

The COMMUNIST

Official Organ of the Socialist Party of Ohio and Kentucky

No. 51

Published at

Cleveland, Ohio

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15, 1919

\$1.00 A YEAR

Editorial Office

Free Speech Hit by "Guilty" Verdict Against Socialists

By DAVID KARSNER.

Free speech, free press and free thought received a blow yesterday when they have ever suffered in America. Wednesday afternoon, when a jury had been selected for the trial in court, returned a "guilty" verdict against the five national Socialists of the Socialist Party of the United States, who were charged with the first article of the bill of rights of the Constitution.

The jury deliberated the case four hours and fifty minutes, after listening to the evidence and arguments for nearly five weeks.

Shortly before 5 o'clock, when hundreds of persons, the bailiff moved from his chair. He called for the defendants and their attorneys to stand. The ringleader among the crowd as the five Socialists, who had walked with their heads high, were led into the courtroom.

The men stand today convicted in the trial of the Socialist Party of the United States, the struggle to bring Socialism to America, the technical charge being that they had plotted to overthrow the energies of the government in its with the Imperial German government.

Make Motion for New Trial.

The penalty for violation of the Espionage Act is one year in the federal prison, or imprisonment in the federal penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kansas, and the not to exceed ten thousand dollars.

Immediately after the verdict was rendered, the defense, which is to be Judge Karsner M. Lands, a motion for a new trial was made by Seymour S. Rosen, attorney for the convicted Socialists.

Judge Lands set January 23 as the date for the new trial. He adjourned the hall of the five convicted men.

The Verdict is Given.

When the bailiff indicated that the jury was ready to report the wrongfully accused men were admitted after the attorneys and defendants had taken their seats.

The jury entered the room, the door of the jury room. The salmons strolled in. Several who were holding their coats, took off their coats, laid them on the ground, and their hands clasped behind them. There was no mistake what their decision was. It was written.

Lima Socialists Win Legal Battle

Judge Upholds Freedom of Speech

Following the Socialist Party of Lima, twice refused the blow of Memorial Hall (which was built for public use by public funds) for meeting, the Socialists of Lima, who they were Socialists, went to the local through Attorney Edwin Blank, came to the rescue.

The case was tried in the Court of Common Pleas of Allen County before Judge W. H. Klemm. The decision upheld the rights of the Socialists to the use of the hall until the same date as the trial. The remarks from the bench underlining the rights of Free Speech, were quite significant, underlining the fact that because halls have been denied Socialists, the Socialist Party of Lima, is justified in feeling elated at its victory over the politicians and libertines of Allen County.

We quote excerpts from the decision of Justice Klemm as follows:

"Our country, our government, is based upon the principles of Free Speech and Free Press. And regardless of the individual have a right to speak and to print, and regardless of the individual have a right to the public welfare, to have a right to permitting and indulging in Free Speech and Free Press."

There are innumerable institutions that are honest, friendly, patriotic, and public-spirited, and are diligently engaged in propagating and spreading it abroad and increasing its influence. That is to say, that it is essential for the welfare of humanity, for the betterment of hu-

Albert Hall Affair: Pan-American Still Agitates

Congress at Buenos Aires

The Albert Hall incident of the early days of January still continues to agitate the conservative forces of England. Albert Hall, it will be remembered, is the name of the Garden of England—an enormous edifice in which the meetings of the most important are held, a meeting hall in which the Conservative Review, in connection with the campaign preceding the general election, on the ground that the Socialists were responsible for disturbances might result. The Electrical Trades Union forced the issue by a vote of 1,000,000 to 1,000,000. Albert Hall for other events scheduled, and by threatening to cut off the electric current to the hall, and to impose a fine upon the managers of Albert Hall pending a meeting to be held.

The conservative Review is commenting upon the incident asking, "What is the meaning of the firing of the German war into the fire of domestic revolution?" Is the fire of domestic revolution? Is the social war man's point of view in these terms? Is it not to be beaten by the hand of Kaiser going to be beaten by the hand of Lenin?"

COMING

ANSWER

INDUSTRIAL

Flying the Red Flag

Editorial from the Australian Worker

There are more ways than one of flying the Red Flag.

Over in Europe it is streaming on every breed, and the sun and the moon shine upon it, and it is wet with the rain and the dew.

It floats above palaces that once housed the pride of kings, and from the masts of battleships that were the instruments of despotism.

In those lands the Red Flag is the symbol of DEMOCRACY'S TRIUMPH, and the multitudes salute it with glad hearts, for it means that THE CAPITALIST SYSTEM DRAWS TO A CLOSE, and that the hour of the Fraternal Commonwealth has arrived.

It is easy to fly the Red Flag in that part of the world for two hundred millions acclaim it as their own, and it is surrounded with the sanction of the only law that matters—the consent of the common people.

But even in Australia the Red Flag can be flown. Willy Watt (Acting Prime Minister) has said it shall not be done. He has made it an offence to raise it over any building or display it in any public place.

I am not sure whether you can be hanged or shot for it; but anyhow, to fly the Red Flag is a crime by the will of Watt, and should you dare to do it, look out for the dire consequences of his displeasure.

All the same, THE RED FLAG FLIES IN AUSTRALIA AT THE PRESENT MOMENT!

And what is more, if there were ten thousand Willy Wats, armed with ten thousand War Precautions Acts, they could not tear it down or punish those who fly it.

It is in the HEARTS and MINDS of THE WORKERS that the Red Flag is flying. It is safe there. The jingoes may put up their noses and howl, but they cannot touch it; it is out of reach of their defiling paws.

Serene and splendid it is unfurled in the thoughts, and aspirations of the working class; and when the dust blows over the political graves of the little tycoons who now misgovern Australia, the Red Flag will still be flying, for it symbolizes two great and indestructible forces—Labor and Liberty.

Foreign Policy of New Alberta Party to be Formed

Irish Labor

After consulting with a representative of the International Executive Committee, the Irish Labor Party, and members of the Executive Committee of the Irish Trade Unionists held a meeting at the hall of the Irish Trade Unionists.

The statement reads as follows:

"The meeting adjourned to the International Executive Committee of the Irish Labor Party to be formed."

It is to be noted that the International Executive Committee of the Irish Labor Party to be formed is to be formed by the International Executive Committee of the Irish Labor Party to be formed.

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