

SOCIALIST'S COLUMN

Edited by E. W. Ross

MUNICIPAL OWNERSHIP PAYS

By Carl D. Thompson.

Municipal ownership pays. It pays, first of all, in better wages, shorter hours and improved conditions for labor. And to the socialist that is the first and most important consideration of all.

To be specific: The city of San Francisco, upon taking over one of the street car lines in that city about a year ago, immediately raised the wages of its employees from 27 cents per hour to 37½ cents per hour and reduced the hours from ten to eight per day.

Eleven cities in England, upon taking over their public enterprises, reduced the average hours per week from eighty to sixty, and continued to reduce them.

Glasgow alone spent \$515,940 per year in increased wages, shortened hours and improved conditions of its street car employes.

According to Albert Baker, former manager of the London street railways, municipal ownership of street car lines in England has reduced the hours of street car men 48 per cent and increased the wages not less than 42 per cent.

The gains to labor in better wages, shorter hours and improved conditions amounted to \$200,000 per year in London; and nearly as much in Liverpool.

And these are only typical cases chosen out of hundreds. These improved conditions follow municipal ownership everywhere.

And municipal ownership pays in another way. It pays in actual profits to the cities.

For example: In spite of the low rates and better wages, Milwaukee clears a high as \$200,000 per year on its water plant. The city of Berlin, in Germany, clears \$4,500,000 per year off its several different municipal enterprises. Six cities in England, for which we have figures at hand, cleared \$1,440,135 off their gas, water and markets alone in a single year. Glasgow made \$1,837,704 net profits off its municipal street cars in a single year.

The city of Cincinnati owns a railroad 336 miles long, crossing three states. It is called the Cincinnati Southern, and runs south from Cincinnati, Ohio, through Kentucky to Chattanooga, Tenn. It is worth \$40,000,000. It is paying for itself and producing a revenue of \$526,816 per year over and above all expenses.

So you see, municipal ownership pays. It pays in better wages, shorter hours and improved conditions of labor. It pays in lower fares and better service. And, best of all, it pays in dividends to the public—dividends for the "common good," as they are called in England.

THEY SHOT AT YOU!

Every shot fired at workers on strike is a shot fired at you. Every drop of blood shed in the cause of labor is blood shed for you. Every life lost in the struggle of toil has been martyred that you and yours might live.

It was thought that capitalism had done its worst at the massacre of the women and babes at Ludlow, Colorado. The conservative, capitalist New York Tribune tells us that we are mistaken.

The Tribune declares that the slaughter of the striking fertilizer workers at Chrome, N. J., just a few days ago, was "worse than the Ludlow battle in the Colorado strike."

But a few hours after the Chicago police had turned their guns on a parade of jobless men and women, protesting against their hunger and nakedness, a gang of hired gunmen, assassins no less legalized, turn loose a hail of deadly bullets on a gathering of striking workers at Chrome, New Jersey.

All escaped bodily injury in the murderous attack at Chicago. But 22 were sent to jail. Not so easily did the workers escape the penalty for asserting their rights at Chrome, N. J. There one striker fell martyr to the cause of labor, four were fatally wounded, all others more or less seriously injured.

The ink had hardly dried on the U. S. Supreme Court decision upholding the assessing of \$252,130 in damages against the 200 Danbury Conn. members of the Hatters' Union, when the courts of Arkansas levied fines of \$500 and \$1,000 and jail sentences against seven members of the United Mine Workers of America, growing out of the miners' strike in that state. Among the Arkansas miners who thus suffered the wrath of capitalist law was Fred Holt, recent Socialist candidate for Governor of Oklahoma. In the meantime the struggle in eastern Ohio rages on.

The master class has seized this hour to more securely fasten the chains of wage slavery upon the limbs of toil. Millions of workers are jobless, seeking work, and the

masters are using them to beat down the wage scale and make worse the conditions of those who still have jobs.

The terrors of unemployment are only beginning to make themselves felt. More dead will fall on the battlefields of industry tomorrow or next week. More will be wounded. More will be imprisoned, no one can tell where or at what hour the masters will strike next.

It may then be your turn. You may be the next victim. When the public would-be murderers of Chicago shot at the parading jobless they shot at you. When the private murderers of Chrome, New Jersey, did their work of death the blood spilled was not the blood alone of a few workers. It was the blood of the entire working class.

