

Primary Elections

Senate Bill No. 79 Impedes Free Choice of the People--Vote It Down.

Senate Bill No. 79, establishing "direct primaries in the various counties throughout the state of Montana, is one of those "safely guarded" laws passed by the last legislative assembly that ought to be embalmed and then placed on exhibition on one of the walks leading to the state capitol, as a monument of the villany to which the "representatives of the people (?) always resort when endeavoring to fulfil their ante-election pledges to the public.

"Direct" Promises.

Prior to the last election, most parties in the state favored direct primaries, direct legislation, and direct railroad supervision. The dear people took them at their word and sent them to Helena to enact their promises into law. When they got to Helena they proceeded to hire all the female clerks in the state to aid them in their momentous undertaking. After making all kinds of appropriations for their material comforts at the capitol, they finally, about the end of the session, got down to a hurried fulfilment of their pledges.

The dignified and august Senate tackled the direct primary proposition. The House concurred in their action, and J. K. Toole approved it as governor of the state.

Senate a Fossil.

The Senate is a fossil of privilege at best, and the common people should always be suspicious of its work. Nobody is surprised at Joe Toole signing such a bill as Senate Bill No. 79. Joe went into a fusion convention and promised that convention everything on the calendar, and after election never kept a single promise. Why such an imposter as that would sign Senate Bill No. 79 is easy to comprehend. The Senate, the House and the governor were the creatures of corporations and special privileges. To pass a direct primary law that would be just and honest would never do—hence that abortive thing known as Senate Bill No. 79.

Not Apply to State.

The act does not apply to the state but only to counties and cities. United States senators, congressmen, state officers, school officers, and judges are exempt. These must be nominated under the old law. All others may be nominated by direct primaries.

Under the direct primary act, John Doe, for instance, must first run around the community and secure a certain number of nomination papers. Each nomination paper must be sworn to. Here is a graft for some tin-horn lawyer. Three per cent of the total vote of his party must be secured. If there are ten thousand democratic votes in Silver Bow the candidate for coroner must secure three hundred sworn nomination papers, each one accompanied by an affidavit. Suppose each affidavit cost half a dollar poor old John Doe would be out \$150 for the privilege of having his name placed upon the official ballot to be voted on in the primary, and then poor old John Doe may not be able to get 10 votes in the primary. If the 300 men who promised him his support failed to vote for him the law does not provide for their punishment. It is a poor law that cuts the poor man out of the race for office—and Senate Bill 79 is the poorest of the poor. It is a rich man's law. It abolishes nomina-

tions by mass meeting. It abolishes the nomination of anybody on any ticket where such tickets had received no previous vote for presidential elector.

Man With Money.

This law is one that compels the man to hunt the office, instead of the office hunting the man. The man with money has the advantage. The poor man has none. Of all pieces of legislation passed by the legislative assembly of Montana this Senate Bill No. 79 is the most favorable to corporate interests. Its whole intent is to suppress new parties, and prevent them from entering the political arena. The law hasn't got a redeeming feature about it. It does not undertake to do away with any form of corrupt practices.

Limitless Corruption.

The endless chain racket can be used to advantage here. The men who will be nominated under this direct primary abortion will be the unscrupulous tools who will spend corporation funds for their nomination.

The republicans have gained one advantage by this law and that is, they have prevented the democrats from fusing with the "pops."

As the labor party had no presidential electors of their own, they are scratched off the political map under this bill. There were a dozen "labor" men in the House and they couldn't see their doom. But then there are none so blind as they who will not see.

Suppose there are five thousand votes in a certain county. Suppose 2000 are republican and 2000 democratic and the other one thousand non-committal. The non-committal fellows are the "boys" who are out for the "dough." The politicians know this. They divide the one thousand into two parts, and with the aid of these surplus voters, they can nominate at the primaries the very tools whom the trusts desire. Once they are on the tickets, you

have Hobson's choice; and no matter who wins, the corporations win.

Yes, there is a provision for a "non-partisan" ticket. Who ever heard of a non-partisan ticket. In other words there is a provision for a sore head ticket. The nominees of the poor old soreheads must under this act secure two per cent of the votes cast for the highest presidential elector as signers together with as many affidavits. The affidavit man seems to be a personage of high degree under Senate Bill 79.

Liberal Construed.

The framers of the bill did not frame it for any love of justice. In the first place they say that the bill can be liberally construed by the courts, and then provide that the courts themselves will not be subject to any provisions of the act. This means that if some clever interpreters should find anything favorable to the masses in the bill that the courts will have power to overrule such interpretations under the words of section 1: "This statute shall be liberally construed."

Chief Objections.

The chief objections to this bill may be enumerated as follows:

Class Legislation.

1. It is class legislation, because it is not universal. It would never do to place the direct nomination of the governor, the attorney general and the judges in the hands of the common people. The governor is the head of the state militia; the attorney general has the power of prosecution; and the judges have the power of handing down decisions. Such important instruments of government can never be nominated directly by the people.

Expensive.

2. The bill makes it expensive for candidates to enter the race for office. The intention is to cut out the wage worker and make office holding the special prerogative of the parasite. It is not necessary for the parasite to have money, the corporation will furnish it.

Suppress Reform.

3. The bill aims at suppressing all kinds of reform movements.

Stimulates Corruption.

4. It does not prevent corruption but stimulates it. It is much easier to work the endless chain and the "Carbon" method under this bill than in a mass primary or in a delegate convention.

Makes Perjurers.

It will make perjurers out of bad men and thus tend to civic depravity more than ever before.

Multiplies Red Tape.

6. There is so much red tape

about it that it tends to cultivate subserviency in the average breast. The capitalist tool is paid to kill the spirit of liberty if possible. His motto is "The end justifies the means."

Fosters Ward-healers.

7. It gives the ward-heeler a field in which to earn a living. At last it elevates the work of ward-heeling into a profession. In the future the ward-heeler will rank in prestige with the wire-puller and the ward boss.

Makes Delegates Nonentities.

8. It makes the ancient order of delegates a mere coterie of nonentities, whose only business will be to select a few chair-warmers to go to a state convention and name a tool of the trusts for head of the state militia.

Corporation Measure.

9. It is a pure graft bill, framed, and given birth to by a few corporation agents in the last legislature.

One of the peculiar facts about Senate Bill 79, is that nobody in the state advocates its submission to the people except a few Amalgamated papers in Montana. The bill was originated by a few agents of the copper trust, and nobody except copper-collared journals, is asking for its adoption.

Kill the Political Serpent.

Every voter in the state should do his best to kill this political serpent. There are many reasons why it should be killed as already enumerated, but the fact that the Amalgamated papers are crying for its adoption should make every freeman suspicious. These papers are not advocating the adoption of direct legislation, nor would they be advocating direct primaries if there was justice in the bill. Then let us down this Standard Oil spawn.

G. J. HOLYOAKE DEAD

British radicalism has lost one of its most noted figures by the death of George Jacob Holyoake, last Monday. Holyoake was born in 1817. While still a young man he became known as an exponent of the ideas of Robert Owen, the greatest of the Utopians. Later he was prominent as an exponent of secularism, which he defined as a system basing duty on purely human considerations, regardless of religious belief or unbelief. He was imprisoned on a charge of Atheism, being the last person to suffer under English law for that "crime." He was prosecuted also for persistent violation of the law taxing newspapers—the tax on knowledge, as it was commonly called—and his conviction virtually caused the repeal of the law. Later he devoted his energies to the co-operative movement.—Worker.

