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THIS IS NUMBER

419

ADVANCE

We advocate the political organization of the working class to overthrow the domination of the capitalist class and to establish Socialism.

WHOLE NUMBER 419.

SAN FRANCISCO, SATURDAY, AUGUST 16, 1902.

FIFTY CENTS PER YEAR.

The Program for a Peaceable Social Revolution

Union Square Hall was not large enough to accommodate the audience which assembled there last Sunday afternoon to hear Rev. J. Stitt Wilson deliver the last in his series of lectures on the "Impending Social Revolution." Having in his previous addresses presented the impending struggle in all its phases, Comrade Wilson closed his series by defining the Socialist attitude toward it and their "Program for a Peaceable Social Revolution."

A social revolution of some kind is inevitable in America and throughout the civilized world. It has always been the purpose of the Socialist movement throughout all Christendom to initiate a peaceable social revolution.

There are some things however which would give us the thought that there are elements in society which are bound to hinder a peaceable solution of the social problem.

First, The almost universal prostitution of the press to capitalistic interests. There is a profound silence concerning the fundamental wrongs in the present economic conditions. We may be thankful that there are a few exceptions to this rule, but the exceptions prove the rule. The Socialist press in America is growing with remarkable rapidity. The time will come when the labor unions and the American Federation of Labor will have a daily paper, and that daily paper will stand for the propaganda of Socialism.

Another indication of a hindrance to a peaceable revolution is the unflinching ignorance of the religious classes of America concerning the social problem. The followers of the Prince of Peace do not know that there is any social problem. They had better come into the movement which stands for actual peace on earth.

We must first understand what is meant by the class struggle, then how to struggle, and then what to struggle for. In the past struggles, religious and political, we find that there is a class of people who suffer from the power that is used or assumed by the class in power. The path of liberty is found in the struggle of the suffering classes to socialize the power which is held by the dominant class. The class struggle is not a Socialist doctrine; it is a fact in human history, in the struggle for existence. The classification of society is between those who control the means of production and those who are dependent upon those means for a chance to live.

As to how to struggle. The first business of the Socialist movement is to make solid the labor movement of the world in one solid body, though they do not know the first plank in the Socialist platform. The first thing is to make the working classes conscious of their united interests. It makes no difference how it is done, so it is done. There never was a man elected to Washington who was not elected by labor votes. There never was a Mayor of San Francisco who was not elected by the votes of toiling hands. The first proposition for a peaceable social revolution is to get all the toilers, the producers and the workers of the class of people who toil by head or by hand into one camp, though they do not know the next minute what they are to do.

The second proposition for a peaceable solution of the labor problem after we have gotten together in one camp is to struggle at the ballot box every time there is a chance to record our protest against the present administration.

After the election of the first governors and representatives under the proposition of Socialism, the first thing to do will be to use the powers of government to sustain and aid the working class in carrying out their program for their own relief and in the direction of industry. No matter what else we do we have got to get hold of the means of production in order to guarantee the people a chance to work.

And, lastly, when we elect our representatives to the governor's chair, and when human need is presented, when humanity makes its demands, the powers of government must be used to protect men just as the militia of the State of Pennsylvania is to-day being used to protect property.

Margaret McKennie.

France has 1,450 distributive societies, 246 productive societies, 3,000 agricultural societies, 640 credit banks with active organization and annual conferences—results of co-operation.

International News

France.

It is customary in Paris to celebrate the national holiday (14th of July) by a military parade. A popular sentiment is growing against this untimely display of militarism, and Gerault Richard, the Socialist member of the House and editor of the *Petite Republique*, proposes to demand its abrogation at the opening of the next session of Congress. He will be well supported and there are many reasons to believe that his measure will be accepted.

How long will it take the Socialists to educate the working class of this country before it will commence to feel disgusted in seeing the builders of free America personified at the Fourth of July parade by policemen with their clubs and "our boys" of the republican press with their uniforms covered with the fresh blood of strikers and Filipino patriots?

Belgium.

An international convention was held recently at Bruxelles to consider one of the bloodiest chapters of modern history—the Armenian question. Among the most prominent delegates were Jaures, the Socialist member of the French Parliament; de Pressence, the indefatigable defender of Dreyfus; Elisee Reclus, the famous geographer and anarchist; Vanderelde, the leader of the Belgian Socialists, etc. The convention decided that Article 60 of the Berlin treaty, if properly enforced, will permanently stop the Turkish atrocities as well in Armenia as in Macedonia. But as the governments whose duty it is to see that the stipulations of this treaty should be carried out show a hopeless lack of activity in this direction, the convention resolved to appeal to the "seventh world power"—the daily press—to organize an international campaign in favor of the suffering Armenians, to stir up public opinion, and thus force the hand of parliaments and governments.

Germany.

For having translated into German and published the reflections of Tolstol on his excommunication by the Holy Synod, the publisher and the translator, both prominent men in the world of letters in Germany, were indicted and subsequently tried at Leipzig. Although acquitted, their fate is still undecided, as the prosecuting attorney appealed the case to a higher court.

Just think of the international alliance against free thought.

J. Myeff.

Advance Guard

Comrade M. Lena Morrow sends from Antioch, Cal., 7 new subs. to the *Advance* and her work is telling for the cause.

Five dollars was donated to the *Advance* from Moller & Sass. This is what counts in building up the paper. Who comes next?

Comrade Mrs. J. Bayd of Sheridan, Cal., brought to the office 6 subs. The lady comrades are doing excellent work for the movement.

Comrade Pfund sends from Ukiah and Sonoma, Cal., 6 new subs. Comrades, the movement is growing in every town and hamlet.

M. Lena Morrow sends to the *Advance* from Selby and Martinez 5 new subs. Her work is effective.

Comrade Mettle sends from Santa Cruz one sub.

Comrade Evans sends one in from Petaluma.

Comrade Lillianthal adds one more to the list.

Comrade Pearson brings to the office one sub.

Comrade Rider of S. F. adds another one to the list.

Comrade Vombrock sends in one sub. and 50 cents to the campaign fund.

Comrade Miss Morrow sends in from Crockett 3 new subs.

Comrade Lary adds one more to the large list of subs.

Comrade Knoche sends in one from Evergreen Park, Ill.

Comrade Munson sends in one from Westland, Cal.

Comrade Miedemay of Novato, Cal., adds one to her list.

Australia and New Zealand have over 600 co-operative societies, mainly creameries, with some large wool shipping and farmers' supply associations.

Mother Jones Speaks of Spain's Militant Workers

"Her Boys"

"I call particular attention to the 30,000 anthracite miners in the God accursed monopoly State of West Virginia. There are places there fenced in and guarded like in Siberia. No one is allowed inside, nor are the men permitted to come out. Only one newspaper enters—the *Fairmount Times*, owned by the operators. The least talk against this prison management means discharge. And Patrick Henry, on the same ground said once, 'Give me liberty or give me death.' For calling a mass meeting there I was put behind the bars. The State law says the men must be paid every two weeks in legal tender notes. They are paid when the bosses get good and ready, and in soup tickets. The law requires the coal to be weighed fairly. It is misweighed by the operators as they see fit. This law requires 1,500 cubic feet of air for each miner. This is not done. Baby boys are compelled to breathe the poisonous air that brings them to disease and early graves. In one place an army of men were taken out of the company's houses. We put them in tents, and for no other reason the men were dragged behind the bars to Parkersburg, thirty miles away. I secured a house for some of the women who were set out one midnight on the road. This was denied in court, but it is God's truth, for I saw them do it."

