

The PARTY BULLETIN

OFFICIAL NATIONAL BULLETIN OF THE SOCIALIST PARTY OF THE UNITED STATES

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Report on Michigan Strike Complete Statement of Facts—Miners' Claims Endorsed

This was a strike of all the miners, about 13,000 in number, in practically all the mines of the district, beginning July 23, 1913.

The demands of the men were as follows:
An eight-hour day.

A minimum wage of \$3 a day for men in the mines.

An increase of 35 cents a day for those that worked above ground.

Two men to be employed on each drill.

Recognition of the Western Federation of Miners.

Organization under the Western Federation of Miners had been effected in 1910, about 90 per cent of the men being members. Grievances as above outlined were presented to the management of the mines on July 6 by the local organization of the Federation. No reply of any kind was made to this presentation. The management of one mine, the Quincy, added to this discourtesy what might be thought the gratuitous insult of returning unopened the letter of the organization. Seven days had been allowed for an answer to the communication on behalf of the men. When these had elapsed and no reply had been received, the matter was laid before the members in the shape of a referendum vote on the question of ordering a strike. It resulted in more than 7,000 votes in favor of a strike and only 126 votes against it. When this vote had been counted and declared a meeting was called on July 22, and the strike was ordered for the next day. The men left the mines without disorder.

It should be remarked that copper mining, as carried on in the district, requires skill, experience and great physical strength and seems to be attended with easily preventable dangers. In some respects the methods in use appear to be archaic and to work unnecessary hardship upon the men. For instance, the ore is removed in small cars from the end of the tunnel to the shaft, but neither electricity nor mules are used, men pushing the cars along the rails, often with great difficulty. Again, the temperature in some of the mines is very high, exceeding 100 degrees, and no adequate means seems to be employed to relieve this condition. The men were worked ten and eleven hours a day. The custom was to work each drill with only one man on it, a practice exceedingly dangerous and arduous. By the method of contract work men frequently worked a month for very little return and occasionally for almost nothing. These facts alone would seem to indicate that working conditions stood in need of revision.

As soon as the strike was declared, the mining companies called upon the governor of Michigan for troops, although there had been no disturbance. It is alleged that special trains for the transportation of the troops had

been prepared before the actual request was received. The governor immediately called out the entire militia of the state, which arrived in the district as rapidly as it could be transported thither. Many of the soldiers were quartered in a large armory belonging to the Calumet & Hecla Mining Company, and apparently erected for such emergencies. We understand that the state pays rent for the use of this armory.

The mining companies had also made arrangements with large detective agencies, such as Ascher agency in New York and the Waddell-Mahon agency, to supply armed guards. Several hundred of these came from distant points, many being recruited in New York City. They appeared in the district heavily armed. Other guards were enlisted in the vicinity, until about 1,600 were employed. These the sheriff of the county swore in as deputies.

Up to this time no disorder of any kind had appeared. A majority of the miners are Finns, well known to be of a quiet and orderly disposition. Others were Croatians, Italians and English.

It appears from the many affidavits we have examined and the testimony we have heard that the armed guards and the militiamen from the beginning manifested an overbearing, arrogant and exasperating attitude. They were employed not only in surrounding the mines and preventing the approach of strikers, but likewise occupied the highways and in scores of instances, as appears from sworn testimony, they assaulted and beat men that were peaceably walking in public roads. So far as the testimony and the affidavits have revealed, all of these assaults were unprovoked except that in a few instances strikers or other persons had been heard to call out "Scabs!" on the appearance of the guards or of the men hired to take the strikers' places. We shall deal with some of these assaults hereafter. One species of annoyance to which the strikers were almost daily subjected was attack upon their processions. Whenever one of these appeared the guards or the militiamen, or both, mounted and on foot, would attempt to break it up and disperse it, sometimes riding their horses through it, and sometimes pursuing the paraders to the sidewalks, and even into their houses. On at least two occasions soldiers wearing the uniform of the National Guard tore down the American flag in the hands of paraders and trampled upon it. So far as we have been able to learn these attacks also were unprovoked by any action on the part of the strikers and seem to have created much of the resentment the strikers felt. Much graver accusations, and some of a shocking character are made against the behavior of the militia. These seem to have gone without

adequate investigation by the military authorities of the state, although they cast most serious imputations upon the discipline and condition of the National Guard of Michigan.

The guards made many arrests, for the most part on charges that could not be sustained, with the result that the jails were soon overflowing with men under arrest whose entire innocence of any offending was apparent as soon as there was hearing. So common did this practice become that the public prosecutor was moved to protest against it.

Many affidavits made by the armed guards after they had ceased to be employed in the district declare that the irritating conduct of the guards, at least, was by the direct instruction of their superiors. The affidavits agree in this, and report many orders that would seem to be calculated deliberately to insure disorder. The practice of breaking up parades, for instance, seems to have been planned with the expectation that the strikers would be goaded thereby into some overt act. Some of the orders reported in these affidavits, if they meant anything at all, could only mean that retaliation from the strikers was desired, and the business of the guards was to arouse it.

After the strike had been in progress a few weeks, officers of the Western Federation of Miners from outside the district were sent to take charge of it, among them eventually the federation's president, Charles H. Moyer. The assertion has been made frequently that the federation instigated the strike and led it from its inception. This we find to be without foundation in fact. The strike originated strictly within the local organization and was at first conducted by the local officers on their own sole responsibility.

So great and important was the part played in this strike by the business men in the community that we feel called upon to speak in some detail of this phase of the record. At first the business men in general were disposed to view the strikers with toleration and even with some sympathy. But the problem of feeding so many strikers and their families was extremely difficult, the demands upon relief funds of the federation were heavy, and a large sum of money was weekly withdrawn from the treasury for this purpose. To ease the burden somewhat the federation management adopted the plan of establishing commissary stores on a plan like that of co-operative enterprises. Great quantities of provisions and groceries were bought at wholesale, transported in car load lots and placed in stores the federation had rented, and from these the strikers obtained their supplies on coupons issued by the relief committee.

These stores began at once to do a very large business, estimated at present at about \$37,000 a week. The loss of so great a volume of trade was instantly and acutely felt by the local merchants. It gave to the strike a very different aspect in their eyes. Almost at once, their bitter complaints began to be heard. It seems to be quite true that, in many minds, the cause of the strikers ceased to be reasonable or tolerable as soon as it produced this marked change in trade conditions.

Certain business interests were necessarily allied with the companies and these took the lead in voicing a protest against the longer continuation of the strike. Certain elements of racial prejudice are not to be ignored in these situations. The strikers were interfering with business, they were largely foreigners who spoke a different tongue and in a short time they became, to a part of the business community, the objects of an extraordinary and violent hatred that in a sobering way recalls the situation of the negroes in the South.

The growing bitterness of the business element manifested itself in public meetings and in the formation of a body known as the Citizens' Alliance. Inasmuch as this association has been widely believed to have been organized to preserve order and uphold the law, violated by the strikers, it is well to record here the indubitable fact that it had no such basis but was formed for the reasons indicated. The law had been violated for many weeks and in many ways by the armed guards, by the militia and by the mining companies and many scenes of disorder had been caused by the same agencies without any protest from the persons that formed the Citizens' Alliance.

The alliance soon became an active force to assist the armed domination of the district. It was felt that business would not be restored until the strike was settled and the only way to settle it was that the foreigners and the Western Federation of Miners, which were causing all the trouble, should be defeated and the strikers forced to return to their work. A large white button with red letters was designed for members of the alliance, all of whom were exhorted to wear the emblem in plain sight at all times as a declaration of faith. Men wearing these buttons became conspicuous in the assaults that the guards made and the riots that the guards precipitated. On one occasion, for instance, the alliance held a largely attended meeting at Houghton. At the close the proposal was made that the federation's headquarters at the neighboring town of South Range should be visited. It is alleged that the local commandant of the militia opened the armory and allowed the members of the alliance to arm themselves. At least it is certain that the crowd of alliance men that presently boarded a special train for South Range were armed with rifles. Arrived at South Range the mob broke into the office of the federation branch, smashed the furniture, broke open the desks, carried away all the papers, and destroyed many books of coupons. The hour was after midnight and there was no one at the office to offer resistance. The secretary of the branch lived over the office. It seems probable that he had rendered himself obnoxious to the armed guards because earlier in the night he had admitted to his rooms two strikers that were running for their lives from drunken guards they had met in the highway.

