LABOR ONCE AWAKENED IS INVINCIBLE.

"A People Cannot Remain Half Slave, Half Free." Abraham Lincoln.

FREEDOM'S BANNER

The Workers Cannot Be Free So Long As The Masters Own Their Jobs.

VOLUMN 3. NO. 139. JOIN YOUR LABOR PARTY. IOLA, KANSAS, SEPTEMBER 12, 1914. JOIN YOUR LABOR UNION. PRICE FIVE CENTS.

FREEDOM'S BANNER.

Original of the Co-Operative Chain. Central Plant, Iola, Kansas.

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J. H. Bard, Editor and Proprietor
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Don't keep this paper.. Pass it on to your friend.. Get his subscription if you can, and thereby help Socialism grow. tf.

Will Oklahoma Have A State Paper?

It's Up to You Comrades.—No Cash, Only a Little Hustling For the Cause Needed.

To Our Oklahoma Comrades:

Oklahoma needs a Socialist paper all its own and a way is now open to get it without one cent cost to the party organization or the comrades of Oklahoma.

Freedom's Banner, the paper you now hold in your hand is 50c a year or in clubs of 4 or more 25c for 40 weeks.

We have decided upon conditions stated below to change the name from Freedom's Banner to The Oklahoma Socialist or any other name by the Socialist Party of Oklahoma, and allow the Socialist Party of Oklahoma to edit the entire paper.

After the name of the paper is changed all subscriptions count whether they come from Oklahoma or any other part of the world.

A paper with 100,000 subscriptions in Oklahoma and all the other states would pay a revenue of $5250 a year to the Socialist party of Oklahoma and not cost you one cent and hundreds of dollars could be saved to the party organization every year in postage, stationary and circular matter now necessary.

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200 subscribers	1 Column
400 subscribers	2 columns
600 subscribers	3 colmuns
800 subscribers	4 columns
1000 subscribers	5 columns
1200 subscribers	6 columns
1500 subscribers	1 Page
2500 subscribers	1½ Page
3500 subscribers	2 Pages
4500 [redacted]	2½ Pages
5500 [redacted]	3 Pages
6500 [redacted]	3½ Pages
806 [redacted]	4 Pages

When 400 subscribers have been secured we will change the name to The Oklahoma Socialist or any other name that may be selected by the Socialist Party of Oklahoma.

Commission to Be Paid.

After a certain number of subscribers have been secured a commission will thereafter be paid to the Socialist Party of Oklahoma on every subscription received for the paper, whether received from Oklahoma or any other state, as shown by following table:

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75,000	5¼c	3,937.00
100,000	5½c	5,500.00

The above commission is to be paid to the Socialist Party of Oklahoma on each subscription, whether for 40 weeks or one year.

Startling Telegram from Colorado

Chicago, Sept. 10.—National Secretary Walter Lanfersiek, of the Socialist Party, has received a startling telegram from A. Marians, Secretary of the Trinidad, Colo., local of the Party, as follows:

"Comrades of America! Troops A of Trinidad and E of Walsenburg Colorado National Guard organizations which massacred women and children at Ludlow, have reorganized to their full strength and are holding nightly meetings in their armories. Colonel Lockett commanding federal troops states to citizens that he will permit militiamen to parade through Trinidad streets. Federals will then leave. Citizens openly declare these preparations mean further bloodshed as company gunmen and Baldwin-Felts detectives have been re-enrolling in the militia here for the past week. These things being so we Socialists of Las Animas county appeal to Socialists of America to take immediate organized action to protect workers here from a repetition of Ludlow massacre, as authorities of state and nation are impotent. Will you see the slaughter repeated without coming to our aid? This message is sent to every state secretary."

Immediately upon receiving this telegram Secretary Lanfersiek transmitted copies to President Wilson and to members of the Socialist Party national exective committee for action.

Democracy is Power

The men who died before Liege were not aristocrats; they were men of use in the world; they were workingmen, the sons, the husbands and the fathers of the working women; they were trade unionists; one in every three of them were Socialists.

Remember that, will you, when you are reading the press messages about the slaughter of the Germans. One in every three of the German working class is Socialist, is definitely opposed to kaiserdom and all that it stands for; hates militarism and all that it stands for; and only awaits the first decent sporting chance of declaring a German social democratic republic!

And they are being shot down, these poor German Socialist comrades of ours, these men who subscribed to help us in our big strikes against our bosses here, they go down with a gasp of pain in an alien land, and their blood turns the Meuse red, and their mothers and wives and daughters will weep in the far-off cities. And freedom and democracy is so much the poorer.

It is in this dark hour of death, of murder and destruction that the American Socialist movement must rise to this great emergency and build up a movement that will not only save this nation from the perils of war but act as the chief aid toward rebuilding the Socialist movement of Europe when this horror has passed away.

and if every comrade in Oklahoma will put his shoulder to the wheel, in 30 days you can easily have a four paged 7 column paper in which every line may be edited by the Socialist Party of Oklahoma.

THE SOCIALIST CO-OP.,
Iola, Kansas.

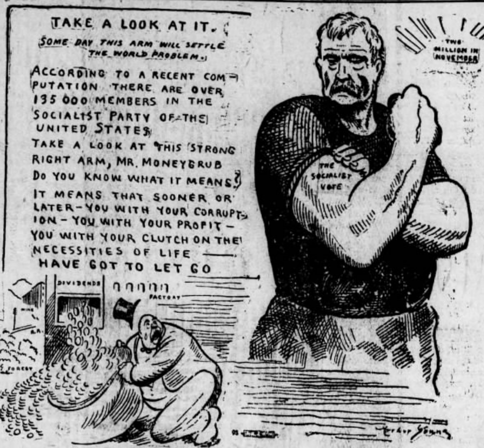
WHAT ONE OKLAHOMA COMRADE THINKS OF THE PROPOSITION.

Lawton, Okla., Sept. 8th, 1914.
J. H. Bard,
Iola, Kansas.
Dear Comrades:

Your proposition for an Oklahoma State Paper ought to be snapped up by the comrades; would be if there were some magic by which we could GET TOGETHER; oh for GENERALS; for ORGANIZATION!

Fraternally,
A. G. SECHRIST,
604 D.

The Socialists prevented a war between Germany and France over the Morroco question a few years ago, and also between Norway and [illegible]



California Starving War

San Francisco, Cal., Sept. 11.—Fifty meetings have already been held in San Francisco and Oakland in the California campaign being conducted by J. Stitt Wilson, national executive committeeman of the Socialist Party and former mayor of Berkley, to "STARVE THE WAR AND FEED AMERICA!"

Wilson is being aided in this campaign by his son, Gladstone, and by Walter Thomas Mills, the noted Socialist orator who has only recently returned to this country from Australia. Numerous petitions are being circulated, to be made part of a "MONSTER PEOPLE'S PETITION," at the head of which is carried the motion put by Wilson to the Socialist Party national executive committee on the present crisis confronting the nation. This motion as adopted reads as follows:

"That the national executive committee take the following action immediately and call all the locals of the party to hold mass meetings to protest arbitrary price of foodstuffs and demand congress to establish food departments.

"Whereas, the speculators are arbitrarily and unnecessarily raising the prices of the necessities of life, and

"Whereas, the United States government should conserve and protect the interests of the producers and consumers as against these speculators who are robbing the people, multitudes of whom are already in dire need;

"Therefore, We hereby petition the president and congress of the United States to establish immediately supply deports in the strategic industrial and agricultural centers of the nation for the purpose of maintaining a just market for the producers and for the purchase of food products and for the sale of these necessities direct to the people."

A People's Food Supply Petition headquarters has been established at 240 Pacific Building, San Francisco, to which all the individual petitions are sent after they have been filled with the names, addresses and occupations of the signers.

It is estimated that 30,000 people have already been reached and that 30,000 signatures have been secured. The California daily press is taking an active interest in the campaign, in many instances publishing the Socialist petition.

The campaign has been endorsed by the California Socialist Party state executive Committee and the meetings will continue. Mills will continue the agitation in the San Francisco Bay district while Wilson and his son will start over the state in an automobile campaign.

"The people are receptive and enthusiastic," declares Wilson. "One petition secured is 10 feet long. It is full of signatures. This is the supreme move of the hour. This petition should be pushed from the national office of the Socialist Party and every local in the nation should duplicate the work that is being done in California."

Other state organizations of the Socialist Party are already taking an active interest in the work being done in California and will immediately get in line for a national effort.

Della Chiesa Is Named Pope

Benedictus to Be His Name.

By Henry Wood.

Rome, Sept. 10.—Cardinal Gailcomo Della Chiesa, archbishop of Bologna, and former assistant papal secretary of state, was today elected pope, succeeding the late Pape Pius X.

The new pontiff chose to be known as Benedictus XV. and will later designate the date for his coronation.

Cardinal Della Chiesa was born at Pedli near Genoa in Italy in 1854. He was ordained to the priesthood in 1878 and went to Madrid as secretary of the nunciator in 1883, remaining there until 1887.

He returned to Rome and acted as a minor official in the office of the papal secretary of state. 1905, the late Cardinal Rampollo, then secretary of state, recognized his ability and promoted him to be substitute, or virtually first assistant secretary of state.

Pope Pius in 1907 appointed him archbishop of Bologna, Italy. He remained as archbishep until he was created cardinal at the last consistory held early this year.

Capitalists Call For Troops

Butte, Mont., Sept 11.—Pointing out that the Socialist administration is fully capable of enforcing law and maintaining order, Lewis J. Duncan, Socialist mayor of Butte, has issued a statement charging that the troops were sent here at the behest of the Amalgamated Copper Co. The statement by Mayor Duncan is as follows:

By Mayor Lewis J. Duncan.

The Governor of Montana is sending troops into Butte at the behest of the Amalgamated Copper Company and the business satellites and despite the assurance that the Socialist administration is able to enforce law and order. Life and property are not in jeopardy and the civil processes are uninterrupted.

