

THE OHIO SOCIALIST

Official Organ of the Socialist Parties of Ohio, Kentucky, West Virginia and New Mexico

No. 68

Published at
Cleveland, Ohio.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 14, 1919

Address all mail to
R. D. 2, Brecksville, Ohio.

\$1.00 A Year

From Anarchy and Bloodshed Socialism Rises Victorious Over Its Enemies

From the carnage of the Cleveland May Day riots, Socialism rises victorious over the machinations of its enemies. With white hands and a clean heart, without malice and with enmity only toward the economic system, Socialism advances over the fallen and the maimed, over the red debauch of capitalistic hate and terrorism to greater power and achievements.

Secure in the rightness of our Cause, certain of our historic mission and glorying in our growing strength, we may now look back to that hour of horror instigated by our enemies, proud of our peaceful march and its purpose, knowing that all the desperate hatred vented upon us has but left us stronger in courage, more united in purpose and better qualified to fulfill our work as Revolutionary Socialists.

The storm of capitalist hate that swept over our peaceful and lawful march has spent its fitful force. Emerging from that stressful scene we may now view the wreckage of American ideals that lie broken and scattered about. Becoming desperate at the growing class-consciousness of the workers, realizing its helplessness before the advancing hosts of Industrial Democracy, capitalism ever seeks in red revenge and brute force to crush the ideals of the workers. They cannot be crushed. Force cannot exterminate the ideals of liberty from the human heart. Force can not stem the tide of revolutionary thought and action that is sweeping the world clean of its worn out ideas, ideals and economic systems.

The mad rush and onslaught that began the riots, the methods used by the powers that be to (mis)handle the situation that arose has swept as though with a gigantic broom the cobwebs from the eyes of thousands. They have seen as though in a monstrous nightmare an orgy of capitalistic vindictiveness unequalled in ferocity. They have seen "Americanism" in action as it really exists. They have witnessed the traditions of American life raped by capitalism in a seething flame of intolerance, they have seen substituted therefor the fiendishness of devils and the corruption of hell.

To these thousands and to the thousands who shall hear the story from their white lips these traditions of American life and liberties are henceforth blackest lies and abominations. The veil of delusion has been snatched from their eyes. They have seen the law violated and the violator encouraged by those responsible for the law's keeping. They have witnessed the brutal rule of might while law and

right lay raped by their keepers. They now see clearly where they saw but dimly before. They have seen what they have seen.

A hundred parades, a hundred monster meetings could not have reacted so forcefully for Socialism as has and will this mad onslaught upon the workers. It may yet become a truism that the policeman's club is unsurpassed as an educator of the credulous, and we may expect our capitalist colleges to endow a chair in each for the purpose of turning out the best qualified in its use. True, many marchers and others have been given the "limit" and fined and sent to the workhouses for as long as the law allows. Workers have long been accustomed to expect that this would be so. Capitalist courts are but ramifications of the physical power of the State. A capitalist state requires capitalist courts to uphold capitalist interests. The capitalist court and judge instinctively recognizes the worker as an enemy, being one, he is given the limit upon all occasions.

But even the capitalist state cannot survive upon physical power and force alone. Behind all physical force, underlying it and permeating it throughout must lie the tissues of MORAL force. Without this moral power, this belief in the justness of its cause, with a willingness for great sacrifices and a tolerance of opposition forces, no capitalist can long survive the canker that eats at its heart. It is through this power of MORAL force that the Socialist movement rises ever victorious over all obstacles, all misrepresentations and falsehoods. It is by this moral force that the Socialist movement is stronger today.

Upon a thousand industrial battle fields the blood of the workers has been spilled. The masters have gloated over each seeming victory, while like ghouls they have robbed the dead as well as the living. They are dear bought victories, which drive them incessantly to greater outrages and greater blunders. In their desperation they lay open before the workers the dirty game they play upon them.

Socialism in Cleveland is stronger today than on April 30th. Stronger in numbers and stronger in moral force, it rises sublimely from the ashes of a momentary defeat to lead the workers on to emancipation and victory. Socialism in Cleveland is on the job and will stay there long after the instigators of the May Day riots are in their forgotten graves. "The Hour of the People has Come" and the murderous machinations of capitalists, the enemies of the people, cannot prevail against it. Hail to the Revolution! Onward to Victory!

CURB FREEDOM OF SPEECH TO "CRUSH THE MONSTER OF BOLSHEVISM"---ADVOCATED

Department of Justice Inclined to Let People Discuss
Social Problems Provided They Don't Advocate Forcible
Overthrow of Government. Waiting for Congress to Meet.

The organized labor exploiters of the United States are definitely making use of the alleged bomb plot directed against the lives of certain capitalists and anti-labor government officials to advocate much more drastic suppression of the rights of freedom of speech, press, and assemblages than are now contained in the seditious law.

The department of justice holds that people have the right to criticize existing social and governmental institutions and to advocate changes in the structure of the government, the abolition of the capitalist system of production and the substitution of the Socialist system provided that method is not illegal. The organ- ized capitalist, however, speaking through their mouthpieces, known as the capitalist press, have no sympathy with the soft-hearted policy of the department of justice and are going to make a drive on congress when it convenes for legislation that will prevent any and all criticism of existing institutions and advocacy of changing them.

Two Washington papers are the heart throbs of American capitalism. The Washington Post, owned by Edward B. McLean, who also owns certain coal mines in Illinois, where the workers are exploited to the existence point, is against everything that labor wants, and does not even carry the union label. The Washington Star

owned by Theodore W. Noyes, is likewise anti-labor in everyone of its heartbeats. Noyes has the distinguished honor of being the brother of the manager of the Associated Press, whose offices are in the Washington Star building. They are the political mouthpieces of the nationwide labor exploiters and express the sentiments today of the people who drove the notorious espionage law through the last congress conferring upon the postmaster general the drastic powers of a thought controller.

The labor exploiting editor of the Post declares that when a "bolshevist or socialist or anarchist or any radical of that ilk publicly rails against the government of the United States, denounces its institutions, and its laws, flays its judges and officers and advocates supplanting this republic with the rule of the mob he encourages and stimulates vicious persons to the commission of deeds of violence." By the "rule of the mob"

(Continued on fourth page.)

STRIKES GALORE IN MEXICO.

New York.—Strikes are quite the fashion in Mexico, according to a prominent radical in this city who has just returned from a trip to Mexico. Everywhere it is the same cry—higher wages and shorter hours. So alarmed has the employing class become that the large capitalistic papers are running series of special stories to demonstrate conclusively that the Bolsheviks are responsible for the labor unrest.

As an example of how far the strike fever has gone, the case of the domestic servants may be cited. The maids and servant girls decided one bright day that they were working altogether too long and that hours in their trade were not regulated. They struck. They demanded that seven hours of service—the hours to run continuously, and not in shifts which might make them get up at an unseemly hour and retire late at night—were all that should be asked of them. They won their point.

While in America the teachers are for the most part unorganized, the instructors of the youth of Mexico are all united in a union. This union has recently joined hands with the Central Federated union of Mexico City, and it is expected that by this combination the entire educational system of the country will be markedly improved.