The mob, having wrecked the office below, now proceeded upstairs to seize the secretary. He begged them to go away, as he was nursing a sick wife and a sick infant. The mob retired, but soon returned in larger numbers and broke in the door of the secretary's rooms. After repeated warnings to them to desist he fired two shots, one of which entered the stomach of one of the rioters. The mob then descended the stairs but seemed to have fired several shots from the street at the house, thereafter dispersing. At 7 o'clock in the morning the secretary was arrested and is now on \$7,000 bail on the charge of attempt to commit murder. The wounded man recovered.

This event was widely telegraphed about the country as a fierce battle between strikers barricaded in their hall and deputies sent to arrest them. It offers a fair example of the false reports with which the country has been deluged from this district since the strike began.

We may cite here another from many possible illustrations of the savagery and reckless disregard of life that have terrorized the region ever since the armed guards were

loosed upon it. Each mine is surrounded by a village of miners and each village has been under a practical despotism to be likened only to that of a feudal barony in the early part of the middle ages. One of these villages is Seeberville, near Painesdale, a station on the Copper Range Railroad and about eight miles from Houghton. At Seeberville Joseph Putrich, a Croatian, kept a boarding house for miners. On August 14, between 5 and 6 o'clock in the afternoon, two of these boarders returned from a visit to South Range and alighted from the train at Painesdale station. To avoid a long detour the people of Seeberville have been accustomed to use a short path by the railroad track to the main road. These two men started to walk down this path. A mine guard ordered them not to use the path as it was on the mine company's property. Knowing no reason why they should not walk where they had always walked they continued on the path and went home. About an hour later they were playing a kind of ten pin game in the yard of Putrich's house when six armed guards and a trainman boss from the mine appeared at the fence, and shouted at them. The two men were badly frightened, ran into the house, which was full of boarders. The guards surrounded the house and without parley or words fired into the doors and open windows. Two of the boarders were killed and two were badly wounded. Mrs. Putrich was in the living room and narrowly escaped injury, a bullet grazing the head of the infant in her arms. More than 30 shots were fired upon these defenseless persons, the guards firing until their revolvers were emptied. The two men that had walked on the forbidden path were not hurt. This wanton slaughter was termed "a battle with strikers." It is of a piece with others that bore the same designation. Subsequently, four of the guards concerned in the shooting were arrested and released on bail. The sheriff of the county has since admitted the fact, otherwise incredible, that these men, still carrying arms, are still employed by him as deputies. We do not know how it would be possible to draw a stronger indictment of the kind of government that has been inflicted on the people of this region since the strike began.

The bitter feeling of the Citizens' Alliance was greatly intensified after the terrible disaster of Christmas Eve at the Italian Hall in Calumet when a cry of "Fire!" caused a panic in a crowded assembly and 72 persons, a majority of them children, were crushed to death on the stairs. The wealthy citizens of the neighborhood raised a relief fund of about \$25,000 for the benefit of the afflicted families, but these uniformly refused to accept the charity. In any community where normal conditions prevailed this refusal could not have angered anyone, since surely it is within every man's province to decline charity if he so wills. But in this instance the donors were stirred to extraordinary resentment by the rejection of their gifts, for which rejection the officers of the Western Federation of Miners were blamed. We have investigated this matter and can find no just reason for this blame. It was the unanimous and spontaneous desire of the families that had suffered in the panic to accept no charity from the sources that offered it in this instance and we much doubt if the officers of the federation could have changed this feeling if they had tried.

The resentment of the Citizens' Alliance and of the subscribers to the \$25,000 fund was increased by the statements of some witnesses that the man that shouted "Fire" that day at Italian Hall wore a Citizens' Alliance button. Even if this were the fact, it would, of course, reflect no responsibility upon the alliance and possibly none upon the man that wore the button. These buttons were worn by a great many persons in and about Calumet. All the armed guards wore them and many of these were desperate and lawless persons, recruited in the slums of cities. In Calumet they were very often drunk and almost always quarrelsome and reckless. It was part of their employment to break up gatherings of strikers;

they did such things frequently. The day was one on which dissolute men are accustomed to drink freely. If one such man in an inebriated state should take it into his muddled mind to disturb a strikers' assembly by shouting "Fire!" at the door, the fact would not be wonderful under the existing circumstances. This explanation would seem far more reasonable than that a panic should start otherwise in a place where there was no fire, no sign of fire, and from the solid construction of the building (which was new), and the most careful arrangements of those in charge, no chance of fire.

Even if this theory be correct, no just man would hold the Citizens' Alliance as responsible for the accident, but the members of the Alliance seemed to be exasperated by the mere statements about the button and its wearer. The animosity thus engendered culminated on the night of December 26 in the mobbing, shooting and deportation of President Moyer. We have carefully investigated this event, of which it is difficult to speak with the restraint and moderation that we feel is incumbent upon us in reporting on these grave matters. No shadow of doubt is left in our minds that Mr. Moyer's account of the outrage is exactly true, except in the particular that he much understated its brutality and savage cruelty, a fact understandable from his weakened condition after the treatment he received. It is beyond question that a mob in which were many citizens of Hancock and vicinity deemed to be extremely respectable entered Mr. Moyer's room, seized him, beat him, shot him in the back, hustled him through the streets and across the bridge to the railroad station, beating him and savagely kicking him while he was pinioned and defenseless. Finally he was thrust upon a railroad train and carried under an armed guard out of the state, being threatened with instant death if he returned. His companion, Charles H. Tanner, auditor of the Western Federation, received almost equally inhuman treatment and was deported with him.

This astounding outbreak of the lynching spirit in Michigan is a foul blot upon the state. How far the Citizens' Alliance is concerned with law and order may be judged from the fact that for an outrage so monstrous and disgraceful it has never expressed the least concern, and many of its members, if they were not participants in the mob, have since been quoted in approval of the mob's vile work. And we cannot avoid here the duty of condemning in the strongest terms the newspapers that have tried to excuse or palliate the mob's acts, and the correspondents and news agencies that sought in subtle and adroit ways to discredit Mr. Moyer's absolutely terrific story. If such agencies for the poisoning of news and the perverting of public opinion are to go unrebuked, we may well and seriously question whether we do not live in a condition of practical anarchy, and whether any man that advocates any cause distasteful to the powerful has any rights, or any chance of protection under the laws.

As to the perversion of news, that, from the first, has attended this strike, we have already said, with examples. In addition, we have space to dwell here on only the one subject of reports of violence by strikers. These have been spread broadcast over the country, and have created in the public mind a totally false idea of conditions. We have investigated a great many of these allegations, and have found that the actual manifestations of a spirit of violence among the strikers have been very few and unimportant. On one occasion, passengers attempting to board a train found themselves pushed off the steps by armed guards, and discovered that the car was filled with strike breakers. Whereupon a shower of stones broke all the windows on one side of the car. A woman beat a strike-breaker in the face with a broom. Some strike breakers have been hooted and jeered. This constitutes about all the veritable outbreaks of violence on the part of the strikers. We have looked into the stories of dynamite explosions and

(Continued on page 8)

Executive Department

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
VICTOR L. BERGER, 980 First St., Milwaukee, Wis.
ADOLPH GERMER, 303 G. A. T. Building, Denver, Colo.
GEORGE H. GOEBEL, 14 Bridge St., Newark, N. J.
JAMES H. MAURER, 1355 N. Eleventh St., Reading, Pa.
J. STITT WILSON, Ridge Road, Berkeley, Cal.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
WALTER LANFERSIEK

Address all mail to departments and not to individuals. Make remittances payable to the Socialist Party.

Address all communications to
SOCIALIST PARTY, 111 North Market Street, Chicago, Illinois

January 10, 1914

Official Business

NATIONAL OFFICE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR DECEMBER, 1913.

RECEIPTS.

Table with columns for 1913 (Oct, Nov, Dec) and 1912 (Dec). Lists receipts by state including Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Dist. of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming, Unorganized, Alaska, Honolulu, and Members at large.

Information Department—

Table listing salaries for Information Department: Carl D. Thompson, director (\$112.00), Florence M. Swan, stenographer (72.00), Ethelwyn Mills, stenographer (65.17), Eleanor Spaeth, typist and filing clk. (45.00). Total: \$294.17.