Defends the Barricade

Correspondent This Slow--Force Must Support Murray King's "Idea" Is Too

In the News of January 24, is an article by Murray E. King on "The Real Revolution." It seems to me the position taken by Comrade King is fundamentally wrong, and if such advise were generally followed it would soon produce an entirely useless socialist movement.

The theory of non-resistance is very beautiful, and no one can be more desirous than I of seeing it become the law of universal intercourse. However, what we would like to do and what we are forced to do are sometimes two entirely different things.

Comrade King says "let us use the ballot according to rule prescribed by the constitution of the United States and thus rise to power within the law." That would be all right if we could be told how to use the ballot where we are disfranchised, as in the seven southern states where property, educational and tax-paying qualifications are on the statutes and so construed as to shut out a large proportion of the working class; or in North Dakota where a residence of one year is required, thus debarring at least 20 per cent of the workers in the state during September and October. If some one will persuade the paid retainers of capitalism to be good and let us vote, then persuade them to be good some more and count the votes and announce the result, then we may have a chance of appealing to that indefinable something called "Public Sentiment."

"Public Sentiment" is often considered to be an impartial jury which stands between capital and labor and finally decides their disputes, but it is an unknown quantity for the reason that it does not exist.

Evrey member of "The public" is for or against capitalism. Then who shall we appeal to? To ourselves? We are doing that now. To the capitalists, our enemies? That is absurd. The lamb had as well appeal to the wolves that surround it.

Comrade King says, "we must place the burden of outlawry upon the enemy." That is excellent in theory, but in fact the enemy (the capitalists) control the law and will constantly shape it to suit themselves so that they will never become outlawed. How then can we place the brand of outlawry on them?

Comrade King says "the peculiar weapon of the socialist movement is the idea." What is this idea? I take it that it is a belief that the working class will establish the co-operative commonwealth, which will be a much more desirable system of industry for us than the present capitalist system. Now if we are to do this we cannot at all "use the ballot according to the rule prescribed by the constitution of the United States and thus rise to power within the law." Comrade King will agree with me that the object of the socialist movement is to establish a working class democracy. Also I think he will agree that the United States constitution is peculiarly adapted to conserve the capitalist system which is directly opposed to socialism. The constitution is the great bulwark on which capitalism relies to ward off all efforts against its life, and above all it is not adopted for the purposes of a true working class democracy. That constitution is adapted for the uses of capitalism. Socialism must throw it aside along with private ownership and other relics of an outgrown system of industry.

If a course of strict legality on our part will "compel the enemy to outlaw and alienate himself from the support of the great mass of following humanity," I would like to be told why it has not done so as a result of conditions at Homestead, Pana, Virden, Chicago, the Coeur d' Alenes, Victor, Teluride and numerous other places. The simple fact is that the class that has the necessary power can make anything, no matter how atrocious, perfectly legal and constitutional, as witness the "legality" of the Cosack's raids on peaceable working men. Legality comes as a result of power, and every act of capitalism will be legal so long as the capitalists have the might behind them. The only way we can make their acts illegal is to first obtain the power to do so, and then having the courage and intelligence to assert that power.

I am not, however, one who would advise a rash and unreasoning attempt at armed resistance to capitalism before we have the power to make it reasonably certain that we can be successful, and to have any hope of success we must have what Lincoln called the most men and the most guns—that is the majority.

The enemy will certainly rebel and become the outlaw when we have obtained the majority, but we can never take his word as to the strength we have, as we would have to do if we depended on the ballot for our estimates. The only resource left us is to have a class conscious working class organization which will instruct and drill the worker to "take and hold," and this organization must be able to count its members and know when they are in the majority, regardless of the result that may be announced from the capitalist ballot box.

A capitalist government will use flattery, fraud or force as the oc-

(Continued on page 3.)

Operator Gebo Repudiates Contract With Lewistown Miners.

Last September the United Mine Workers entered into an agreement with the Spring Creek Coal company. The owner of this property is Mr. Sam Gebo. The agreement between the Spring Creek Coal company and the local union of the United Mine Workers of America was signed by Superintendent McLaughlin on behalf of the coal company, and by John Morton on behalf of the mine workers. The agreement entered into was that the company pay the miner by the day instead of a tonnage rate, and the pay that the miners were to receive was \$3.60 per day, the miner to furnish his own oil; or the company furnish oil and pay the miner \$3.50 per day of eight hours work.

This agreement was signed for twelve months, but before this agreement was reached the miners of the Spring Creek Coal company wished to renew their old agreement with the Spring Creek Coal company, which called for a tonnage rate of \$1.50 per ton mine run, but this proposition the management would not consider at all, but offer-

ed the day rate as quoted above, which was accepted by the miners of the Spring Creek Coal company and signed by the contracting parties, as stated before, for twelve months, and has been in operation from October 1, 1905, to January 27, 1906.

On the 23d of this month I received a message from Lewistown stating that there was some trouble with the company in regard to the agreement and wishing me to come.

On my arrival in Lewistown I was surprised to learn Mr. Gebo wished to annul the agreement which we had entered into for twelve months, and substitute a tonnage rate for a day pay rate.

Mr. Gebo states that his superintendent entered into this agreement with the miners without his knowledge. Now I will state right here that I question Mr. Gebo's veracity in making the above statement. I can't conceive the idea for a moment that his superintendent would have the unlimited nerve to transact important business without first consulting the owner of the property.

It does not look good to me.

After holding a conference with Mr. Gebo, he stated that unless the present agreement is annulled and one made more favorable to his mind, he will be compelled to close his mine. Our answer to this statement is: "Close your mine; for we will accept no other agreement than the one we entered into."

Now I state these facts to the public, and can prove every statement I have made relating to this man Gebo, who calls himself a business man.

What if all the other coal operators in the state of Montana were business men of this same sort as Mr. Gebo is, and paid as little attention to their word of honor as Mr. Gebo does? It would not take a prophet of any great note to forecast what the harvest would be. Now I do not think that there is another operator in the district who would think for one moment of annulling his agreement, though he were losing, neither would he close his mine down.

Now we will take a look at it from

another point; that the miners after signing this agreement could not make wages at the prices quoted and came to Mr. Gebo for change of agreement and stated that if they did not get any change they would strike. The result would be that they would make a laughing-stock out of themselves, as Mr. Gebo has made out of himself. But there would be this difference, if these men did strike after making an agreement, the district board would protect Mr. Gebo, vetoing the strike, and if these men would not go back to work the board would strainevery nerve to procure men elsewhere to take the places of those who refused to comply with the agreement. But in this case this business man can play the part of a cur, and there is none to say that he must keep his obligation. I hope the coal operators which we have agreements with will treat this renegade, who has swerved from the straight and narrow way of business principles, with absolute contempt, for this gentleman will not play the game fair. He won't sit in the game unless he can cold deck it.

JOHN MORTON,
President of Dist. No. 22, U. M. W. of A.

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HOW TO BOOST.

