

The Worker

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TRICKS USED AGAINST THE STRIKING MINERS.

BY MORRISON I. SWIFT.

At the present time all the buccinating faculties of American society are concentrated against the anthracite miner. Capitalist, political, military, judicial, and press-writing sharpers have united into an army to put him down. In the ranks who have sold themselves to the reigning class for some petty bribe to crush the miner back into his usual seditious servitude. I will name a few of the tricks applied to him.

THE RELIEF FUND DISCONTINUED TRICK: Those who want to see disunion and trouble among the miners assiduously circulate the story that the fund is not being distributed fairly and that the strikers are dissatisfied. You may rely on it that the purveyors of the miners, would-be strike breakers or agents higher up of the operators. They try to make a bone of discord of the question whether the miners who have homes and credit shall receive of the strike fund as well as those who are already destitute. Now the fact is a great number of those with homes do not want aid and are willing to incur debt that the relief may go further. The sentiment of loyalty and self-sacrifice is strong. The strikers realize that those who represent them have complicated problems to solve in distributing the fund, and they are going to stand by their representatives cordially. The carrying few will be recognized as those who expect to be paid for attempting to make trouble, with special favors from the mine bosses when work begins. These trouble breeders are known and their purpose is known and they have usually very little influence on the rest.

THE PRETENSE THAT MEMBERS HAVE APPLIED FOR WORK: This trick is always employed to cause the strikers to believe that their fellow strikers are plotting the traitor to them. Mine bosses and foremen and professional pees of the bosses are collected from all the mines into one mine secretly. The mine starts and it is advertised that the ranks of the strikers are broken and the strike is collapsing. This simple ruse does sometimes impose on the weaker-minded, or it hastens the crisis in another way, namely, through arousing violence.

THE TRICK OF VIOLENCE: We are all familiar with the capitalist's affection for state troops. They are one of his assets, as they are also one of the workman's dire liabilities. If, on false pretenses, by fraud, a mine can be started with bosses it is likely to cause an outbreak. The public then swings over to the owners' side.

FOR THE DAILY.

Report of Pledges and Contributions.

The Coming Socialist and Trade Union Daily to be Named "The Globe."

The regular monthly general meeting of the Workingmen's Co-operative Publishing Association was held last Monday evening, August 4, at Labor Lyceum, 64 E. Fourth street. Comrade Hillquit was elected chairman of the meeting. It was then moved that all business be suspended excepting the report of the Board of Management and the selection of a name. Four comrades were admitted into the Association. The question of a name for the daily paper was then taken up, and the names "The Worker," "Globe," "Sentinel" and "Record" were presented. After considerable discussion the name "Globe" was adopted by a unanimous vote of the Association.

The conditions of membership in the W. C. P. A. are: First, the applicant must be a member in good standing of the Socialist Party—called in New York the Social Democratic Party; second, he (or she) must buy one share of stock for \$5—\$1 to be paid on the proposition of his name, \$1 on his admission, and the rest within one year.

All branches of the S. D. P. and the Workingmen's Sick and Death Benefit Society in the city of New York who have as yet not elected delegates to the conference for the purpose of placing a Trade Union Daily are requested to do so at once, as the next meeting of the Conference takes place on Thursday evening, August 14, at the Labor Lyceum.

Comrades belonging to trade unions are also urged to bring the matter of the conference to the attention of their respective organizations with the object in view of sending two delegates to attend the Conference, which is to be a permanent body with certain rights and duties in connection with the publication of the daily. Please remember this when you attend the next meeting of your union.

Amounts Pledged.

Following is a statement of amounts pledged for the Socialist Daily Fund up to Aug. 4:

Celia Freeman, City	\$3.00
Emil Dietze, City	3.00
J. Hirsch, City	1.00
Peter Ilgen, City	2.00
Adolf Vetter, City	2.00
Emil Erieff, City	2.00
Florence Melzer, City	2.00
W. Arnold, City	1.00
Wm. Arnold, Harrison, N. J.	5.00
Ernst Hiltenschlag, Newark	5.00
N. J.	1.00

BENJAMIN HANFORD FOR GOVERNOR.