They shot at you. They shed your blood. They want to still further enslave you and your children to follow you.

There is a growing national movement to protest against this unemployment that the master class is using to further entrench itself against the growing power of the workers.

The workers organized into the Socialist movement know what they want done. They are trying to enlist the support of the great mass of toilers in order to force their demands into action.

Unemployment is a great problem. The President and Congress claim the jobless problem is too big for them. So they do nothing. Which is precisely what the masters want them to do.

President Wilson and Congress can do something to meet this problem. They would do it if they were the servants of the masses and not the tools of big business.

The Socialist Party, the political wing of the working class movement, proposes to put every congressman on record on the question of unemployment.

The "glad hand" is generally reaching for your waist.

In Europe it is a call to arms; in America a call to alms.

The worker sells himself, and the employer gets rich off the proceeds of the sale.

The "enemy" with guns is not half as dangerous to the workers as the enemy who is after profits.

Even the worker has his heritage. The mortgage and the public debt is transmitted to his children.

Rockefeller believes in organized labor like he does in Christianity—in theory, but not in practice.

Why an Inspection Law?

The following affidavit, by one of the victims, was published in the Sentinel of Liberty:

COUNTY OF DOUGLAS,)
State of Nebraska,) ss.

I, Catherine Egan, being first duly sworn, on oath depose and say that when I was nineteen years of age I voluntarily went to the House of the Good Shepherd of Omaha, Nebraska, located at Thirtieth and Jones streets. I had had some trouble at home and left without telling anybody where I was going. Of the Sister Superior in charge I asked to stay six months, to which she agreed. I was assigned to the laundry and put to work. Afterwards I was in charge of a department and helped to get out special washes for some of Omaha's prominent citizens. We did the laundry for the Henshaw, Rome, Paxton and Millard Hotels and other small hotels and hospitals. The Field Club was also a good customer. We also had work from the Omaha Club and the Y. M. C. A., but do not get it now.

The laundry is equipped with the latest up-to-date electric machines, and the girls, of whom there are about two hundred and forty (240) when I left five months ago, were often compelled to arise as early as 4:00 A. M. and work as late as 8:00 in the evening. We were told to pray for more work, instead we prayed for less, but always had lots to do. On Sundays we had to clean the machinery, so it would be ready early Monday morning. Sunday is the only time we have to clean and oil the machines, as we are busy all the week, and have no time to stop. When a holiday comes it means a change to us girls. We generally work to 2 o'clock, and once in a while we are given ice cream.

When my six months was up I asked the Mother Superior to let me go, and she refused. I had written to my father in South Omaha, telling him where I was, but did not get any answer. Now I know he did not get my letter, which was addressed to my home. The Sister probably destroyed the letter, as I agreed to

stay only six months, and signed no paper for any set time. I was astonished that the sisters should keep me against my wishes. In vain I protested; begged that my father should be notified of my whereabouts, but all in vain. I was a prisoner, and was compelled to work until I knew not how long, maybe until death came. The coming of new girls and whether I knew them were special objects of my attention. Some were brought here by the Police and some were sent here by Police Matron Ella Gibbons on six months' detention, but never get out unless their relatives know they are here and call and take them away. The girls are so closely confined that they become wild, fighting and scuffling, serving to change the course of the day. When a Sister attempts to interfere she generally gets a licking, unless is strong enough to lick the disturber. One girl asked to get out, and she had a fight. She managed to drop notes out of a window, and the next day detectives came and took her away. If a girl did not behave the way the Sisters wanted they would use a club and afterwards she would do as she was told. I was named Sister Catherine—all the girls' names are changed when they enter, and they are given religious names, and are told not to tell other girls their real names, or how they got there. Whenever the Sisters learn that a girl wants to get out they hide her when a visitor is shown through the house. Sometimes we were hidden in the bath rooms until the visitors were gone, and then we were put back to work. During lunch we were told to hurry up so the work could be finished, and it was hurry all the time. We also made overalls for the M. E. Smith Company, quilts for Hayden Brothers, and did other work for smaller places.