"There are 30,000 mother boys in Pennsylvania whose toes and bleeding hands attest the greed of murdering capital. I said in open court to a judge down there, who said in low accents, 'Labor has its rights,' and in the hearing menace, 'and the operators have their rights, too, and I am going to see they get them.' I said, 'It's worse than anything Christ, because Christ could have saved himself, and these boys cannot.'"

"On Thursday I expect to go to jail, but I am not afraid of their jails. I go for a principle. There are no convictions except for cowardice when a principle is to be upheld. Men will work together, will go to jail together, will defend each other, will trust each other, will support each other. Why is it they cannot stand together at the ballot box? No bayonet, no injunction can interfere there. You pay Senators, Governors, Legislators, and then beg on your knees for them to pass a bill in labor's protection. You will never solve the problem until you let in the women. No nation is greater than its women."

"One time this young miner beside me came to me and said that after five months of bitter hardship they were going back to work in his mine in the morning under the old inhuman conditions. I called a union meeting. The women had never come before. This time they came. They for the first time heard and understood. Instead of returning to work, the women took up the fight and for five months longer the struggle went on, when the company gave in and the fight was won. Women are fighters."

Mills at San Jose

Walter Thomas Mills addressed a large audience in San Jose on the evening of July 28th. Everyone was pleased except some of our S. L. P. friends who were present, and who are rather hard to please. We are sure that the cause of Socialism has been strengthened in this locality by Comrade Mills' lecture.

The Social Socialists

Alameda County Socialists had a most pleasant and sociable time at their picnic last Sunday. Everybody who was anybody was there and the great crowd jovially disported themselves with games, singing, dancing and social intercourse. From a financial standpoint it was a great success, and the rumor goes that over \$100 was cleared for the Third Congressional District Campaign Fund. As stated before in *Advance*, the Alamedans are planning a tropical campaign, with wagon, phonograph, bioscope and other up-to-date attachments calculated to startle and enlighten the somnolent citizens of their district.

In Sweden there are 324 co-operative societies, with a membership of over 8,000.

Socialists Making Notable Headway

Perhaps the most vital feature of current affairs in decadent Spain is the labor movement. The most vital element of the labor movement is the Socialist element. Under its auspices the "First of May" was celebrated in Madrid (on May 10th) in a manner to impress the beholder. It was likewise celebrated in many other parts of the country.

When this anniversary was observed there in 1890 for the first time, a procession was held. Since then, the government while allowing processions on this occasion in some cities, has refused to permit them in others, including Madrid. The largest auditorium in the city, however, was filled with 8,000 or 10,000 working people, the majority standing, who listened for two hours to speeches and songs in the commemoration of this Socialist anniversary.

The chief speech of the day was made by the father of the labor movement in Spain, Pablo Iglesias. He is a printer by trade, although his time is all devoted now to editing a weekly paper and to general organization work. He is fifty-one years old and has been active in the labor cause since he was nineteen. It would not be necessary in addressing a letter to him to give his street number. Everyone in Madrid knows him. His face is attractive, his simple manner the embodiment of gentleness. He spoke for only twenty minutes, but the outburst of applause with which he was greeted was followed by such attention as no other speaker secured. His address was earnest and was characterized by suggestive expressions as "comradeship," "sacrifice" and the "future of Spain." After he had finished he continued to be the center of a large group, and in the manner in which several men in blouses plied him with inquiries or requests showed his intimate relationship with the rank and file. His voice too is frequently listened to by government commissions.

It might not be an exaggeration to say that Pablo Iglesias is in many ways the most interesting figure in Spain to-day. He stands for an element of genuine aspiration and faith in a country which above all things needs hope and purpose, a country where religion has become fossilized and initiative paralyzed. He speaks with the optimism and energy of democratic feeling.

A decade and a half or two decades ago the labor movement in Spain was largely anarchistic. In the interval it has become socialistic and has assumed organized form. In some quarters, especially Barcelona, anarchistic sentiment is still strong, but in general it has suffered decline. The two most important branches of the labor movement at present are the General Union of Workers and the Socialist party. The latter has had a continuous growth since its formation in 1885. It then comprised five groups; now there are seventy-five. In 1886 its first official paper was started. Now there are twelve published weekly in different localities with a total circulation of 30,000. In 1891, when suffrage for males above twenty-five years of age was granted, the party polled about 5,000 votes in Spain. Last year this vote reached 25,400. In the former year two members of the party were elected municipal councilors. Last year twenty-five were elected in various towns, besides twelve others from labor organizations.

The General Union of Workers is a national federation of trade unions and was organized in 1888. Its membership has increased from twenty-seven societies, with 3,355 members in 1889 to two hundred and twenty-six societies, with 32,778 members, at present, and it is a recognized influence both in economic relations and in matters of state. Its active personalities are usually members of the Socialist party, and the general sympathy between the two organizations was illustrated by the display of trade union banners at the celebration of May day.

Pablo Iglesias is President of both these organizations and has been a dominant influence in each from its inception. Considering the fiery reputation of laborers and labor efforts in southern Europe, it is highly significant that such a personality should be steadily winning direction over those efforts. His aims are mainly the three following: In the first place he is seeking to organize the working people in trade unions, irrespective of doctrinaire views, in order that they may improve their conditions of employment and learn associated action. In the second place he is seeking to arouse the lethargic

The Socialist party has been prompt to grasp the opportunity presented by the exceptional political conditions among the wage earners of the State, and already has begun to reap a harvest of votes.

The crest of this Socialist wave is now in Carbon county, the largest Socialist "local" being at Lansford. Schuylkill county has caught the fever and is running Carbon county a close second. Luzerne and Lackawanna counties are not far behind.

Socialist "locals" that numbered thirty and forty at the beginning of the big coal strike now number 300 and 400.

Predict a Big Increase.

Socialist leaders are jubilant. They are sure their party will be on the official ballot after the next election without having to resort to "nomination papers," the claim being made already that 20,000 votes will be secured in the anthracite coal fields alone. If the Socialist party had the funds it would have hundreds of organizers in the field to gather in the voters now afield.

The Socialist party will not compromise with any party that believes in the private ownership of the means of production or distribution, but this does not prevent the Socialists from naming candidates for the Legislature and other offices who will attract the labor vote.

There are sixty Socialist "locals" in Pennsylvania paying dues to the State Committee which has its headquarters at 1022 Arch street, Philadelphia. This is the largest number of "locals" in any state in the union.

Working in Coal Fields.

The State Committee has had the following organizers already in the coal fields:

The Rev. Geo. E. Bigelow, of Lincoln, Neb.; William Mally, a miner, now of Boston; John Spargo, a dock worker, of London, Eng.; Nicholas Geiger, a laborer, of Dayton, Ohio; the Rev. Chas. H. Vail, of Jersey City, N. J.

John Collins, a machinist, of Chicago, and Edward Moore, a hatter, of Philadelphia, are now on duty.

