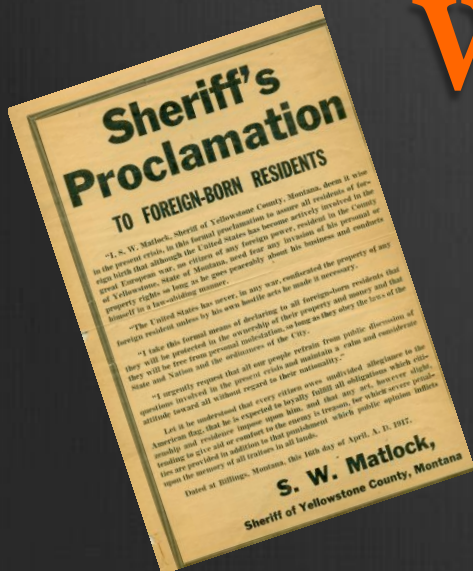
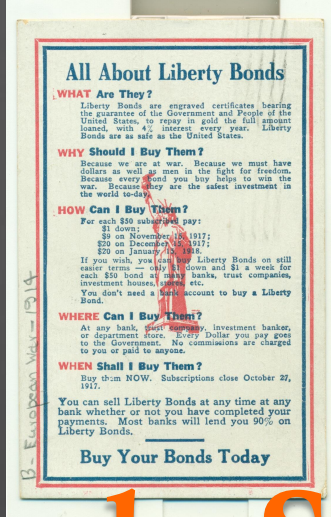
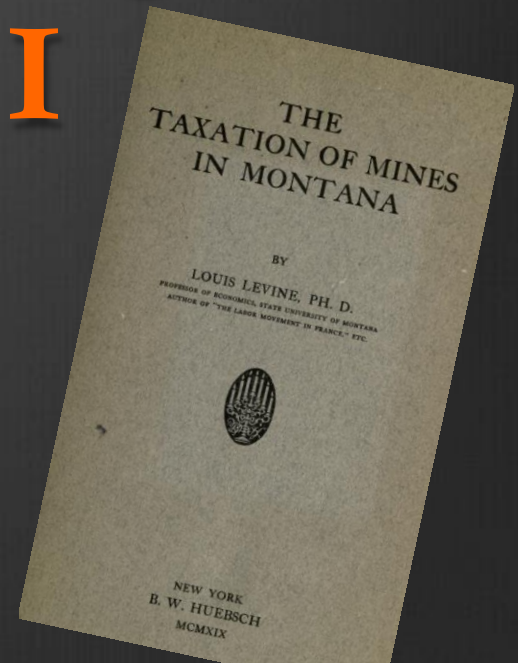
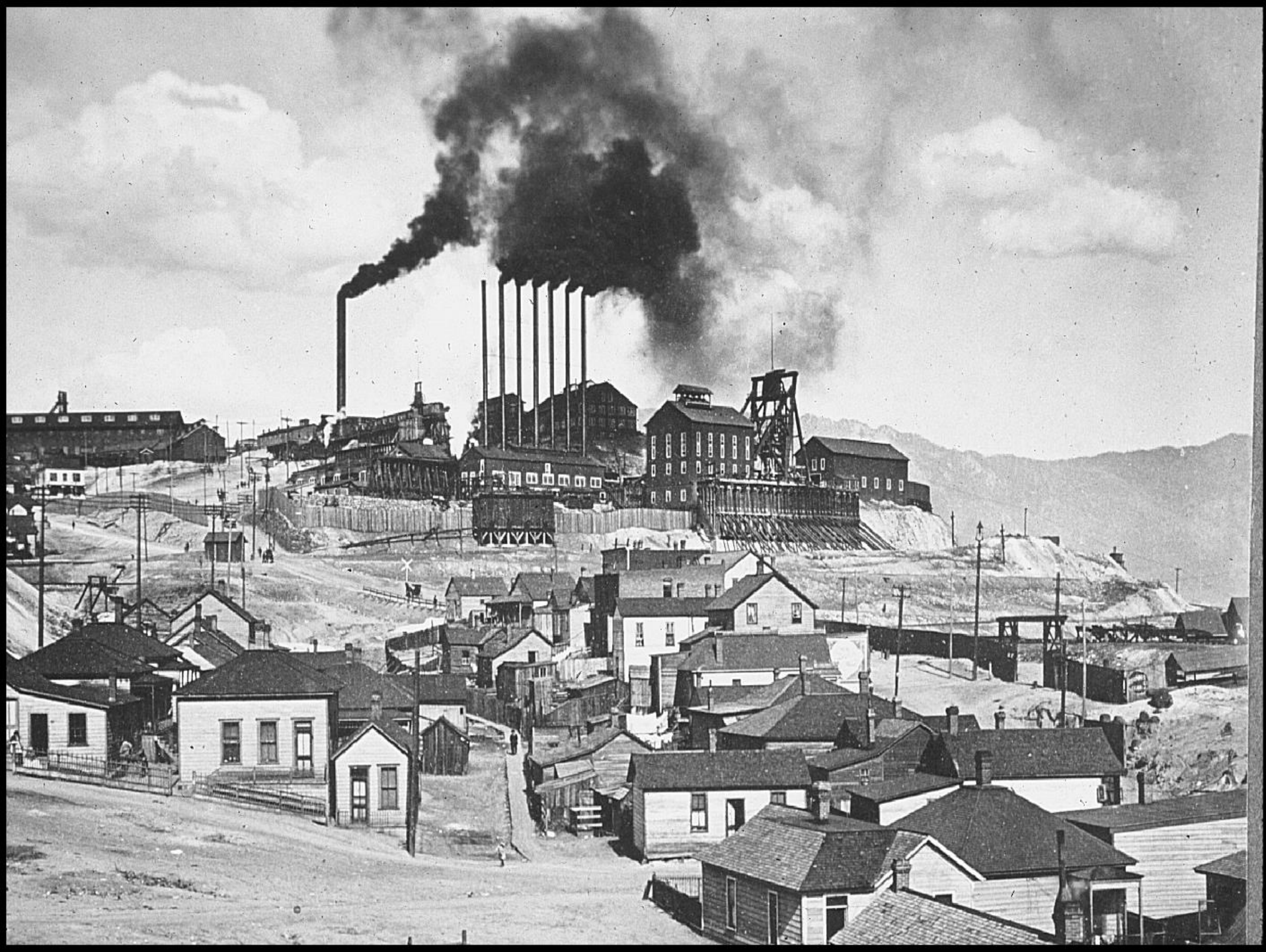