We print a communication of a somewhat different sort from what usually comes to the office. It was sent to the secretary, and reads as follows:

"Hope you will succeed in working up the local as well as keeping awake other locals. It is about time they were being looked after instead of being left alone from the time of their organization.

"Leaving them alone with a pack of literature will no more educate them than the public school could educate the children by sending them text books without teachers, or the different religious denominations could keep up their organizations without teachers or preachers. When once our party efforts will be equally divided between MAKING and KEEPING alive the locals, there will be something substantial done. The educator must follow the agitator, the harmonizer the organizer. Without this they will never know what they were organized for or what all the agitation is about, and stagnation and inertia is the inevitable result. Boost! Boost!! Boost!!! for education of the working class."

The comrade who wrote this is a good socialist. He gives of his money freely when there are bills to pay. But he is the type that is always discouraged; always says you can't do anything in his town (where there are important shops) and spreads an air of pessimism and gloom over everything connected with socialism in his locality. When Mrs. Hazlett went there to speak he wasn't even at the meeting. At 8 o'clock no lights had been lit, and the hall was not heated. If the working class, to gain their emancipation, are to depend upon professional "educators" traveling over the country and whose expenses and time must be paid for, they will remain in slavery forever.

It is the duty of every member of the socialist party to himself become an active center of propaganda. He should leave no stone unturned, no act undone which would in any way further the interests of his cause. "Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty." The work of a stranger is as nothing compared to the cheerful, unceasing, hopeful activity of local socialists. Where these exist we have the strongest locals, the most widespread sentiment even in untoward and seemingly hopeless communities—as instance Dean and Monarch. It is upon private members of the socialist party that the power of the revolutionary movement depends. If we are going to wait for scholars and saviors we will find plenty of them in the republican party. It is not the intention to underestimate the benefit of students and teachers, and agitators who are giving their lives to the movement. But their seed is of no value if sown upon unprepared ground. To expect the state secretary, with the meager funds that the party furnishes him, to keep up a perpetual, brilliant, spectacular bombardment of "educated" stars is absurd. He is

utilizing to the limit, and over, all the time, every resource he can get hold of or thinks he can get hold of. The way to give him more is to make good locals LOCALLY. "The emancipation of the working class must be the work of the working class alone." This sounds familiar, and it sounds good, and is just as true as it ever was.

The referendum is now out from the national office for the members of the socialist party to vote upon, whether we shall have a national convention next spring or not. In the present condition of the American party there are many matters of party policy that are claiming attention. It is to the interest of the movement that there be some official expression upon these matters. They cover a wide range from the attitude on unions to the character and functions of the national committee, including many details that cannot well be left until a national nominating convention without causing serious disability to the movement. The members of the party should give the question serious consideration before voting on it.

PRIMARY LAW.

Every workingman in Montana, and especially all socialists, should send to the secretary of state, at Helena, for a copy of Senate Bill 79. And having once received it, they should make a business of studying its provisions. It is the notorious primary election law; a law designed to take the control of socialist candidates and conventions out of the hands of socialists, and put them under absolute control of the capitalist grafters. The News expects to oppose this measure in the state to the utmost.

The numerous social affairs that are taking place in Montana this winter in the circles of the socialist party give evidence as nothing else can do of the development into class consciousness among the workers of the state. The capitalist class has always possessed an enormous class consciousness in regard to social affairs—their "functions," as they call them, being their chief aim in life, and from which the "workers" are mercilessly barred. The poor workers have looked longingly on at these pleasures, hanging around for a chance to participate in this "heaven," with a parasitical envy, never dreaming that self-respect demanded that they establish their own pleasures, from which the true parasites, the masters, were debarred with scorn and resentment. The universal brotherhood and purpose of the socialist movement has supplied the social spirit, and is cementing the workers in bonds of attachment that nothing can break.

It would be well if every local in the state would aim to give some sort of a social each month. The community would expect it, and look forward to it, and it would be a source of constant revenue to the state party. Make your own social life. Don't let your "betters" set the pace.

It behooves the comrades of the state to swell the organizing fund so we can keep workers going.

Dances, suppers, card parties, fairs should be the order of the day—or night. Half a day's wage ought to be collected from every worker in proletarian districts. Two momentous campaigns are ahead of us, the municipal and the state, and the socialists are going to make a showing in Montana. The forces of the enemy are united. The Associated Press dispatches and the eastern papers announce the meeting in New York of Montana men representing the Amalgamated, the Heinze, and the Clark interests. These dead weights on society will arrange all about who is to govern Montana. The corrupt and ridiculous Clark is to be the august defender of the people's interests (God save the word!) in the senate. Will the workers of Montana forever be thus tame, and be bought and sold like a band of sheep or the serfs on a feudal estate? There are 6000 socialists that won't be, and will make the enemy howl, but it will take sacrifice to do it.

OLD PARTY MACHINES AND HOW THEY OPERATE

BY ONE WHO HELPED TO OPERATE

CHAPTER X.

(Conclusion.)

In bringing my present series of articles to a close, it is not necessary for the readers of the Montana News to infer that all of my political experiences have been recorded. They have not—I have simply reached the Montana line. If the readers of the News would like to know something of how political machines operate in this state I shall be glad to give them a few glimpses of machine politics at some future time. I have been through a few campaigns in Montana. I have done straight party politics and I have done some fusion work. I have never been a ward heeler in Montana but my political connections have been such as to prove that our politicians here are not of as saintly a character as to belong to the order of Melchizedek.

When I entered into my first political campaign I was strongly impressed with the idea that most men were striving to be honest. I was not long in the business before I discovered that I had taken the wrong view of life. In fact, I discovered that honesty is but an ethical conception and that men are altogether guided in their actions by economic conditions. The first great fundamental law of human nature is self-preservation. How to succeed, and how to gain control over other men, seems to be the law of human determinism. The politician is not any worse, or any better, than the social conditions that produce him. The government of a nation is what the people make it. Even the gods and the creeds of the race are but personifications of its virtues and its vices. The very virtues and vices themselves are not immutable—they vary and change in accord with the variations and changes in public opinion. Every reform wave was but a protest on the part of the people outside of special privileges, against the rule of the privileged. Without right there would be no law, and without law there would be no right. Whenever a people conceive that they have certain rights they immediately proceed to make laws governing said rights, otherwise said rights would have no de facto value.

The reason why the More machine, the Buckley machine, the Burns machine, the Fusion Triumvirate, or the Triple Alliance "decemvirs" were called corrupt, is because they were successful and because their methods of accomplishing success were not handed down from a prayer-meeting of the saints. All of these men were human, and in fact more human than the pharisees who denounced them. These bosses could not be otherwise. They were doing business in a system of competition and corruption. It is true that More and Burns were tyrannical and dictatorial but they could afford to be so. They had an army of ward heelerers at their back and they treated that army well. The ward heeler knew where his bread and butter came from; and, as long as that bread and butter came, the ward heeler was justified in doing his "dirtiest" for the boss.

The fusion men were different, they were not as kingly in their power. They were the victims of different conditions. A straight machine boss will tell you the truth, but a fusionist leader is not positive. He is simply a negative quantity. I was never in a fusion deal where the leaders were honest. A fusion man's promise is never good. The only way to get even with a fusion politician is to get paid in advance. Whenever a man is ready to fuse with his political enemy he weakens his character.

