

**SOCIALISM**  
Is the public ownership and democratic operation of all utilities, services and enterprises that are public in their nature.

# American Appeal

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**OUR PURPOSE**  
Is to teach Socialism and organize the people politically and industrially to bring Socialism.

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## National Convention to Be Held in New York

Date Changed to April 14—  
Berger Elected National  
Party Chairman

The National Executive Committee of the Socialist Party met in Detroit Saturday and Sunday, October 15 and 16, heard a report from the National Secretary, giving a detailed account of receipts and expenses of the Party and the American Appeal for the nine months of the present year and then went into the question of Convention and Party work.

After a general survey of a date and place for the convention, a decision was finally reached that the convention should be held in New York City beginning April 14. Members of the Committee from New York City extended an invitation for the convention to be held in New York City and their offer was accepted. The committee feels confident that the 1928 Convention of the Socialist Party will be one of the best and largest conventions in the history of the Party. Delegates are expected from all parts of the United States.

**Berger National Chairman**  
Comrade Victor L. Berger was elected National Chairman of the Socialist Party to succeed Eugene V. Debs. The selection of Berger was made by the National Executive Committee at its meeting in Detroit on Oct. 15th.

**Enthusiasm on the Rise**  
Tentative plans looking toward strengthening the party organization and the planning of the campaign were discussed thoroughly, and a general plan will be worked out and put into operation at a later meeting of the committee. Reports show that there is a general development of enthusiasm and activity in most parts of the country and predictions were freely made that our vote in 1928 will be far greater than at any time in the history of the Party.

Comrade Hillquit having just arrived from Europe gave the Committee an excellent report of the recent meeting which he attended at Brussels with the International Socialist Conference. His report showed that our movement throughout Europe is not only a most powerful one at the present time, but that a continued growth of the movement is expected to swing the Socialists in control of a number of governments in the near future.

**Fine Banquet Held**  
On Saturday night the comrades of Detroit staged a fine banquet to the National Executive Committee, and a general good time was had with much speech making, ending at 1:30 A. M. The banquet consisted of Hillquit, Berger, Van Essen, Bernstein, Onal and Sharts, National Secretary Henry acted as Toastmaster. High class music was furnished by Mr. and Mrs. Israel Katz. The excellent musical feature was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

### WILL THE AMERICAN PEOPLE NEVER WAKE UP?

Private interests with aggregate property worth more than seventeen billion dollars have declared united war against public ownership and have launched the greatest propaganda campaign against the rights of the common people in the sources of their existence in the history of this country.

Simultaneously with this "educational" drive of the trusts, the great power monopoly of this country is preparing for its major drive on congress to prevent the inauguration of public ownership projects already contemplated. At a recent conference of railroad magnates it developed that the thing feared and opposed most was public ownership. The United interests met in national halls during the war and betrayed the fact that the thing they are preparing to fight most of all is public ownership.

Reorganized and heavily financed, the power trust lobby is coming back to Washington to prepare for the most titanic struggle ever waged over possession of key resources in the United States—the Muscle Shoals power plant and the Boulder Canyon site.

At its annual convention at Atlantic City last June, the National Electric Light Association applauded and endorsed a report from its committee on water power development, in which the principle of public ownership was mentioned in the Muscle Shoals and the Sevier-Johnson bill for Boulder Dam, and certain plans for the St. Lawrence waterway development, was attacked.

From a southern senator who has stood consistently for the Norris bill, requiring government operation at Muscle Shoals and government sale of the electric current to consumers, has come a report that the power combine is making headway in its plan to rush through Congress, at the coming session, its grab of the property. A number of Democratic senators in the South who have thus far stood against the trust are now expected to declare that the issue must be "gotten out of the way" in order that more debate may be given the flood control issue.

Why this unusual excitement against public ownership by these powerful interests at a time when the advocates of public ownership show such weakness? Why are the trusts making this a major issue, when the duped, poisoned and blinded American people have almost forgotten it? There is just one answer. The private monopolists sense how utterly untenable is their position. They know the facts and they know the facts are against them. They know that truth and right is on the side of public ownership. They are well aware of the success of public ownership of power in Ontario. They know what public ownership is doing throughout the world and how the movement of the people toward the public possession of the sources of employment and wealth is steadily rising like a great tide. While there is yet time and make America an impregnable fortress of private monopoly. Will the American people never wake up?

