

DID IT EVER OCCUR TO YOU?

By Edmund DeFreyne
Did it ever occur to you that the United States of America is the only "civilized" country in the world, except Turkey and Spain, that does not have postal savings banks or their equivalent?
Did it ever occur to you that every post office in the Philippines is a bank of deposit for the people's savings?
Did it ever occur to you that Americans are as much entitled to this system as Filipinos?
Did it ever occur to you that the lobby in congress of our so-called national banks has defeated every effort to give us government security for our money?
Did it ever occur to you that a large majority of the citizens of the great Republic have demanded postal savings banks for many years, and that it was the bonded duty of our representatives in the congress to carry out the people's will?
Did it ever occur to you that the Congress, under the constitution, had the right to establish really national banks, which would be absolute safe depositories for our savings?
Did it ever occur to you that if the government banks there could be no financial panics, no money stringency, no possibility of loss to any one, no speculation with bank funds, no national debt, and no usury?
Did it ever occur to you that if Uncle Sam were only banker, rates would be uniform and very low? That taxes would be enormously decreased? That farmers and merchants and home-builders could borrow on easy terms? That exchange and clearing-house graft would disappear? That the credit of the nation would be behind every dollar? That stock-gamblers, high financiers and big business burglars could no longer use our own savings to plunder us?
Did it ever occur to you that a government is the only safe and logical maker and custodian of money? That to entrust those functions to private individuals is to invite dishonesty, dishonor and ruin? That it is too much power to give to an archangel? That only a race of fools would let the control of its circulating medium pass out of its own hands?
Did it ever occur to you that if every bank was a United States sub-treasury there could be no "run" on it? That it would be merely a branch of the great central depository? Thus

if a local president or cashier defaulted it would make no difference to you, because your deposit would be safeguarded and guaranteed by billions of national funds, to which the loss of a few millions would be a drop in the bucket?
Did it ever occur to you that if the federal government was in the banking business, the banking officials would be commissioned and bonded men, like the officers of the army pay corps? That these officers could not lend the bank funds to themselves and their friends and families? That they would soon become innoculated with the army idea of honor and honesty? That they would be inspected monthly by officers of higher rank, whose own commissions would be at stake? That, under such a system, every local loss would be almost impossible?
Did it ever occur to you that what other nations have done we can do? That we are as capable of running banks as Japanese?
Did it ever occur to you that we are a financial ass?—*Soc. Dem. Herald.*

MUNICIPAL OWNERSHIP PLANS
OTTAWA, Feb. 10.—As a result of the municipal operation of its electric light plant, Ottawa has net profits of \$17,222 on last year's operations.
Three and a half years ago the city took over the plant on an arrangement effected by the Hydro-Electric Commission. Since that time the gross revenue has increased by 200 per cent, the number of customers has increased from 1,314 to 3,164, and rates for lighting have been considerably decreased.

THE FIRST "SCAB."
Undoubtedly the devil was the first "scab." There is no disputing the fact that heaven has always been run according to union principles and as a closed shop. Satan rebelled against these conditions and started to agitate for an open institution whereupon he was expelled from membership in the angels' union and fired to perdition. Ever since then harmony has reigned in Paradise, and the closed shop prevails. No "scab" is tolerated in the kingdom of heaven, and there is no room for Professor Elliot's hero strike-breakers there. Our advice to the man who is so low as to act the "scab" is to go to his father.—*Elevator Constructor.*

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Machinists' Treasury Attacked by Courts

The courts deal another blow at labor unions Tuesday when Supreme Court Justice Mills, at White Plains, ruled that the District Council No. 15 New York, of the International Association of Machinists must pay \$3,847 to the Jones Speedmotor Company to reimburse the latter for the expense of guards for strikebreakers and special detectives caused by a strike of the former.
The suit was brought by Joseph W. Jones as president of the Jones Speedmotor Company, which has a large factory at New Rochelle and another in New York. It was directed against George M. Maher, as president of District Lodge No. 15 of the International Association of Machinists. Local No. 460 was made a co-defendant, as were several members of the local and district lodges.
A strike was called in March, 1907, to obtain the reinstatement of five men who were discharged because of their loyalty to the union. The company then made a contract

with a detective agency for a supply of strikebreakers and special detectives. After being fleeced by the detective agency the company decided to wring their loss from the union.

It is believed that if the decision of Judge Mills will be upheld it will work worse havoc with the labor unions than the Danbury Hatter's decision, which confines the damages liable to the in trade. That treasuries of labor unions can be mulched to reimburse employers for expenses incurred in fighting a strike ordered by that union is a departure even for American courts.

The ruling of Tuesday is practically identical with the famous Taft Vale decision of England, which was used for a precedent by British employers until the workers of that country united politically and caused the passing of the Trades Disputes act. This law protected the British workers from such decisions as rendered at White Plains Tuesday.

SOCIALIST DEPUTY DIES IN EXILE.

The death is announced from Siberia of M. Dzharparidge, one of the Social Democratic deputies of the Second Duma, who, together with his colleagues, had been deported to Siberia for a period of eight years on the charge of having conspired against the life of the Tsar. He had been suffering consumption, and repeatedly asked to be transported to the southern part of Siberia. After a delay of two years his request was at last granted, but he died on the road.

THE DISGUSTED MULE.

Have you ever seen a two-legged mule? Here's a story about two four-legged ones:
Said the Grey Mule to the Black 'Un, one morning, "I'd like very much to go to town today."
"Well, why don't you go?" asked the Black 'Un.
"I've got no one toride me," answered the Grey.
"What's the matter with your feet?"
"Nothing. Why?"

WHITE SLAVES SOLD ON LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY

Unemployed men on Auction Block at Brooklyn, Sold Like Chattel Slaves But Few Get Masters.

New York, Feb. 12th

A thrilling spectacle, and one not likely to be forgotten by those who have witnessed it, was the sale of men that took place to-night at the Parkside Church Lenox road and Flatbush avenue, Brooklyn. There were 300 people to be sold, out of which two dozen with faces masked, each designated with a number and description of his characteristics and qualifications, took the platform. They stood there ready to be sold, asking to be sold, pleading to be sold. They made no high demands, and asked no price, no but were ready to give their skill, knowledge, health and powers to the man who would promise food and shelter. They were all, with one exception, young and strong, and masters of trades, well-built and neatly dressed.