Free Speech, Sedition and Montana During World War I

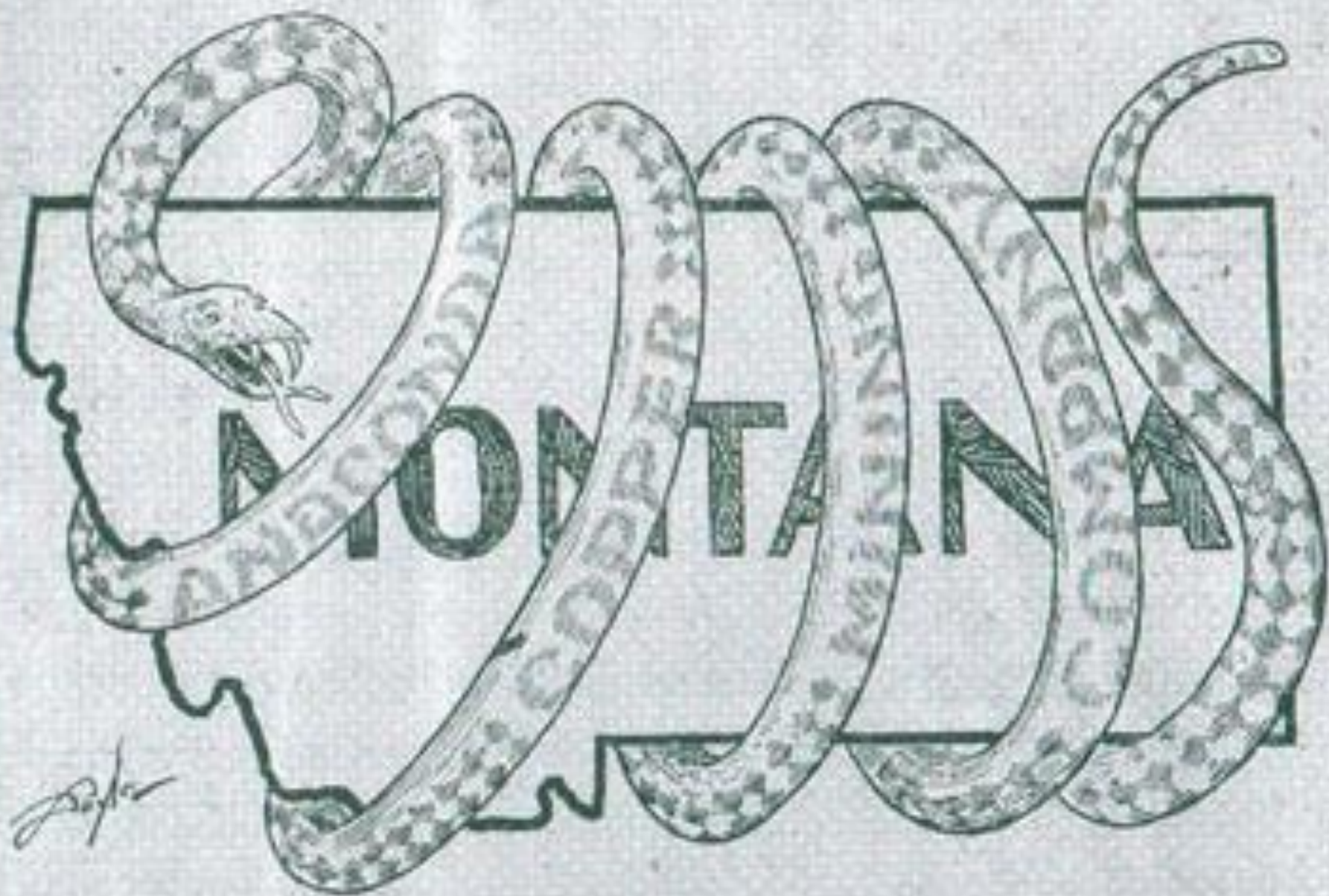


Dr. Keith Edgerton
MSU Billings





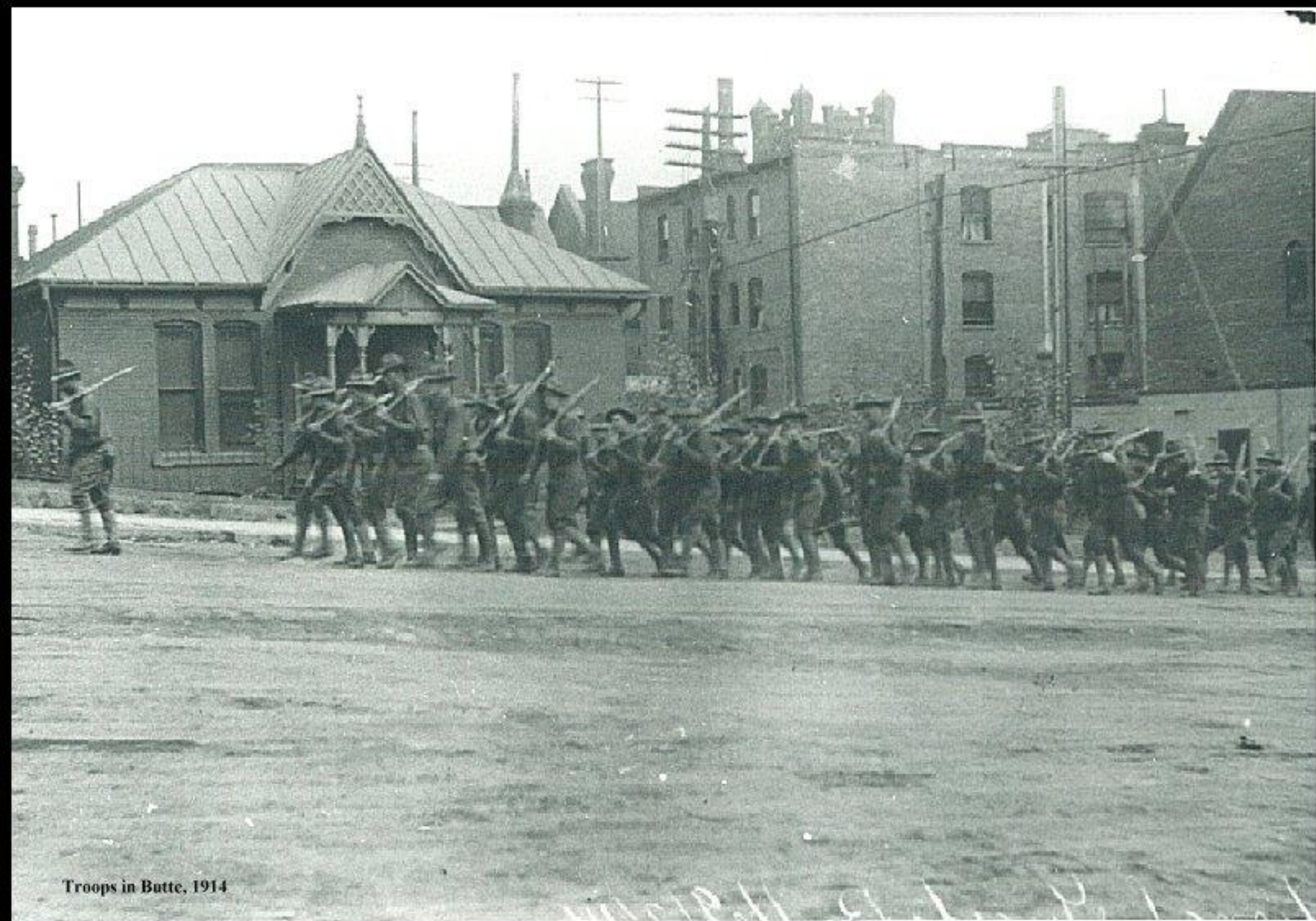
IN THE COILS OF THE ANACONDA











Troops in Butte, 1914

Spring, 1917

Montana polarized over war support



- ⦿ Meanwhile we lead the nation in percentage filling draft quotas and who will enlist (relative to our population). Newspapers publish lists of enlistees.
- ⦿ We subscribe to Liberty Bonds and Loans far exceeding initial national projections

All About Liberty Bonds

WHAT Are They?

