OFFICIAL ORGAN OF SOCIALIST PARTY OF ALLEN COUNTY

Iola Co=Operator

WE ARE FOR PUBLIC OWNERSHIP OF ALL PUBLIC UTILITIES

VOLUME 1. NO. 21. — IOLA, KAS., JUNE 1, 1912 — PRICE 5 CENTS.

THE IOLA CO-OPERATOR

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Published under the auspices of the Socialist Party of Iola, Kans.

J. T. Lowdermilk ..... Editor
Wm. Todd ..... Sec.-Treas.
J. H. Bird ..... Manager.

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Address all communications to The Iola Co-Operator Publishing Co.

Notice.

Local Humboldt holds a business session every Sunday afternoon at 2:30, followed by a literary program at 3 o'clock at Socialist headquarters, No. 9 South Ninth street, east side of square.

Subscriptions taken for any Socialist paper or magazine or any book secured for you, at Socialist headquarters, east side of square.

Free circulating library of Socialist literature at local headquarters. Secure some, read and return.

Comrade Wm. Todd.
Candidate for County Commissioner.

ALLEN COUNTY SOCIALIST TICKET

County Clerk—Ira B. Francis.
Treasurer—J. L. Harbaugh.
Register of Deeds—P. J. Thwaites. Humboldt.
County Attorney—
Probate Judge—J. S. Lehman. Humboldt.
Sheriff—W. H. Boce. Humboldt.
Coroner—
Supt. of Public Instructions—J. H. Bard.
Surveyor—G. W. Leffler.
Clerk of the Court—Wesley Jewell.
Commissioner—Wm. Todd.
Representative—J. T. Lowdermilk.

Peter W. Collins, one of the chief moguls of the "Militia of Christ" is to come to this part of the country in September, for the purpose, so we are told, of attacking Socialism. We are informed that he will make his attack from the religious point of view. Showing that Socialists are all very vile, wicked infidels opposed to the church religion would break up the family and divide the property.

Now we Socialists certainly welcome attacks from such personages as this, the movement he is connected with is alone enough to condemn him. "The Militia of Christ" who could think of the work of the tender kind, loving and gentle Christ, being carried on by a Militia which represents everything wicked, low, vulgar and degrading! But such are the acts and deeds of capitalism, as well expect water to run up hill as to expect anything else.

You are welcome Peter, so just hurry along, we are loading for you.

PROSPEROUS JUST THE SAME.

The farmers are hustling to raise some good crops so they can "divide up" with the transportation lines, the "middle man" and others. Then they will wonder where the "dough" is with which to pay their taxes, and other expenses and the mortgage.

That law about the size of strawberry boxes is a huge joke. You still get the short quart at the same price.

THEY ARE LETTING US ALONE

The Taft-Roosevelt matinee continues safe for the good of the country, but apparently for the gratification and amusement of certain classes who love war even in miniature, and too, it makes reading matter of 15c to cent novel stripe for men with boyish minds.

Out of every $10 the laborer produces, the man who DON'T WORK gets $8.00 for fast horses, fine furs for his wife, fancy balls, poodle-dog banquets and so on—and the producer gets $2.50, patched overalls and an empty dinner pail. Let's all quit work.

CHICAGO TO HEAR DEBS AND SEIDEL

Opening Gun of National Campaign to Boom Here, June 16.

Indianapolis, Ind.—The national executive committee of the Socialist party from the recommendation of local Cook county has decided that the national campaign of the Socialist party shall be formally opened at Riverside Park, Chicago, at the big Socialist picnic, June 16.

J. Mahlon Barnes, the national campaign manager of the party, will proceed at once to Chicago to co-operate with local Cook county for the opening gun of the national campaign.

Friends and sympathizers who desire to assist the Socialist press will find an opportunity to do so by selling tickets for the press picnic to be held at Riverview, Sunday, June 16. Tickets are 25 cents each and admit the holders to Riverview Park and also to the picnic grove, where the speaking will be done. Eight attached coupons give a reduction on concessions contained thereon. In addition there will be races, baseball and free dancing and a great number of other novel features of interest. Tickets will be promptly mailed on receipt of price. Send orders to James P. Larsen, 205 West Washington street, Chicago, Ill., or call.

If you play against another's game your chances are slim. Same rule applies to the political game. Haven't you been skinned enough yet? Well, stay with it a few times more and you will get satisfaction.

DIRECT ACTION.

In its struggle against the capitalist class the working class and its instrument the Socialist party, may adopt either or both of two methods. One of these methods is parliamentary action, which means to elect representatives to congress, state legislatures and municipal councils, and indirectly, through the action of these representatives, seek to take away the capitalist class. The other method is to unite the workers in the shops where they work, into a class conscious revolutionary organization, and by the direct action of the workers so organized, to exercise the greatest possible power over the industries by which they work. Both of these methods are advocated and practiced by the Socialists throughout Europe.

TAFTIAN GEMS.

A man asked President Taft at a meeting he was addressing what a working man should do who could find no work and was starving. "God knows," was the swift and satisfying answer.

At another meeting the president was discussing his friend Roosevelt when suddenly he exclaimed: "I have been a man of straw long enough," and the brilliant auditorium was cheered to the echo by his approving audience.

At a later meeting the president was again discussing Roosevelt when he suddenly let this gem: "When I do fight I want to hit hard. Even a rat in a corner will fight." Again the audi ce broke loose in unbounded enthusiasm. A rat in a corner will fight and therefore the President will do the same. So would any other man of straw.

And that is the capitalist president of the United States! Can you bear it?

500 U. S. MARINES SENT TO CUBA

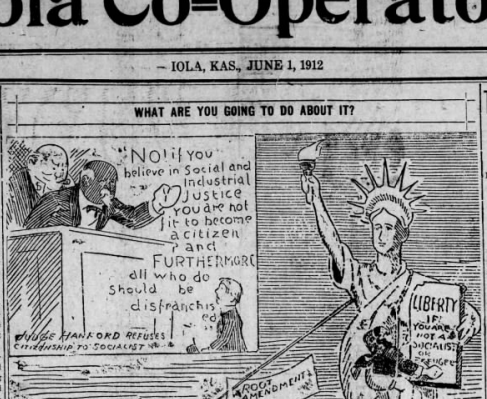
Washington, D. C.—Alarmed by the uncertainness of the negro revolution in Cuba, the state department today requested the Navy Department to send warships and marines to the United States naval station at Guatanamo, which city is near the supposed center of the present disturbance.

According to the present plans, the United States transport Prairie, now at the League Island Navy Yards, Philadelphia, will leave immediately with a force of 500 marines. The gunboat Paducah and the gunboat Nashville are already at that point.

It is decided that the government is planning to send a battleship there. The marines and the two gunboats are thought to be sufficient to meet any present emergency.

The usual closing down of factories and mills in presidential years is about due. Now, you men that are idle, must not forget that unless you vote the G. O. P. ticket your jobs are gone glimmering.

WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT IT?



STRIKE GROWS; 5,000 JOIN RAILROAD WAR.

Freight Handlers Over Wide Territory Quit—Complete Tie-Up Ahead.

In compliance with the call issued Tuesday by President P. J. Flannery and the executive board of the freight handlers, 2,000 railroad employes in Milwaukee, 2,000 in Minneapolis and St. Paul and a thousand or more in New Orleans will refuse today to handle freight for the railroads.

Just where the strike will be called next is a matter of speculation. The officials of the freight handlers will call out only those most affected by the situation in Chicago. If the railroads refuse to satisfy their employes a general strike may be called covering the whole nation.

"The freight handlers are in the fight to obtain justice," said President Flannery yesterday. "We love peace, we hate war, but if the railroad managers want war, then it is war they shall have, and war to the finish.

"There never was a time that public sentiment was more favorable for a general strike than it is today. The trusts and corporation of the land have driven the people to the last ditch and they are ready to make the last stand.

"If the roads maintain their present unreasonable and domineering attitude towards their employes and the public, the strike of the freight handlers will be extended until before the close of the week the river and lake traffic will be tied up and the teamsters who today are ready and anxious to refuse to handle such freight will walk out in sympathy with the clerks and freight handlers."

DARROW DENIES CONFESSION YARN

Los Angeles—A statement published in a San Francisco morning paper today that Clarence S. Darrow had decided to confess that he bribed George N. Lockwood, a prospective juror in the McNamara case, was hotly denied by Darrow today. The story was that, after confessing, Darrow would be allowed to escape jail in consideration for his revealing the secrets of the defense of John and James McNamara.

"Such a thing has never been considered by me, and never will be," said Darrow. "I will never plead guilty—never. I can not imagine how such a story originated unless it was started by the prosecution.

"I will fight my case to the end, and I am confident that I shall be speedily acquitted."

It is estimated that there are at present five millions of people in enforced idleness in the United States. What the best capitalism can do. It is about time it was set aside by a system that can employ all.

Socialism is a critical study and a scientific analysis of capitalism, and the results of this study and his analysis a position on a broadside what the best capitalism can do. It is about time it was set aside by a system that can employ all.

WAR GROWS ON TRUST PRESS

More Unions Vote Against Purchase of Sheets Fighting Workers.

More labor unions yesterday denounced the attitude of the trust newspapers in the present lock-out and strike and pledged their support to the union men.

"No for Boss" Papers.