E. T. O'Laughlin, the man who had arranged the sale, acted as auctioneer and he ordered many of the would-be slaves to take off their coats and display their muscles and strength, holding profits of the investment. But notwithstanding the fact that the church was crowded, and that 2,000 people were outside of the place, who could not gain admission, the demand for men was small.

O'Laughlin Explains Sale.

Mr. O'Laughlin, before bringing the men on the platform, explained the conditions that brought him to auction off human beings. "I once obtained a job for a friend, who was down and out," he said, "by placing an advertisement that I wanted to sell him. Since then I got 400 letters of people asking that I do the same for them. I did not want to do it. I have neither the time nor ability to give myself to the task, and I was about to dismiss the applicants. But I began to read the letters. Most of them read, 'for God's sake sell me. I have no food and no place to sleep!'"

"Many of the writers," continued O'Laughlin, "stated that they were crime or suicide, and as I read, I began to realize in what a social hell we are living."

"I have a wife, and I have a little baby home. And as I was reading the letters to my wife she said, 'You must try, something must be done. Perhaps you can do something for him—for the one who says he will jump into the river—and for those who have little children, like ours!'"

"Friends," continued the speaker, "I am sick, sick at heart, when I think of the contents of these letters."

He brought to the platform a dress-suit case, which he opened and displayed to the audience, showing it to be full of the letters. He then told how the task of answering them became impossible, and how futile it would be to take individual action. He, therefore, advertised for a church in which the auction could be conducted, and notwithstanding the fact that the advertisement for a church was inserted for six days, the only one that answered it was Dr. John E. Long, of the Parkside Church.

Ask to Be Put Up First

O'Laughlin told how he had been asked by the applicants to be put up first.

"I called a meeting of these 'first up' men last night in the library of Dr. Long's church. I have been out of work ten months," said one man whose hair was verging on the gray, "and I feel that I am at last on the eve of a job."

"His face lit up as he talked. It was as if the threshold of heaven were about to open to him. The chance of a job, to labor with his hands, to take home bread to his wife and little ones, was the goal toward which he had been striving for long, weary months.

"This is the nearest I've gotten to it," he continued, "and I don't want to be thrown down now. I want you to put me up. I'll strip and show what fine, strong arms I've got. I'll work like a horse, just for the chance to live. I can't keep this thing up much longer. I'll do anything to be sold first."

"But there were others who offered as much or more. One after another they rose and pleaded to be 'put up first.'"

"Then one man said, 'I'm willing

to stand unmasked before the crowd in church and let my face plead for me."

"Then the competition started anew. All were willing to do this to be put up first."

Auction Sale Begins.

No. 11 was the man put up first. The auctioneer gave the description: "Young man, twenty-four, out of job for eight months; is a driver by trade; strong and willing to work. He has tramped all over New York and Brooklyn in search of work; has seven little brothers and sisters at home; father is sick. What am I offered?"

At this point a man from the audience called out that he offered \$10 a week. This was greeted with tremendous applause. The man was A. C. Will, a baker, at 614 Coney Island avenue. Mr. Will also offered three loaves of bread for the man's family.

The next man to take the block was No. 10. Again did the voice of the auctioneer rise:

"No. 10 is a young man, twenty-five years old; out of work for eight months; is an ironmolder; can do hard work—ladies and gentlemen—what am I offered? Can you give this man a job; have you a job for No. 10, ladies and gentlemen?"

At this point Mr. W. F. Copeland, of the Straightedge Industrial Settlement, said that if no one is ready to buy No. 10, he will be allowed to join their settlement. They do not offer any wages, but are ready to take him in if the man can bring with him the necessary tools. He explained that their plan is to produce the necessities of life, and working on a co-operative plan.

No. 10 was sent away with Copeland to talk over matters, and No. 21 took the stand. He was a mechanic; steam and electric fitter; understood steam heating; knew how to work dynamos; was a total abstainer; fought in the Boer war, and served the United States in the Philippine Islands. He was twenty-seven years old. He was knocked down for \$25 a month.

But complications arose. His engagement was not to start until the first of March, and what was to be done in the meantime? Mr. Will the baker who bought No. 10, offered food and lodging until then.

While the arrangements were being made with No. 21, a man walked over to No. 17, and after a few words, took him away.

No. 23 was sold to a painter for \$10 a week.

The One Exception.

The exception in the lot of young and healthy men was No. 14. He was old and the only one whose head was gray. A shiver went through the audience when this man took the stand. A few moments of silence followed, and for a time not even the auctioneer found his tongue. Men turned away their faces, and women sobbed at the grotesque sight. The silence was intense, but of short duration. Young man stepped up, and after a talk with the auctioneer, led the old man away.

Here the demand for men stopped. No. 16 was put up. A man who, according to the auctioneer, had an education, was intelligent, in the prime of life, well built, willing to take anything. But no offer was made.

Then it was that the people realized the seriousness of the moment. The sight of twenty strong men facing a large gathering and demanding work was an embarrassing one. What was to be done with them? Should they be sent home? There was no home. Should they be turned over to the streets? Should they be forced to crime, or ordered to commit suicide? Never did the problem of unemployment strike home so forcibly and never was the right to work proven more eloquent.

Men wriggled and turned in their seats, and women covered their faces with their hands. It was like realizing a great common calamity. There was the social enemy claiming vic-

tims, depriving people of their natural right to sustain life. What was to be done?

The usual happened. Business gave way to pity. It was no longer a question of saving life. Charity took the place of justice, and a clamor for a collection was made. In just two minutes a hundred dollars was gathered to keep the unfortunates alive.

Appoint a Committee.

Dr. John D. Long took a prominent part in the meeting. He made a short speech in which he urged the necessity of creating a movement to supply work to the unemployed. On his recommendation, a committee was appointed to care for those who were not sold. P. C. Hammond, of 1199 Flatbush avenue, Brooklyn, was appointed as the head of the committee. He was authorized to collect funds.

W. W. Passage, Leon A. Malkiel and John A. Behringer, Socialists, had taken advantage of the situation, and addressed the overflow outside of the church. The police did not at first permit them to speak, but headquarters was telephoned to, and permission was obtained. There was enough to be said. Slavery was restored inside a house of God; human beings were sold into bondage, and this on a day when the entire world was celebrating the birthday of Abraham Lincoln! It was evident to all present that while freedom was a theory, slavery in this country was a fact, and those who were not Socialists, were held by the power of proof; so lavishly furnished by the proceedings inside the church.

