

The freest government cannot long endure when the tendency of the law is to create a rapid accumulation of property in the hands of a few, and to render the masses poor and dependent.—Daniel Webster.

The Milwaukee Leader

"Unawed by Influence and Unbribed by Gain"

MORNING EDITION

Vol. 11—No. 16. PRICE THREE CENTS.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1921.

Entered as second-class matter August 25, 1920, at the postoffice at Milwaukee, Wisconsin, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

FINDINGS

BY VICTOR L. BERGER.

Christmas, 1921!

This is the time when all men and women who still believe in the possibility of continued progress and a better humanity must stand together as they never stood together before, without regard of race, religion, nationality or class.

There can be no doubt that the World War has awakened many of the beastly instincts of the primeval men among the people of all countries. There can be no doubt that civilization has been thrown back hundreds of years, as a result of the war "to make the world safe for democracy," and to "protect the small nations" and to "abolish militarism forever."

The danger is that unless all men and women whose brains and hearts are undefiled stand together for economic and political freedom in every country—and especially in America—that the civilization of the white race might disappear entirely as the result of the next war—and that the human race may have to undergo a new development to a culture based upon the yellow man, the black man or the brown man.

Christmas time is not the time to despair, however. Christmas, according to the Christian belief, means the birth of a savior. Let us be cheerful and hope that some savior was born somewhere within these so-called civilized nations of the white race—that some new idea will get a hold of now stupefied multitudes and lead us all to a new light and a better world. I sincerely believe that democratic, progressive and conservative Socialism is that savior.

With this in mind, I wish all the readers of The Milwaukee Leader—and also my numerous personal friends—a Merry Christmas!

President Harding is in line for the annual Hart, Schaffner & Marx prize in economics, as his latest message recommends:

First—Government aid to private shipping companies engaged in carrying foreign goods to America.

Second—A high tariff to prevent foreign goods from entering America.

And besides favoring government aid to private shipping, which calls for many millions of dollars annually, he is in favor of reducing taxes.

Since New Year's Day is approaching, we hope that City Attorney Clifton Williams will resolve to devote at least three days a week to the work of the City Attorney's office.

Among the good things to be expected in 1922 is Mr. Williams' defeat in April, so this resolution should not be difficult for him to make.

When Socialist aldermen demanded an emergency rate of return for the Wisconsin public utilities in order to bring about pre-war street car fares and electric light charges, the Socialist aldermen were voted down by the "nonpartisan" majority, and The Milwaukee Journal ran a headline—"Ward Off Socialist Attack on Electric Company."

Thereupon Mayor Hoan declared that since the city was building a power plant to serve the sewerage disposal system that this could be enlarged with great economy in order to furnish the city with current for its municipally owned street lighting system of 9,000 arcs. This demand of the Mayor, backed up by the 14 Socialist aldermen, brought most remarkable results from the Electric Company. They promptly filed with the Railroad Rate Commission a reduction in rate from 2.41 cents per kilowatt hour to 1 1/2 cents—practically a 50 per

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WRITS OUT FOR U. S. SLEUTHS IN LIQUOR BATTLE

Manslaughter Filed Against Local Trio Following Killing.

While Luther Pettington and Joseph Wurzer, participants in the Elton gun battle late Thursday between moonshiners and revenue agents, in which Julius Wurzer was killed, were being arraigned today before a federal court commissioner in Antigo on charges of violating the Volstead act, deputy sheriffs from Antigo were on their way to Milwaukee with warrants charging manslaughter, to be served on William Loose, Nicholas Amen and J. A. Dorr, federal dry agents.

The warrants were reported issued late yesterday by C. J. Reinert, district attorney in Antigo, following a verdict from a coroner's jury investigating Wurzer's death.

Lawrence Is Reluctant.

W. J. Lawrence, prohibition enforcement head here, refused to discuss the case today except to say that the agents who took part in the battle have reported to his office personally and up to noon had not been served with the manslaughter warrants.