Mexico is a veritable paradise for those who believe in free speech and free press. There is no censorship or suppression of ideas. Anybody can print anything he likes. The tenets of socialism are therefore well known not only to the workers, but to members of the upper classes as well, who do not display the ignorance of Marxism so prevalent north of the Rio Grande.

The cost of living has gone up tremendously, chiefly due to the United States embargo on merchandise. Many industries are awaiting rehabilitation. But as the American State Department has held out little encouragement regarding Mexico, money can be borrowed only on movable securities on a monthly interest charge of 5 per cent. There is very little currency to be had.

DEBS CRUCIFIED

Brownella Cottage, Galion, Ohio, April 19, 1919.
Mr. Eugene V. Debs, Federal Penitentiary,
Moundsville, W. Va.

My Dear Comrade:

Yesterday was the day of the Crucifixion and by their treatment of Debs the American masters crucified the Christ of the slaves in the United States.

Today is the day of the Preparation and the masters are rejoicing saying: to hell with the gospel of socialism, for we have silenced the voice of Debs, its great preacher in the tomb of a prison.

Tomorrow, however, will be the day of the Resurrection when in earnest tones and with moving eloquence Debs will be preaching from the pulpits of a million Bolshevik hearts, ours being two of them.

Mrs. Brown and I love you. We mourn your most cruel fate and we resent it.

Affectionately yours,
MR. AND MRS. WM. BROWN.

You Must Attend the State Picnic at Coney Island Cincinnati, June 29

The State Convention Publicity Committee of the Socialist Party of the State of Ohio, hereby notifies the different Locals or Branches of the Socialist Party that the State Convention of the Socialist Party of Ohio will be held in Cincinnati, June 27 and 28. The state picnic will be held on June 29, 1919, at Coney Island. It is hoped every revolutionary Socialist will be present. Speaking will be at 3:30 p. m. with Comrade Irwin St. John Tucker of Chicago as the speaker of the day. It doesn't matter, if Northern, Southern or Central parts of the state, lets get together, rally around the Reds and have a jolly and good time.

The committee also wishes to state that tickets have been forwarded to each and every Local or Branch in the State of Ohio. These tickets can be bought of Socialist Party members for 25 cents; same will cost at the boat wharf 35 cents each. We ask the comrades to sell and buy as many tickets as possible.

Furthermore we wish to state that the country store will be held during the convention at 1314 Vine street, and as usual does the committee ask comrades, friends and sympathizers for donations for such "Country Store," which will be gladly and thankfully received.

Please forward donations to the treasurer of the committee, Comrade Lotta Burke, 1314 Vine street, or the secretary, Otto F. Hofer, 1315 Vine street.

Comrades and friends remember, under no circumstances should you miss the state picnic, but attend and help to make it the grandest ever held in the State of Ohio. A great state picnic will show the strength of our large membership, and we should not only have an attendance of 5,000, but we can easily have 10,000 attend this picnic.

The net profit will go to the state treasurer.

Helen Keller to Eugene V. Debs

DEAR COMRADE:—Of course, the Supreme Court has sustained the decision of the lower court in your case. To my mind, the decision has added another laurel to your wreath of victories. Once more you are going to prison for upholding the liberties of the people.

I write because my heart cries out, it will not be still. I write because I want you to know that I should be proud if the Supreme Court convicted me of abhorring war, and doing all in my power, to oppose it. When I think of the millions who have suffered in all the wicked wars of the past, I want to fling myself against all brute powers that destroy life, and break the spirit of man.

In the persecution of our comrades there is one satisfaction. Every trial of men like you, every sentence against them tears away the veil that hides the face of the enemy. The discussion and agitation that follow the trials define more sharply the positions that must be taken before all men can live together in peace, happiness and security.

We were driven into the war for liberty, democracy and humanity. Behold, what is happening all over the world today! Oh, where is the swift vengeance of Jehovah, that it does not fall upon the hosts of those who are marshalling machine-guns against hunger-stricken peoples? It is the complacency of madness to call such acts "preserving law and order." What oceans of blood and tears are shed in their name! I have come to loathe traditions and institutions that take away the rights of the poor and protect the wicked against judgment.

The wise fools who sit in the high places of justice fall to see that in revolutionary times like the present vital issues are settled, not by statutes, decrees and authorities, but in spite of them. Like the Girondins of France they imagine that force can check the onrush of revolution. Thus they sow the wind, and unto them shall be the harvest of the whirlwind.

You dear comrade! I have long loved you because you are an apostle of brotherhood and freedom. For years I have thought of you as a dauntless explorer going toward the dawn, and like a humble adventurer, I have followed in the trail of your footsteps. From time to time the greetings that have come back to me from you have made me very happy, and now I reach out my hand and clasp yours through prison bars.

With heartfelt greetings, and with a firm faith that the cause for which you are now martyred shall be all the stronger because of your sacrifice and devotion, I am,

Yours for the Revolution—may it come swiftly, like a shaft sundering the dark!
HELEN KELLER.

KATE O'HARE WOULD CONDUCT SURVEY OF MISSOURI PRISON

By J. LOUIS ENGDAAHL.
(Special Correspondence.)

St. Louis, Mo.—Kate O'Hare is in the state penitentiary over in Jefferson City, serving a five year sentence because of her allegiance to her Socialist principles.

In the meantime Frank O'Hare, here in St. Louis, waits, works and watches, not only to make prison life more endurable for the wife and mother, but to leave no stone unturned that might result in her early release, which Kate O'Hare says will come with the liberation of all political and industrial class war prisoners.

I found Frank O'Hare in his office, 1011 Holland building, and he was writing Governor Gardner of Missouri, urging that Mrs. O'Hare be given permission to carry on sociological work within the prison, in lieu of her work in the prison overall factory.

"Frank and Kate," as they have been known in the Socialist movement for a score of years, have been working on this plan for more than a year. It was with this in mind that an effort was made to have her transferred to the state penitentiary in North Dakota, under the regime of the Non-partisan League, but this effort failed.

For many months, however, Kate O'Hare has been acquainting herself with all the writings of the prominent authorities on criminology and sociology, getting in personal touch with all of the well known experts in this country. This study of hers has taken her to many of the better known universities in the land.

Mrs. O'Hare made a personal visit to Governor Gardner of this state and urged that she be allowed to do this work. He said he would take the matter under advisement, in the meantime showing considerable interest until the newspapers took up the question, when the governor retired into his shell, claiming that he hadn't known that Mrs. O'Hare was a convict-to-be at the time of her visit to his office. It is understood that an order permitting Mrs. O'Hare to carry on the work in question must come from President Wilson, although a recommendation from the governor would have considerable influence.

"Mrs. O'Hare in due time will present to the president her request to be permitted to do sociological work within the prison," Frank O'Hare wrote Governor Gardner. "She hopes to have the co-operation of scientific, medical and psychological experts in the comprehensive survey which is contemplated.

"Such permission will not be considered as a favor by Mrs. O'Hare," he continued. "She simply tenders her expert services to the public welfare, and it is simply a matter of the president's discretion whether or not her tender is accepted.

"A large number of scientific men and women are assisting in the preparation of the plan and questionnaire. It will be some weeks before this preliminary work is finished.