Party Builder Department—

Table listing salaries for Party Builder Department: A. W. Ricker, circulation manager (\$40.00), Calla Madden, stenographer (27.40), Anna Campbell, mailing list (30.14), Ida Levin, clerk (17.50), S. Diamond, clerk (22.00), Mary Klopstein, clerk (5.00), Anna Herth (5.00). Total: \$147.04.

Literature Department—

Table listing salaries for Literature Department: A. W. Ricker, manager (\$72.00), Calla Madden, stenographer (27.34), Jennie Kewitz, order clerk (50.10), Ida Soler, shipping clerk (48.00), Anna Campbell, orders (15.77), Robert Sindelar, office boy (37.07), Ida Levin, clerk (17.67), S. Diamond (23.16), Mary Klopstein (6.23), Anna Herth (6.23). Total: \$303.57.

Young People's Department—

Table listing salary for Young People's Department: J. A. Rogers, Jr. (72.00). Total: \$72.00.

Foreign Department—

Table listing salaries for Foreign Department: J. W. Sarlund (\$100.00), Joseph Corti (76.00), Joseph Novak (76.00), H. Gluski (84.00), A. Dreifuss (76.00), A. Loewy (76.00), N. J. Christensen (76.00), Alex. Susnar (76.00), J. B. Salutsky (76.00), Paul Bruchtel (60.00). Total: \$776.00.

Total wages \$2,121.38

Total expenditures \$9,480.08

Bank balance, January 1, 1914 2,281.79

\$11,761.87

FUND FOR STRIKERS' CHILDREN.

Table listing contributions to the Fund for Strikers' Children from various locations including Lakeview Lodge No. 390, I. A. of M., St. Joseph German Branch, St. Joseph, Mo., Local Garrison, N. D., Henry Gundling, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, J. W. Bigham, Galt, Cal., G. Yeager, Pittsburgh, Pa., Burke McCarty, Los Angeles, Cal., Third Ward, Everett, Wash., Collected by Ira B. Frantz, Iola, Kas., Local Joliet, Ill., Branch No. 1, Grand Rapids, Mich., Collected by E. T. Melms, Milwaukee, Wis., Beer Bottlers' Union No. 213, Milwaukee, Wis., Mr. Carnes, Live Oak, Fla., Local Live Oak, Fla., A. T. Mann, Thermah, Cal., Maud Keady, Buffalo, N. Y., Branch No. 2, West New York, N. J., Tenth Ward Branch, Schenectady, N. Y., Axel Johnson, Jamestown, N. Y., Edwin Firth, Huntington, W. Va., List of H. V. Pedersen, Ruthton, Minn., Local Omaha, Neb., Local Macon, Ill., W. A. Schnau, Wyandotte, Mich., Lettish Branch No. 2, Boston, Mass., Collected by Frank Sautala, Gilbert, Minn., Local Aurora, Ill., A. Gianasi, High Bridge, Iowa, Local Sioux City, Iowa, Workmen's Circle No. 495, Chattanooga, Tenn., Local N. Wise, Tenn., Collected by A. C. Reimbold, Local Chattanooga, Tenn., Finnish Local, Marquette, Mich., Tyrza Seifert, Boone, Iowa, Local Huntington, W. Va., Emma Henry, Indianapolis, Ind., Local Portsmouth, Ohio, George J. Devore, Jefferson Barracks, Mo., Local Pittsburg, Kas., Local Fort Smith, Ark., Malden Socialist Sunday School, Malden, Mass., H. L. Watkins, North Platte, Neb., S. S. Osasto, Kewatin, Minn., O. B. Borup, Clinton, Iowa, Ernest Moore, Lansing, Mich., Local Springdale, Ark., Local Bemidji, Minn., L. A. Cunningham, Anderson, Cal., Socialist Party, St. Louis, Mo., Bakers' Socialist Club, Chicago, Ill., Local Salzer, Wash., Collected by Peter F. Reding, Tacoma, Wash., John S. Garlock, Wells, Minn., Finnish Local, Eldorado, Ill., Local Steubenville, Ohio, Local Grand Rapids, Mich., Collected by Louis C. Wilson, Richmond, Mo., Local New Ulm, Minn., Logan Sq. Br., Metropolitan employes, Chicago, Second Ward Branch, Chicago, Finnish Federation. Total: \$613.60.

CALUMET STRIKE FUND.

Table listing contributions to the Calumet Strike Fund: Thirtieth Ward Branch, Chicago (\$4.00), William Meyer, New York, N. Y. (3.00), Local Johnstown, N. Y. (2.00), Local Cordova, Alaska (19.00), L. U. 2293, U. M. W. of A., Rock Springs, Wyo. (14.15), Thirty-third Ward Branch, Chicago (3.00), German Branch, Oshkosh, Wis. (1.00), Galician Branch No. 4, A. D., New York, N. Y. (4.45), Local Cataldo, Idaho (10.50), I. A. Wesson, Wingo, Ky. (1.00), Twelfth A. D., Kings County, New York (5.00), John C. Kennedy, Chicago (1.00), Eighth Ward Branch, Chicago (1.00). Total: \$69.10.

(In the issue of January 3, Temple J. English was given credit for \$5.00 on the above fund, which should have been properly credited to the Seventh and Thirtieth Wards Branch, Camden, N. J.)

SPECIAL VOLUNTARY ASSESSMENT.

Table listing special voluntary assessments: Local Garrison, N. D. (.50), Charles Stasby, Bedford, Ind. (1.75), Local Columbus, Kas. (2.50), Local Winnebago County, Ill. (8.75), Seymour Frost, Adrian, Mich. (.50), Local Camden, N. J. (19.00), Local Danville, Ill. (3.50), Scandinavian Federation (2.50), German Federation (12.50), Finnish Federation (56.25). Total: \$107.75.

(In the issue of January 3 we gave credit on the above fund to J. Raphaelson for \$1.50. This should have been credited to Local Covington, Ky.)

WEST VIRGINIA ORGANIZATION FUND.

Table listing West Virginia Organization Fund: William Shurtleff, Schenectady, N. Y. (\$5.45). Total: \$5.45.

COMMENT ON MOTION No. 8.

In accordance with Section 1 (j) of Article 5, it is moved that the National Committee recommends to the membership of the party that the constitution be amended BY THE MEMBERSHIP by substituting the following proposed application form for that portion of Section 5 of Article 2 following the words, "All persons joining the Socialist party shall sign the following pledge":

Application for Membership in the Socialist Party.

"I, the undersigned, recognizing the class struggle between the capitalist class and the working class, and the necessity of the working class organizing itself into a political party for the purpose of obtaining collective ownership and democratic administration and operation of the collectively used and socially necessary means of production and distribution, hereby apply for membership in the Socialist party.

"I have no relations (as member or supporter) with any other political party.

"I am opposed to all political organizations that support and perpetuate the present capitalist profit system, and I am opposed to any form of trading or fusing with any such organizations to prolong that system.

"In all my political actions while a member of the Socialist party I agree to be guided by the constitution and platform of that party."

ROEWER: I vote yes on this motion under instructions from the Massachusetts State Committee of the Socialist party.

MAURER: While I seconded Devlin's motion, I wish to be recorded as voting no. I agree with the motion, but non-partisan laws have been enacted in many states that leaves the Socialist party in such a confused condition that I believe it would be well to wait until we have our feet on this problem. Let the next National Committee meeting unravel it.

AALTONEN: I am voting in the affirmative on this motion No. 8 under the instructions of the State Executive Committee of my state.

BALL: I vote no, having been so instructed by the State Executive Committee.

WILSON: I vote no, because I think it is not an improvement on the old pledge and makes a longer and more complicated form.

HILLQUIT: Declines to vote on the ground that he considers the motion improper and unauthorized under the provisions of constitution, and wishes to be so recorded.

Vote closed January 12, 1914. VOTING YES: Roewer, Beardsley, Develin, Fuller, Clifford, Houck, Taylor, Slayton, Kennedy, Garver, Duncan, Hayes, Ringler, Reynolds, Britton, Chase (Nebraska), Opsahl, Spargo, Irish, Brown, Lipscomb, Hutchinson, Dietz, Beery, Hurst, Noble, McDonald, Motley, Wiltse, Doyle, Carlson, Richardson. Total, 33.

VOTING NO: Bostrom, Maurer, Solomon, Schwartz, Wilson, Ball, Strebel, Bradford (Arizona), Cohen, LeSueur, Nagle, Latimer, Sinclair, Sadler, Callery, Gaylord, Stallard. Total, 17.