If the Populists had not fused with the Democrats, there might have been a Populist president in the White House today. But the greed for office sent the Populist end of the deal into oblivion. I have never met a Democrat who was willing to fuse with somebody else for office that wasn't a liar and a traitor, and strange to say, there are a great many such Democrats in America today. I have seen the chief executive of a great state go into a convention of Fusionists, composed largely of workingmen, and from the rostrum declare that he would comply with every demand made by the convention provided he would be elected to office. While he was making his plea to the convention there flooded down his cheeks great drops of sweat that oozed out from a lying brain. After election this lying "negative quantity" failed to keep a single promise to that convention. The workingman, I care not what his sphere in life may be, who will vote for a parasite to represent him in the halls of legislation has no moral right to complain of his enslaved condition. He ought in reality to get nothing but bread and water and a cat-o'-nine-tails at every sunrise, such as was meted out to the helots of ancient Greece. The parasite is not unfaithful to his

class. The machine was never unfaithful to the men whom it bled. The history of the world is but a history of parasites and machine rule. The common people have always been the hewers of wood and the carriers of water, not because Nature intended that they should, but because they have elected themselves to be such.

If all the working people of a state or a nation should vote in one mass for their own interests, and legislate for themselves irrespective of any other class, what a howl there would be from the parasite! Why not build up a good strong working-class machine? The parasite has built every political machine in history, now what's the matter with the worker starting in to build all the machines of the future? Political action will always take the form of a machine. The main question is, who shall operate the machine? Machines are easy to operate if you can control them. If one man operates the machine, as boss Burns did, the rest of the people will have to dance to his music. If all the working class should operate the machine then the balance of the people—the parasites—would be forced to dance to the workers' music.

The man who understands politics knows his power. The man at the head of a political machine is the most powerful man in the land. What power has a priest or preacher? What power has an orator or a politician? None whatever. But with a political machine, having the power of making or unmaking the laws, any man, or men, can shape the destinies of a state or a nation.

When the working class will understand politics and their operation, then we unto the scribes and pharisees!

I am not offering any excuse for the ward heeler, but I am ready to say on his behalf that he has more common sense, and more respect for himself than any "goody goody" work-ingman who hollers "keep politics out of the union," or "I am too good to be a politician." The ward heeler is, as a rule, intelligent and ambitious. He knows that the men who rule are the only power in the world. He knows that evolution is the law of progress. He knows that ignorance is the cause of slavery and poverty and crime. A man working ten hours a day with a pick and shovel for \$1.25 a day is politically ignorant, and it is ignorance that keeps him in economic slavery. The ward heeler wants at least all he produces, and more if possible. If he stands in with the men who control by law the "grabbing process" he can get more than he produces. If the worker, on the other hand, had the ward heeler's idea, the ward heeler would be forced into the ranks of a worker, and so would every other parasite in the nation—including that rankst of all parasites, the labor leader who works his jaws on the per capita taxes of his fellow dupes.

As long as workingmen are willing to endure their present economic conditions, there will be ward heelerers. Please, Mr. Reader, don't call the heeler any names, he is just as respectable as the preacher, the lawyer, the banker, the bondholder or the profit taker. You are to blame. You permit a parasitic system to obtain. If you get together, and reason among yourselves, you can build a political machine that will wipe every ward heeler, every boss, and every "Old Man of the Sea," off the face of the earth.

Get together, boys, and produce this new labor-saving machine. Call it anything you please. Only be sure and operate it yourselves. The question is not how are we going to do it, but do it—for "all's well that ends well." —Max.

The Montana daily papers are all giving much prominence to the fact that the pastor of the Finnish church at Red Lodge has given up his charge on the ground that he can do nothing with the Finns there because they are socialists. He denounces socialism and says that the Finn socialists are a menace to Christianity. Our Finnish comrades are among the most active of any foreign element in the socialist movement. As a race they have always vigorously resisted their oppressors. As one of the grafters of society, who wants to live off the labor of others without rendering any equivalent he fears that freedom in living and thinking will knock the pins from under those who want to defend the present exploitation of capitalism upon the workers under the cloak of Christianity. Christianity teaches to love your neighbor as yourself, but the Reverend (?) Virki don't want that principle to extend to industrialism. Queer, isn't it that this reverend cloth always wants just the sort of a thing the rich grafters want?

Socialism and the Negro Problem

By CHARLES H. VAIL

(Continued from last week.)

In the days of chattel slavery capitalist production on a large scale was impossible, because it was unprofitable for the master to keep more slaves than he could profitably use all the time. He could not afford a reserve army, for he must feed and care for his workers whether he could use them or not. This difficulty is overcome by the wage system. The conditions and even the name of slavery have changed, but the fact remains untouched. Indeed, slavery is not yet abolished. So long as the laborer is deprived of property in the instruments of production, so long as his labor power is a commodity which he is obliged to sell to another, he is not a free being, he is white or black. He is simply a slave to a master and from morning until night is as much a bondsman as any negro ever was before Mason and Dixons' line before the war. Slaves are cheaper now and do more work than at any time in the world's history. The same principle of subjection that ruled in the chattel system rules in the wage system.

Let us inquire here of what does slavery consist? It consists in the compulsory using of men for the benefit of the user. One who is forced to yield to another a part of the product of his toil is a slave, no matter where he resides or what may be the color of his skin. This was the condition of the negro before the war, and it is his condition today, and not only his condition, but the condition of all propertyless workers. That the workman can today change his master does not alter the fact. The negro was a slave, not because of a certain master, but because he must yield a part of the wealth he produced to a master. Today he may desert one master, but he must look upon another or starve, and this necessity constitutes his continued slavery. Under the old system he was sure of a master and consequently his livelihood. One of the greatest curses of modern slavery is the fear of the slave that he will lose his position of servitude. Many a negro wage slave, and white as well, would gladly exchange their freedom to leave their masters for a guarantee that their master would not discharge them. Formerly the masters overbid each other to get the slaves, today, the slaves underbid each other to get a master, and not to get a master means starvation.

The loss of the security of existence is the fearful price which the negro has been obliged to pay for his so-called liberty. The insecurity of the wage worker is the greatest curse of the present system. Closely connected with this is the dependence which inheres in the wage system. The wage worker is absolutely dependent for his daily bread upon the favor or whim of his master. Indeed, the wage earner is a wage slave. The intensity of this slavery depends upon the amount of time which the workers are compelled to work gratuitously for others. Under present conditions they must work the greater portion of their time for some one else. It is thus that the wage-earning class is a slave to the employing class. Workingmen may change their master, but they are still at the mercy of the master class. The choice of the chattel slave was between work and the lash; the choice of a wage slave is between work and starvation. The whip of hunger is all sufficient to drive the wage slave to his task.

The worker today, then, is a slave, bound by the pressure of economic wants to compulsory servitude to idle capitalist masters. He is obliged to sell his liberties in exchange for the means of subsistence. He is under the greatest tyranny of which it is possible to conceive—the tyranny of want. By this lash men are driven to work long hours and in unwholesome occupations, and to live in tenement rookeries in our city slums that for villainess would surpass the slave quarters of old. The man who has no work or is compelled to submit to wages dictated by a corporation, and is at the beck and call of a master for ten hours a day, has not much personal liberty to brag of over his prototype—the chattel slave. A man thus conditioned is far from free. John Stuart Mill said that "the majority of laborers have as little choice of occupation or freedom of locomotion, are practically as dependent on fixed rules and on the will of others, as they could be in any system short of actual slavery." This is the condition into which the negro was "liberated." It is quite evident that he has not yet secured anything worthy to be called freedom—he is still in need of emancipation.