Liberty Bonds are engraved certificates bearing the guarantee of the Government and People of the United States, to repay in gold the full amount loaned, with 4% interest every year. Liberty Bonds are as safe as the United States.

WHY Should I Buy Them?

Because we are at war. Because we must have dollars as well as men in the fight for freedom. Because every bond you buy helps to win the war. Because they are the safest investment in the world to-day.

HOW Can I Buy Them?

For each \$50 subscribed pay:

\$1 down;
\$9 on November 15, 1917;
\$20 on December 15, 1917;
\$20 on January 15, 1918.

If you wish, you can buy Liberty Bonds on still easier terms — only \$1 down and \$1 a week for each \$50 bond at many banks, trust companies, investment houses, stores, etc.

You don't need a bank account to buy a Liberty Bond.

WHERE Can I Buy Them?

At any bank, trust company, investment banker, or department store. Every Dollar you pay goes to the Government. No commissions are charged to you or paid to anyone.

WHEN Shall I Buy Them?

Buy them NOW. Subscriptions close October 27, 1917.

You can sell Liberty Bonds at any time at any bank whether or not you have completed your payments. Most banks will lend you 90% on Liberty Bonds.

Buy Your Bonds Today

B - European War - 1914

B- European War-1914

JUN 12 1917

YELLOWSTONE COUNTY LIBERTY LOAN COMMITTEE

Billings, Mont., _____, 19_____
Date.

.....
Name.

.....
Address.

How much of the Liberty Loan will you take? What method of payment do you prefer?

Will you help place bonds with your employees? If so, how many?

What denominations? Will you accept subscriptions at your place of business?

Are you issuing any publicity matter of your own on Liberty Bonds? Will you put committee publicity matter in your notices as enclosures?

Have you a mailing list? In what shape is it?

Typewriter Addressograph How many enclosures can you use?

When will they be sent out? Which bank do you prefer to have your subscription go

through? Remarks:

.....
Committee.

.....
Signature.

Note: The committee recommends Coupon Bonds to small investors.

FARMLY BILLINGS LIBRARY

33 KNOWN DEAD; 162 MISSING

GRANITE MOUNTAIN DISASTER WORST IN METAL MINING HISTORY

BUTTE STAGGERS UNDER PARALYZING EFFECT OF TERRIBLE LOSS OF LIFE. EVERY MINING OFFICIAL IN BUTTE AIDING IN THE GHASTLY RESCUE WORK

HELMET MEN BRAVING DEATH

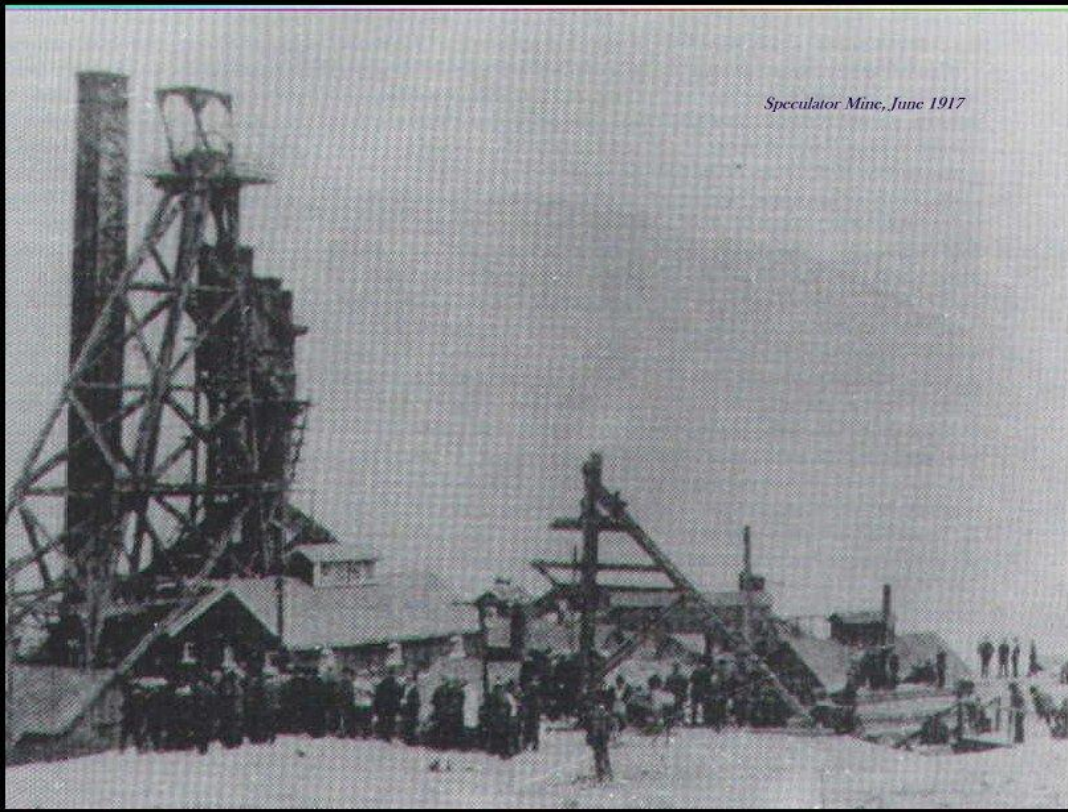
That the bodies have been recovered, scores sighted by mines rescue teams in the gas-filled workings and 162 who went to work last night are expected to be recovered this afternoon as a result of the disaster in the history of quartz mining, of accidental origin in Granite Mountain, the North Butte Copper Mining

were cut off from escape by the smoke and gas which filled the underground workings was practically abandoned at noon, so that there is likelihood of the death toll reaching possibly more than 190.

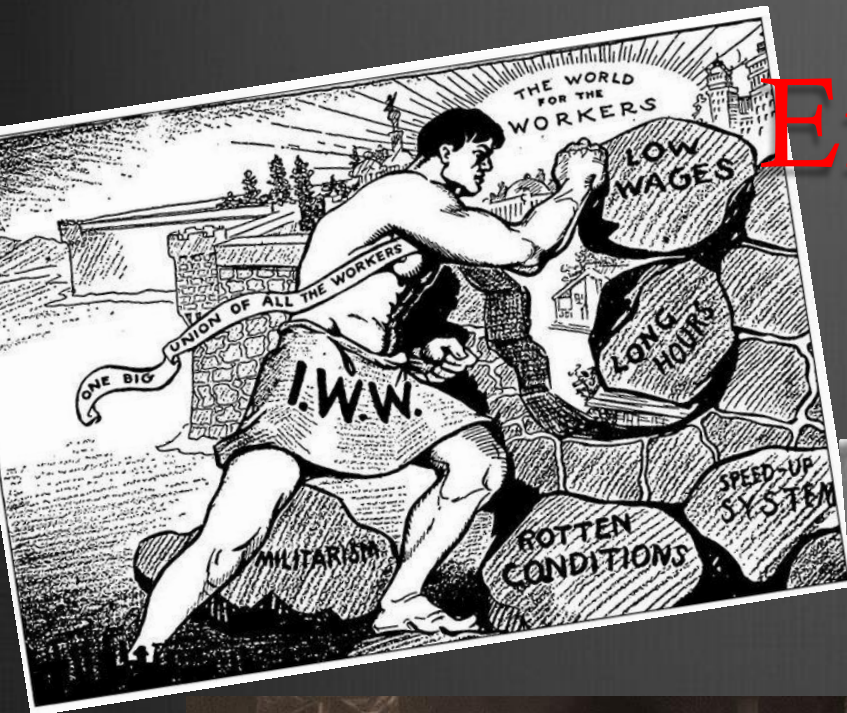
The great loss of life, heroic efforts to quench the flames and to rescue any who might still be alive produced a condition of confusion at the mine from which it is almost impossible to get an exact summary of the situation, although it is known that the Granite Mountain shaft is caved for some distance, due to the burning of timbers and effects of the big volume of water poured into it to stop the inroads of the flames.

