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THE WORKER AND HIS WAGES

By Alfred Baker Lewis

The unions to-day are doing invaluable work in protecting the wage rates of the workers. They have kept wages up except in those cases where the unions themselves have been destroyed by the bitter open shop drive of the employers taking advantage of the hard times in 1921. They have even advanced wages in several instances since those hard times.

But harsh experience to-day is teaching the workers that even when they keep their wages up or raise them by courageous trade union action, the employing class in control of industry skin them anyway and make them suffer nevertheless. How? Simply by denying them the right to steady work.

High wages per day or per hour or by the piece are only of little good if the employers in control of industry don't give you any chance to earn these wages half the time by giving you only part time work or laying you off altogether for a month or more at a stretch. And that is just exactly what the employers are doing to-day, especially in the mining and textile industries and on the railroads.

The employers are still in ownership and control of industry even when the unions do raise wages. Being in control of industry, they own and control the workers' jobs and they own and control the workers' product. So when they think the workers are getting too high wages, they shut down on production for a while and throw their men out of work. This shutting down on production means that they reduce the supply of their product. Reduction in the supply of the product means a higher price for the product according to the operations of the law of supply and demand.

Because of the higher price for their product, the employers' profits are just as high and generally much higher than they were before. On the other and, as soon as the higher prices become fairly general, the workers' wages are no bigger in purchasing power than they were before. In fact, the workers' wages become really much less. For though a day or an hour wage will buy as much or more than before, the employers are likely to give them fewer days work than before. The employers are likely to do this, first because they cannot sell as much as a rule at the higher price, and so they cut down on production to the point where they can successfully sell their output at the very high price. Second, because the employers know that when the workers are often laid off for a time or get only a few days work a week, it is all the harder for them to keep their fighting organizations, the unions, strong and powerful. Therefore, it is all the harder for the workers to continue to keep wages up and to show a determined and united resistance when the employers try to cut wages or to smash the unions.

That is just the game the employers played when they were throwing men out of work by the million and trying to smash the unions during the hard times in the latter part of 1920 and 1921.

It is also just the game the coal operators are trying to play in the coal mining industry to-day. The coal miners have a powerful union, one of the best in the country. They fought to a standstill the attack on their wages in 1922, and they have

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BERTHA HALE WHITE Bus. Mgr.

THE MILITARY PRISONERS

The Chicago Tribune recently discovered there are military prisoners at Leavenworth and is conducting a campaign for their release. For the past two or three weeks it has carried articles about the "Lost Legion" and it now expresses surprise, grief and indignation that the "Forty organizations" that united through five long years for the release of political prisoners have not given the Tribune the support it believes it should have.

Editorially, it remarks, under the heading "For Traitors only:"

"These humanitarian and sanctimonious organizations are now sitting back twiddling their thumbs and beaming complacently upon a redeemed world. Every one of the organizations, if it desires to retain public respect, ought to declare itself unequivocally upon the issue of granting simple justice to the imprisoned soldiers."

Despite the gruelling experience of those five years, amnesty workers are human. The prison doors opened for the political—who were not traitors, nor slackers nor, exclusively, members of the Industrial Workers of the World—only after efforts that are unparalleled for tenacity and sacrifice; thousands and thousands of workers gave of their scant funds and leisure to that cause. In every possible manner their purpose was thwarted and success delayed by the endless opposition of The Chicago Tribune. It is a bit unreasonable to complain now of non-co-operation.

And The Tribune is in error when it conveys the impression that amnesty organizations forgot the military prisoners. They were not forgotten when the American Freedom Foundation, pioneer in the movement for amnesty, early in 1919 demanded the release of all war prisoners, political and military, with an emphatic protest against the thousands of sentences imposed by court martial. The Foundation found itself baffled in every attempt to get a definite record of the number thus convicted, of those still serving sentences or to locate them in the different federal and military prisons. With the exception of formal reports which could be obtained with some difficulty and much delay from the Department of Justice, little authentic information could be had and no material that could be used in

pleas for clemency.

Even in the early period of the amnesty work when the various groups concentrated their efforts at Washington, there was a disposition and a desire to make common cause for both classes of war prisoners.

It was The Chicago Tribune that sat back and twiddled its thumbs and beamed complacently upon a redeemed world while men and women haunted the corridors of official Washington doing what could be done in behalf not alone of the political but of the military prisoners as well.

RESOLUTION ON CHILD LABOR

Whereas, every attempt to safeguard the children of America from wage slavery by the enactment of federal legislation has been defeated through adverse rulings of the Supreme Court, and

Whereas, since the declaration that the second Child Labor Act passed by Congress was unconstitutional, there has been a steady increase in the exploitation of children,

Be It Resolved, that the National Executive Committee of the Socialist Party demand that the Constitution of the United States shall be so amended as to permit the enactment of laws to protect the child life of the nation. And be it further

Resolved, that the Socialist Party support such proposed legislation and use every possible means to ensure its enactment during the present session of Congress.

CHILD LABOR

They look up, with their pale and sunken faces,

And their look is dread to see,

For they mind you of their angels in high places,

With eyes turned on Deity!—

"How long," they say, "how long, O cruel nation,

Will you stand, to move the world, on a child's heart—

Stifle down with a mailed heel its palpitation,

And tread onward to your throne amid the mart?

Our blood splashes upward, O gold-heaper,

And your purple shows your path!

But the child's sob in the silence curses deeper

Than the strong man in his wrath."

Elizabeth Barrett Browning

Have you a 1924 Voluntary Assessment Stamp in your membership book? If not, see your local secretary at once and get in line with the 1924 Socialist Party hustlers.

If you are a member at large in an unorganized State, send for a stamp to the National Office. We have them in denominations of 50c, \$1.00 and \$5.00.

(Continued from page 1)

won an increase in the anthracite field. What did the coal operators do? They simply raised the price of coal, more by far than the higher wages required. When the consumers, both domestic and industrial, could not buy so much at the higher price, they cut down on production, so that all through the union coal fields the miners are getting to-day only part time work.

What is the remedy? Take over the coal mines by the government and run them to satisfy the needs of the community instead of the profits of the coal operators. That is just what the Socialists propose.

If we squeezed the profits of the coal bosses out of the industry, as the Socialists want to do, it would be possible to raise wages for the miners and lower the price of coal both. With the lower price, the consumers could and would buy more coal, for as a general thing, a lower price means a bigger demand, as Henry Ford has shown so clearly in the auto industry. With the larger sales of coal the miners could have steadier work, even at the higher wages, than they are getting now, so that they could have far more wages than now. In spending this

big increase in their wages they would stimulate production in other lines. This increase in production in turn would mean a still greater increase in the demand for coal as fuel, so that the miners would get still closer to full time work for all of them the whole year around, and all this at the higher wage rates.

The same good effects would come from taking over any other industry, raising wages and lowering prices till the profits were squeezed out, and running it to satisfy human wants and needs instead of to make profits for the owners of industry. Socialism thus would mean lower prices, higher wages, and steadier work all around. All these in turn would mean greater leisure and greater freedom for the mass of the population to devote to cultivating the mental, spiritual, and artistic sides of human nature, which to-day are so much stunted by the incessant struggle to earn a bare livelihood.