John Slayton, a Brotherhood carpenter, of New Castle, and Socialist nominee for Governor of Pennsylvania, is booked to go into the coal region next. J. Mahlon Barnes, a cigar maker of Philadelphia, and Secretary of the Socialist State Committee, will be at Lattimer when the monument is dedicated to the memory of the miners who were killed by a sheriff's posse in 1897, while walking on a highway—*Philadelphia North American*.

workers to use the ballot and when it is remembered that in many Spanish elections only one in five of those entitled to vote exercises the right, the civic and workers to use the ballot and when it is social importance of this effort may be appreciated. Anyone who cultivates in the Spanish worker a discriminating interest in the ballot is plainly doing an educational work of public value. In the third place Pablo Iglesias is steadily striving to combat and supplant anarchistic ideas and to encourage reliance upon political agencies.

Little is heard of Spanish labor leaders abroad, and it is commonly supposed that there is no important organized movement in Spain. The above figures dispose of the idea. The influence recently exerted by the organizations mentioned upon the government proposals to prohibit strikes also go to the same effect. Not only is there a real organized Spanish labor movement, but its dominant personality will bear comparison with the prominent labor figures of other countries. Pablo Iglesias is more like Keir Hardie than like John Burns. Like each of them he is likely in time to be a member of the national assembly of his country. In the meantime he enjoys a peculiar degree of trust and respect at home, even from those opposed to his end.

If these "labor" facts concerning Spain are both a result and prophecy of a new economic development in the "peninsula," they obviously have their bearing upon international trade and upon all international relations.—*Madrid letter in Chicago Tribune*.

Austria in 1896 had 277 co-operative societies of all kinds to supply its 3,000,000 people. Of these 1,400 are creamery and cheese associations, and 500 are for agricultural supplies. They also have an active and successful wholesale society.

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Organ of the Socialist Party of California: Published Weekly by the Local San Francisco, Socialist Party.

Address business letters to Business Manager, and other communications to Editor *Advance*, Room 8, Odd Fellows' Building, San Francisco, Cal.

Subscription price, 50c. per year; six months, 25c. Make all checks and money orders payable to *Advance*.

A Final Word.

With this issue we publish the last we have to say concerning the fitness of the present State Committee. It has not been a pleasant task to attack officials of the party. We knew that no matter how necessary our action might be, there would not be lacking those who would denounce us as "villifiers," "liars," "ambitious self-seekers," and so forth to the end of the chapter. We expected such replies from some. To others our attack has seemed to be a personal squabble and they have lamented that space should be given in a propaganda organ to such. By far the great majority, however, have endorsed our position and upheld our hands in the effort we have made to prevent the capture of the Socialist Party by discarded DeLeonites and discredited DeLeonism. For our own part we are serene in the knowledge of having done what we believed to be our duty and happy because we have been generally understood and approved in our course.

It is, indeed, regrettable that there should be strife within the ranks. It is disheartening to contemplate the waste of time and energy involved in the struggle which we have carried on, when one thinks of the enormous task before us of overcoming the myriad hosts of Mammon. And yet, there are times when, to prevent the misdirection of our own forces, to secure their proper utilization, it becomes necessary to make a fight within the ranks. We believe that such was the case when we opened up fire on the State Committee. We deemed it necessary that the party members should be enlightened as to the policy pursued by its officials. And since that policy has been inimical to the best interests of the party we were obliged to attack it.

We wish now to give a brief *resumé* of the case. In the July 4th, 1900 Convention Thos. Bersford was elected State Committeeman for the S. D. P. In that convention with a few others he had made continual personal attacks on good Socialists, warning the convention against them as "designing Democratic politicians." Mr. Bersford, however, found the objects of his attacks elected by a large majority to the State Committee with him. This committee he attended a few times and then ceased attendance altogether. He couldn't be boss so "he wouldn't play."

In the early part of 1901 a veritable fever of organization swept over San Francisco and Mr. Bersford totally neglected the Socialist movement to work under salary for different unions. His manners, however, quickly disgusted them and he was compelled to resign his positions. He then returned to the ranks of the Social Democratic Party where the men whom he had attacked were still working with unflinching zeal. In the fall campaign he was put under salary as secretary of the Campaign Committee. But his personal animosity to the State Committee was undiminished. With others he met in secret caucus and concocted a plot to call a convention, depose the State Committee and secure the election of himself and friends. This plot was successful and Mr. Bersford became the secretary of the Committee, which now meets in his bedroom in a private house.

San Francisco at this time began to recover from the results of the fall election and its membership began to rise. This threatened Bersford's ascendancy and he so conducted himself as to make the meetings of the local disgusting to new members. However, he overreached himself, and was suspended for one year by the vote of the local for disorderly conduct. At this time he threatened to disrupt Local S. F. as Comrade T. P. D. Gray can testify, and rather than have more serious trouble with the faction that sustained him, though it was a small minority, and considering that he was the officially named State Secretary and in a position to cause unlimited harm to the party, San Francisco acquiesced in his reinstatement by his State Committee. Thinking himself safe he incited the bringing of charges against several comrades, hoping to secure the expulsion of those who understood his intrigues and plots and fought against them. In this he ignominiously failed. He succeeded only in precipitating the attack which the *Advance* has made upon him and the policy he has forced on the State Committee.

We have charged him and the State

Committee with DeLeonism, intrigue and incompetency. We have specified that they have neglected the use of the union label on their printing. They have advocated a further separation of the Socialist party from the trades unions. They have hindered the efforts of Comrades Wilson and Mills. They have sought to make a creed and establish the excommunication of dissenters to their ridiculous definitions. They have spread false reports against the fidelity of true Socialists. They have conspired to secure their own elevation and have intruded to impose boss rule on the Local and State. In power they have threatened "disruption" and "reprisals" if their acts were questioned or their tricks exposed. And yet this same small cunning evidenced in their "doing politics" within the party has not kept them from committing gross blunders and exposing their own incompetency in the dealings of the party with the outside world. These are the charges we have made against Mr. Bersford and the majority of the State Committee. These are the charges we have proved. It has not been a pleasant task but it was necessary. Now, we have done. The comrades throughout California will decide. We put the case in their hands. Henceforth, we remain silent unless some urgent need demands a further word. The Convention of Sept. 9th should settle the matter thoroughly and well.

Meanwhile we shall devote ourselves to propaganda for the workers and against the foe, the Capitalist class.

Some of Debs' Sayings

"The world is moving in the right direction. We object in vain and enter protests without effect. We think, resolve and act, but society still lives and the conditions remain unchanged. That which society says is a dream to-day becomes a realized fact to-morrow and lives forever."

"Do you know that the rarest thing on this planet is a man who really thinks? It is hard to think and it is very easy to take a mental vacation and be applauded. So many men think by proxy. You agree with the man who can punish you, I don't ask any man to be persuaded by me. Just think."

"At the convention of the American Labor Union, the Western Federation of Miners and the Hotel and Restaurant Employees a new policy was formulated. A new declaration was issued. These national labor unions declare against the wage system, and provide means of action which must command the approval of thinking and progressive workers everywhere. The unions remain labor unions in all their essential integrity, but they also have a political program, and they propose that their members shall unite upon the political field and act together in harmony in the struggle to abolish capitalism and secure emancipation. While therefore the unions as such will continue all they can to better the condition of their members they will at the same time, be acting together to abolish the system in which they have been reduced to poverty and degradation."