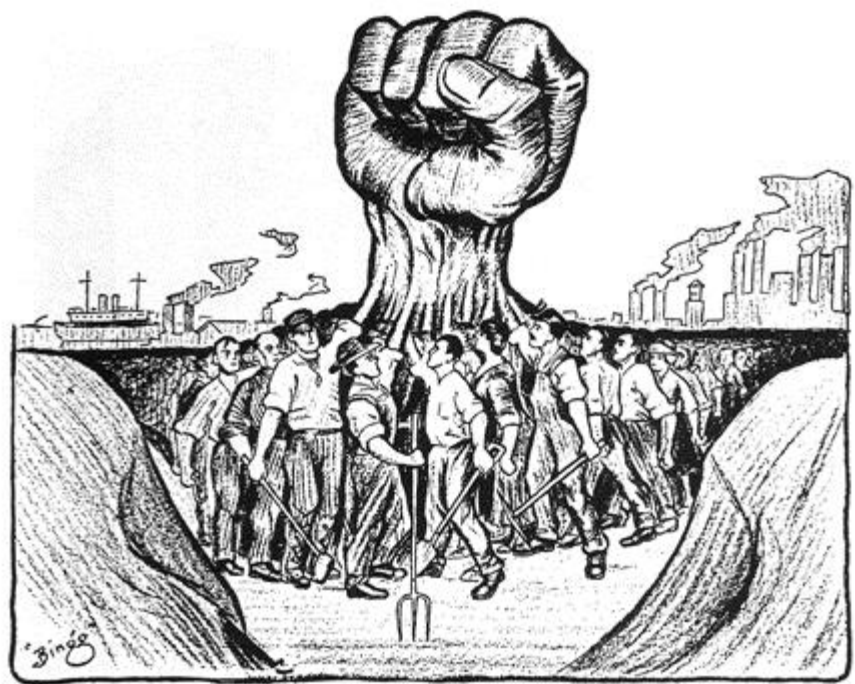
The rescue organization of the Butte city government, coupled with the federal government, is engaged in the desperate task of finding any of the men who

Speculator Mine, June 1917

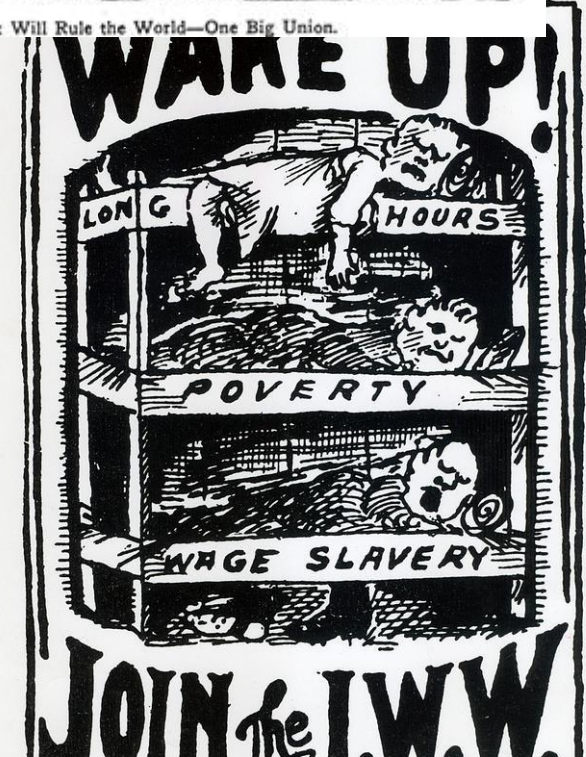


Enter the IWW





Solidarity, June 30, 1917. The Hand That Will Rule the World—One Big Union.