The Chicago Bartenders' Union, No. 401, has adopted the following resolution:

"Whereas, It is the duty of every union man to assist them in their fight against the newspaper trust, therefore be it

"Resolved, That every member of the Bartenders' Local, No. 401, caught reading or buying any paper implicated in this lockout be fined the sum of $5. A copy of these resolutions to be sent to the Chicago Daily World for publication.

"JOHN O'BRIEN,
"Secretary."

Women Assist the Strikers.

The Bindery Women's Union pledged its members not to read non-union newspapers in the following resolutions, unanimously passed:

"Whereas, The members of Web Pressmens' Union, Stereotypers', Newspaper Delivery and Mail Drivers' and Newsboys' Unions have been locked out of the trust newspapers' offices, therefore be it

"Resolved, That we, the members of Bindery Women's Union, No. 30, I. B. of H., in regular session assembled, pledge ourselves to purchase no papers other than bear the label of the Allied Printing Trades Council, and be it further

"Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be spread on our minutes, copy sent to the Federated Trades, and also the union press of Chicago for publication.

"EMMA J. FISHER.
"MARY M'NERNEY.
"DIANA LA MONT."

150,000 NEED AID IN FLOOD DISTRICT

Baton Rouge, La.—Declaring that 150,000 persons are dependent upon the public and appealing for aid for the flood sufferers, Governor L. E. Hall, of Louisiana, today issued a statement to the American public.

"The territory most seriously affected by the floods extends from some distance above Vicksburg to New Orleans," says the statement. "The flood region includes the lower valleys of the Red river, the Ouachita river, the Black river and the Atchafalaya river and various tributary streams.

"Approximately 10,000 square miles are submerged, chiefly in the state of Louisiana, and probably 150,000 people are dependent upon the bounty of the public, by far the greater number being residents of Louisiana.

"The committees in all sections of the flooded districts require largely increased resources in order to effectively discharge the very heavy burden which has fallen upon them."

SOCIALISM IN SPAIN GROWING

Only Socialist Member of the Spanish Parliament.

The working class movement in Spain, though perpetually in conflict with the monarchy, advances with sure step. At the moment the official Socialist party has allied itself with the Republicans in antagonism to the reactionary monarchic regime. The party has 200 branches, one member of the national parliament, two provincial deputies, and more than 100 councilors.

The party possesses ten journals, nine of which are weekly papers and the tenth of fortnightly. One of the weekly organs is a review. The circulation of them all comes to about 40,000 copies.

A good many of the branches of the party are in the agricultural districts. Perhaps twelve of the co-operative societies are under the control of Socialists, and approximately the same number of Casas del Pueblo (houses of the people.

The strength of the Socialist party steadily increases, and is greater today than ever. Its central organ, El Socialista, is shortly to be published as a small daily newspaper.

The soul of the labor demonstrations on May Day has always been the Socialist organization.

The party is almost exclusively composed of manual workers; only a very small number of "intellectuals" are in the ranks.

AGAIN BOOST PAPER PRICES.

Madison, Wis.—Wisconsin paper manufacturers are sending out notices of an immediate advance in the price of paper and withdrawing all previous quotations. The reason is said to be the increasing cost of wood pulp and the consequent necessity of finding a substitute. Experiments to this end are being made at the United States forest products laboratory in this city.

Similar tests will be made at the new $20,000 laboratory at Wausau.

It is reported the paper industry is making alarming inroads on the supply of spruce, which is more valuable as structural material than to be used in the making of paper. The woods, which are being tried out in an effort to find a cheaper substitute are yellow birch, white birch, maple, poplar, jack pine and hemlock.

Who, indeed, has real freedom to live? To be clean and strong and wise? Not the poor, and certainly not the rich.

What could give us a greater, more sacred sense of duty than the knowledge that every act is felt by all our fellows—more than that—by all prosperity?

Some who are clickers for keeping holy the Sabbath day are equally zealous to keep wholly everything else they can lay their hands on.

THE TRUTH ABOUT SOCIALISM

—A—

By John M. Work, National Secretary Socialist Party.

Socialism is not slavery.

Capitalism is slavery.

In order to demonstrate that capitalism is slavery, all that is necessary is to repeat a portion of what I said in the chapter on Paternalism.

A few men own the industries of the country. They have the masses under their control. They can starve them to death, or freeze them to death, or work them to death. They can and do dictate for the most part when they shall work, where they shall work, and what incomes they shall receive.

That is slavery gone to seed.

Socialism will abolish that slavery.

Socialism is freedom.

Socialism will give every worker an equal voice in the management of industry. It will give him the greatest industrial liberty that it is possible for him to have under any imaginable industrial system. As men are very different in their makeup and their tastes, it will be able to give them the kind of work they prefer, in the locality they prefer. It will also afford mobility, so that a man can move about from place to place if that is his desire. It will give him the full value of his labor, which will be enough to afford him not only all material comforts, but also all the higher things of life. It will give him short hours of labor, so that he will have the time and the disposition to avail himself of the higher things of life.

In short, it will give him industrial freedom in place of the present industrial slavery.

It is no longer a question of Democrat and Republican, but Socialist and anti-Socialist. And that is a big step toward the goal for which the Socialists have worked.

Socialist is being added to Socialist after the old order. They would certainly work for enfranchisement for women even though they knew the women would vote against them. They do this because it is right, and they know the women will not long remain wrong.

10,000 FURRIERS IN STRIKE VOTE.

New York—Officers of the furriers' union here will begin on June 1 to take a ballot on the question of calling a general strike. The eight hour workday, increase in wages averaging 25 per cent and recognition of the union are the points involved. About 10,000 workers are affected.

SOCIALIST SEES LOVE AS RECLAMATION MEANS

"Give me the condition of the woman of the twentieth century and I would be a revolutionist," declared Alexander Irvine of California, Socialist author, in an address before the literary and music sections of the Woman's Department Club at the Propylaeum, yesterday. Mr. Irvine said the seeds of modern woman aroused all his chivalry, and he would be her champion, even if he were not committed to the doctrines of Socialism.

"How long will we poor people endure to see our daughters sell their virtue on the streets?" he cried. "Would we have the same world over, and economic pressure forces them into the streets."

Mr. Irvine took for examples characters from Victor Hugo's "Les Miserables." The theft of a loaf of bread by Jean Valjean, he said, was the point of departure for the wreckage of human life. And the same theft of bread by the hungry poor of today is equally the point of departure for thousands of wrecked lives. These outcasts, broken and hopeless, can not be reclaimed by charity, but by real love, he said.

Reading a page from "Les Miserables" relating to Socialism, Mr. Irvine said that probably not one person in 10,000 knows that Hugo had pointed out the cure for the conditions described in his book.

Alexander Irvine for thirty years was a missionary in the slums of New York and the examples he gave of reclaimed outcasts of society were all from his own experience. The door of the priest, he said, should be like that of the physician, made to open both ways and never locked.

Socialism alone offers an environment of peace for a rational humanity.

REVOLUTION OK, SAYS PROFESSOR

Claims Socialists Will Hold Balance of Power Unless Old Parties Awake.

Dertott, Mich.—Declaring that the social revolution was now on and that if the old parties failed to grant the people's wishes they would turn to the Socialist party, Prof. W. N. Ferris stirred an audience at a Wilson meeting here, at which he acted as chairman.

During the course of his address he said:

"There is a political revolution on, the product of an economic revolution. Now how many of you know what that means? How many of you can tell me what is meant by the economic development since the Civil War? Let me mention just one phase of it. At the end of the Civil War you could count the millionaires in this country on your fingers. Today you can not count them by any simple device. I have no complaint against wealth as wealth, but I have certain interest in what it is used to produce and to further. Is it good for any country that one-eighth of its families should have seven-eights of its wealth?

"A lot of people shudder when they hear the word Socialist. Let the Socialist and his Socialism come, as come they will, if Socialism is going to serve the people.

"If Eugene V. Debs had given Roosevelt's Columbus speech ten years ago, he would have been applauded to the echo by his own people.

"It's a sign of times, my friends, yet some Democrats are so blind that all they can see is some way to get in some way to pick a winner.

"I hope the revolution will be peaceful, but I live and work among 2,500 boys and girls, and I know that their thought, all modern thought, is bound together with a belief that every human [illegible] is certain things, and that sooner or later he will come to his rights.

"Inside a decade, maybe a little longer if the Democrats do not be Democrats and the Republicans and return to the fundamental basis of serving the wishes of the people, the balance of power in congress will be held by our esteemed friends, the Socialists."

Labor produces all wealth, and yet those who work hardest generally get the least. Only the workers are interested in finding out why this is so, and only the Socialists are able to provide a satisfactory explanation and remedy.

There are two ways of making a revolution. Put a gun into a man's hand and make him shoot, or put an idea into a man's head and make him think. We prefer the latter. How about you?

THE PURPOSE OF SOCIALISM.

Allan L. Benson in Pearson's Magazine

The purpose of Socialism is to give the workers all they produce. And, when Socialists say "workers" they do not mean only those who wear overalls and carry dinner pails. They mean everybody who does useful labor. Socialists regard the general superintendent of a railroad as quite as much of a worker as they do the man on the section. But they do not regard the owners of railway stocks and bonds as workers. They regard them as parasites who are living off the products of labor by owning the locomotives, cars and other equipment with which the worker works. And since the owners of machinery in the club with which Socialists say the capitalists consider their property, Socialists also declare that they only way to stop robberies is to take away the club. It would do no good to take away the club from the man who now hold it and give it to the individual workers, because with the principle of private ownership retained, ownership would soon gravitate into a few hands and robbery would go on as ruthlessly as ever. Socialists believe the only remedy is to destroy the club by vesting the ownership of the great machinery of production and distribution in the people, through the government.