Get busy then, and join the Socialist Party. Distribute Socialist leaflets and increase the circulation of Socialist papers. Help in every way you can to spread the Socialist gospel of industrial salvation for the workers and consumers.

KANSAS CITY FREE SPEECH CASE

On August 30, 1923, Esther Friedman, National Organizer of the Socialist Party and eight others were arrested while holding an open air meeting in Kansas City, Mo. They were ordered held for investigation, but about two o'clock in the morning effected their release on bond, with a formal charge of disturbing the peace resting against them.

When the case was brought to trial, despite the fact that no one could be found to prefer charges except the officers who made the arrest, and not a witness could be found to sustain them, Mrs. Friedman and J. G. Hodges, then local secretary of the Socialist Party were both found guilty as charged and fined \$100.00 each. The seven remaining defendants were released. After sentence had been pronounced, the judge demanded that the city prosecutor file additional charges of obstructing the highway.

This the prosecutor refused to do and was finally ordered removed from the court. A police officer led him out, but he finally returned and put the charge against the defendants as demanded by the court, whereupon fines of \$50.00 each were also imposed for obstructing the highway.

The cases were appealed, and it was thought they would be thrown out in the Circuit Court.

On March 13th the Hodges motion for a new

trial was denied and judgment affirmed. Comrade Hodges paid his fines and Comrade Friedman's will be called on March 28th.

One of the Kansas City members, in writing the National Office declared "it is a plain case of persecution and an infamous outrage against so-called justice. The great tragedy is that we working people are so enslaved by the system that we have neither privilege, time nor finance even to protect ourselves against these attacks, much less call their hand and bring them to account for these unlawful acts committed in the name of Law and Order."

From T. A. Edwards, Secretary Local Omaha:

"We are putting our every effort into making Comrade Friedman's meeting here a success, and have concentrated on that one thing. We are going to put that over big. Advertising received and will be put out tomorrow, also sending a notice by mail to all the Socialists and Progressives.

"I have sold five of the \$1.00 Voluntary Assessment stamps, and as I know you need the money I am sending it to you and will send it in as fast as I can sell them. I am going to make a personal canvass of our members and try to sell them all, those who cannot buy I shall ask to give what they can, even a dime, for which they will get credit, and will send it in to you as we recognize it to be of greater importance than any other thing before us at this time.

JOHN HANCOCK -- EUGENE V. DEBS

"—Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness—that to gain these rights Governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed—that whenever any form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or abolish it and to institute new Government—".

Thus wrote Thomas Jefferson almost a century and a half ago, but when that Declaration was given to the world, and was first published to all men, one name alone appeared upon it — John Hancock who writ his name large that friends and foes alike might have no difficulty in reading it—

John Hancock whose capture was the object of the British before Lexington; for whom no clemency was to be given, whose rebellion "would admit no other consideration than that of condign punishment."

"The working class who fight the battles, who make the sacrifices, have never yet had a voice in declaring war. . . If war is right, let it be declared by the people".

Thus Eugene V. Debs in Canton on June 16, 1918. This was his declaration of independence to the war-makers of America. Thus for all the world to hear, with representatives of a government that had become destructive of the life, liberty and happiness of the people, recording his words as he uttered them. For that declaration he was sent to prison by those who would silence him. But his voice rang throughout the world and will never be silenced.

John Hancock and Eugene V. Debs! Today the great-great grand-daughter of John Hancock, Miss Faith Chevallier, writes:

Los Angeles, California,

March 4, 1924.

"To the Committee or Judges for Award of Nobel Peace Prize.

Gentlemen:

"Never has the Nobel Peace Prize been awarded to one as fundamentally entitled to it as Hon. Eugene V. Debs of Terre Haute, Indiana, the martyr in the Cause of Democracy, World Unity, and Brotherhood.

"His philosophy is axiomatically true so far as the removal of causes for discord, dissension, wars, and wrongs of man to his fellowmen is concerned. Gentle and lovable, with no malice even toward those who have persecuted him through ignorance, he stands as nearly patternive after the Elder

Brother both in his personal character and in his Social and Economic Vision.

"The address which through war hysteria caused his conviction is more nearly matched by Woodrow Wilson's utterances in 'The New Freedom' and in his speeches in behalf of the camouflaged League of Nations—the differences being that Mr. Debs carried out his utterances and convictions while Mr. Wilson betrayed his through some unknown cause—perhaps when he was helplessly overpowered.

"Hoping that you will honor yourselves by honoring Eugene V. Debs by awarding him the peace prize, I am

Sincerely yours,

Faith Chevallier.

NORWAY FOR DEBS

M. Falkenberg, Socialist, formerly of Cincinnati, has written Representative Victor L. Berger, Wisconsin, that his nomination of Eugene V. Debs for the Nobel Peace Prize has met with much sympathy in Norway, both from radicals and conservatives.

"The press has been very friendly," Mr. Falkenberg wrote, and the Socialists under the leadership of Nilssen are very active in their efforts.

Comrade Falkenberg has just returned to Cincinnati, where he has been greatly missed in party activities during his visit to Norway. Writing the National Office on board ship, he reports that the official organ "Social-Demokraten" has taken charge of the work in support of Congressman Berger's nomination of Debs in close co-operation with the Socialist members of the Storting under the leadership of Magnus Nilssen.

GEORGE R. KIRKPATRICK IN NATIONAL OFFICE

It is a matter of congratulation that the National Office has been able to secure Comrade Kirkpatrick to take charge of the literature and publicity department of the work at headquarters.

Plans are being formulated for a literature campaign beginning immediately after the National Convention. There is no one better fitted to take charge of this important work than George R. Kirkpatrick and the news that he has joined the National Office force will be received with great satisfaction by our members.

Comrade Kirkpatrick will begin his work April 14th.

To The Members Of The Socialist Party

Daer Comrade:

The coming National Convention of the Socialist Party will be crucial for the future of our movement.

It will be called to order on July 6th, two days after the opening of the convention called by the Conference for Progressive Political Action. Both conventions will be held in Cleveland.

The Conference for Progressive Political Action represents about 2,500,000 organized workers, a number of farmers' organizations, the Farmer-Labor Parties of several states in the Middle-West and various other progressive organizations. The Socialist Party has been regularly represented in the Conference from its inception.

The convention call of the Conference is addressed to all national and international labor unions, State Federations of Labor, Central City labor bodies, organizations of working farmers, and co-operative societies. The National organization of our party will be represented by three delegates and each state committee of the party will be entitled to two delegates.

The object of the convention is "to take action on nomination of candidates for the offices of President and Vice-President of the United States, and on other questions that may come before the convention."

If the convention will lay the foundation of a genuine political party of labor in the United States and make it possible for our party to co-operate with it, we will have an unparalleled opportunity to place our political training and experience at the service of the working class in the practical work of organizing the new movement and helping to guide its development in the direction of clear-cut working-class political conceptions and methods.

If the convention should fail to take proper action, the Socialist Party will be called upon to lead the fight in the coming presidential campaign as the only party of labor and progress under the most favorable conditions that have ever confronted us.

In either event, the decisions of our National Convention will be momentous and our opportunities will be enormous.

We cannot, we must not neglect this historic opportunity. We must see to it that our convention is well represented and that delegates from all parts of the country are enabled to attend, and we must build up our party organization to the maximum of its strength and efficiency before the coming campaign.