Talk about the plutes deliberately controlling prices and panics, never before in a panic were the prices of goods known to go higher. They are soaring today. The prices of labor is all that is falling, and the job gets beautifully less. That is, the workers still have deadly competition among themselves for the job, but the capitalists have eliminated competition among themselves, so they control prices all around and the workingman controls nothing. About time to vote for socialism isn't it? Then the workers would own both the job and the product.

Not some far-off clivine utopian event is Socialism but a bitter class struggle here and now.

To Emasculate Socialist Pledges

Olmpla, Wash., Feb. 13.—Seeking to end the custom of exacting pledges from candidates for the legislature to support certain bills or providing that any candidate who signs such a pledge shall be disqualified from holding the office he seeks. It was acknowledged on the floor of the senate by the framers of the bill that it is directed particularly at labor organizations, but designed also to apply to any compact working organization, such as the Anti-Saloon league or the Equal Suffrage association.

The bill as passed places disqualification also upon candidates for supervisor, school director or for any legislative body, who signs similar ante-election pledges, and also makes

WHY ARE YOU A SOCIALIST?

Why are you a Socialist?
Why did you declare yourself a Socialist?

What did you join the Socialist party for?

What does Socialism mean to you now?

Is it a living, working purpose with you to help build a better social state, to teach and train the workers who have been kept in ignorance, so that they may gain confidence, power and knowledge of how to conduct their own affairs?

If such is the case don't you think a spirit of helpfulness and cheerful co-operation is better than an eternal spirit of fault-finding and destructiveness?

Do you think that you are doing the best you can to make your party strong and capable of obtaining the best results?

Do you not think that the officials you have elected are entitled to the best support you can render?

There is no state or position in which they are not having a bitter fight, against the capitalist, against the ignorance and inexperienced of their own class, and against bitter financial odds.

Don't you think the part of a good true Socialist would be to strengthen this fight along class lines, and encourage the fighters?

Comrades, let us remember what is our business as Socialists.

Let us remember that the work of the class struggle calls us.

We must strengthen our locals, educate our communities, define our manifold issues against the capitalists, expose and attack every form of injustice against the working class, build a powerful local press that fight our battles and expose our wrongs.

Let us co-operate, let us work, let us help each other along.

Wherever you can give a lift you know how much it is needed, and how much it will be appreciated. Sit down and think for fifteen minutes just what you could do to help a lot right now.

And then get up and write to the Montana News about it.

TALK WITH THE NON-SOCIALIST.

Why is it that we are Socialists and you are not? Let us see what the Socialist wants.

He wants a good house to live in. So do you. He wants decent clothes to wear. So do you. He wants pure and unadulterated food. Don't you? He wants his children to receive the best education possible, just as you do. He wants leisure for enjoyment, so do you. He is as willing to work and produce these things as you are. But he objects to having any of his labor taken by those who do no useful work. Isn't he right? He desires to see unemployment, and sweating, and drunkenness, and prostitution, and tyranny of all kinds abolished. Don't you agree with him there.

It seems that there is not such a big difference after all, doesn't it? We each want to make life really worth living. We are agreed that so far as most people are concerned, we are not getting the best out of life. We each know what is good and desirable. Now, the Socialist says that he knows the way by which these things can be obtained.

Think it over. If the Socialist proposals can be shown to be wrong, and you know a better way, out with it, and we will help you. We Socialists want the best possible conditions for life, and so do you. Reason it out friend. Ignorance is a bad thing, but reason will not injure anyone.

SOLD TO A COTTON MILL.

Children Try to Commit Suicide in Japan

Child labor is dying hard in Lancashire, where it is over a hundred years old. In Japan it is new, but the depth of the misery which accompanies it may be gathered from the following daily official paragraph taken from the Japan "Times":—

Factory Life.—Four girls, none of them older than 15, were seen on Sunday loitering on the railway track near Uyeno Park, apparently intent on committing suicide. The police brought them to the Shytaya Station, and elicited from them a rather sad story. They hail from Sharikmura, Aomori-ken, their ages ranging from 8 to 15. A few days ago they were sold to a cotton mill in Honjo, and came to Tokio on the 11th inst. After entering the dormitory they found the factory life so miserable and unhappy that they resolved to leave the factory for good. At dawn on Sunday they fled from the dormitory, and were able to reach Uyeno Station in the afternoon. But none of them had a sen to procure passage, and they thought the only way out of the distress was to die. So they went to the railway track, when they were stopped by the police. They do not know the name of the factory in which they had been employed, and are now quartered at the police station.

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GOVERNMENT BY INTEREST

The illuminating philosophic truth which the genius of wars gave to the world was what is known to the materialistic conception of history, sometimes termed the law of economic determinism. Briefly stated these phrases convey the meaning that material interests, economic conditions, the environment determine actions and the result of actions. This historic principle is being illustrated with great force at the present time in connection at the national and state attitudes concerning Japanese immigration. Western labor knows what the competition means with oriental labor, it knows that the swarming hordes of the Chinese and Japs are looking for territory in which to spread themselves and better their condition. Unrestrained these constantly increasing masses would soon monopolize our western coast and spread to the interior, driving white labor before them through the invariable competition for a lower standard of living. The popularity of the western states is an overwhelming problem as compared to the eastern states. And these states are still so new that the working class materially influences legislation. That is the officials in these states are in direct contact with the workers, and the government corresponds in a great measure with their interests.

That is how the California legislation has passed a ringing act against yellow labor. This body represented the pressing necessities of the citizens of the state. But here comes Roosevelt's terrific howl and protest. Roosevelt's government represents the great capitalistic interests of the nation. The American nation, that is the great capitalists of the nation, who direct government in accordance with their vast business enterprises, do not want a war with Japan. Diplomats of the two nations are professing the greatest friendship for each other. How embarrassing to have these conditions of equilibrium broaden simply because western labor gets irascible and insists on protecting itself from the Japanese raid.

But the statement at Washington know what the Jap character is. They know it is a rising and determined nation, making gains at every possible point and making no retreat. They know that any indignities implicated on the Japanese in this country will be resented immediately by the Japanese government.