NOT VOTING: Nesbit, Pimbley, Houston, Germer, White, Hoogerhyde, Raphaelson, Nichols, Goebel, Reilly, Goddard, Ramp, Weatherall, Hickey, Gease, Hauser, Berger, Hillquit, Kaplan. Total, 20. The motion is therefore, carried.

By recent election A. E. Hartwig, 729 Baker street, Baltimore, was elected national committeeman for the state of Maryland.

By recent election Ellen Hayes, 51 Curve street, Wellesley, has been elected national committeeman for Massachusetts.

SCHEIDEMAN SUCCEEDS BEBEL.

Phillip Scheideman, the first Socialist vice-president of the German Reichstag, who recently made a tour of the United States, has returned to Germany and has been elected leader of the party to succeed Bebel.

ESTABLISH BANK.

A great Belgian labor bank has been launched by the Socialists of Belgium. The bank will be under the direction of a board of directors elected by the Socialist party, the co-operative societies and the trade unions. It will start with deposits largely from the trades unions, the co-operatives and the sub-divisions of the party.

Information Department

CARL D. THOMPSON, Director

PURPOSE—To collect, classify and make available all data and information on economic, political and social problems. To assist elected officials with such information as they may need in the discharge of their duties. Address all communications to

SOCIALIST PARTY, Information Department
111 North Market Street Chicago, Illinois

SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The commonest use to which sewage sludge has been put is fertilization, but recent research has developed the practicability of converting the sludge into other products, the sale of which often yields a profit over the expense of operating the disposal plant. Most of this research has been carried on in England, where the sewage problem is most disturbing on account of the lack of streams. The Information Department will furnish, on request, technical data on the subject. The following is a brief account of several experiments and processes:

One of the more successful farms operated in connection with sewage disposal plants is the Pasadena (California) city farm, of 530 acres. Here the sewage is used for irrigation and not for fertilization. So far it has been impossible to free the farm from odor. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1912, the farm, thru the sale of products, produced \$20,097.13. During the same period the cost of operation was \$5,329.53. The profit of \$14,767.60 has been applied to improvements and special work in the disposal of the sewage. (National Municipal Review, January, 1913.)

In Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, the engineer in charge of the sewage plant found it difficult to dispose of the fertilizer cakes, and, to prove to his own satisfaction the value of the sludge for this purpose, treated a few acres about the disposal plant with the fertilizer and planted it with corn and potatoes. The crop proved superior to crops raised on adjoining farms. (The Milwaukee Leader, August 19, 1913.)

Only half the population in Pomona, California, is connected with the sewage system, and it is therefore necessary to build a large plant. It is altogether probable that the farm feature, which so far has proved successful, will be carried on. The present farm was started ten years ago. In 1912 the receipts from sales were \$889.73, while the hay raised on the farm, which was consumed by city teams, was valued at \$2,348. The cost to maintain the farm was \$4,214.17, creating a deficit of \$957.44. This, the engineer asserts, is occasioned by the fact that many of the walnut trees have not yet reached their maturity. The sludge is used as fertilizer, and it is claimed there is no odor emanating from the farm. (Municipal Journal, April 3, 1913.)

Eight hundred acres, valued at \$250 an acre, comprise the Fresno, California, sewage farm. This value has increased from \$41 an acre in 1910, and it is believed that the method of fertilization is in a great measure responsible for this increase. From July 1, 1910, to April, 1913, the receipts were \$35,303.17, and the expenditures \$24,649.72, a profit of \$10,653. (The Fresno Republican, April 10, 1913.)

In Bradford, England, grease is extracted from the sludge by steam pressure and is barreled and converted by its purchaser into olien stearin (used for dressing leather and the manufacture of candles) and pitch used for insulating electric cables. The total sales in 1912 amounted to \$500,000 and the profit to the plant was \$150,000. Recently a \$1,500 digester for extracting grease from condemned meats and carcasses was added to the plant. The weight of fat produced from this digester amounted to over three tons and sold for over \$400. The clinkers or slag produced in the furnace from the refuse destroyed is manufactured into paving stone, and the city has arranged to have laid 5,000 square yards of this paving. (Municipal Journal, October 30, 1913.)

Recently an investigation was made of the Watson and Butterfield method of sewage disposal. By this process the sludge from precipitation tanks, containing about ninety per cent water, is reduced to fifty per cent or sixty per cent water by filter pressing, after which it is dried until it contains only twenty to twenty-five per cent. The sludge cake is fed into a heated retort at regular intervals. The products of this method of distillation are oil, ammonia, combustible gas and mineral residue. The oil is believed to be more valuable than fuel oil. It is estimated that the value of the ammonia would cover the cost of the disposal of the sewage. The gas is used in furnishing heat for continuing the distillation. The residue can be used as fertilizer. So far as is known this method is not employed by any city. (Municipal Journal, April 3, 1913.)

There is also the Grossman system, which has been in use in Oldham, England, for one year. Its chief merit is that it is absolutely automatic, odorless and sanitary. The plant installed in Oldham cost \$58,000. This is a distillation process also. The products are grease and a residue used as fertilizer. (Municipal Journal, April 3, 1913.)

Through the Dickson process, which consists principally in heating the sludge in its raw state, adding brewers' yeast and subsequently drying it,

the city of Dublin, Ireland, converts its sewage into fertilizer.—(Municipal Journal, April 3, 1913.) Glasgow, by what is known as the Melvin process, converts the pressed sludge into a powder or dust fertilizer.—(Municipal Journal, April 3, 1913.)

BOOK REVIEW.

"The New Unionism," by André Tridon. Published by B. W. Huebsch, New York, 1913. Cloth, 198 pp. Price, \$1.00.

Among the books written by syndicalists on syndicalism is one by Andre Tridon. It is quite an interesting and evidently important discussion of the subject. The author calls it "The New Unionism," but it covers all of those subjects which have recently come to the fore in the various radical and extreme labor movements—sabotage, direct action, syndicalism, etc.

The first chapter in the book is an attempt to define the "new unionism." In this and in subsequent chapters Tridon makes a labored effort to distinguish the "new unionism" from all other philosophies and theories. It is something entirely new, he says. "It is the practice which will enable the workers to assume, as a return for their labor, the full control of the various industries"; it is the "one big union for administrative purposes only." In short, it is the I. W. W., with which we are familiar in this country, and the syndicalism of France, Italy and other European countries.

The next two chapters are on the subject of "direct action." Chapter II deals with direct action as manifested in the strike.

In the third chapter, still discussing the subject of direct action, the author takes up sabotage. This is perhaps one of the most interesting chapters in the book. In it he discusses all of the methods employed under the general term sabotage. There are three distinct forms:

1. Active sabotage, which consists in damaging goods or machinery;
2. Open mouthed sabotage, which consists of exposing or defeating fraudulent commercial practices;
3. Obstructionism, or passive sabotage, which consists in carrying out orders literally, regardless of consequences.

Under the first form of sabotage, the author discusses many different devices used and recommended. Among them are the following: Powdered stone or a pinch of sand to stall an engine; ruining furniture in order to drive a furniture dealer's customers away; spots of oil on a bolt of cloth; a few drops of acid on the goods that the clerk is wrapping; foul or weed seeds mixed with the wheat by the sower working for the farmer; eggshells filled with caustic, to be thrown into the employer's office or workshop, called "smearing up"; mixing potash or powdered soap with soup; staining piles of linen with catsup and scattering "stink pots" in restaurants; a few pints of petroleum into the bake ovens; pouring concrete into the switches of the railroad system and cutting all telephone and signal wires, etc., etc.

The fourth chapter breathes the usual contempt for the intellectual, although the author claims that the direct actionists have a place for such intellectuals as prove themselves worthy according to the test set up by the syndicalists.

The following chapter of the book discusses the syndicalist movement as it is found in the various countries beginning, of course, with France. In this chapter the author shows a very encouraging growth of the syndicalist movement. The C. G. T., a general federation of the syndicalist organization, claims 455,000 members, while the French Socialist party has only 70,000.

In the next chapter, however, in which the author deals with the syndicalist movement in the United States, he neglects to give figures as to the membership of the syndicalist organization. Whether this is due to the fact that the membership is so small that it would be ridiculous to state it, or whether no one can find out what it is, we do not know. Professor Hoxie states that the average paid up membership of the I. W. W. is 14,310, as shown by the records of their general office. (The Truth about the I. W. W., in The Journal of Political Economy for November, 1913.)