A Brief Sketch and Personal Estimate of the Social Democratic Candidate in New York.

Benjamin Hanford, the candidate of the Social Democratic Party of the state of New York, was born in Cleveland, Ohio, some forty-five years ago. He came to New York City in 1887, in his early boyhood the family resided to Marshalltown, Iowa, where he began his life as a wage-worker in the printing trade.

He had no opportunity for school education, but from his stepmother—his mother having died in his infancy—he received good elementary teaching and imbibed from her precept and example a healthy taste in reading and a love of knowledge that has enabled him to make more of a workman's limited chances for self-education than many a more worldly-fortunate man does of all the facilities of school and university training. To his stepmother, too, he owes, he declares, whatever good things there may be in his character—and all who know him will agree that the tribute she thus pays her is a high one.

While still a boy Hanford entered a country printing office in Iowa—the elementary school of many a famous newspaper editor—and there he learned the trade—at least to a youth's satisfaction—he went to Chicago, where he joined the International Typographical Union at once. For some years he remained in Chicago, working on various daily newspapers and learning what a growing Western city and the conditions of the printing trade and the methods and traditions of that remarkable organization. In 1894, he had to leave Chicago, where he worked pretty well all over the country east of the Missouri.

It was in Philadelphia, about 1899, that Hanford became a Socialist. Up to that time he had been indifferent to politics, content in the two old parties equal subservience to the power of wealth and equal indifference to the welfare of the working class, and knowing nothing of the movement, then in its infancy in this country, which now stands for the hope and forward struggle of the workers.

He was already well and rather widely known in the I. T. U. and in the labor movement at that time. He was an impressive speaker and an active and progressive union man, whose sympathies were always with the "under dog" and his efforts always on the side of true democracy and the common good.

At this point he came under the influence of Fred Long, a brother party member, already a member of the labor movement to whom many another active Socialist of to-day owes, both knowledge and inspiration. From him Hanford learned what the then little understood word "Socialism" meant—that the principles and the policy for which it stood put into definite working form the vague sentiment for freedom and brotherhood that had been tried before many another. From that time he has been unwavering and up to the hilt in his activity in the Socialist political movement, while no less staunch and active as a trade unionist on the economic field.

SOCIALIST ACTIVITY IN THE STRIKE STATE.

Regular meeting of the State Committee held on August 4. Charters granted to Exeter and West Wyoming, Luzerne County, and Shenandoah and Mahanoy City, Schuylkill County, with two hundred and fifteen members. County and congressional convention reported held at New Cass August 2. Carbon County convention will be held at Mauch Chunk August 9, and Legislative District of Luzerne convention held August 2. Silver Brook Local authorized to arrange for county convention for Schuylkill. Conventions are being arranged for Delaware, Lycoming, and Montgomery counties.

INSTRUCTIONS IN THE MATTER OF NOMINATION PAPERS.

By reason of so many inquiries it was decided to publish the following instructions in the matter of nomination papers:

In describing the offices for which nominations are made by nomination papers the following will be proper: Judge of the County Court; Representative in the General Assembly; Representative in the General Assembly; These are state officers, and the papers must be filed in the office of the SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH, at Harrisburg, before October 1 (at least thirty-five days before election). If sent by mail several days should be allowed for transmission, and the papers should be sent as first-class matter, registered.

INSTRUCTIONS IN THE MATTER OF NOMINATION PAPERS.

Let them beware when they cry "Violence!" lest they accuse themselves. The ghosts of starved breakers-up and murdered workmen rise up to accuse them.

Let the eminently respectable people who seem so shocked and incensed at what might have been expected long before, have never been hungry—and have never worked.

The miners have toiled ceaselessly since boyhood amid dirt and foul air and coal grit for enough to keep them alive; they have lived in poor houses and ate poor food, they have seen their sons grow prematurely, old, and through it all they have seen the product of their labor going to other men who owned the mines that nature left for the use of all.

THE CAPITALIST PRESS.

