

save them from destruction at the hands of the world's workers. Charles J. Vopicka, U. S. minister to the Balkan States, speaking of the League of Nations recently, said: "It, too, will bring an end to the bolshevist danger . . ." In the League of Nations the capitalists of the Allied Powers believe they have forged an instrument with which to perpetuate their power.

But, Band of Nations or no Band of Nations, capitalists cannot solve the contradictions in their own system. That is the task of the proletariat. History is working for their final triumph, victory is theirs and they will not be denied.

SOCIALISM AND SUPERIOR BRAINS

We have often been told of the superior mental equipment possessed by the "better classes" in society; when some individual succeeds in grabbing off a generous share of the wealth of the world, forsooth, it is because of his "Superior Brains." The possession of money is the badge of success in bourgeois society.

Occasionally, however, members of the upper class are placed in a position where the crudities of their mental construction cannot be concealed from the public gaze. Such was the case in the Ford-Tribune suit at Mt. Clemens, Mich. Of course, it is of no vital concern to the workers whether Henry Ford secures a million-dollar judgment against the Chicago Tribune or not. Ford is one of the most successful exploiters of labor in modern times; the other is but an institution serving the interests of the capitalist class. Nevertheless, the case is both instructive and amusing, for "when thieves fall out, honest men get their due." So, in the court room at Mt. Clemens, much is being revealed about the "great automobile inventor and manufacturer," that goes to prove what socialists have long contended: The mere acquisition or possession of money is no guarantee that an individual is the possessor of superior mental equipment.

Mr. Ford's conduct on the witness stand proved beyond a doubt that he is an idealist, and an ignorant one at that, as the Tribune attorney put it. Total ignorance of simple historical data with which any school-boy is familiar would not be surprising in an Arkansas "hill-billy," but it is inexcusable when displayed by one of "our best citizens." When a man doesn't know when the great revolution took place that gave us the vast liberties we haven't got, and at the same time holds in the hollow of his hand the destinies of thousands of workingmen and women, it is apparent that there is something radically wrong with the social system. We respectfully suggest that Henry Ford attend one of the citizenship classes conducted in his automobile plant, or that a social service worker be detailed to the million-dollar farmhouse at Dearborn.

Mr. Ford found himself beset with difficulties when he attempted to defend his pacificism; pure pacificism being an illogical and unnatural thing. Believing in and supporting a system that breeds wars, his attempt to explain his mental contradictions was a screaming farce. The Tribune attorney, always about two jumps ahead of Henry, mentally, led him a merry chase.

Acknowledging the probability of attack and the necessity, from a bourgeois point of view, of preparing for the enemy, he was in about the same pickle as our former "socialist" Congressman, Meyer London, when he put forth a pacifist rather than a socialist position in the House of Representatives.

Within the confines of the capitalist system the question of militarism cannot be solved. With predatory capitalists preying upon one another world wars are bound to come in the effort to settle their conflicting interests. Nothing short of the institution of communism by the proletariat of the world will once and for all time settle the problem of wars and the rest of the contradictions of the profit system.

Henry Ford, sneering at history and expressing a preference for the banjo, cannot grasp this, and so floundered about on the witness stand like a fish out of water. If "anarchist" can be twisted into meaning "ignoramus" by the wily lawyer representing the Tribune, then Ford stands to lose his suit, for he pleads guilty to ignorance on most things.

One need look no farther than the Ford-Tribune case to find all the argument necessary to answer the assertion that capitalists rule because of their "superior brains."

Eadmonn McAlpine's challenge to the National Executive Committee to expell the Socialist Party of Massachusetts reminded us of a spring chicken picking a fight with a hawk.

Communiques

By a most diligent search one might be able to locate one of those old-fashioned persons who believe in socialism by evolution.—Chicago Daily News.

Washington, D. C., July 10.—The United States navy is to have the two biggest battleships in the world, it was revealed today when Secretary Daniels awarded a contract to the Newport News Shipbuilding company for battleship 53, displacement 43,000 tons, and to have 16 inch guns. A contract for another battleship of the same type will be awarded next week, it was stated. Battleship No. 53 will cost \$21,000,000.

What was that we heard, Woodrow, about the war to end all wars?

From Adolph's report it appears that one of the "good" reasons why the language federations should be expelled was that they were showing marked activity and a notable increase in membership.

Henry Ford didn't know the date of the American revolution; thought it might have been in 1812. No, Hank, it was in 1776, and Columbus discovered America in 1492.

"Let the Party function now. Don't be fooled by the plea 'Wait until the Convention'" says L. E. Katterfeld. That is our idea of it, too, and we're putting it into action.

"We have serene confidence in our victory at the coming party convention—IF that convention is held." In other words, Comrade Katterfeld is absolutely certain that possibly, maybe, perhaps.

To send delegates to the Socialist Party convention would be to turn the other cheek.

It appears that the Left Wingers in New York have two ideas. If. If. "If we capture the Convention, alright; if we don't, alright." But isn't it rather uncomfortable, sitting on two chairs? Kerensky tried it, and we all know what happened.

"Clear the Decks!"

"The Left Wing has captured the Socialist Party. That is indisputable. . . .

"Should the Left Wing capture the Party Convention. . . .

"It is necessary to clear the decks. Conquer the Socialist Party. . . .

Fraina gives us a lesson in grammar: The Socialist Party has been captured; it should be captured; it must be captured.

When you capture the Party what will you do with the prisoners?

The proletariat: Pardon me, Mr. Capitalist, but whom shall I hate next? The Japanese?

Or the "greasy Mexicans"?

Or John Chinaman?

Or you?

It may not properly be a communique, but it cannot be gainsaid that it is comic to see the name of Max Eastman appearing as one of the founders of a new scientific journal of Marxian socialism!

Chicago placards shout: **Jobs for Soldiers free.** Really, it wouldn't be quite fair to ask the heroes who have made the world safe for Democracy to pay for the opportunity of remaining amongst the living.

Oh yes, jobs are that scarce that citizens in the land of Equal Opportunity are paying a premium for them.

Words and words. Nero fiddled while Rome burned; and there are those who are still arguing a communist party ought to be formed. They hesitate to cut the imbibical cord connecting them with the Seven Saviors of the revolution.

"Holy Family versus St. John." Strife in heaven? No; base ball in Chi.