The changed conditions which transformed the negro into a wage slave, identify the negro problem with the labor problem as a whole, the solution of which is the abolition of wage slavery and the emancipation of both black and white from the servitude to capitalist masters. This can only be accomplished by collective ownership of the means of production and distribution. Socialism is the only remedy—it

is the only escape from personal or class rule. It would put an end to economic despotism and establish popular self-government in the industrial realm. Economic democracy is a corollary of political democracy. We want every person engaged in industry, whether male or female, white or black, to have a voice in making the rules under which they must work. Under Socialism the workers would elect their own directors, regulate their hours of work and determine the conditions under which production would be carried on. We may be sure that when this power is vested in the producing class, the factories will be arranged according to convenience and beauty, and all disagreeable smells, vapor, smoke, etc., eliminated, the buildings well lighted, heated and ventilated and every precaution taken against accidents. In other words, under Socialism the laborers would have absolute freedom in the economic sphere in place of the present absolute servitude. Socialists emphasize the need of this economic freedom, for it is the basis of all freedom. Intellectual and moral freedom is practically nullified today through the absence of economic liberty.

Not only would Socialism secure to the laborers greater liberty within the economic sphere, but what would be of more importance is the liberty that the regime would secure to all outside this realm. The real restrictions today are economic. We are prevented from doing the things we would like to do, not by governmental restrictions, but by limited means. I would like to take a trip abroad. No statute prohibits me, but I am restricted by the lack of the needed resources. Socialism would increase resources by securing to all steady employment and the full product of their toil. Today labor is exploited out of fully 80 per cent of the wealth it brings into being. Socialism would abolish this exploitation.

But it is not only freedom of labor but freedom from labor that Socialists seek. With a scientific organization of industry, eliminating all the wastes of the present system, two or three hours a day would suffice to supply all the comforts and even luxuries of life. This would secure to the laborer the leisure necessary to enable him to develop his faculties and which could be devoted to recreation and travel.

Socialism, then, would secure to the laborers the utmost freedom both within and without the economic sphere. It would enable men to live as men and would secure to each, regardless of his nationality, the best opportunity for free development and movement. There can be no liberty in economic dependence. The man who is in want or in the fear of want is not a free man. No man is free if he does not possess the means of livelihood. As long as he must look to the pleasure or profit of another for his living he is not independent, and without independence there can be no freedom. Freedom will become the heritage of all as soon as Socialism is realized, because it will guarantee to all security, independ-

(Continued next week)

The Arlington hotel on North Main St., has been nicely fitted up by Mrs. Sam Stewart.

The Arlington Hotel

Mrs. Sam Stewart, Prop.

MODERN FURNISHED ROOMS

Completely Refurnished and Refitted. Popular Prices. Steam Heated. On Car Line

North Main St. - Helena, Mont.

Dry Goods & Furnishing

Goods, Shoes and Fancy Groceries. Prices Right

MAYNE & BURDICK CO. Main Street Livingston

LOCAL LIVINGSTON, of the Socialist Party

Meets every Monday Night at Socialist Hall, No. B. St. HOWARD NETHKIN, Sec.

Lake Como Local of Socialist Party has obtained a Charter from the State Committee and is now ready to receive applications for membership, from any farmer or wage worker in Ravalli county. For further information writhe to the address—Lake Como Local, Como, Montana.

Dr. G. A. Willett

DENTIST

ROOM 9 THOMPSON BLOCK Opposite Grand Central Hotel

I use the latest Anesthesia Somnoforme for painless extracting of teeth

EFFORT

You can raise your voice for freedom. If you cannot wield the sword. If the feet are slow and feeble. Filled with thunders is the word. It can face the coward braggar. With the lightning flash of truth. And lay bare the lie of power. With the giant strength of youth.

HELENA CARD PARTY.

The card party given by Helena local last Thursday evening proved to be the usual success. The lunch was all that could be desired. Comrade Baur and his family deserve the thanks of the socialists for their energetic efforts to make it a success. Fifteen dollars were netted. This will be used to disburse the debt of the local. The comrades expect to give a social in a few weeks, with an entertaining musical and literary program.

Comrade Cornelius of Bozeman writes as follows: "Have been instructed by Local Bozeman to communicate with you respecting an article by Comrade King published in the Montana News. The article refers to the action of our Russian comrades in resorting to the barricade. This article was read before Local Bozeman and such a good impression made that I have been instructed to communicate with you regarding the possibility of having it printed in pamphlet form. In the wisdom of Local Bozeman such a pamphlet would serve an excellent purpose when circulated with other propaganda. This local has a committee appointed to select the most appropriate literature to be distributed among the farmers of Gallatin county, and such a pamphlet will go well with the rest.

State Secretary E. P. Roe, of Nebraska, in a circular letter to the locals, points out the fact that in the contest against the obnoxious features of the primary law, which had they not been eliminated by the efforts of the socialist party, would have destroyed all minority parties. The prohibition and populist parties uttered not one word of protest, which fact once more proves the futility of workmen placing any confidence in half-baked reform parties of whatever name.—Appeal to Reason.

Ballots have been sent to the secretaries of all locals for the referendum on a national convention. If any secretaries have failed to receive them, please notify the state secretary at once. Only those are entitled to vote whose dues are paid for September.

THE ORIGINAL FLYING MACHINE

Was not a success. Numerous efforts have since been made to perfect a machine that will carry men through the air at a rapid rate, but all have resulted in failure or partial success. Sensible mortals who wish to make a swift yet comfortable and safe journey use the "North-Western Limitin" leaving Minneapolis 8 p. m., St. Paul 8.35 p. m., and arriving Chicago 8.55 a. m. The rout of this "perfect machine" is protected by block signals all the way providing the greatest safety possible. Tickets are on sale at 600 Nicollet ave., Minneapolis, and at 396 Robert St., (Ryan Hotel) St. Paul.

Women's Clubs

The following paper was read by Mrs. George Wesleder before the Woman's Socialist Club of Great Falls:

Waste Under Competition.

In order to get at this question, let us look at the economic situation. How do you get your living? How does the nation as a whole get its living? Why do so many people not get a living at all, but have just enough to let them die slowly? Are there not enough provisions to go around? Are we, as a people getting all we can from the earth and dividing it among those who get it out in the best manner possible? If not, how may things be changed for the better?

These are important questions, and if we can find the answers to them we shall have solved many hard problems. Most persons never think very much about them, or if they do, pass them by with the feeling that things have always been as they are and could not be changed. But perhaps we shall be able to show that we not only can change these things, but that you and your fellows are the only ones who have power to change them; and finally, that when they are changed, all of us will be able to live a great deal better and do very many things that we cannot now, but that we wish very much to do.

