

Labor Day Declaration Of The Socialist Party

To our Members, Friends and Sympathizers: Our hearts beat like muffled drums at a requiem for the dead. The electric current that coursed through the bodies of two Italian workmen on August 23 not only killed them. It shocked the conscience of mankind all over the world.

workmen were doomed to death for a crime which we have every reason to believe they did not commit. Not since the sad medieval period of Europe has there been such a terrible example of innocent men being sacrificed to the fears of a ruling class.

working class in particular. Over the shoulders of these two martyrs a blow is struck at those who strive for a nobler and more equitable social order. We do not share the social philosophy of Sacco and Vanzetti, but we would be apostates to the ideals of freedom and prepare the road to death for others if we did not solemnly register our protest against the hideous mockery of "justice" that sent these two idealists to their death.

ization of its forces politically and in the trade unions to wrest power from those who use it against us. The martyrdom of Sacco and Vanzetti would be a hopeless sacrifice if the working people and all others who vision a better world did not re-dedicate their lives to social, economic and political emancipation.

To the Socialist and sympathizer who have been shocked by this judicial crime we also appeal. Your place is in the ranks of the Socialist Party. Never was a Socialist movement more needed in this country than now.

THE TWENTIETH CENTURY CRUSADE—YOUR PLACE IN IT

George R. Kirkpatrick (Socialist Author, Lecturer; former Secretary Socialist Party) You are a pretty good fellow—probably. At least I am quite willing to assume that you are just about all right.

Labor's Struggle for Supremacy

By Eugene Victor Debs politicians, legislators, judges, office-holders, professors, priests, editors, writers, "labor leaders" (?), soldiers, detectives, etc., etc., to fight their battles for them.

SACCO AND VANZETTI DIED FOR LACK OF LABOR PARTY

James Oneal (Editor, The New Leader, New York) Labor Day is by no means a day of rejoicing this year. The aftermath of grief following the execution of Sacco and Vanzetti leaves a pall over the labor movement of the United States.

Well, I will give you at least two reasons: First, you or your sons will sooner or later have to join an American Expeditionary Force to go abroad to protect these investments or to compel the payment of interest and dividends on them.

Such a change would be marvellously beneficial all around. The ill-capitalists and the brutal bosses would disappear; all would be useful workers, busy, busy, busy, fit houses to live in, plenty to eat and wear, and leisure and time enough to enjoy life.

Look at this tragedy as we may, this is the outstanding fact. Ruling classes and their political agents have profound respect for a working class that respects itself, that is independent, self-reliant, and that moves forward in the political field as an independent power, conscious of its claims and determined to weave them into statute law.

FORWARD MARCH OF LABOR

James H. Maurer (President, Pennsylvania Federation of Labor) There is a good deal of irony about the idea of Labor Day! One day of the year is given to those who do the world's work!

WORLD LABOR TELLS HOW WORKERS CAN AVERT WAR

Last week the representatives of thirteen million organized workers in 25 countries, members of the Socialist Trade Union International, met in Paris. The most important immediate issue it faced was the present world war danger.

Debs Radio Is Changed to WEVD

The Federal Radio Commission has granted a license to the Debs Memorial Radio Fund, 31 Union Square, for the operation of Station WSOB at Woodlawn, Long Island, whose call letters will be changed to WEVD.

THESE THINGS SHALL BE John Addington Symonds These things shall be! A loftier race Than e'er the world hath known shall rise, With flame of freedom in their soul And light of science in their eyes.

Socialist Party Is the World-Wide Labor Party

By William H. Henry (National Executive Secretary, Socialist Party)

Labor Day, 1927, finds the working class struggling to hold its advantages won in previous years...

Every suggested leader, so-called, for leading those parties is of the most conservative make-up...

country gives great hope for the strengthening of our forces on both fields. There should be a complete harmony and a friendly co-action...

own interests. The workers should realize that emancipation of their class cannot be brought about by blindly following their masters...

Every Socialist and every frightened member of the producing classes and all those in harmony with the aims and objects of the Socialist Party should be an active member...

for the 1928 election. We expect to have our election in every state on those that are tired of capitalist administration...

The Socialist Party is the only Party of workers in America that has any force worth mentioning...

Socialist Party News

Party Activity

Contributions and general support to the American Appeal must be taken up by our comrades with a vengeance...

Shall We Forget Oct. 20—Nov. 5?

The above dates are memorable ones to the Socialists of this nation and the world...

American Appeal Meetings

The Socialists of Detroit have arranged for a big get-together of Socialists on Friday...

Jewish Verband Has New Secretary

Comrade M. Blumin of Chicago, has been elected translator-secretary of the Jewish Socialist Verband...

Pogorelec Busy

Chas. Pogorelec, Secretary of the Jugo-Slav Federation, is on what was supposed to be a vacation...

Chicago Comrades to Honor Miss Lowrie

A farewell banquet will be given in honor of Miss Frances Lowrie by her comrades and co-workers...

New Jersey

Essex County Socialists to Picnic. Local Essex County, Socialist Party of New Jersey...

To The New Readers

The American Appeal is a hard fighting, hard hitting weekly paper devoted to the interests of labor and farmers...

Labor Day 1927 Sees Labor Party As Paramount Issue

By Norman Thomas (Prominent Socialist Writer and Speaker, Director, League for Industrial Democracy)

This is written on the day whose beginning saw the judicial murder of Sacco and Vanzetti...

Fuller Organization Needed

Faced with this dreadful failure of justice at home, with a growing imperialism abroad...

Political Action Imperative

We have to encourage us the heroic struggles of the past and the remarkable successes the workers have won...

Legal Murders Sow Dragons Teeth

It is almost impossible for me to write today as I am so depressed in heart and spirit...

Legal Murders Sow Dragons Teeth

own, graft, extort, profiteer, group and blunder, and accumulate productive property in every form...

Army Record

The following is the record of the Appeal Army for the week ending Aug. 27, 1927:

Sub-A-Month Pledges

Joseph C. Chamberlin, Stanford University, Calif. \$1.00

The Debt Fund

The following are the contributions received during the week to help wipe out the debt acquired during the summer while part of the Appeal Army took a vacation...

Walls and Bars Prize Winners

Another fine showing of Walls and Bars prize winners during the week. There are going to be hundreds throughout the country...

On Contributions

Alice Stone Blackwell, Chilmark, Mass. \$10.00

Socialism Will Abolish Poverty

Oil owners down in Oklahoma are having one awful time trying to prevent themselves from producing so much oil that it will wipe out their private profits...

Socialism Will Free the Worker

Under the present system most of the world's work is done by groups of men and women working together with machines in factories and other enterprises owned by others...

Socialism and Private Property

Socialism is the public ownership of the things connected with the production and distribution of wealth which are public in their nature...