The National Executive Committee, therefore, issues an urgent call to every party member to make a personal and substantial sacrifice to help our cause in this crucial situation. Special assessment stamps have been issued in denominations of 50c, \$1.00 and \$5.00. Let every member assess himself according to his means. Every active member can afford a fifty cent contribution between now and June, and some can afford to pay for several five dollar stamps. Every dollar will help to secure an effective convention and to build up the party. Let no Socialist fail of his duty.

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Eugene V. Debs, Chairman
W. M. Brandt,
Leo M. Harkins,
Morris Hillquit,

Edmund T. Melms,
W. R. Snow,
Birch Wilson.

PROSPERITY AND HARD TIMES

By August Claessens.
Article No. 4
Inflation and Deflation

Economists differ as to the major causes of financial panics and industrial depressions. Concerning the minor causes, effects and symptoms, there is a voluminous literature. Regarding the fundamental elements in these economic disturbances and their removal, there is little to be found in the addresses and publications of our wise men. Our economic chaos reflects itself in an intellectual chaos.

We are informed by the historians that the crisis of 1819 was due to bad banking; the panic of 1837 to undue business expansion; in 1857 it was the result of over investment and railroad speculation, and these factors were also held responsible for the crisis of 1873. Too rapid and speculative railroad building caused the crash of 1884, and over-speculation, inflated credit and over-investment produced the terrific panic of 1893. Reckless business excesses are attributed to the collapse of 1907, and in 1913 it was a "psychological condition." And the depression of 1920, we were told, was the outcome of the war, abnormal profiteering, expansion, speculation and inflation.

The terms inflation and deflation are now fairly popular and descriptive of our business troubles. By inflation is meant letting the air in. Deflation is letting the air out. (Often there is no "let" involved.) In other words, during good times a volume of air is pumped into business, and in hard times it flows out. Verily, our capitalist system is an exceedingly windy proposition!

To understand the mad whirlings of our economic cyclones, we must observe their beginnings and follow their gyrations and progress. The air that causes the inflation in business is stored in the banks and the credit system generally. The substance of this air is mortgages on the future and speculation in possibilities and fond hopes. Some two or three years after a general smash-up, things begin "to pick up" again. The gentlemen in charge of the air pumps sense the atmosphere, and as soon as they believe the calm is about to dissipate, they announce the glad news of a business revival. The boom fever becomes highly infectious and the cries of "Banish the Blues!" "Good Times Ahead!" "Smile, Darn ye, Smile!" are carried from town to town and city to city.

Then the credit pumps begin to work. Slowly and cautiously at first, but soon they speed up and increase the pressure. From thousands of tubes the thin air of speculation flows into the channels of

industry and commerce. Loans, mortgages and credits are floated and eagerly seized by the hungry world of business. Fed on this inflation, a period of rapid commercial expansion sets in. Old plants are enlarged, and new ones are erected, railroad rolling stock is purchased or repaired, new machinery ordered, more help is hired, output is doubled, huge investments in real-estate are made, extensive building operations commenced, farms and crops are mortgaged, and a season of reckless speculation begins again.

Meanwhile, the bankers work the pumps and the newspapers herald the glad tidings of an unparalleled spell of prosperity ahead. Once this spurt is on there is no telling when or where it will end. That it will end is certain.

To paraphrase the poem and abuse the poet, we may sing—"O wind, if prosperity comes, can bankruptcy be far behind?"

For fear that this analysis may arouse suspicions that it is but the gloomy tale of a professional calamity howler, let us quote no less an authority on air pressure and gauges than the National City bank of New York. This oracle of Wall Street issues a monthly statement pregnant with wholesome wisdom. The following is from its press advertisement for June 5, 1923.

"All the modern countries have alternating periods of prosperity and depression, more or less pronounced. The fundamental reason for these fluctuations is that we have developed a highly specialized society. Instead of each doing everything for himself, as in primitive times, we have all become specialists, each doing some one thing, and making exchanges with each other. It is a highly effective system when it is all in balance and running smoothly, but like any other complicated machine, it is more likely to get out of order than a simple machine.

* * *

"The system operates by general co-operation. There is some confusion, some jostling, some friction, and more or less working at cross purposes. No wonder. But, on the whole, it works remarkably well. (*They don't say for whom?*)

* * *

"A period of prosperity has in it the elements of its own undoing. It is a familiar observation that 'some people cannot stand prosperity.'

* * *

"They do not see why things will not always run along in the same smooth way. The instinct of caution is weakened—the impulse to expansion, to spread out and cut a wider swath, to spend more money and live up close to the income, develops.

"In business a period of prosperity encourages men to overreach themselves. They go deeply into debt because prices are rising, and the buying on credit causes prices to rise still farther. The longer the boom continues, the more venturesome people become and the narrower the margins become, until the whole price structure becomes top-heavy and comes down with a crash."*

* (These excerpts are lifted from the body of a sermon, the moral of which is "Save for the rainy days and strengthen your reserves".)

So there you are! Who could state this more beautifully or truthfully. The banker's guilt in starting the hurricane is blissfully suppressed in the above quotation. This is to be expected. Nevertheless, our anxious pumpers do over-estimate the capacity of the credit air bag, and in one moment of hilarity and enthusiasm they overstrain it, and bang! rip! crash! and the expansion blows out.

For a simile, take the cavortings of one of Mr. Ford's run-abouts. This tin-plated vehicle of joy rides on inflated tires. Between it and terra firma is air encased in tubes. So far so good. But the air will not stay put, and so we pump in some more. Presently, the tubes and tires, kissed by mean roads, yield to these rude embraces and an occasional intruding nail or bit of glass ends the romance with a high-sounding smack. The air quickly sneaks out of the tire, deflation follows, and the car comes to a standstill. Then it's "all off", grease, sweat and curses. Such is life with automobiles—and our airy business system.

Most assuredly, our capitalists don't want crises, panics nor depression. Their fond concept of this earthly existence is one long unending eternity of boom-times. Bankruptcy, ruinous prices, unemployment and curtailed consumption are not in their programs. Our inflators are, however, victims of the wind they themselves have let loose, and like veteran gamblers they don't learn, but plead for another chance and still another chance.

Just before the business blow-out arrives, the gentlemen in control of the pumping apparatus, becoming apprehensive of the danger, try to diminish the flow of credit. Presently begins the troublesome job of calling in the returns.

"Your notes are due,

Pay up or we'll sue."

becomes the verse of an unpopular song. Mute is the response.

Panic follows. Bankers and creditors exert their

heavy pressure upon big business men. These gentlemen in turn forward the pressure upon their debtors, and these "pass the buck" on to theirs, and so on until the fellows who are unable to pay up—give up. Many failures create more and larger ones and the whole entangled mass collapses.

Then follow business inflation (getting rid of the air), liquidation (squeezing the water out) and readjustment (reducing expenditures, laying off help and slashing wages.) This aggravates the situation sorely, and more failures, foreclosures and bankruptcies occur, and a sudden increase of mysterious fires lights up the whole sorry spectacle. The effect of the collapse is truly depressing. The toilers in the industries and on the farms soon find themselves underneath the whole mess, and the pressure descends upon them and deflates them. Thus the grand fiasco finds its final level—on the backs of those who are least able to bear it.