### 4,500,000 Jobless Wholly Or In Part, Labor Leader Says

LOS ANGELES—There are more than 4,500,000 unemployed in this country and 3,500,000 wage earners working part time, said John P. Frey, secretary-treasurer, Metal Trades Department, at the A. F. of L. convention, in discussing labor's wage declaration that wages must keep pace with production.

### Berger Will Oppose Repaying Swindlers of Teapot Dome

Congressman Victor L. Berger will vote against paying other Doheny or Sinclair or any of their subsidiary companies "even a red copper" for their expenditures on pipe lines and tanks on the Elk Hills naval oil reserves.

### VIENNESE WORKERS MOVE TO BLOCK STRANGLING OF RUSSIA

Probably the first link in mutual trade relations between separated communities of workers in the midst of the present world-wide struggle between organized capital and organized labor, has been forged between Socialist Vienna and Soviet Russia.

### Nonpartisanship Is Challenged at A. F. of L. Meet

LOS ANGELES—Shafts of ridicule, scorn and shame were hurled at the American Federation of Labor's nonpartisan political policy by Delegate Max Hayes of Cleveland, the Farmer-Labor candidate for vice-president of the United States in the 1920 campaign, when he spoke for the first time in the sessions of the 47th federation convention at Los Angeles.

### From The Pen Of Debs (Compiled by Theodore Debs)

#### The Capitalist Politician

Wendall Phillips once gave a happy and illuminating description of the capitalist politician. Said he: "A politician is a man who lives by whistling at Washington what he wouldn't for all the world have known at home, and whispering at home what he wouldn't for all the world have known at Washington, and who is politically dead the moment he is equally well known in both places."

### Illinois Militarist Resolution Fails at A. F. of L. Meeting

American labor has vindicated the attacks made by the American Appeal on the militarist resolution passed by the Illinois Federation of Labor at its recent annual convention at East St. Louis.

### DEADLY PARALLEL—MACHINE AND MAN UNDER THE PRESENT SYSTEM

#### Machine Enriches the Owners

So tremendous has been the advance in the productivity of American workers that, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, which has been conducting a series of investigations in this field "for the major industries of the country, the total output of 1925 could be produced today at far from one-half the number of workers which would have been required under conditions existing in 1899.

#### Takes the Jobs of The Workers

The specter of highly complex machinery chasing America's highly-skilled craftsmen out of their jobs and dumping them on the scrap heap of the unemployed is the dominant bogey at the Los Angeles convention of the American Federation of Labor. All-time every official speech thus far has sounded a note of anxiety. Almost every international official has let that fear appear in discussing the problems of industry and labor.

### N. Y. Socialists Confident They Will Elect Candidates

#### Unusual Campaign Develops—Outside Help Will Make Victory Certain

NEW YORK—The New Leader, New York Socialist paper, following a careful survey of the political situation in New York City, predicts a sweeping victory for Socialism and a revival of the Socialist movement throughout the nation, if the present plans for an energetic campaign are executed.

#### Stand of Labor Vindicates Fight Against Measure by American Appeal

The so-called peace movements are inimical to the welfare of the American wage earners and lead to the destruction of nationality and the leveling of living standards to the plane of international colonialism and penury," the resolution declares.

#### What Shall We Do About It?

What can any sane and civilized nation possessing an ounce of reason do in the face of such a situation but publicly own and use the machines to provide every producer with work and wealth? What else is there to do in the face of the new tremendous possibilities of science and invention. Try to think up some other solution if you can. The American Appeal will gladly publish it.

#### Curb on Bosses

He sketched the chastening of facts a third party has on the political bosses and urged the calling of a conference next spring by the executive council to which all labor, farmer and liberal organizations should be invited, which would take an independent stand and show the boss they don't own the workers.

### More Socialist Gains in Germany

HAMBURG—The municipal elections in Altona, Wandsbeck, and Harburg brought a heavy increase in the Socialist vote and a severe defeat of the reactionary parties.

### What a Spectacle!

"What a spectacle it was at the Republican convention in Cleveland in 1924," Hayes cried. "Your committee, with Matthew Wolf at the head, had to wait three or four days in the convention anteroom. Brother Wolf was cooling his heels waiting for a hearing to present the suggestions of labor. At last he was given 10 minutes and then in effect the Republican bosses told him to get the hell out of here and out he went. Talk about the dignity of labor! Do you want that humiliation to be repeated next year when the old parties controlled by the bosses meet again?"

### No Reversal Asked

President Green in reply maintained, a bit more patriotically than statistically perhaps, that we had good social legislation as any in the world and that "we will get what we want in our own way."