If you would like to have a [illegible] and shop of your own, it means that you want what Socialists are seeking in a practical way to provide for you. It will be two weeks after judgment day before you can accomplish your ambition under the present order.

Oklahoma State Platform

OF THE SOCIALIST PARTY

Adopted By Referendum Vote.

The Socialist party of Oklahoma reaffirms its adherence to the principles of International Socialism and announces as the national platform of the Socialist party.

The Socialist party of Oklahoma declares its object to be the political organization of the working people and those in sympathy with them, for the purpose of capturing the powers of government of the State of Oklahoma and using this power for the betterment of the conditions of the workers.

The Socialist party of Oklahoma demands the state ownership and control of such industries and means of transportation as are collectively used by the people of Oklahoma; such as the coal and mining industries, the oil industry, the cotton ginning and compressing and cotton-spinning industries; the stock yards, packing and cold storage industries, the telephone lines, the interurban electric lines, etc.; such industries to be under the democratic managements of the workers in such industries, and be operated not for the purpose of making profits for the state, but to give to the workers in such industries the full social value of their labor.

The Socialist party of Oklahoma stands for universal suffrage, and advocates the extension of the franchise to women upon the same terms as men; and will fight every move having for its object the disfranchisement of the working class, or any part of it, through so-called poll tax laws, grandfather clauses, educational, property and residence qualifications that have no object other than the gradual taking away from the workers the right of franchise and thus prevent the workers from securing control of the powers of government.

The Socialist party of Oklahoma demands the enactment of laws that will effectively give into the hands of the people the use of the initiative and referendum. The Socialist party charges that the Democratic administration and the interests it represents, has and is using every effort to prevent the people from using the initiative and referendum on any measure unless such measure is advocated by the capitalist class. The Democratic administration has further circumvented and evaded the demands of the people, even after the people had voted and determined upon such measures, by large majorities at the polls.

The People against the sale of the school lands.

The legislature immediately after sold part of the school lands.

The people initiated a referendum on the Taylor Ribbon Ballot election law. The legislature evaded this referendum by passing an election law equally as obnoxious as the Taylor law, which repealed the Taylor law; and thus took away from the people the right to vote on the Taylor law.

The capitalist interests of the state initiated an amendment to the constitution to be known as article 49 of section 9; and further initiated a law to determine the location of the state capital. On these measures the Democratic governor called a special session so as to make these measures easily passed, as it requires but a majority vote of the people voting at such election.

On the other hand, the initiative petition signed by more than 38,000 voters demanding the right to vote for women upon the same terms as men is held up in the courts on the word of one man, one of the henchmen of the Democratic administration. No special election is called on this measure. It must wait for the General Election, when it requires a majority of all the people voting at such election for the state officer receiving the highest number of votes, to pass this measure.

The Socialist party further demands the enactment of laws providing for the Right of Recall, and such other laws that recognize the rights of all political parties taking part in such elections, to representation on the election boards, and to a counter at each precinct. Such election boards to be elective, and not appointive.

The Socialist party demands the repeal of Senate bill No. 126, which has for its object and effect the taking out of the hands of the people the use of the initiative and referendum, by limiting the time for the securing of petitions to 60 days, in violation of a constitutional provision of 90 days; and which law further gives into the hands of the legislature such powers, as to make any measure suggested for initiation by them. Easy of passage through an unfair and nefarious arrangement of the ballot.

The Socialist party demands the enactment of a law abolishing "professional" guardianship, for the purpose of cutting out court expenses and lawyer fees, which are now gobbling up practically all the income from many estates, especially that of Indians in the eastern half of the state.

The Socialist party demands the free administration of justice, "professional" guardianship, for the purpose of cutting out court expenses and lawyer fees, which are now gobbling up practically all the income from many estates, especially that of Indians in the eastern half of the state.

The Socialist party demands the free administration of justice, "professional" guardianship, for the purpose of cutting out court expenses and lawyer fees, which are now gobbling up practically all the income from many estates, especially that of Indians in the eastern half of the state.

The Socialist party demands the enactment of laws providing for state insurance of workers against sickness, accident, and death; so as to give to an injured or sick worker, or those dependent upon him, compulsory compensation, and relieve him from the necessity of going into the courts and suing for compensation, which delays action indefinitely, or to such a case as to be of little benefit to the worker.

The Socialist party demands the establishment of sanitariums for the free treatment of tuberculosis and other social diseases.

The Socialist party stands for every measure that will add to the material, intellectual or moral welfare of the working class; and as the working class of Oklahoma is largely made up of agricultural workers, we stand for the following:

Farmers' program:

As measures calculated to bring into collective property the land, and enable every farmer to have the use and occupancy of the land sufficient for a home and the support of his family, we hereby advocate and pledge our elected officers to the following program:

Farmer's Program.

Article 1.

The retention and constant enlargement of the public domain:

By retaining school and other public lands.

By purchase of arid and overflow lands and the state reclamation of such lands now held by the state or that may be acquired by the state.

By the purchase of all lands sold for the non-payment of taxes.

By the purchase of segregated and unallotted Indian lands.

By the retention of leased lands after the expiration of leases and the payment of the improvements thereon at an appraised valuation.

Article 2.

Separation of the department of agriculture from the political government by means of—

Election of all members and officers of the Board of Agriculture by the direct vote of the actual farmers.

Introduction of the merit system among the employees.

Article 3.

Erection by the state of grain elevators and warehouses for the storage of farm products; these elevators and warehouses to be managed by the Board of Agriculture.

Article 4.

Encouragement by the Board of Agriculture of co-operative societies of farmers—

For the buying of seed fertilizer.

For the purchase and common use of implements and machinery.

For the preparing and sale of produce.

For the working of land by groups.

Article 6.

Organization by the state for loans on mortgages and warehouse certificates, the interest charges to cover cost only.

Article 7.

State insurance against disease of animals, diseases of plants, insect pests, hail, frost, storm and fire.

Article 8.

Aid and encouragement to be given the actual workers of the farms in the formation of district co-operative associations which shall be given the power to issue bonds for the purchase of suitable farming lands—bonds to be redeemable in forty years. Individual purchasing such lands shall pay the purchase price of land in share or cash annual or semi-annual rentals extending over a period of forty years, or may at their option pay in full in and given number of years.

Article 9.

Exemption from taxation and execution of dwellings, tools, farm animals, implements and improvements to the amount of one thousand dollars.

Article 10.

A graduated tax on the value of rented land and land held for speculation.

Article 11.

Absentee landlords to assess their own lands, the state reserving the right to purchase such lands at their assessed value plus 10 per cent.

Article 12.

Land now in the possession of the state or hereafter acquired through purchase, reclamation or tax sales to be rented to landless farmers under the supervision of the Board of Agriculture at the prevailing rate of share rent or its equivalent. The payment of such rent to cease as soon as the total amount of rent paid is equal to the value of the land and tenant thereby acquires for himself and his children the right of occupancy. The title to all such lands remaining with the commonwealth.

Don't Forget!

That we are growing.

That new subscribers are waiting for you to call on them.

DO IT NOW.

SOCIALIST NEW TESTAMENT.

D. R. Piper.

"And Jesus began to speak to them in parables: 'A man once planted a vineyard, put a fence round it, dug a wine-press, built a tower, and then let it out to tenants, and went abroad. At the proper time he sent a servant to the tenants to receive from the a share of the produce of the vintage; but they seized him and beat him, and sent him away empty-handed. A second time the owner of the vineyard sent a servant to them; this man, too, the tenants struck on the head and insulted. He sent another, but him they killed. * * * He had still one son, who was very dear to him; and him he sent to the last of all. * * * But those tenants said one to another, 'Here is the heir. Come let us kill him, and his inheritance will be ours. So they seized him, and killed him, and cast his body outside the vineyard. What will the owner of the vineyard do? He will come and put the tenants to death, and he will let the vineyard to others.' Mark 12:1-9.

From the time history began, almost, there has been a privileged class. There was such a class among the Jews at least from before the time of King Solomon. The Jewish government had started out as a pure democracy, an agricultural brotherhood industrial republic which gave every man an equal opportunity, and which recognized the fact that the lands belonged to the whole people, by calling for a new distribution of land every 50 years. This law soon became a dead letter, and by those gradual processes with which all well-read Socialists are familiar, the few soon came to own greater portion of the means of production. These few, if you please, were the tenants on God's soil, holding it in trust, being responsible for delivering the rightful share of the prosperity of the tribe to the people. Of course they did not meet this responsibility. This is the great note struck by the prophets.

"Woe unto them that join house to house, that lay field to field," says Isaiah. "If ye thoroughly execute justice between a man and his neighbor. If ye oppress not the fatherless and the widow, and shed not innocent blood in this place,—then will I cause you to dwell in this place," says Jeremiah. Ezekiah in listening to the sins of Jerusalem says, "Behold, the princes of Israel every one according to his power, have been in thee to shed blood. In thee have they set light by father and mother; in thee have they dealt by oppression with the sojourner (the immigrant); in thee have they wronged the fatherless and the widow." Two of the four reasons named by Amos for the coming punishment of his people are: "They have sold the righteous for silver, and the needy for a pair of shoes; and they "pant after the dust of the earth on the head of the poor." Micah tells the politicians of Jerusalem that they "eat the flesh of my people, and break their bones." These prophets failed to make the tenants of Israel give the people their just dues.