The business stagnation that follows creates further havoc. The economic losses to the whole nation during these periods can be estimated in millions and probably billions. Millions of workers thrown out of employment create incalculable wastes in labor and time lost, equipment and materials depreciating, and many other effects of the industrial derangement.

And then what? Well, our statesmen commence surveys and suggest patches. The hordes of jobless workers worry and perplex them. Our big business men hike to the woods to meditate and some go abroad. Economists analyze, publicists propose, and the press, now seeking causes and now scolding, eventually smears some Pollyanna salve over the situation and roots for a business revival. After a brief interval, our buccaneers of finance and pirates of commerce again hoist their sails and seek new seas of further adventure.

Socialists cry, halt! This insane gambling, speculation and inflation has gone on far enough and long enough. We challenge every thinking man and woman to give heed to our message. If our analysis is agreed with, our program for a better economic system must command serious attention. This is our earnest plea and we shall continue to repeat it until enough people in this country will make up their minds to end once and for all time this impossible and utterly inefficient business system.

Next and Last Article

Economic Order Instead of Chaos.

"THE TRINITY OF PLUNDER"

By August Claessens

SOLD OUT!

The National Office has the plates. You want the book! Send in your advance order today!

Young People's Department

Report to the National Executive Committee of the Socialist Party

By Albert Weisbord, National Director Y.P.S.L.

ORGANIZATION TOUR

Purpose and Technique of Trip:

On June 8th, National Secretary Branstetter formally authorized me to carry on full time organization work for the Young People's Socialist League during the following summer. In reply to this communication I roughly sketched out a course of action for his approval.

It will be remembered that I had been engaged to make a tour of part of the country last year for the purpose, I take it, of finding out the exact state of affairs, connecting existing circles together, and sowing the seed for the future growth of a Young People's Socialist League organization. This year I conceived my purpose to be entirely different. I was not to discover "lost" Y. P. S. L. circles, but primarily to organize new ones.

My purpose being entirely different, so was the *modus operandi*:

(1) Instead of visiting many cities for a day or so, making long jumps in between, fewer cities were considered, shorter trips made and the time allotted to each city considerably lengthened.

(2) Anticipating being asked to speak for Party units, I adopted the following plan:

(a) To exhaust all Y. P. S. L. leads before doing any Party work,

(b) To address Party branches at indoor meetings in order to get them to understand thoroughly national policies and tactics in furthering the Young People's Socialist League, and to get full co-operation in building up a Young People Socialist League movement, and

(c) To do outdoor speaking only as a last resort for the triple purpose of collecting money to help pay expenses, obtaining Y. P. S. L. recruits, and furthering Party propaganda.

(3) I attempted everywhere to get in close touch with the unions, especially those on strike.

Results:

Generally, I believe it may reasonably be said that the trip fairly accomplished its object:

1. Five Young People's Socialist League Circles were formed:

Akron, Ohio
Cleveland, Ohio

Pittsburgh, Penn.
Philadelphia, Penn.

Detroit, Mich.

(I regret I cannot as yet give the exact number of new members brought in. It may well be about 100.)

2. Four nuclei for Y. P. S. L. Circles were formed in the following places:

Schenectady, N. Y. Braddock, Penn.
Buffalo, N. Y. Camden, N. J.

(It is submitted that with a little local effort good Y. P. S. L. Circles could be formed in these places.)

3. Seven Y. P. S. L. Circles already formed were visited and addressed (some for the first time) at Boston, Quincy, Maynard, Fitchburg, and Gardner, all in Massachusetts, and at Baltimore, Md. and New York City, N. Y.

4. Ten Party branch meetings were addressed at:

Schenectady, N. Y. Pittsburgh, Penn.
Cleveland, Ohio Philadelphia, Penn.
Detroit, Mich. Baltimore, Maryland
Dayton, Ohio Camden, N. J.
Columbus, Ohio New London, Conn.

5. Industrial organizations were addressed at:

Schenectady, N. J. (Striking street-car men.)
Buffalo, N. Y. (Striking clothing workers).
Camden, N. J. (Striking garment workers.)

and at various other places attempts were made to get in touch with trade union leaders, (in Cleveland, Ohio, and Philadelphia, Penn., for example.)

Items 4 and 5 must be stressed as having a direct relation to the Young People's Socialist League movement. I have already mentioned, in stating the purpose and technique of the trip, the immediate reasons for getting in touch with Party branches at regular meetings. Not only were the Branches useful in getting Y. P. S. L. circles and nuclei started, but even where no such work was done, much doubt and discouragement were dispelled and the membership imbued with the spirit that we must carry on and win. It is hard to estimate just what specific value this has, but it is safe to say that the membership addressed is far better equipped to criticize Y. P. S. L. problems than it was before. At any rate, more members are thinking about the Young People's Socialist League and urging Young People's Socialist League action. To accomplish this, is necessary pioneer work. (From the point of view of Party agitation, other valid reasons may

be given for addressing the local Party branches.)

As to Item 5, my only and deepest regret is that I could not do more of such work. The results were quite favorable. Indeed, in all of the places mentioned (see Item 5) I was able to get Y. P. S. L. recruits from the union members directly. Besides, the general propaganda value can hardly be overestimated.

6. Thirteen open-air meetings were held at:
 Schenectady, N. Y. Newport, Kentucky
 Syracuse, N. Y. Dayton, Ohio
 Buffalo, N. Y. Pittsburgh, Penn.
 Niagara Falls, N. Y. Philadelphia, Penn.
 Cleveland Ohio Camden, N. J. (2)
 Detroit, Mich. (2) (one factory meeting)

At some of these meetings (at least five) Y. P. S. L. and Party recruits were obtained, (people who said they would join.)

In all, forty-three meetings were held, and about 3100 people addressed.

In considering this report, the Committee should bear in mind the fact that this organizing trip was peculiar in the sense that it was foisted upon the locals. It was an artificial movement created from the top down. It was not a spontaneous or genuine mass movement. As a result your organizer had to overcome peculiar difficulties which took various forms in different places. It is inconvenient to embody this phase of the matter in such a report as this.

Recommendations:

A. *Minor Recommendations, relating to internal re-arrangement.*

1. *Matters which may be taken up immediately.*

It is recommended that:

a. A paid Young People's Socialist League Director or Organizer be employed full time as soon as possible.

In order to facilitate this, I hereby tender my resignation as National Director of the Young People's Department of the Socialist Party to take effect at the convenience of the National Executive Committee.

b. The National Office of the Young People's Department be moved to Chicago and the closest possible co-ordination with the National Office of the Party established.

c. The Socialist Party endorse the action of the Young People's Socialist League in joining the Socialist Youth International, the counterpart to that organization of which the Party is a member, viz., Socialist Labor International.

d. A translation department be established so that foreign mail can be quickly and accurately translated and acted upon.

e. The National Office of the Young People's Department of the Socialist Party be empowered to sell literature direct to the Young People's Socialist League Circles; to purchase such literature at cost from the Party; or from the outside.