In accordance with the hoary wiles of a ruling class the government resorts to subterfuges to keep the western workers and the state government that are representing their interests in a proper state of acquiescence. So Roosevelt gets Senator Newlands of Nevada to write a long diplomatic letter to the legislature of that state, about as belligerent as California on the yellow question rehearsing at length the dangers from the invasion of a race given to servitude, proclaiming the necessity of protecting the interests of white labor, but giving a careful explanation of the inadequacy of state legislation to grapple with the situation successfully, and advising that all such government interference be left to the general government.

It is easy to discover the nigger in the woodpile. The general government is not putting itself out to deal with local sectional interests to suit the worker or the small capitalist as against the large capitalist.

The western states are vigorously protesting against the government dictation that Jap children shall have the

same privileges as American school children. That is, the Japanese government object to segregation in schools, whereupon it was made apparent that the provisions of the treaty with Japan did not permit of separate schools for Japanese children such as are provided for negro children in the south. Japan will not be treated as an inferior nation. But the white Californian wants segregation and states through prominent authorities that when the United States permitted such terms to go into a treaty it transcended the powers it had over the rights of the state to regulate their own affairs, and violated the national constitution. There is no doubt but the states rights question will figure largely in the question between the big capitalist and the little capitalists with the interests of the workers involved as a subordinate issue.

The philosopher may state that the international competition of labor minimizes the importance of foreign labor to the American workman. That may be all true enough that the foreigner is taking his job by manufacturing abroad. But such won't go down with the California fruit-picker who sees his job snatched from under his nose. He is going to have that job if he has to kill the other fellow to get it. Hence the position of organized labor on the foreign labor question, and the socialists will have to espouse the cause of labor if he is going to get the confidence of labor.

How are you going to have socialism if you do not begin to make the socialist demand a power in your community.

Concentration in trade—The merchants of Pocatello have taken off all their solicitors and order men, now to get your groceries you either have to phone, or, if you are too poor to afford a phone, walk down town. Simultaneously with this new departure the price of phones went up fifty cents a month. About time the people owned the phones and the grocery stores isn't it? But that would be Socialism.

UNINSTRUCTIVE PROGRAM OF SOCIALISM

The Socialist movement will never be of any benefit to the working class unless it is practical. As a dream of a blissful utopia it is eminently satisfactory. It is pleasant to dwell on the delights of when the worker will have his entire product. What must we do to get there? Is the Socialist party organized for political purposes? If so what are we doing in the way of politics?

The day of the empty, dreamy, talkative Socialist is passing away. Philosophy and economic science are admirable possessions for whomever may have the ability and time to conquer them. Any Socialist who conquers these subjects is all the better prepared for his work in the great movement. But the Socialist have started out on a far-reaching mission to conquer the world for labor. Now just what is it that they must do? They are to control governments, to make laws to control cities, schools, industries. They also want to protect the lives of the workers, to make sanitary homes for them to care for them in sickness, misfortune, old age, to secure for them better schools, public culture, lectures, music, art and above all the democratic safeguards by which these comforts of life may be provided.

This is a big task ahead of mere workers. They have never been accustomed to handling their own politics. Most of them know nothing of political laws, how to comply with legal requirements governing the ballot. All these matters it is the province of the workers to learn in the Socialist movement.

Then, if the world is to change for the workers the workers must change the world. And the Socialists must begin that change right in their own locality. It is wonderful what a minority can do possessed by an idea that is right. By bringing some broad, necessary public issue to the front, education for it, explaining it, the thing may be brought to pass in time no matter how difficult it may appear. The small handful of Socialists that now exist in communities must present a practical program of action that the workers want; that they can see is of direct benefit to them. We must work for and get our direct legislation, fair election laws. There is no possibility of realizing the co-operative commonwealth utopia without going through the bogs that are before us. Capitalism is in no immediate danger of a collapse by which it will cease to exploit the workers. Socialism is not inevitable if the workers do not develop the strength and efficiency to administrate government. One writer even goes so far as to say that Socialism is not inevitable through evolution because the trend of evolution is toward benevolent benevolent pendasim, but that the guaranty of Socialism is the revolutionary spirit of the workers themselves. If the revolutionary spirit is there, they must be taught to systemize their re-

volt. They must develop efficiency by continued action in practical things. This serious, constructive, practical spirit is all that makes the existence of a local of any benefit. If you are doing nothing you might as well not exist, capitalism does not fear simply a bunch of empty talkers. If there is a man in your local who does nothing but talk, who opposes all practical work on the ground of not being "scientific," who is always talking against and maligning the unions, and advocating some impossible line of class action, it is well to be suspicious of him. He is probably paid to keep the Socialist from doing anything except talk. If you find some one who is a constant obstructionist, who fights party action at every point, attacks the party officials, keeps up a constant turmoil he is probably a spotter. Watch closely to see how he gets his living. The industrial cities of Montana are cursed by these people, waiting to throw every working class move into confusion. They are in the unions and they are in the Socialist party. Stand out for a strong practical sensible program, and work so steadily to carry it out that the capitalist class is filled with consternation.

The greatest scientists, economists, criminologists, artists, literary men of the world are Socialists.

CITY CAMPAIGNS.

The Montana municipal elections should show the Socialists active and aggressive this year. Every town that runs a city ticket that has any Socialists in it should have a city ticket standing for working class interests. There is no better propaganda than an election campaign. Every city under capitulation has abuses and injustices in it that should be removed in the interest of the working class. Today governments are run in the interest of observances that benefit the rich only—with a view to increasing their profits and lessening their expenses. That is why nuisances from their industries are permitted to cluster our streets, injurious to life and limb, unsanitary, unsightly. An interference with the manner of running the business, would interfere with the profit of the business. So the capitalist city government treats it as something sacred. The lives of human beings, especially of working class human beings, are of small consequence in comparison. And it is always the working class that have to endure the smells and the vices and the unwelcome sights. The wealthy class live afar off in pleasant parts of the town.

But to correct all these offenses would require higher taxes and as these taxes come out of the propertied class, a capitalist city government is going to vote as small taxes as possible and the grafting politicians usually get the most of that.