The son of man preached the same message, and was slain for it. The Christian spiritual heritage of the people cannot be fully restored till they have their material heritage. God owns this vineyard, and the deed of trust is made out in the name of the whole people. And the prophecy of this parable will yet be fulfilled. The people are yet coming into their own. The next messenger will be the proletariat, demanding collective ownership of the means of production. When this servant of God, the proletariat, once achieves its industrial rights in permanent form, then the message of the higher life of brotherhood and purity will be no longer a wasted message. Men, like plants, can grow only when they have room. The rosebush cannot produce roses without nourishment.

Charity begins at home and so does politics.

Some succeed because others are suckers.

COMMODITIES AND USE-VALUE

Nature and Man Are Partners in Production.

By Dave N. Port.

Commodities useful to society is wealth. The quantity and the quality of wealth produced in a given period determines value. Nature and the laborer are co-partners in producing wealth.

God, who created nature gave it to mankind to satisfy and to meet the natural needs and desires of human life. He provided water for the fish, and fish and water for man. He provided air for the birds, and birds and the air for man. He provided pastures for the animals and the animals and the pastured field for man. He provided sunshine and rain and air for vegetation, and vegetation, sunshine, rain and air for man. He provided abundantly for all nature and all nature abundantly for man.

Ma wnas to search out, subdue and develope nature. He has, but, like the old Egyptian task-master-method, on which God placed his curse, we find a few have set themselves up as little gods, and have cracked the last of servitude across the backs of the toiling millions.

The capitalist revels in luxury—displaying the rights of both God and man, while dreaming of him who said, "Soul, take thine ease; eat, drink and be merry."

Crystallized human labor embodied in nature's effort to produce, gives society its use-values, which is practical worth or wealth.

A commodity worth is determined by its use to society. Hence we mention use-values. It is made useful according to the labor-time consumed in its making.

The present age of machine-labor could, under Socialistic reform, ignore the capitalistic cry of "the law of supply and demand," and give the people a plenty of needful products without crushing all hope out of the apparently hopeless laboring man.

Man can meet the demands of society in supplying commodities of life, under the machine-labor, where it might have been difficult to have done so two or three hundred years ago.

One hundred years ago the steamboat, train and trolley cars were unknown. You could not have used a telephone, or sent a telegram. Electricity had not been harnessed and there were no homes, nor streets lit by it. The typewriter and phonograph were not made. Even Webster's Standard or Century dictionaries had not been compiled, let alone printed. The X-ray and the moving picture were not thought of. The bicycle and the automobile were unknown, as was the mowing machine, self-binding harvester, or even the sewing machine were not in use.

Karl Marx wrote his first book on Capitalist Production" nearly fifty years ago. The greater part of the above has been invented since this date. Had the condition we have prevailed in Marx's time, he would have fairly burned up the world with his logic.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE CO-OPERATIVE MOVEMENT

Just as the labor unions fight for industrial self-control for the working class, the Socialist party for political self-control, and the labor and Socialist press for intellectual self-control for the workers, so the co-operative movement fights for an international agree of economic self-control for the workers through the ownership and use of industrial and commercial capital by organized groups of the workers.

The development and successful operation of the co-operative movement in connection with the international labor movement is an historical fact which cannot be disputed. While in some countries it may seem for the time being to have checked other lines of working class activity, it seems to be true also that "the economic power of a class at a given stage of development turns into political power."

The value of the co-operative movement to the working class has been recognized by the Socialist party, though reluctantly at first. It was recently so recognized at the Copenhagen congress in 1910, the American delegates voting for the resolution.

Following the path of other national organizations, the time has come when the Socialist party of America must recognize the fact of the existence on the American continent of a successful co-operative movement, though it has not as yet been brought into any unified form.

Your committee has not been able to gather any adequate data, but is informed, from the personal knowledge of those who came before the committee, of distributive co-operatives doing a total business of not less than twenty million dollars per year; the only a few of the states of the union. Nearly one thousand local organizations are within the knowledge of those reported, there facts to your committee, which are operating successfully.

That there is still room within the developing processes of the capitalist system in this country for the inauguration and building up of a strong and successful co-operative movement, is evident from the facts already adduced especially in view of other and as yet unverified statements which are reaching the less largely of common knowledge.

The benefits claimed by those most closely connected with the international co-operative movement are three-fold, and relate to:

1. The furnishing of an improved quality of food and other supplies to the co-operators.

2. The actual increase of the economic resources of the co-operators, through the control of their own purchasing power, and the building up of reserve funds which have been of great service to the industrial and political arms of the labor movement;

3. The training of members of the working class in the business of industrial and commercial administrative work, and developing this new capacity among them, thus proving that it is possible not only to do without the capitalist's capital but also to do without his alleged superior intelligence.

The most successful co-operatives in America seem to be those among groups of foreign-speaking workers of the same nationality, who furnish a community highly homogeneous, having similar habits and customs of life; and among the farmers, who find it possible to combine at once their buying and selling powers in the same organization.

In view of the failures which have occured in this and other countries in connection with the efforts to establish co-operatives, we recommend that a committee of five persons be elected by this convention, not confined to delegates in the convention, who shall be given the assistance of the national office in making an investigation into the facts concerning the co-operative movement; this committee to make tentative reports from time to time through the national office and the party press; and to make a final report at the next national convention.

W. R. GAYLORD.
Wisconsin.
MRS. E. D. CODY,
Washington.
CALEB LIPSCOMB.
Missouri.
J. T. CUMBIE.
Oklahoma.
LEE LANG.
Iowa.
E. E. POWELL.
Ohio.

There can be no doubt that the avenues of personal development in this country are fast becoming closed, and that benefeeth the American working and will have to rely more upon his efforts as a member of his class than upon his efforts for his individual success. Henceforth his lot in life becomes more and more identical with or dependent upon the condition of others like himself. He cannot rise out of the working class. He is inertibly and irremediably confined to the class to which he belongs and his economic position becomes more and more determined by the economic position of the class. Hence his economic salvation depends upon class-action. Industry is carried on for private greed, instead of for the welfare of society. We declare, furthermore, that for these evils there will be and can be no remedy and no substantial relief except through Socialism, under which industry will be carried on for the common good and every worker receives the full social value of the wealth he creates.

Society is divided into warring groups and classes, based upon material interests. Fundamentally, this struggle is a conflict between the two main classes, one of which, the capitalist class, owns the means of production, and the other, the working class, must use these means of production on terms dictated by the owners.

The capitalist class, though few in number, absolutely controls the government—legislative, executive and judicial. This class owns the machinery or gathering and disseminating news through its organized press. It controls the seats of learning—the colleges and schools—and even religious and moral agencies. It has also the added prestige which established customs give to any order of society, right or wrong.

The working class, which includes all those who are forced to work for a living, whether by hand or brain, is without, or on the soil, vastly outnumbers the capitalist class. Lacking effective organization and class solidarity, this class is unable to enforce its will. Given such solidarity and effective organization, the workers will have the power to make all laws and control all industry in their own interest.

All political parties are the expression of economic and class interests. All other parties than the Socialist party represent one or another group of the ruling capitalist class. Their political conflicts reflect merely superficial rivalries between competing capitalist groups. However they result, these conflicts have no issue of value to the workers. Whether the Democrats or Republicans win politically, it is the capitalist class that is victorious economically.

The Socialist party is the political expression of the economic interests of the workers. Its defeats have been their defeats and its victories. It is a party founded on the science and laws of social development. It proposes that, since all social necessities today are socially produced, the means of their production and distribution shall be socially owned and democratically controlled.

In the face of the economic and political interests of the capitalist class the only reliance left the workers is that of their economic organizations and their political power. By the intelligent and class conscious use of these they may resist successfully the capitalist class, break the fetters of wage slavery, and fit themselves for the future society, which is to displace the capitalist system.

The Socialist party appreciates the full significance of class organization and urges the wage-earners, the working farmers and all other useful workers everywhere to organize for economic and political action, and we pledge ourselves to support the toilers of the fields as well as those in the shops, factories and mines of the nation in their struggles for economic justice.

In the defeat or victory of the working class party in this new struggle for freedom lies the defeat or triumph of the common people of all economic groups, as well as the failure or the triumph of popular government. Thus the Socialist party is the party of the present day revolution, which marks the transition from economic individualism to Socialism, from wage slavery to free co-operation, from capitalist oligarchy to industrial democracy.

Working Program.

As measures calculated to strengthen the working class in its fight for the realization of its ultimate aim, the co-operative commonwealth, and to increase its power of resistance against capitalist oppression, we advocate and pledge ourselves, our elected officers to the following program:

Collective Ownership.

1. The collective ownership and democratic management of railroads, wire and wireless telegraphs and telephones, express services, steamboat

(Continued on page four.)

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National Platform

OF THE SOCIALIST PARTY

The Socialist party of the United States declares that the capitalist system has outgrown its historical function, and has become utterly incapable of meeting the problems confronting society. We denounce this outgrown system as incompetent and corrupt and the source of unspeakable misery and suffering to the whole working class.