Lawrence and the agents, however, were seen to enter the federal district attorney's office, where, it is thought, a discussion of the case ensued.

Federal Deputy Marshal B. W. Hayes arrested Pettington and Joseph Wurzer, brother of the dead man, last night. They were arraigned today and freed under bail, according to reports.

Only Retaliated, Claim.

The verdict of the jury, in view of the testimony at the inquest, which indicated that the federal agents did not open fire until Julius Wurzer had drawn his gun after having been ordered to surrender, came as a surprise to Dist. Atty. Reinert.

Witnesses testified at the inquest that, after the raiding party discovered a lonely shack in the woods where the moonshiners had barricaded themselves, they forced open the door and entered with drawn revolvers. They identified themselves as prohibition agents and ordered the two Wurzers and Pettington to throw up their hands. Agent J. A. Dorr testified he got into the shack in time to see Julius Wurzer level his revolver at Adams as the latter opened fire.

Julius Wurzer Flees.

In the tussle which followed, Julius Wurzer fled through the rear door and Dorr gave chase. After he had fired three shots Wurzer stopped to return the fire.

Dorr testified he then dropped in the snow and continued shooting at Wurzer, who toppled to the ground. He had been wounded twice.

In the meantime, the remainder of the raiding party had overpowered Joseph Wurzer and Pettington. The wounded man was carried into the shack, but died before a doctor could be summoned.

The jury verdict was returned after a very brief deliberation, it was said.

QUIZ K. K. K. IN ARDMORE ON DEATH RAID

ARDMORE, Okla.—An investigation of the K. K. K. in the Ardmore center of the "old west" lawlessness in Carter county, was started here today by Atty. Gen. Freeling.

Freeling's investigation was the result of refusal of Fred Bourland, merchant and alleged klanman, to answer questions pertaining to the klan during the Wilson murder case.

Case Is Continued.

The attorney general secured a continuance of the case until Tuesday to give him time to conduct the probe wherein he will attempt to determine whether the klan was connected with the killings.

Bourland was questioned after witnesses had declared the Wilson murders occurred near 200 masked men gathered in a pasture near the residence of Joe Carroll, one of the victims, and masked men raided the Carroll home. Carroll met their demand that he surrender to them with shots from a revolver and a battle wherein two of the murders and that Bourland held the key to the alleged klan strong box.

Bourland On Stand.

Bourland was placed on the stand at the preliminary hearing following testimony by A. L. Brittain, lodge hall keeper, that two men left a K. K. K. property room with two bundles on the afternoon of the murders and that Bourland held the key to the alleged klan strong box.

Bourland refused to answer questions about the klan's officers and activities here.

Bourland, however, denied he had heard anything of plans of a group of men to tar and feather Carroll, who was alleged to have been a bootlegger.

Merry Christmas.



CHARITY BUSY AS RICH PLAN YULE PLEASURE

On the eve of Christmas, while in the homes of the elite extravagant preparations are being made for distribution of expensive hampers and the draining of punch bowls, Milwaukee's poor office is taking care of nearly 1,500 unemployed, who, without this institution's aid, would freeze and starve.

Superintendent William C. Spindler said his office is "on the jump" carrying fuel, provisions and clothing to these unfortunate, hundreds of whom will not have a Christmas tree, will not have a warm house or a satisfied stomach, and who dare not venture forth because of lack of clothing.

The Salvation army announced its members will take home children of these poor families, to give them at least the cheer of the holidays and a few presents donated by the rich, whose children have tired of them.

Crowd "Flopp" Joins.

The Associated Charities wagons are working overtime in carrying food and comforts to hundreds of sufferers on its lists, it was said.

In the Rescue Mission and the flop joints along Reed St., hundreds of alleged bums and tramps will shiver through a comfortless Christmas night and go forth Christmas day to Turn to Page Five, Column Three

Mayor Gives Text Of Resolution on Electric Rate Cut

Mayor Daniel W. Hoan today gave out a resolution which he will send to the common council Tuesday requesting the city attorney to obtain from the state railroad commission a determination upon the cost of producing electric current per kilowatt hour and also the cost of obtaining power from The Electric Co. in his campaign for erection of a municipally-owned lighting plant.