"The class struggle has thus been recognized by organized labor and the members of trades unions. They understand their true position, and henceforth will battle consistently and conscientiously to put an end to wage slavery and the whole brood of ills which flow from it. They will prove their loyalty to the union, especially on election day, when they will deposit a united and class-conscious ballot for the Socialist party, the party of the working class, the party of the future, the party that will lead to economic freedom."

"The times in which we live are filled with unrest. The whole economic foundations of society are undergoing a profound change. Thousands of working men are having their eyes opened to the fact that a change of system is an imperative necessity. They are beginning to realize that the present system has outlived its usefulness and that its effect upon the workers are essentially demoralizing. Centralization is closing up the fields of competition, the middle classes as an economic factor in society are losing their power while the workers are associated together in great armies producing wealth which flows in a steady stream into the capitalist class who won the tools of production and are therefore the masters of the product."

"Production in the main has been socialized and is now forwarded on a large scale by co-operative labor. Distribution, however, is still carried forward upon the individual line. The capitalist who owns the tools does no work and produces nothing. The workers who made the tools, and also use them and produce all the wealth, are allowed simply a wage sufficient to keep them in working and producing order. Among the workers the competition for employment has become so sharp that in thousands of instances the wage has been reduced to a pittance."

to divide up. The Socialist is after the trusts and not the middle classes. After awhile, when your money is gone, you will say that Debs was right. I am a Socialist and am not a dreamer. I'm a philosopher, if anything. If not that, I am nothing.

"Every fellow is trying to get there, and if he does you don't. I don't like this system. You say to me, just wait a hundred years and we will have a party. I say, 'Oh, no; we want it now!'"

"I admit that I am arraying class against class, consciously, and I would have the workers recognize their exploiting masters. What matters it to the workers whether an injunction is issued by the Democrat or Republican government. It is always issued in behalf of the capitalistic class. We have government by class to-day, and the class government is not the working class. According to the theory of our government the majority rules. The working class is the great majority, yet they do not rule. The working class is dependent upon the capitalist class for employment. If I am a capitalist you know that you are dependent upon me for work and you are likely to be influenced by me when casting your ballot. Many a union man wears the union badge and advances its principles, yet he protests against political action. Why, my friend, if you find it to your advantage to unite upon the industrial field why not upon the political field? You strike because you do not like the system, yet when you vote you vote to perpetuate that system."

"The time has come when no union man can be true to his principles until he puts the union label on his ballot."

Convention of Socialist Women

Socialist women of California are invited to meet in convention in the city of San Francisco on the 7th of September next at 11 a. m. A suitable hall will be secured and its location advertised prior to the date of convention. The purposes of the convention are to accomplish state organization of the local unions affiliated with the Woman's National Socialist Union, to acquaint ourselves with the extent and conditions of Socialist propaganda among the women of this state, and to devise methods for carrying out the objects for which we are organized.

All women present at the convention in good standing in any organization, whether political or educational, which is working to advance the cause of Socialism, shall be entitled to discuss freely all questions which may come before the convention, and their rights in this respect shall not be inferior to those of the members of the union, but none shall be entitled to vote except authorized delegates from local unions, or (as we shall hereafter specify), individual members of the Woman's National Socialist Union, who are not affiliated with any other local union.

Also any woman who proclaims herself a Socialist, but who is not a member of any Socialist organization, may take part in discussion, at discretion of the chair.

No man, except such men as are honorary members of the Woman's National Socialist Union, shall take any part in the discussion or other proceedings of the convention. In explanation of this apparent injustice we would say that we consider it best to throw our women entirely upon their own resources, and that we believe them entirely capable of meeting the questions which will arise with wisdom and fairness. Women have so long been accustomed to consider themselves inferior to men that the influence and advice of men carries undue weight, and the presence of men has a tendency to check free discussion. We consider that it is more conducive to self-development to exclude from the floor all men except such as are honorary members and entitled to a voice.

Representation for voting will be as follows: Each local union, with the exception of Los Angeles, on account of its large membership, shall be entitled to two votes, and may at its own pleasure send two delegates, or may send one delegate empowered to cast two votes. If there shall be present at the convention more than five women who are members of the Woman's National Socialist Union, but who are not affiliated with any local union, such women shall collectively cast one vote, either by electing a delegate from among themselves or through a chairman who shall announce the will of the majority upon each question separately.

It is desired that as many women as possible be present at convention. The opinions and experience of each individual will be of value to the whole. The greater the number of women the larger the amount of collective wisdom. A good attendance is hoped for.

Josephine R. Cole, W. N. S. U. Representative for California.

After reading your *Advance*, pass it on.

The Socialist Party and the American Labor Union

St. Louis, Mo., Aug. 2, 1902.

Whereas, The reorganization of the Resolutions of the Local Quorum of the National Committee.

Western Labor Union into the American Labor Union at its recent convention in Denver, and the declaration of said body in favor of Socialism and independent political action, has brought the Socialist party face to face with an important issue concerning our party's attitude towards the trades union movement;

Whereas, There seems to exist considerable difference of opinion among the party members and comrades concerning this question of policy, and in many instances confusion and lack of proper information and sound knowledge of the historic mission of the trades union movement will tend to work mischief and injury to the cause of organized labor;

Resolved, That we hail with joy the declaration of the American Labor Union Convention in favor of Socialism and independent political action on class conscious lines and fully appreciate the excellent pioneer work of our Western comrades;

Resolved, That we have full confidence in the honesty and sincerity of the delegates attending the A. L. U. Denver convention, and feel convinced that their action was the result of free deliberation and noble inspiration for the benefit of the wage-working class;

Resolved, That while acknowledging all this, and giving the A. L. U. delegates credit for all the good done at their Denver convention, we cannot but sincerely regret their action in constituting themselves a rival trades union federation to the American Federation of Labor;

Resolved, That the invading of the Eastern industrial centers by the A. L. U. will not only retard the cause of organized labor, but will unavoidably mean the inauguration of a fratricidal and suicidal strife between the forces of the A. L. U. and those of the A. F. of L.;

Resolved, That in our opinion it is the most sacred duty of the Socialists to promote the unity of the labor forces, and for this reason we consider it a very unwise action on the part of the A. L. U. to inaugurate a rival movement that will force our comrades and fellow workers to waste their time and energy in fighting each other, instead of fighting the common enemy;

Resolved, That experience having demonstrated the fact that the trades union movement in this country has been greatly injured and our progress considerably retarded by a so-called Socialist Trades and Labor Alliance and its S. L. P. promoters, that we warn all Socialists against a repetition of this fatal policy;

Resolved, That in our opinion the American Labor Union, by organizing rival organizations to the American Federation of Labor will logically develop in the same direction as the so-called Socialist Trades and Labor Alliance and must finally share the same fate, unless the comrades of the A. L. U. realize and promptly rectify their mistake;

Resolved, That in our opinion the regeneration of the trades union movement on Socialist lines must come from below, i. e., from the rank and file, not from above, i. e., from the leaders, and the progress made in this direction in Cleveland, Milwaukee, St. Louis and other cities by our comrades furnishes conclusive evidence that no necessity exists for a rival economic organization;

Resolved, That we appeal to the Socialists throughout the country to use their best efforts and influence among the members of the A. F. of L. and the A. L. U. to prevent a fratricidal conflict that would do irreparable injury to both the trade union and the Socialist movements.