Under this system the industrial equipment of the nation has passed into the absolute control of a plutocracy which exacts an annual tribute of millions of dollars from the producers. Unafraid of any organized resistance, it stretches out its greedy hands over the still undeveloped resources of the nation—the land, the mines, the forests and the water powers of every state in the union.

In spite of the multiplication of labor-saving machines and improved methods in industry which cheapen the cost of production, the share of the producers of wealth grows ever less, and the prices of all the necessities of life steadily increase. The boasted prosperity of this nation is for the owning class alone. To the rest it means only greater hardship and misery. The high cost of living is felt in every home. Millions of wage-workers have seen the purchasing power of their wages decrease until life has become a desperate battle for mere existence.

Multitudes of unemployed walk the streets of our cities or trudge from state to state awaiting the will of the masters to move the wheels of industry.

The farmers in every state are plundered by the increasing prices exacted for tools and machinery and by exorbitante rent, freight rates and storage charges.

Capitalist concentration is merciessly crushing the class of small business men and driving its members into the ranks of propertyless wage-workers. The overwhelming majority of the people of America are being under a yoke of bondage by this soulless industrial despotism.

It is this capitalist system that is responsible for the increasing burden of armaments, the poverty, slums, child labor, most of the insanity, crime and prostitution, and much of the disease that afflicts mankind.

Under this system the working class is exposed to poisonous conditions, to frightful and needless perils to life and limb, is walled around with court decisions, injunctions and unjust laws and is preyed upon incessantly for the benefit of the controlling oligarchy of wealth. Under it also the children of the working class are doomed to ignorance, drudging toil and darkened lives.

In the face of these evils, so manifest that all thoughtful observers are appalled at them, the legislative representatives of the Republican, Democratic and all reform parties remain the faithful servants of the opposers. Measures designed to secure to the wage-earners of this nation as humane and just treatment as is already enjoyed by the wage-earners of all other civilized nations have been smothered in committee without debate, and laws ostensibly designed to bring relief to the farmers and general consumers are juggled and transformed into instruments for the exaction of further tribute. The growing unrest under oppression has driven these two old parties to the enactment of a variety of regulative measures, none of which has limited in any appreciable degree the power of the plutocracy, and some of which have been perverted into means of increasing that power. Anti-trust laws, railroad restrictions and regulations, with the prosecutions, indictments and investigations based upon such legislation, have proved to be utterly futile and ridiculous.

Nor has this plutocracy been seriously restrained or even threatened by anyRepublican or Democratic executive. It has continued to grow in power and insolence alike under the administrations of Cleveland, McKinley, Roosevelt and Taft.

In addition to this legislative juggling and this executive connivance, the courts of every state have sanctioned and strengthened the hold of this plutocracy as the Dred Scott and other decisions strengthened the slave power before the civil war.

We declare, therefore, that the longer sufferance of these conditions is impossible, and we propose to end them all. We declare them to be the product of the present system in which industry is carried on for private greed, instead of for the welfare of society. We declare, furthermore, that for these evils there will be and can be no remedy and no substantial relief except through Socialism, under which industry will be carried on for the common good and every worker receives the full social value of the wealth he creates.

Society is divided into warring groups and classes, based upon material interests. Fundamentally, this struggle is a conflict between the two main classes, one of which, the capitalist class, owns the means of production, and the other, the working class, must use these means of production on terms dictated by the owners.

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Socialist Co-Operative Publishing Co., Iola, Kansas.

AN OPEN LETTER.

Dear Friend—It is a well known fact that a machine built on wrong principles is always impractical.

Now we can see that the industrial machine we call Capitalism, which is built on the principle of competition and has through the laws of trade evolved into private monopoly, is impractical.

It utterly fails to give employment to all the people. It enab'es the strong to take advantage of the weak and as a result we have reached the point where the few who produce nothing have all the wealth and the many who produce all nothing.

According to the best statistics obtainable already 6,000 millionaires own 60 billions of the wealth of the U. S., computing their increase at 4 per cent compounded annually (which is much less than their actual earnings). In about 15 years they will own every dollars worth of wealth in the entire United States.

Will you be one of the 6,000 or will you be one of the dispossessed?

What would you think of parents who would permit the larger stronger boy to take advantage of his weaker sister? Would such a system be practical for the family?

The motto of Capitalism is "Get all you can and keep all you get." while the Bible teaches "Lay not up treasures on earth." "Woe unto them that join house to house and lay field against field."

Is such a system in harmony with "Doing unto others as you would have others do unto you?"

Now, since it is clear that capitalism is not practical for the great majority of the people and is wrong in principle, let us test Socialism by the same rule.

The industrial machine called Socialism will be built on the principle of co-operation, or the collective ownership of the machinery of production and distribution, under democratic management, with equal opportunity for all to secure the product of their labor.

You will admit that so far as co-operation has been applied under the present system it has been a success, for instance, co-operation in production in our large factories is the only pratical feature of them. Individual methods were succeeded by co-operation because they became impractical for production on a large scale.

Now, if you will make the ownership of the factory and the distribution of the product co-operative you will make the entire system practical, and that will be Socialism.

The public school and the postal system also demonstrate that the Socialist principle is practical for they are collectively owned and operated for the good of all the people, and are in the main successful and satisfactory.

The only impractical features connected with them is that we permit the privately owned corporations such as the railroads and school book trusts to rob us by their extortionate rates and prices, and the further fact that they are not democratically managed.

If it is practical to get our education at cost and get our mail carried at cost, would it not also be practical to get food, clothing, shelter and transportation at cost?

You will agree that church organization is a practical institution. You practice the principles of Socialism in its management. The church which is collectively used is collectively owned and managed Democratically while the things that are privately used by the members are privately owned and there is equal opportunity for all to do church work or to receive the benefits or advantages to be derived from the organization.

These are the principles of Socialism and there are no others.

Since you practice these principles in your church organization, how can you consistently condemn others for advocating them? Why do you not preach these principles as well as practice them?

When you have studied them a little more carefully and learn that they are in harmony with true religion and morality we know you will.

Capitalism, or the system of production for profit, is taking something from your neighbor without returning an equivalent, and is the spirit of greed or mammon.

Socialism or the system of production for use is a system of co-operation wherein every exchange is on a basis of giving an exact equivalent, and is the spirit of justice, or good or God.

"Ye cannot serve both God and mammon"—which will you choose?

The working class does everything and has nothing. The capitalists do nothing and have everything.

They say Harry Bone feels like a cancelled postage stamp. He has been licked.

CONVENTION NOTES.

Indianapolis, Ind.—Harmony ruled at the four and fifth days of the National Convention.

This fact accounted for the passage of a number of resolutions, adoption of several committee reports, and the disposal of some of the most delicate questions before the delegates.

Unanimous agreement upon the much debated question of labor organizations and their relation to the party was the impossible thing that happened. Instead of the expected clash on this question all shook hands across the deep chasm that had hitherto marked their differences and voted to a man in accepting the unanimous reports of the committee that struggled long in reaching an agreement on this subject.

"The impossible thing has happened," declared Tom Hickey of Texas, who told the convention how he had shaken hands with Job Harriman, of California, in agreement on this subject, after twenty long years of disagreement.

The part of the report that brought about complete harmony between the contending elements is as follows:

"The labor movement of the United States has of recent years made marvelous progress in all directions. It has steadily increased in numbers and has reached trades and industries which were before unorganized. It has in many instances concentrated its power and increased its efficiency by the amalgamation of related unions into federations and industrial unions. The organized workers are rapidly developing an enlightened and militant class-consciousness."

The miraculous effect that this statement of conditions in the economic struggle had upon all those who had previously been at variance was shown in speeches made by Harriman, Hickey, Clifford and Haywood, the three being members of the committee.

Let us do everything in our power to keep the political and the economic organizations of labor working together," pleaded Harriman, who pointed out that this was the great preventive for the growth of a syndalist movement in this country. "You can't develop power by division."

"This action is an indication of the growing solidarity of the Socialist movement," declared Hickey. "It is a magnificent demonstration of our intellectual growth. It is a happy omen. It is a sign of the times."

"With the adoption of this declaration I feel that I can do the workers of the nations and carry to them the message of Socialism," declared Haywood. "This is the greatest step that has yet been taken by the Socialist party."

Oscar Ameringer, of Oklahoma, chairman of the committee, expressed his hope that a long step had been taken uniting the workers on both the economic and political field.

The labor union declaration reaffirms the party's past position toward maintaining neutrality toward labor organizations. Methods of organizations are considered as being the business of the labor unions themselves.

Amidst thunderous applause the platform reported by the committee, with a few slight changes, was adopted by the convention. A clause on the tariff was stricken out as it was considered to be a capitalist issue.

The usual attack on the immediate demands as being mere reforms did not arise at the convention. The preamble was adopted unanimously. The various Comrades were indorsed in the main with a few alterations here and there.

The new platform is considered by many delegates as being the best and strongest document ever adopted by the party. It will be perfected by the committee and then sent to the party membership for indorsement.

The constructionists of the cities and the farmers working together in alliance the extreme revolutionaries were routed in the consideration of the farmers' question.

The opposing elements locked horns on the first section of the farmers' program submitted by the committee of nine, which had been supplemented during the day with a "farmers' committee" of nine made up of Socialist farmers. This section declared that:

"The Socialist party demands that the means of transportation and storage and the plants used in the manufacture of fertilizers and farm machinery, shall be socially owned and democratically managed."