In discussing the imprisonment of his wife and co-worker, Frank O'Hare voices Kate's feelings rather than his own.

"Mrs. O'Hare feels that she can stay in prison just as long as the Democratic administration can afford to keep her there," he says. "All she demands is that congress and the administration make an investigation of the facts, leading up to her arrest in Devil's Lake, North Dakota, on July 29, 1917, and in face of these facts, if the administration in power can afford to keep her in prison, she is willing to stay.

"The court of last resort in this case now is the American people and they will be informed of the facts. I am prepared to carry her fight to the people of the United States and let them pass on the injustice of the conviction and imprisonment of an innocent woman. The people will be informed of the conspiracy of Bowman, North Dakota. No one even thought Mrs. O'Hare would go to prison. Now that she is actually serving a term in prison, the people are awakening. She is not requesting pardon because she cannot do that when she is not guilty."

The same fear and trembling on the part of the authorities that characterized the rushing of "Gene Debs" off to prison was shown by federal officials in putting Mrs. O'Hare into convict garb.

"I was after completing a 14-day farewell tour of eastern cities, making her final address at Minneapolis,

Minn., April 7, that Kate O'Hare journeyed to Fargo, North Dakota, where she arrived several days before the time she was to give herself up. She surrendered herself to the federal authorities on Saturday morning at 10 o'clock, April 12, at the same time that Debs was receiving his prison orders from the federal attorney who prosecuted him to come to Cleveland.

During the days that she waited before surrendering herself to the authorities, the plute papers in Fargo were very much excited, imagining that all sorts of demonstrations were about to take place. Frank O'Hare had come to Fargo from St. Louis to be with his wife and this gave the papers additional cold shivers. The atmosphere became so intense and the bourbon press so terrorized the authorities that Frank O'Hare returned to St. Louis on April 11; after assuring himself that Mrs. O'Hare's journey to prison would be made as comfortable as possible.

It was at midnight, April 12, that Chief Deputy A. S. Marshall and Mrs. Wattle took their prisoner out of Fargo on the long journey to Jefferson City, Mo. Stops were made at St. Paul, Minn. and at Kansas City, Mo., so that the prison city was not reached until the night of Monday, April 14. She was "dressed in," or became a convict, on the morning of Tuesday, April 15, the former international secretary of the Socialist Party being given No. 21,669, and being assigned to the overall factory to make 55 pairs of overalls each day.

The strict discipline of the Missouri penitentiary, which is more severe than in other states, will not be eased up the slightest particle for the woman who sat as chairman of the committee on war and militarism at the St. Louis convention (1917) of the Socialist Party. She will be permitted to write but one letter a week. The federal prison at Leavenworth, Kan., is inaugurating a plan to allow all prisoners to write at least three letters a week.

When Frank O'Hare came to the prison on Tuesday, April 15, to see his wife for the first time, after entering the penitentiary, he was at first refused permission to see her. It was only after considerable difficulty, and after interviewing several state officials, the capital or Missouri also being located in Jefferson City, that he was allowed to see her. And then his visit was limited to a few minutes on one day. When he returned to Jefferson City the following Sunday, Easter Sunday, he was told that he could not see her until Monday.

Both Kate Richards O'Hare and Emma Goldman number among their friends some of the most prominent women of Jefferson City. One of these had to walk rough shod over the prison officials before she was permitted to see Kate O'Hare on Saturday, April 19, and to send her some delicacies on Easter Sunday morning. All the indications are that the policy of isolating Kate O'Hare from the world is being enforced to the limit.

All of which is no doubt in keeping with the big prison plan to eliminate a human being as much as possible from the world's rushing activities. How it is all reduced to a silent, smoothly moving mechanism is probably best shown by paragraph No. 28 of the prison rules and regulations, which outlines the conduct of the convicts while at their meals. It reads:

"Should you desire additional food, make your wants known to the waiters in the following manner:

"If you want bread, hold up your right hand.

"Coffee or water, hold up your cup.

"Meat, hold up your fork.

"Soup, hold up your spoon.

"Vegetables, hold up your knife.

"If you desire to speak to an officer about food or service in the dining hall, hold up your left hand."

MILLIONS WILL HELP DEBS

Akron, Ohio.
Mr. Elmer T. Allison.
Please convey to Eugene V. Debs this missive, and tell him that it comes from one that would give his ALL in order to free him, tell him that there are millions of bleeding hearts that crave to help him, and

WILL help.
Tell him that the light of "FREEDOM" will conquer the shadows of slavery, and that the awakening is at hand.

The autocrats of wealth, the despotters of the soul, the builders of
(Continued on third page.)

Debs Has Been in Prison 30 Days. Kate O'Hare 29 Days. WHY?

An Open Letter To The Exploiters

Sir: I have seen in your newspapers that you are alarmed and, in my opinion, unduly resentful at the fact that the Russian workers, having established the groundwork for an industrial democracy in their country, propose to spread their propaganda and their work of emancipation to the whole world. I fall to see any valid reason for your ire; therefore, I take this opportunity of bringing to your attention a few incidents in your own career, which should convince you that you are entirely out of order in your attacks on Bolshevism.

When one person gets into a "scrap" with another and fails to get the better of his antagonist, it is good, old practice that he take his licking like a man without meekish complaint; this provided that the opponent had used fair and generally accepted means for gaining the victory. An impartial observer cannot but admire this characteristic in man's voluntary conduct to man; likewise, the most barbarous enemy must feel respect for a conquered foe who takes his ordeal in a manly way, without foul revenge.

I was reminded of this phenomenon, Mr. Bourgeois, as I thought of the gigantic combat that is now shaking the world. Not the strife of individuals, nor the wars between nations, but the struggle between the exploiters and the exploited, between your class and my class.

I know, Mr. Bourgeois, that in a personal controversy between a member of your class and one of mine, your kinsman would be perfectly clean and fair in the fighting, as honorable as any one of my colleagues. How is it, then, I wish to ask, that when you fight as a class, you are not in the least governed by these same principles, enough of the laws of evolution to foresee that there is but one end of the struggle in which you are now engaged: your own destruction and the complete emancipation of my class. The only phase of the matter about which doubt can exist is whether this end will be achieved in five or fifty years. The contest is on, the outcome is inevitable. You, with your past record, should be the last one to lament or sue for mercy.

You should not attempt the impossible; you have had your way, you have fulfilled your mission, your service is no longer required; therefore, accept your fate and give room to those who are mightier than yourself. Parasite that you are, you refuse to do this.

You own the armies and the navies, the governments, the courts, and the means of livelihood; you control the churches, the educational institutions, the press, all of which you have used and are using most generously in your own behalf. When the rising proletariat in spite of all oppression, becomes too powerful for you, when your armies and navies are no longer obedient pawns and playthings in your hands, when your murderous, cunning, and obstructive methods can start progress no longer, then you become the most unscrupulous scoundrel on the face of the earth. At this point you degrade yourself, you take leave of all decency and self-respect.

You, the originator of the "fairness" principle, the ardent advocate of the policy, "the end justifies the means," you resort to lies and slander, and you begin to squeal.