There is nothing in the action of new union of the mine workers that justifies this step. This is evidently a desperate recourse of the employers to save the corrupt control of the [illegible] union of the Western Federation of Miners, to drive the Socialist voters out of the county and save the Democratic machine.

This is an attempt to discredit the Socialist administration throughout the state and to prevent the success of workmen's compensation and the initiative. The Amalgamated press is deceiving the people. The Democratic governor is being used for capitalistic purposes.—S. P. P. S.

SOME BOOKS YOU SHOULD READ.

Socialism Exposed by L. A. Lincoln..

This is a dandy and should be read by all Socialists and non-Socialists.
1 copy by mail 5c
10 copies, postpaid 30c

"SHALL ROME RULE," a book that handles the Roman question without gloves.
Single Copy 10c
3 Copies 20c

WHY CATHOLIC WORKERS SHOULD BE SOCIALISTS, by Mary Marcey. This is a clincher and should be handed to all your Catholic friends and shopmates.
One Copy 10c
Three Copies 30c

WHITE SLAVERY A NATIONAL CRIME. This is a book every one should read. Gets to the bottom of things and carries conviction.
One Copy postpaid 10c
4 Copies postpaid 20c
Address
SOCIALIST CO-OP.

NOTE TO EDITORS.

The Socialist Press Bureau would like to receive reports from the editors of Socialist publications concerning the celebration of Socialists week. Also reports from Socialists and labor editors on what local organizations are doing in the campaign to "STARVE THE WAR AND FEED AMERICA."—J. L. Engdahl.

NOT MUCH DIFFERENCE.

"What is the difference between life and love?"

"Well, you know the saying, 'Life is just one darn thing after another.' And love is just two darn things after each other."—Rush.

MAY HAND OUT LEAFLETS.

Socialists of Brooklyn have won the right to hand out leaflets on the street. A test case was made in the justice court which resulted in a favorable decision for the Socialists.

EASTERN MILLS CLOSE; MANY WORKERS ARE IDLE.

Springfield, Mass. Sept 10.—Nearly everybody in the city is idle except the police, one of the patrol [illegible]

Socialist Party Arousing Nation

Chicago, Sept. 11.—Realizing the tremendous opportunity it affords the American Socialist Party, the national office in Chicago is exerting every effort to take advantage of the national crisis growing out of war situation.

Tons of literature has been sent to all parts of the nation for the supreme effort that was scheduled for Socialist Week and that will continue with unabated vigor during September and October up to the national elections, Nov. 3rd.

"The Socialist Party is making tremendous efforts to educate the American people on the causes of war and the insanity of war, says National Secretary, Walter Lanfersiek. "The historian of the future who lays the cause of the present war to the assassination of two people will not be read; he will be a laughing stock.

"At the bottom of it all is the economic cause, and it is necessary that all peoples recognize this fundamental cause before war will cease to lay his bloody hands on the progress of the race.

"In order to carry on this education, the Socialist Party has printed 2,000,000 pieces of literature, and expects that before this war has ended, 10,000,000 will have been distributed.

"We are determined that the people shall be educated to the evils of human slaughter, because they accept ideas along this line now, with the whole of Europe aflame, whereas in times of peace they pay no heed.

"The National Congressional Campaign Committee will devote all the funds at its disposal to the anti-war agitation. By doing so, they are really performing a valuable social service, as their agitation may be the weight that turns the scale against war, in case this country should find itself in a position close to war.

"The local organizations of the party have been called upon to hold mass meetings and pass resolutions against war. In this manner public opinion will be aroused, public education will be promoted, and the possibility of war for this country will be lessened.

"There are 6,000 of these local bodies, and most of them will take action in this crucial time. We are demanding also that the government take over the food supply of the nation, in order to protect the people from those who would fleece them by high prices.

"Unless this is done, a few more multi-millionaires will be created by the war, and the people will pay the fiddler. Already the government is adopting Socialistic plans, several bills having been presented in Congress along the line suggested above.

"It is a peculiar fact that whenever the people are really in desperate straights they always turn to government agencies, knowing that they will be better served by their own elected officials than by private interests.

"As a result of the general agitation of human minds caused by the war, it is likely that some Socialists will be sent to Congress. The connection may not be evident to the casual observer, but if one could see the unusual activity of the Socialist headquarters, the reason can be understood. Literature is being distributed as never before. And greater interest is being shown all over the country.

"Of all the political paries, the Socialist Party is the only one that has a message for the people against war."

Germans Retreat

Paris Announces Allies Have Advanced on Part of the 120-Mile Battle Line.

MILLION MEN FIGHTING.

What is Expected to Be One of the Decisive Battles of the War Began Sunday.

Paris, Sept. 9.—(Via London).—It was officially announced tonight that the Germans are retreating along the line from Nanteuil le Haudouin to Verdun after a vigorous action with the French and British troops.

A Million Men in Battle.

Paris, Sept. 9.—It is estimated unofficialy that nearly a million troops were engaged in the fighting east of Paris.

Strong British Support.

French troops were strongly supported by the British soldiers, who passed through Paris several days ago.

The position chosen by the allied forces to give battle to the advancing invaders is declared to be most favorable, having near its center the strongly entrenched camp at Chalons-Sur-Marne.

The allies conducted their operations so successfully that part of the Germans were forced to retire.

The Germans had reached the region around Coulommiers and La Ferte-Gaucher, respectively, thirty and forty miles east of Paris, when the detachment covering the flanks of the main German army encountered advanced detachments of the allies, who drove them back.

The wounded began coming into Paris this afternoon.

Crowds at Paris Gates.

The nearness of this fighting to Paris was responsible for the reports current that the firing could be heard in the city. The weather was beautifully clear, and a strong wind from the east supported those who said they heard artillery.

The people of Paris gathered in great crowds near the gates to watch the military messengers who dashed in from the east in swift motor cars. Nearly all railways in every direction were reserved for the use of military authorities, and numerous private motor cars and taxicabs were used to carry provisions to the [illegible]

Fighting Food Pirates

Norwegian Socialist Force War on Looters.

As the direct result of the tremendous campaign carried on by the Socialist party of Norway, the Norwegian government has been forced to take steps to protect the people against the food pirates.

Although Norway declared itself neutral the effects of the war was quickly felt all over the country. Greedy capitalists, born of the same breed as American capitalists, hastened to take advantage of the situation by charging enormous prices for their products.

While food prices were being doubled most of the factories and mills were closed. While the Socialists carried on their constructive propaganda the enraged populace destroyed stores and fought with the police and soldiers.

The government was finally forced to act. Here is what the Socialists forced it to do:

Passed laws that all payments due between August 5 and September [illegible] should be extended another month.

Prohibited the exportation of all foodstuffs, coal, wood, mineral, oil and other necessities.

Prohibited the use of grain and potatoes for the production of beer and liquors. Prohibited all sale of liquor.

Appointed a committee of seven to take charge of the country's food supply. Regulated the sale of foodstuffs in various parts of the country and fixed the price at which food shall be sold.

BIGGEST STORM IN KANSAS CITY WAS A 7-INCH RAIN.

Kansas City, Sept. 9.—The storm swept down the valley with a current one mile wide. The flood damage is estimated at one and one-half million dollars. Three known lives were lost, fully two-thirds of the property loss was on the Missouri side.

In all 3,000 homes were submerged and 100 business houses damaged. It was enough rain for two months, an average September only gets half of the precipitation.

And when the [illegible]

OUR COUNTRY FACES A FOOD FAMINE---YOU MUST ACT QUICKLY

By Allan L. Benson.

From the Appeal.

A few men are preparing to starve this country for the next year as it has never starved before. Unless the people move quickly it will be too late to move. Another three months, with nothing done, and a great part of our crops will be gone. Another three months, with nothing done, and hunger will sweep this country from the smallest hamlet to the largest city. Prices will be such that prices for the last five years will seem low in comparison. From this scourge, if it comes, not a working class family can escape. Every family will be compelled to give up some of its bread and its butter, some of its meat and its milk.

Everybody of sense knows this. The newspapers, daily and hourly, are discussing the coming calamity. Europe, having gone war-mad and ceased to produce food, is in the market for food that we have produced. The food that we have produced—now as always in the hands of a few—is put up to the highest bidder. The speculators mount the auction block and ask how much they are offered for flour and sugar, meat and butter. Every woman who enters a market place with a basket is in competition with the monarchs of Europe. What they bid, she must pay, or go without. That is why flour and sugar leaped when Europe caught fire.

Since this situation arose, a deal of fire fury has been expended upon the price-raisers. President Wilson and the others have heaped scorn upon gentlemen who have seen fit to increase prices "at this time." President Wilson has even directed his attorney general to prosecute such persons as he can find who have conspired with others to increase prices. But the plain truth is that under the law, individual dealers have a right to increase prices as much as they wish, now or at any other time. The Sherman anti-trust law prohibits two or more persons from increasing prices, but individuals may do so as they please. They may sell in the best market—even if the market be abroad—and charge such prices as they wish, either here or abroad.

It is in the highest degree doubtful to our intelligent readers that permit the laws to stand as they are—but there the laws are. They are monstrous, but they are facts. Moreover, President Wilson recognizes their existence and approves them. President Wilson has shown that he recognizes the right of American speculators to buy up the nation's food supply and export as much of it as the European monarchs want. He has even endorsed a plan to help the speculators to enrich themselves by stripping the country. He wants Congress to appropriate approximately $250,000,000 from the public treasury to buy ships to carry the food away. He urges this action because so many foreign ships have been driven from the sea that, without help from the American government, Europe might not be able to take our food from us.

Now nothing is to be gained at this time or any other by impugning the motives of any man who is entitled to respectful consideration. I have no doubt that Mr. Wilson means well. My only criticism of him is that he does not do well. When unparalleled nation hunger is staring us in the face, we need not be much concerned with any man's intentions—even those of the president. What we want is to bring down the prices that began to rise when the first guns were fired in Europe—to keep those prices down and to keep our food here.