THE NEW LEADER

A SOCIALIST WEEKLY 10 Pages Each Week

Worwarts

GERMAN SOCIALIST WEEKLY The only one in the Middle West

Subscribe Or Get Subscribers On This Blank

AMERICAN APPEAL, 2653 Washington Blvd., Chicago, Ill. RATES \$1.00 A YEAR; 50 cts. 6 MONTHS

Table with columns: NAME, Rural Route or Street Address, Box No., City, State, Amount Paid

BOOKS YOU SHOULD HAVE

Table listing books: Walls and Bars—Debs (Cloth), American Communism—Oncal (Cloth), What's So and What Isn't—Work (Cloth—revised), History of Imperialism—Tucker, Lincoln, Labor and Slavery—Schluter, Socialism Summed Up—Hillquit

DEBS' PICTURES

That you will be proud to own. In sizes suitable for homes, offices and halls, all beautifully finished—not cheap prints.

Labor Headed Toward Independent Political Action

By Nathan Fine

(Assistant Editor, American Labor Year Book)

Radicals believe that a labor party is on its way. They are convinced that economic and political conditions are at work in the United States which will result in the formation of an American Labor Party. Many are so discouraged that they will do nothing to hasten its coming and for all practical purposes have given up hope of ever seeing it in their life-time. The question arises: Will such a party appear on the American scene?

Independent Political Action and Trade Union Growth

Let us take a look at the history of the labor movement of this country. Under what circumstances did trade unions and the wage-ear-

ers resort to independent politics? Right after the civil war, when trade unionism flourished, the organized workers turned to the state for a universal eight-hour law for all the toilers, skilled and unskilled, those employed in private as well as public employments. The demand for an eight-hour day by legislation led to the formation of the National Labor Union which declared for independent political action. The railroad strikes and general labor revolt of 1877—the aftermath of the long economic depression which followed the panic of 1873—resulted in the organization of labor parties in the seventies. In 1888, while the unions employed direct action to secure the eight-hour day, they only needed a spark to enter the political field and show their great numerical strength. The Knights of Labor was at its zenith, and the unionism flourished. The labor saw the light of day at a convention which declared for independent labor politics. Then came the Socialist Labor

Party and the Socialist Party which slowly but very effectively were developing a mass labor party on international socialist lines. The periods of the greatest gains of the socialist parties in the United States coincided with those of the greatest growth and most marked militancy of the trade unions. The socialist trade unionist helped to give life to both the economic and political arms of the labor movement. But the war limited the influence of the socialist in the trade unions and the communist added his mite to lower the arm of the fighting progressive inside the labor movement. The conclusion from this brief resume is that an aggressive and growing trade union movement has always turned to independent political action, regardless of conservative leadership. In periods of prosperity and domestication the workers have either felt their power to take the offensive or have shown enough re-

luctance to strike back when on the defensive. Now, the difficulty about the present period is that the trade union movement is standing still. The economic arm is not doing much hard hitting. And the courts and the state are not likely to arouse the trade unions because the latter are not sufficiently aggressive or threatening. The company unions and the employment of cutting the ground out from under the labor organizations in the vital industries. There is a spotted prosperity which is giving the workers a higher standard of living than in Europe. When you add to the fact of a lethargic trade union movement, the activity of the employers, the relative prosperity, the difficulties of religion, language and race, as well as the political obstacles in the form of our state and national governmental structure, it is easy to understand why a labor party is slow in arriving.

Political Situation Electric With Possibilities

But change is of the order of the universe, and of the present economic system, particularly in dynamic America. Anything can happen. Let the workers in any important industry organize, or let the organizing efforts of the American Federation of Labor lead to unexpected fruition, or let there be a sudden change of control in one or several of the larger trade unions of the federation—none of which events is improbable—and a current of electricity would be set going which would begin to cut some of the fetters which Massachusetts injustices committed on Sacco and Vanzetti. Again, the political situation is full of possibilities over the religious issue, the farmers' revolt, disclosures of corruption, and individual "linchings." Whenever the next depression comes it cannot be far off because the United States has the short-

Party of Workers Certain

At no time was it easy to convert wage-earners to a consciousness of their political situation on the political field. But those of us who knew those who have refused to lower their economic and had faith in inde-

pendent political action went ahead and took advantage of every opportunity to sow the seed and reap the harvest. It is true that the United States is "sitting pretty at the top of the world." It is true that our task is hard. But I am convinced that the producing classes will soon turn to independent political action in the United States. As the United States advances on its imperialistic march, wealth is concentrated in the hands of the few—capitalist development leads in this direction—and deprives the producers of their share by lowering their standards; finally, as the courts—always the bulwark of property rights and human slavery—keep the electric chair innocent men like Sacco and Vanzetti, the seed is sown for an independent political movement. When the great mass movement toward independent political action comes, it will come in spite of the leashes of the imperialistic field. But those of us who knew those who have refused to lower their economic and had faith in inde-

AMERICAN LABOR DAY AT LAST GAINS POLITICAL SIGNIFICANCE

By Ernest Untermann

(Editorial Writer for The Milwaukee Leader)

Labor Day this year will assume some political significance, a thing which it is never supposed to have. There is a legend current to the effect that our old party labor politicians transferred our Labor Day from its original May date to September, because they wanted to disassociate the American Federation of Labor from the American Socialist Party. It may have never been able to verify this suspicion by any historical records, but it sounds reasonable enough to me. I don't know, either, whether my friend Heinrich Bartel is right. He claims that May Day was inconvenient for American labor, because it is national holiday day.

At any rate, Labor Day is supposed to be a holiday for the pure and simple. No politics in the union type of organized worker. The American Federation of Labor has lived up to this tradition throughout its Gompersian era.

But I doubt that the era of Green's administration will long follow the traditions of Gompers. Times change even for the leaders of the American Federation of Labor. The German influence among American labor has been strengthened of late by that of the British labor party, and our federation has been compelled to take note of international progress, to denounce imperialism, Communism, Fascism, to get in touch with the international organization of trade unions, and to form a Pan-American federation of labor. All these things have made inevitable havoc of the old nonpolitical attitude of the Federation of Labor.

The attempt to form a third party in the United States, although short-lived, has also left a deep impression, and it will be much easier from now on to break the remaining bonds between certain labor leaders and the old party flag. Besides, the leftovers of the Gompers dynasty can't live long.

The murder of Sacco and Vanzetti by the Massachusetts plutocracy inevitably hasten the entry of labor politics into the American Labor Day program. The whole international labor movement is convinced, that Sacco and Vanzetti were murdered, not because they committed the crime which they were charged, but because they were philosophical anarchists. The American plutocracy repeated its Haymarket crime in a different setting, only there was no Altgeld in the governor's seat to rescue victims of class hatred.