You, whose distinction it is to have gained your power and kept it through more bloodshed than any other class, you who have caused more and bloodier wars during your brief period of existence than the sum total of all battles fought before your days; you, who have commercialized art, science, and the higher instincts of man; you who have made the gap between the rich and the poor wider than ever, and who—let us not forget—in your early youth, overflowing with energy, threatened to extend your rule to every country of the world, you are now wailing and weeping because the working-class government of Russia is preparing to carry its idea to the four corners of the earth.

One can respect the motives of an honest opponent, one can feel sympathetic towards one who, with perfect sincerity, as Emerson says, retains his honorable qualities in his fight for his interests; but a cur, a hypocrite, who, seeing defeat approaching, attempts to prolong his reign by slander and accusations of unfair methods on the part of his opponents, when he himself owes his very life to those same methods—well, profound contempt of such a foe is the only worthy answer. You, Mr. Bourgeois, are that kind of a foe and my class will treat you accordingly.

THE LIFE OF DEBS

1855—Born, Terre Haute, Ind. (November 5).
1870—Graduated with credit from the Old Seminary school in Terre Haute. Began working in shop for Terre Haute & Indianapolis Railroad company. Promoted to locomotive fireman.
1874—Clerk, grocery store at Terre Haute, Hulman & Cox.
1870-1878—Joined Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen. Organized the Brotherhood of Railroad Brakemen. Helped organize Switchmen's Mutual Aid Association and Brotherhood of Railway Car Men.

1878—Associate editor of the Firemen's Magazine.
1879—Elected city clerk.
1884—Grand secretary, Firemen's Magazine. (July).
1893—Editor and manager of Firemen's Magazine. (February). Organized at Chicago the American Railway Union. (June).
1894—Great Northern strike organized. (April 16). Pullman strike. Jail.
1895—Advocates co-operative commonwealth. (November).
1896—A Democrat. Votes for and supports Bryan.
1897—Publicly announces conversion to Socialism.

1898—Organized Social Democratic Party of America.
1900—Candidate for president on Social Democratic ticket; 87,814 votes.
1904—Again candidate; 402,321 votes.
1905—Industrial unionism.
1908—Candidate for president on Socialist ticket; 421,000 votes.
1912—Candidate for president on Socialist ticket; 900,000 votes.
1916—Candidate for congress from the Fifth Congressional district of Indiana.
1918—Indicted, tried and convicted under the Espionage act for utterances made at a speech at Canton, Ohio.
1919—Supreme court upholds conviction evading the issue of the constitutionality of the Espionage act, and Debs begins the serving of a 10-year sentence in the federal penitentiary at Moundsville, W. Va. April 13th, 10:30 p. m.

Yours without respect,
JOHN WORKINGMAN.

The persecuting spirit has its origin, morally in the disposition of man to domineer over his fellow creatures; intellectually, in the assumption that one's own opinions are infallibly correct.—John Fiske.

Gompers on American Labor and Bolshevism

I have just been wrestling with the Gompersian philosophy as doped out by Mr. Gompers in his onslaught against Bolshevism in the May issue of McClure's. The first test of a philosophy is consistency—standardization. A true philosophy may be taken to pieces and reassembled promiscuously, and the parts will fit, because they have all been formulated to an identical standard. In this test Mr. Gompers' philosophy fails miserably. He has used divers conflicting standards, and when you make his "facts" face each other you find only conflict and confusion.

Mr. Gompers has a genius for platitudes. High-sounding rhetorical periods seem to tickle him. He marshals his platitudes and dangles them as gleefully as a kid does a bunch of tin soldiers. Then he goes blithely on and picks up and dangles another selection, and then another, each taken apparently at random. When we group his selections and make them face each other, we find the most startling and surprising lack of harmony and consistency. There is a theory, accepted by many capitalist politicians and apologists, that presumes the people to be fools, and holds that empty platitudes and high-sounding periods are more effective than profound logic. Perhaps Mr. Gompers holds to this theory. Listen:

"American labor's loyalty to the fundamental principles of American democracy stands proven to the world in a record made through months of trial by fire. A loyalty so proven in such a test may be guaranteed to stand through the comparative calm and quiet of a little further on. Because the condition in the American labor movement in what it is, American organized labor stands today where it stood during the days of armed conflict, the great protector of true democracy, the keeper of unceasing vigil of the citadel of right and freedom and justice."

A fellow would suppose from this assumption that American organized labor is "the great protector of true democracy, the keeper of unceasing vigil of the citadel of right and justice and freedom," that American organized labor has possession of these things all the while. Would American organized labor keep "unceasing vigil" over things they do not, and have not possessed? But let Mr. Gompers continue and define for us his concept of right and freedom and justice:

"And freedom, to American labor, is not a thing abstract. It is not merely a word for platform use. It is not a work of decorative rhetorical art. Freedom, for American labor, has no meaning unless it is translated into terms of life—until it means an avenue to better, fuller, richer, nobler life; until it means opportunity for all to go on to the finest heights of human development, opportunity in such a form as to beckon all to the upward path. American labor believes that America means the best of America, the noblest, the truest, the kindest, the bravest the freest—all the rest must come up to that to become a part of what labor means when it proudly salutes as the flag goes by."

Mr. Gompers' declaration of loyalty to "American democracy" would imply that American labor, in his opinion, had attained freedom, as he defines it, else what on earth is he doing his Federation keeping "unceasing vigil" over? But his interjection, "all the rest must come up to that," becomes part of what labor means when it proudly salutes as the flag goes by." Is the fly in the ointment? That even Mr. Gompers is conscious of there being flies in the ointment, we have further proof. Mr. Gompers naively admits:

"There are those who think that everything in American life can be set forth bearing the label 'America' and command the loyalty and devotion of American labor. This, of course, is not the case. American labor is the element in every institution everywhere that makes for oppression and unfreedom and the lowering of the standard of life for men and women."

THE ARMISTICE OF CAPITAL AND LABOR

Surfeit of wealth and power without reducing a subject class to poverty and wretchedness. There can be no wealth where there is no poverty, for in the absence of poverty wealth would have no power. On the other hand, labor (poverty) cannot elevate itself and ascend "to the finest heights of human development" without degrading the vampire power of capitalism (organized wealth). The struggle of the masses to elevate and emancipate themselves, on the one hand, and of organized wealth to retain the mastery, upon the other, constitutes what is known as "the class struggle," and Bolshevism is merely the acute and incidental phase of this struggle. Now let us hear what Mr. Gompers has to say about the Bolsheviks, in part:

"There is a movement of destruction abroad in the world today. The philosophy of despair has its fanatic adherents. The lean body has furnished many a weak mind as prey to the teachings of reaction masked under a pretense of progress. Those who see wisely into the future must, if society is to be saved from fires more consuming than those we have known, so shape the course of the world as to offer this hideous wreath of destruction no foothold. The lean body has a right to the opportunity to get food. If it is denied that right it is fair sport of the teacher of ruin. If it is denied that fundamental right it will sooner or later furnish a weak mind likely to fall a prey to whatever may come promising relief, no matter how unsound or impossible may be that promise."