When we retired we were placed in a large room where twenty-five of us girls slept. We had nice beds and did not complain on that account. We were treated well enough if we worked hard and said nothing. So were the twelve colored girls who were working down stairs. We learned how to work, and they keep any one who can work. We never saw much of the colored girls—they keep them separate from us.

The visitors are few, and occasionally we see the Bishop pass through. One woman died of consumption, and we learned that the corpses of all who die here are sent to the Creighton Medical College. I sometimes wondered if that would be my last resting place.

So the years passed one by one until I counted that it was six years that I was held a prisoner, when I expected only to stay six months. Then one day a new girl was brought in by her folks. I nearly screamed for joy at the sight of the newcomer. It was Ella Callahan, of South Omaha, daughter of Police Judge F. Callahan, who I found out later eloped and married against the wishes of her parents. Her folks had her arrested and brought her to the House of the Good Shepherd for safety. But I did not say anything till I saw Ella alone and nearly hugged her to death for joy. I begged her, when she would be taken home by her parents, that she would tell my father where I was. And later, when my father appeared with an attorney and demanded my release, I nearly died of joy, so glad was I to see him. When I was leaving one of the Sisters got me to sign a paper not to get any pay while working in there. I scarcely had clothes enough to cover my back, and had nothing at all for the seven years of work I did. There are lots of girls who are begging to be let out, but it seems that one must know their real name and their religious name to get them out, and also have a lawyer. I feel sorry for the poor girls, some who have no friends, and those who do not know how they can let their people know where they are.

As I looked back, when I left the huge iron gates behind, I shuddered at the huge building. With a wall 18 feet high about it, and the windows with bars, the smoke pouring out of the huge iron chimney darkening the sky; it looked grim and terrible. A prison conducted by the church was something that I did not believe possible, yet I have spent seven years of my life there, and must now learn how to make my living.

I have made this statement freely and voluntarily without any coercion of any kind by any person, and I hereby state that it is true and correct in every particular and that it is given in my own words.

CATHERINE EGAN.

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 11th day of November 1914. EDWIN DAVIS, Notary Public.

My commission expires September 23, 1920.

Saint Peter's chair, the real thing is in Saint Peter's at Rome, and lends sanctity to the greatest Religious Mill in the world.

CHICAGO'S SIGNIFICANT PATRIOTIC VICTORY

For the first time the issues were squarely drawn at the election of April 6, 1915.

The result was the greatest plurality in Chicago's history for Wm. Hale Thompson for mayor, whose nomination, as well as overwhelming election is directly creditable to the patriotic organizations and sentiment of the city.

Inspired by the patriotic organizations, the G. of L., Orangemen, K. of L. and Knights Patriot (the latter of which especially received Mr. Thompson's application and financial support from its early inception), led off by the heavy Chicago Masonic and other fraternal membership, the clerical forces behind Mr. Schweitzer received a drubbing long to be remembered.

The landslide also carried in the safest council in Chicago's history.

That the issue was squarely drawn is shown by the following letter which speaks for itself.

UNITED CATHOLIC LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES

Dear Brethren:

I am compelled to address this personal letter to you in the hope that it will lead you to cast your vote for candidates in your City and Ward who are friends of the church which we have the honor to be members of. It is something unusual for our league to take any part in political affairs, but at this time we feel that we can do so with credit to some of our people.

It is with respect that I address you, as I understand that you are a good Catholic.

You are aware that the present candidate, Mr. William Hale Thompson, for the Mayor of Chicago, is not a Catholic, and for that reason you should assist in defeating him by voting for our friend Robert Schweitzer and thereby placing the church where it belongs in the City of Chicago. Mr. Schweitzer has pledged himself that if elected he will place only Catholics in office and it should be to your interest to vote for him against William Hale Thompson, who, by the way, is by no means in favor of our faith.

Your duty to your church in the coming election is to vote for the Catholic candidate, and I hope you will cast your vote accordingly.

Yours very truly,
United Catholic League United States
(Signed) M. J. SCANLON
Secretary of Chicago Branch.

This significant result certainly shows that clerical interference (when known) will not be tolerated in American governmental affairs.

Arkansas Pass, Texas.

Dear Friend Hosmer:

I would like to respond to your call more liberally if I was able. I'm over 80 years old, cannot work and my income is small. I send one dollar; it is not much but will help a little. If all the subscribers would send you a little, it would help you very much.