The Amsterdam trade union international, at its recent Paris congress, decided to boycott American goods, in order to express its contempt for the Massachusetts brand of class justice. The Canadian federation of labor will be direct tough with the American, and some of this international labor struggle toward the American plutocracy will inevitably creep into the Labor Day speeches this year.

The refusal of the federal department of justice to let the Sacco-Vanzetti defense inspect the federal files of this case has strengthened the suspicion that foreign politics, especially Mussolini's Fascism, had something to do with this tragedy, and that the charge of murder against these men was a convenient pretext to conceal the political motives of the prosecution.

The American Federation of Labor will be pushed into real labor politics in spite of its Gompersian tradition. American imperialism will take care of that. The results at home and abroad of the Sacco-Vanzetti murder will become a movement for our plutocracy and for the old style American labor leader as the murder of Matteotti for Mussolini.

Let Labor Prepare for the Coming Crisis in Industry

Harry W. Laidler

Workers in America have this year received a number of valuable lessons in the practical working out of capitalist economics. They have been taught through the terribly tragic Sacco-Vanzetti case and through numerous other court decisions the meaning of capitalist "justice," and the absolute necessity of selecting their own representatives in the working class to judicial, administrative and legislative positions, if the workers are to receive more than nominal justice at the hands of the law. Will the workers of America heed this oft-repeated lesson? American labor has been taught, through the outrageous policy of this country in its dealings with Nicaragua, Mexico and other Latin American countries, that there can be no guarantee against war under a system of machine production for profit. For such a system inevitably leads to the exploitation of weaker peoples, to continual pressure on the governmental machine to use every agency at its command, financial and military, to insure the safety of these investments and the continuance of super-profit therefrom, and, unless the strongest kind of people's protests are made—and often against those protests—to international warfare.

not knowing whether they will be needed next week, next month, next year or at all, in debt, restless, discouraged, embittered, aroused to desperate strikes against further reduction of wages and living standards, but drifting along without any constructive policy for the reorganization of the industry on a basis of a good American life for the worker and participation in the industry to which they have dedicated much of their lives. When will labor learn that although strikes are at times most necessary, something more fundamental than strikes are needed to settle the problem of the industry; that only through some plan of nationalization and democratic control will they and their families begin to live, begin to enjoy the life, liberty and happiness to which they are so richly entitled? And something of the same chaos and waste have been evidenced in the agricultural and textile industries which require, however, somewhat different constructive programs.

Will any of these lessons be grasped by the American workers? Here and there are signs of light. The aroused public interest in the Sacco-Vanzetti case is hopeful. The effective pressure of labor opinion against work that has Mexican and against joining hands with the Tories of England in the Chinese embargo; the decision of the A. F. of L. to start a drive for the unionization of the workers in the automobile industries, a new theory of wages enunciated by President Green and the proclamation for the five day week (if these are anything more than gestures); the recent acquisition of the WEVD radio station, and the growing fundamental literature which is reappearing in the country on economic subjects are straws that point to possible significant developments. However, these straws are few in comparison with the needs of the hour.

Shameful Industrial Waste

The last year and particularly the last few months have given another indication of the waste involved in capitalist production. The inability of solving the social problem without fundamental reconstruction. This lesson has been particularly vivid in the case of the bituminous coal industry. Here is an industry, shamefully overdeveloped; an industry which produces in excess of a billion tons of coal a year with the available labor force and mines already open, and a demand for but half that amount; tens of thousands of idle men at the mouth of the mine,

Gradual slackening in prosperity during the last few months should teach the workers that, despite the propaganda of the highly paid prophets of prosperity, the capitalist system has not solved the problem of industrial crises. The recent production of Colonel Ayres of the Cleveland Trust Company, of Professor Hancy of New York University and of others, that what the well paid masculine period of industrial depression, with the increasing lack of demand for available capital, of the growing sales resistance of customers, and of the increasing difficulty of finding jobs, are all indications of the coming depression of the agricultural and national industries. And so to say no more provision has been made for meeting this period of unemployment than in any of the previous periods.

Work, Prepare, Now

In the meanwhile those who see the vision of a time when the workers will enter into the heritage that should be theirs, when industry will be run with the primary and direct aim of human welfare rather than private profit, should work unceasingly in whatever way their capacities dictate for the organization of workers by hand and brain on the political and industrial fields.

Immediately they should do their part to wage, through the Socialist Party and similar agencies, an educational and political campaign, with all the intelligence, all the constructive ability, all of the aggressiveness and enthusiasm that is at their command, with the realization that the same forces that have created a powerful political working class movement in whatever way are at work in America, and that every sane piece of educational and organizational work at the present time will count mightily in the years to come.

GOVERNOR FULLER WAS IN DOUBT

Jacob Panken

(Judge, Municipal Court, New York City; former Socialist candidate for Governor)

It is very difficult for me to take my mind off the Sacco and Vanzetti tragedy. Much has been written about it. More has been said about it. Yet, all has not been told. It was my duty to appear before Governor Fuller with a committee of trade unionists, to ask that clemency be extended to these two men.

Carried away from the Executive Chamber the impression, ay, more than that, the feeling that Governor Fuller though he intimated very definitely that there would be no commutation reprieve or any clemency, was doubtful of the guilt of these two martyrs. The Governor doubted their guilt. That is my opinion. He was bitter against them. As I look back upon this tragedy, my conviction that two innocent men were burned to death is stronger than ever. Vanzetti was never in Bridgewater on the 24th of December, 1919. He was on the streets of Plymouth selling cels to his Italian countrymen. Sacco was not in South Braintree on the day of the hold-up. He was in the Italian Consulate asking for a visa to go to Italy. Innocent men, both. Innocent men, burned to death. Murder was committed by the State of Massachusetts.

Judges in Massachusetts are appointed. They are not responsible to the public. They are creature of political parties.

Thayer was appointed by Governor McCall. McCall is no longer Governor. He may be dead. I do not know. Yet Thayer, who is beholden to McCall for the position he holds, is still the arbiter of the liberties and lives of man in Massachusetts. The tragedy of it all. A judge, whose qualifications to preside in a trial is attacked, sits in judgment upon his own qualifications. It is asking of a man to convict himself as being prejudiced, biased and partial. I have had occasion to write into the law of New York that no Judge should pass upon the objection to his qualifications, that it is a matter that must be passed upon by another judge.

To ask a judge to pass upon the question as to whether he is impartial or not, is to make him the sole judge of his impartiality.

Judges, Federal, State or County, judges in general, who deal with the liberties and lives and the properties of our people, should be elected by the people. The right to recall should be preserved, so that our judges should at all times be responsible to the people, responsive to the constant social changes.