M. BALLARD DUNN, L. F. HILDEBRAND, E. VAL PUTNAM, G. A. HOEHN, WM. BRANDT, Local Quorum.

Fraternal Delegate

I have been instructed by Local Santa Clara to call the attention of all the members of our party to the fact that Josephine R. Cole, of long and good standing in our local, is the only California nominee for Fraternal Delegate to the Canadian Convention. If elected she will certainly attend the convention.

All comrades should lend their hearty support to elect her.

Fraternally, Karl Bracher.

A Speaker for the North

All comrades who live in towns within easy distance from the S. P. road between San Francisco and the Oregon boundary are requested to communicate with Comrade M. Lena Morrow, care of this office. Comrade Morrow wishes to speak in as many many places as possible in the northern part of the State and will leave Portland, Or., about September 1st, and come South. Miss Morrow is a good propagandist and whatever efforts the comrades may make to secure her to speak will be well repaid by the education accomplished.

English Capitalism Alarmed

Articles have appeared from time to time in the *Financier and Bulletin* calling attention to the serious extent to which the profitable employment of capital in this country was menaced by hostile agencies, stealthy or overt. Endeavors have been made to galvanize capitalist interests out of their complacency in view of what may happen. It has been pointed out, for example, that while capital has been identifying the Socialist movement with silly processions and frothy gatherings at street corners, it has been slow to realize the tremendous Socialistic squeeze which is being applied to it per the medium of municipal undertakings. Municipal enterprise, however, is but one form of pressure tending to very grave consequences. Another is the co-operative movement.

It is no exaggeration to say that the capitalist interest of this country have been fatuously oblivious to the growth of co-operation—a growth of power and resources which is all the while more formidable, though little realized by those threatened interests. Nor is it even exaggeration to say that private capital is between the hammer and the anvil of the two forms of the Socialism mentioned—the municipal and co-operative.

It stands to reason that when the application of capitalist accumulations in one direction is prevented by municipal monopoly of great undertakings, and when on the other hand manufacture as well as distribution is largely passing under the control of co-operative societies there is an ever diminishing chance of even moderately profitable investments in home enterprises. Here, therefore, we have the antithesis of American modern tendencies. In America there is a tendency to combine capitalistic omnipotence with efficiency, and perhaps cheapness; here the tendency is quite as noticeable to overwhelm capitalistic by co-operative enterprise. The competition of co-operative societies aggregated on a colossal scale is formidable enough in distributive enterprise, as traders and investors in retail undertakings are painfully aware. But in other quarters, there is a disposition to believe that, whilst co-operation may be formidable as a distributive agency, it is not likely to make any great headway in other directions—notably in respect of production. The comfortable sleep which that false lullaby is inducing may prove fatal. The co-operative society does not deal in half pounds of butter over the counter. It operates on a gigantic scale and adopts every expense saving expedient. It is already so strong and so resourceful that the wonder is that private enterprise has not been crushed out of existence already. It has its own fleet of steamships plying to and from countries whose products it imports. It has depots in European and American cities and is becoming a great home manufacturer. It has shoe and textile factories in different trade centers in England.

Take the English and Scotch wholesale societies; together the total value of their production during 1900 is \$20,825,000 or 19.4 per cent of their sale.

Such facts as these do not confirm the supposition that co-operative production, starting late compared with co-operative distribution, has been making contemptible progress.

But that is not all. The volume of co-operative production in the United Kingdom is very much more than \$20,000,000 and over, with which the wholesale societies are credited. Besides the productive work of those societies, there are societies exclusively devoted to production, and it is reckoned that the total value of co-operative production in this country now amounts to about \$60,000,000. If that be so then the productive output of the wholesale societies over \$20,000,000 as stated is just about one-third of the total. The danger thus becomes quite apparent.—*Financier and Bulletin*.

Comrade J. Stitt Wilson, who has just finished a series of lectures in San Francisco, will give a course in Oakland. The first at Chapman's Hall, 414 Eleventh street, Oakland, on Sunday evening at 8 p. m., August 17th. The subject which Comrade Wilson will discuss is "The Psychological Basis of the Social Revolution."

Do You Really Sympathize

To the Members and Friends of the Socialist Party, Greeting:—

Comrades: The greatest strike in the history of the modern labor movement is now raging between the United Mine Workers of America on the one hand and the Coal Barons of Pennsylvania and sister states on the other. In this struggle not only the bread and butter of the miners and their families is at stake, but the very life of their organization is also involved. To claim that we can consistently uphold the principles of the class struggle without joining hands with the strikers under these circumstances is to belie our position as Socialists and to make our movement a sham. This being so, our duty is plain. The immediate needs of our suffering brothers demand our attention. Bread and butter must be supplied them and their wives and children, that they may continue the heroic struggle and press on to victory. This means that money must be provided for the purpose. "A friend in need is a friend indeed." "Talk is cheap" and "actions speak louder than words." The victory of the United Mine Workers will be our victory; their defeat will be our defeat. Let us therefore, rally to their support as one man. The Socialist party calls upon you in this trying hour to do your duty. We ask you not only to contribute to the Miners' Strike Fund yourselves with all the means at your command, but also to circulate this subscription list among your friends and fellow-workers, and raise every cent possible for this grand cause. No amount is too large, no amount is too small to be received in this crisis. Let there be no delay. Commence operations at once and return these lists to the National Secretary, with the amount subscribed, at the earliest possible moment.

Leon Greenbaum,
427 Emile Building, St. Louis Mo

Father McGrady's Message of Hope

Bellevue, Ky., Aug. 1, 1902.

Picnic Committee Alameda County Socialists:

Dear Comrades: Some duties are irksome and others are very pleasant. The duty of producing the comforts and luxuries of life for the supercilious capitalists, who do not appreciate the fact that they are public beneficiaries, living on the voluntary service of the toilers, is a duty which I do not enjoy as thoroughly as the men in the mines and factories, on farm and battlefield. But the duty of telling my comrades that the day dawn of freedom is approaching, and the sun of the Co-operative Commonwealth is emerging from the shadows of the deep and his dazzling beams are seen afar on the brow of the morning; to proclaim this consoling truth, to awaken the dying hopes of the nation, and to cheer the faltering hearts of the oppressed millions with the song of the poet and the dream of the prophet, is a duty as sacred as it is pleasant; and it is with joy that I send my message across the continent to the Comrades of the Golden Gate, to arise, for the night of ignorance is vanishing, and the world is preparing to celebrate the birth of a new era. Already Mammon trembles on his blood-stained throne and the Goddess of Justice has opened wide the portals of her temple, and invites the sons of toil to worship at her shrine.