Yours for Freedom.

West Union, Iowa,

April 12, 1915.

J. E. HOSMER,

Editor Silverton Journal,

Silverton, Oregon.

Dear Sir: Some kind friend sent me a copy of your paper of date of April 2d, and I am very much pleased and delighted by the makeup and contents thereof, as it reflects and proves the liberality, desire for truth, and depth and range of thought of its editor and publisher.

I know not your circulation, but I do know that it should be thousands of times larger than it is, if No. 22 is a fair sample. Life is a struggle for existence at the present age, and it is so only because the people are ignorant, and they are ignorant because of the fierce struggle for existence.

Instead of seeking for light and truth, which can be found, and which would destroy ignorance and also the struggle for existence. All are seeking to avoid the truth, thinking that thereby they can better their condition.

This has been exemplified and driven home to me by articles in your Journal of S. H. Van Trump, Guy Fitch Phelps, and their references to Hall and Ross. At this distance it looks to me very much like a "punch and Judy" show. But good will come of it. It exposes to the world the editor of The Journal as a broadminded and courageous man.

Hereby I enclose a money order for the sum of fifty cents to pay my subscription to The Journal. . . . I may be able to help you in the way of building up your paper and at the same time disseminate a "knowledge of the Truth." The Truth in the minds of the workers is the only Savior of the world. Fraternally.

To Carry the War Into the Enemy's Country

We have completely defeated the Roman Catholic Hierarchy in the Courts, and, although at a great cost in work, money and imprisonment, yet we are now ready to carry this war for freedom and righteousness into the enemy's country. You helped us in our defense, will you help us in our "forward march?"

Previously Acknowledged \$18.70
J. H. Fowler 1.00
W. C. Mott 1.00
Oregon City Friends 4.25

THE CASCADE REAL ESTATE CO.

Silverton, Ore., Journal Bldg., has the following property for Sale:

See Cascade Real Estate Co. for bargains.

List your property with E. W. Ross, the new manager of the Cascade Real Estate Company.

Seven-room House and Lot in Geiser Addition on installment plan.

Four-room House and Lot, 70x210, on Mill Street. Good location, only \$1750. \$200 cash, good investment.

Do you want a man to work?

Lady, how would you like to buy a dandy little business in Silverton. We have it for sale. Write to Cascade Real Estate Company, Silverton, Oregon.

Fine lot between Portland and Oregon City on car line for sale for \$800, \$50 down, \$15 per month. This is a large lot 50x138½ feet. It will increase in value.

Buy a lot in Geiser's Addition—best buy in Silverton—must sell and you get the advantage of the forced sale. You can pay for this lot and the CASCADE REAL ESTATE CO. will build you a bungalow—pay for it in stead of paying rent to the other fellow.

Do you believe in dreams? Your dream of a home will come true if you will let the CASCADE REAL ESTATE COMPANY tell you how to buy a home on the installment plan.

FORTY LOTS for sale in South Salem—high and dry, fine location, cheap and on easy terms.

Fine Large Lots in Salem, slightly location, low price, small payment down and small monthly payments.

FOR SALE—A nice large lot, 50x120, in the Capital City. Fruits of every kind, on Oregon Electric Line, 2 blocks from school, near church. Good bargain at \$250.

\$1500 buys seven acres, one mile from Silverton, all in cultivation. Hard macadam road, small house. A bargain, if taken soon.

See Cascade Real Estate Co.

Now we have it. Lot at one half price to the person who will build a \$1500 house on it, good location on South Water Street. Also other lots in this part of Silverton with the understanding that houses built must be of \$1000 value or over.

\$12,000 buys a twenty-four acre tract adjoining Silverton, all in cultivation. Good buildings, stock and farming implements can be subdivided. Would take \$6,000 in exchange on other good property. This property should not remain in the market long as it is a guilt edge goods. Come quick!

\$4,000 buys 20 acres, ¾ miles from Silverton, 14 in cultivation, balance in pasture. Four-room house, good barn, all fenced.

FOR SALE—Two Turbine Water Wheels, Shafting, Mortise Gear Wheels, Boxing, Couplings, Roller Mill, etc.