It is true that the law is the will of the public, but the will of the public changes and the law should change with it. Judges interpret the law which is the will of the public; when the will of the public changes and the law changes with it, and judges do not respond to that change, a recall should be invoked.

The means to prevent a recurrence of the Sacco and Vanzetti tragedy is that the people elect judges who will be responsible to them.

AMERICAN LABOR DAY AND LABOR'S PRESENT PROBLEM

By Emil Herman

(National Socialist Party Organizer)

Labor Day in the United States is a legal holiday. It is purely American and distinctly nationalistic and is distinguished from the international Labor Day which is celebrated by the class-conscious workers of every nation on May 1st, in that it is celebrated in the United States only.

The essential difference between International Labor Day and our September Labor Day is that the former is celebrated by workers who recognize the revolutionary mission of the Labor Movement and who are committed to the abolition of the wage system, while the latter is celebrated largely by workers whose aim reaches no higher than "a fair day's pay for a fair-day's work."

Notwithstanding its lack of revolutionary purpose and its disregard of Labor's historic mission Labor Day affords us the opportunity to take stock of the status of labor organization, our achievement and our reverses.

During 1927 our achievements have been negligible and our reverses have been staggering.

The achievement has been here and there a slight increase in the pay envelope and, with difficulty, preventing an increase in the work day and the work week.

Our reverses have been: the legal assassination of Sacco and Vanzetti by the state of Mass. in the face of and in spite of the conviction of millions of people of the world over that they were not guilty of the crimes with which they were charged; the continued imprisonment of Mooney and Billings, after having already served eleven years of a life sentence, on a charge of which they have been proven innocent; and our inability to get release for eight of our fellow workers who are serving sentences of twenty-five to forty years, on conviction of second degree murder for defending their lives and property against assault by American Legionnaires on parade in Cantralia, Wash., on Armistice Day in 1919, and practically no increase in the strength of our union and political organizations.

This state of our affairs is almost, if not entirely, due to the lack of united effort for a common purpose of those who are organized and to the indifference and stupidity of those who are not.

life) of the Farmer-Labor Party. The moral to this article is that we have a situation facing us which compels serious thought and immediate attention. Not any one of our labor unions and political organizations of labor is faithful and none of them do all together wrong.

Thus far, disunion, strife, selfish interest, intolerance, prejudice and desire to control has kept the leaders of labor divided, and through them the rank and file of labor—and has kept millions of intelligent workers blind from all organizations of labor in the United States only.

The immediate problem before us is the task of getting unity in the Labor Movement. If the labor unions now existing can not get into one federation let them at least quit fighting each other and turn to the task of recruiting new members. Particular organizations—there are ten times as many non-union workers as there are union workers and this situation needs to be reversed. Let us turn our thoughts to this task instead of thinking of our differences.

On the political field we have the same problem before us as on the industrial field—too many parties claiming to represent labor and not one of them functioning efficiently. Here too we have a task to perform. Out of the discord and division now prevailing we must get a united party. What are the leaders of the existing parties of labor quit fighting among themselves for advantage and leadership and subordinate the desire to dominate to one of achievement for the common good of labor. WE WILL HAVE ONE POLITICAL PARTY of labor, and it will grow by leaps and bounds.

Once having attained to a considerable measure of industrial and political solidarity we will not need to submit to the imprisonment and murder of innocent fellow-workers who run counter to the scheme of the exploiters of labor.

Knowledge is power. Power intelligently applied will bring industrial freedom.

Therefore let us develop knowledge that we may grow in power. Let this power express itself in the industrial and political solidarity of labor to the end that the co-operative commonwealth of labor with justice and prosperity for all may soon be realized.

On the industrial field we have a bare 3,000,000 organized workers where there should be 30,000,000; and these separated in the American Federation of Labor, The Knights of Labor, The Industrial Workers of the World, The Workers' (Communist) Party, The Proletarian Party and a half dozen other independent unions.

On the political field—where, if labor should unite for the intelligent use of the ballot—we stand DIVIDED in the Socialist Party, the Socialist Labor Party, the Workers' (Communist) Party, The Proletarian Party and scattered groups (gasping for

the same interest in the happiness of humanity upon which depends the happiness of herself and of her family?

Can there not be aroused in her the same interest in the happiness of humanity upon which depends the happiness of herself and of her family?

There already exist organizations through which women can function, the Ladies' Auxiliaries. There is no reason why they should not be made the agency by which an educational

THE DEADLY PARALLEL—LAST WAR AND THE NEXT

The Last War By Victor L. Berger (Socialist Congressman from Milwaukee)

According to the best statistics available the World War cost 20,000,000 lives and in property \$100,000,000,000.

In order to give some idea of what this means, just let me illustrate in the following way:

With this amount we could have built a house worth \$2,500 and furnished this house with \$1,000 worth of furniture and placed it on 5 acres of land worth \$100 an acre, and gave all this to each and every family in the United States of America, Canada, Australia, England, Wales, Ireland, Scotland, France, Belgium, Germany and Russia.

After doing this there would be enough money left to give each of 200,000 inhabitants and a \$500,000 library, a \$500,000 hospital, and a \$10,000,000 university.

And then out of the balance we could still have sufficient money to set aside a sum at 5 per cent interest which could pay for all time to come a \$1,000 yearly salary for each of an army of 125,000 teachers, and in addition to this, to pay the same salary to an army of 125,000 nurses.

And after having done all of this, we could have enough left out of the four hundred billion dollars that France and Belgium had everything of value that France and Belgium possessed; that every French and Belgian farm, home, factory, church, railroad street car—in fact everything of value in those countries.

Women's Important Place In the Labor Movement

By Fannia M. Cohn

(Secretary, Educational Department, International Ladies Garment Workers)

There is no doubt that women can be convinced of the importance of the labor movement. They can be made to see how the ultimate ideals of the movement may be brought nearer day by day by advances that bring them immediate advantages. Women are always ready to give their support to any cause which they understand and of which they approve. And their support is made effective by their practical nature and endurance, which all acknowledge that they possess.

In their task of bringing up children, women have acquired infinite patience and willingness to do the most arduous job of homemaker has also developed in them a profound practicality, a realistic approach to all the problems facing them; for the slightest mistake might be fatal to those who are dearest to them—their children, husbands and themselves.

Women's Influence Upon the Child

The education of wives of workers has another very significant reason to recommend it, and that is the potent influence upon children which women possess. A study of the lives of many of the world's great men reveals the fact that almost all of them were inspired by their mothers. Most of them ascribe their achievements to this maternal influence.

As workers, we want our children to understand the problems, purpose and aims of the labor movement to which their parents belong. We want them to know of the trials and tribulations, the victories, defeats, joys and despairs which their parents experienced in the process of building up their unions and the supreme sacrifice many of them made for the cause of the workers. Who can bring these things to the child's consciousness better than the mother?