In the letter accompanying the resolution, the mayor refers to the fact that the traction corporation has filed with the commission a new schedule reducing from 2.41 cents to 1.25 cents per kilowatt hour the price the city must pay for current for its street lighting system. He also raises the question why the company cannot reduce carefare and electric rates to private consumers.

Hunt Santa's Gifts; Babes Die in Fire

CLEVELAND—Two children, 3 and 5, were hunting for Santa's gifts in a closet in Mrs. Isaac Mendes' apartment here. They dropped a lighted match. Six families were routed by the fire that followed.

\$500,000 for Lighting Plant in City Budget STATE TAKES U. S. AID UNDER INFANCY BILL

MADISON, Wis.—Provisions of the Sheppard-Towner maternity and infancy act recently passed by the United States congress and signed by President Harding were accepted today by Gov. John J. Blaine for the state of Wisconsin.

Under the provisions of this act, \$2,751.62 is made available to the state for the fiscal year ending next June 30, for the purpose of "promoting the welfare and hygiene of maternity and infancy."

Ten thousand dollars is given outright to the state by the federal government, and the \$2,751.62 additional is given upon condition of being matched by an equal amount from the state treasury.

The state funds will be drawn from a fund of \$31,100 for 1922 and \$21,000 for 1923 created for the purpose of maintaining a child welfare bureau by the last session of the Wisconsin legislature.

The state bureau of child welfare, organized under the state board of health, will co-operate with the U. S. children's bureau, in the maintenance of the funds appropriated to Wisconsin.

Troops Reach Scene Of Kentucky Strike

NEWPORT, Ky.—State troops sent here to quell disturbances arising as a result of a strike of steel workers, took charge of the situation today. Four companies of guardsmen arrived in the city early today.

No Paper Will Be Issued on Monday

In order to allow The Leader and its employees a full enjoyment of the Christmas holidays, and in accordance with the usual custom, there will be no Leader issued on Monday. The Leader wishes all its readers, friends and sympathizers a Merry Xmas.

Debs Will Not Pass Christmas Day At His Home

FAILURE TO FREE ALL 'POLITICALS' A DISGRACE

—VICTOR L. BERGER.

Editor Says Outspoken Men Were Greatest Heroes.

"The failure of President Warren G. Harding of liberating all of the political prisoners—the President freed only Eugene V. Debs and 27 others is a disgrace, indeed," said Victor L. Berger, editor, The Leader, today.

"There are still almost 150 men left behind the bars, for some violation of some of the numerous and tyrannical war acts. These laws were passed by a coward and cowardly congress in response to the demands of a powerful, overbearing and cruel plutocracy and its military tools.

"The trials were held before hysterical juries, frightened by a venomous capitalist press and agitated by war movies, four-minute speakers and crazy posters.

"Every man who withstood all these agencies during the war and kept his head and dared to stand up and express his honest opinion was a braver man than any and all of the fellows who were conscripted and sent to the shambles in France.

"Is Greater Hero."

"He was an infinitely greater hero than the millions of the herd who did not dare to open their mouths and state their convictions, because of fear of the 'secret service,' of imprisonment, and of violence by mobs and liberated criminals.

"Even now I am convinced that were President Harding to follow his own better judgment—were he to liberate every political prisoner, they contain the best material that we have in this country—everyone of them has the mettle in him for a great patriot and a hero in the best sense of the word. If some of them were perverted, that is due to our perverted economic and political conditions under which we live.

"President Warren G. Harding evidently permitted himself to be intimidated by Wall St., by the military camorra and by the American Legion.

"I am sorry for President Harding."

Good News, Says Seidel. Said Emil Seidel, state secretary, Socialist party.

"Debs' release from prison is good news to every man and woman in the Turn to Page Two, Column Eight.

Mrs. Debs Puts Wreath In Window and Waits

BY CARL VICTOR LITTLE.