160 acres near Lyle, Wash. at \$30 per acre. Six acres cultivated, and 80 acres easily cleared. It is right in the orchard belt. See Cascade Real Estate Company.

\$4000 buys 20 acres ¾ of a mile from Silverton, 14 acres in cultivation with balance in pasture, four room house, good barn and all fenced. See Cascade Real Estate Company.

135 Acres for \$85. per acre, 90 acres in cultivation, 60 acres in crop, balance in pasture, six-room house, three barns, four head of big horses, cow and bull, nine head of hogs, wagons and plows, and all machinery needed to run the place, all new.

Telephone shares go with the place.

BOYCOTTERS

The business men of Centerville, Iowa, have combined against the Roman Catholic boycott. A Catholic entered a store and demanded that a certain card advertising a patriotic lecture be removed; but much to his surprise he had met a man. This man emphatically refused to be dictated to. Then the Daily Citizen, a paper that has been running since 1864, and carries the Associated Press

Business Chance: A saw mill that will cut 700 rail road ties in a day, 250,000 feet of logs cut, 50,000 feet in the pond; all you have to do is to fire up and go ahead. Price only \$1100, half cash, chance to buy 500,000 feet near the mill.

Fine Lot on Fitch Street, a dandy building sight, close in, it will not be on the market long, only \$350. Come quick!

\$2000 buys a nice little farm near Amvill, of 15 acres, all cleared. Fruit, berries, house and barn; all fenced. This is a bargain. Will exchange for farm property near Silverton.

A 54-acre farm, 12 acres hops, fruit trees, berries, garden, grain land, fine house, hop house, barn and macadam road, fine water, plenty of pasture. Call in and get full particulars.

\$2,500 buys one of the finest homes you ever saw. There are eight lots, lots of fruit, ten room house, etc., etc., paved streets, city water—one of the best places in a town that has a future, Scotts Mills, Ore.

FOR SALE—1500 lb. Draft Horse.

Buy a dandy home in Oak Grove, Oregon. Four-room house, 22 fruit trees, lawn, on car line, good garden, close to church, school and depot. \$200 down, balance \$20 per month. Price \$1800. Beautiful location.

8 1-3 acres right in the city with one of the best houses you ever saw, fine barn, chicken houses, all kinds of fruits, grapes, berries, walnuts, etc., cement sidewalk, paved streets, electric lights, sewer, city water. Can be subdivided. Close in. A dandy bargain at \$7600. Half down. Long time on balance.

Dandy building lot in Davenport Addition in very easy terms. Will take a good cow or a horse or both, a little cash, and \$5.00 per month for balance.

\$1200—Three acres in Southern California, water for irrigation, 3-room house. \$300 cash, balance to suit purchaser at 7 per cent.

We have land for sale in California, Washington, Idaho and Alberta; any place, tell us where you want it, and we place you right where you want to live. We have land in Lake View for \$60 per acre, for a small payment down and balance 30 years time, 5½ per cent interest. This is irrigated land and lies in the famous Goose Lake Valley, from 2 to 10 miles from Lake View. Also a butcher shop and slaughter house in Lake View at a bargain.

Do you want to buy a beautiful plot of ground with fruit and berries, already in bearing, with wood shed built and two ten houses? This is a bargain on the installment plan. The property is three blocks from car line that runs into Portland. Price \$1800, \$100 down, \$15 per month. Now's the time and The Cascade Real Estate Co. are the people. Come and see!

Grants Pass property, lot 150x200, 5-room house, big barn, city water, lights, etc., only \$1500. Terms.

\$2400 buys a farm of 160 acres, six miles from Munson, Alberta, Canada. A cleared, 145 acres in cultivation; all in the famous wheat belt. This land has been cropped twice.

\$3800 buys twenty acres, one mile from Silverton, six in cultivation, good water. Buildings cost \$2000 and are all new.

\$85. an acre buys an excellent Wald Hills farm. This farm is worth over \$100 per acre.

reports took it up and cut loose thus: When dealing with the Roman subjects, do unto them as they would do unto you. The editor of the Daily Citizen is one that cannot be ruled. He is not alone in his decision that the Catholic priest and his confederates can not run his business.

This action of business men in Centerville in asserting their manhood, makes the merchants of Silverton look like 30 cents. L. D. R.