Russia stands before our gaze like a flaming torch of warning. A thing ugly head in that sad and sorry land, Bolshevism is a theory, the chief tenet of which is the dictatorship of the proletariat.

"Leaving out of consideration for the moment the story of devastation and murder that has marched with this theory into practice, we must set down the theory itself as abhorrent to a world that loves democracy. We shall progress by the use of the machinery of democracy, or we shall not progress. There is no group of men on earth fit to rule the rest of the world, it is the central idea of Bolshevism that makes the whole of it outcast in the minds of sane men. It is this focusing point of all that makes it an enemy to our civilization."

Mr. Gompers is peeved with the bolshevik because it is "the dictatorship of the proletariat." It is "class rule" of a different sort to what he has been used to, and he does not relish the innovation. Perhaps he thinks we have never before had class rule upon this planet. If he thinks this, he had better study history a bit. As a matter of fact since the dawn of civilization the world has never known any other form of state than that of a dictatorship of a ruling class. The state itself was first evolved as an instrument of repression to keep slaves taken in war in subjection. As the form of enslavement changed phases, the state underwent modifications. The odium we see attached to labor had its genesis in the hatred entertained for prisoners of war who were enslaved and constituted the working class of that period. In feudalism, the serf was a descendent of the slave taken in war, inherited this wealth of hate and oppression. Today, under capitalism, the "free" wage worker is the joyful heir of the historic odium that besmirched the ancestral chattel slave.

Perhaps Mr. Gompers is afraid that the dictatorship of Lenin and Trotsky will be abused to enthrone this absolutism on the necks of the Russian people, thus again tricked back to languish under a new despotism, far better than the old. Many people who probably know better have advanced this wail. Mr. Gompers need lose no sleep over this apprehension. Throughout all history, there has not been a single instance of a personally owned empire. In all cases the throne of power has been a puppet throne, the monarch apparent merely being the autocrat and kingdom of the puppet, or executive, did business for a titled aristocracy who were the owning and ruling class—the junkers. In democracies the power behind the throne is the aristocracy of wealth, who rule by reason of their ownership, also—a little distinction, but precious little difference. In new Russia, under the dictatorship of the proletariat, the workers being the owning class—always and everywhere, the ruling class is the ruling class; and they rule in proportion to their ownership; that is the reason why our Rockefeller's and Morgans have immense power, and our farmers so precious little, and our proletarians none.

Political power is not a primary but a secondary power. Political power arises from and is conditioned by industrial and economic power. That class or group having no industrial power and no economic power, CAN HAVE NO POLITICAL POWER. Industrial power and economic power are the manifestations of, and arise directly from, ownership. Hence we see that that class or group having no ownership in the productive utilities of their nation can have no real voice in its government. Political "democracy" supposedly shared by a working class dominated by an industrial and economic autocracy, is an empty bauble. The power of ownership in private or corporate hands is so enormous when buttressed by industrial inate absolutely all the ramifications of the political state. Our bosses of great wealth have learned that the franchise, or "democracy" if you wish, is a harmless plaything in the hands of men industrially and economically enslaved. So long as it amuses and satisfies the workers, the capitalists are more than willing for them to retain it.

The hopelessness of betterment by laws made and enforced by the lackeys of capitalism, is sensed by Mr. Gompers himself. Listen:

"The field is littered with the whitened bones of those who have gone seeking salvation by laws. This the American labor movement has recognized, and there is no immediate danger that this philosophy will be deserted in favor of whims and caprices of similar portents."

Mr. Gompers ignores, or is unconscious of, the fact that capitalism has gone seeking salvation through laws—and found it. The Gompersian (Continued on fourth page.)

ART UNDER THE BOLSHEVIKI

London.—When a nonsocialist organ like that quoted below engages in praise of the working men's government of Russia, the facts cited are not likely to be challenged. "Common Sense," the liberal organ owned by Lord Lansdowne and edited by F. W. Hirst, speaks as follows of "Art Under the Bolsheviki" in its edition of March 29:

"The general impression conveyed to the reader of the English press is that the Bolsheviki regime is one of sheer destructiveness; that art has perished and morals gone entirely by the board. The lie about the marriage law has been sent all round the world, and though now admitted by the New Europe to be a lie, the mischief has been done. Now we learn on impeccable authority that life in Moscow provides more aesthetic pleasure than London. Challenged is singing nightly to packed houses in opera—French, German, Italian, as well as Russian; the ballet is in full swing, and on any evening in the week the theaters offer a wide choice of classical and modern plays—Shakespeare and Moliere, as well as Tchekov and Gorki. Moreover, in Petrograd the Hermitage and Alexander III Museums are now more full of pictures than they ever were before. They are well looked after, no pictures have been stolen or damaged. On the contrary, many people have sent to the galleries the best works out of their private collections. As regards the declining population of Petrograd it should not be forgotten that it has for long been the deliberate policy of the Russian government—a policy attempted by Kerensky, unsuccessfully, and carried out, successfully, by the Bolsheviki—to induce the inhabitants of Petrograd to evacuate."

(Continued on third page.)

Let Us Think It Over

(By RUFUS KNOWLES.)

There is no doubt that the tendency of the Socialist Party in the United States, during recent years, has been disappointing to every truly revolutionary Socialist. We have never been able to realize very great enthusiasm for our reform platforms. The "immediate demands" have always seemed to us as futile as "baying at the moon." We have never been able to see the sense or utility of making "demands" that no one notices, and of delivering ultimatums that are thrown into the waste baskets of the ruling class.

WHAT WE NEED IS POWER! Power is the magic key that will open the doors of the prisons and enable us to achieve the Revolution. The great question is: How can we arouse, win and organize the power of the workers in order to accomplish their emancipation?

Only a great genius, or a great egotist would attempt to give a categorical or dogmatic answer to this question and I do not pretend to be a great genius. I hope I am not too other thing, but I will try to state what seems to me, some important considerations.

First, we cannot expect to win the workers to our ranks with platforms of one hundred and twenty paragraphs that nobody will read. Platforms that are apparently efforts to satisfy everybody's notion of what needs to be done but really satisfy nobody's. We cannot expect to rally the workers for the Revolution by boring them with a long list of reforms that must first be inaugurated under capitalism before they can ever see the Promised Land, that mysterious goal—Socialism.

Most people do not care for details. They don't want to be bothered. They want to know the principal purpose, the chief characteristics and the salient features of anything; but they are moved by catch-words, phrases and slogans more than by profound and extended dissertations. A prominent one-bored audience insufferably and gave our Local a serious setback by explaining in great detail the reforms inaugurated by the Socialist administration of Milwaukee.

In this I agree with the "Left Wing" patching up the faults and infirmities of the capitalist system does not seem to me the proper work of a revolutionary Socialist organization.