2. *Constitutional matters which should have the positive support of the Committee at the next Party Convention.*

It is recommended that:

a. The Voluntary Y. P. S. L. Assessment Stamp be abolished and in its stead a certain percentage of funds collected each year automatically should be turned over for Y. P. S. L. work.

b. Article XII, Section 6, of the National Constitution be amended so as not to make Article III, Section 2, of the Young People's Socialist League National Constitution inconsistent.

c. The National Secretary of the Young People's Socialist League be considered a regular member of the National Executive Committee and have voice and vote on all matters. The Secretary of the Socialist Party shall have reciprocal powers in the National Executive Committee of the Young People's Socialist League.

d. Article XII, Section 9, 10, and 13 of the National Constitution be changed so as to give the Young People's Socialist League delegate a voice and vote in all matters. Party delegates shall have reciprocal powers in Young People's Socialist League units.

B. *Major Recommendations, relating to policies.*

It is recommended that the National Executive Committee give its most serious attention and best efforts to devise ways and means of getting trade unionists into Young People's Socialist League ranks. It is submitted that the time is ripe and that practicable plans must be formulated. It is suggested that the Young People's Socialist League can be made the vehicle by which the Party can grow to tremendous strength.

I regret I cannot be at your meeting. Should I be invited to your next, I shall come prepared to prove that all of the recommendations should be carried out as full as possible. It is urged, however, that the Minor Recommendations, No. 1, c, d, and e, be carried out at once. There are other matters I should like to discuss but which I can take up personally only. I shall be glad to answer all questions then.

Emil Herman makes his reports to the National Office on his organization tour through the Northwest by the brief but convincing method of new names for the Socialist World. At every place he does one of three things—takes in new members, organizes a new local or signs up members at large.

PRELIMINARY CONVENTION AGENDA

Motion No. 1. That the Socialist Party continue its affiliation to the Conference for Progressive Political Action and that it endorse and support an independent political party of labor upon a plan which will preserve the autonomy and integrity of organization of the Socialist Party and other constituent groups.

Motion No. 2. That the Socialist Party of the United States sever its affiliation to the Conference for Progressive Political Action and that the activities of the party be concentrated upon party building and education in the principles and program of Socialism.

CONSTITUTION

Amend the National Party Constitution by striking out: Selection 5, Article VII: "Railroad fare, including tourist sleeping car fare of delegates to and from conventions, and a per diem of five dollars to cover expenses, shall be paid from the National treasury from a special convention fund to be created by setting aside three cents for each dues stamp sold by the National Office."

Amend Section 10, Article IV, and Section 8, Article VIII, to provide that National dues shall be ten cents per month.

Referendum

To restore the sections of the National Party Constitution providing that all platforms, constitutional amendments, etc., be submitted to referendum of the membership.

Appropriations and Rebates of Dues

In order that the National organization shall not be hampered in its necessary work by an annual deficit, no fixed appropriation for special work nor rebate of dues to foreign language federations with a membership of less than 1,000 shall be made unless and until the average regular income from dues and literature sales shall be adequate to cover the fixed and mandatory expenses of the National Office first, but that such appropriations and rebates may be made from special funds collected for organization work when receipts and conditions warrant.

Socialist World

Motion No. 1. As the regular income from membership dues is inadequate to cover operating expense of the National Office and sustain a membership publication, that an annual Socialist World stamp be issued by the National Office in order that the Socialist World may be continued and improved and made a more effective organ of the Socialist Party.

NATIONAL PRESS BUREAU

To instruct the National Office to establish a Press Service Bureau for the dissemination of Socialist and Labor news, both National and International, and of comment on current events. Said Bureau to be maintained by the National Office and the several Socialist and Labor papers that may subscribe to same.

PARTY DISCIPLINE

Motion No. 1. As laxity of discipline is a source of weakness and disintegration, that the National Party Constitution be so amended as clearly to define the provisions dealing with the duties of State, Federation and Local officials to, and their relations with, the national organization.

PLATFORM

From Local Elmira, New York:

1. "We demand proportional representation and the right of all usefully productive workers to vote at any and all elections, without regard to time of residence, place of residence or tax obligations, and that useful service be the only qualification for citizenship, for public office or for jury duty.

2. "We demand that the farmer who tills his own acres with the aid of none but members of his own family, and all other useful workers, be exempt from all manner of taxation; that all homes, not held for rent, to the value of four thousand dollars or less, be stricken from the list of taxable property. Also that income be legally designated as profits accruing from money loaned or invested.

3. "We demand that all lands held for speculation and all homes held for rent be taxed at their full rental value; also, a five year moratorium on all farm mortgages.

4. "We demand the establishment of national or state stores for the distribution of all the necessities of life to the useful workers, at a profit just sufficient to guarantee to the patrons of such stores adequate insurance against sickness, accident, unemployment, maternity and old age.

5. "We demand the abolition of money, rent, interest, taxation, price, profit, cost and market value, and that the right to consume be conditioned upon free service."

Banking

That the Socialist Party, organized to work for the interest of the majority of the people, make Government Ownership of Banks the paramount issue in the campaign of 1924.

Bankruptcy Of The Wheat Farmer In The United States

By Emil Herman

An eastern Washington wheat grower, writing in the *Spokesman Review* under date of March 13th, said: "It cost the farmer anyway \$1.00 a bushel to grow the 1923 crop, but he received on an average only 80c on a bushel for it," which means that the wheat grower in the U. S is actually losing 20c on every bushel grown.

This is driving farmers into bankruptcy and we find them either starved off the land entirely or remaining as tenants.

A stage ride of fifty-four miles between Billings and Roundup, Montana, takes one over a great stretch of rolling prairie once occupied by industrious farmers engaged in raising wheat. In passing over that territory last October I found only three of the many farm houses inhabited, the rest had been starved out. To a somewhat lesser extent this same condition prevails in other wheat growing belts in the Northwest, and it is reflected in the failure of 142 banks in the state of Montana alone in the years of 1922 and 23.

This condition is forcefully impressing upon the farmer that, after all, ownership of land means nothing; it is what he can get off of it through his labor that counts. He is, therefore, no longer impressed by the argument that the coming in of Socialism will mean the confiscation of his farm.

Old guard politicians tell him that a duty of 42c a bushel of sixty pounds will relieve him of the Canadian wheat growers' competition and thus permit the price of wheat to come up to the \$1.00 a bushel, which it costs the farmer in the U. S. to produce it.

Demagogic reform politicians tell him that he is staggering to ruin under a heavy load of high taxes, high interest and exorbitant freight rates and promise to relieve him of this load if elected to office.

Neither presents a remedy because neither gets at the cause.

It is admitted that the Canadian farmer, with his modern machinery, on his great stretches of level and fertile land, and the guarantee of a crop each year can produce wheat by at most one-third of the cost to the farmer in the U. S.

At present the Canadian farmer is making a big profit at 80c a bushel while the American farmer is going bankrupt. Why? Because he has three bushels, or \$2.40, to the other's one bushel, or 80c. Now reduce the former's profit by a duty of 42c per bushel and he still has left \$1.14, or 14c more than the cost of producing a bushel of wheat by the

methods applicable to the soil conditions of the U. S. Thus leaving the Canadian farmer a margin of 34c above the present price of a bushel of wheat with which to compete his brother John Farmer in the U. S. out of business.