Wanted: Can any of our readers who have been collecting clippings or other material supply us with further items of this nature, concerning the destruction of food-stuffs, etc.? If so, we shall greatly appreciate it if you will send them in to the Information Department, mentioning the source from which you secured them.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Socialist Party Conventions.

Q. Has a city convention of the Socialist party of New York State the right to bar non-Socialists?

A. So far as the party rules and customs are concerned, non-Socialists are almost always allowed to visit such gatherings, but only the party delegates are allowed to vote or to take part in the discussions. A convention, however, would probably have the right to rule that such visitors would not be allowed. You may have a state law that bears on this subject, which might make it difficult for you to limit the voting in conventions to dues-paying members. That point, however, would have to be referred to some attorney.

Municipal Waterworks.

Q. Our leading capitalist paper is everlastingly "knocking" municipality-owned utilities because our municipal waterworks is a dismal failure. Can you give us any information concerning successful plants in other cities?

A. The Milwaukee waterworks is a notable example of success under municipal ownership. Here a uniform rate of 6 cents per 1000 gallons is charged, with the result that the large manufacturing plants, which use a goodly proportion of the water, are paying practically fifty per cent of the total water bill. Five years ago, when the Portland (Maine) Water District took over the private plant, it was old, worn out, entirely inadequate, necessitating new equipment. In 1912 the family rate was reduced from \$6.00 to \$5.00 per year, and the minimum meter rate reduced from \$12.00 to \$10.00 per year. The waterworks in Macon, Georgia, was put under municipal control October, 1911, and the excess of income over expenditures for the first year was \$38,862.99.

(The department forwarded the comrade other information on municipal ownership of waterworks, including bibliography, table of rates, etc., giving references to material covering scores of successful municipal water plants.)

Cost of Living—Prices Held Up.

Q. Can you give me several instances of willful destruction of property, that is, food-stuffs, by the capitalist class, in order to maintain high prices, or cause a stringency in the market?

A. On June 10, 1913, there were shipped into Chicago several carloads of potatoes. The market was already supplied and the dealers were desirous of keeping up the price to 20 cents. The potatoes just shipped were supposed to be wholesaled for 20 cents a bushel. Rather than have the price disturbed, these many carloads of potatoes were dumped onto the tracks a few miles south of Chicago. Chicago citizens continued to pay 20 cents.—(In Chicago Tribune.)

It is claimed that there are now 1,000,000,000 eggs in storage—and prices are still soaring.—(Charles Edward Russell, in Pearson's Magazine, October, 1913.)

On August 6, 1913, despite the fact that there were 65,000,000 pounds of butter in cold storage, the wholesale price was boosted ½ cent a pound, with a resulting retail advance of 1 cent a pound.

The holdings of butter in cold storage on August 1 of this year were 10,346,000 more than the year before.

The "scarcity of butter" cry raised because of the withdrawal of many pounds of butter into cold storage, was responsible for continued increase in the price during the month of August.—(In Chicago Tribune.)

The Number of Municipalities Controlled by Socialists in Foreign Countries.

Inquirers often ask us for the number of cities of the world in control of the Socialists—or at least having a majority of the governing bodies. It would be of great propaganda value if we knew approximately how many Socialists are holding official positions in municipalities in the world.

Who would like to work this up for us?

Data on Socialist Press of the World.

We are often asked for the number of socialist papers in the world. Who will compile for us the number of the distinctly Socialist papers outside of the United States in the world—the daily, weekly, monthly, etc., giving the number of each in each country? If any comrade can give us the information for any one country it will help.

A Library Program

The Information Department is looking for suggestions as to what the Socialist Party should stand for, in its municipal platforms, in connection with the public libraries. What demands should be made by a Socialist on a library board? What are usually the needs of a library along the lines of efficiency and improvement and service to the common people?

Socialists who have served on library boards, or who are librarians, or connected with library work, may have many ideas that would be of benefit to us and the comrades who are considering these matters in our different cities. We shall be glad to receive communications from any who have suggestions along this line.

Woman's Department

WINNIE E. BRANSTETTER, Director

WOMAN'S NATIONAL COMMITTEE.

Gertrude Breslau Fuller, 209 E. Reliance St., Pittsburgh, Pa.
Alma M. Kriger, 403 S. Main St., Butte, Mont.
Lena Morrow Lewis, Fairbanks, Alaska, Gen. Delivery.
Bertha Howell Maily, 140 E. 19th St., New York, N. Y.
Anna A. Maley, 140 E. 19th St., New York, N. Y.
Gertrude Reilly, 306 Shippen St., West Hoboken, N. J.
May Wood-Simons, 115 Auer Ave., Milwaukee, Wis.

This department has charge of propaganda and organization among women. Its purpose is to make Socialists, unionists, and intelligent voters of women, and to secure their active membership in the Socialist party.

Address all communications to

SOCIALIST PARTY, 111 North Market Street, Chicago, Ill.

REPORT OF THE WOMAN'S COMMITTEE OF OKLAHOMA, 1913.

M. A. Stallard, State Correspondent.

On April 22 we sent out 500 letters calling upon the women of the Socialist party to co-operate with Woman's State Correspondent. To these letters we received no reply, but remembering the old adage, "if at first you don't succeed, try, try again," we determined to succeed.

In August we again sent out 500 letters to each local secretary, with the following leaflets enclosed: Plan of Work for Women in Socialist Locals and Why you Should be a Socialist.

In these letters I asked for the names and addresses of non-dues paying women in each locality. In reply to this request I received 400 names. To each of these I sent a letter in which I made an appeal, and gave a few reasons why they should join the Socialist party. In these letters I also enclosed leaflets, Why You Should Be a Socialist.

We have failed so far to get a quorum of the Woman's Committee together so we could outline plans for more effective work. Yet, I feel that our work for 1913 has not been in vain.

Our motto for 1914 is a thorough organization for women in Oklahoma. That we may be able to perfect this organization I have submitted a recommendation to the State Convention for its consideration: That the Woman's Committee meet with the State Executive Committee at their regular meetings and that the expenses be paid out of the party funds.

In all my work I have received the hearty co-operation and support of our present state secretary, Comrade Sinclair.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

Julia Parks, District Correspondent.

Since my report early in November, we have made some slight increase in our women membership. The Saturday night dinners, served at headquarters by the women's committee have been successful financially. It has also added greatly to the good fellowship here in the district. These Saturday evening gatherings are coming to have a wholesome educational effect. Party questions are discussed freely and vigorously, yet good humordly.

The Sunday school continues to grow. We celebrated National Children's Day by a party as we learned of the day too late to prepare a program. At this time the children brought in their contribution to the fund for the children of strikers, which they had been saving in little red stockings, one of which I am enclosing in this. The fund amounted to \$4.00. Our second entertainment is to be given January 11. The unique feature is to be Socialist News of the World, given by children in the costume of the different nations.

REPORT OF WOMAN'S DEPARTMENT.

Flora M. Beselack, Milwaukee, Wis.

During the year 1913 the woman's branches conducted a series of six lectures, the speakers dealing entirely with the problems that confronted women. In all but one case the speaker was a woman. Some five or six thousand leaflets were distributed and approximately 1,000 copies of the Progressive Woman were either sold or given away.

To carry on these lectures the woman's branches gave card parties, picnics, etc., to raise the necessary funds. During the year we raised about \$350 and our lectures cost us about \$335, leaving us a small balance to start the new year with. To this we added about \$75, proceeds of a picnic and a theater party, held in August, the beginning of our new year. We have given one lecture so far this season; our second one comes on the 18th of January. Comrade Janet Fenimore Korngold was our first speaker this season and we hope the National Woman's Correspondent will be the second. For our third lecture we will undoubtedly have Comrade Korngold again as she will make a tour of the state at that time.

Out in the state I have not been able to do much, my work on The Leader takes so much of my time that it is hard for me to get the necessary correspondence out. I understand some work is being done in Kenosha and Racine but have not been able to get in touch with the women in those cities, so cannot say just how much. I hope, however, that I will soon be in a position to go after this work more thoroughly and get the women all over the state roused up.

INFANT MORTALITY.

According to The Survey of January 3, 1914, the infant death rate in the registration area in 1911 was 112.9 per cent. That is eight times as many as at all other ages of children or adults.

REPORT OF WOMAN'S CONFERENCE.

Zula Stallard, Kansas.