Second, we cannot expect to win the confidence and support of the workers by making "demands" of the bourgeoisie governments. It implies an inferior position. We want the power to do what we want done. When we get the power, we will not have to make any "demands," we will take and do what we think is for the best interest of the working class. So, we must come out clearly and state just what we ourselves propose to do when the workers unite with us and give us the power. I know that some will raise the old objection to this and claim that not "we," but "they," will be doing, but that is only a quibble. We are the apostles of the Social Revolution. Are not "we," the enlightened, class-conscious, revolutionary Socialists trying to arouse, educate and organize the mass of unthinking, deluded workers into the way of their salvation? If not what are we trying to do? But just what do we propose for the workers to do when they respond to our appeals, or what is practically the same thing, what do "we," (all of the enlightened, organized, class-conscious workers) propose to do when we have the power? We must answer that question in order to win the confidence of the workers.

Until quite recently we did not really know how to answer it. We could only generalize, expound our foundation principles and propose a few timid steps toward the great un-

known adventure. Recently, however, we have glimpsed imperfectly the efforts of those who have been forced to cut the Gordian knot and do or be doomed in the effort to actually establish a system of Socialism.

Some of these attempts to establish Socialism seem to be half-hearted, faltering, futile failures if not dastardly betrayal of our cherished cause. We are angered and disgusted by such tactics. But, other attempts appear to be courageous, thorough-going and true, and as successful as adverse circumstances will permit. These tactics appeal to us strongly. They fill us with enthusiasm. But let us not be swept "off our feet" by our enthusiasm. Let us not become blind to facts and deaf to our own hearts. There is no emergency. The Revolution is not breaking out in America yet. We have a long way to go.

In my experience as a member of the Socialist Party I have seen many "Wonderful New Discoveries," or the alleged re-discovery of great Marxist principles that had been overlooked or neglected, hailed as the short and only routes to Socialism, but I have never seen that they got us anywhere.

So, let us think over this "Left Wing" stuff awhile and see if it is really so wonderfully important after all. We must remember that America is not Russia. In Russia, so I am informed, the great "transcendent government of the Czar," the "potential rebels" in America, the great mass of the people reverse and love their government. They lick the hands of those who oppress and rob them. They not only vote to uphold the bourgeois government, but they fight for it. They attack all who denounce and challenge it. They are potentially obedient slaves who hug their chains and are the unwitting cause of their own misery.

The tremendous events in Europe will eventually have an effect to awaken the workers here, but any one can see that the time is not yet ripe. Lenin has said so himself. So let us be calm about this Emergency Convention and not rush into any immature half-baked action. If the "Left Wing" is right it will only gain strength and avoid dissension by waiting. We will not have any revolution in the United States before next spring and in the meantime we may have learned a great deal. We should learn rapidly from the experience of Europe and some of our present opinions may not appear so cocksure by that time.

The only emergency that confronts us now is the fact that many of our most true and trusted leaders are in prison or on their way, unless the ruling powers relent, and our most elementary rights are apparently about to be permanently denied. No emergency convention can conceivably avert this situation and it may seriously aggravate it. So let us continue our work of organization and education, watch and study the events in Europe, close up our ranks, conserve our resources, disseminate the truth and rally such support as we can for our imprisoned comrades at home and our embattled comrades in Europe.

But above all let us stick together and avoid bitter and vicious attacks upon all who do not think as we do, nor fall for our "Wonderful Discoveries" right away. The comrades of the "Right Wing" and "Center" are no doubt just as true and revolutionary as we are and if we are right they will eventually be with us. Many of them are going to prison for us and we who are free are ingrates indeed if we impeach their loyalty to our cause because they do not agree to everything we propose.

Let us take counsel together awhile and go before the workers next year with a platform that will mean something and represent our mature deliberations.

THE OHIO SOCIALIST

Official Organ of The Socialist Party of Ohio and Kentucky, Virginia, W. Virginia and New Mexico.

One Year \$1.00 BUNDLE RATES 50c Per Hundred Six Months 50c

Address all mail and make all checks payable to SOCIALIST PARTY OF OHIO, R. F. D. 2, Box 55, Brecksville, Ohio

Entered as Second Class Matter, February 21, 1917, at the Post Office at Cleveland, Ohio, Under Act of March 3, 1879.

EDITORS Elmer T. Allison Alfred Wagenknecht

Published Weekly by The Socialist Party of Ohio at Cleveland, O. Telephone Wallings 18-Y, Call Through Cleveland.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 14, 1919.

NOT AT WAR

Even a capitalist editor can sometimes see the maze of contradictions into which capitalistic interests have led this nation's government since it became embroiled in European wars to make the world safe for democracy.

PASTIMES OF PEACE (By Associated Press.)

LONDON, May 6. (Russia)—Allied troops advancing southward along the Murmansk railway on Saturday captured Mesalskaya, 25 miles south of Uroszero, a war office announcement says.

Let's see. We are not at war with the Russian Bolsheviks. A few days ago when a well known citizen of New York asked to have the Soviet representative in the United States interned as an alien enemy or prosecuted for seditious practices, the Attorney General of the United States declared that no such process could be taken because the United States was not at war with the Bolsheviks.

And yet Allied troops, a large part of whom are Americans, are not engaged in defensive warfare merely, but in aggressive warfare against the Bolsheviks, after having been hard pressed by them during the entire winter.

We are not at war with the Bolsheviks, but our troops advance against them and compel them to retreat, after showing strong resistance.

We are fighting, charging, retreating, capturing towns and cities, of evacuating towns and cities as the fortunes of war may dictate. But we are not at war. We cannot intern the Bolshevik minister. We are merely engaged in the friendly pastime of slaying and being slain. It is not war because officially we are unwilling to call it war.

Well, we're living in a wonderful age. We've been frankly told that mentally and morally, "narrow, selfish and provincial," and perhaps inquiry into the war with the Bolsheviks in North Russia proves that we are all we've been called.

Maybe, under the millennial dispensation we are entering, the fighting in North Russia is merely a pastime of peace. But when troops advance twenty-five miles and capture a city after "strong" resistance it sounds like war.

AVAILABLE SPEAKERS

Here is a revised list of speakers upon whom the locals may call. Terms are five dollars and expenses. Other names of qualified speakers will be added from time to time.

- M. J. Beery, 65 So. Main St., Mansfield, Ohio. Chas. Baker, State Office, Socialist Party, R. D. 2, Brecksville, Ohio. Tom Clifford, 3517 Fulton Rd., Cleveland, Ohio. Tom Lewis, State Office, Socialist Party, R. D. 2, Brecksville, Ohio. Thurber Lewis, State Office, Socialist Party, R. D. 2, Brecksville, Ohio. Frank Midney, 128 N. Maryland Ave., Youngstown, O. C. E. Ruthenberg, 1222 Prospect Ave., Cleveland, Ohio. H. L. A. Holman, State Office, Socialist Party, R. D. 2, Brecksville, Ohio. Frank B. Hamilton, Mayor's Office, Piqua, Ohio. John J. Willert, 3469 W. 54th St., Cleveland, Ohio. Hugo Ruemmele, 2754 Norwood Ave., Norwood, Ohio. J. J. Hoge, 980 Central, Bellaire, O.

RENEW YOUR SUBSCRIPTION AT ONCE!!

Nearly one thousand notifications of expiration were mailed out two weeks ago to readers whose subscriptions expired in April. Readers who have received these notifications MUST renew at once either through their local secretary or direct to the State Office, if they wish the Ohio Socialist to continue coming to them.