We must realize that a better future for humanity, of which we speak, cannot be achieved in the future without the assistance of women. Our hopes for success in the great task we have undertaken will be much greater, if the mothers are intelligently informed enough to carry it on.

share their experiences with them and keep them fully informed about the affairs of the organization. So informed, women will be willing to place at the disposal of the labor movement their talents, their brains, their common sense and influence, to help their husbands in the struggles of the movement.

But what has been done to keep these wives of trade unionists enlightened on these subjects? No matter what a trade unionist, about the writers on the woman question may say, those of us who know women do not doubt for a moment that they can respond to ideals and be ready to make sacrifices for the cause. But how can we enlighten the housewife, the wife of a trade unionist, about the labor movement with a view of arousing her enthusiasm for it? Women are never accused of lack of curiosity. That faculty might be utilized in the most constructive manner. But where shall we secure the teacher?

Does the husband willingly share his trade union experiences with his wife? Very seldom. How many times have we heard a wife trying to get information from her husband about his union activities and the problems he has to solve, only to be told—sometimes good-naturedly, often impatiently—"Oh, I'm always busy with trade union problems. I don't want to take them into my home. I want to forget them for a while. Let's talk about something else."

This is quite natural—all of us want our minds turned away from our daily problems. But the good husband does not realize that while he, occupied with trade union problems most of the time, wants to forget them for awhile when at home, his wife, is just as keen to learn of these problems of which she is left ignorant. Among other things she instinctively feels that it would bring her closer to him.

What is to be done? Here is a problem. Is there no way of enlightening the women on the trade union movement without waiting for their husband to do the teaching? We know from experience that husbands and wives will gladly discuss subjects on which they are both equally informed, and they will accept each other's advice. But each is reluctant to teach the other.

Combine Education and Good Fellowship

There already exist organizations through which women can function, the Ladies' Auxiliaries. There is no reason why they should not be made the agency by which an educational

Marshall Foch is a militarist. He tries to avoid making the picture clear. He admits enough, however, to make it clear that none NOT EVEN CHILDREN—will be spared in the next World War, and that it will be fought with vastly more dreadful engines of destruction than the last World War.

PREVENTING THE NEXT WORLD WAR and thereby SAVING CIVILIZATION is the major issue confronting LABOR ALONE HAS THE NUMBER AND POWER TO DO THIS. The safest and surest way for Labor to do this is to organize politically and win control of government. If the leading governments of the world were labor governments, not only would there be NO NEXT WAR, but the PRESENT SYSTEM, WHICH CAUSES WAR, WOULD BE ABOLISHED and a warless, cooperative system would cover the world.

The greatest single danger in the world today is the nonexistence of a great national Labor Party in the United States. Get busy; boost for one with all your might.

Must Be Treated as Equals

But if the labor movement is to win the fullhearted cooperation and support of the wives of its members, these women must be treated as equals. They must be taken into the confidence of the men and inspired to realize their own importance as a social force. The men must frankly

the same interest in the happiness of humanity upon which depends the happiness of herself and of her family?

Can there not be aroused in her the same interest in the happiness of humanity upon which depends the happiness of herself and of her family?

There already exist organizations through which women can function, the Ladies' Auxiliaries. There is no reason why they should not be made the agency by which an educational

Twelve Years of Labor Rule in Queensland

Remarkable Record of Labor and Socialist Achievement in Australian State

Editor's Note

In the following article is an effective answer to questions often asked of Socialists by non-Socialists: What would you do if you were elected to office? What measures would you institute to benefit the people? How would the people be benefited by them? How would you avoid government bureaucracy, centralization, corruption? How would you meet the attack of the great private owners of industry? How would you change the present capitalist system into a Socialist system?

Queensland, Australia, has had a straight labor government without a break for 12 years. The Labor Party that has controlled has been a party frankly avowing Socialist principles and frankly declaring its purpose to turn Queensland into a Socialist Republic, Labor Democracy, or Cooperative Commonwealth (which all mean the same thing) as quickly as circumstances would permit. QUEENSLAND LABOR GOVERNMENT HAS ACTUALLY CARRIED OUT THIS PROGRAM AS FAR AS POSSIBLE TO DATE TO THE BEST OF ITS ABILITY. Its work and achievements represent a fair impression of SOCIALIST METHODS OF CHANGING THE SYSTEM. These methods are methods of PEACEFUL EVOLUTION AND CHANGE BY LEGISLATIVE PROCESSES. They demonstrate in a striking manner that SOCIALIST METHODS WILL WORK where the workers have the intelligence and courage to vote them

self into power and take over the government. WHAT HAS HAPPENED IN QUEENSLAND CAN HAPPEN ANYWHERE THAT THE WORKERS IN INDUSTRY AND ON THE FARMS FORM A CLEAR MAJORITY, UNITE, AND GAIN POLITICAL CONTROL OF THE GOVERNMENT.

Read this article and see if you don't like what has happened in Queensland, and don't think it is worth striving for in the United States with its vastly greater productive power.

The article is from a truthful and responsible publication, The Nation, New York, and was written by Mauritz A. Hallgren.

Mauritz A. Hallgren

(From The Nation, New York)

Whatever overwhelming disaster they may hold in store for the people of the United States, public ownership and control of the means of production, more than ordinarily successful in bringing prosperity, equality and general happiness to the people of the state of Queensland, Australia. Never before has individual property, as opposed to class property, been so widespread; never before have wages been so high; never before have wages so far outdistanced the cost of living; never before have the people of this Australian state participated to such a great extent in the affairs of their government.

It was just 12 years ago that Queensland, after many years of conservative, if not reactionary, rule by the Nationalist (Tory) party, turned

to the left by accepting a Labor government with its untested schemes for state ownership and control of public utilities and essential industries and its program of price and wage fixing. The Labor people frankly admitted that their platform was based almost wholly on theoretical principles. The Tories, on the other hand, were almost frantic in predicting that dire calamity would befall Queensland if it accepted Labor rule, that the wheels of industry would cease to revolve, that grass would grow over the streets, and that Queensland would become a deserted state. Yet Queensland chose Labor, and so successful has that party's program been that Labor has been retained in power ever since, while the people's ownership and price-fixing have emerged from the experimental stage and now appear to be permanently established.

These more or less socialistic principles, according to John Valentine, member of the Queensland parliament, who recently came to the United States on an industrial survey mission, have been productive of none of the disaster and calamity so gloomily pictured by the Tories. Indeed, quite to the contrary, they have created a bank savings boom, bank investments, dairying production, agricultural production, the output of industry, total wealth, individual income and population; they have given Queensland an increasing rate of population growth, and have created an unprecedented building boom; they have reduced unemployment as well as the number of bankruptcies.