Just as the crude plows, cradles and flails of our grand-fathers could not compete with the more modern plows, headers and threshing machines now in vogue on the farms in the U. S., so these latter cannot compete with the still more modern methods—the tractor with its gang of plows, discs, harrows, seeders and covering harrows preparing the soil, sowing and covering the seed in one operation; and the "combine" harvesting, threshing and sacking the crop in another operation, now in use by the Canadian wheat farmers.

With the present and increasing advantage of the Canadian wheat farmer over the farmer in the U. S., it is evident to all who can reason clearly that taxes, interest and freight rates might be entirely eliminated for the latter and yet be starved off the land or compelled to enter other fields of agriculture.

If the first happens to him he will find himself and family in an already over-crowded labor market looking for work; if the other, he will find himself in competition with other farmers who are already more than supplying the market, and are on the ragged edge of poverty.

As for the wage-worker so for the farmer, Socialism offers him the only relief from exploitation and the consequent poverty, misery and suffering.

The short cuts to prosperity offered by the defunct Non-Partisan League and the several reform parties splitting away from the communists who split from the Socialist Party, have resulted and will result in nothing except to give a few political demagogues an opportunity to ride into office.

Unite in the Socialist Party. It has a clear-cut and well defined program of collective ownership, in the social means of production, which points the way to emancipation.

HISTORY OF IMPERIALISM

By Irwin St. John Tucker

An invaluable historical work written from the economic viewpoint. Should be in every student's library.

Regular Price, \$2.25; special price for a limited period, \$1.50 each, 4 for \$5.00.

NATIONAL OFFICE SOCIALIST PARTY
2653 Washington Blvd., Chicago, Ill.

RESOLUTION ON MEXICO

President Obregon,
Mexico City, Mexico.

The National Executive Committee of the Socialist Party of the United States in session at St. Louis on Sunday, February 10, 1924, adopted the following resolution:

Whereas, The present efforts of the predatory interests having holdings in Mexico or desiring to secure special privileges in Mexico, should be resisted by all lovers of justice, and

Whereas, The efforts of the Mexican Government to raise the standard of living, the right to organize, the right of political equality, the right to land use, the retention by the Government of the ownership of all oil and minerals found beneath the surface of the land, have been in the interests of the workers of Mexico. Therefore Be It

Resolved: That we express to the people of Mexico our sincere wish for the defeat of the enemies who are attempting to overthrow the Government of Mexico so that the workers of Mexico can be further exploited.

IN MEMORY OF WILLIAM R. CLARK

By Local Elmira, N. Y.

It is with sincere regret that Local Elmira of the Socialist Party learns that Comrade William Rooke Clarke has departed this life.

Comrade Clarke was born in the City of New York, on the 24th. day of March, 1865, of English parents, and soon after his birth his parents returned to England with him. He, however, returned to America when he was sixteen years of age, and it was during this return trip across the ocean that he gave his first serious attention to the art of drawing. He made pencil sketches of icebergs and sold them to his fellow passengers, and six years later, when he was twenty-two years of age, he adopted art as his vocation and became, as we know, a noted scenic artist.

In 1886 he met Minnie Matilda Raymond (Gal-lineaux) in the City of Toronto, Canada, and married her at that place in 1890. From that union three children were born, the first one, a girl, dying at the age of four years, and the two remaining are Elon G. Clarke who married Minnie Gramenstetter, and Alice, who married George Doud.

Comrade Clarke visited England in 1905, for about a year, and while there was attracted by

and gave considerable study to the working-class movement in that country, and after his return he joined the Socialist Party in 1910, when he became a dues paying member, and has since then been an efficient and hard-working member of the Party.

Comrade Clarke was a deep thinker and his reading was of a varied and highly educational character. His mind was exceptionally free from all superstition and dogma. His heart and soul was in the working-class movement, and he was at all times ready and willing to make any sacrifice to aid that movement. He was a close student of political affairs in Europe, and was greatly elated over the wonderful growth of the working-class movement in England. His vision was not centered upon the movement, locally, but he had a bright and pleasing vision of an ideal future when it shall be possible for the working-man to receive the full value of his production, with time for education, enlightenment and recreation, and when every man shall have an equal opportunity to develop the best that is in his nature.

In the death of Comrade William Rooke Clarke, the Socialist Party, and especially of Chemung County, has met a great and serious loss, but to the widow and family the loss can never be made good, and the sincere and heartfelt sympathy of each and every member of Local Elmira goes out to them in this hour of their great affliction.

John M. Work on the Cleveland Conventions

My attitude toward the proposed American Labor Party is that it should be organized. I hope this may be accomplished at Cleveland. Should the Conference for Progressive Political Action, at the Cleveland meeting, persist in continuing its policy of endorsing candidates of the old parties, I think it will then be time for us to cut loose from that conference for good. Our delegates and representatives in the conference have exercised the patience of Job. I am glad they have done so—but there is a limit, and that limit will be Cleveland if the conference should go wrong. I am in hopes, however, that the bodies composing the conference will have realized the folly of working through the old parties, and that they will be ready to form an American Labor Party along the lines of the British Labor Party. This would leave the Socialist Party organization intact for propaganda and political purposes—and we would furnish the spirit and most of the brains for the American Labor Party, just as the Independent Labor Party of England has furnished the spirit and most of the brains for the British Labor Party.



RYAN WALKER CARTOONIST - SPEAKER

SEE AND HEAR HIS CHALK-TALK LECTURE

“HENRY DUBB & HIS TEAPOT DOME!”

Applications for Dates Should Be Sent At Once to—

NATIONAL OFFICE SOCIALIST PARTY

2653 WASHINGTON BOULEVARD, CHICAGO

PANKEN LECTURE TOUR

Judge Panken is making a coast-to-coast lecture tour for the Socialist Party. His itinerary is arranged jointly by the Jewish Socialist Verband and the National Office.

He will speak in Chicago at Division Hall, 2441 West Division Street, Sunday evening, March 30th. From Chicago, Comrade Panken goes to St. Louis for a meeting on March 31st, and then to Kansas City, Mo., where he will deliver a lecture under the auspices of the Young People's Socialist League on April 1st. The young people are making enthusiastic preparations for a successful meeting.

Panken dates subsequent to Kansas City are:

Denver, April 3; Los Angeles, April 6-10; San Francisco, April 11; Oakland, April 12; Sacramento, April 13; Portland, April 15; Seattle, April 16; Tacoma, April 17; Edmonton, April 19; Winnipeg, April 22; Minneapolis, April 24; St. Paul, April 25; Milwaukee, April 26; Chicago, April 27; Detroit, April 28; Cleveland, April 29.

NEW LONDON REPORTS ON THE MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

The following excerpt is a good example of the letters received in the National Office which justify the confident belief that the membership of the Socialist Party is alert and will use its unparalleled opportunities for constructive work—all pessimists to the contrary notwithstanding:

“I do not suppose the National Office is satisfied with the result of the Drive, but it has been a great aid to many of the locals and, I suppose, state organizations. It certainly has been to this local, both financially and in membership. *We are fifty per cent stronger and have funds on hand!*”

Wm. James Morgan, Local Chairman Drive Committee. New London, Conn.

(Excerpt from letter from Naomi Swett, Secretary, Local Portland).