We recommend that the Kansas Voters' Manual (by Mary E. Dobbs, Wichita, Kansas), be used in woman's committees, study clubs, and in Socialist locals for the study of Kansas State Government, always keeping in mind the class character of all present governments.

We further recommend that the Socialist Woman's Committee organize working women's clubs for the purpose of studying the municipal, county, district and state organizations, the duties of their respective officers and the fundamental laws of the state.

We further recommend that the Socialist women join in and co-operate with the existing good government leagues, and the civic department of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union in their studies of government problems.

We recommend that this committee present the following to the conference and get its approval: that the woman's department be continued in the state at least two years longer. That a woman's correspondent be elected in the same manner and at the same time as the state secretary.

We further recommend that at least one of the state speakers or organizer should be a woman, during 1914. Carried.

It was further decided that the Plan of Work in Socialist locals, adopted by the Woman's National Department, be concurred in and carried out, and that copies of the national plan be always kept on hand by the state correspondent.

We further recommend that all committees make an attempt to interest little children in learning Socialist songs, and to hold a Saturday afternoon play hour, at which Socialist lessons be taught. Also offered a motion

"That the Woman's Conference go on record as recommending the co-operation of the state office in furnishing the advertising matter for six months in support of a plan of dramatic propaganda and giving Socialist plays." Work suggested by Ethel Whitehead.

Motion that this conference elect a committee to formulate an outline of its position on the Woman and Children Labor question. Carried.

THE DECEMBER DUES.

December receipts for dues were disappointing. Though the total money received exceeded that of November by a few dollars, yet it was below the banner month of October. The notable losses were in the following states:

California—From \$442.20 in October, \$236.80 in November to \$235.15 in December.

New York—From \$602.70 in October, \$547.00 in November to \$530.75 in December.

Minnesota—From \$264.00 in October, \$244.80 in November to \$145.10 in December.

Washington—From \$222.20 in October, \$248.10 in November to \$94.80 in December.

Wisconsin—From \$232.40 in October, \$186.15 in November to \$165.10 in December.

Indiana—From \$141.15 in October, \$125.50 in November to \$81.05 in December.

The losses in these six states were \$688.68; the total loss in membership, based on payment of dues, 13,733. The states which showed great gains were:

Pennsylvania, a gain of \$221.00; South Dakota, a gain of \$32.00; Illinois, a gain of \$41.00; Ohio, a gain of \$27.00—a total gain of \$321.00; or a gain in membership of 6,400.

The other states showed slight losses with here and there some gains. The total report brings the dues paying membership in December down to approximately 90,000.

The National Office put on a membership contest in December and used every effort at its command to promote the organizing spirit. Two things occurred to hold back this membership contest:

First, the Socialist press, with here and there a conspicuous exception, ignored our efforts. This was very discouraging and shows a lack of co-ordination of our press. The Socialist press in this country is as yet exceedingly individualistic. Most papers are struggling for their lives. Others are so intent on subscription campaigns that the organization receives from them little aid or encouragement. We are not blaming the press, nor do we wish our remarks to be interpreted as severely critical. Our press is following the lines of economic determination which is natural and inevitable.

Second, December was the month in which the Wilson prosperity wave struck the country with telling force. It was marked by a wide spread shut down of factories, shops, and the lay off of hundreds of thousands of workmen. This great wave of Democratic prosperity apparently hit Cal-

ifornia the hardest. California had entered enthusiastically into the membership contest, the state committee offering to the locals an attractive list of prizes and the whole propaganda backed up by the California Social Democrat and the J. Stitt Wilson crusade. Reports from California show that never, even in the halcyon days of Grover Cleveland, has California been so hit by unemployment. In Los Angeles and San Francisco nearly 100,000 men were without employment, resulting almost in riots in the former city.

Sociological experts estimate that there were 2,000,000 unemployed men and women in the month of December. Such a wide spread catastrophe was bound to affect the payment of dues.

Although the Socialist party is recruited in the main from the ranks of the higher paid and better skilled of the working class, still unemployment was bound to affect us.

Looking back over history of the month, we have cause for congratulation—optimism, rather than discouragement. The fact that we could pass through such a National catastrophe and even gain a little in dues over the month of November, speaks whole volumes for the solidarity of the party, but we are not by any means out of the woods. The month of January is a problem with the industrial depression that is upon us. We are at the mercy of the capitalist class which has the administration as well as the great American public by the throat.

If the railroads can get what they are demanding, a flood of new stocks and bonds, a nationwide revival in the railroad industry will result. This will start the steel mills and revive the lumber industry. With the organization of the banking system will come the inflation of the currency and an era of speculation and higher prices. The working class will be back at work, but that is all that can be said, for with higher prices and greater exploitation, the struggle for existence will go on as before. Having more money and steadier employment, the working class will organize in larger numbers, both industrially and politically.

The next few months are bound to be stringent ones. We would do well to face the problem as it is. Socialist locals should make heroic efforts to keep the organization intact. A loss of dues at the National Office and in business is a very serious thing for we still have a large debt to be liquidated. Under present conditions, the party needs all the revenue that it is now receiving.

It is time for those who have the money to come to the relief of the locals. There are thousands of men and women scattered throughout the country who could double and treble their payments during this period of stress and thus keep the status of the locals up to normal.

The present is a call to all the latent loyalty and energy within the ranks of the Socialist party.

LECTURE TRIP.

L. E. Katterfeld, the originator of the Party Builder, is about to start on an extended lecture tour, which he says is to be a real Party Building trip. His avowed ambitions are to have at least one thousand men and women sign applications for membership in the Socialist party at his meetings. Every Party Builder in the cities he is to visit should help make his meetings successful membership rallies.

And here's another little pointer: The subscription cards that go with the Katterfeld lecture tickets are good for 25 weeks' subscription for the Party Builder. Use these lectures to nab a good big list of Party Builder subs.

Here are the opening dates:—January 17, Decorah, Iowa; January 18, Mason City, Iowa; January 19, Mitchell, S. D.; January 20, Huron, S. D.; January 21, Aberdeen, S. D.; January 22, Oldham, S. D.; January 23, Sioux City, Iowa; January 24, Council Bluffs, Iowa; January 25, p. m., Saint Joseph, Mo.; January 25, evening, Kansas City, Mo.

THE DANGER OF GOLF BALLS.

Several cases of severe permanent injury to the eyes have been caused by the spurt of a caustic substance in the small rubber core of golf balls cut or bounced open by children. One make of golf balls contains a mixture of barium sulphate, soap and alkali, another a solution of zinc chloride. Recently an attempt has been made to prohibit by law the sale of golf balls containing any caustic fluid. (The Journal of the American Medical Association, January 3, 1914.)

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PLAN OF ORGANIZATION FOR YOUNG PEOPLE'S SOCIALIST LEAGUES

There should be a young people's Socialist league in every town in the United States. Young people are valuable additions to the Socialist movement. They possess fire, energy and enthusiasm and are eager to carry the message of Socialism to the world, once they grasp its significance. Young people's leagues will more than repay locals for any energy expended in their organization.

All organizers, local, state and national, should aid in forming young people's leagues and stimulate the work where they now exist.

To organize a league it is best to arrange some sort of a social evening. Advertise it as much as possible. Young folks will come to an affair of this kind much more readily than to a dry business meeting. Have some one give a short talk at the gathering stating its purpose. Then secure the names and addresses of those willing to join the young people's organization. You can announce a regular organization meeting for a later date, when officers can be elected and real work started.

The life of a young people's league depends upon activity. Have the members do something more than hold business meetings. Always do something. Never let your activities cease. As soon as you do that members will lose interest in the league and drop out.

Make your business meetings as interesting as possible. Open the meeting with song. This puts the crowd into a pleasant mood when starting the evening's work and also develops a much neglected phase of Socialist activity. Limit your business to one hour and follow it with a lecture, a dance or a social evening of some sort. This will attract the young folk and make them return while a dry business meeting will drive them away.

You must retain the new members you secure. They should not be regarded as outsiders but should be given every opportunity to participate in the work. Get the members out to the meetings. Make them attend a meeting before they are initiated. If a member never attends meetings, he feels there is no need for him to belong to an organization of which he is no vital part. Consequently he drops out. Enter into conversation with the new members and make them feel at home. See that they enjoy themselves when they attend your social affairs. In this way you will keep your new members.