Vast Public Ownership

Profiting, exploitation of the people for the benefit of a limited class, as well as combinations in restraint of trade, have been the principal targets of the Labor government. Mr. Valentine has stated: "Wherever these have been found the state has stepped in, either by setting up competing organizations within the industries or by taking over the industries themselves. Following this program the state now operates railways, the water system, the educational system, governmental fire, accident, life and workers' compensation insurance, produce agencies, cattle and sheep stations, coal mines, sawmills, canneries, railroad station refreshment rooms, sugar mills, a hotel, six sugar processing districts, fisheries and retail fish markets, butcher shops, wireless broadcasting stations, and is engaged in numerous other, though minor, activities. The state also operates a public curator's office, where citizens may receive free legal advice, has taken over the large papers of importance drawn up by their estates managed, and provided with counsel when charged with criminal offenses."

Doubles Total Wealth

Under this program the total wealth in the state increased from £38,312,000 in 1914 to £66,915,000 in 1924, the last year for which authentic figures are available, or more than 75 per cent. In the same period general bank deposits climbed 70 per cent, savings bank deposits almost 90 per cent. Savings bank deposits for the last 10 years of Tory rule totaled

£66,915,000 and for the first 10 years of Labor rule £179,802,000. At the same time the number of savings bank depositors grew from 229,000 in 1914 to 397,000 in 1925, so that now virtually half of Queensland's 580,000 of population have savings accounts.

The value of the principal crops jumped more than 250 per cent, being £5,073,000 in 1914 and £13,952,000 in 1924. Dairy products doubled in value and the income of the wool growers increased two and a half times. At the same time the capital value of farm lands increased from £44,382,000 to £51,858,000. Other industries were by no means neglected in the distribution of this prosperity. Their output was measured at £25,491,000, 12 years ago, and at £38,807,000 in 1924. The value of the capital invested in machinery, building and land and the salaries and wages paid to workers were also increased while the value of the output per employee jumped from £59 to £65.5. Meanwhile unemployment in all classes of industry fell off from 17.7 per cent of the available labor in 1914 to 6.55 per cent in 1925. These figures appear more remarkable when it is noted that there is a constant stream of unemployed workers pouring into Queensland from neighboring and less favored states.

Doubles Living Standards

But the brightest spot in the entire situation is the improvement in the condition of the workers. A living wage is virtually guaranteed under the industrial arbitration act,

which is administered in conjunction with the office of the price fixing commissioner. First, the price fixing commissioner, being empowered to examine into all costs of production, sets the maximum prices at which all foods, some staples, and some articles of clothing may be sold in various sections of the state. Very strict penalties attend violations of his rulings. With this data at hand, the administrators of the industrial arbitration act are able to determine the monetary requirements of the workers and fix wages accordingly. Not only has unemployment been cut down in Queensland, but under this system wages for men have been increased in the last 12 years from 53 shillings to 99, and wages for women from 27 to 52. The hours of labor have also been reduced under this law so that now the men average 48.5 hours weekly and the women 44 hours. But more important, perhaps, has been the elimination or reduction of lost time through the peaceful settlement of labor disputes under the industrial arbitration act. In Queensland, for example, only 48,871 hours were lost in the six years from 1920 to 1925 as opposed to 1,225,262 days in Victoria and 3,558,423 in New South Wales.

Great Educational Advance

The working people have benefited in other ways under the Labor government. In the last year, £1,652,000 was expended on public school education, while in the first decade under Labor rule the schools received £11,740,000. The number of scholarships in the

higher institutions available for the children of the workers has increased from 1,426 in 1914 to 11,320 today. The state also provides textbooks and £1 annually for incidental expenses of each child whose family has an average income. These families likewise purchase state-built homes, by paying a 5 per cent deposit on the building cost. They are allowed 25 per cent off the balance. Moreover, state retail shops have enabled ordinary people to buy fish, meat and produce at reduced prices, it being estimated that the state butchers alone have saved the people £2,500,000 in the last 10 years.

How Corruption is Prevented

The Labor leaders, Davey Bowyer, T. J. Ryan, E. J. Theodore and Premier McCormick, have toiled hard and to keep their party free from corruption so that it may continue to devote itself to the interests of the people who have elected and are keeping it in power. All Labor party candidates are carefully investigated, not only as to their party fealty, but also as to their personal character and technical fitness for office, and those found wanting are rejected. The Labor government has sought political reforms which would preserve for the people the right to control their government, the most prominent reform in this direction being the abolition of the upper house of parliament, which rule by the Tories since 1917, when the existence of a ruling class was recognized. Now that equality has been established, only one legislative body is needed.

Why Farmers Must Unite With Labor to Save Farms and Cities

One of the major political developments in America is the steady loss of political prestige by the farmers to the industrial and financial owners since the end of the Civil War. Beginning at the birth of our republic as the overwhelming majority and dominant political power, the farmers have become practically zero as a political force in the control of the government. With their decline in political influence has come their decline in relative numbers, wealth and economic power. They have only a small proportion of the national wealth now, a still smaller proportion of the nation's annual income, and what property and income they have is declining and is held largely at the mercy of the industrial and financial owners.

If they will unite politically they can control the government and establish a condition that is just to everybody. They alone can break the stranglehold of the financial and industrial oligarchy on the nation and establish true democratic industrial and political control in this country.

How the farmers' power is declining and the industrial and commercial centers are being built up to an abnormal extent; to the detriment and ruin of the farms is told by W. S. Deffenbaugh of the United States Bureau of Education in his recent study of movements in city school systems. He shows how concentrated wealth and crime threaten the cities. Only the farmers and city workers can save the farms and cities from the corrupt and oppressive American plutocracy.

More than one-quarter of the nation's population live in 65 cities of more than 100,000 population, and within half a century the country has become almost entirely urban, but predominantly urban, Mr. Deffenbaugh said.

In 1890 only 29.5 per cent of the total population lived in cities, but in 1920 the urban population had increased to 51.8 per cent of the total population. From 1880 to 1920 the urban population increased 267 per cent and the rural population only 45 per cent.

"In 1880 there were 1,039 cities of 2,500 or more population, while in 1920 there were 2,787 cities of this size. Sixty-eight cities had a population of 100,000 or more, and 25 per cent of the total population was living in them, or almost as large a proportion as in all cities in 1880."

"The rural population has almost disappeared in several States. In Massachusetts 94.8 per cent of the population is urban and in Rhode Island 97.5 per cent is urban. Other States having a large proportion of their population living in cities are New York with 67 per cent; New Jersey, 78.4 per cent; California, 68 per cent; Illinois, 67.9 per cent; Connecticut, 67.8 per cent; Pennsylvania, 64.3 per cent, and Ohio, 63.8 per cent."

