

The Silverton Journal

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dom of the press, freedom of speech, equality of
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is radically opposed to every form of superstition
and tyranny, or licensing or permitting any form
of evil.



THE FIGHT.

THE PREHISTORIC MAN had awful enemies to fight which we brush aside with a smile. Knowing nothing of future weather prospects, and not being able to reason much on its relation to himself if he had, he was surprised in camp when extreme cold or heat attacked him; and being all unprepared his struggle was very hard. Thousands of our remote ancestors succumbed to the cold and storms of winter where now old and young enjoy the change, for we are prepared. Matches have been invented only a short time. Warm clothing, and stoves and well-made houses are, speaking from an historical standpoint, things of today; and only yesterday our naked, unclothed and untutored ancestor lived in a cave or in a rude nest crudely laid up without the use of hammer, nail, axe or plane. The early fight against the cold and heat and storm was indeed a fierce one, but the fight against wild animals which liked the taste of human flesh found another parallel in the fight against diseases. Millions fell in the struggle against dread, individual, physical conditions that now are easily overcome as soon as they are met; and the multitudes that have gone down, in what to us would be a senseless struggle is awful to contemplate. But the fight against each other seems the most senseless of all. Tribes captured members of other tribes, and like wild beasts that they were, they devoured them. Then came the idea and the practice of making wives and slaves of captives. Then came wars for the possession of territory and other property, until we come to the fight of today. Of course, all through our history the individual fight of different members of the same tribe has been going on; but this kind of struggle was much reduced when the common enemy needed the undivided attention of all members.

But what of today's battle? Some, especially the weak, the aged and the young, in and out of our large cities, are fiercely fighting the cold. The ties of the early tribes which bound us together and gave the best protection possible against the common foe, seems to have been worn out, and only the rich, or at least the well-to-do among us, are safe and sound in warm houses, made possible by the combined work of many hands; and while some of us strut about with warm clothing covering our tender limbs, thousands and millions are still fighting and falling—cut down by the only enemy.

So it is with disease; he who has the price can have protection even by the use of quarantine from the evils from which his more unfortunate brothers suffer; and as to wild animals which formerly devoured us, the man with the big stick, called money, can use them as playthings for himself and his children. Nor do our modern, civilized nations capture wives or slaves from each other. As the struggle against outside forces and peoples have lessened, our main fight seems to be man against man. We seem like a pack of wolves which have no other game to fight for, and have turned against each other, till every mother's son of us seems to be at every other one's throat.

The old enemies can all be easily vanquished by modern man. In fact, the old-time enemies are summed up in one word—"Ignorance." The knowledge of how to build, and weave, and weld, and raise, and harness, and regulate, has overcome to a wonderful extent the early enemies of mankind. But the devil of "Ignorance" has taken on another form. Tribes took good things from other tribes. They learned to take what they had not produced. In other words we have learned to live on the fruits of other's labor, and this habit, now being turned from its old-time course, runs in another channel: We rob one another and call it business. We are so hardened that the best of us sit down to a meal of good things and many times never think of the poor old, feeble man or little child, of the same tribe, next door, perhaps, who is still fighting the old-time enemies of cold, or hunger, or disease.

What is the cause of the crimes of today, the suicides, the wretchedness, the little pinched faces of starved children, the look of care and fright on the faces of thousands of helpless aged men and aged women? The cause is the same that allowed the cave bear to devour our children and our old, helpless grandparents when we lived in caves and went out to search for food or to fight an enemy. It was lack of knowledge then—it is ignorance now. If the old grandparent who was left in the cave with the children had possessed a Winchester rifle, the monstrous bear would have donated his warm coat to the family instead of dining on their flesh; and today, instead of our modern sable-toothed tiger taking from our storehouse of wealth, food and clothing and shelter to the tune of \$92,160 per day—a dollar every time our poor old grandpa's heart beats, every time our poor little pined-faced, starving baby's heart beats—instead of this, we repeat, if we had knowledge of the necessary economic principles of society, they would be harnessed with the rest of us to the chariot of success, and all men would be working for the good of all.

Nor must we imagine that the great thick-skinned, ravenous human tiger like the one above described, is the only kind of dread animal among us. The hold-ups, the lazy tramp, the confidence man, the hypocrite, the grafter, the procuress, the proprietor and the private agent of the dive, and thousands of human animals who care nothing for law or truth or brotherhood, are everywhere. The woods are full of the worst kind of enemies and they are creeping in upon us, dragging hundreds of thousands every year from our homes and devouring them.