Socialist city governments are enormously more efficient than capitalist city government, and the records of the world are easy to find for this evidence. Most of the German cities of Socialist city governments. There are numerous Socialist governed cities in France, Italy and other parts of Europe. We American Socialists must learn city government. We must learn practical politics. Make a platform that deals with local needs. Make a warm issue of one or two of the most important. Spread your agitation through the community by posters, bills and special issues of the Montana News dealing with the local situation. Raise such a row that every one can see that the Socialists are standing for a situation that would be a public benefit.

Begin your work now. Get all the Socialist voters in your community together whether they belong to the local or not. Get them into the local if you can, and then have one jam-boree of a talket on the city campaign. Let no guilty man escape, make up your minds what abuses you are going to attack, and then conduct such a campaign that all the voters in the town will know what the Socialists are after. Of course it will cost something; but then freedom costs a lot in blood and human happiness. You can make the News an organ of power against capitalism if you will, make it carry your issues.

Get ready for the Montana Socialist municipal campaigns.

Every Socialist local contemplating a municipal Socialist campaign should possess itself of Carl D. Thompson's "Constructive Program of Socialism." It is the only book printed in America on this subject. To be had of the Social-Democratic Herald, Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Price 25 cents.

The capitalist is the man who takes the capital that the workers have produced and uses it as a whip of explanation over them. Under Socialism the workers would own their own capital, and the capitalist would vanish because his job of private ownership was taken from him.

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LOCAL GREAT FALLS, of the Socialist Party. Meets every Sunday at Union Hall at 8 p. m. Wm. PALSGROVE, Sec'y. 815 7th Avenue

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Notice to Locals Lena Morrow Lewis will lecture in Montana during the month MARCH Locals desiring to secure her for Lectures should file application with the State Secretary at once, so as to avoid disappointment. Locals in the cities in which elections are to be held should arrange a series of meetings for her.

Would You Like to Look Young? WOULD YOU LIKE TO FEEL YOUNG? Send One Dollar for a simple secret that will accomplish wonderful results in making a complexion of Milk and Roses, perfecting the form and removing any and all disease from the system. Or, send \$1.25 and secure above secret of Youth and Beauty and a dainty booklet of invaluable instructions for any woman over twenty. A lovely Holiday gift. Address, M. B. M., 1431 Lewis St., Helena, Mont.

If You Work for a Living it should interest you to know that you get in wages only part of what you produce; that a larger part goes to the capitalists who own the tools with which you have to work. This book by the greatest of Socialist writers explains clearly and forcibly how wages are determined and how they can be raised. Study Marx for yourself; he will help you to do your own thinking. Cloth, 50c; paper 10c.

Any book published by us will be mailed promptly on receipt of price. Catalog free. The International Socialist Review, monthly, 10c a copy or \$1.00 a year, is now the most readable socialist periodical in America. All the best books free to subscribers who send in new subscriptions. Address CHARLES H. KERR & COMPANY 186 Kinzie Street, CHICAGO.

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Poet's Corner

THE WORKER'S WARNING.

(By Tilden Sempers.)

THIS IS THE THING YOUR SYSTEM BREEDS,
SMOOTH LORDS OF LEISURE AND GAIN,—
DESPISE THE WORKERS' WARNING CRY
AT YOUR DEADLY PERIL AND PAIN!

My masters, you see my hair is gray,
I am old who was never young;
From my childish toil your soft white hands

Their murderous gains have wrung,
My childhood, my masters, ye slew for gold,
And your hirelings aided you well,
Your writers, teachers, clergymen,—
High priests of industrial hell.

We must work for our masters patiently,
God wills we must not complain,
We must live in want and filth and the dark.

And we ate what they didain
God wills that we should stunted be
In body, brain and heart,—
Our cultured masters thereby aid
Church, science, letters, art.

In school and church and paper and book,
Ye taught us, and we believed,
That God ordained this monstrous wrong,—

My masters, we're undeceived,
The will of God we can leave to him—
Fears he for our puny powers?
But, masters all, we know your will,
And you shall soon know ours!

Your System pleases you well, it gives
You incomes—earned by whom?
We know that we make all your wealth,
And we sound the System's doom.

We ask for nothing for ourselves
That we do not offer you:
The value of our toll in full,
The work a man should do.

Smooth masters, we've found your secret out,
Will ye listen to words of peace,
Or must the sword and the cannon's roar

Compel your crimes to cease?
Must the leaping flames of ruined towns

And the havoc of screaming shell
A pathway clear for our escape
From the life ye make a hell?

Dream not ye can goad us to revolt,
As ye've done in other lands,
That ye may bind forevermore
Your fetters on our hands.

Force ye shall have, if force ye crave,
But we will bide the hour
Till State and Army we have grasped
Within our swerveless power!

THIS IS THE THING YOUR SYSTEM BREEDS,
SMOOTH LORDS OF LEISURE AND GAIN,—

DESPISE THE WORKERS' WARNING CRY
AT YOUR DEADLY PERIL AND PAIN!

—Worker.

Belt, Mont. Feb. 10, 1909

Montana News:
Helena, Mont.

Dear Sir:

Whereas, it has come to our notice that the four Mexicans, Sarabia, Magon, Rivera, and Villarreal, who have for some time been under arrest in Los Angeles, California, charged with various crimes ranging from Petty Larceny to that of murder, and,

Whereas, we believe these charges one and all are "Trumped up Charges" with no foundations whatever as has been repeatedly proven, and,

Whereas, we believe these men nothing more nor less than Political Enemies of the President of Mexican government, which bar none, not excepting Russia, is one of the most tyrannical in the whole world, and,

Whereas, we believe these men who's only crime is being friends of the down trodden class, the working class and if through any event, or by any means they should ever be taken back to Mexican soil, they will be shot in cold blood with out mercy and with out trial.

Therefore, be it resolved that we as members of U. S. 370 U. M. W. of A. Belt, Mont., do most forcibly condemn the U. S. officials as well as those of Mexico who are trying by all means possible whether fair or foul, to legally take the lives of those four patriots, and be it further,

Resolved, that a copy of this resolution be sent to each of our two U. S. Senators our representative in Congress, our state legislature, and the press.

By order of L. U. 370 U. M. W. of A. Belt, Montana
C. J. CROFT, Secretary

International

SOCIALISM IN BERLIN

The rapid growth of the Socialist movement in Germany has astonished many people who do not understand the tremendous vitality of Socialism. The latest report of the Berlin section of the party show that where the Social Democrats had only 8,000 votes in this city in 1883, they are now polling 100,000 votes in the third class of voters alone, as against a bare 22,000 for all the other parties. The 35 Socialists in the Berlin City Council virtually control the body, but their power is greatly restricted by national and State laws.