Do not let your activities be confined to educational lines. Neither let them drift to the social extreme. Mix your educational and social activities. Arrange dances and debates, socials and lectures, entertainments and study classes. Never let an entertainment, lecture or debate close without some one making an appeal for young folk to join the league.

As soon as you find enough people interested in any line of activity, start a class in that line of work. Thus you might have classes in public speaking, athletics, dramatics, music, stenography, history, Socialism, municipal problems, dancing, literature, debating, etc. Some folk will be attracted by one phase of work, while others will come for something else. It is found difficult at times to secure teachers who will serve for nothing. If a class of fifteen or twenty members can be secured a charge of ten or fifteen cents a night will pay for a teacher.

Teachers and professors from local schools or colleges can be secured to lecture before your organization free of charge, as will many editors, lawyers, ministers and others. Young people can be attracted to the lecture by following it with a dance or social or some sort.

Try to get publicity for your affairs in every possible way. If you have a local Socialist paper, use it as much as possible. Have the editor establish a young people's department. Write news articles of your lectures and other events for the capitalist press. You will get them printed many times, thus reaching a great non-Socialist audience.

Levy a monthly dues, as this will help to finance your affairs. If a person has to pay to belong to an organization, he will take a greater interest in it. Dues should not be more than twenty-five cents a month.

The league should co-operate with the Socialist party local. In order that the league may not drift away from its original purpose, every member attaining the age of twenty-one years, who has been a member of the league for more than one year, should become a member of the Socialist party or be dropped from membership in the league.

In order to secure greater co-operation with the Socialist party, the league should elect one or more representatives to the party local or central committee, who should have a voice but no vote. The

Socialist local should have a member on the executive board of the league in the same manner. The representatives of the league should make reports to the local, at regular intervals, of the league's activity and also report the progress of the affairs in the local Socialist party to the league.

The leagues should assist the locals in every possible way, i. e. by aiding in the distribution of literature; by watching at the polls on election day; by helping in the conduct of campaign meetings; and by acting on committees to arrange for picnics, balls, lectures, etc. Never hold meetings or other affairs which will conflict with those of the local. When such cases occur by accident, try to co-operate with the local in making the affair a joint undertaking.

A perpetual campaign to reach the youth outside of the Socialist movement should be carried on. Great crowds of young people are found at baseball games, football games, dances, etc. Have your literature and advertising at these affairs. This phase of work should not be overlooked if your league is to grow.

A very important thing in any organization is the collection of dues. When your organization grows so large that the financial secretary and organizer cannot collect dues, it is best to divide your territory into smaller districts with an assistant organizer in each. At the end of each month, the financial secretary should make out a list of those in arrears one month or more and give the names to the district organizers. It should be one of his duties to collect dues. Don't wait till a member is three or four months in arrears. Keep your membership up-to-date.

One excellent way to keep interest in your league alive is to arrange contests of various kinds between members and between the league and other organizations.

Some excellent teams of debaters can be developed within the league. After they have fought out the championship of the league, let the leading debaters meet some school, church or literary organization in a debate on some phase of Socialism. It will prove an excellent means of propaganda in addition to awakening enthusiasm among your members.

Oratorical contests can be arranged in the same way.

You might also organize baseball, football, basketball and track teams to meet other similar teams. All of these things will prove excellent methods of bringing others into your organization.

(Next week a sample constitution for a league will be published.)

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The Literature Department

Last week I promised a complete report of this department for the six months period of my incumbency as manager. There is, however, so much data which will be of interest to the party membership that I will divide the report in two parts. This week I will give you a report of sales and next week I will give you a report of the financial side of the department. We keep accurate detail records of all sales handled in our shipping department but we do not keep a record of orders forwarded to other publishers. We are not now forwarding many orders because we are buying all books for which there is a demand in wholesale lots and putting them in our own stock room. Larger purchases mean less cost, and having the books in our own stock room enables us to handle orders more promptly.

From our stock we have shipped out during the six months from July 1, 1913, to January 1, 1914, a total of 2,083,968 pieces of literature divided as follows: Leaflets, 1,861,475; paper bound books, 221,885; cloth bound books, 608.

As we handle about 400 different items in our department a detailed list of what we have sold would occupy too much space and would not be of sufficient interest to warrant publication. We will, therefore, give you only a few of the larger items.

Leaflets.

We handle 46 different leaflets. The following are in the greatest demand, sales for the six months period are as follows:

Have the Socialists Made Good?.....	343,408
Most Frequent Objections to Socialism, Answered	276,724
Join the Party	189,209
Madam, How Will you Feed your Family..	139,153
Our Political Parties	70,319
Why You Should Be a Socialist.....	57,922
Old Age Pensions	53,340
Are Socialists Practical?	51,484
National Platform	48,261
Frances Willard on Socialism.....	43,159

Paper Bound Books.

Usurped Power of the Courts.....	75,818
Should Socialism Be Crushed.....	37,658
How We Are Gouged.....	35,609
Wasting Human Life	11,885
The Truth About Socialism.....	13,066
Pocket Library of Socialism.....	2,726
Socialism, What It Is and How To Get It..	2,174
The Farmer	1,840
Catholic Church and Socialism.....	1,492
Life and Deeds of Uncle Sam.....	769
Introduction to Socialism.....	488
Shop Talks on Economics	292

Cloth Bound Books.

War, What For	328
Call of the Carpenter.....	252
Why I am a Socialist.....	43
Social Forces in American History.....	27
Elements of Socialism	22

OUR LITERATURE PURCHASERS.

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 "Pocket Library" to John Freeman, Chicago, Ill
 "Pocket Library" to Robt. Peak, Kelvin, N. D. Assorted books, to the amount of \$3.00, to John M. Powers, Cataldo, Idaho.
 Five copies of "The Truth About Socialism" to H. Sweetland, Brush, Colo.
 One dozen "Catholic Church and Socialism" to Erwin R. Stoetzner, New Britain, Conn.
 One thousand "Most Frequent Objections to Socialism, Answered" to Geo. Burgin, Vineland, N. J.
 "Pocket Library" to S. B. Horton, Angelton, Texas.
 One dozen "The Catholic Church and Socialism" to R. A. Owings, Iignite, N. D.
 One thousand leaflets to Frank S. Amend, Indianapolis, Ind.
 Five thousand assorted leaflets to Lake Clark, Warsaw, Ind.
 One thousand "Children in Textile Industries" to L. E. Rader, Elma, Wash.
 One hundred Leaflet Packets to Max A. Schulze, Holyoke, Mass.
 One hundred copies of "The Truth About Socialism" and 100 copies of "Wasting Human Life" to John W. Ellison, Indianapolis, Ind.
 One dozen "Moyer's Song Books" to John Canright, North Platte, Neb.
 One thousand assorted leaflets to M. L. Morrill, Rock Island, Ill.
 One thousand "Children of the Poor" to Geo. Hake, Norwood, Ohio.
 "Library of Socialism" to Ed. Martins, Everson, Wash.
 "Library of Socialism" to Ferdinand Stehle, Brooklyn, N. Y.
 Assorted books, to the amount of \$10.00, to Werner Sointer, Norwood, Mass.
 Three copies of "The Call of the Carpenter," two "Wasting Human Life" and one "Truth about Socialism" to Dennis Elsinore, Bucyrus, Mo.
 "Library of Socialism" to Louis Haase, Bentonville, Ark.



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THE PARTY BUILDER

OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF THE SOCIALIST PARTY OF THE UNITED STATES.

Maxim L. Lanferski, Managing Editor

Published every Saturday by the Socialist Party, National Office, 111 North Market street, Chicago, Ill.

Entered as second-class matter, November 20, 1912, at the postoffice, Chicago, Ill., under the act of March 3, 1879.

No. 63 Chicago, January 17, 1914

CIRCULATION REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING JANUARY 3, 1914.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Rows include Reported last week, Taken off, New subscriptions, and Total.

We have now rounded out six months of the life of this paper under present management.

The circulation figures have been reported from week to week, so that nothing need be said on that point.

The purpose of abandoning the monthly and weekly bulletins and the conversion of these into a weekly publication was twofold.

First, to save money. Second, to furnish a better and more efficient medium of communication between the National Office and the party membership.

For purposes of comparison we asked the official auditors to make a comparative cost showing of the Bulletins for the last half period of 1912, and the Party Builder for same period, 1913. Following are the figures given by the auditors:

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Rows include Cost of monthly and weekly bulletins, Cost of Party Builder, Printing, postage and wages, and Less subscriptions and advertising.