Life is a great struggle. Time is passing. In the great and glorious future civilization, when the enemies which now destroy our happiness have been conquered, and the fight toward the light has succeeded, and true political principles are understood, and all the modern tigers and bulls and bears have taken on a different form—have been tamed and domesticated—how crude will our methods of warfare look to those blessed creatures who have been freed from the enemies of the twentieth century. With what horror and pity will they look upon the death of a child by starvation in a land of plenty, or the forced suicide of a mother, or the murder of a brother for gold! We look back at the cave man; they will look back at us. The cave man did his part; we will do ours, and the great, noble men and women of the future will have their duties, their struggles also; but, as their enemies will be less, their happiness will be greater and their progress much more rapid toward perfection.

IS IT SO?

ARE OUR RADICAL MAGAZINES and public speakers right in declaring that the capitalist system has outgrown its historical function and has become utterly incapable of meeting the problems now confronting society? Should we denounce this system as incompetent and corrupt and the source of unspeakable misery to the whole working class?

Some even go so far as to claim that the industrial equipment of the nation has passed into the absolute control of plutocracy, which exacts an annual tribute of hundreds of millions of dollars from the producers, and that, unafraid of any organized resistance, it stretches out its greedy hands over the still undeveloped resources of the nation—the land, the mines, the forests and water-powers of every state in the Union.

If this is not figurative language, if it is really and truly and

literally a fact, it is time American citizens are waking up to their slavery and the still worse slavery that is to come for the poor fool children of us poor fool slaves.

It is certain that our present way of producing and distributing wealth is very wasteful. In one little banking company in Oregon's metropolis, there are fifty agents in the real estate department alone. Here these fifty men sit and wrestle with facts and figures day in and day out, from one year's end to another. Their splendid energies are absolutely wasted, but the system of individual wealth gathering demands it, and when we take a bird's eye view of the whole United States, and think of the awful waste in the real estate business alone, it makes us working people look something like fools, now doesn't it? And just think of it! All this useless burden is on the backs of the real producers. And that is not all. Real estate is only one of the small packages handed to the workers by this wasteful system. The newspaper advertising itself is all a waste. No one person is to blame and the writer is a heavy advertiser and has sold real estate, but under right conditions all this would be unnecessary, and it is a fact that the producers, who are also the consumers, pay for all this advertising.

The radicals claim that capitalist concentration is mercilessly crushing the class of small business men and driving its members into the ranks of propertyless wage-workers. The overwhelming majority of the people of America are being forced under a yoke of bondage by this soulless industrial despotism.

Now, if this is so, and if it is true that the workers' energies are being so wantonly wasted, it is no wonder that multitudes of unemployed walk the streets of our cities or trudge from state to state awaiting the will of the masters to move the wheels of industry, and that farmers in every state are plundered by the increasing prices exacted for tools and machinery and by extortionate rent, freight rates and storage charges.

Then added to all the waste spoken of, we have the increasing burden of armaments, the poverty, slums, child labor, most of the insanity, crime and prostitution, and much of the disease that afflicts mankind, all because we are selfishly fighting as individuals for existence, for a living, for a home or for wealth. It looks to a "feller up a tree" as though industry has been carried on long enough for private greed and that it should now be managed by the people themselves for the general welfare of society.

Is it so, and if not, why not? This idea of a government such as Lincoln advocated, "by the people and for the people," is bitterly opposed by the Roman Catholic church toward whom the great bloated capitalists are beginning to turn for protection. Friends and patriots, there is no mistaking the issue; there is no doubt as to war being declared; there is absolutely no escape from this conflict between the idea of "government by the people," and the idea of "one man" or one set of men governing for the privilege of living in luxury and ease and for their progeny to do likewise. The issue is, as of old, liberty against slavery.

To help arouse the people against the enemy, who has already too much power, is our mission and we hope to do our part in bringing about a better civilization in a world that should belong to the workers instead of to the shirkers, a world of happy industry instead of a world of wasted energies, a world in which all can work to the best advantage of all—a world in which "if any will not work, neither shall he eat."

HOW TO MAKE MONEY.