TERRE HAUTE, Ind.—Mrs. Eugene V. Debs put a holly wreath in the window today—and waited.

The enduring wife of "Gene," who will be released tomorrow, mustered all her strength so that "Gene" won't know that I've been ill.

"I'm sorry 'Gene' will not be here for Christmas," Mrs. Debs said. "But what is a day or two more, when I've waited for over two years?" she said with a patient, sad smile.

Has No Complaint.

"Gene's 'Kate' had no complaint. She didn't even complain when the government stopped the weekly letters that passed between her and the Socialist leader.

Mrs. Debs, however, must have believed that perhaps, by some means or other, "Gene" would arrive before Monday. It may just have been her strong desire to see her husband.

In the oven Mrs. Debs was roasting—very slowly—a goose for "Gene's" Christmas dinner.

"I may have to cut it cold," she said. "But it's his Christmas dinner and he will understand."

Carpet-Slippers Ready.

A pair of soft-carpet slippers and a dark bath robe were neatly laid out in Debs' large library. They were not new.

"I just thought I would have them handy for him," was her comment. Several bunches of flowers—sent to the Debs house by local businessmen—were on the dining room table. Also there were some books from all over

Socialist will Not Be Released Until Tomorrow.

WASHINGTON—A move to secure citizenship rights for Eugene V. Debs is expected to be started by his friends immediately following his release for Atlanta prison.

Officials said today that until the courts restore his citizenship, Debs cannot vote or exercise other civil functions. The commutation of sentence granted Debs and 23 other so-called "political prisoners" merely terminates their terms of imprisonment without removing in any way the civil disabilities which prison sentences carry.

A definite decision was reached at a conference of President Harding and Atty. Gen. Daugherty at the white house last night not to release any of the war prisoners until tomorrow—Christmas day.

Not Home for Christmas. Atty. Gen. Daugherty today said he regretted that conflicting statements regarding when the prisoners would be released, which were made in the official statement announcing the commutations of sentences, caused many friends of the prisoners to believe they would be able to spend Christmas at their homes. It was because of these errors that the conference between the president and the attorney general was held last night.

In one place, the official statement said Debs' sentence was committed to expire "at once" and in another, it was the commutation would be effective Christmas day.

The president is said to have favored releasing Debs so he could reach his home at Terre Haute on Christmas day. All the orders went out this morning.

Will Consider Other Cases. After the holidays, President Harding will continue his study of the remaining 173 cases laid before him by the department of justice. Those involving men who were guilty of sabotage will be laid aside indefinitely. The others will be passed upon as rapidly as possible, it was said.

"No Question of Guilt." According to the summary of the Debs case as given out at the white house "there is no question of his guilt and that he actively and purposefully obstructed the draft. In fact, he admitted it at the time of his trial, but sought to justify his action. He was by no means, however, as rabid and outspoken in his expressions as many others, and but for his prominence and the resulting far-reaching effect of his words very probably might not have received the sentence he did.

"He is an old man, not strong physically. He is a man of much personal

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the country and a hundred or so Christmas presents.

"Always Remember 'Gene.'" "They always remember 'Gene,'" she said proudly.

As Mrs. Debs pattered around the house rested to conserve her strength and pattered again, it seemed as though everyone in Terre Haute had "when" on his lips.

Debs will have a triumphant entry into his home town. Businessmen, coal diggers, professional men and others will be at the station to greet the unfettered "Gene."

8 BELOW ZERO FOR CHRISTMAS

All low temperature records for Christmas day in the history of the weather bureau are expected to be broken tomorrow, according to weather Observer W. P. Stewart, today.

He forecasts a temperature of 8 below zero.

Winds will be rough, but no snow is expected. Only once before in the weather bureau's history has a sub-zero temperature been recorded for Christmas day. This was in 1914, according to the records.

The cold is expected to last at least 48 hours, according to Stewart. The coldest day in the United States last night was Bismark, N. D., with 24 below. The warmest was New Orleans with 78 above.