect of ever advancing to a higher station in life.

We are constantly being reminded of present-day conditions of industry, commerce and finance, who rose to success from humble circumstances; how many of these miraculous successes are recorded in current chronicles? The hope of some day rising into the upper classes is one of the vainest delusions that is held before the workers by the professional donesters. And it is an unworthy aspiration for a worker to entertain in any case. The worker should not dwell upon the idea of being one of the lucky few to rise out of his class and join the ranks of those who are riding comfortably upon the backs of his comrades. Rather he should be inspired by the idea of helping set his class free and raising the level of life for all.

—Appeal.

FOOD HOARDED IN BOSTON AND PRICES MOUNT

Boston, Nov.—That Boston cold storage warehouses are crammed to capacity with food, some of which has been there since the summer of 1916, was the report made to Mayor Curley by Health Commissioner Mahoney.

In his report the commissioner asserts that poultry, which has been in storage more than a year, is being held for the coming Thanksgiving. More butter and eggs are in storage than at the same time last year; nevertheless the prices are higher.

The report of Health Commissioner Mahoney, based on investigations by seven food inspectors under his direction, follows:

"In response to your instructions for an investigation of the amount of foodstuffs held in the cold storage warehouses of this city I submit herewith a list of such articles in storage October 25. This list does not include food held in the private warehouses of the wholesale dealers and from which figures are unobtainable:

Meats, all kinds.....	12,256,541 lbs
Poultry, all kinds.....	4,098,753 lbs
Butter.....	266,195 tubs or 13,209,750 lbs
Eggs.....	11,928,810 doz
Fish.....	6,500,000 lbs
Cheese.....	4,866,895 lbs
Pea beans.....	180,900 lbs
Tea.....	246,700 lbs
Flour.....	454,661 lbs
Salmon (cans).....	606 doz
Sardines (cans).....	315 doz
Peas (cans).....	4,500 doz
Pineapple (cans).....	3,600 doz
Condensed milk (cans).....	600 doz
Misc. canned goods.....	12,500 doz
Cocoa beans.....	900 bu
Peanuts.....	1,040 bu
Chocolate.....	17,500 lbs
Wheat food.....	5,000 lbs
Salt.....	17,500 lbs
Pierna flour.....	21,500 lbs

*2,000,000 pounds of this amount belongs to the United States government.

"In the past week there have been numerous withdrawals of foodstuffs from the storage warehouses in Boston and 10 per cent is a fair estimate of the amount of holdings taken from the storage houses in this period. This does not necessarily mean that this amount was removed in order to sell it, but much of it was probably repacked and put back into storage again."

"Last Friday an inspection was made of one of the smaller cold storage plants and many lots of poultry were found that had been in storage since October and September of 1916 and extensions had been granted by the state department of health so that this food might remain until the Thanksgiving season of this year."

"All the cold storage warehouses had the appearance of being filled to capacity, the corridors and aisles also being used for this purpose. In some of the rooms it was impossible to move one foot from the door."

"It would appear that under existing conditions it is a reversal of good policy to grant extensions on cold storage articles, inasmuch as these goods are deteriorating all the time and this loss is made up by the consumer, who ultimately is obliged to pay for this loss."

"I am enclosing herewith quotations on butter and eggs held in cold storage on date of October 26, 1917. It will be observed that although the amount of these goods held in cold storage this year is greatly in excess of the amount held last year, nevertheless the prices are invariably higher. There may be an explanation for this, but I am unable to furnish it."

Acting upon this information, the mayor has called upon Governor McCall to seize and sell the poultry to the public at prices to be fixed by the governor. If the governor cares to delegate his authority, as he has power to do, the mayor is prepared to act at once.—(N. Y. Call.)

5c and 10c Store—Welcome Store. If you want to save money, buy at the Welcome Store; 5c and 10c goods 684 Commercial St., Astoria, Ore. 2m

STREET RAILWAY MEN GET WAGE INCREASE

The arbitration board, sitting on the street railway strike issues, last night drew up a memorandum of awards governing the wages and working conditions for the traction employees of the Puget Sound Traction Light & Power Company, and the Tacoma Railway & Power Company. The wage scale for conductors and motormen on the ordinary two-man electric cars was raised four cents an hour for each grade of employee. This wage scale is to be in effect as of August 7, 1917. Extra men will hereafter receive a guarantee of \$80 per month; the old guarantee was only \$65. This ruling is established for both Seattle and Tacoma systems. The hours of employment are to remain the same as at present.

300,000 Exiles From Armenia Need U. S. Help

MISSIONARY SAYS CAUCASUS REGION OF RUSSIA IS CROWDED WITH DESTITUTE CASES.

Twenty thousand fatherless children of Armenian and Syrian refugees in the Caucasus are in need of immediate aid to save them from demoralization and starvation, it was said by the Rev. F. W. MacCallum, missionary to Turkey for the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions who has just returned from relief work at Tiflis and vicinity. In the Caucasus, which he described as mountainous with severe winters, he said there were 300,000 Armenian and Syrian refugees from Turkey, mostly women and children, as the men were massacred by the Turks.

"The Turks made three drives against Russia, which brought into the Caucasus, which is Russian, large numbers of refugees," he said. "In 1914 more than 60,000 Armenians fled before the Turkish advance. The next year 30,000 more immigrated."

"The third drive is known as the Alashgert campaign of July, 1915. The Armenians of the district of Alashgert in Turkey were by it compelled to flee to the Caucasus. It also caused the evacuation of the city of Van by the Russians."

"This was by far the largest influx of refugees. They were attacked by Kurds on the way and 7,000 were killed. About 20,000 died of cholera, typhoid and typhus after reaching Russia. The total number of refugees from Van and vicinity was about 200,000."

"Relief work by the American committee for Armenian and Syrian relief began in January, 1916, and it is still going on and growing in extent and importance. The Russian government has helped the refugees generously, having given them up to the present nearly \$10,000,000. This supplied them with food, paid their rent, and made it possible to provide for 5,000 orphans but owing to the financial difficulties of the government this aid is now cut off."

"The American committee has given clothing and bedding to 50,000 of the most needy refugees and has also provided large quantities of tea, sugar, kerosene and fuel where most needed. During the summer of 1916 the work of repatriation was undertaken and hundreds of farmers were returned to their homes in the province of Van and supplied with oxen, ploughs, seed, and so forth. This most promising work, however, was interrupted by the evacuation of that region by the Russians in August, 1916, and the committee has decided that the time for repatriation on a large scale will be only after final victory over the Turks has been won."

"Of the 300,000 refugees in the Caucasus and the conquered provinces of Turkey, 250,000 are

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