Subscribe for the
INDUSTRIAL WORKER

Foremost Exponent of Revolutionary
Industrial Unionism

Published in the English Language

One Dollar per Year
Three Months 25c

P. O. Box 2129 Spokane, Washington

CAPITALISM

WE RULE YOU

WE FOOL YOU

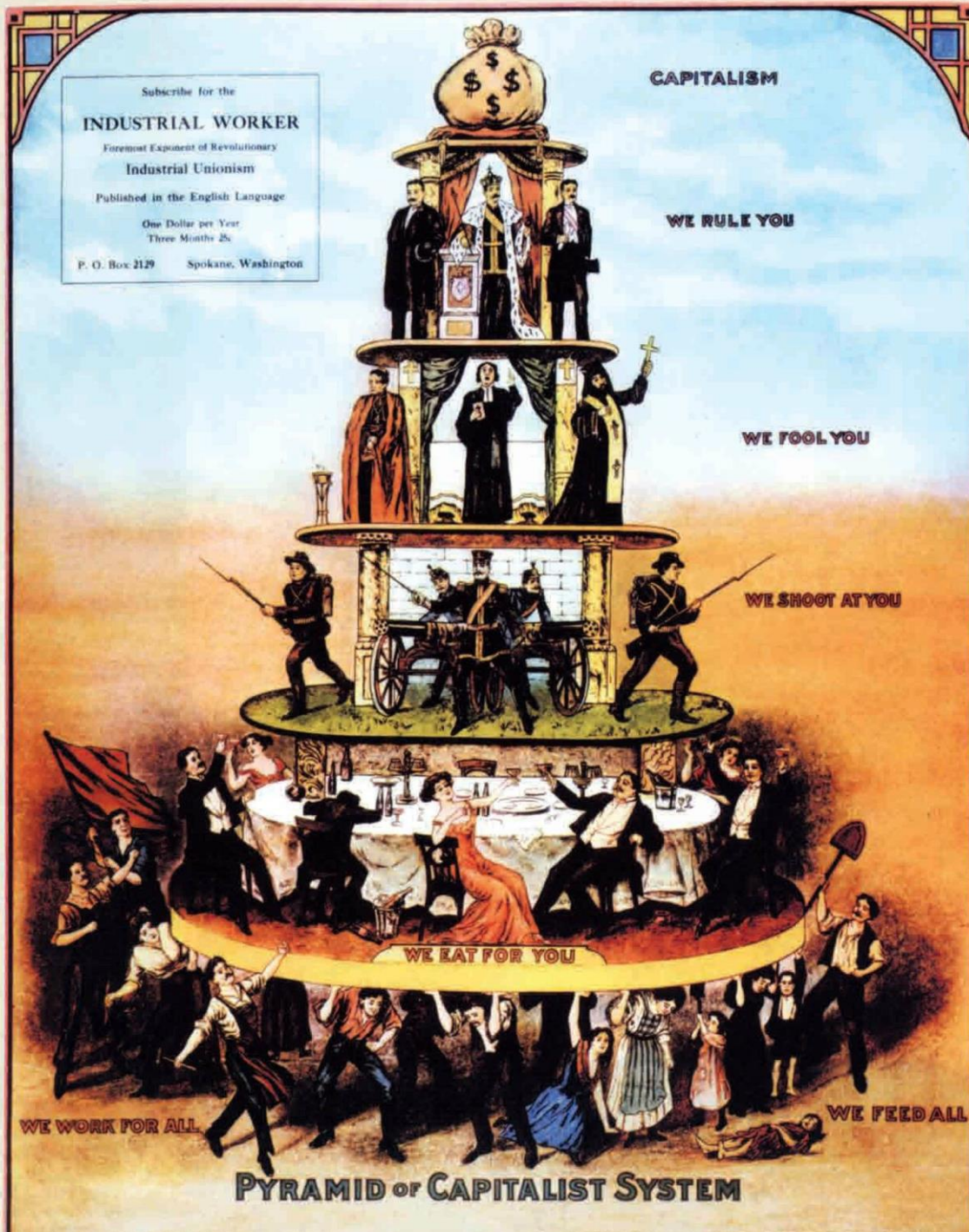
WE SHOOT AT YOU

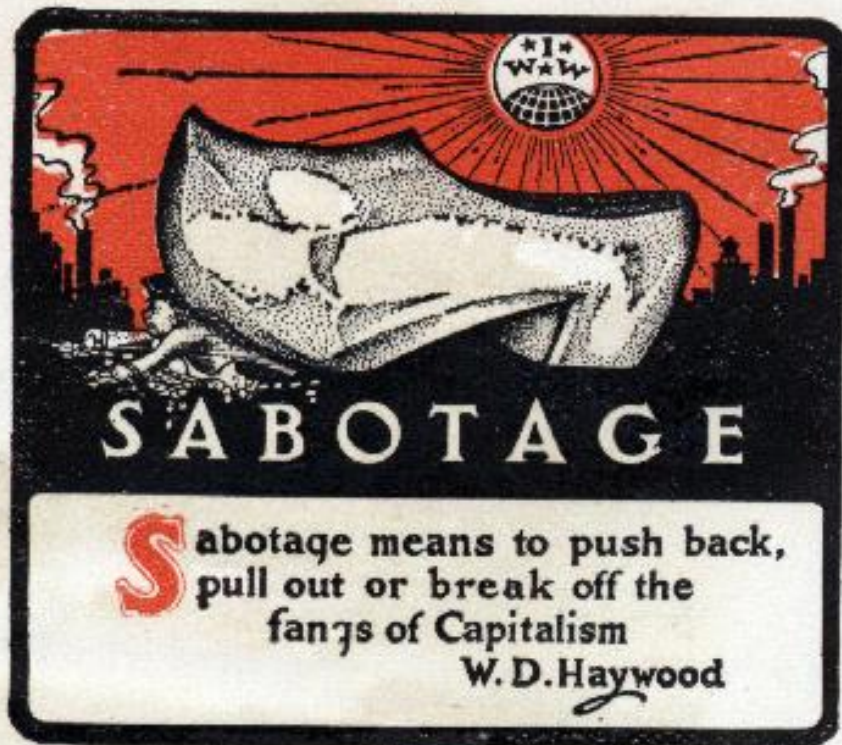
WE EAT FOR YOU

WE WORK FOR ALL

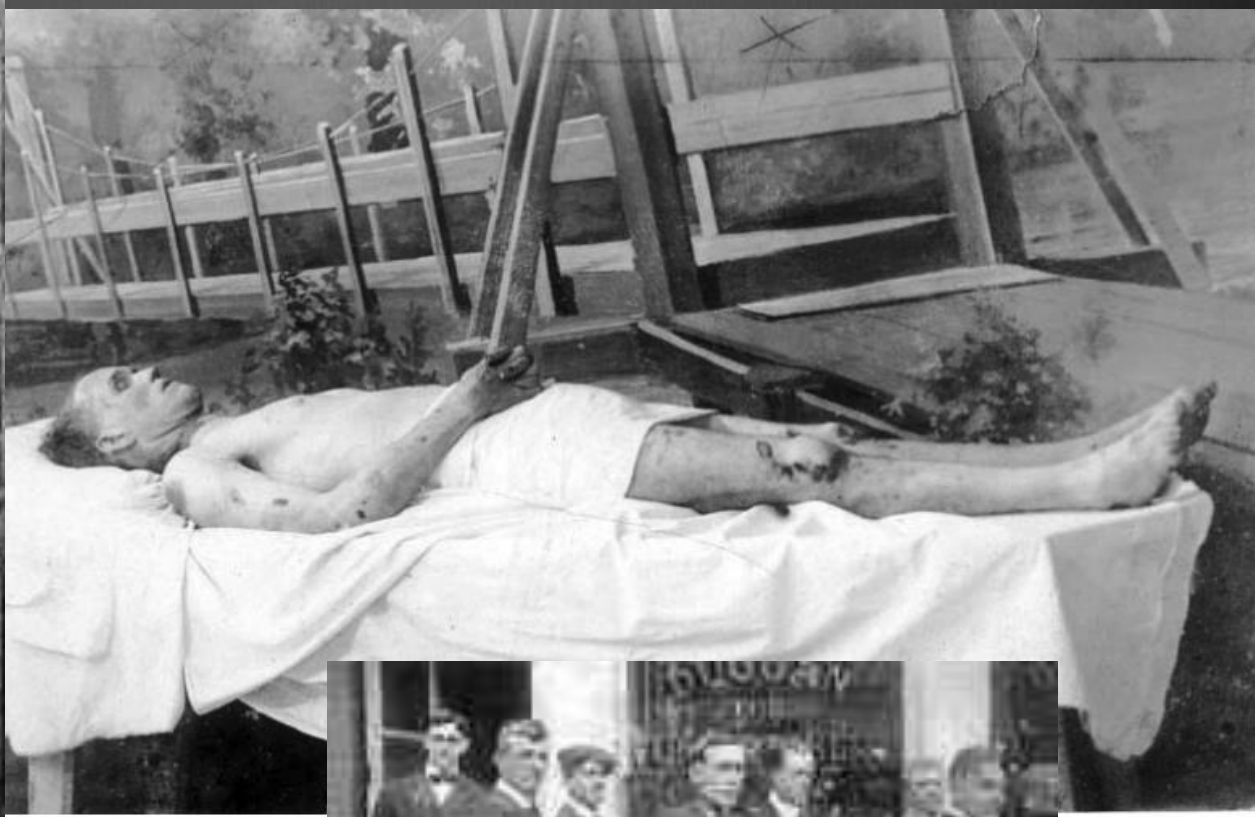
WE FEED ALL

PYRAMID of CAPITALIST SYSTEM





OTHERS TAKE
NOTICE!
FIRST AND LAST
WARNING!
3-7-77
D-C-S-S-W-T



- ❶ “Good work. Let them continue to hang every IWW in the state.”