President Wilson proposes no remedy that will do more, even if entirely successful, than to send a few men to jail—sometime. With the country stripped of food, what good would do us to have a few men sent to for violation of the conspiracy of the Sherman law? We want men in jail—we want We have raised the food. in abundance than ever before, are likely to lose it. We are to lose it because European with their war-chests run billions of dollars, are able more than the wives of American farmers, who have but a few pieces with which to buy. The American people want to what the country produced this or they will have to act quickly Congress can be kept here it can be caused forthwith to enforbidding the exportation of foodstuffs. Too much time would required to bring pressure upon individual members of congress, but pressure can be brought upon the president. Draft a letter to the page is a draft of a letter to the president urging him to advise congress to prohibit the exportation of foodstuffs.

I earnestly urge every man or woman who reads this article to write this letter, sign it and mail it at once to the president. Bombard him with appeals to save the nation's food supply. Our readers, if they would, could send him hundreds of letters within the next ten days. A half million letters, received within ten days would bring results. Wilson wants to obey the public will. Let him know what is the public will.

Nor is the responsibility for unwise action entirely the president's. It would be almost criminally stupid to appropriate $20,000,000 of public funds to buy ships with which to take away the public's food supply—but stupid of whom? Stupid of the big and little capitalists who would profit at the expense of the country? Stupid of President Wilson?

The charge of stupidity would lie chiefly against the American people.

The American people, time and again, have expressed the opinion that the owner of property should have the right to dispose of it wherever he could do so to the greatest advantage to himself.

The American people have limited the owner's right to sell at the highest price only to the extent of forbidding him to conspire with others to increase prices.

The calamity that is staring us in the face is largely of our own making. We did not set Europe afame, but we created the conditions that seem likely to cause the flame to scorch us. We gave individuals the right, under the law, to buy the nation's food supply and sell it to the highest bidders, even if the highest bidders happened to be foreigners. We get now only because a great war of Europe has revealed to us the folly of our doctrine.

Americans should wake up. War broke upon Europe this summer, but the causes that brought about that war had been slowly operating for forty years. Causes have long been operating to bring about war in this country. Poverty has ever been a prolific cause of the worst of wars—wars between factions of the same nation. Year by year the struggle to get a living in this country becomes a little harder for the workers. For seven long years, now, work has been hard to get. Every winter shows a new high-water mark for enforced idleness. Almost every day shows some new mark reached by the high cost of living.

Mr. Roosevelt, when he was in office said he would give you relief—but he didn't.

Mr. Taft, when he was in office, said he would give you relief—but he didn't.

Mr. Wilson assured you that if you would elect him to the presidency with a democratic congress, that he and the congress would give you relief by reducing the tariff.

We Socialists told you that in no circumstances could a reduced tariff possibly help you.

We told you that if a reduced tariff should reduce the cost of living much or little that wages would be reduced accordingly.

Mr. Wilson told you that we were fools, precisely as Mr. Taft and Mr. Roosevelt had told you we were fools—but events have justified us in what we said. And events have developed as we said they would.

Now, we care not who may call us fools. We do not pretend to be overly bright. We are about like other men and that means that in most matters we are tolerably stupid. We pretend only to know an occasional fact when we see it. And the gigantic fact to which we daily call your attention is that two men cannot spend the same money at the same time. What the capitalist gets the worker cannot get. In a single industry—the railroads—capitalists extracted last year more than thirteen hundred millions of dollars that railway men had earned.

Capitalists do not knock working men down and take their wages away from them.

Capitalists do not enter the homes of workingmen at night and make away with the family jewels and silver.

Capitalists grab a large part of the products of labor by owning the industrial machinery with which labor works.

Whatever labor needs to produce wealth the capitalists lay hold of—mines, mills, railroads, raw materials, everything.

Which enables the capitalists to sit back and say to the people of the country: "If you want to work in your country you will have to make terms with us for the use of our raw materials and industrial machinery."

And, when the workers discuss terms, they discover that they can get no more wages than enough for a bare living, because there are so many more men than jobs that the choice is between a bare living and nothing. That enables the capitalists to keep the rest of labor's product and grow richer while their employes are fighting for the bare necessities of life.

Now, there are only two opinions as to this sort of a system. One is that the system is right and the other is that it is wrong. If you are not a Socialist, you are one of those who contend that the present system is all right. If the present system is all right, the hard times that we have been having for the last seven years are all right, and the national hunger that may sweep over the country next winter will be all right.

If the present system is all right, everything in this country is all right from Rockefeller's point of view. If the present system is all right, the political corruption is all right. All of the facts must be above criticism or complaint because all of them are the inevitable results of a system that compels millions of workers to give up their products to a handful of capitalists and then fight to get back enough to keep from starving. We do not believe none of these facts are right. We regard it as stupid for a great nation of a hundred million to permit a few men to own the industrial machinery of the nation. Without this industrial machinery we cannot live. We cannot produce the material things upon which the lives of our hundred millions depend.

But we do not need to indict the capitalist system. It indicts itself. It never permitted all of the people to work at the same time. It never feeds all that are willing to work. It never gives a decent living to those that work. Flour mills are shut down when the people need both work and flour. Shoe factories are shut down when the people need both work and the shoes. Railroads are running at half speed when the people need both the goods that the railroads could carry. Nothing is permitted to run unless it pays a profit to the capitalist owner. Unless he can graft off the workers he will not permit them to work. The people may ever so much need that the workers can produce—they may not work. They are told to go away until profits are in sight.

We are exceedingly foolish people to endure these things. We are especially foolish to endure them because of the capitalistic assurance that each of these things is right. We forget that the capitalists are interested parties. The capitalist system is doing for the capitalists what the capitalists want it to do. They have every reason to favor it. But since the capitalist system is not doing for us what we want it to do, we have every reason to oppose it. Capitalists do not take the world of the working class for anything, why should the working class take the world of the capitalist class for anything.

At present, the working class is about to be starved-pale by the capitalist class. The starving, if it shall be done, will be strictly according to the constitution and the statutes. Which way would you prefer to be starved, constitutionally or unconstitutionally? Would you feel any better if you were certain that whatever might befall you it would be in perfect harmony with the federal constitution?

Men and women who object to being starved in any fashion would do well to act at once. Write this letter, sign it and send it to the president. Let him know that American emphatically objects to being starved for the benefit of European kings and American grafters.

In 1850 25.6 per cent of all farms were operated by tenants; in 1890 28.4 per cent; in 1900 35.3 per cent; and in 1910 37 per cent.

90 per cent of all those engaged in farming are the victims of exploitation, and to as great an extent as wage workers in other industries.

WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENCE

Washington, Sept. 10.—Taking a new lease of life from the inspiration of the European war, the militarist movement in the United States is preparing to ask Congress at the next election for six battleships instead of two, for bigger coast defense appropriations, and for millions in money and authorizations to enlarge the military forces of the nation. It is probable that the per capita cost of war, which today has reached the sum of 4.10 will within two years and as a result of the conflict across the Atlantic, easily double itself.

Every peace movement in the United States except the labor, suffrage and Socialist movements retired to the rear when the sound of firing began, and the jingoists are that the "Peace Trust," dominated by Carnegie and the manufacturers of war munitions and exploiters of labor, will make little opposition to an advanced militarist program. President Wilson, who has suffered politically at the hands of the war interests because of his refusal to go into Mexico, is believed to be in sympathy with the policy of full preparedness.

Whatever the outcome of the European conflict, it is certain that Congress will order more battleships on the ground that our commerce, abnormally revived as a result of the paralysis of European trade, must have protection. In the event of the establishment of a Government owned merchant marine, or a Government encouraged but privately owned merchant marine, the militarists argue that it will be necessary to take steps to police trade routes with warships to preserve neutrality and to "keep the peace on the high seas." Everyone knows, of course, that a battleship is a better instrument for keeping the peace than an unarmored freight vessel.

The United States according to authorities at the War Department, has the finest system of coast and harbor defenses in the world. The militarists are planning to demand that Congress maintain this standard of efficiency and appropriate enough money to protect every mile of water line and make the seashore from Maine around to Oregon bristle with hidden guns. It is assumed that Congress will respond to this demand with great readiness. No matter which of the old parties controls the House and the Senate, the appropriations will undoubtedly be forthcoming.

The only obstacle which the militarists see to the success to their scheme for launching the United States on a policy of renewed extravagance is the opposition of the labor movement. This opposition, however, they deem weak, and are proceeding on the theory that with skilful press work they can break it down entirely or modify it to such a degree as to render it negligible.

SOCIALISM AND INSPIRATION

By Thomas W. Williams.

Socialism is the most inspiring thing in the world. It includes all that is good and eschews whatever is vicious and bad. It embraces every purpose making for the human uplift. It is not circumscribed by creed nor embarrassed by organization. Socialism is bigger than party and far beyond the power of man to destroy.

Socialism is a world power. It is the constructive forces of the universe unwinding the "Next Step." Socialism is the dream of tomorrow, the stimulus of today. It takes the individual outside of himself and overwhelms him with the bigness of the whole. His correlation with all other things is discovered. His interwoven interests with all other beings is revealed.

Socialism is the antithesis of selfishness and self aecondency. It is altruism made sane and practical. It does not destroy hope. It materializes anticipaton. It brings the goal within reach.

Socialism makes for better manhood. No man can live with Socialism who is not moved by high and lofty purpose. Its program is positive rather than negative. It displaces. It does not destroy. It creates. It does not annihilate. It rearranges. It brings things into relation. It reverses incentive.

Under Socialism the overcoming passion of the part of the individual will be to contribute instead of to receive; to bestow, rather than to acquire. Honor will be the reward of service, not self or gain. Men will not be happy in the selfish holding of something to the exclusion of others, but their joy will be full in mutual possession and interest.

The Socialist Party is organized to interpret Socialism. It is a voluntary organization, giving expression to the political phase. Socialism does not spring out of the Socialist Party. It is not dependent on the dictum of a few men nor is it circumscribed by party decrees. Socialism is a science. Socialists are merely students striving to master the science. The Socialist Party IS because Socialism WAS.