Today there are many men who are duplicating each other's work. One sees whole rows of grocery stores, each one with a couple of clerks, or an over-worked owner and wife and children pressed into service and all of them barely keeping alive. While if there were but one store in the neighborhood the same work could be better done with half the same number of persons. A little closer look will show that much of the work done is helping nobody to be better clothed, or fed, or housed. A great deal of time is spent in attracting attention to the things that are for sale. Great glaring signs are painted on the walls of store buildings, newspapers are filled with advertisements instead of useful information. Sidewalks are littered with goods of all kinds. Lying, deception and adulteration are used to make the buyers think that they get something for less money from one seller than from another. Every one can see that if this work were left entirely undone and the people who are doing it sat with idle hands there would be just as many things to eat and drink and wear in the world as there are today. If you watch for a few months you will see that every little while the names on the signs change and many of the stores become vacant. The great mail order houses have found out that if they do all the buying and selling of fifty stores, under one roof and with one management it can be done very much cheaper than when work is scattered among so many people and in so many buildings. Now the man that does the thing the cheapest is the only one that can do it at all in our present system. For if any one tries to do the same thing in a more expensive way he can not sell his product at all. This sounds very simple, but it is a fact which has great importance in regard to the questions I am discussing. One of the effects of this condition is that the small stores have to close because they can not afford to sell goods as cheaply as the big stores, or at least cannot spend so much money in advertising to let the people know what they have.

We see those nations that can produce most cheaply have grown to be the strongest and are crushing the weaker nations. We can sum this all up and say that there is a widespread movement toward concentration. Permit me to give you a remedy. The party we are advocating is a party by which the toilers will get the full product of their labor, and all the industries will be owned in common by all the people. Now, why can not we operate all our industries in the same way? All men will find employment under socialism and not work such long hours as they do for private gain.

National News

"Red Sunday" was celebrated at Minneapolis by a large joint meeting of Fins, Jews, Poles and English speaking comrades with a magnificent address by Comrade E. E. Carr, which gave perfect satisfaction to all. Meetings were also held in various other places, and especially in the Iron Range, where the Finnish comrades held great demonstrations at every available point.

There are fifteen Finnish locals in the state and most of them are making arrangements to send delegates to the state convention to be held in Minneapolis, Feb. 22 and 23. Dr. A. F. Tanner of Ely will act as interpreter for their membership coming from the range.

Wm. Mailly and John M. Work have been elected members of the national executive committee. Another ballot is necessary in order to elect the five additional members. Mahlon Barnes has been re-elected national secretary.

Organizing and lecture tours are now being arranged as follows: James H. Brower: Illinois, Missouri, Kansas and Oklahoma. John Collins: Illinois, Iowa, Nebraska, and South Dakota. Arthur Morrow Lewis: Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado, Kansas, Missouri, Illinois, Indiana and Ohio.

The national office is in receipt of many resolutions, too numerous to print, passed by locals throughout the country, expressing sympathy and pledging material aid and moral support for our Russian comrades in their struggle for freedom.

It is announced that Comrade Jack Wood will visit the following places in Indian Territory within the next two months: Ada, Coal-gate, Durant, Blue, Denison, Ardmore, Marietta, Wynnewood, Pauls Valley, Duncan, Marlow, Rush Springs.

Dates for national lecturers and organizers for the coming week are: Guy E. Miller—Feb. 4, Henderson, Ky.; Feb. 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, Central City. Teofilo Petrielia (Italian)—Feb. 4, 5, 6, Collinsville, Ill.; Feb. 7, 8, 9, St. Louis, Mo.; Feb. 10, Glen Ca. bon, Ill.

John W. Slayton—Under the direction of the state committee: Feb. 1, Andeafon, Cal.; Feb. 2, Sacramento; Feb. 3, Placerville; Feb. 4, Dixon; Feb. 6, Oakland; Feb. 7, San Jose; Feb. 9, Santa Paula; Feb. 10, Filmore.

Comrade Mother Jones will speak Feb. 4, Norwich, Va.; Feb. 5 and 6, Henderson, N. C.; Feb. 7 and 8, Greensboro; Feb. 9 and 10, Winston-Salem.

One of the interesting points of the discussion concerning the Milwaukee platform was in regard to the office of constables. The new city platform calls for the abolition of the fee system for justices of the peace and constables. It was suggested that the social-democratic party make no nominations for constables, on the ground that the social-democrats should not do such "dirty work." The instance was cited of one of our social-democratic constables who from scanty means had paid rent for a poor family rather than perform the unpleasant task of evicting it. However the suggestion was not adopted. It was pointed out that the constable's work was only the logical result of the capitalist system. To be consistent, if we refuse to nominate constables, we must also refuse to nominate justices, and even a mayor.

Better-World

PHILOSOPHY. By J. Howard Moore. A study of human relations, starting with the proved facts of evolution and economic determinism. Keeping always upon verifiable ground, the author develops a theory of morality that is rational, workable and satisfying. He gives due weight to the altruistic sentiment, but he also shows that it is the historical outcome of the class struggle.

Cloth, 70 pages. \$1.00 postpaid. You can get big discounts on this and all our other books by paying a dollar a month for a share of stock. Charles H. Kerr & Company 56 Fifth Avenue, Chicago

LABOR NEWS

The United Mine Workers, at the Indianapolis convention, passed a resolution that no district should sign any wage agreement until all have obtained satisfactory settlements. This is explained as including every district under the jurisdiction of the United Mine Workers of America whether anthracite, bituminous, or block coal regions in the United States and Canada. The executive board is jockeying over the strike order which is reported to be effective April 1.

January 27, the Spring Creek coal mines were closed down at Lewistown owing to the fact that Sam Gebro, the owner refused to abide by the agreement made by his superintendent with the men. Thirty five men are out.

Helena Typographical Union No. 95, has placed "The Delineator" (published by the Butterick Publishing Company,) the Butterick Patterns, and all other publications of the Butterick Company on the unfair list. This action follows similar action by the New York Allied Printing Trades Council, in whose jurisdiction the Butterick headquarters is situated, and is taken because of the firm's stand for open shop and the nine hour day. The International Typographical Union is now engaged in a fierce battle for the establishment of these two principles.

The Butterick company has evoked the aid of the courts and a servile judge has, as usual, enjoined the striking printers from all possible activity in making their strike a success.

In Omaha they are forbidden even to write.

Every man and woman that belongs to the working class in Helena should give especial attention to the boycott the Typographical union has put on the Butterick company. Every woman who has a sense of justice and right and enough stamina to stand by it should refuse to buy a Butterick pattern, should not get a single copy of "The Delineator," or "Designer." It doesn't mean much sacrifice, and it does mean showing the class that live off the labor of the working class that here is a limit to their oppression, and that the working class are resisting. Strike them where it hurts—in their pocket book.

DEFENDS BARRICADE

(Continued from page 1.)

casation may require, but it is determined to stay in power. We must meet flattery with scorn, and fraud with truth, but their force can only be combatted with force. If we attempt to use this force before we have a majority we will be foolhardy and must go down. If we do not use it when we have the majority we will be silly and will emasculate the movement.

I am sorry to see one who calls himself a socialist turning into an ally of the Russian autocracy, yet this is what those do who cry out against the Russian proletariat who use the only weapon they have—actively physical aggression on

Boys' Clothing

Children's Suits in plain and fancy fabrics. \$2 to \$10 Boys' 3-piece Suits, all wool fabrics. \$3 to \$12.50 Boys' 2-piece School and Norfolk suits. \$3 to \$2 Youth's Suits, cut on manish lines. \$8.50 to \$25 Overcoats and Reefers. \$2.50 to \$20

Gans & Klein Co.