The action of the late convention at Denver has changed the tide of battle, and has given a new impulse and a new phase to the movement. In a few years—perhaps in one or two, and certainly not more than three—the American Labor Union will absorb the American Federation of Labor, and the toiling masses will march to the polls under the banner of Socialism and dethrone their tyrants and erect the temple of liberty on the ashes of plutocracy. Tell the comrades of the Pacific to don the helmet and the sword and continue their glorious work on the field of mental conflict, on the intellectual arena, where the sophistry of capitalism must ultimately go down before the crushing philosophy of Socialism, for the emancipation of humanity and the triumphs of the future ages.

Fraternally yours,
T. McGrady.

Agitation Around the Bay

Comrade Lena Morrow has taken another trip around the bay—August 4th in Martinez, August 5th and 6th at Antioch, August 7th at Concord, August 8th at Crockett. She reports good crowds and a considerable quantity of literature disposed of. This week she takes in several towns between Oakland and San Jose, where she speaks August 17th. It is probable that meetings will also be arranged at Santa Clara, Palo Alto, Redwood City and San Mateo.

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The Crime of Enforced Child Labor

Editor Advance: Just now a certain class of people have much to say about the glorious prosperity of the United States. They boast of our "good-times," of our "expansion," of our great and growing commercial power, and of our unsurpassed "Christian Civilization." Now I concede that as a nation we are growing in some directions, but not all of that growth is healthy or desirable. Great manufacturing plants are growing in the volume of business they are doing, and the wealth they are putting into the pockets of the capitalists who own them. But how are they growing and why are they enabled to turn out each year a larger product of manufactured goods than the preceding? Why are they able to export their goods to foreign countries and control the markets of the world? How many of your readers, Mr. Editor, know that cheap labor, especially child labor, contributes largely to this end?

Let me quote a few statistics: B. R. Tracy, State Labor Commissioner of South Carolina, reports that there are in that State 261 cotton mills in which 38,637 persons are employed; of this number there are 3,598 boys and 4,007 girls; total children employed, 7,605. The average daily wage of these children is 22 cents. The average daily wage of men is 57 cents and of women 39 cents. Gunton's Magazine says, "the ages of these children range from 6 to 12 years."

Commissioner Tracy further says: "I have talked with a little boy of 7 years who worked for forty nights in Alabama, and another child, who at six years old, had been on the night shift eleven months. Little boys turned out at 2 in the morning, afraid to go home, would beg a clerk in the mill for permission to lie down on the office floor. In one city mill in the South, a doctor told a friend that he had personally amputated more than a hundred of these children's fingers, mangled in the mill, and that a horrible form of dropsy occurs frequently among the over-worked children."

One of the editors of the Cincinnati Post wrote:

"I secured entrance to the 'People's Mills' of Montgomery, Alabama, which manufactures sheeting for the China trade. In the spinning room I saw boys and girls so small that their efforts to perform their work were absolutely pitiful. In reaching up to join the ends of the broken threads they were obliged to strain and stretch every muscle and sinew of their frail bodies, and some were so small they were compelled to stand on their tiptoes. Their day's work was twelve hours."

Irene A. McFaden wrote: "The physical mental and moral effect of these long hours of toil and confinement on the children is indescribably sad. Mill children are so stunted that every foreman will tell you that you cannot judge their ages. The lint forms in their lungs a perfect cultivating medium for tuberculosis, and pneumonia and consumption is common among them. Many die before reaching maturity."

The New York World says:

About six thousand boys and girls of tender age are at work in glass and other factories in New Jersey. Governor Murphy of that State reports that children of both sexes, six and seven years old, work seventeen and eighteen hours per day, with but a few minutes for rest, dropping back at their toil worn out and actually driven back to finish the long hours, for which they are paid two to three cents per hour."

The Washington Post, commenting on child labor in the South says:

"The average life of the child after they go into the mill is four years. It would be less cruel for a state to have children painlessly put to death than it is to permit them to be ground to death by this fearful process." It seems that Southern capitalists, brutalized by the effect of slavery, are more heartless, more corrupt and more ignorant than the same class of reprobates elsewhere, bad as they are. They are now enslaving the white children of the poor, for the whites will not work in the same mill with colored, and as a result the negroes have more children in the schools than the whites.

Now I ask you are enjoying the "great prosperity" we hear so much about? Certainly not the toilers. The prosperous ones are mainly those who are enslaving the children of the working classes as well as exploiting the parents. Let it not be forgotten that nearly all the capital invested in these four hundred and fifty mills in the South is owned mainly in New England.

A newspaper contrasts the condition of the poor children and the rich children in the following expressive words:

"In Chicago there are thousands of little children who seldom set foot on the ground and are cooped up in tenement houses year in and year out, and never get a breath of fresh air. Their parents are working people whose low wages do not enable them to buy decent clothing for the children, hence they do not go to

school. The rich trust monopolist, his wife and daughters, dress like princes and live sumptuously every day." They have ambulances, padded and supplied with air cushions on which to convey sick dogs and cats to a hospital, where they employ "dog doctors" and "cat nurses" in proper uniform, and if they die the rich bury them with torrents of tears and in many instances build costly monuments to their sacred memory."

Yes, the trust promoter, the stock waterer, the board of trade gambler, the respectable robber who steals according to law is prosperous, very prosperous. He has little to trouble him except his fear that the pesky Socialists or the awful labor unions may try to interfere with his "incentive." He is also somewhat annoyed by the importunities of his wage slave to arbitrate, for he has nothing to arbitrate. He is too busy "capturing the markets of the world" to be bothered by fanatics and agitators talking about such trifles as child slavery. Some of them are very pious and give largely to the church, and contribute generously to the missionary fund, that the Gospel may be sent to the heathen.

Jesus said: "Suffer little children to come unto Me, for of such is the Kingdom of Heaven." But the trust Christian says: "Put the little brats of the poor into our factories and work them twelve or fifteen hours a day for 22 cents, even if they die in five or six years from consumption or dropsy or get crippled and have to have their fingers amputated." What we want is cheap manufactured goods with which we can control the markets of the world. We will send our goods and our gospel and our whiskey to the heathen, and if they won't buy we will give them the "water cure" and a dose of "bullets and bayonets."

Yes, we have prosperity, but it is the kind that Belschazzar was enjoying when the handwriting came upon the wall during the revelry: "Thou hast been weighed in the balance and been found wanting and thy kingdom shall be required of thee."

If this nation has gone so mad with greed that they do not soon vigorously protest against this child slavery, and do not stop the monopolizing of all the great public utilities by private parties; if the great millions of working people submit to the exploitation of five-sixths of the products of their toil by the non-producing and cunning sharks who filch annually billions from them, and then shoot them down like dogs if they peaceably strike for a small increase of wages, then the decadence of this republic has commenced. They may cry prosperity, prosperity, PROSPERITY, and for a time delude themselves by that cry, but there will be no prosperity. Rather their imaginary prosperity will soon be turned into calamity. This republic will go to ruin unless the masses can be aroused to an appreciation of the danger which menaces it. Socialism alone will save it. Socialism says: "Let the nation own the trusts." Socialism will reward every citizen according to his service. It will abolish monopoly and guarantee to every man an equal opportunity with every other man. Socialism will abolish child slavery and put every child in school. The people collectively will own all the public utilities, and the greedy man-shark whose whole aim is to get something for nothing will disappear forever. If Socialism comes a lasting peace and a permanent prosperity will come also. If Socialism does not come, the great American republic will be converted into a monied aristocracy. Greed, tyranny and militarism will increase; the working classes will be crowded lower and still lower; the gulf between the rich and the poor will grow wider and wider, and then will again come the handwriting on the wall and a cyclone of blood and destruction will sweep over the land, and our descendants will be given their opportunity as was given to us to deal justly and love mercy and advance, or to give themselves over to iniquity and go down to destruction. We are now as a nation at the forks of the road; which road shall we take?