Socialism is all embracing. It is inclusive rather than exclusive. It is creative rather than destructive. It makes for peace rather than war. It begets love rather than hate. Socialism stands between the world and chaos. It is the one great star of hope in the dark night of capitalism. Socialism is the Universe working with man and man with the Universe.

"It Can't Be Done!"

A History of Impossibilities.

By Ed Meyer.

CHAPTER I.

Stone Hammer—Look at that crazy gink over there.

Sheep Skin—What's he up to?

S. H.—Oh, he's loony. He says its nonsense to run after deer in order to capture it. He says he can take a hickory stick, a strip of rawhide and another short stick with a sharp stone on one end and a feather on the other end and then send that second stick after the deer and get him! Can you beat it?

S. S.—Gee! His must be a nut! Whoever heard of such bunk? Why, it's against all laws of nature and human precedent! Don't we know from experience that the only way to get a deer is to run after him and catch him? Hickory stick! Sharp stone! Oh, fudge!

IT CAN'T BE DONE!

(But it was done.)

CHAPTER II.

(Later On.)

First Moss Back—Waddye know about that tool blacksmith

Second M. B.—What's the idea?

First M. B.—Why, tyhe blamed idiot says he is going to build an iron tube and put black powder in it and then shoot a lump of lead a hundred times as far as we now shoot an arrow from a bow! Ain't that the limit?

Second M. B.—Why, that fellow must be as crazy as they make 'em! Whoever heard of such a thing! It's against all reason and logic.

IT CAN'T BE DONE!

(However, it came to pass).

CHAPTER III.

(A Previous Date.)

Tree Dweller—Are you hep to the tool stunts that yap across the lake is up to?

Cliff Dweller—Why, no. Put me wise

T. D.—Why, the condemned simp says its all foolishness to straddle a log when you want to paddle your way across the lake. He says the sensible and scientific thing to do is to burn the inside out of that log, and then sit down inside of the log, instead of on top of it.

C. D.—It's a safe bet he's bughouse, all right. Haven't we and our ancestors always straddled a log when crossing the lake? Now comes the bloke and tells us we ought to sit inside the log instead of on top! Oh, a fifth!

IT CAN'T BE DONE!

(But the canoe arrived.)

CHAPTER IV.

(Some Time Later.)

First Fisherman—I've had my lamps on that cuss down in the cove.

Wots doin'?

Second F.—Aw, he's off his nut! He's got the dope that he's goin' to quit paddlin' his canoe; got an idea in his think tank that he will put a big stick up in his boat and hang a hide on it and make the wind take him where he wants to go.

First F.—Why, the poor mutt. Does he think he can get away with that? Don't we know from experience that the only way to move a canoe is to paddle it? A sailboat! Oh, shaw!

IT CAN'T BE DONE!

(But she sailed.)

CHAPTER V.

(Later Yet.)

First Bonehead—Get wise to this guy. He's got an idea that he can put the kibosh on the steam that comes from hot water, and then bottle it up in a machine and make that machine work! Get that! Isn't he bughouse?

Second B. H.—You bet he is! Why, there is no weight or power to steam. It floats in the air, a light as a fog. Great fogs steam! Isn't he going to it!

IT CAN'T BE DONE!

(But the engine turned over.)

CHAPTER VI.

(Further On.)

First Colonist—Say, there is a darned fool over at the Hudson river with a little ship he calls the Clermont. He has the fool idea in his bean that he can do away with sails and make the steam engine do the stunt!

Second C.—Do tell! Hasn't he any better sense than to know that while the steam engine is a limited proposition on land, it is impracticable and a fire on board ship? Take it from me, the Clermont will never move.

IT CAN'T BE DONE!

(But the Clermont did move.)

CHAPTER VII.

(Still Later.)

First American—Say, this fellow Langley, in Washington, D. C., is dead wrong. The idea of him saying that a human ring could learn to fly!

Second A.—Right! It's beyond the bounds of human possibilities to fly. Moreover, it is sacrilegious to fly. If the Lord ever wanted us to fly He would have created us with wings.

Human beings over fly? Never! IT CAN'T BE DONE!

(But they do fly now.)

(Hiskins's Note.)

Several hundred thousand chapters of the world's history are omitted from this work for the sake of brevity.

What the writer desires to point out is that in the progress of mankind a never falling series of cycles has taken place. Here is what has happened in regular rotation:

One day, Ignorance says: "It can't Be Done!"

Next Day, Intelligence does it.

The following day, Ignorance says of something else: "It can't be done!"

The day after that, Intelligence makes Ignorance back up by doing the very thing that "could not be done!" And so we find it down through all ages, ignorance trying to hold humanity in darkness and Intelligence lifting mankind out of intellectual night into clear daylight—into ever brighter light.

To the non-Socialist who may happen to read the foregoing the writer wishes to point out that the Ignorance which says the interests of Labor and capital are identical is the very same ignorance which says "Socialism is impossible."

On the other hand, it is the extremely superior Intelligence of twenty million (20,000,000) Socialists in the world today who say that the interests of labor and capital are absolutely opposed to each other It is the same massed Intelligence that says we are even now about to realize the fulfillment of this "beautiful dream" which would always "remain a dream!"

Now, Mr. Non-Socialist, which way are you betting? Do you back Ignorance to win?

If so, I place my money on Intelligence and give you heavy odds.

And, by the way, if you want to meet up with the highest grade of intelligence on earth today just cultivate the acquaintance of the Socialists. They have the history of humanity's evolution at their finger tips.

They and they alone understand why present conditions are as they are. They (the Socialists) and they alone know how to make the future as it should be—and will be.

When any one tells me (not knowing what they are talking about) that Socialism is "impossible," I think of the "impossibilities" Ignorance has set up all through the ages, and which Intelligence, with unerring aim, has every time wiped away like a set of ten pins on the bowling alley.

The Wet and Dry Question

Socialists agitate their minds over the "wet" and "dry" question, and in fact [illegible] Socialist class are thinking [illegible] so long as they can [illegible] over the matter, [illegible] essential to the movement, just [illegible] will they be able to work [illegible].

Personally, I take no part in the fight, [illegible] To me all business is bad business. Some business is worse than other business, [illegible] saloon will other real [illegible] is to abolish all forms of business and substitute co-operation.

The saloonkeeper, brewery owner and liquor dealer are bad exploiters and therefore my enemy.

The storekeeper, manufacturer, railroad owner, banker and farmer are all exploiters and therefore my enemy.

The saloonkeeper may be a good fellow, charitable and big hearted, and the prohibitionist may be mean or than gall broth, or vice versa, but both remain enemies of the working class.

I have been exploited by both pro and anti and I have never found one of them that demanded less of me for his money than the other.

I know men who drink that are good moral men. I know prohibitionists that I would not trust with one of the female gender two steps out of reach.

I am sold by the "wets" that it is a question of personal liberty. That is a joke. As long as capitalism collects a tribute for your doing business just so much of your personal liberty is taken away from you.

The prohibitionist tells me that it is a moral question. My friend, just so long as we have rent, interest and profit, just as long as we have one man or woman living off the labor of another, just that long will you be in a battle to correct morals. Why not get at the root of the trouble? Why fight the shadow when the cause is just at hand.

Speed the day when we have no drunkards, harlots and thieves. Speed the day when we have no slums and sweat shops. Speed the day when little children shall be taken from the mill and the factory and be restored to the freedom, that this system has robbed them of.

Let us present a solid and not a divided front to the capitalist class. Let us talk cause and not effect. Why fish for minnows when the [illegible] is full of whales?

BILL B. COOKE.

Then at this point I get real busy brushing the cobwebs out of the cranium of the dink who impersonates a phonograph reproducing a record recorded in his brain by the flutes—"Socialism is impossible!"

RETAILING THE DOGS.

From Judge.

A real estate man had been out in the country to look at a piece of property, and the old farmer accompanied him back to town to close up the deal. After traveling several miles the farmer was much surprised to see his dog crawl from under the seat, for he had no idea that it had followed him. As the train slowed up at a junction the farmer put the dog off the car and chased him away. "Wants you nice a dog to lose," remarked the real estate man. "Does he know the way home?"

"Does he?" echoed the old farmer. "Why, mister, I've sold that dog four times."

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[illegible]

WOMAN'S COLUMN

UNDER SOCIALISM THE HOME WILL NO LONGER BE A PLACE OF DRUDGERY.

By Ralph Korngold.

There are those who maintain that under Socialism woman will withdraw from active participation in industry and will, as of yore, confine activities to the home.

There are some who even made the statement that under Socialism women will not be permitted to work in industry.

If this were so, then, indeed, Socialism would have but little to offer womankind. It would be narrowing, instead of widening to her sphere.

Nothing of the kind will, however, take place.

Women have entered industrial life to stay.

No doubt their position in present day industrial society is often harmful and degrading, but the harm and degradation are not a necessary part of industry.

Capitalism, not industry, is responsible for these.

I believe it more than probable that women will continue to enter the trades and professions in greater and greater numbers and that Socialism will give an unusually strong impetus to woman's idustrial activity.

If the present evolution of home activities continues, as no doubt it will, there will not be enough labor in the ordinary home to keep an able bodied woman busy.

Consequently there will be but two alternatives for women—to become either industrial workers or social parasites.

Even today the kindergarten, the public school, steam heat, steam laundries, vacuum cleaners, etc., leave the average woman of the well-to-do middle class with altogether too much time on her hands for bridge-whist and gossip.

There is every evidence that the kitchen range, the "altar of the home," is next in line for disappearance.

This may sound revolutionary to some, but so would the prediction of the disappearance of the spinning wheel have sounded to our grandmothers.

It should not be forgotten that under Socialism all the most modern devices for simplifying or altogether eliminating housework will be at the command of every woman.

The home under Socialism will cease to be a work shop, a place of drudgery, and will become the gathering place for the members of the family after the day's labors are preformed.

SOCIALISTS DOMINATE IN WAR'S RELIEF WORK.