"The cities of the country have become the centers of political, industrial and commercial power. They are also the centers of wealth, education and culture, and on the other hand they are centers of poverty, ignorance and crime. They present the great problem in America, as in any other country, since the civilization of a country is determined largely by the character of its cities. A few cities have made the history of the world. As the cities flourished, the countries in which they were located flourished, and as the cities decayed, the nations decayed."

ing materials, etc. he would not pay the cost of production. PLUS capitalist profits. PLUS banker interest. PLUS landlord rent. HE WOULD PAY ONLY THE LABOR COST OF PRODUCTION FOR THE PRODUCTS FROM THE PUBLIC INDUSTRIES.

In other words, the farmer would get the full labor cost of what he sold and would pay only the labor cost for what he bought. It is estimated that the farmer gets only 30 cents out of each dollar the consumer pays for his produce. With the people running the public utilities and trusts, he would get the greater part of that dollar. And when he spent it he would get his goods at labor cost, or get more than twice what he gets now for the same money. THE WHOLE SYSTEM OF ROBBERY BY MONOPOLISTS WOULD BE STOPPED. The tremendous value now going to idle parasites, non-producers, useless middlemen, profiteers, gougers, monopolists, would go to the actual producers on the farms and the real workers in the industries. This is true democracy; it is justice; it is common sense; it is the real goal toward which the producers on the farms and in the cities should strive with all their might by building up a political party of the producers, winning political control of the government and then using the government to bring about this splendid system of public ownership and industrial democracy.

August 22, 1927

A. B. Westerlund (Coeur D'Alene, Idaho)

Italy's sons are valiant. And you were not less brave; You fought for human freedom; Two lives for you gave.

They stopped your breath with falsehood. To satiate their hate; They would not grant you justice; You were not rich and great!

How Political Action Won Battles for Labor in Montana

James D. Graham

(Montana Member, National Executive Committee, Socialist Party)

Little if any progress has been made by labor in this country since Labor Day. A number of strikes have been lost, none of consequence, a few minor improvements in working conditions have been secured by conferences and it has taken a good tight pull to hold what has been gained in the past.

The legislative field, labor has gained nothing from the legislatures that were in session this year or from the last Congress. A few states ratified the Child Labor Amendment to the Federal Constitution. On the other hand, considerable reactionary legislation was passed by state legislatures. Great advances were made in the furtherance of convict labor laws. Many legislatures refused to improve the Workers' Compensation law. Repeal of the safety laws for coal miners were witnessed in many states.

Why Safety Laws Were Repealed

Great improvements are being made in labor saving machinery for cutting coal in the mines, which when installed will displace large numbers of miners. These machines cannot be operated at a profit to the mine owners as long as safety laws are on the statutes of mining states. In state where the miners union wrote strong laws were enacted to prevent blasting in coal mines which the miners were at work, which provided that only after the miners had left the mines, light the fuse and explode the charge which the miners had left ready for firing. In

this way the lungs of coal miners were not incured by smoke and gas following blasting and mine explosions which would wipe out the lives of thousands of miners were prevented.

Repeal Blasting Laws

But a change has taken place, the coal pick is being discarded in the mines and machinery is being installed. A machine has been invented that will enable one man to cut four hundred square feet of coal in eight hours, but this machine can not be used to a profit, unless the law prohibiting blasting in the mines during working hours is repealed.

The machine does so much work that blasting must be done continually in order that the coal be removed out of the way so that the machine can be worked to capacity. Many legislatures in the mine states, at the request of mine operators, repealed the law prohibiting blasting in coal mines during working hours.

Machines Displacing Labor

This paves the way for greater unemployment. Among miners so great has been the advancement made in labor saving machinery that if the present rate of installation of improved machinery in mines continues for the next five years, eight out of ten miners will be added to the unemployed.

With mines equipped with up-to-date machinery two hundred thousand miners working two and half days, or twenty hours in mine, could produce the next five years, eight out of ten miners will be added to the unemployed.

The Unemployment Menace

What will become of the unemployed miners?

While the workers must maintain and build up their unions in order that their interests can be taken care of while they are on the job, yet it is very essential that the workers have their own political party. The representatives of the two old parties are always ready to pass any legislation that the employers desire, but the Socialist party is the only political organization that stands for the producer at all times.

Montana is the only state where miners never had to strike to secure the eight hour law in and around mines or maintain the eight hour day after securing it.

What Montana Socialists Did

In 1902 five Socialists were elected to the Montana legislature. The first thing these Socialists did after taking their seats in the legislature was to introduce a bill to make it unlawful for any employer to work any employe in or around mines, mills and smelters more than eight hours a day, and also fixed a penalty of from fifty to five hundred dollars fine, or six months in jail for any worker that worked longer than eight hours in or around mines, mills and smelters, excepting in case of an emergency, when life or limb were in danger. This bill went through the legislature on record time and a corporation-owned governor signed it. The old parties were afraid to oppose the fighting Socialist organization that then existed in Montana.

This was not the only time that the fear of the rising tide of Socialism worked to the advantage of labor in the Northwest.

Story of Telephone Fight

The telephone trust all over the United States, except in Montana, has the open shop and refuses to recognize the union.

Montana was saved to the union workers employed in the telephone service through the assistance of the Socialist Party.

A number of years ago the electrical workers and telephone girls of Idaho, Utah and Montana were engaged in a prolonged strike, the strikers were beaten in Utah and Idaho, but held firm in Montana. Federal

and state courts placed injunctions on all members of organized labor in the three states. In Montana the federal judge sent men to jail for sixty days and added a fine of five hundred dollars for punching seals on the roof and the same judge on the same day sentenced cable kinks to twenty four hours in jail for stealing forty thousand acres of public land. These land thieves served their jail sentence in the sheriff's parlor while being entertained by a party of friends.

How Socialists Helped

The injunctions prevented union officials from sending out communications whatever to the strikers. Then the Socialist Party and its newspaper got busy, and were notified verbally that any Socialist appearing in the Socialist paper was to be considered as semi-official and to be acted upon accordingly. All over the state strike news was read from the Socialist paper at union meetings, and action taken as suggested by the paper.

The boycott was used extensively all over the state against thousands of enemies of labor. The corporations and members of the Citizen Alliance retaliated by commencing in court damage suits against the members of the unions. Some judges gave the same consideration to the Socialist paper as to be considered as semi-official and to be acted upon accordingly. All over the state strike news was read from the Socialist paper at union meetings, and action taken as suggested by the paper.

Political Power Demonstrated

The Supreme Court of Montana not give this decision because the Socialist party is the only political organization that stands for the producer at all times.