Socialists of Gorlitz, Germany, have started a savings bank. They have also collected \$2,000 for the purpose of establishing a paper, which will be launched when they double that amount.

Some European statesmen are looking for trouble in Finland along toward the spring. Russia is attempting to encroach upon the rights guaranteed Finland after the revolution several years ago. The Finns are being worked up to a high pitch of excitement, and, while the Socialists are leading in opposing Russian encroachment, all parties are united on the principle of resisting the encroachments of the wolfish Czar.

The Socialist party organization in Finland numbers 83,328 members in 131 locals. They also have affiliated unions and other bodies.

105 women's organizations, 507 trade owners' union is being taken up with enthusiasm. German, Italian, Austro-Hungarian, Spanish, Dutch, Greek, Baltic and White Sea, Japanese, and American shipowners are all rallying in support of the English proposal.

HAWAII.

Japanese laborers employed on the Hawaiian sugar plantations are agitating for an increase of wages.

The dues-paying membership of the Socialist party in Norway has increased from 25,000 to 30,000 during the past year.

FRANCE.

"L'Humanite."

The "Humanite" has now a sale of 22,700 in Paris alone, in addition to the subscribers. A table is published showing the fluctuations of the sale in the course of the year. These varied considerably, but the highest point was reached at the end of July when the massacres occurred at Villeneuve, when more than 25,000 would seem to have been sold. At the beginning of the year the sale was 19,356. The "Humanite" is also now the only Paris daily which has no City department, the resolution having been passed to abolish this department. This resolution, which has long been the wish of our comrades, was delayed by the doubt whether a paper could exist without, but now that the existence of the paper seems to be assured it has been resolved to make an end. Without doubt the position of a Paris Socialist paper is always very difficult, because, in contrast to Germany, the number of subscribers is relatively so very small, whereas "Vorwaerts" almost wholly depends on its regular subscribers, the occasional sales being almost nothing in comparison, but it would really seem as if the position of the "Humanite" was very good despite the unfavorable conditions.

HUNGARY

An Effective General Strike

The Hungarian Social-Democrats seem, if the reports are correct, to have given a splendid example of how a general strike can be carried out in a big town like Budapest. None of the papers appeared, no business could be done. That is the way to make the governing classes see that the workers are a power in the State, and the only argument which would appeal to the aristocracy of Hungary or the cowardly bourgeoisie which has found a refuge under the wing of their former enemies. The example of what the Hungarians are doing will, if successful, be a powerful incentive to the German working class in their fight with the Prussian reaction, and perhaps they may be induced to try the same.

REVOLT IN SIBERIA.

The exiles in the Tourhanski district of Siberia, which lies within the Arctic circle, are in a state of revolt. Recently the inspecto-general for the district kept back the miserable pittance allowed by the Government to the exiles. They sent a deputation to this official asking for their money, but he denied having received it, whereupon the exiles, driven to desperation by their misery, murdered him.

National

MEXICAN PRISONERS

Extracts from the Times-Herald, Maco, Texas.

ARUAJO WAS WELL KNOWN IN WACO

Was arrested in this city and had his preliminary trial here. Editor of revolutionary papers.

Jan. 30.—Dispatches in yesterday's papers contain the information that Antonio de P. Aruajo, arrested in this city several months ago, charged with violating the United States neutrality laws, has been convicted at San Antonio, fined and sentenced to prison for a term of two and one half years. The trial of the case began last Monday, the defendant being represented by Hon. Cullen F. Thomas.

At one time, Aruajo was editor of the "Libertad, Reformay Justicia" a Spanish revolutionary paper, printed at Austin. When compelled by the authorities to cease printing his journal in Texas, Aruajo moved to Oklahoma and was traced from that state to Waco, though the arrest was made by policeman Ed Costly, and not a federal official. This was done so as not create suspicion on the part of the prisoner, as the government representatives were endeavoring to secure as much information from him as they possibly could prior to his preliminary hearing.

Soon after he was taken in charge preliminary hearing.

by the officers here and before he was removed to the county jail, a Times-Herald reporter had quite a lengthy chat with Aruajo at the city hall. He is far above the average in points of intelligence, conversing fluently in English, displaying a thorough knowledge of current affairs. One thing that seemed to worry Aruajo more than anything else was the fear of being deported to Mexico, he asserted over and over that his case would be taken to the United States Supreme Court if extradition proceedings were involved.

In discussing the case last evening with Hon. Cullen F. Thomas, the latter said that the next move had not been determined, but an application will probably be filed for writ of error, which, in Federal judicial procedure, is equivalent to asking for an appeal. Parties who heard Mr. Thomas, address to the jury stated that it was a most eloquent oration. The jury Aruajo as a result of the latter's campaign as noted above.

The count of the votes on national officers and referendum C—1908, began Feb. 10th and the result will be announced through the regular party channels of information on Monday Feb. 15th. A complete tabulation of the votes on both counts will appear in the February issue of the Official Monthly Bulletin.

In the December meeting of the National Executive Committee the information was at hand that Comrade Dora Montefiore of England, would probably visit this country about the middle of February. The National Executive Committee, therefore, provided that a lecture tour be arranged for her covering the period of her visit. This information was transmitted to the Woman's National Committee and as a consequence numerous inquiries have been received regarding assignments for her. It should now be stated that no direct communications in reply to the invitation extended has as yet been received from Comrade Montefiore. It is therefore suggested that Locals should not make any arrangements for speaking dates for Comrade Montefiore until further advised.

The International Socialists Bureau transmitted information that the Social Revolutionary Party of Russia, that one Azef is and has been an agent of the Czar for the purpose of organizing terrorism which can be charged to the part; that after the above relations were discovered he disappeared and his whereabouts are unknown. The following warning is submitted:

NOTICE.—The Central Committee of the Social Revolutionary party of Russia desires to bring before the Socialist of the world the news that Eugene Philippovich Azef, 38 years old known under the names of "Tolstoy", "Ivan Nicolavitch" and "Valentine Nousmitch," member of the party, member of the "fighting section" of the central committee, has been convicted of having relations with the secret police of Russia."