London.—(By Mail).—How completely the Socialists and trade unions are dominating the distribution of relief to those left in poverty by war, is shown by the appointment of Miss Mary MacArthur as the honorary secretary of the new women's employment committee. This committee is nominally appointed by the queen, but apparently was organized by the Socialists, as in addition to Miss MacArthur, Miss Margaret Bonfield and Dr. Marion Phillips, both active in the Socialist movement are among the members.

PIMENTO SANDWICHES.

One large can deviled ham or one-half pound cold boiled ham, four hard-boiled eggs, four pimentos and half a dozen olives. Chop all together or run through a food shopper and moisten with sufficient mayonnaise dressing to spread easily. Cut very thin, for making the sandwiches.—The Mother's Magazine.

AUTHOR, PLEASE?

A correspondent unsigns himself but wants to know. He wants to know who wrote:

"Oh, woman, in thine hour of ease,
Uncertain, coy and hard to please;
But in the shop, with work to do,
You get to work, and get it through."

—Rush.

OKLAHOMA STATE NOTES

GRAND RALLY.

Total 23 locals with a membership of 193 and 5 members at large.

The Socialists of Coal County will hold a grand rally at Coalgate, on Saturday, September 12th 1914. A splendid program has been provided. Speaking both afternoon and evening. Comrade G. G. Hamilton will be one of the speakers. Every Comrade in the county is expected to attend and take part in the parade. The Coalgate Cornet band has been secured to lead the parade. Banners declaring the Socialist attitude towards war and the present capitalist system have been provided for the occasion. Every comrade in the country is urged to attend.

DWIGHT SPENCER,
Coalgate, Okla., Co. Secy.

SPEAKERS, DATES, ETC.

We have a letter from Comrade T. A. Hickey, State Secretary of Texas, advising this office that Comrade John A. Currie, of San Antonio, would invade the great commonwealth of Oklahoma in the near future. He is about to cross the Texas line. September 5th is the date set. We know Comrade Currie to be a red hot, all fired good speaker. To say that we extend to him the glad mitt is unnecessary. Come on comrades, give Currie all the dates he dan fill during his stay wth us. He is one of the kind we need in this fight. He will be with us several weeks.

Comrade Frank Ryan, of Okemah, Oklahoma, is preparing a list of dates for the month of October, and will be glad to arrange with you for most any kind of field, organization, picnic or encampment work. Comrade Ryan is certain to do much good in any locality covered by him. We need every speaker that can be secured for the coming campaign. Let us keep them all busy.

DATES WANTED.

I want 20 dates in the 7th Congressional District for H. G. Creel, beginning October 15th, 1914. Terms, $.00 per lecture. We pay all other expenses. Address H. H. Stallard, Snyder, Okla.

We are pleased to inform the comrades of Oklahoma that Comrade S. Stair, of Walter, Okla., will enter the fight for victory as a speaker and organizer. Comrade Stair has been engaged in preaching the gospel for over 15 years. He is a member of the Christian Socialist. He has a splendid voice, is a rapid and convincing speaker, and a man above reproach. He ha the profound respect of every one having the pleasner; one of the men we need to bring victory this fall. Comrade Stair is anxious to secure dates for every day from now until the close of the campaign. His terms are as low as could be asked. Those desiring him may address,

J. W. SMITH, Co. Secy.
Walter, Okla.

Comrade H. H. Stallard has arranged to scpeak as follows: Hollis, Sept. 19th, 2 p. m.; Vinson, 20th, 2 p. m.; Carl, 20th, p. m.; Reed, 21st, 8 p. m.; Thompson School House, 22nd, 8 p. m.; Deer Creek, 23rd, 8 p. m.; Brinkman, 24th, 8 p. m.

A WORD FROM WOODWARD COUNTY.

On behalf of the Comrades of Woodward county I wish to make some report of our work. We have a full ticket (except Judge) in the field. Our chances for success are very favorable. In 1912 there were 3,037 votes cast in the county. 538 of these were Socialists. An addition of 300 votes would place us in a position to hope for victory, and give the State ticket a great boost. Our political organization is nearly complete. Watchers and Counters have been arranged for. Our last County Convention appointed a campaign committee. This committee has arranged to stump the entire county and organize locals where ever possible. Every voter in the county will be fully informed of the objects of Socialism, and what it is offering to the workers of the State. With hundreds of our voters informed for the first time, and fully advised of their interests, we can reasonably expect to double our vote of 1912. There are four (4) tickets in the field. Let every Socialist devote every minute of his spare time to the business of Socialism. The opportunity to expose the corruptness of old party methods must not be over looked. We have arranged to put on the greatest campaign ever known in Woodward County. Let us have your moral and financial support.

Yours for Victory in November.
THE COMMITTEE.

Socialist Week In America

By A. M. Simons.

The need for special effort on the part of Socialists is a thousandfold greater now than it was when the National Convention of the Socialist Party set aside the first week in September for a time of extraordinary effort.

The world wide upheavel that is now tossing social institutions as straws are tossed in a tempest forecasts the quick coming of the time when these institutions will be recast and Socialism must provide the forms in which they will be cast.

Already Congress and the whole public are rushing toward remedies outlined by Socialists. A national embargo on exports, seizure of food supplies, national operation of great transportation systems on the ocean—all these show the Socialists have chartered the road society must follow in this emergency.

We can move the United States further towards Socialism in the next three months than it has gone in the past twenty years if we but grasp the opportunity that has been forced upon us.

WE MUST MAKE HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF SOCIALISTS IN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS

We must draw upon every resource at our command and strain every energy for the protection of life as energies are now being strained for the taking of life on the battle fields of Europe.

On the number of people to whom Socialists can speak through their press during the days that will come swiftly now, depends not only the future of the Socialist movement, but of society itself.

Every Socialist paper will be doing its share in those days and every Socialist Local and individual Socialist must join in the effort to make this time the first step in the tremendous upward sweep of Socialism that must come as the suicide of Capitalism which is now in progress, reaches its final stages.

It seems like a little thing, perhaps, in such a time to talk of the need of new subscribers for Socialist publications. But getting these subscribers is enlisting new recruits for the army of the Social Revolution. It is bringing them within reach of the knowledge that must drill them for the work before them.

Arrange, then, to canvass every worker in your neighborhood. Send for subscription blanks. See that special meetings are held at which the work of extending the circulation of the Socialist press is presented.

This is a responsibility and a duty such as will never press upon us again. On how well we meet it determines the question of how much our Socialism really means to us.

ASK HIM ABOUT IT.

Now is a good time to ask what the old party candidates propose to do about the war being made upon the stomachs and backs of the men, women and children of America. What will the Republican, Democratic and Progressive nominees do about high prices if they are elected?

Will they do just what they have always done—nothing? Will they only pretend to "investigate" and "regulate?"

This question is much more important to the voters of this country than the queston of "standpat" and "progressive." It comes much closer home than the question of "commissions."

The Socialists propose that the cities, states and nation shall establish markets and operate the lines of transportation to deliver goods to the people at a price that will insure good wages to those who have done the work on such goods, but will include no profit to idle owners.

Socialists propose that no supplies shall go to the war zone while they are needed in the peace zone.

Nobody denies that these measures will bing relief. Nobody claims that any others will meet the emergency.

Yet the only political party that is pressing these measures is the Socialist party.

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Unions of Australia Driven to Unite by Employers' Attacks

By W. T. Mills.

Some five years ago all the large employers in New Zealand suddenly became the champions of arbitration. Before then they had been its bitter enemies. But at last they had taken complete control, both of the law and of its administration. Labor had been trained into taking what it could get from a court of that sort and not one of its organizations was making a straight fight for anything in any other way.

Then a strike occurred in a mining camp in a battle for more than 15 minutes in which to eat the midday meal, and the strikers were sent to jail by a court which took for itself two hours in which to eat dinner during the trial which resulted in the jailing of the striking miners.

Factional War Followed.

The jailed men started a new movement. It grew into a fighting federation. The larger share of the labor unions held aloof. Serious factional war followed. This was at its height when I came to New Zealand for a six weeks' lecture engagement. I was engaged to remain for a six months' campaign in behalf of unity. A widespread interest was taken in the proposals. The necessity was most evident, but the time was not ripe. A year of active and seemingly fruitless labor passed.

Then a strike in a gold mining camp was started. The strikers said that it was to defend the existence of their organization. The employers said that they were friendly to labor unions and that the quarrel was with I. W. W.-ism only. There were I. W. W. missionaries on the ground in sufficient numbers to give some color to this claim. Factional feeling was very strong and the solidarity of the workers was not realized until too late in the battle.

Lawlessly Driven Out.

But the creation of a bogus union, the importing of thugs, the lawless use of the police and finally the wholesale driving out of the district of all the striking miners by an imported mob, acting under police protection, put an end to all reasonable doubt as to the real nature of the conflict.

A second unity conference was called, this time by the very unions which had refused to participate in the proceedings of a previous conference was quite largely attended. But still the larger share of the trade unions of the country were not represented. After a prolonged discussion the conferece voted almost unanimously not to take action at that time, but to call a general congress of all labor bodies throughout the country to meet six months later.

Plan Was to Fight.

The call was addressed to both political and industrial organizations and the purpose of the congress was plainly stated to be to form a single national federation of all unions and a single political party to fight all the battles of labor.

That congress was held in July, 1913, and was the largest and most representative body of labor ever gathered in New Zealand. It created the United Federation of Labor and the Social-Democratic party. Immediately the unions began to affiliate with both the industrial and the political organizations in large numbers.

In the political organization both affiliated labor unions and local party branches were given representation on the national executive board, in the local district councils and in the annual congress of the party.

Affiliated Body Grew.

I was made the national organizer of the Social-Democratic party. For many weeks we averaged more than one new affiliated body for every day on the calendar. Two bye-elections in certain parliamentary districts, were fought in close succession. It fell to me in both istances to organize and to direct these partliamentary campaigns.