Cost of Party Builder..... 1,068.81

Amount saved by discontinuing Bulletin...\$1,750.22

No record was kept of wage cost of sending the Bulletins nor cost of wrapping paper, ink, stencils, etc., but, of course, this costs money—a great deal of money in fact, and it is fair to say that for the past six months, at least \$2,500 has been saved by the discontinuance of the Bulletin.

Our readers have been told repeatedly that the Party Builder could not pay its own way with less than 50,000 paid circulation, so the loss reported above will occasion no surprise.

In the present state of party finances, the savings of \$2,000 is an important item since it means that other indebtedness has been reduced by so much and which if it had been thus saved would have been of necessity expended on the Bulletin.

Whether or not the P. B. has served as well as the Bulletin is another question. It certainly has served those who have subscribed for it better—but a great many local secretaries and party members have ignored all appeals made to them for subscriptions.

It is an open question whether or not a local secretary who will not pay 25 cents for his official paper would read a Bulletin if sent to him free. And it is a matter of history that the old bulletins frequently never got beyond the local secretary and were used as fire starters on frosty mornings.

I believe the party membership will never want to go back to the old Bulletin and that the P. B. is destined to become one of the party's greatest assets.

OUR SUBSCRIPTION HUSTLERS.

- Geo. Hainsworth, Camden, N. J., list of 20 subs. John W. Danby, Cleveland, Ohio, list of 11 subs. Aaron Randolph, Camden, N. J., list of 10 subs. F. M. Libby, Bremerton, Wash., list of 7 subs. Steve Young, Springfield, Ill., list of 7 subs. Max Shrodek, Toledo, Ohio, list of 7 subs. Lewis Van Deweer, Schenectady, N. Y., list of 7 subs. Robt. W. Bruere, New York City, list of 7 subs. E. G. Tierney, Washington, Pa., list of 7 subs. Adrian Albert, Wheeling, W. Va., list of 6 subs. Andy Stoehr, Elwood Place, Ohio, list of 6 subs. A. Williamson, Williston, N. D., list of 5 subs. John A. Becker, Sheridan, Wyo., list of 5 subs.

IOWA STATE NOTES.

Following are the names of the new State Committee as elected by December referendum:

- First district, Herman Sommerfield, Burlington; second district, George M. Dowell, Muscatine; third district, C. H. Collier, Iowa Falls; fourth district, A. E. Bufkin, Mason City; fifth district, L. M. Farnsworth, Marshalltown; sixth district, Fred Bilterman, Avery; seventh district, W. M. Whitenack, Des Moines; eighth district, William James, Mystic; ninth district, Henry Verpoorten, Council Bluffs; tenth district, J. C. Lewis, Boone; eleventh district, A. Filarski, Sioux City.

REPORT ON MICHIGAN STRIKE.

(Continued from page 2)

dynamite plots and find that without exception they have the plainest evidences of such "plants" as were made in the Lawrence strike, and that it is ridiculous to believe the strikers had anything to do with the "plots." In one other case the charge remains undetermined. A guard, without provocation, shot and killed a striker. The next day some unknown person killed the guard. There is an assumption in this case, but no evidence. Many cases we have found in which armed guards, usually drunk, were the cowardly aggressors, attacking unarmed and unoffending men, women and even children. In spite of these provocations, the patience and self-control of the strikers has been remarkable and deserves the attention of the country. Throughout the troubles, the strikers seem to have manifested an almost singular forbearance. All of your committee are familiar with strikes. Not one of us can recall another strike of this size and lasting as long that has been equally free from overt acts by strikers, and few in which the provocations to resentment have been so great.

But while the strikers have been in the main law-abiding, we must observe that the mine companies have been astonishingly reckless of many laws. Putting aside now the bloody deeds of their armed guards and agents, we instance only the federal statutes against peonage, which these companies have broken innumerable times and with impunity by bringing men from New York. The affidavits of scores of the victims of the peonage practices leave no doubt of this fact, and we call for federal action against these law-breakers. Four hundred penniless miners have been arrested, chiefly on baseless charges. We are not yet ready to believe that for the wealthy and powerful that trample upon our laws there is no punishment, but if these glaring offenses by the companies go unpunished, we must admit that the presumption of the immunity of the rich will be enormously strengthened.

We believe that all of the demands of the strikers were just and reasonable. Beyond a doubt they should have been granted. Probably no other employing companies in this country could so easily afford to concede such moderate requests. Among these companies, and appearing as the holding company for most of the others, is the Great Calumet and Hecla, which has made a larger annual profit on a smaller investment and for a larger period than any other similar enterprise in the United States and possibly in the world. Fabulous fortunes have been built from its great profits. Its wealth may be gauged from the following facts taken from the sworn statements of the president of the company, also published in Copper Hand Book about it.

It has a capital stock of \$2,500,000, of which less than half, or only \$12 of each \$25 share has ever been paid in. That is to say, the cash actually invested in it has been \$1,200,000. On this investment has been paid, to and including 1912, dividends to the amount of \$112,500,000, or \$1,125 a share, or about \$100 of profits for every one dollar of investment. The annual report, February 27, 1913, gave the value of each share as \$540 \$12 having been paid for it. The dividends in the last few years have been as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Year and Dividend Amount. Rows range from 1897 to 1912.

Besides these great profits, the salaries paid to officers and directors seem beyond all reason. The president of the company receives \$100,000 a year. Mr. McNaughton in his capacities as vice-president, general manager and director, receives, \$85,000 a year, the sec-

retary and treasurer and each director, draws \$20,000 a year.

In recent years, the company has bought out of its surplus profits, and by issuing securities, a controlling interest in seventeen other mining companies, and now in addition to its huge dividends earns the interest on \$8,519,000 of notes that it issued to aid in making these purchases.

To a company earning such enormous profits, such demands from its employes as were made in this instance were the veriest trifles. That such companies should contemptuously refuse to so much as treat with their employes seems to us one of the most remarkable instances we have ever encountered of the arrogance of wealth, as the companies' method of combatting this strike afford one of the most alarming instances of wealth's lawlessness.

We find the following conclusions:

1. That the strike that has caused such a loss of life and such great losses of money to the people of Michigan and the United States was entirely unnecessary and due wholly to the unreasonable and overbearing attitude of the mining companies.

2. That the employment of militia was entirely unnecessary, worked infinite harm and did no good, while the use of private guards to supersede, with their rifles and drunken whims, the constituted authorities, has been most clearly demonstrated to be a great, perilous and intolerable evil.

We feel that we ought to add our conviction that it was within the power of the governor of Michigan to end this lamentable conflict, if he had earnestly sought to do so. At the time of our visit, nothing was needed to secure the return of the men to the mines but the recognition of the miners' union. A demand so moderate, so reasonable, and so much to the advantage of the community, could hardly have been resisted, if the governor had seen fit to add to it his approval. We profoundly regret that he did not take advantage of so great an opportunity to serve his times, further the cause of justice, and advance the condition of the working class.

VICTOR L. BERGER, SEYMOUR STEDMAN, CHARLES EDWARD RUSSELL, Committee.

TELEGRAM.

January 13, 1914.

Hon. Woodrow Wilson, President U. S. A., Washington, D. C.

The National Executive Committee of the Socialist party commissioned Victor L. Berger, Charles Edward Russell and Seymour Stedman to investigate the Michigan strike. They report claims of men just. Also report companies guilty of peonage and importation of sixteen hundred gunmen from outside. Leaders of miners maltreated and deported. General reign of terror on part of gunmen; the strikers firm and law-abiding.

On basis of above report, and on behalf of Socialist party, we demand congressional investigation of this situation.

VICTOR L. BERGER, GEO. H. GOEBEL, ADOLPH GERMER, JAMES H. MAURER, J. STITT WILSON. Executive Committee.

Repeat to: James E. Martine, U. S. Senate, Washington, D. C.; Edward Keating, House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.; Champ Clark, Speaker of House, Washington, D. C.; Congressman MacDonald, House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

DEBS IN THE SOUTH.

Beginning February 11, Comrade Eugene V. Debs will make twenty dates in the South. For terms and particulars write The Southern Worker, Huntington, Arkansas.

ADDITIONAL COPIES OF THIS ISSUE OF THE PARTY BUILDER CAN BE HAD AT \$5.00 PER THOUSAND.