Comrade Thompson and Berger of the National Executive Committee, relating to the selection of books to be recommended for study courses in Socialism, desire to be recorded as submitting a minority report in favor of including "Modern Socialism" by Ensor, and "Studies in Socialism" by Jaures.

Women's Clubs

PROGRESS OF EQUAL SUFFRAGE.

By Alice Stone Blackwell

It is sometimes said that while the movement for women's education and property rights has advanced rapidly, the movement for suffrage has made little or no progress. On this point, let the "hard facts" speak for themselves.

Seventy years ago women could not vote anywhere, except to a very limited extent in Sweden and a few other places in the Old World.

In 1838, Kentucky gave school suffrage to widows with children of school age. In 1850, Ontario gave it to women both married and single. In 1861, Kansas gave it to all women. In 1867, New South Wales gave women municipal suffrage. In 1869, England gave municipal suffrage to single women and widows. Victoria gave it to women both married and single, and Wyoming gave full suffrage to all women.

In 1871, West Australia gave municipal suffrage to women. School suffrage was granted in 1875 by Michigan and Minnesota, in 1876 by Colorado, in 1877 by New Zealand, in 1878 by New Hampshire and Oregon, in 1897 by Massachusetts, in 1880 by New York and Vermont. In 1880, South Australia gave municipal suffrage to women.

In 1881, municipal suffrage was extended to the single women and widows of Scotland. Nebraska gave women school suffrage in 1883. Municipal suffrage was given by Ontario and Tasmania in 1884, and by New Zealand and New Brunswick in 1886.

In 1887, municipal suffrage was granted in Kansas, Nova Scotia, and Manitoba, and school suffrage in North and South Dakota, Montana, Arizona, and New Jersey. In the same year Montana gave tax-paying women the right to vote upon all questions submitted to the tax-payers.

In 1888, England gave women county suffrage, and British Columbia and the Northwest Territory gave them municipal suffrage. In 1889, county suffrage was given to the women of Scotland, and municipal suffrage to single women and widows in the Province of Quebec. In 1891, school suffrage was granted in Illinois.

In 1893, school suffrage was granted in Connecticut, and full suffrage in Colorado and New Zealand. In 1894, school suffrage was granted in Ohio, bond suffrage in Iowa, and parish and district suffrage in England to women both married and single. In 1895, full suffrage was granted in Utah and Idaho.

In 1898, the women of Ireland were given the right to vote for all offices except members of Parliament; Minnesota gave women the right to vote for library trustees; Delaware gave school suffrage to tax-paying women; France gave women engaged in commerce the right to vote for judges of the tribunals of commerce, and Louisiana gave tax-paying women the right to vote upon all questions submitted to the tax-payers. In 1900, Wisconsin gave women school suffrage, and West Australia granted full parliamentary suffrage to women, both married and single.

In 1901, New York gave taxpaying women in all towns and villages of the state right to vote on questions of local taxation, Norway gave them municipal suffrage, and the Kansas legislature voted down almost unanimously, and "amid a ripple of amusement," a proposal to repeal municipal suffrage.

In 1902, full national suffrage was granted to all women of federated Australia, and state suffrage to the women of New South Wales.

In 1903, bond suffrage was granted to the women of Kansas.

Tasmania gave women full suffrage in 1903, and Queensland in 1905.

In 1906, Finland gave women full national suffrage, and made them eligible to all offices, from members of Parliament down.

In 1906, two Courts of Appeal in Italy (those of Florence and Ancona) confirmed the decision of the lower court that there is nothing in the law of Italy to prevent women from voting. The decision of the highest court has not yet been rendered. (Oct. 1906.)

Years ago, when equal suffrage was much more unpopular than it is now, somebody asked Bishop Gilbert Haven if it were true that he had been speaking at a suffrage meeting.

"Yes," answered the Bishop, "I don't want to fall in at the rear of this reform; I mean to march with the procession!"

There can be no doubt as to which way the procession is moving.

Socialism is the social ownership and democratic management of the means of life.

The private ownership of the means of life means that you are dependent upon the owner for a chance to live. Socialism would secure the means of life to every individual as a birthright.

THE MAJESTIC BUFFET

Herman Schnick, Prop.

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Organized Workingmen and their Wives and their Sympathizers will remember that they cannot now, nor at any future time, be compelled to purchase the

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State Department

Are you a helper or are you a hindrance?

Five subs in from H. H. Search of Butte.

A bunch of 12 subs from Local Idaho Falls.

Comrade Wade sends seven subs from Roundup.

Will you help us make the pioneer local Socialist paper a success?

A bunch of eight subs this week from Hiram Smith of Ogden.

Forty-two single subs in this week besides the bunches.

Donald Fraser orders half a dozen "Machine Police" from Fernie B. C.

How about organizing a local out of the Socialist voters in your community?

Attend your local meeting, pay up your dues, get up something interesting.

Four more subs from Stockett. The activity of the Finnish local there is bearing fruit.

Local Glenn's Ferry has now forty members, where a year ago it could hardly muster a corporal's guard.

A bunch of ten subs from Butte. There are some Socialists there that have a notion of boosting and not knocking.

Five subscribers from John Kendall of Billings, accompanied by the legend, "We are not all capitalist scoundrels down here."

Don't forget that you must build a Socialist press before you can have an efficient Socialist party. Are you doing your part?

A comrade from Fergus county, one of the oldest stadys in the state, says he is willing to give \$5.00 a month to help the News to live.

Comrade Eva Wells of Fridley contributed two beautiful pictures to the News editorial room and the prospect is brighter in consequence.

Bills, letterheads, constitutions and by-laws, tickets for all occasions, job work of all kinds at the Montana News office. We pay the express.

A bunch of 12 new ones from Comrade Worth of Spokane. He says, "We only wish we had a paper like the News to fight our battles."

Comrade Plastina of Market Lake, Ida., takes five sub cards and sends in his subscription. He never stops talking Socialism and sleeps with one eye open for fear he may miss some chance of makin a convert.

The News mailing list is climbing up in a most satisfactory manner after the recent collapse. Are you in the procession. If not get in. Here is for teaching the working class to fight its own battles.

Now is the time to show old party graft, and show the people how they are duped by corrupt political leaders. You can do this by giving "Machine Politics" to a man to read. Send for a bunch. One dollar a dozen.