R. A. Fraser, Mgr. HELENA, MONT.

CAPITAL CLOTHING COMPANY

Mid-winter Sale

For the Next 10 Days a Discount of

25 Per Cent

On Entire Stock of Men's & Boys' Suits

A. P. CURTIN MUSIC HOUSE

Helena, Great Falls, Billings and Bozeman

We carry the finest line of Pianos & Organs

in the state of Montana. Every instrument bought for spot cash from manufacturers direct. We own outright every instrument on our floors. No goods handled on consignments. We save you \$50 and \$75 on a piano. We sell on easy terms.

Table with 2 columns: VICTOR TALKING MACHINE (\$15 to \$100) and THE EDISON PHONOGRAPHS (\$10 to \$50). Includes details on cabinets, carrying cases, and supplies.

A. P. CURTIN MUSIC HOUSE Send for Catalogue and Lists 17 W. 6th Av., Helena

The Sproule Studio

FINE PHOTOGRAPHS AND FAIR DEALING IS OUR REPUTATION

14 1/2 South Main St., Helena

Montana Railroad Company TIME CARD EFFECTIVE NOV. 6, 1904

Table with 4 columns: Daily Except Sunday, Daily Except Sunday, and arrival/departure times for various stations like Lombard, Dorsey, Summit, etc.

MONTANA RAILROAD CO., Helena, Montana

our part." Working class aspirations have times without number been crushed because of the cry of some should be comrade who counseled "be ye obedient to the powers that be," when the very nature of the working class movement is disobedience and resistance.

I think it is a great mistake to say that we are opposed to all war.

What should be said is that we are opposed to capitalist war. Would Comrade King refuse protection to his family if that protection involved "actively physical aggression on our part?" The principal of self protection is the same for the whole working class as it is for the individual members of that class, and I should be indeed sorry to see the day when we accept counsel not to use the weapons we have at hand to obtain our freedom.

Robert Owen, Fourier and others worked with the "peculiar weapon of the socialist movement, the idea," and even capitalism gave them its support. It was when socialism became something more than an idea that capitalism became its active opponent, and in proportion as it proposes to do something does it strike terror to their hearts.

To rebel at all is manly. To rebel with wisdom is divine. But better a blind rebellion Than the apathy of the swine.

C. E. PAYNE.

Visit the Arlington when in town. Warm, newly furnished rooms, and prices moderate.

Save Your Sole

A. Anderson will repair it. Shoes make to order. First class work guaranteed

118 Sixth Ave. E. Helena, Mont.

Reliability Counts

In Groceries. You will find our stock of Choice Groceries always absolutely reliable and the prices very moderate. We have all sorts of good things for the table, a fine variety of Canned Goods, many delightful Jams and Jellies, all the fresh Vegetables in season, and the finest Tea and Coffee.

Size 250, just right for children, per dozen. \$1.50 Size 250, per 1/2-bx \$1.35; bx. \$2.60 Size 200, be sure to get a few dozen at this price; dozen. \$1.75; c Size 200, by 1/2-bx \$1.45; bx. \$2.90

KLIEN & BOURNE THE RELIABLE GROCERS

Cor. 6th and Jackson Phone 30

DID IT EVER OCCUR TO YOU

that you are not getting rich as fast as you would like. Then get into the habit of saving money. Spend your hard-earned money where it will go the farthest.

We are in a position to save you money by giving you first class goods at moderate prices. We charge no more for first-class goods than others do for inferior stock.

HELENA PACKING & PROVISION COMPANY

The secretaries of the locals should send in their state reports by the 10th. Don't neglect this.

State Department

The matter on "Socialism and the Negro Problem" by Charles H. Vail, which we have commenced to run this week, will be printed in a pamphlet as soon as it has been published in the paper. Comrade Vail's writings are unusually clear and comprehensive, and a great deal of information on the socialist position can be obtained from reading them. This pamphlet has been out of print some time, but the News has considered it worthy of rereproduction. Single copies 5 cents, 6 copies 25 cents, 25 copies \$1.00.

The articles by Max on Machine Politics that have been running through the News will be concluded in our next issue. They are of great value at the present time in Montana when the state is cursed by such fake labor parties and all vile devices to beguile the vote of the worker against his class interests.

We shall issue the articles in the form of a campaign booklet. They will have bright red covers, and sell for ten cents apiece, 2000 copies will be printed.

A. H. Floaten of Ft. Collins, Colorado, sends in his subscription for the News. He says: "On Bloody Sunday I organized a local here with 10 members and have five more applications to present a month hence. One of the charter members is the Unitarian minister here. When I told him I was going to organize he said he wanted to join. I would not have asked him though I had previously found out he had read Marx, Engels, Liebknechts, and Kautsky's writings. He is a thorough revolutionist and these rich people and college professors here have tried to get rid of him."

The News has a number of Appeal to Reason cards that were donated to the party. By ordering from us you will help the cause along.

That old war horse Herman Luehman of Helena is getting a gratifyingly long list of subs to his credit. Every day or so he pops in with an extra one or so.

That list, by the way, is enough to gladden the heart of man, and women too, if they are socialists. It is three times as large as when the party took the paper. Gallies, books, and everything available are overflowing with the new names. Printers and print shops look with amazement as the list climbs. The Montana News is to be the gateway of the northwest movement. Wherever it is taken it means more votes for Montana. This activity is the function of the party, not of the Montana News plant. Each local should have some one appointed to look after the interests of the paper. The locals should not stop at one or two lists but should aim to send in a quota of new subscriptions each week. They can be gotten and if only a few it extends the

scope and power of socialism in Montana.

The East Helena list now amounts to 40—only five less than the lists of Anaconda and Butte combined.

Comrade Mabie took a trip up to the Pittsburg mine south of Helena and returned with several subs from the slaves that are laboring there in the "stag camps," far from the ameliorating influences of home and civilization. Yet the capitalist is afraid that socialism will break up the home.

Local Helena raised \$25 to get May Beals here. The money will go into the organization fund to pay the expenses of Murray King here, and other speakers for street work that Helena must have during the summer.

Local Livingston had prepared for a grand woman's demonstration with which to greet May Beals. She was to speak two nights there with a woman chairman, woman ushers, women to sell literature and take up the collection. The demonstration will be saved for Mrs. Lena Morrow Lewis.

Comrade King is in Ravalli county battering away at the barriers of capitalism. Comrade Woodruff writes that they want him in Stevensville a week.

Comrade Rector sends in \$5 from the dance at Monarch, and \$10 as his personal contribution to the state fund. Monarch local has also sent \$5 to the Russian fund.

A letter from Comrade Miller, organizer, of Local Havre, states: "I will try and go down to Chinook and see what I can find so when you send us another speaker we will be ready to place them at Chinook and Harlem. Harlem is a pretty good place and I am contemplating going to the mountains as soon as I can and organize them. There are about 15 or 20 there that have avowed themselves socialists. When weather permits I will also go to Zortman. It costs \$10 for stage hire and if the weather is so I can go on horseback I can visit the same country. I am determined to work for socialism with all my life and energy wherever I can. I want you to give me all the assistance you can, and instructions so I can make a success of the work that has been placed upon me."