The following dispatch is from the Philadelphia "Public Ledger":

"WASHINGTON, July 31.—Strikers in the Pennsylvania anthracite regions are possessed of no particular desire to become blockaded in the State's navy. At the direction of the Navy Department, Lieutenant J. P. Ryan, who was recently sent on a recruiting trip through Pennsylvania, has abandoned that field of labor.

HOW IT LIES.

The following dispatch is from the Philadelphia "Public Ledger":

"WASHINGTON, D. C., July 31.—When the anthracite coal strike was ordered the Navy Department thinking that some good recruits could be picked up among the miners, sent Lieutenant Ryan and Surgeon Benton to Pennsylvania for that purpose. In a report made to-day they say their trip was practically valueless, as few of the unemployed miners wished to leave terra firma, and the majority of those who did were PHYSICALLY UNRELIABLE. TO ENTER THE SERVICE OWING, IN MOST CASES, TO LACK OF NOURISHING FOOD."

THE PRESENT CAMPAIGN.

On August 9 he begins a tour of the state, which will occupy for four to six weeks. After a few days of alleged rest—the movement never gives its representative much real rest, and the time will probably be fully occupied with meetings in New York City and vicinity—he will again visit all the principal cities and industrial centers of the state in the month before election.

AS TO VIOLENCE IN THE COAL STRIKE.

At last human endurance, long since stretched to its utmost limit, broke out into violence one day last week among the striking miners of Shenandoah.

Then comes the traitor in their own ranks—the crawling deserter. The Socialist movement is not a movement of violence. Both trade unionists and Socialists deplore and strive to prevent such outbreaks. But it is not for the capitalist class to talk of violence, for they are the first to use it and they are the ones who provoke it. The striker is struggling for his rights; the capitalist is struggling for robbery. It is well to remember that men are men, that we are not gods, that we are not gods, and that there is a limit to human endurance. Violence preceded the revolution, preceded the Civil War, preceded every great social change—it would be strange indeed if some of it did not creep into the struggle for labor's rights. The working class do not want violence; they want labor's rights by way of the ballot-box and a peaceful change. But when the well-to-do working class in an attempt to keep them and their families from starvation, and the capitalist class refuse to get from under they will be as chaff to the whirlwind.

In consequence of the outbreak at Shenandoah the troops are now encamped there. The mine-owners are doubtless very glad that the Shenandoah riot took place—it is even possible that they may have incited it. A recent dispatch in the New York "Sun" stated that the mine-owners were discharging the guards and coal police because of the heavy expense. But the state pays for the troops and thus the mine-owners make a considerable saving.

INDEPENDENT LABOR PARTIES.

For years the Socialist has been preaching to trade unionists the folly of upholding the bosses on election day. And finally the truth of all this begins to dawn upon the worker—he is "why?"—and as with little thought and much courage he tries to set up an independent labor party. The "what catches him; he has failed to see that there is already an organized labor party in Los Angeles, in California, in the United States, in fact throughout the civilized world, "Independent" of all capitalistic control. Why, then, still the ranks of organized labor are represented by over nine million voters under the international banner of the Socialist Party?

BUY UNION-MADE GOODS.

In the triumph of the Socialist Party classes will disappear, master and slave vanish. In fraternal co-operation the human family will coalesce rather than willing "mother earth" her treasures, enough for each, enough for all, enough for evermore, and for the first time in history happiness and

JOY, plenty and lasting peace will bless the sons and daughters of men.

Very respectfully yours,
J. MAHLON BARNES, Secretary.
CAROLINE H. PEMBERTON, Assistant Secretary.
The State Committee call meetings at headquarters August 3 and 4, that the comrades of Philadelphia might be fully informed of the situation in the coal fields. Comrades Collins and Moore presented a report of their work and urged upon the comrades to do their utmost to enable the State Committee to keep speakers in the field. A committee of three was appointed, consisting of Comrades Atkinson, Forbes, and Seltzer, to gather funds for that purpose; \$33.75 was secured and a number of pledges given for weekly payments.