R. A. Dague.

Alameda, Cal.

"Not until the capitalist system of exploitation is overthrown and the wage system is abolished and the workers control the means of production and receive the full product of their toil; not until then will the struggle cease, and they will stand as the rulers of the world. You cannot expect any help from either of the two old parties. They are simply the two wings of the same foul bird of prey."

"The capitalist who owns the machinery of production wants profit and the worker who operates them wants wages. When capitalists combine to lower wages they succeed. Strikes, lockouts, follow. We are told that we ought to harmonize. As well seek to harmonize fire and water. They are economic opposites. One of these two classes must go before this question is settled, and it will be the capitalist class."

City Central Committee

Room 8, Odd Fellows' Hall, Aug. 8.

Regular meeting called to order by the Secretary. Mrs. K. L. Nevins elected chairman.

Present, Comrades Flaumm, Flemming, Bearens, Wesley, Kirk, Anderson, Vanalstine, King, Sr., Walker, and Mrs. K. L. Nevins.

Minutes of previous meeting read and corrected to read Mrs. K. L. Nevins instead of Mrs. K. C. Nevins. Approved.

Minutes of July 26, 1902, read and approved.

Report of J. H. Fairbrook, Financial Secretary, received and approved.

Report of W. E. Walker, Treasurer, showing a balance of \$36.25, received and approved.

Communication from Board of Advance read recommending that, owing to the increasing business of the Advance, the Business Manager of Advance and Organizer of Local, be two distinct positions, supported by Local San Francisco.

Moved and carried that the foregoing recommendation be referred to the District Clubs for action.

Resignation of Mrs. Mary Fairbrother as associate editor and member of Board of Advance was read, with communication from Board of Advance stating that they had accepted resignation, and notifying Central Committee of vacancy thus created. Resignation accepted by City Central Committee and Secretary instructed Clubs to fill vacancy to Board of Advance. Moved and carried that a vote of thanks be tendered Miss Mary Fairbrother for her excellent work and valuable services both on the Advance and for the cause.

Communication from Vallejo subscribers read and referred to Board of Advance.

Communication from Financial Secretary of District Club No. 3 read, stating that District Club No. 3 has sixty-eight members in good standing.

Recommendation from District Club No. 2 that the five-minute speeches at the propaganda meetings at Academy of Sciences be eliminated until after election. Referred to District Clubs for action.

Recommendation from District Club No. 1 that C. H. King, Jr., be removed as editor of Advance. Referred to District Clubs for action.

Moved and carried that the minutes of the City Central Committee be published in the Advance.

Moved that the editor of the Advance C. H. King, Jr., be sustained in the course he has pursued concerning the policy of the Advance. Amended that the editor of the Advance be instructed to present and publish the views of Comrades Beresford et al, before a vote of approval be taken. Amendment lost. Roll call demanded. Result, for amendment, Flaumm, Flemming, Bearens—3; against amendment, Wesley, Kirk, Anderson, Vanalstine, Walker, Mrs. K. L. Nevins—6; King, Sr., absent. Original motion carried. Roll call demanded. Result, for motion, Wesley, Kirk, Anderson, Vanalstine, Walker, Mrs. K. L. Nevins—6; King, Sr., absent; against motion, Flaumm, Flemming, Bearens—3.

Communication from State Executive Committee received, together with copy of new constitution submitted by Local Fresno, communication stating that the constitution is to be voted on by referendum of locals and asking report of locals in time to reach State Executive Committee by August 25th, 1902. Secretary was instructed to send letter and constitution to District Clubs and notify them to take action thereon.

Moved and carried that City Organizer be instructed to send postal to all members of local, so as to insure a full vote on new constitution.

Moved and carried that the affidavit of Comrade Ober, here appended, be published in the Advance.

Moved that C. H. King, Sr., be censured for allowing affidavit of Comrade Molliter to be published, when he had pledged himself not to do so until other affidavits could be presented. Amended to lay over until C. H. King, Sr., be present. Amendment carried.

E. E. Kirk, Secretary.

San Francisco, August 8, 1902.

To the City Central Committee Socialist Party, Local San Francisco:—

Comrades: Whereas, on the 2d day of August last, Cameron H. King, Sr., appeared before your body with an affidavit signed by one Theodore Molliter, in which the said Molliter states that I, B. P. Ober, said to him these words, viz.: "That I, in conjunction with Flemming, Appel, Messer and Beresford, would control Local San Francisco or they would burst it up and join the Socialist Labor Party."

Now therefore I, Benj. P. Ober, do solemnly, truly and sincerely swear before Almighty God and your honorable body that the words imputed to me as above sworn to by Molliter were not said by me, nor any other words conveying the meaning that is implied; nor was there any threat made by me that "We would burst

up the party; nor did I say that I would join the Socialist Labor Party. So help me God.

Benj. P. Ober.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 8th day of August, 1902.

(Signed) Henry L. Tricau.

Notary Public in and for the City and County of San Francisco, State of California.

Local Socialist Party

Headquarters, Room 8, Odd Fellows' Hall.

City Central Committee meets every Friday at 8 p. m. J. H. Fairbrook, Recording and Financial Secretary.

District Club No. 1 meets every Tuesday at 8 p. m. J. Behrens, Secretary.

District Club No. 2 meets every Wednesday at 8 p. m. J. E. Whys, Financial Secretary.

District Club No. 3 meets every Thursday at 8 p. m. Oliver Everett, Financial Secretary.

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Fact vs. Falsehood

"Lord, Lord, how this world is given to lying."
—Shakespeare—King Henry IV, Part 1, Act V.
Editor Advance: The report of the State Committee, Socialist party, contains at least one glaring falsehood.

In that report is the following statement: "It was King, Sr., that was the cause of the petition (for a place on the official primary ballot) being first rejected; he drew it up and worded it wrongly." This statement is untrue and is known to be such by Thomas Bersford, Secretary of the committee, who signed such report.

I drew up the form from which was printed the petition which was circulated through the State for signatures, so that the party might appear on the ballot. I had nothing to do with the petition after it was printed until after it had been rejected to first by the Secretary of State. The petitions were returned by the comrades throughout the State, who procured the signatures thereon, to Thomas Bersford, Secretary State Committee. After these petitions were thus signed, they were mutilated by the State Committee or its Secretary. All the "headings" of the various lists containing the signatures, except one, were cut off by the State Committee or its Secretary.