Helena Independent



A Land of Strangers

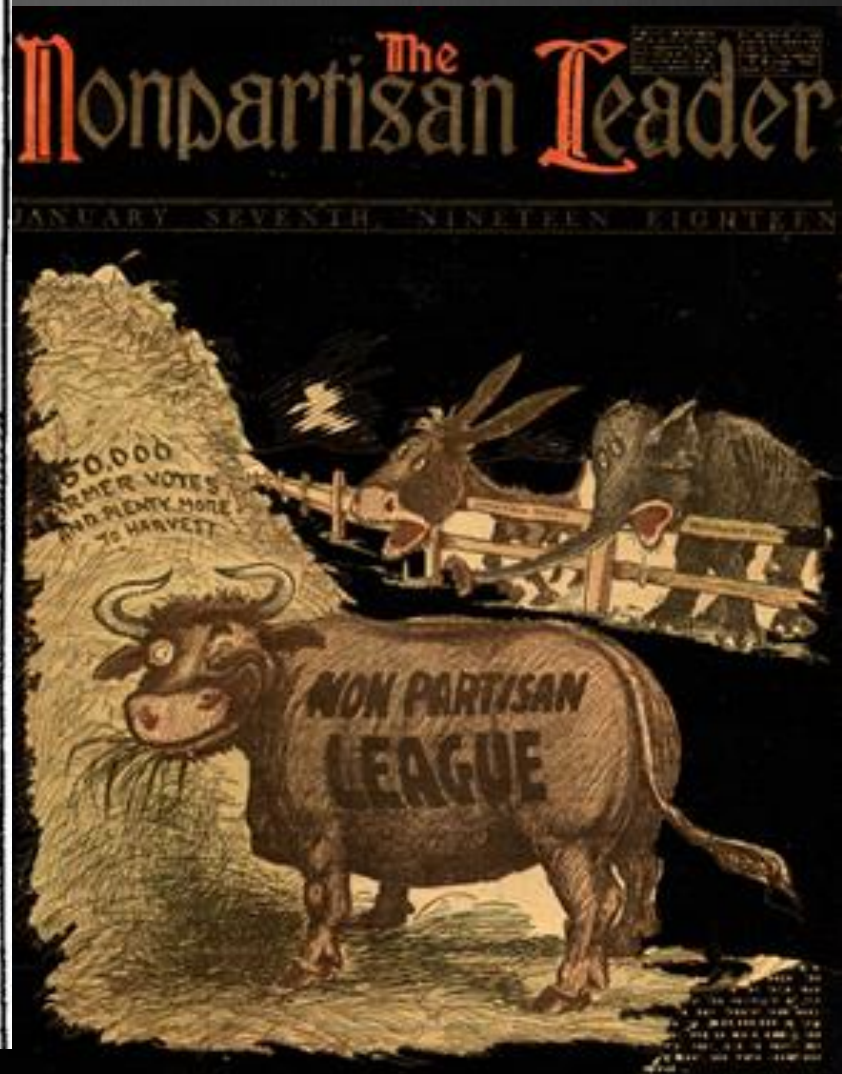




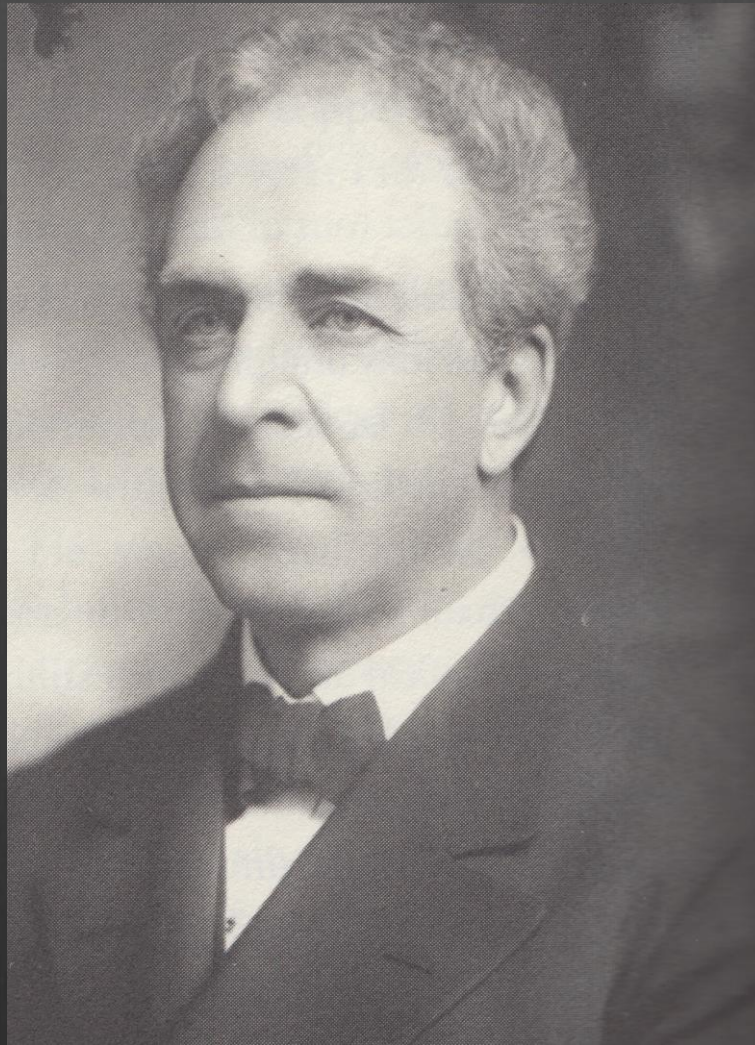


Nonpartisan League





Judge Bourquin and Ves Hall case, Fall, 1917



⊙ There will be satisfaction to the patriotic people of Montana that.., .in ... the coming session of the legislature there is promise of effective means for the punishment of loud-mouthed traitors. Legislation for that is... made necessary by a recent court decision of Judge Bourquin.

⊙ --Editorial, Great Falls Tribune

- ⦿ February 1918 Gov. Stewart calls special session. It passed criminal syndicalism act (aimed at outlawing the IWW).
- ⦿ Empowered the Montana Council of Defense as a fully constituted branch of state government (which in turn began the process of outlawing the use of German language in the state)
- ⦿ Unsuccessfully attempted to have the US remove Bourquin and US Attorney General Burton K. Wheeler.
- ⦿ Impeached and removed a state judge deemed too lenient on alleged “traitors”
- ⦿ And even passed a gun registration law
- ⦿ Most infamously, the sedition act

Montana's Sedition Act, 1918

- "Whenever the United States shall be engaged in war, any person or persons who shall utter, print, write or publish any disloyal, profane, violent, scurrilous, contemptuous, slurring or abusive language about the form of government of the United States, or the constitution of the United States, or the soldiers or sailors of the United States, or the flag of the United States, or the uniform of the army or navy of the United States or shall utter, print, write or publish any language calculated to incite or inflame resistance to any duly constituted Federal or State authority in connection with the prosecution of the War shall be guilty of sedition."