Delegate Ohsol, of Massachusetts, moved an amendment that "the land" be inserted before "the means," while delegate Edwards, Texas, moved an amendment that "where such means are used for exploitation" be inserted after "farm machinery."

The Edwards amendment carried but the Ohsol amendment was voted down, it being held that this demand would be considered an immediate demand and subsidiary to the party platform that declares for the social ownership of land.

A. M. Simons, chairman, reported for the committee, declaring that he had come with this same proposition before every convention of the Socialist party since even its establishment.

"It is time that we struck out on some lines nationally," declared Simons. "It is time we laid down principles that would apply to this class as to the other divisions of the working class.

"We got to the farmer and show him that he cannot be relieved while he is being ridden by the capitalist class and that we alone come to him with the gospel of freedom, of liberty, of emancipation, of social ownership, of everything necessary to the production of wealth and the satisfaction of life."

Delegates Wills, of Oklahoma, Wright, of Nebraska, and Rhodes, of Texas, supported the farmers program. Delegates Slodoslin, of New York, contended that the Socialist party should address itself only to the farm laborer and leave the tenant farmer alone. The report of the committee, however, carried the convention by an overwhelming majority.

Greeting from two fraternal delegates altered the convention and brought forth the first real enthusiasm displayed by the delegates since May 12, when the convention opened. The delegates who addressed the convention were Karl Legien, the noted labor leader and Socialist member of the German Reichstag, and L. Gutierres deLara, the Mexican Socialist and revolutionist.

Legien, after greeting the delegates, told them of the experiences of the German labor movement. He declared that the German Socialist party which has been so eminently successful has never dictated nor interfered with the labor organization. For that reason, he said, the German trade unionists are Socialists and scorn syndicalism and other non-Socialists tactics.

De Lara called on the American Socialist party to use every means possible to prevent intervention by the United States government in the Mexican revolution, which is threatened.

The convention adopted strong resolutions against intervention.

Among the resolutions adopted without debate by the convention were those pledging moral and financial support to Joseph J. Ettor and Arturo Giovanitti, now in prison in Lawrence, Mass., warning the workers of the east to stay away from the Pacific Coast on account of lack of work and threatened trouble, and pledging the party to the policy of organizing all municipal employes wherever the party gets into power.

The delegates also adopted a resolution pledging the party to carry on an aggressive propaganda in the army and navy.

The recommendation of the committee on Co-operatives to elect a committee of five to investigate this subject in more detail and to report at the 1914 congress was adopted. Gaylord, Wiconsin, made the report as chairman of the committee. A majority report signed by Lindgren, New York, declaring that co-operatives are foreign to the Socialist movement and should be let alone, was defeated.

Barnes, of Pennsylvania, reported for the committee on International Relations. The entire report of this committee, was adopted. It recommended:

That the convention declare against intervention by the United States in the Mexican revolution.

That the Socialist party of this country and foreign countries arrange to send fraternal delegates to their respective conventions.

That the delegates to the International Socialist Congress shall arrange for the discussion of the world's high cost of living, international labor legislation and that the congress be urged to secure an international agreement among the Socialist parties of the world against war between their respective countries.

Everything asked by the foreign language sections of the Socialist party was granted almost by unanimous vote. The prediction is made that this action will double the membership of these sections before another convention meets.

The completed farmers' declaration adopted by the convention provides:

That the Socialist party favors the retention by the government of all land already owned, the same to be improved and the same to be operated by collective agricultural enterprises. That the government shall insure against diseases of animals and plants, insect pests and natural calamities. That the party favors the abolition of farm tenantry. That the part ignores the movement to organize renters and wage workers on the farms.

AS THINGS ARE.

Socialists do not believe that there should be classes. They do believe that there are classes. They see in history only a struggle of one class to trimuph over another. They call this the philosophy of the class struggle, and see in the understanding of it knowledge that shall make it possible to end classes by ending the need of struggling for a living.

Socialists are not necessarily materialists. The materialistic conception of his tory, about which they talk, is merely an understanding that that which causes things to happen was the need and manner of making a living. Socialism points the way to a scientific and easy way of making a living and understands that when this is secured ethical culture will necessarily follow.

Socialists see what to many is a mystery—how the workers are robbed. They see that a man working for another must produce all he receives and something else that the other man gets. Rent, interest and profit tell the whole story. They know that a worker produces and does not get it is called by his surplus value.—Chicago Daily Socialist.

If you don't want all you produce the thing to do is to continue voting the old party tickets.

MAINE SOCIALISTS RAP PRIMARY LAW

Portland, Me.—The Socialists in convention in this city denounced the Davies primary law which causes the Socialists great inconvenience in entering the election contests, and adopted the following resolutions:

"Whereas, the so-called Davies primary law practically disfranchises the Socialists of Maine by requiring a prohibitive number of signatures to all nomination papers; and.

"Where, the said law thus defeats true democracy in denying the working class the right to vote for representatives of their own class; and.

"Whereas, the farmers of said law insist that the purpose of the law is not to deny the Socialists of Maine their constitutional rights; therefore, be it

"Resolved, by the Socialist party of Maine in convention assembled. That we register our emphatic protest against the manifest injustice of the Davies primary law; and be it further

"Resolved, That we demand that the Maine legislature, now in session, pass or immediately submit to the voters of Maine for a referendum, an amendment to the Davies primary law, permitting parties which at the last state election received less than 5 per cent of the total vote to nominate candidates for public office by nomination papers containing signatures of 10 per cent of the registered voters of the said party; and be it further

"Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be mailed to the governor, the attorney general, the members of both houses of the state legislature and to the daily press."

The following resolution was referred to a referendum vote of the state membership:

The following resolution was referred to a referendum vote of the state membership:

"Whereas, there is a marked disturbance in the different labor organizations; and.

"Whereas, we shall shortly elect a delegate to our national convention; therefore be it

"Resolved, That we, as Socialists, representing the entire working class, take this time to instruct our national delegate not to take any action to indorse any labor organization."

When liberty is attained love and leisure will also come.

When the workers of the world unite they will not be the tail of the kite.

THE PROPHET AND THE ASS

Editor of "The PROPHET AND THE ASS" KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN.

CALLING THE MILITIA.

One of the main functions of the capitalist press is to "prepare the way" for the militia.

The slightest disturbance between labor and capital is sufficient pretext for them to commence their "suggestions," and at the work they are cunning and unscrupulous.

There is an important strike on here in Kalamazoo. The Corset Workers Union has been out for some weeks, failing to renew their contract with the Kalamazoo Corset Company, makers of "American Beauty" and "Madam Grace" corsets.

The demands of the union have been conservative, simply for a decent wage and decent working conditions. Their methods have been also conservative and proper, and from the first they have stood willing to arbitrate, or to make peacable settlement.

On the other hand the "boss" has played the "bully" from the start. First by discharging the committee of the union that waited upon him to present the demands, and since by an effort to intimidate the workers through injunction proceedings, and to prejudice the citizens by a threat to move his factory from the city should the workers win out, thus frightening the timid "business man" who might be otherwise in sympathy with the strikers.

This factory employes about 350 hands, mostly girls, and a threat to move such an institution from the city is calculated to carry much weight among the general population, even though it be a bluff.

Aside from the fact that the strikers have become convinced that the injunction against picketing served on them by an "accomodating" court, is contrary to their rights as American citizens, and their renewal of picket duty, the strikers have been absolutely peaceable—and in spite of the arrest of ten of their members, who are at this writing in jail. Miss Casey, their leader among them, still the strikers have been absolutely peaceable, have offered no violence or show of violence, nor is there any possibility of violence, unless the authorities step in and make it.

In spite of all this, the local papers come out this morning with the scare heading "Aid of militia may be needed to keep order." To charge directly that this is done with "malicious forethought" might be unjust. Newspaper editors are always looking for scare heads, and might use one like this without understanding its serious import. But to charge that the slightest suggestion that riots are apt to result is to "incite to riot" is in accord with known principles of psychology, and the individual or paper that does this should receive the hearty condemnation of every peace loving citizen.

What ever the outcome may be, you can take this as a certainty—that the militia will not be needed in Kalamazoo unless the Kalamazoo Corset Company decides to use it as a weapon to break the strike. The strikers here are absolutely peaceable, and intend to remain so. But they do not intend to have their rights taken from them as citizens without protest, and are willing to go to jail, peacably, mind you in defense of their cause.

When it comes to questions of Capital and Labor the capitalist press is not to be trusted, or on any other question of importance for that matter—the recent "Death of the Pope" is a case in point. Let the working class build up their own press, it is the only hope.

DON'T BE NIGGER JOHN

When I came to Jackson county, six years ago, there was a colored man here who went by the name of Nigger John. I soon learned he was a slave, having been owned by a Mr. Nolan, who was a rich slave owner. When the agitation for the abolition of slavery started, it was feared that Nigger John, somewhat of a leader, would be the first to leave his master and get other slaves to leave also. So I am told by old settlers, who knew him well, that for the paltry sum of $50, the smiles of the slave owners and a few cheap drinks of whisky, he acted as a spy for Quantrell and his raiders went into Lawrence, Kan., before that horrible massacre, and told to Quantrell and reported there were no union soldiers there and that the town was defenseless. In every way he aided and fought with and for the parties that were keeping him, his father, mother, sisters and brothers (a brother Lewis still lives and is almost my nearest neighbor), in slavery, and fought with all the power and strength at his command against the parties that were trying to free him and his relatives and his race.