Frank Mabie was out at East Helena a couple of days this week, and came in with 18 subs.

Comrad Streib of Clancy sends in a list of seven this week.

We will send five copies of the News to one address for one year for two dollars. This is a chance to sample your friends.

Little "Montana News" leaflets,

containing primary principle of socialism, 20 cents a hundred.

Every local should possess the Kerr Company Library of "Science for the workers," for circulation among the members. A well read local is the one to tie to when storms of freakism arise. This library consists of four volumes. "The Evolution of Man," "Germs of Mind in plants," "The end of the World," and "Science and Revolution." The four books can be bought for \$2. Every member of the local can read them and become correspondingly posted on the positions of science on which the socialist movement is founded. The News is prepared to furnish these to locals.

Five subscription cards for \$2.50.

State constitutions 5 cts. apiece, 6 for 25 cents, 24 for \$1. They are beauties.

Mills "Struggle for Existence," \$2.

Trout Creek was swung into the revolutionary movement last night when five class conscious working men signed an application for a local charter. The officers of the new organization are: Organizer, S. R. Allen, recording and financial secretary, Comrade Brooks, treasurer, Amos Allen, literature agent, Herman Otto.

There has never been a socialist speaker here before so that the work of organizing presented certain difficulties. The only place a meeting could be held was in the schoolhouse, situated in a most inaccessible spot in a grove of pines about a half a mile from town. The attendance at the meeting was very small but made up in interest displayed. Four subscriptions were taken for the News and \$2.95 worth of literature purchased. A prominent office holder under the republican administration offered to sign an application for a charter and become an active member or the local. Such action would have required him to resign his position. In view of the fact that he is an aged man his and present position his sole means of support, we advised against his joining the local at present. He will, however, be a staunch financial supporter of the movement which has won all his sympathies.

Trout Creek, like a great many other places is a very raw field and it will require a vast amount of revolutionary hammering to get desirable results. The proportionally large Debs vote cast here meant nothing, as in most places, but a token of railway employee's sympathy for the leader of a great strike. The majority who voted for Debs are as innocent of socialism as an hereditary democrat which indicates the tremendous task of education that lies before us.

MURRAY E. KING.

The first anniversary of Bloody Sunday was duly commemorated and honored by Local Maiden. The following resolution was presented and adopted unanimously:

Realizing that the present struggle of the Russian people against the autocracy and capitalist class is an indication of the awakening of class consciousness among the Russian working class, and deeply impressed with the necessity of aiding and encouraging the Russian proletariat in their fight for freedom, because it has and will be of material interest to the workers of the world:

Therefore, we, the members of Local Maiden of the International Socialist Party of America do hereby pledge our moral and financial support, to the Russian people in their emancipation.

COMMITTEE ON PROGRAM. Adopted Jan. 22, 1906. A neatly arranged and instructive program took up the major portion of the early evening, and was as follows:

Opening address by Comrade Robert McMillan, consisting of a brief outline of the "class struggle," and why socialists pay homage to the innocents that were slaughtered on January 22, 1905. Reading of local paper, "Sparks

of the Coming Commonwealth," by Geo. H. Wiegler.

Comrade W. Tracey then spoke for a few minutes.

Comrade Lars Anderson of Local Gilt Edge favored us with an address on general topics of the day laying especial stress on and congratulating Local Maiden for the number of lady comrades, and sympathizers present.

An address by Comrade A. J. McDonald of Local Lewistown dealing with conditions such as they are on farm, railroad or in factory today, proved this comrade to be a careful observer of economic conditions.

Recitation entitled, "Workers of the World in Freedom's Cause" enlisted," by Comrade Annita Belle McMillan, was well delivered.

Reading of resolution, by Comrade Chas. Johnson. Second to resolution, by Comrade J. J. Lewis of Local Gilt Edge with an excellent speech.

Collection taken by Comrades Tracey and Wiegler, amount \$17.15.

Speech in support of resolution, by speaker of the evening Comrade A. T. Harvey of Local Lewistown. This was by odds the most instructive part of the program, the speaker dealing with the economic and political conditions that led up to that peaceful and pleading demonstration that ended so disastrously on that fateful day which is now a part of history. He also pointed out the bearing this bloodshed and its consequence the Russian revolution had on the world at large, and how at all times it has been impossible to avoid lubricating the wheels of progress with the blood of martyrs so that their ideals might become a reality and common heritage of all.

We are rather envious of the local that is fortunate enough to claim one who is so able as Comrade Harvey for one of its members.

Oration, by Comrade Herman Schnick of Local Lewistown. The comrade demonstrated that he possessed oratorical powers of which even the proverbial "Irishman" might be proud. He impressed on the minds of all present that his colors are red—red as the blood of universal brotherhood.

Vote on resolution. Adjournment.

While the good ladies of the local were preparing lunch the meeting was again called to order and Comrade J. J. Lewis elected to the chair. All hands were now subject to call and when called upon were obliged to do their little stunt either by recitation, song, or oration, on several occasions the chairman being obliged to appoint a committee to escort the victim to the stand. This jollity was indulged in until the aroma of Mocha and Java arose and diverted the thoughts of all present along other lines.

One of those lunch suppers followed for which the lady comrades of Local Maiden are famous. Thanks to these makers of men, and

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James Walker
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may their thoughtful and highly appreciated efforts be rewarded by the universal freedom and equality for which they are so nobly battling. The material wants of the inner man being attended to, the spirit of goodfellowship once more demanded recognition. A program being arranged the meeting was again called to order by Comrade Lewis as presiding officer. Songs, recitations, and reading were now in order and not until the early hours of the morning was there any abatement in this entertaining program. To the visiting comrades and friends, we express our gratitude for having so willingly contributed their talent in making our meeting a success.

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Comrade Mabie's farmer article is again crowded out by the pressing necessity of the coal miner's strike, and the primary law. We have neglected to warn the proletarian voters of this state against this infamous measure, and we can ignore it no longer. If there is no preventing providence the Mabie article will appear February 14. We have requests already for long lists to go to Virginia and Washington. The rates for bundles are \$1 a hundred.

Have Your Next Suit Made by

Comrade Mabie has turned in 47 subs up to date on his trip. They cover Livingston, Chestnut, Bozeman, Helena, East Helena and Pittsburg mine. He is still at work.

C. M. BATCH
TAILOR
Thompson Bldg., Main Helena
St. opp. Grand Central Hotel. Mont.

The social to be given by the Worker's club Thursday night has been postponed till Feb. 22 on account of the Woodmen ball on the same night.

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Statement of Condition at Close of Business Jan. 29, 1906.

RESOURCES:	
Loans and Discounts	\$1,302,084.54
Bonds and Warrants	248,445.80—\$1,550,530.34
Furniture and Fixtures	0.00
Bank Building	62,500.00
Cash	232,948.59
Due from Banks	589,921.30—822,869.89
Total	\$2,435,900.23
LIABILITIES:	
Capital	\$250,000.00
Undivided Profits	84,266.14—\$334,266.14
Deposits	2,101,634.09
Total	\$2,435,900.23

A general commercial banking business transacted, including the purchase and sale of school district, county and state bonds and warrants. Foreign exchange and letters of credit issued available in all parts of the world. Drafts sold on all principal points in the United States

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