ALFRED WRIGHT, PRESIDENT
DAVID BICKLE, VICE-PRESIDENT
SAM UNDER, VICE-PRESIDENT

STATE BANK OF TERRY

*Wait
ally for*

CAPITAL STOCK
\$20,000.00



SURPLUS AND
UNDIVIDED PROFITS
\$50,000.00

W. A. BRUBAKER, CASHIER.
O. E. ANDERSON, ASST. CASHIER.
W. G. BARTLEY, ASST. CASHIER.

TERRY, MONTANA

March 30-1918

Mr Chas D. Greenfield, Secy.
State Defense Committee
Helena Montana
Dear Sir:-

The Town of Terry has an ordinance whereby it is necessary for any public speaker to obtain a permit before he can make any public speech in the limits of this town.

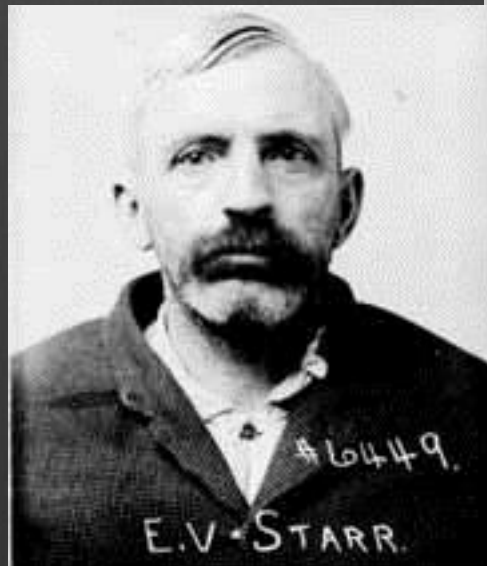
Last Saturday A?J. McGlynn, a non-partisan organizer appeared to speak before the farmers, upon presenting him with the necessary paper to sign, he only did so after striking out the part wherein in referred to the following (that he will say nothing that would create community strife or class hatred) he refused to agree to do this, as a result the Town Council declined to permit him to speak.

This party is again returning to speak on April third at a school house about six miles south of Terry. A great many of the citizens feel that a man who would not sign such an agreement should not be permitted to speak anywhere, as a member of the County Defense Committee I have been requested to take this matter up with the State Committee for their action and decision, it is claimed that such talks as are being made by these organizers have a tendency to cause a community to be divided and that a considerable harm is being done at a time when the whole people should stand as united, I am inclosing a photograph of the statement he signed and the portion he struck out, should you consider this a matter worthy of your attention, please advise me at once that we may have your answer before the date above mentioned.