In both cases we elected our man and in spite of the combined opposition of all other parties. Two members of parliament who had been across the floor and joined our party so that within four months after the creation of our party we were represented by four members in parliament.

Several municipal battles have been fought and at this writing we have so far elected every cadidate for every office which we have consented to contest.

Employers Force Fight.

The United Federation of Labor was alike prosperous. For three months only were we permitted to push our organization campaign. Then the employers forced a battle which led at once to the most serious industrial controversy in the history of New Zealand.—The Leader.

Why We Are Where We Are.

W. M. Doyle.

"Do I know you? I know you clear through. I was born and raised in the south and I've lived in the north; so I know the average all around. **The average man's a coward.** In the north he lets anybody walk over him that wants to and then goes home and prays for an humble spirit to bear it. In the south, one man, all by himself, has stopped a stage full of men in the day time and robbed the lot. Your newspapers call you a brave people so much that you think you are braver than any other people—whereas you're just as brave and no braver. The pitifullest thing out is a mob; that's what an army is—a mob; they don't fight with the courage that is born in them but with the courage that borrows from their mass, and from their officers. But a mob without any man at the head of it is beneath pitifullness. Now the thing for you to do is to drop your tails and go home and crawl in a hole. If any real lynching's going to be done, it will be done in the dark, Southern fashion. And when they come, they'll bring their masks and fetch a MAN along. Now leave—and take your half a man with you," tossing his gun up across his left arm and cocking it as he says this.

"The crowd washed back sudden and then broke all apart, and went tearing off every which way, and Busk Harkness, he heeled it after them, looking tolerable cheap. 'I could have stayed if I wanted to, but I didn't want to.' "

The above is part of a speech made by one of the characters in Mark Twain's immortal book "Huckleberry Finn." Colonel Sherburne, a leading citizen, has just shot down the town drunkard of a little Mississippi village of "befo the wah," for grossly insulting him and shortly after the crowd surrounds his home to lynch him.

The characters are all imaginary, but true to life, drawn by a master hand.

These words, penned forty years ago, depicting a people of bygone time are just as true as they were when written.

North or south the average mas is the same—a COWARD.

And yet, who or what shall we blame for this condition—a condition which has us as we are, a nation of slaves.

In the Good Book we are told of how the spies were sent out by the Leader of the Children of Israel to bring back tidings of the Promised Land. They returned and told of the mighty men they saw there and how they fell, they "were as grasshoppers in their sight." In consequence of this report, the Israelites wandered for forty years in the desert—for what? Until the grown men of Israel whose spirits had been broken and courage annihilated by the terrible slavery they and their forefathers had endured for four hundred years, were all dead and their places filled by the Youth of Israel, brought up in the freedom of the desert and made hardy and courageous by the perils of their wandering life.

For thousands of years there has been going on in this old world of ours what may be called 'negative selection'—the survival of the unfit. The strongest, hardiest, most robust and virile, and therefore the most courageous of men of each generation have, for thousands of years, been selected and slaughtered on the field of battle or died of nameless and numberless diseases during the campaigns waged for the aggrandizement of the ruling classes. Edmond Burke asserted that not less than 3,500,000,000 have been killed in war since the beginning of history; it is estimated that, beginning with wars of Napoleon, one hundred million men have lost their lives in war up to the present time.

Who, then, is left to propagate the race?

Always the unfit, the puny, the sickly, the undersized, and the undeveloped and the cowardly who were not drafted into the armies; or who by some means, escaped the whirlpool of war; and coming back from these wars were men diseased and disabled in every imaginable manner; with shattered constitutions and ruined morals. From these have we active selection of war were not descended. And as though this neg- enough there has been going on relentlessly war or no war, a further weeding out of the couragous, by the established churches in all the ages. of those who in any way have dared to show the least sign of independence or desire for liberty and freedom.

Today we have a world populated by a mass of humanity degraded, brutalized, superstitions, bigoted, vile and COWARDLY.

Constantly we ask ourselves why we make so little progress in the Socialist movement; why our party membership does not grow and etc., and etc. Simply because of this working out of this process of "negative selection."

Those who today display their courage by joining in so unpopular a movement as the Socialist party represents are what scientists would call "throw-backs" or "sports." In other words, they are not the natural product of the human race as constituted today. They have Courage, and having such they are reversions back to an ancient type of man, much the same as we sometimes see a decided brunette crop out in a family which, for generations, has produced only blonds.

The mass of humanity feel "as grasshoppers" in the sight of the enemy. Mark Twain might have made Colonel Shernburn add to his generalization and included "East and West," for wherever one goes, all are alike.

Perhaps some sweet day the "grasshoppers" will have died out so let us give thanks that we have one hundred and ten thousand "sports" registered in the Socialist party of the United States and keep on agitating and educating in the hope that a few more "sports" will crop up now and then and register with us in the Battle for Human Freedom.

JOIN THE PARTY

At the cose of the lecture some one comes from the audience, shakes me warmly by the hand and says:

"That's right! I'm with you! That's what I believe! I'm a Socialist!"

Taught by long experience, I say:

"Member of the party?"

"No—I'm not a member of the party, but I believe in Socialism; I'm a Socialist."

And then I am obliged to say.

"Pradon me, brother; If you're not a member of the Socialist party you are not a Socialist. Only those that are willing to stand up and be counted are really Socialists. You know, sympathy is a fine thing, but it doesn't get very far in this fight. If you believe with us, why don't you join?"

And then follows in every instance one of the following formulas of excuse:

1. "I don't like to tie myself up to one organization."

2. "I don't like to pledge myself not to vote any other ticket. Some good man might be nominated by another party and I might want to vote for him."

3. "I like to be free and independent to do as I think best."

4. "The party management doesn't suit me."

I ought to have a lot of patience with this sort of fol-de-rol, for the plain truth is that I marked time myself for about ten years under the same sort of dull delusion. I knew well enough that my duty was to join the party and take my place with the men and women that were fighting the battle and I stood off and looked on; possessed with the idea that I wanted to be independent and "vote for a good man." I never found the good man to vote for, but I was always under the belief that he would turn up some day and if I couldn't vote for him I should lose something precious.

The fact is, there is nothing in all these objections but a kind of intellectual cowardice or a kind of intellectual snobbery or both.

If a man has the slighest idea of the sacrifices that are being made in this cause, he ought to think shame to stand aloof and let someone else fight for him. Take these women of the party. Not one of them that is not ready to work until she drops, to endure ostracism, to give up comfort and leisure for a purely unselfish inspiration. A man must be strangely made if he can stand by and be inert while they endure. To tell the truth, I never see them at their work without sinking pretty small when I reflect on the time when I played the lummax and let such as they pay my dues and bear my share in the conflict. If a man really cares anything about the cause or any part of it, he will save himself uncomfortable sensations hereafter if he will waste no more time, but come in and take up his place in the ranks. He may not be able to do much; none of us do what we ought; but at least he will save his soul from the reproach of shirking and with more knowledge and information as he gets older he will find that sore.

And there is nothing at all in this idea of preserving an individual freedom by remaining outside of the party. I ought to know. I tried it. There is no "good man" good enough to vote for if he is not a candidate of the Socialist Party. Let him be as the snow, and as lofty of spirit as an angel, and he will accomplish nothing except through Socialism. Under the capitalistic organization, the est man that ever lived is, in office, just like the worst. I have seen and watched about as many different reform movements as there are hairs on a dog, and I never yet could detect any difference, no matter how good the reformer might be.

And if the good man that you are dreaming of really represents any good cause, it is embraced in Socialism and can be much more advanced by voting the Socialist ticket. Every Socialist vote is closed with a potency far beyond all the reform movements put together. It is the Socialist vote that the powers of evil watch and fear. As they see it mounting they make haste to take the action that they think will divert the working-class from uniting for its emancipation, and whatever has been gained for that class in this country has been gained chiefly through this influence.

Of those that object to "tying themselves" to one organization, I should like to know how otherwise but by organization shall progress be made? Without close union in a coherent, disciplined, definitely purposed organization, all effort for better conditions becomes merely futile and all radicals are what Bismarck used to call "a mob of fighting persons."

Organization is the corner-stone and no less the keystone of success, if we are to win it. I think that the man that holds out on this ground is no radical and no real sympathizer with progress, but just as a great egostist with some idea of winning glory or distinction or making money from the radical movement. With such there is the least call to be patient. The essence of this thing is the common good, and if a man does not feel that, he doesn't feel any part of the cause, and had better cease to call himself a sympathizer.

All of the objections together are unworthy of adults. If this thing could make progress except by sacrifice it would give the lie to all human experience and all history. Some of those that are enlisted in it are sacrificing their lives, some their time, some their careers, some their positions, some the chance of provision against penury.

Compared with this record, the most wonderful of modern times, the sacrifice of a mere whim or prejudice or vanity about joining an organization looks small enough.

Anyway, I can tell all hesitating and doubtful brethren from my own experience that when they get inside the party all their doubts will disappear and they will regret the time they wasted outside. If a man does nothing more than pay his monthly dues, I believe that he is doing more for humanity that all the reformers and philanthropists in the world. And the satisfaction of feeling that he no longer shirks, that he has taken his place that he has professed his faith and stands in the ranks without sulking around the sutler's wagons, is beyond all computation.

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FATHER JONES COLUMN

THE PAUPER'S VISION.

"And as they thus spake, Jesus himself stood in the midst of them."
—Luke 24:36.

Only a pauper, feeble, old and grey,
Come to the wood lot at the close of day,
One of the many at the county farm,
Comes he alone in secret here to pray
It was his daily tryst. With bended knee,
His toil hard hand, in faith, are raised to God.
To sight, alone the plain pine box appears,
And end, the narrow berth beneath the sod.
His past, are years of toil. All children dead.
The cruel world, so cold, seems dark and drear,
But struggling faith—the drowning grasp at straws—
And in the darkness, seeks some comfort here.
But as he prays, a form beside him stands,
And other hardened palms in his he clasps.
'Twixt faith and doubt, he falters in his speech,
"Who art thou?" in surprised fear he gasps.
"One, who like thee, gave to the world his toil,
And had, like thee, not where to lay his head,
Like thee, whom mammon vain did tempt to serve,
And for the same was killed, but is not dead."
And as he gazed, behold! his hands were pierced,
His brow with mark of thorns was marred and bled.
"Fear not. For such as thee, I bled, and love;
I call thee brother, friend," he gently said.
And o'er the pauper fell, a peace sublime,
He gazed in love, and blessed his daily tryst,
For here before him stood, the one he'd hoped
Some time to see. Behold! It was the Christ.