MARCH, 1919, FINANCIAL REPORT

Table with columns for Receipts and Expenditures. Receipts total \$2,874.81. Expenditures total \$2,199.99. Balance \$674.82.

In the Funds

Table with columns for Receipts and Expenditures. Receipts total \$286.71. Expenditures total \$220.00. Balance \$66.71.

MILLIONS WILL HELP DEBS

hell, the Kalers of America, must and shall answer to the oppressed, the slaves of toil, the souls that seek only justice. Tell him that the hundreds of thousands of noble sons that gave up their happiness, their homes, their lives for freedom's sake, cry out to those sons and daughters of toil to continue the battle for FREEDOM—Freedom of speech, of soul, of mind, Freedom for that great martyr, EUGENE V. DEBS.

MAY 1ST SUCCESSSES TO START ORGANIZATION DRIVE

Dear Comrade State Secretary: Success! A GREAT SUCCESS!! That's what the comrades say about our campaign for thousands of May 1st meetings.

International Labor Day was more widely and enthusiastically celebrated May 1st, 1919, than ever before. From Florida to Washington, from Maine to California—locals by the hundreds, encouraged by the promise of a printed program of speeches, of posters and meeting supplies, decided to "break the ice" and CELEBRATE.

THEY DID. You would have realized this had you witnessed the shipping of hundreds of thousands of protest postal cards, Debs' application blanks and posters to remote rural communities as well as to the large industrial centers.

WE FEEL ELATED! So should you. You helped, Comrade, and we here voice our appreciation of the co-operation you gave.

We have not heard from other state secretaries as yet, but the Ohio state office alone placed 31 speakers for May 1st meetings in that state.

Reports from locals will soon reach this office. We shall print as many of these reports as we can find space for in the next national office Bulletin. Look for them. They will prove that our locals are IN ACTION.

These thousands of May 1st meetings will constitute the BEGINNING of a special ORGANIZATION and PROPAGANDA campaign which we hope to initiate VERY SOON.

ORGANIZATION is needed if we are to get Debs, Mrs. O'Hare and other imprisoned comrades out of jail. PROPAGANDA is needed if we are to convince others that Socialism is RIGHT and the imprisonment of Socialists WRONG.

Yours in Comradeship, A. WAGENKNECHT, Director Organization and Propaganda, Chicago, Ill.

WEST VIRGINIA

OFFICIAL BULLETIN.

(Jesse Bird, State Secretary, Barracksville, W. Va.)

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Receipts, April, 1919.

Table of Receipts for April 1919: Finnish Federation \$15.00, Lithuanian Federation 1.57, South Slavic Federation 1.00, M. A. L. dues 14.75, etc.

Total \$86.97

Expenditures

Table of Expenditures: Postage \$3.25, Nat. Office—Charters 1.00, Nat. Office—Dues Stamps 15.00, Bal. due bill for costs in case 20.65, etc.

Total \$133.10

RESOURCES

Table of Resources: 950 State Constitutions \$47.50, 3 sets local sec'y books 9.00, 500 Think or Surrender 5.00, etc.

Total \$133.10

ANNUAL ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Socialist Party of West Virginia. (Elected Officers in Caps.)

Table of Officers: Jesse Bird, Barracksville, W. Va. 63 votes; P. H. Camp 42; P. R. Garrett 19; State Committeeman-at-Large M. S. HOLT, Weston 68; J. H. Snyder 56; etc.

A BANNER MONTH.

This has been some busy office this month, and it is the first month since I have had charge of the office when the activities fulfilled my idea of a state headquarters of a political party. Three national referendums have been conducted through this medium and an election of officers of the state party organization has been brought to a close.

MILLIONS WILL HELP DEBS

hell, the Kalers of America, must and shall answer to the oppressed, the slaves of toil, the souls that seek only justice. Tell him that the hundreds of thousands of noble sons that gave up their happiness, their homes, their lives for freedom's sake, cry out to those sons and daughters of toil to continue the battle for FREEDOM—Freedom of speech, of soul, of mind, Freedom for that great martyr, EUGENE V. DEBS.

the local affairs of the Socialist movement so that you may not be ashamed to have owned me as a comrade. Yours fraternally, H. F. OBERHOLTZER, Retiring State Secretary Socialist Party of West Virginia, 1718 6th Ave., Huntington, W. Va.

MAY DAY, 1919

As one of the many speakers assigned to speak at a Debs Protest Meeting, May 1, 1919, I started upon my mission from Toledo, Ohio, at 8:52 in the morning.

I could not get away at 5:00 a.m., which is the time of the only morning train direct to Conneaut, Ohio, where I was to speak, so went by steam to Cleveland, arriving at 11:30 a.m., and left by electric at 2:00 p.m.

On the train I had read of the bomb plots throughout the country, and not believing them to be true, I saw in this alarming newspaper story the setting for the first act of the tragedies which were to occur throughout the day and night of that eventful May 1.

Instinctively I knew at once these stories were but a harbinger of what was to follow—a sort of premeditated preparation of the human mind for anything that might occur—a shock-absorber as it were—preliminary to the wholesale slaughter which would follow during the day.

The subsidized press calls these slaughters "riots" and must ever blame the victims—the unarmed—and that is what they called the one I witnessed in Cleveland, May 1.

Yes, I witnessed it and was not excited, and I know it was a slaughter and not a riot. I saw the parade as it peacefully marched into the square amid cheers from the thousands who had gathered to welcome their coming.

I had a good view and I saw the beginning of the game when the mounted police, pretending to keep the traffic clear, deliberately drove their horses into the line of marchers after the head of the parade had entered the park proper.

They crowded the marchers onto the sidewalk and followed them swinging their clubs and then from nearby came hundreds of policemen afoot and in patrols and like wild men they beat their unarmed victims with their clubs and dragged them away.

There was no call for police because there was a riot—the police were held nearby to start their bloody orgy for the affair did not last more than twenty minutes from the time the head of the parade entered the square until the end.

A Riotless Riot. I left Cleveland at 2:00 p.m. and arrived at Conneaut at 6:30. The meeting here was to begin at 7:30, so I had no time to meet the comrades and immediately proceeded to the Workers' Hall where I learned before entering that another riot was to be staged.

The local newspaper had agitated the citizens. The mayor had forbidden the meeting. The chief of police and the sheriff were already at the door. The hall was one-third filled with regular and deputized policemen and the orders were, "No meeting in Conneaut."

Organizer Eiseeman had informed the mayor the meeting would be held regardless of his orders. The mayor had ordered the Police and Sheriff Eldred were there to enforce the orders of Mayor Smith—there with a regiment of police.

Organizer Eiseeman and the Conneaut Comrades were there to hold a May Day Protest Meeting. The meeting was held. The speakers spoke. The Finnish chorus sang the Marseillaise. The chief and the sheriff and the police went home in peace. We went home in peace.

And now, behold! The Conneaut Press is angry because there was no bloodshed! It mourns the fact that at Cleveland and other cities workers were assaulted and murdered so gloriously, and Conneaut let May Day pass without one drop of blood.