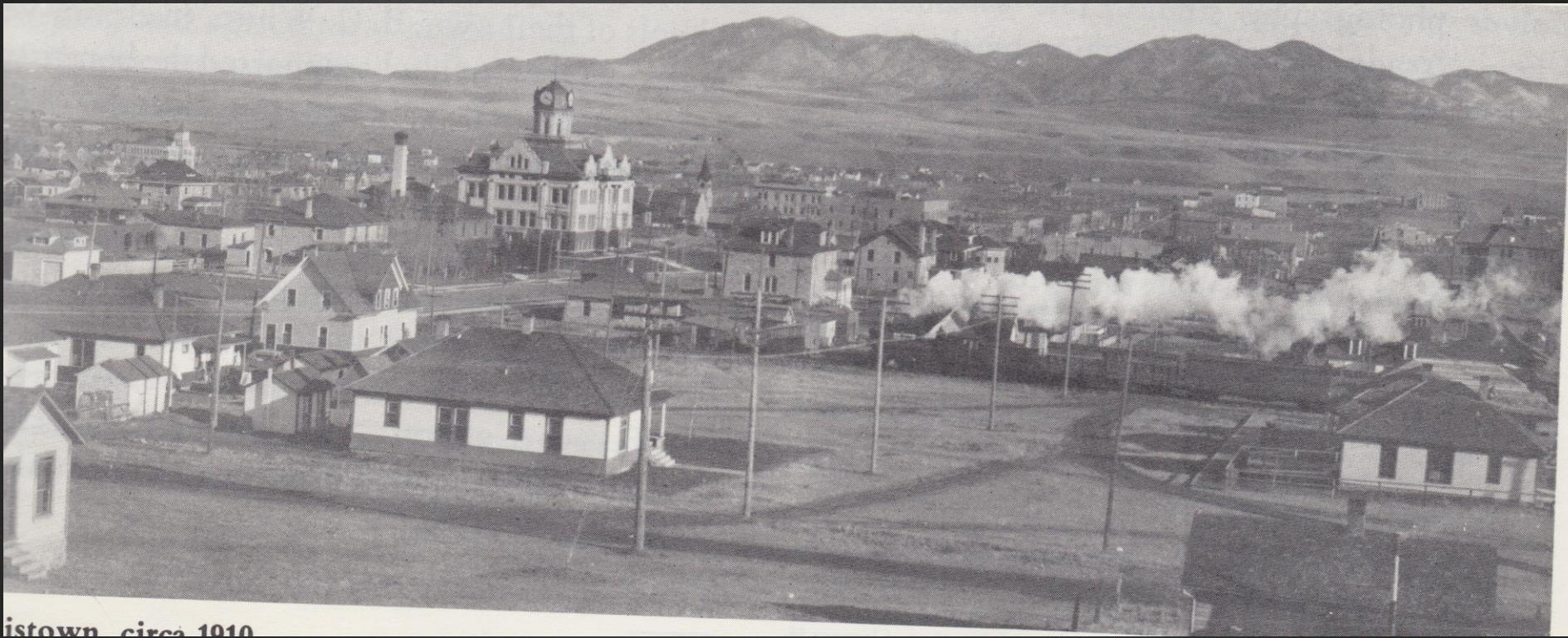
Yours Very Truly

Chairman County Defense Com

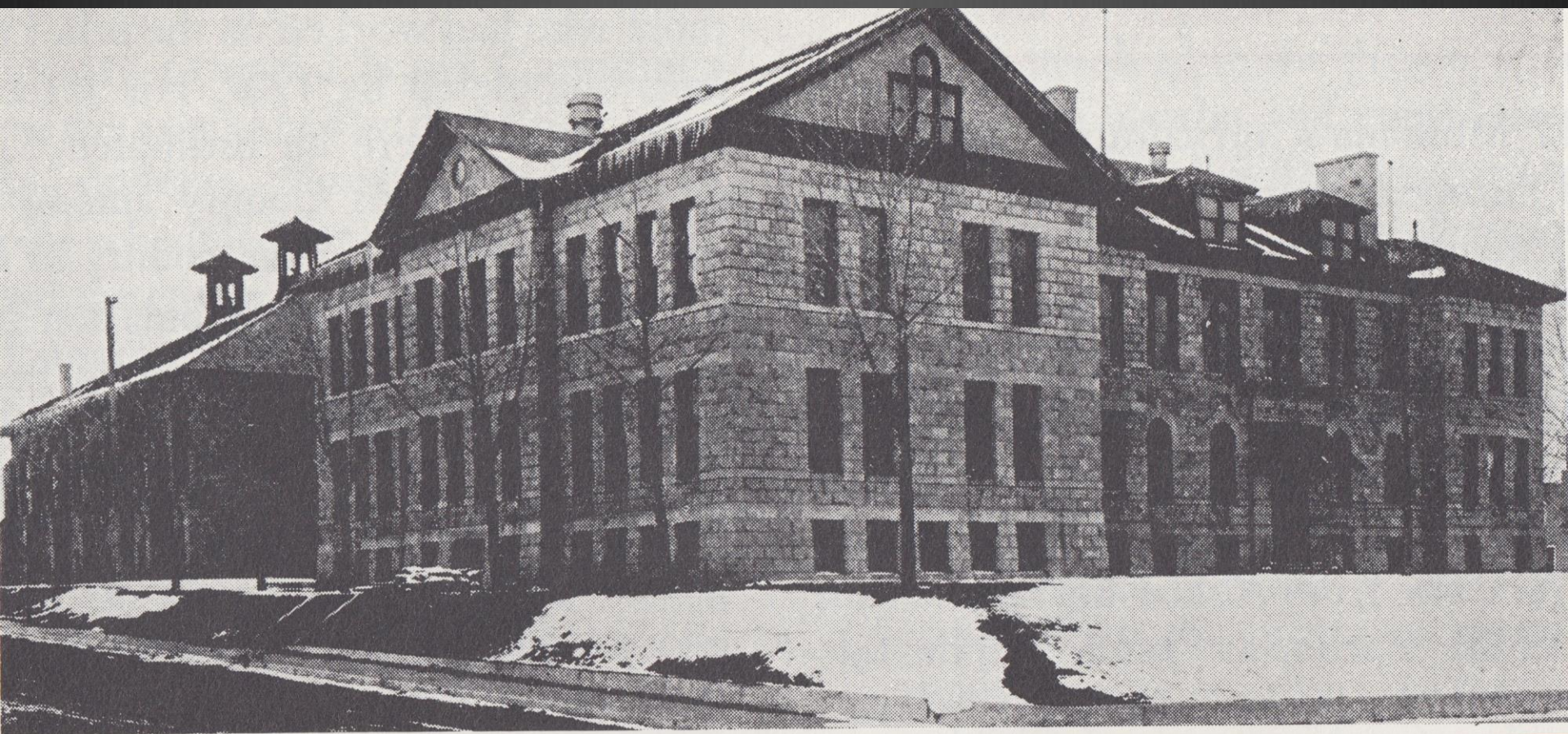
- ⊗ Then hysteria erupts. Dozens of German immigrant farmers or simply those on the margins of rural society, are targeted by the state and local councils of defense.
- ⊗ Ernest Starr, Bighorn County
- ⊗ Ben Kahn, Red Lodge
- ⊗ Herman Bausch, Billings



Lewistown, March 1918



Lewistown, circa 1910





Later in the year . . .

Louis Levine case, U of M

1116. University, Missoula, Mont.



THE TAXATION OF MINES IN MONTANA

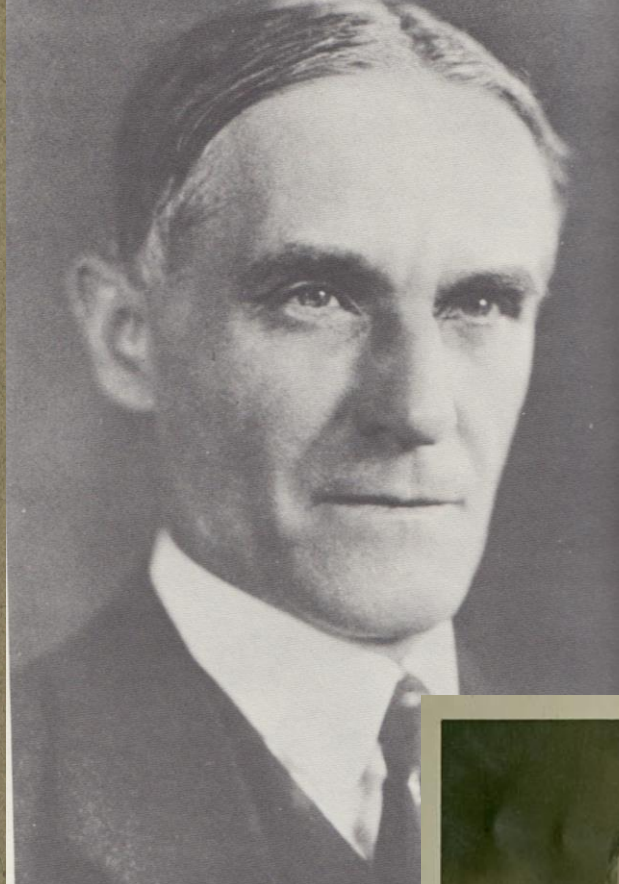
BY

LOUIS LEVINE, PH. D.

PROFESSOR OF ECONOMICS, STATE UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA
AUTHOR OF "THE LABOR MOVEMENT IN FRANCE," ETC.

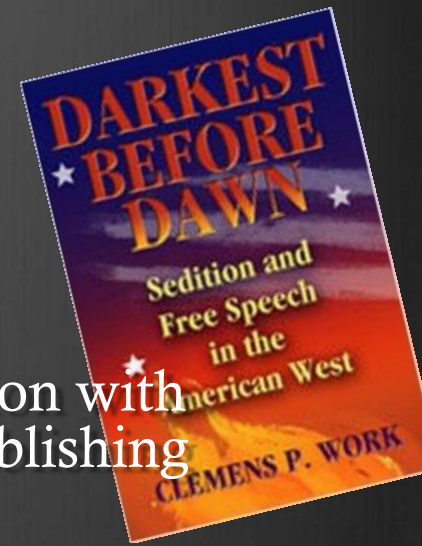


NEW YORK
B. W. HUEBSCH
MCMXIX



The Legacy

- ⦿ The IWW and the bargaining clout of other trade and craft unions were essentially rendered impotent.
- ⦿ The war year hysteria bled into a “Red Scare” in 1919 and 1920 as the nation was gripped with fear of “Bolshevism” now infiltrating the country. (Sacco and Vanzetti become the most notable victims). Known as the Palmer Raids.
- ⦿ Early 1920s, 20 states adopt teacher loyalty oaths.
- ⦿ KKK emerges as a highly visible nativist response to increased post-War immigration. Along with the American Legion it will successfully lobby text book publishing firms to “purify” civics and history textbooks.



- ❁ In 1924 the country essentially shuts down immigration with sweeping, restrictive anti-immigration legislation establishing immigration quotas based on 1890 census numbers.
- ❁ The excesses, however, of the 1920s, will provoke a potent peactime national backlash and a reconsideration of constitutionally guaranteed liberties.
- ❁ In Montana many of the convicted will be released in the early 1920s serving on average around 30 months.
- ❁ In 2005 and 2006 students in U of M journalism classes join with U of M law students to petition Governor Schweitzer to issue executive pardons to those convicted under Montana's sedition act.
- ❁ <http://www.seditionproject.net>