IN THE FIRST PLACE you must have a strong desire to make it. This is called love of money by some, but never mind the croakers. Forget everything else and put your mind right to the work until there is nothing else worth while: Then the battle is more than half won. But one troublesome thing that often keeps people from success (?) is cowardice. Don't be a coward, and you remember that Shakespeare said that "conscience makes cowards of all of us." So get rid of conscience as quickly as possible and your battle for money-getting is about won. Of course, although you have lots of money, you have lost a very valuable thing if your conscience is entirely leaked out, and again you have lost many opportunities for self-improvement, friendships and one thing and another that would have been nice to possess, but you can't get something for nothing, and you've got what you love most, so hug it to your leadened heart till they both are melted with fervent heat. "There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

There is no sane man or woman in the world who can believe that this present day race for money is worth while. It can only result in one thing, and that is the destruction of civilization itself. Money begets money and a few families are sure to come into possession of practically all the wealth of the world. Now suppose that these families unite and force on to their subjects the kind of government and the kind of religion they think best fitted for slaves. And this is just what will happen. It is just what is happening right now and we are so stupid as to wait and wait for something to save us when the only way we can possibly be saved is to save ourselves. Do you know how many Roman Catholics there are in New York, Chicago, Boston and San Francisco compared with all other denominations? The facts are startling! The great monied interests with the co-partnership of the Roman Catholic church and its parasite, the liquor traffic, intends to control this whole great country. Are we going to let them do it? If we intend to do anything about it, it would be well not to wait and lock the barn after the horse is stolen. Every state should be thoroughly organized at once. Every anti-Catholic paper, every anti-trust paper and every anti-saloon paper should be kept running. The candidates for office should be forced to show their hand so an intelligent vote can be obtained, and a law should be at once passed to inspect every public institution including convents, monasteries and schools. This can only be done by our anti papers, and their boycott must be overcome by subscription support. There is certainly something worth more than money and what is it unless it is the preservation of our liberties, and their enjoyment, after a well-earned victory, by ourselves and our posterity?

THE LOST SOULS.

THE NOBLEST SOULS who have ever lived have been lost in the fierce fire of human greed or the confusing battle of man's inhumanity to man. To be great a man or woman must be mentally well balanced, be broad-minded, have keen perception and natural goodness, be filled with love for the truth and with an overwhelming desire to be of great service to his or her fellowmen. Such a man or woman quickly comprehends the right side to all great public questions and is brave enough to point it out, but it is sad to say that such have thus far been lost to the world because of those who oppose the truth. Up to this point only those who have seen one unrecognized truth, or at least only worked in one field of advanced thought, have survived, been recognized and followed as great leaders. The broad-minded, best types of our race have been lost forever. And why, do you ask? Because there has never been a large enough number of people who thought right along all lines to save him or her from the ignorant mob or from the king, the priest or the priestly powers. These enemies would destroy the smartest, the bravest, the wisest, the best man or woman in the world through nothing more than mere dislike and those who have been most nearly right in every thing, lost support in one direction because of the wrong ideas of one class, in another direction because of the ignorance of another and in another direction because the prejudice against his or her truth discoveries was too great to overcome.

And so the majority of men and women have been forced to agree with their adversaries quickly or the adversary would deliver them to the judge and the judge deliver them to the officer, and they would be cast into prison, crucified, hung, burned alive, or in more modern days, black-listed, branded as crazy, ostracized and lost forever to the world of thought—lost, did we say? Yes and no. Lost for the great wonderful good that might have been done, but not entirely lost, for some one heard the truth from

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APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE
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I, the undersigned, recognizing the class struggle between the capitalist class and the working class, and the necessity of the working class constituting itself into a political party distinct from and opposed to all parties formed by the capitalist class, hereby declare that I have severed my relations with all other parties, and I endorse the platform and constitution of the Socialist Party, including the principle of political action, and hereby apply for admission to said party.

Name _____
Occupation _____
City _____ State _____
Age _____ Citizen (YES or NO) _____
Date _____, 191__

their lips, even if only in a whisper, and treasured it and passed it down until today some truth has been won and now enjoyed by all. O, the cruel past and the still cruel present! Will there come a time when a majority of the so-called civilized world will be willing and anxious to know the truth even if it upsets some preconceived notions or interferes with business? How else can this be done except by giving every one a careful and golden rule hearing? We still poison every Socrates, crucify every Savior, burn the Brunoes at the stake and dance around the golden calf or fall on our faces to false gods while "Love" is blasphemed and the sons of Love descend into hell.