Montana is the only state where miners never had to strike to secure the eight hour law in and around mines or maintain the eight hour day after securing it.

In 1902 five Socialists were elected to the Montana legislature. The first thing these Socialists did after taking their seats in the legislature was to introduce a bill to make it unlawful for any employer to work any employe in or around mines, mills and smelters more than eight hours a day, and also fixed a penalty of from fifty to five hundred dollars fine, or six months in jail for any worker that worked longer than eight hours in or around mines, mills and smelters, excepting in case of an emergency, when life or limb were in danger. This bill went through the legislature on record time and a corporation-owned governor signed it. The old parties were afraid to oppose the fighting Socialist organization that then existed in Montana.

Socialism

Socialism is to me a very interesting thing indeed, the form and substance of my ideal life and all the rest I possess, I am, by a sort of profession, a Socialist. I perceive I do not help talking and writing about Socialism and shaping and forwarding Socialism. I am one of a succession of growing and maturing necessities, who will continue to be not in the larger sense, matter many generations of us must testify. It does not matter, except as our individual concern, how individually we succeed or fail, we blunders we make while the world is in encounter, what allies and adequacies darken our private lives and level our personal imagination to the dust. We have the light, we know what we are for, and that light that now glimmers so dimly through us must in the end pierce through us.

B. G. Wells, noted English writer

Some Reasons Why Farmers Should Become Socialists

The farmer will be a Socialist just as soon as he has taken the time to reason the question out for himself and as soon as he quits falling for fog notions that the Socialists will take his farm away from him.

Socialism means the public ownership of all things that are public in their nature. Take the railroads, for instance. The railroads are common carriers for everybody. They serve everybody. Everybody depends on them as great public necessities. They exist to serve the public and should be owned and operated by the public. It is dangerous to leave such great public necessities in the hands of a few to be used to gouge and plunder the people. If the railroads were the property of ALL under the ownership of the nation, they would be able to make enormous profits for swarms of non-producing stockholders; the people would not have to pay profits on billions of dollars in watered stock; transportation monopolists could not charge extortionate freight rates to farmers and others; the roads could not be used to rob the many and enrich the few.

It would stop an enormous source of public corruption and a drain on the pockets of the people that amounts to billions every year. Under a government owned and operated money system the farmers would be freed from the grip of the money sharks and would be able to obtain money from the government at a cost based upon the bare cost of operating the money system as a public service.

Public Ownership Has Been Proved

Fifty-four governments own and operate the railroad systems of their countries. There are already government banks in some countries. These things are not new or untried.

The operation of insurance by private companies is another tremendous robbery. It is estimated that private insurance companies absorb in profits and expenses 75 cents of every dollar that is paid in. Policy holders get only 25 cents back. The Socialists advocate government insurance at the cost of the service. In several Australian states the governments insure at a low cost. North Dakota has a state hail insurance system that has saved the farmers millions of dollars. It also has a state bank that is a success.

would be extremely foolish to break the trusts up, even if we could, and we can't. It would be going backward to low scale production. But we can't go back anyway. WE EITHER HAVE TO OWN THE TRUSTS AND USE THEM FOR OUR BENEFIT, OR ELSE BE OWNED BY THEM AND USED FOR THEIR BENEFIT. That is why we cannot escape the issue of the public ownership of the trusts. The public ownership of the trusts will carry us a long way—a mighty long way toward complete socialism. When the people publicly own the trusts the nation will have in its direct control the mightiest forces for producing wealth the world has ever seen. In these big public industries we can produce wealth far beyond anything the world has ever seen before. We can raise the purchasing power of the farmers and the industrial workers so that they can buy and enjoy all this abundant wealth.

Would Benefit the Farmers

Now let's see how the farmers would be benefited by such changes. The farmer would have the use of his farm without paying rent to landlords and interest to bankers. He would sell his produce without paying toll to any railroad in enormous profits on watered stock. He would not be gouged by privately owned elevator and warehouse owners. There would be no commission houses to swank him. Speculators and gamblers in farm produce would be a thing of the past. There would be no long line of middlemen and non-producers between the producer and consumer riding on the farmers' backs. Farm produce would go straight through from the farm to the consumer on public transportation and sales services that would charge only on a basis of the actual cost of handling. No private profits to monopolists and non-producers. The farmer would get what the consumer paid minus the actual labor cost of handling. The facilities for transporting and marketing farm produce would be owned by the farmers in conjunction with the rest of the public and could not be used to gouge the farmers.

On the other hand when the farmer bought industrial products, such as groceries, machinery, clothing, build-

MOST NON-SOCIALISTS ARE VICTIMS OF MISREPRESENTATION

By John M. Work

(Editorial Writer for The Milwaukee Leader)

A reader of a capitalist newspaper writes to it a letter in which he says that the Socialists want to wipe out our present government and civilization—which is quite contrary to the facts. He also repeats the scriptural advice, prove all things and hold fast that which is good—and that is excellent advice.

He is typical of many victims of the misrepresentations of Socialism which are printed in the capitalist press. The Socialists want to turn it to better purposes. It is now under the control of the political representatives of the rich. It looks after the interests of the wealthy financial and industrial overlords because it is under that sort of control. It is just as capable of looking after the welfare of all the people. To make it do so, the people must control the government themselves, by electing men to office who stand for the people instead of the profiteers.

Far from wanting to wipe out civilization, the Socialists want to preserve and improve civilization.

The Socialists want to prove all things and hold fast that which is good—and then they want to add other good things to those already in existence. They want to get rid of evil things only.

The present capitalist system has been "proved." That is, it has been tested and found to stand the test. War is only one of the great evils it brings to pass. Some of the other great evils with which it burdens the human race are poverty, unemployment, class hatred, dishonesty, crime, insanity, suicide, prostitution, and disease. Capitalism is the main cause of these evils and Socialism is the cure.

The Socialists want to change capitalism into Socialism. They do not want any sudden shock or revolution. Of all the people, the Socialists alone are working hard to ward off any such disaster. They seek the peaceful way out of present evils. The anti-Socialists and non-Socialists either consciously or ignorantly try to hold back progress, and thus invite chaos to come. But progress does take place, even though slowly. Many changes toward Socialism have already been made peacefully, and the Socialists hope to make the rest of the transition peacefully also.

When the Socialist ideal has been realized, the present hatred and competitive strife will be supplanted by cooperative harmony and loving service. Socialism is the golden rule put into actual practice in society. For, when the great industries are collectively owned and controlled, cooperation and harmony will be just as natural as competition and hatred are now.

We Socialists therefore plead with all honest and earnest men and women to investate Socialism, to subscribe for Socialist papers and read Socialist books, knowing full well that if they do so they will find Socialism to be the high and noble ideal we claim it to be, and they will then devotedly help to achieve it.