We have adopted a new chain system of personal membership solicitation. Each member is asked personally to solicit at least one new member and to give a report in meeting as to success. Names and addresses are supplied of persons on the mailing list who have already been solicited by mail several times. This system has just gone into effect and it seems that if it were played up in the Socialist World it might be of use to other locals. So far no member has refused, but as we are only one week on it there has not been time to show results. It did us a great deal of good to have Comrade Herman here, as he gave us some very good suggestion on organization which we'll try our best to follow.

Our chief grief is inability to get forceful speakers. Comrade George Zahm has had to do practically all of the speaking himself. And I hope that Comrade Zahm's name will go down in the annals of Socialist history as a man who is thoroughly loyal to the cause not only in theory but in practice. He works ceaselessly, and quietly, and as financial secretary actually finances our local, which owing to the expense of getting out the letter series and renting the hall for Herman, is now about \$20.00 in arrears. When one considers that Comrade Zahm is a small wage earner, his sacrifices will be greatly appreciated.

We have another zealous worker in our new Comrade Gail M. Bell. Comrade Bell is full of youth and enthusiasm, and possessed of the kind of stuff that does not stop at sacrifice. Comrade Bell delivered his first talk “The Economic Causes of War” at last meeting and succeeded in bringing those present to a high pitch of excitement in the discussion that followed. He has been active with the Socialist movement almost as a child, and is

heart and soul in the cause. Remember his name when you think of a forceful Socialist in Portland. Others who are faithful in attendance at meetings are Comrade Buickerwood, an old time Socialist quivering with enthusiasm, Comrade Mitchell, Comrade Streiff, and several others to whom mention should also be given if I had time for more detail.

OUR ACTIVITIES

*By Charles Pogorelec, Translator-Secretary
Jugo-Slav Federation*

The beginning of the present year proves to be the most prosperous for the Jugo-Slav Socialist Federation. In the short period of six weeks eight new branches were added to the Federation with a total membership of 107. Branches were organized at Broughton, Pa., 13 members; Cliff Mine, Pa., 14 members; Verona, Pa., 12 members; Cle Elum, Wash., 9 members; Warren, Ohio, 7 members; Blanford, Ind., 16 members; Arma, Kansas, 21 members; and Mulberry, Kansas, with 16 members.

Most of the branches were organized by the local comrades, or those that were members of the Federation before. The branch in Blanford, Indiana, was organized with the assistance of Comrade John Pippan, Secretary of the Italian Federation, who made a short agitation tour through that territory. Comrade Pippan is a good speaker and a very useful agitator in our movement on account of his ability to speak both the Slovenian and Italian languages and of his wide experience in the Socialist and Labor movement in his native country. He was forced to leave Italy on account of his work, in the movement there, and it is but natural that the "new liberator" Mussolini should have no desire to tolerate such men in the country where his bloody dictatorship against the Socialist and Labor movement rules supreme.

The branches in Kansas were organized by our organizer, Comrade Frances A. Tauchar and comrades of our branch in Gross, Kansas, especially Comrade Ant. Sular. Comrade Tauchar made an organization tour in the early part of March and her trip was a very successful one. Besides organizing two new branches, she sold about \$50.00 worth of literature and secured close to 100 subscribers to our paper *Proletarec*.

Our branches in western Pennsylvania held a most successful conference on the 27th of February. There were ten branches represented by forty delegates. Besides, there were a number of delegates representing the Fraternal societies which are affiliated with the Federation as associate members. Comrade John Jereb of Canonsburg, Pa., was selected to act as Secretary for the conference com-

mittee. The next conference will be held in Broughton, Pa., on March 30th. At the conclusion of the conference there will be a mass meeting with speakers in the English and Slovenian languages. As a result of those conferences several new branches were organized; and the same progress will undoubtedly be made in future as in the past. Everywhere the rejuvenation of the Socialist movement is noticeable and the Socialist Party may feel assured that the Jugo-Slav comrades will do their share in strengthening the Socialist Party as the only real party of the workers.

Besides, various other activities within our Federation, we are giving assistance wherever possible. On appeal from Comrade Emil Herman, Secretary of the Northwest Organization District, for financial assistance for reorganization work, \$5.00 was donated from the treasury of the Federation. We also made an appeal to our branches in behalf of the Young People's Socialist League and no doubt our branches will do their best along that line too.

As to the convention for the Socialist Party at Cleveland, Ohio, the Jugo-Slav Federation will have its full quota of delegates.

SHOULD THE SOCIALIST PARTY COMPROMISE?

By Chas. Robson.

This question should arise in the minds of the members of the Socialist Party, and also the sympathizers of the movement whenever the proposition of a new political party is advanced. We have so many persons travelling around us advocating a third party, telling us that on account of the present situation surrounding, the two old parties, we should immediately get together and start a Labor Party—that we have to pause for breath. It is during this pause that we should think a little and look into the possibility of such a party. We should find out where the Socialist Party would stand. Of course the sponsors of this movement extend a hearty invitation to the Socialist Party, they practically insist that the standard bearers of the "workers emancipation" take part in such a movement.

Without any ceremony they adopt the Socialist platform, or as much of it as they desire, at the same time they carefully refrain whilst advocating their principles (?) to acquaint the people with the fact that their platform or a part of it has been adopted and advocated by the Socialist Party for a number of years.

This so-called progressive element wants the Socialist philosophy, the Socialist form of organization, its support moral and financial, BUT it will not come out flat-footed and say "we want Socialism." No—the Socialists must compromise,

BERGER RESOLUTION

TO INVESTIGATE STRIKES ON RAILROADS, INTRODUCED IN CONGRESS
FEBRUARY 23, 1924

Whereas a strike of machinists and other shopmen, and maintenance-of-way, men, employed by the Pennsylvania; New York, New Haven and Hartford; Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific; Delaware, Lackawanna and Western; Boston and Maine; Missouri Pacific; Western Maryland, and other railroad lines has now lasted more than a year and a half; and

Whereas during this time, owing to the lack of experienced men for the work of repairing locomotives and cars, enormous damage has been done to the rolling stock of these lines; and

Whereas both freight and passenger service has been subject to considerable delay, accidents involving the loss of life and limb have been increased, and substantial losses have been suffered by trade and industry; and

Whereas the increased cost of keeping the rolling stock in repair due to the inefficient and inexperienced men who have been engaged by the railroad companies is an additional tax levied by the railroad rates, which tax will eventually have to be paid by the people:

1. Resolved, That a committee of seven Members of the House of Representatives be elected to investigate all the facts regarding this strike, the present state of equipment and rolling stock of the lines on which the strike is still in progress, the amount of money expended by railroad companies to break the strike, and to report their findings at the earliest practicable time to this House.

In presenting this Resolution, Congressman Berger said:

"There are a number of railroads which have not yet reached an agreement with their striking employees. Among them are the Pennsylvania lines, the Boston and Maine, the New York, New Haven and Hartford, Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific, Delaware, Lackawanna and Western, Missouri Pacific, the Long Island, and the Western Maryland.

"According to information I have received, the condition of the rolling stock of those roads is such as seriously to endanger the lives of both employees and passengers. As a matter of fact, there has been a large increase in the number of accidents reported by those roads, due, the Interstate Commerce Commission reports, to defective equipment.

"I am reliably informed that close to 80 per cent of the locomotives now in use on the Pennsylvania lines have been found defective. If that road were compelled to discharge its obligation to the public properly it would have to withdraw from service four out of every five of its locomotives. The same state of affairs is said to exist on the Chicago, Rock Island, and Pacific.