"Foolish nigger!" you will say.

Yes, very, very foolish, but no more foolish than the workingmen of today who vote the Republican and Democratic tickets, the parties that keep them in wage slavery, poverty, misery and want.

Workingmen, the Socialist party is educating, working and fighting, not with bullets but with ballots, to free you so you may stand up like men among men and receive the full product of your labor, and not be compelled to grovel in the dust, dirt and mire as you do now, for the benefit of a few, who [illegible] contempt upon you.

But, as the slaves were freed in spite of the Nigger John, so will Socialism free all mankind, men and women alike, the world over from wage-slavery, poverty, misery and want. Yes, in spite of the white Nigger Johns, who for the smiles of the politicians, the promise of a job and a few drinks of cheap whisky, fight, work and vote against their own economic freedom.

Nigger John died in the Jackson county poor house; such was his reward for fighting against his own race and class.

Workingmen! Don't be Nigger Johns. Learn wherein your emancipation lies:

Study Socialism.
Attend Socialist lectures.
Read Socialist literature.
Discuss Socialism with your neighbor.
Subscribe for Socialist papers.
Join the Socialist party.
Vote the Socialist ticket.

Don't be Nigger Johns any longer, lest you also die in the poor house.

J. J. HERMAN.
Blue Springs, Mo.

The time will come when children will be taught by travel, and in play will learn the lessons of life.

United Effort Will Accomplish Wonders.

This paper will always assist the workers, whether of farm, factory, mill or mine, in every effort they may make to better their condition. It will do more; it will constantly strive to awaken the workers to a realization of the fact that concentrated and vigorous effort Must be made by them if their condition is not to become far more unbearable than at present.

The only paper the workers can trust is that paper that owns themselves own and control. This paper is owned by workingmen.

Since this paper is so owned, it will always be at the disposal of the workers and will do all it can to aid you. Why not help the paper that will always help you?

We are going to ask all of our subscribers to get other readers, as the more we have, the more we can help you.

This paper was started to help you, not to rob you, hence we charge but 25 cents for a whole year's subscription. 25 cents for six months. Every Local should hustle subs all year.

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Get busy, Comrades.

All subscriptions stopped immediately upon expiration. If you are receiving this paper and i have not ordered it, some friend has paid for it. No BILL will be presented to you.

"A Sample Copy" is an invitation to subscribe for this paper. The Old Party Papers do not do it, you one half the truth concealing whatever might benefit labor and reduce dividends on vested capital.

If you want to know whose interests any political party will represent, just find out who pays that party's campaign expenses; this method never fails to reveal the truth.

You should join the party whose campaign expenses are all paid by the workers, a party, that all of those interested in exploiting you would contribute money to defeat.

Your subscription to this paper will hasten the triumph of the workers and assure the success of this paper.

Subscribe now.

CUT ON THIS LINE — — —

National Platform of The Socialist Party.

(Continued from page two)

lines and all other social means of transportation and communication and of all large-scale industries.

3. The immediate acquirment by the municipalities, the states or the federal government, of all grain elevators, stock yards, storage warehouses and other distributing agencies, in order to reduce the present exorbitant cost of living.

3. The extension of the public domain to include mines, quarries, oil wells, forests and water power.

4. The further conservation and development of natural resources for the use and benefit of all people:

(a) By scientific forestation and timber protection.

(b) By the reclamation of arid and swamp tracts.

(c) By the storage of flood waters and the utilization of water power.

(d) By the stoppage of the present extravagant waste of the soil and of the products of mines and oil wells.

(e) By the development of highway and waterway systems.

5. The collective ownership of land wherever practicable, and in cases where such ownership is impracticable the appropriation by taxation of the annual rental value of all land held for speculation.

6. The collective ownership and democratic management of the banking and currency system.

Unemployment.

The immediate government relief of the unemployed by the extension of all useful public works. All persons employed on such works to be engaged directly by the government under a workday of not more than eight hours and at not less than the prevailing union wages. The government also to establish employment bureaus; to lend money to states and municipalities without interest for the purpose of carrying on public works, and to take such other measures within its power as will lessen the widespread misery of the workers caused by the misrule of the capitalist class.

The conservation of human resources, principally of the lives and well-being of the workers and their families:

1. By shortening the work day in keeping with the increased productiveness of machinery.

2. By securing to every worker a period of not less than a day and rest in each week.

3. By enacting a more effective inspection of workshops, factories and tenements.

4. By forbidding the employment of children under 16 years of age.

5. By the co-operative organization of industries in federal penitentiaries and workshops for the benefit of convicts and their dependents.

6. By forbidding the interstate transportation of the products of child labor, of convict labor and of all uninspected factories and mines.

7. By abolishing the profit system in government work and substituting either the direct hire of labor or the awarding of contracts to co-operative groups of workers.

8. By establishing minimum wage scales.

9. By abolishing official charity and substituting a non-contributory system of insurance by the state of all its members against unemployment and invalidism and a system of compulsory insurance by employers of their workers, without cost to the latter, against industrial diseases, accidents and death.

Political Demands.

1. The absolute freedom of press, speech and assemblage.

2. The adoption of a graduated income tax, the increase of the rates of the present corporation tax and the extension of inheritance taxes, graduated in proportion to the value of the estate and to nearness of kin—the proceeds of these taxes to be employed in the socialization of industry.

3. The abolition of the monopoly ownership of patents and the substitution of collective ownership with direct rewards to inventors by premiums or royalties.

4. Unrestricted and equal suffrage for men and women.

5. The adoption of the initiative referendum and recall and of proportional representation, nationally as well as locally.

6. The abolition of the senate and of the veto power of the president.

7. The election of the president and the vice president by direct vote of the people.

8. The abolition of the power usurped by the supreme court of the United States to pass upon the constitutionality of the legislation enacted by congress. National laws to be repealed only by act of congress or by a referendum vote of the whole people.

9. The abolition of the present restrictions upon the amendment of the constitution, so that that instrument may be made amendable by a majority of the voters in a majority of the states.

16. The granting of the right of suffrage in the District of Columbia, with representation in congress and a Democratic form of municipal government for purely local affairs.

11. The extension of Democratic government to all United States territory.

12. The enactment of further measures for federal education and particularly for vocational education in useful pursuits. The bureau of education to be made a department.

13. The enactment of further measures for the conservation of health. The creation of an independent bureau of health with such restrictions as will secure full liberty for all schools of practice.

14. The separation of the present Bureau of labor from the department of commerce and labor and its elevation to the rank of a department.

15. Abolition of all federal district courts and of the United States circuit courts of appeal. State courts to have jurisdiction in all cases arising between citizens of the several states and foreign corporations. The election of all judges for short terms.

16. The immediate curbing of the power of the courts to issue injunctions.

17. The free administration of justice.

18. The calling of a convention for the revision of the constitution of the United States.

Such measures of relief as we may be able to force from capitalism are but a preparation of the workers to seize the whole powers of government, in order that they thereby lay hold of the whole system of socialized industry and thus come to their rightful inheritance.

The members of the program committee were Charles Edward Russell, Victor L. Berger, James F. Carey, J. Stitt Wilson, W. J. Grant, Lewis J. Duncan, Charles Dobbs, Dan Hogan and A. W. Rieker.

SOCIALISM GROWS IN COLLEGES

During the past few months the Intercollegiate Socialist Society has been continuing its remarkable progress among the colleges of the country in interesting college students in the aims and purposes of the Socialist movement. The society now claims forty-three chapters, an increase of about 400 per cent over a year and a half ago. Since the first of the year chapters have been formed at C. C. N. Y. (evening division), Swarthmore, Williams, New York medical colleges, and are in the course of formation at Union, Minnesota, the Massachusetts Agricultural College and others. An alumni chapter has also been organized in Philadelphia.

The activities of the chapters are becoming even greater. The Harvard Socialist Club, of which Samuel A. Eliot, Jr., is president, has issued a most suggestive pamphlet on "Socialism and Private Property," a reply to the arguments advanced by ex-President Eliot. The New York Dental chapter has just issued the fourth edition of its monthly periodical, the Progressive Dentist, and the Michigan chapter is considering various publications.

The attention of college Socialists in New York city and vicinity has been concentrated during the last month on the big debate in Carnegie hall between Morris Hillquit and Samuel Untermeyer on the question as to whether or not the nation should own the trusts. This meeting will be the second monster gathering held under the auspices of the Intercollegiate Socialist society, that of last year being the reception given to Congressman Berger on his appearance in New York as a member of the national legislature. Both meetings have attracted wide attention to the society and to the Socialist movement.

As a result of the recent election, the following officers have been chosen as members of the executive committee of the society for the ensuing year:

President, J. G. Phelps Stokes, Yale; first vice president, Florence Kelley Cornell; second vice president, Ernest Poole, Princeton; treasurer, Morris Hillquit, New York (law school); secretary, LeRoy Scott, Indiana; Jessie Ashley, N. Y. U. Law; Frank C. Doan, Methodist Theological Seminary; Jessica G. Finch, Barnard, Jessie W. Hughan, Barnard; Ellis O. Jones, Yale; Harry W. Laidler, Wesleyan; Mary E. Sanford, Vassar; Vida L. Scudder, Smith; Helen Phelps Stokes; Bouck White, Harvard. Harry W. Laidler was re-elected organizer.