THE IQUIQUE MASSACRE.

Nothing is news until it is found out. The Iquique, Chile, South America, massacre was not given out as news, even in Chile itself, and in Argentine, until the "soap boxers" sent out by the Iquique organization could tell the people the facts and their little 48 page pamphlet, (a copy of which lies before me), had been spread over south Chile, Argentine, and Uruguay. Even the middle class, a nd the very editors of the local papers, found that the news sent out by the masters was utterly false and deliberate lies. The 140 who were shot down by the machine guns in Iquique, women and children being among them, was a sad price to pay, but since these gave their lives, the union of the workers has been almost complete, where before, it was neglible, and best of all these new unions were organized by, and dominated by a Socialist majority, until in Chile and Argentine today, ot be a trade unionist is recognized to be equivalent to being a Socialist.

Iquique, Chile is the Chilean nitre district center, and the country all around is desert, thus it is easy to monopolize the food supplies. This was the cause of the big strike all over the Department of Tatapaca, in December, 1907, now six years and one month ago. Between six and seven thousand strikers came down to Iquique from the Pampa, and on December 21st a mass meeting was called at the Club Hopico. This mass meetings was interdicted and commanded by proclamation of the Intendente, or Governor of the district, and soldiers w ere placed on guard thereabouts. Some were intimidated, but 5000 strikers filled the big hall or pavillion, and 2000 unable to get in were on the outside. Sailors and marines form the Esmeralda with two machine guns, added to the garrison of the city, gave about 500 troops, part of which was a small company of cavalry. Their officers ordered the 200 to disperse but only a few left the crowd. Then the machine guns opened fire and 140 were shot down.

The strikers were not armed, but with a few revolvers and a rifle or two. Three soldiers, two sailors, and two cavalry horses were killed, and with stones and other missiles thrown by hand some 100 soldiers were wounded more or less, some seriously. This roused the city, men grabbed rifles,pistols,matchets, butcher knives, anything. The small shopkeepers, the women, in fact the city rose and 12,000 angry people crowded around the 480 soldiers and sailors, called them murderers, traitors, cowards and all kinds of things and dared them to fire on them. "If you fire on us, we'll set the city afire, we'll beat your brains out with the butts of your own guns, and feed your bodies to the fish." The officers urged the men to fire, but they would not, and so they had to be marched back aboard, and to their barracks. It's a wonder the city was not burned, but the leaders of the strikers kept their heads. The masters saw that false and lying reports were sent out, but a sheet was published a nd sent out by the strikers committee, later a pamphlet, and then as the moevement got stronger under the Socialist leadership, soap boxers were sent out to organize the workers. These penetrated to Argentine, and the Argentine comrades took the word over to Uraguay and they to Brazil.

Today in Iquique, a city of between fifty and sixty thousand there is a daily Socialst paper, and the whole Department of Tatapaca is organized and organizers are in Atacama Tacua and Tacna Departments Not only this, but women's anti-clerical clubs have spread all over Chile, up into Peru over into Argentine, and Uraguay, and women's monthlies and weeklies are published. One in Iquique is published weekly with cartoons and all the work s done by women.

All this is legitimately the harvest from the blood of the 140 who laid down their lives December 21st, 1907. In six years and one month, this sowing of the bodies and blood of these martyrs of labor has given the Socialists party a place in Chile, the third party, and in Argentine and Uraguay, of the second parties. Can't be that the blood of our comrades is demanded to start a revival here in the United States? If it is, I for one am ready to offer myself that those who come after may be awakened and grasp the freedom, liberty, plenty and future peace that is within reach but only needs be that the people awake from their dreams.

BOOMERANGS.

A rich man's son had the habit of taking his lady friend out for a ride along the country road. He thought himself smart and would make fun of the farm hands.

On one occasion he drove by a cornfield where a boy was cultivating corn. The season was dry and dusty, consequently the farm boy looked rather untidy and his patched clothes soiled. As he came out at the end of the cornfield the city man pulled up.

"Say, kid, that corn looks pretty yellow."

"Yes," replied the boy, "we planted the yellow kind."

"Well," said the city man, "that's not what I mean. It looks poor and weak. You won't get more than half a crop, will you?"

"We don't expect to," replied the boy, "we put this in on shares."

"Say, said the city man, "you are pretty bright. Lived here all your life?"

"Not yet," replied the boy.

By this time the city man was getting pretty well rattled. His lady friend was laughing with the boy.

"Say, kid, you are pretty smart, but there isn't much between you and a fool."

"Only the wire fence," replied the

QUIZ IN MILWAUKEE BRINGS OUT ECONOMIC CAUSES OF VICE.

Witnesses before the Legislative cimmittee on white slavery pointed out the following as some of the causes of vice:

Domestics have little or no recreation. What they have is secured on the streets and in the palm gardens.

Long hours, low wages and poor food for the domestics and other working girls.

Inability of young men to get married because of the high cost of living.

The double standard of morality.

The employment of young girls as chambermaids in hotels.

Unemploment.

Inability of poor girls to satisfy their desire for good clothes, good homes and recreation.

Bad housing conditions.

Lack of parental supervision.

Drink and unregulated dance halls.

Attitude of employers toward female employes.

Young girls and unescorted women being allowed to visit palm gardens.

A tank with a capacity of nearly 1,000,000 gallons has been ordered from the United States for the Peruvian oil fields at Zorritos, this being in addition to another large tank recently installed there.

YOUNG FOLKS COLUMN

GOOD FOR TRADE.

The boys came home with a gleeful shout,
"Oh mother, we've had such fun,"
But the mother heaved a very sigh,
She studied but yet she couldn't tell why,
The back of their pants were out.

The boys went forth with a gleeful shout,
And they thought they'd have more fun.
The mother had been to the store again,
She liked them tidy if they were plain,
The back of their pants were out.

Chorus—
The boys came home with gleeful shout
Which very soon turned to pain.
The mother had them all explain
Why the back of their pants were out.

So she got the strap and let it fall
Where the back of their pants were out.
No more of the shute the shute for them,
For now when tempted they still recall
When the back of their pants were out.

Moral—Mothers, see to it that they are provided with union-made overalls and also gunny sacks.—H. E. C.

TWO SMART HORSES.

A friend residing in New York City sends me for our young folks column an account of the intelligence of a horse in that city. He says that spurring his horse to catch a runaway on the Ocean Parkway in Brooklyn today, George Lachrer, policeman of the Parkville station, was thrown from the saddle, and cut and stunned, when his horse was downed by stepping on a trace dangling from the runaway's harness.

The police horse got up before Lachner and hurried to his master's side, who remounted, in spite of his injuries, and pursued the runaway three, miles, finally stopping it at Washington Avenue and Malbone Street. The runaway was still harnessed, but had rid itself of wagon and driver somewhere along the way.

I have in former contributions to our young folks told several stories illustrating the sagacity of horses. Here is one I never before sent to the printer. I know a family named Smith who resides in town. They owned a mare whose name was "Lady." She was often kept in a lot in the rear of the house. She had access to a back porch where a tin bucket was kept from which she was supplied with water. Every forenoon promptly at ten o'clock she went to the pail for her drink. Sometimes it was empty at which times "Lady" would rattle it and with her nose roll it about on the porch floor until some one came and filled it with water. One time Mrs. Smith neglected the bucket and was busy in the dining room, and did not answer the "Lady's" water signal, whereupon the mare walked up on the porch through the kitchen and into the dining room and whinnied. Mr. Smith usually came home to lunch about noon. "Lady" would watch for him and as he appeared around a street corner some two blocks distant, she would indulge in a vigorous whinney. She instantly recognize him though crowds of other men might be passing by. Lady unqestionably made use of reasoning powers and was very kind and gentle. Her mistress loves animals and they all seem to soon learn to love her.—R. A. Dague.

Young Socialist Column

STEALING AND BUSINESS.

A combination of facts showing what present inducements are to lead an honest life.

A man started in business for himself. He did not have much money to start with, and so instead of hiring help he took his boy from school and put him to work.

The boy was not satisfied to work without pay while other boys were getting wages, so he began to steal. He was caught and sent to prison.

When he got out again he stole more and was sent up for a longer term. Meanwhile the father suceeded in business He hired many men and boys and paid them for only a small part of what they produced, and consequently when ten years had gone by he was a rich and very much respected man.

Hearing that his wayward son had been released from prison and was trying hard to lead an honest life, he sent word to him to come and see him. The boy was overjoyed to hear that his father was willing to forgive him for his wrongdongs, and he came.

After warm greetings, the father said "Now, my son, I suppose you have found out that it does not pay to be dishonest, and that you are willing to lead a life of rectitude I will give you work in my factory and pay you twelve dollars per week. You should be able to save money on this handsome salary and work yourself up to a life o f comfort and independence. Now let us see what you are made of."

"But, father," said the boy, "how did you came to be so rich since I saw you last? Why is it that you do not have to work and you are able to live in such luxury?"

The father replied: "I got rich through business. I hired men and boys and girls and I made money off their work. I have a hundred men and children in my employ now, and I make a dollar profit a day from each one's work?"

"Then you make a hundred dollars per day without working," said the son. "But aren't you in danger of going to the pententiary for robbing working men dad?"

"What do you mean?" retorted the father. "This is not robbery it is business."

"Oh, I see. It is only called stealing and robbing when you take anything from the rich, and it is business when you take it away from the poor, and what you meant by rising to a higher level was for me to become a robber of the poor."