What authority did the Committee or its Secretary have for this?
At the foot of this one heading were pasted in one roll all the names obtained through the State, without any attempted separation into Congressional Districts. It was thus made a long jumbled up mess, where signatures, for instance, obtained in San Diego county, would follow those from Humboldt county, with no heading between them. Signatures from widely separated counties and altogether different Congressional Districts were thus mixed up in inextricable confusion. The Secretary of the State Committee, without showing this bungling roll to me, the attorney of the committee, slipped up to Sacramento and presented it to the Secretary of State, who very properly rejected the botched up mess. I was never shown the petitions after they had been signed by the electors of the State, or after they had been mutilated and the headings cut off, or at any other time before their rejection by the Secretary of State. It was not the fault of the attorney, C. H. King, Sr., that the petitions were rejected, nor were the petitions worded wrongly in any particular whatever, but it was on account of this mutilation by the State Committee and its Secretary, Thomas Bersford, and the pasting together of all these signatures from different counties and districts with only one heading, that caused them to be rejected by the Secretary of State.

Immediately after this State Committee report, signed by Thomas Bersford, Secretary, was seen by me, and to prove that the assertion of the State Committee and its Secretary was false, and that the real reason for the rejection was the bungling manner in which the different petitions had been made up by the State Committee and its Secretary, into "one long roll of different petitions pasted together with but one heading." I wrote to C. F. Curry, Secretary of State, asking him to give the writer the reason for his rejection of the petition presented to him by Bersford. In answer thereto I have received from Hon. C. F. Curry, Secretary of State, the following letter:

Sacramento, Aug. 9, 1902.
Cameron H. King, Esq., San Francisco, Cal.
Dear Sir: My reason for rejecting the first petition of the Socialist party for a place on the primary ballot was because it was not in proper shape. It was one long roll of different petitions pasted together with but one heading.
The second petition came to me properly headed and properly segregated into districts. It was accepted by me and the Socialist party given a place on the primary ballot.

Yours respectfully,
C. F. Curry.
This letter from the Secretary of State shows that the report of the State Committee, signed by Thomas Bersford, is false and unfounded.
After the first petition had been rejected by the Secretary of State, and had been brought back to San Francisco by Bersford, it was shown for the first time to me. I expressed my astonishment that a committee could be so incompetent and ignorant as to attempt to mutilate the petitions (sent to them in proper shape by the comrades in the state) as the State Committee and its Secretary had done, and I stated my amazement that the Committee and its Secretary should have put them together in such an improper shape. I then directed that all these headings be restored; that the mutilations of petitions by the Committee and its Secretary be cured by pasting on, and above the various lists of signatures, the headings which the Committee and its Secretary

had cut off. I personally showed Secretary Bersford how this must be done, and supervised his doing it, as many comrades in San Francisco know and can testify. Had Bersford submitted the petitions to me for examination before he first took them to Sacramento, the blunders of the State Committee would have then been corrected by me and no rejection would have been made. It would have been filed at first as it was afterward when I accompanied it to Sacramento.

The report of the State Committee further states that a whole section pertaining to Senators and Assemblymen had to be stricken out.
Now this is also intentionally misleading on the part of Bersford. The clause in question read as follows: 7. That in Senatorial and Assembly Districts including more than one county, the same delegates to the State Convention, who come from and reside within such respective districts, shall nominate the candidate for Senator or Assemblyman in such district.
Owing to incompetency and inattention to duty the State Committee did not obtain in these Senatorial and Assembly Districts (composed of more than one county) the signatures of the "three per cent" of electors of such districts.

It was proper to have that clause, providing for the nomination of such Senators and Assemblymen, in the original petition, but when the State Committee utterly failed to get the three per cent in those districts (and there were only ten of them in the State), I advised that then the clause be stricken out before presentation of the petition to the Secretary of State, as it had become at least useless for lack of the requisite number of signatures in such Senate and Assembly Districts, and as a matter of extra caution it was better, I thought, to omit it. But even here Secretary Bersford knows that he and I met the Secretary of State in San Francisco, after the rejection of the first petition, and before the presentation of the second petition, and that I called the attention of the Secretary of State to the fact that the signatures of three per cent of the electors in those Senate and Assembly Districts composed of more than one county had not been obtained by the State Committee, and that perhaps that clause had better be omitted, but the Secretary of State distinctly and plainly told Bersford and myself that he found no objection to that clause providing for such nomination in the State Convention of such Senators and Assemblymen, and that it could continue to remain in the petition if we chose, for he would take no exception to that clause.

Therefore, when the State Committee report, signed by Bersford, states that "a whole section pertaining to Senators and Assemblymen had to be stricken out" it states something that is known to be false by Bersford.
The clause in question was in the petition when Bersford alone first presented it to the Secretary of State at Sacramento and the letter from the Secretary of State, printed above, shows that the Secretary of State took no exception to such clause, but only rejected the petition because, in the words of the Secretary of State, "It was one long roll of different petitions pasted together, with but one heading."

It is true, however, that out of an abundance of caution, and notwithstanding the express statement of the Secretary of State that this clause in question was entirely unobjectionable to him, I had it stricken out because the State Committee had been so remiss in its duty as not to obtain in these districts the requisite percentage, and I would take no chances on any objection being made on that account by any outside person or political party. Besides this the Chairman and Secretary of the State Committee had neglected to certify to the petition. I drew up the petition and had that done also.

But the best evidence that the State Committee reposed confidence in at least my ability as a lawyer, and that they then felt the necessity, even if they only then realized it for the first time, of consulting me and of following my advice, is to be found in the fact that after the petition had been rejected, the State Committee and Secretary Bersford, recognizing their own helpless incompetency, concluded to seek my advice, and above all to follow it.
The Committee then sent me to Sacramento to attend to the filing of the petition, after they had followed my advice regarding it. I went there, saw the Secretary of State, and the petition was then filed by him without question and without trouble.

I made no mistake or error whatever in drawing up the form of the petition at any time, and for proof I refer to the Secretary of State, who, being an entirely disinterested person, can testify to the truth of all I have herein stated.
Before Bersford went up the first time with the petition to Sacramento, Comrade John M. Reynolds, who is on the State Committee, suggested that the petition ought to be shown to me before it was taken to Sacramento, but the rest of the Committee disregarded his suggestion. Had they followed Reynolds' advice there would have been no rejection. They were

obliged to come to it, however (bitter was the dose), when they failed and felt their own incompetence.
The report of the State Committee states one truth, which is that the State Committee has paid me \$15 on account of \$20 charged by me (and agreed to be paid by them) for drawing up the petition—a work that took me many days of careful study, and the real value of which service would not be estimated by any expert in the State at less than \$250. The work also took me from other duties to my pecuniary loss.

Of course it has no proper place in that State Committee report, but yet it is not altogether without interest to know that the Secretary of the State Committee, Thomas Bersford, a paid officer of the party, as such Secretary, yet deemed it not improper to charge and receive for himself the sum of two dollars for getting a few signatures in the thirty-sixth Assembly District, in San Francisco, to a petition of the Socialist party for a place on the official primary ballot. The money was paid to him in full. The State Committee still owes me five dollars and an apology for its untruthful statements concerning me.
Cameron H. King, Sr.

Comrade Job Harriman left New York Monday week. Before his departure a reception was tendered him at which a great number of the New York Socialists were present. As a testimonial of the love and honor they had for him, he was presented with a silver loving cup.

Lucy Hoving, State Organizer of Utah, was trampled to death by a horse a week ago. She was well-beloved by her comrades and respected as a true self-reliant woman and an able advocate of the workers' cause. In her death the Utah Socialists suffer a severe loss.

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