Laidler would be glad to receive the names of any who are interested in the work of the society and to send any literature or information desired. The society has recently been compelled on account of its growth to exchange its small headquarters on the ninth floor of the Tilden building to a more spacious room on the twelfth floor. Its present address is 1210, 105 West 46th street, New York city.

THE YELLOW PERIL.

By W. S. Morgan.

My name is gold.
I am the dust of hell.
I am the salt of the devil.
I am the essence of sin, and the instigator of crime.
I know all things and do all things.
I am the indulgence of debauchery and the balance wheel of infamy.
I defy the commandments and pave the road to hell.
I play with sin, juggle with crime, conjure with poverty, bargain with the rich and flirt with death.
I am the supreme power on earth and have more disciples than all other gods besides.
I corrupt the lawmakers, cover the judiciary with slime and buy the executives.
I have politicians for sale, judges for rent and lawyers to give away.
I preach from the pulpit, sell liquor over the bar and pay licenses for houses of prostitution.
I own professors in universities, chairs in theological colleges and ministers in fashionable churches.
I equip armies, build navies and manufacture the instruments of death and destruction with which war is conducted, but I never fight.
I am almost always the bone of contention between the combatants.
I never sleep.
I am always at work.
The "love of me is the root of all evil."
I am the rich man's friend, and the poor man's enemy.
I am an aristocrat I don't associate with the poor.
I am the glory of commercial achievement, and the crown of dishonorable conduct.
I am the devil's drag-net.
I am the holocaust of crime, the whirlpool of sin and the vortex of damnation.
I am the virtue of helpless women and the blood of innocent children.
I am the history of crime, the glory of conquest, the destroyer of nations and the goal of idolaters.
I am the monarch of material progress and the enemy of immorality.
I am the deflier of chastity, the despoiler of honor and the maligner of virtue.
I am the organizer of chaos and the arbiter of human destiny.
I am immune against disease, proof against law and empowered with ubiquity.
I came! I saw; I conquered.
I need no disguise, for I am the he plus of all things and am used to disguise many of them.
I am the father of greed, the mother of crime, and the prolific parent of sin.
I am the promoter of enterprise and the mother of industry.
I am deceptive, heartless, cruel, wicked and malignant, yet everybody loves me and I am welcome into all homes.
I am the fetichism of fanatics, the idol of fools, the god of miners and the Midias of the millions.
With all the crimes I have committed and of which I am guilty I have no fear of punishment, for I have friends among the jury. accomplices on the bench, and pardons awaiting me if I should be convicted.
I am the Omnipotent of the world; I will; I compute account between nations! I deal in souls, and buy and sell human blood; I am the one thing of universal worship, the idol of all idolaters.

Socialism is not a far-off dream. It is the next step. This is demonstrated by the great and constant increase in the Socialist vote all over the civilized world.

If there is a nobility under Socialism it will not be based on wealth and power, but on intellect and moral worth, on real nobility.

THE MISSOURI STATE CONVENTION

The State Convention of the Socialists was called to order by the State Committee to revise and formulate a new constitution met in Aschenbroedl Hall, St. Louis, May 8-9-10. Credentials given out from 80 delegates and thirty responded to the roll call. The convention was the largest ever held by the party in the state and during their three days session an entirely new constitution was drafted and adopted, which is considered a model for Socialist organizations.

The secretaries report showed that the work of the state office has enormously increased and the demand for organization work in the state is far in excess of all past periods. Taking into consideration these conditions, the convention refused to change the salary of the state secretary, recently raised by the state committee to one hundred dollars per month and also concerned in the renting of a down town office for state headquarters, directly across from the postoffice on Olive street. The recommendations of the committee on constitution, composed of Delegates Vierling, Paul, Behrens, O'Dam and Garver were accepted by the convention almost without objection, except the section pertaining to Multiple Locals, which was the cause of a big debate until nearly 12 o'clock Thursday night and the most of Friday. Finally the report of the committee was adopted by the close vote of 14 to 12. The contest on this question was raised by a substitute introduced by Delegate Boswell, of Maplewood, in behalf of the comrades in St. Louis, who were members of the new local in St. Louis that was chartered after the revocation of the charter of old local St. Louis. These comrades desired two or more locals in St. Louis, even as many as one to each ward and all autonomous and self-governing.

The delegates friendly to Old Local St. Louis, incidently those from Jackson county opposed this plan, voting in favor of the minority report of the committee on constitution, which reported in favor of submitting alternative proposals to a referendum of the state membership, first, for the single local and ward branch system and, second, for a Multiple Local, if the city or town by a referendum vote of its local membership desired such a Multiple Local system, and with the power of changing back to the single local plan if the membership by a referendum initiated by ten per cent of the membership voted in favor of such change. The majority of the constitutional committee were in favor of the single local with branch sub-divisions, contending that the multiple plan tended to develope dual or rival organizations, which should be just as abhorrent to the workers in the political field as such organizations are upon the economic field. They contended that every argument for Multiple Locals is a city field good for multiple state organizations in the state, and still further, multiple national organizations. That instead of building up a lot of rival Socialist organizations, what we wanted was unity and solidarity. But they were willing to allow the multiple plan of the minority of the committee, both from St. Louis, to go before the membership of the state for their study and decision.

The new constitution by resolution became effective with the adjournment of the convention, with the exception of the Multiple Local plan, the single local plan being effective by resolution until the state referendum determines the alternative proposals submitted. One feature of the new constitution will be the complete coalescing of the propaganda organization, controlled by the dues-paying membership, and the legal organization, provided by the state laws. From now on the legal organization will be absolutely controlled by the propaganda organization, and the latter is made proportion in strength to its membership in all the geographical sub-divisions of the party. As a result of the convention, the campaign will be taken up in the state with renewed enthusiasm and vigor and the Socialists will beyond all doubt poll 50,000 votes in the state in November.

In addition to the constitutional work, the convention elected a permanent platform committee composed of Hoehn, Ward, Wagner, Webster and Garver to draft a platform to present to the legal party convention in Jefferson City in September. All suggestions for this committee can be sent to the different comrades named or the state secretary who will turn them over to the secretary of the committee.

THE GREATER TRADEGY.

By John M. Work.

I think I realize the suffering and the heartache caused by the wreck of the Titanic, and my sympathies are enlisted.

But, it does seem to me that to be quickly drowned is a very slight tragedy compared with having to endure a living death for many long weary years.

And then the fifteen hundred or so of people who were drowned were so very insignificant in number compared with the millions of other millions who are enduring a living death.

The present capitalist system of industry literally compels the vast mass of the people to spend nearly practically all their time in getting a physical substance. It compels them to stunt their intellects. It bars them out from practically everything that makes life worth living. In addition to this intellectual stagnation, it imposes all manner of physical suffering upon them.

They are enduring a living death.

When will we become able to realize that the suffering caused by physical calamity cannot compare for an hour with the poignant agony caused by mental deprivation?

When will we be ready to come out with scare heads to the effect that tens and thousands and millions of people are suffering the continuous anguish of a living death?

When will we feel that this is a tragedy so stupendously serious that fifteen hundred deaths from shipwreck are not worthy to be mentioned in the same breath?

Capitalism just claps a plaster cast over the average brain and prevents it from developing.

Are you blind?

Can you see this incessant tragedy? Can you not read it in the face of the people you meet?

Can you not hear it in their pointless conversation?

Can you not discern it in the dullness of their eyes?

Socialism will take off that plaster cast—to the infinite relief of the human race. It will free the brain by enabling the workers to have their own. It will enable them to take advantage of all the higher things of life and develop a race compared with which we are mental pygmies.

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That we are growing.

That new subscribers are waiting for you to call on them. DO IT NOW.

THIS IS GOING TO BE A BIG YEAR FOR SOCIALISM.

HOW BIG IT WILL BE DEPENDS UPON YOU.

HOW MANY VOTES WILL BE ADDED TO THE SOCIALIST COLUMN THIS ELECTION?

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(4) State Platform Socialists.

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New York N. Y.

One year	$4.50
Six months	$2.25

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without first studying it, otherwise you may unwittingly do more harm than good. There are three ten-cent books that will put you on the right track if you give the proper study to each. They are **Shop Talks on Economics**, by Marcy, **Industrial Socialism**, by Haywood and Bohn, and **Socialism Made Easy**, by Connolly. Send thirty cents in stamps and we will also mail you three late numbers of the **International Socialist Review**. This literature will start you right.

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THE COMING NATION
Girard, Kansas.

THE NEW SOCIALIST FIGHTING MACHINE PLANTED AT IOLA, KANSAS

A Modern Gattling Gun to the Defence of the Workers

The Socialist campaign is purely a campaign of education. As soon as the workers understand thoroughly the means by which they are exploited, and possessing within their own ranks practically all the political power, they will be able, easily and immediately to put an end to all exploitation and come into their own.

The above cut shows the modern printing press installed at Iola, Kansas, upon which 36 different local Socialist papers are now being printed for as many towns throughout Kansas and Missouri. This new plant means a wonderful power added to the Socialist movement, particularly for the States of Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma and Nebraska. When run at its fullest capacity, nearly a million papers—filled with not shot for the wage system—may be printed and distributed each week.

It was up to you, Comrades, to get this modern plant installed and you have made good. Co-operation and determination have won out. Now with a united effort all along the line an impetus may easily be given our movement that will strike terror to the heart of Capitalism, and materially hasten the day, when those who work may receive the full product of their toil.