Now they are trying to create a battle between the mayor, the chief of police, and the sheriff. Here's the frame-up in newspaper clippings from the Conneaut News Herald. Read this and see how riots are started:

Poison Gas. "Propaganda is at large seeking to secure amnesty for all so-called political prisoners. The United States Government is brave enough and dutiful enough to send to prison a few handfuls of disreputable creatures that have befouled the name of the fair land that feeds them. Hundreds, perhaps thousands more should have gone. Deserving ones have escaped the blank wall. Now as an aftermath to leniency the snake in the grass is again showing its head and is not only getting away with spreading its poison but is demanding liberation of its dirty confederates."—Editorial in Conneaut News-Herald, Apr. 30.

Inciting to Riot. "Mayor M. R. Smith late today issued orders to Chief of Police Merrow to notify all parties interested in a proposed 'Debs Protest Meeting' to be held in the Workers' Hall, lower Broad Street, tomorrow night, that the meeting could not be held in that or any other hall in the city or in the open within the city."

The meeting for tomorrow night had been variously advertised. There were to be two out-of-town speakers and a message from Debs, recently sentenced to prison by the federal government. Feeling against the meeting became so strong and talk of Bolshevik propaganda so general in various parts of the city and undertone of the press that the police and Mayor Smith, after being approached by a number of citizens, took the above action."—Herald, Apr. 30.

Another "alleged" fact that was all lie: "Reports from an apparently reliable source at press time this afternoon are to the effect that Sheriff Eldred will be here this evening from Jefferson for the purpose of preventing the holding of the radical meeting stopped in the city but which it was reported would be held in the township outside the city. It is understood a number of deputies have been sworn in for the occasion."

Now read the report of the meeting and note the sequel of these blood-thirsty anarchists who are angry at the police for not having started a slaughter, even after the press had promised immunity by calling it a Bolshevik riot:

"One hundred and fifty persons (in fact, there were 500), including women and children, gathered in Workers' Hall last evening to hear a message from the convicted Debs and protest against his imprisonment. As per schedule they heard speeches eulogizing Debs and other convicts, one expressing the belief and hope that the time will come when Debs' picture is in every school room in the country."

"He characterized Debs and others like him as martyrs comparing their status to that of Christ. The time would come, he said, when Debs would be recognized as one of our biggest citizens."

"The speaker also told his audience to be ready to respond to a call to be issued for July 4 or the day after, for every worker to lay down his tools and not work."

"It was a very tame performance. Nothing was said that was interpreted as seditious although it was considered by the few 'outsiders' present as un-American."

"A radical local Socialist presided at the meeting, one who it is understood, is well versed in the tenets of the radical Reds. The speaker's chief aim, in accordance with the posters announcing the meeting, by one means or another, was to protest against imprisonment of persons for violation of federal laws, or deportation of the Reds by this government to countries where their ideas are now resulting in carnivals of bloodshed."

"WHAT THE NEWS-HERALD WANTS TO know is why Chief of Police Merrow did not carry out the orders of Mayor Smith issued to him Wednesday to prevent the meeting advertised for last night being held?"

FRANKLIN MARSHALL.

YOUR LOCAL—WHERE AND WHEN IT MEETS

Your Local's Advertisement Will be Inserted Under This Heading at the Rate of \$2.50 for One Year.

- LOCAL AKRON: Socialist Party of Ohio Meets Every Friday Evening at 50 South Howard St. LOCAL CINCINNATI: Meets Every Thursday, 8 P. M. Lectures Every Sunday, 8 P. M. SOCIALIST HALL 1814 Vine St. LOCAL WARREN: Meets Every Thursday at 7:30 P. M., Labor Organization Hall, E. Market St., Near Second Nat'l Bank, Warren, Ohio. LOCAL KENMORE: SOCIALIST PARTY OF OHIO Meets Every Friday, 7:30 P. M. BITTIKOFFERS HALL Cor. 15th St. and Boulevard Kenmore, Ohio. LOCAL SANDUSKY: Socialist Party of Ohio Meets First and Third Wednesday, Each Month, 7:30 P. M. FUCHS HALL Cor. Monroe and Fulton Sts. LOCAL TOLEDO: Meets every Tuesday evening, except the first Tuesday after the first Sunday. General party meeting first Sunday of each month, 8 p. m., 218 Michigan St.

WAGENKNECHT REPORTS ON DEBS TRIP TO PENITENTIARY

April 29, 1919.

To the National Executive Committee Comrades: I desire to make a short report of my trip with Eugene V. Debs to the Moundsville penitentiary.

Wearied by a night ride from Terre Haute to Cleveland during which Comrade Debs only had an hour's sleep, he was taken by the federal authorities from the Gilsey Hotel, Cleveland, early Sunday morning, April 13th, and rushed to the Moundsville penitentiary.

It took more than twelve hours to get to Moundsville. No time was allowed by the United States marshal for lunch at noon and very little time was given Comrade Debs to eat dinner when we finally arrived at Wheeling. The trip completely exhausted Comrade Debs, so much so that in the last of seven changes of cars and depots, he could hardly mount and dismount the car steps.

I characterize the methods used by the authorities, their total disregard for Debs' age and his comfort as particularly brutal and inhuman.

Had either one of the lawyers who defended Debs in court been present when the federal authorities took Comrade Debs in charge, several days of respite might have been gained for him in which he might have rested and attended to his many personal affairs.

I sent many telegrams ahead just as soon as I learned which route to the penitentiary we were taking. I subsequently learned that the Socialist locals in and near Moundsville had disbanded and because of this we met with no comrades to cheer Debs on his way to his cell.

After investigating conditions of the party in Moundsville and Wheeling I learned that in both places the Socialist locals had succumbed because of the war hysteria. It seems to me that the Socialists, rather than former Socialists of Wheeling, have turned pro-war and are engaged in profitable politics. Most of those who were seen deported themselves as if the incarceration of Debs near Wheeling was more of an affliction than an honor and I dare say that their "good political standing" in their city will not permit them to be of any service to Debs while he is in prison.

Returning to Cleveland I learned upon Wednesday that the automobile in which Comrade Debs was spirited away from the federal building was hired by the Cleveland Plain Dealer from the Waite garage. The Plain Dealer reporter met Debs at the Union depot when Debs arrived in Cleveland and gave Comrade Debs to understand that he was connected with the secret service department.

It was the automobile which this reporter used in which Debs was subsequently taken on a flying trip through Cleveland's main thoroughfares and side streets and finally landed at the Erie depot.

The question arises—why this close affiliation between the Plain Dealer and the federal authorities? By what right did the United States marshal use the automobile of a capitalist daily paper? Why did not the marshal engage an automobile at the expense of the United States if one was necessary? It shows the very close affiliation between the Democratic Plain Dealer and the Democratic federal officialdom. The Plain Dealer hangs the European revolutionists editorially about three times a week, and the United States marshal undoubtedly wanted to do his little part in co-operation with his paper here in this free country of ours.

Photographs of Debs and those who accompanied him were obtained by me in Cleveland. These will be used in a pamphlet which we contemplate publishing, showing pictures of the penitentiary as well as pictures of Debs on his way to prison.

I have the following suggestions to make. These suggestions should hold good in the case of any other (Continued on fourth page.)