"My son, you are very irreverent toward your father, but since you have been confined since your childhood I will overlook your disrespectfulness. But you will have to learn that there is a difference between stealing and business.'

"If I hire a man for two dollars per day and he does four dollars worth of work for me, I am not robbing him because he agrees to work for two dollars."

"But why does he agree to work for two dollars, if he knows that his work is worth four?"

"He does not know it; or, if he does, he also knows that I can get others to do the work for two dollars, and therefore he accepts my price."

"But then you are either taking it from the workingman under cover of his own ignorance, or under cover of his helplessness like the highway robber takes it from his victim under the cover of darkness. The workingman is bound to take your half-pay or starve to death. What is that but robbery?"

The father grew impatient. "Now look here, son," he said, "this is business and not stealing nor robbery, and if you do not like it you can go back and spend the rest of your life where you have spent your past."

RHYMES OF REVOLT.

By Ivan Tharp Dowell.

Harpoons the pious rogues and drives the whole Roman gang up a cactus tree.

Just listen to this choice bit taken at random from a budget of stingers:

IN THE GARDEN OF GOD.
When Adam and Eva played make believe
In Eden the Garden of God.
Where the rivers flow from Jericho,
And none before had trod;
They knew no strife . . . . . .
. . . . . Till there came a priest
from the mystic east
With the first red ray of a morn
And Adam and Eve then did be-
Tween
And [illegible] 'twas fear was born.
[illegible]

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THE CRUSADER,
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ROOSEVELT'S CRITIC CRITICIZED

By R. A. Dague.

I have received a personal letter from a stranger who says he has recently begun a study of Socialism and requests me to inform him on what authority I have made certain published statements to the effect that the primitive Christians practiced communism. Taking it for granted that he is an honest seeker after the truth, I will herein refer him to some authorities. I do not feel at liberty to print his name, as his letter was a personal one. I have made the following extracts from his communication: He writes:

Montgomery, Ala., May 27.

Mr. R. A. Dague, Creston, Ia. My Dear Sir: I have recently become a student of Christian Socialism. Some papers were recently sent me by a friend who claims that as his fixed economic theory. Among the papers was The Milwaukee Leader of the nineteenth inst. In that appears your criticism of ex-President Roosevelt's "Letter from the Jungle," discussing Socialism as he found it in a South American Indian tribe. In your criticism you twice mention, in what appears to be a scornful spirit, the teachings of Jesus and his apostles regarding communism. Now, I am a reader of the Bible and I am writing to a sk that you will kindly point out to me the records of such teachings as you seem t o be quite bitter against them and have taken occasion to bring them in under scathing denunciation in an apparently uncalled-for way.

I have read somewhat widely, and have heard of attempts being made to set up communistic societies, but have never seen authority ascribed to Jesus and His disciples for such movements. Will appreciate an early reply. Sincerely, etc.,

JOHN F.

I am glad Mr. F. has written me All Socialists everywhere invite the most searching questionings in regard to their beliefs. They know that when an intelligent man or woman honestly begins to investigate Socialism from an honest desire to know the truth, that he will soon be soundly converted.

Native "Socialists."

Those who read my published criticism of ex-President Roosevelt will remember that he said in his article published in The Outlook, that he had found, in South America, a tribe of savage Indians who actually practiced advanced Socialism. He also said:

"Among these Indians applied Socialism has simply meant that any property acquired by anybody is shared with the worthless, idle and incompetent of the tribe."

In my reply to the colonel, I reminded him that the early Christians owned property in common, and have often been referred to as "communists," and that as he professed to be a true Christian, I would let him and the early followers of Jesus settle the matters between themselves whether they shared property equally with the shiftless, idle and incompetent, as he says is the practice with his "South American Indian Socialists."

And now my Christian friend of Montgomery calls for my authority for saying that the early Christians owned property in common.

The first a uthority I will quote he will find in the New Testament. We read in Acts IV. verse 34 and 35, the following:

"And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart, and of one soul; neither said any of them that ought of things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common. Neither was there any among them that lacked; for as many as were possessors of lands or houses, sold them and brought the prices of the things that were sold and laid them down at the apostles' feet; and distribution was maed unto every man according as he had need."

The following are quotations from the writings of the early fathers of the church:

Trenaus, one of the early church fathers, said (A. N. L., Div. 14. Sec. 11.):

"Labor is from God our Father. Cursed be he who shall reap where he hath not sown and eat bread which another hath earned. God hath truly ordained through our Elder Brother that all men shall be brothers and none shall take increase or tribute from another."

Said Tertullian: "All is common with us except women." Said St. Basil: "The rich man is a trief." Said St. Augustine: "Private property originated in usurpation. Property is not a natural right, but a positive right, founded simply on civil authority." Said St. Jerome: "Opulence is always the result of theft, if not committed by the actual possessor, then by his predecessors." Said St. Ambrose: "The soil was given to the rich and poor in common, wherefore, oh, ye rich, do you unjustly claim it for yourselves alone? Nature gave all things in common for the use of all, usurpation created private rights." Said St. Chrysostom: "The idea we should have of the rich and covetous—they are truly as robbers, who, standing in the public highway despoil the passers." * * *

St. Ambrose: "Property hath no rights. The earth is the Lord's and we are his offspring. The pagans hold earth as property. They do blaspheme God."—Ante-Nicene Library, Div. 4, Sec. 18, A. D., 180.

St. Cyprian: "No man shall be received into our commune who sayeth that the land may be sold. God's footstool is not property."—A. N. L., Div. 8, Sec. 44.

Tertulian: "Jesus was our man, God and brother. He restored unto all men what cruel murderers took from them by the sword. Christians have no master and no Christian shall be bound for bread and raiment. The land is no man's inheritance; none shall possess it as property."—A. N. L., Div 16, Sec. 8.

Other Authorities.

Rollins' Ancient History (London Edition), Vol. IV., Page 312, says:

"For over 200 years all Christians were communists, who held the land and waters, as well as all timbers and precious metals, in common. There were no superior ecclesiastics among them. The lot was cast deciding all questions, and the assembled commune judged all disputes; and when any decision was not well pleasing, the whole community passed on it and reversed or confirmed it according to the will of all. This bold Democracy was an inheritance from the Jews and was held in abhorrence by pagans who trafficked in land, and made profits from others' labors."

Bishop Lambert, in his reply to Col. Ingersoll (page 12), had the honesty to say:

"The great agnostic forgets that the Catholic church for the first 200 years stood for communists' rights and that the laborer received all the fruits of his toil."

Limited space forbids the quoting of other authorities, but the foregoing quotations are sufficient to prove to my Christian critic that I had sufficient evidence for the statement that the early Christians practiced communism.

Mr. F—— misunderstood me. I am not "bitter against the teaching of Jesus and the early Christians and bring them under scathing denunciation." On the contrary, I say Communism was practiced by Christians for about 300 years. Then Christianity was made a state religion aud was radically changed both in doctrine and practice. Before the time of the Emperor Constantine the Christian church was in truth the friend of working people and the poor. Under Constantine the rich pagans got control and "paganized" the church. They abolished property held in common and substituted private ownership; they charged usury and monopolized public untilities; they promoted wars, enslaved prisoners, engaged in the slave trade, bought and sold slaves, persecuted Jews, upheld bloody kings and tyrants and built up colossal private riches by ex ploiting the working people. Reliable historians say that according to the early church fathers, avarice was one of the greatest of crimes. Usury, lending money at interest, was strictly forbidden.

Christian Communism.

Early Christian communism and modern Socialist agree in many respects. Here is the only difference between them, viz:

Communism says: Property of all kinds should be owned by the community and used in common by all. There should be no privately-owned property.

Socialism says: Only that kind of property that is of public utility, necessary for the public to own in order to carry on civilization, should be owned collectively; and that class of property not of public necessity or utility may be owned individually, such as houses, carriages, clothing—in short, all nonproductive property. That should be owned and used by those who honestly earn it.

Communism includes all the doctrines of Socialism and then goes a step farther and makes it a religious system.

Socialism is essentially an industrial, economic, social and political system and makes no pretension to being a religion, and yet the Encyclopedia Britianica says: "The ethics of Socialism are identical with the ethics of Christianity."

That noble Christian woman, Francis E. Willard said: "Socialism is practical Christianity. It is God's way out of the wilderness." I assure my Christian critic that I had no intention of casting any slur on the communism of Jesus and the early Christians. No intelligent Socialist would indulge in "scathing de-[illegible] of those primit[ive] Christians who championed the economic and industrial princ[iples] for which Socialists contend [My] friend, it was Col. Roosevelt, who [in] his apparent desire to prejudice people against Socialism, did [illegible] cast an insulting slur on the teachings and practice of Jesus, whose follower he professes to be, but [who] is rather a disciple of the pagan [illegible] Constantine, who compelled the Christians to abandon their communistic practices and follow pagan rules of business. For brotherhood, and peace, and business, taught by Jesus Constantine substituted competition, strife, speculation, slavery, war and the private ownership of everything the crafty and powerful could grab from his weaker neighbor; and Constantine's system of economics has continued to this day. Jesus said, "If your neighbor asks you for your coat, give him your cloak also." He said: "Blessed are the peace makers." Col. Roosevelt believes in competition, war and killing and says that talk about brotherhood and peace is meant only for the shiftless, idle, incompetents and the "molly coddles."

I suggest to my Alabama Christian brother that he would better get after the colonel with a "big stick" for going into print and making the insulting charge against both primitive Christians and modern Socialists by comparing them to a tribe of half-naked, uncivilized Indian savages who inhabit the jungles of South America.

Through mistake the credit for the article "Mexico's Emperors" in Aug. 29 issue was given to R. A. Dague instead of Milwaukee Leader.

Because a man is out of a job or shabby is no reason for supposing that he is inferior or vicious. A whole-souled man may wear a ragged coat. You cannot judge the contents of a man's heart by looking in his pocketbook. Many a poor man would rather remain poor all his life than wade to success through the blood of women and children.

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