"Most of the accidents that have resulted so far have been of a minor nature, at least in the number of those killed and injured. A more serious disaster may awaken the nation to the reckless disregard with which those roads treat the situation. The time to prevent such a disaster is now."

BUT WHY SHOULD THE SOCIALISTS COMPROMISE? Why should this movement that has been persecuted ever since man first dreamed of liberty and justice subdue to something it knows nothing about. Its own ship has weathered many a bitter, heart-rending storm, and yet today it is more sea-worthy than at any time in its history. Why change over to a new untried ship, when there is room enough for all in the present one.

If these people who are so tired of the form of government they have received from the hands of the Republican and Democratic parties, if they are really so nauseated with the graft and corruption practiced by the present ruling powers, who, by the way, are the choice of the people, and they want a change, a real third party, let them come to the Socialist Party. There is no middle ground. The system under which we live must either be Capitalistic or Socialistic; consequently, there should be no compromise on the part of the Socialist movement.

According to the evolution of history, it is only

a matter of time until the system now in power will crumble of its own weight, its own inefficiency. We have had too many wars, too much unemployment with its attendant miseries, too much murder and corruption, to even think our people can remain satisfied very much longer.

If a remedy is to be placed on the market, place the real remedy and not a substitute. If we are in favor of Socialism, let us work for Socialism, and not a subterfuge. There is room in the Socialist Party for every man and woman who is interested in securing that much needed freedom and emancipation. There is no need for another movement, we are split into too many factions already. Let us get together if we are really desirous of accomplishing anything and carry the banner of Socialism on and on to victory, rather than tarry at the cross-roads waiting for another party. **WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE — YOU HAVE NOTHING TO LOSE BUT YOUR CHAINS AND A WHOLE WORLD TO GAIN.**

The Socialist Party

BERTHA HALE WHITE

Executive Secretary

7653 WASHINGTON BLVD.

Chicago

National Executive Committee:

Eugene V. Debs, Terre Haute, Ind.

Morris Hillquit, 19 W. 44th St., New York City.

Edmund T. Melms, 579 8th Ave., Milwaukee, Wis.

Birch Wilson, 616 Genesee St. Buffalo, New York.

W. M. Brandt, 940 Chouteau Ave., St. Louis, Mo.

Leo M. Harkins, 1325 Arch St., Philadelphia, Penna.

W. R. Snow, 1501 Warren Ave., Chicago Illinois.

Official Business

To the National Executive Committee.
Dear Comrades:

I submit for vote of your committee
National Executive Committee
Motion No. 25.
By Hillquit.

"That the Socialist Party accept the system of dues payments proposed by the Bureau of the International based upon the number of votes accorded to each affiliated party in International Congresses, i.e., 6 L. per Congress vote, and under which the Socialist Party of the United States, having twelve votes, would pay annual dues of 72 L. or approximately \$300.00.

Comment.

Under the system adopted by the Labour and Socialist International, our party dues would amount to about \$50. per year, which is entirely inadequate. Similar incongruities with respect to other affiliated parties have resulted in cutting down the income of the International to a point which makes it impossible for it to function. The situation is, of course, still more aggravated by the inability of the German comrades to pay anything.

National Executive Committee
Motion No. 26.

By Snow.

"Owing to the fact that it is necessary for the National Office to raise funds to bear the expenses of our coming convention, in addition to paying a number of old bills and keep the organization work going, I therefore move to rescind the actions of the Committee in making a general call upon our locals and branches for funds for the German and French Socialist Parties, as embodied in the Hillquit motion."

GLENGARRY'S REVIEW

INDESCRIBABLY
ATROCIOUS
MUST be the CRIME
Of an American-BORN
Whose CITIZENSHIP
HIS government DENIES.

Such INTOLERANCE
Could not POSSIBLY
Be PROVOKED
By ONE less dangerous
Than the CALVARY felon
Who was SPIKED
To hewn TIMBERS
And SUSPENDED
By HIS WOUNDS
UNTIL HE DIED.

THAT "culprit's" CRIME
CONSISTED of,
"STIRRING UP the PEOPLE"

And to THIS day
NO CRIMINAL
Is MORE HATED than he
Who "STIRRETH UP"
The PEOPLE
To a REALIZATION
Of their LOST
STATEHOOD,
And who POINTS out
A STRAIGHT highway
To a LOFTY
RESTORATION
OF EVERY PRIVILEGE
The ROBBER seized.

OUTSTANDING
Among THOSE
So OUTRAGED
IS Eugene Victor Debs—
THE MAN WHO
CONDEMNED war
MORE effectively
THAN the "IDEALIST",
Woodrow Wilson,
Who was THEN
President of THIS nation.

The DIFFERENCE
BETWEEN the two
Is WIDE as the GULF
Which SEPARATES
GOOD-WILL from GREED—
ONE, THE APOSTLE OF
PEACE;

The OTHER,
The MINION of CAPITAL-
ISM—
DEBS, FOREVER IMMOVE-
ABLE;
The PRESIDENT,
PLASTIC as the clay
Of WHICH is MADE
A TOY-MONKEY.

BUT, when CAPITALISM
Made MILITARISM
Both JUDGE and JURY,
DEBS, the UNCHANGE-
ABLE,
Was publicly CRUCIFIED
To the FOUL extent
Of the ESPIONAGE scheme
By which is DENIED
The FIRST principle
Of a FREE government,
And UNTIL America
RESTORES HIS citizenship,
Her CITIZENSHIP
REMAINS DISHONOR-
ABLE.

Comment

While the Socialists of America should do all in their power to aid in rebuilding the socialist movements in Germany and France, it seems to me that at this time, with the absolute necessity of sending out special assessment stamps and the general call for funds, it would be a suicidal policy upon our part to attempt both drives at the same time. Local organizations in the large cities can take up this matter separately with whatever publicity is possible through our press. With the National Organization having to assume the responsibility of carrying on a drive for funds, it would practically nullify, owing to our small membership, our own efforts to finance the party and our coming National Convention.

I therefore trust that the committee will vote for this motion and not hamper our National Secretary with an impossible task.

Ballots enclosed.

Vote closes March 4.

REPORT ON MOTION NO. 25

Voting Yes: Brandt, Harkins, Hillquit, Melms, Snow, Wilson. (6)

Not Heard From: Debs (1)

Motion carried.

REPORT ON MOTION NO. 26

Voting Yes: Brandt, Harkins, Melms, Snow. (4)

Voting No: Hillquit, Wilson. (2)

Not Heard From: Debs (1)

Comment by Wilson

"My reason for voting 'No' on Snow's motion to rescind the action of the committee in making a general call upon locals for funds for the German and French Socialist parties, is because I do not think that such a call would seriously interfere with the drive to raise funds for our own party and campaign work; while on the other hand, it seems to me that to rescind our action would likely cause some misunderstanding regarding our motives for taking such action.

"If a general call for funds for the French and German parties were to be made at the same time that a drive was launched for campaign funds, the latter, would probably overshadow the other to such an extent that but little would be realized for the foreign parties, and would therefore not interfere with our own efforts to raise funds sufficiently to warrant adopting the present motion."

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