If your local will send for ten sub cards you can dispose of them easily and that will help keep the News alive. We have big bills since all the comrades are not remembering their monthly payments on the lino-type.

A Great Falls comrade, one of "Jim Hill's slaves," who says to allow name to remain in oblivion for a while sends in a bunch of ten subs. He says, "Every Socialist paper ought to live, I only wish there were more of them."

Do you think it is worth while even to make a local fight for the working class at the election? If so send subs to support a local paper. You can get five subs for the Montana News with half a day's work.

Try your friends with six months' subscription for the News at a quarter a piece.

"A Machinist" of Livingston sends in a subscription. "I admire your grid and get there," he writes.

If you know of any Socialists around you who do not take the News just go out and collect 50 cents from each of them and send their names in. If you want the issue of the intermountain country handled from the workers, standpoint see that you strengthen the workers' paper

Comrade Stranahan of local Ldaho Idaho Falls, renews his subs and says he will have a lot of job work in the next few months that he wishes to turn to the News. He came to the right shop. We can stand a good many visits of that kind.

Ten dollars worth of job work from the Trail Creek miners. The coal miners are those who know what class co-operate is. Thirty more dollars' worth on the same day. The job work is coming in with its old time merry tinkle and the press is singing its old, sweet song. No dead ones around now.

Local Idaho Falls is laying vigorous plans for her city campaign. The comrades are writing to Milwaukee for some definite ideas in regard to city issues. They say the town is ready for a Socialist government and they are going after one. Comrade Dr. J. E. Miller still keeps up his permanent literature.

The experiences of Comrade Bauman with the woman suffrage petitions are those that are well known to all workers for better conditions. These experiences will show to women Socialists the next task before them before social regeneration is effected. It is the best sort of practical, constructive work.

Comrade McDermid who was so terribly injured in an explosion at Great Falls some time ago has passed the point of danger to life and will live. He will be blind and deaf—another victim to the malach of capitalism. Such accidents should make every one of us work harder for Socialism.

Comrade Buzzell was invited by the Christian church of Kallispel to explain Socialism from its palpit on Sunday and a large crowd was in attendance. The comrade handed out applied christianity in a way to make some of them think industrial problems were worthy of study.

The News subscription list is rising hopefully again. It fell down two thousand names during the recent fiasco. Nothing will help a Socialist paper like subscriptions. That the paper is published for, to be circulated and read. If each reader will get one subscription in the next week it will help things along wonderfully. Go out and see what you can do.

The News still has about a thousand copies of "Machine Politics" on hand. They make excellent campaign material for the city elections. A story that tells the truth of election corruption and fraud. Bright red covers. 10 cents each; \$1.00 a dozen.

If your paper does not reach you write the News at once. We are anxious to straighten out our mailing list.

Comrade Cablentz formerly of Puyalop, Wash. sends in his sub. He is now organizer for the Yoman lodge and puts in a good part of his time traveling. He has provided himself with a stereopticon outfit and adds to the merriment and gratification of Socialist locals by giving a picture show now and then when his time will permit.

Word comes from comrades Mr. and Mrs. Wesleder, formerly the inspiration of Local Great Falls, repute in their membership cards stamped up-to-date in order that they may join the Oregon local where they have established their new home. They were a steady force for constructive work in Great Falls and not a policy of smash, and will be a tower of strength to the Socialist movement wherever they go.

Comrade Goodson writes that he has done well with the woman suffrage petitions and goes to Sales to catch a crowd. He says he had lots of fun hearing the people looking it over. We are gradually working up here in the West to the idea that it is the mission of the Socialist party to do something. The Socialist movement of the world is wide awake to the necessity of obtaining the suffrage for women.

23 subs from Local Salt. The Utah Socialist party is much in need of a local organ. There is talk of making some arrangement with the News by which this work can be handled. If the News could have a working capital of \$5,000 behind it, it could put out local editions that would cover the whole intermountain country. How the capitalists would squirm as they saw their sin brought to their own door.

Remember that the Montana News is the headquarters for union job

work for the northwest. Organized labor find its greatest interest in building up the paper of its class. The News does all sorts of job work constitutions and by-laws, union blanks and forms of all sorts, letterheads, billheads, milk and restaurant tickets dodgers, advertising, and anything in the way of printing that may be desired. We are headquarters for mail order union job work of all kinds.

Send in the reports of your local work to the News. There is no other way by which you can encourage other locals by your own activity.

A bunch of subs in from Market Lake, Idaho. A new local was organized there with a good membership with comrade Mattie B. Clark secretary. This local is another one composed mostly of farmers. Comrade Clark is one of the old woman suffrage agitators of Kansas, a school teacher and ardent populist and long-time voter in Colorado. She, with her husband, lives on the finest farm in the county, and is laying plans for a steady course of educational work for the local.

The constant tireless agitator of this community is comrade Plastina. He is the Italian section foreman at this point. He has talked Socialism there when he was the butt of every ignorant man's gibe. The large vigorous local is his delight. He says they are going to have a hall of their own, and has already obtained the ground for the building.

Idaho seems to be rousing herself from her winter sleep and getting ready for an active spring campaign. Or rather, it would probably be more proper to say, Idaho woke up with a rush during last fall's campaign, and never went into hibernation at all, but just kept on going. New locals are forming continually and great activity is displayed by many of the old ones. Over a hundred subs have come in from this part of the state during the past few weeks to the Montana News.

Comrade Wtewer of Miles City, writes that he is tired of the pow-wow that is traveling back and forth between members of the party and hopes it will come to an end soon. Everybody hopes the same. It is time the party was getting down to some solid constructive work and letting people's likes and dislikes evaporate into oblivion. The comrade thinks the city needs a good local organizer. That is the crying need of the Socialist party to-day. We need the boomer organizer.

Miles City has got its share of beggars now and will have more before the roses bloom. It is a pitiful sight to witness. The depots are public sleeping houses. Robberies happen often and there is seldom much of anything done to prevent the same. Dr. Andrews, the would-be boss of Miles City, rides up and down the streets just as wise and important as if he thought he was in June, 1908, when he tried to stop free speech on a public street, in the little old cow town down by the Yellowstone slough. Fellow workmen of Miles City, I beg you to use your vote for your own interest. Don't let any one dictate to you in regard to your vote. It is yours. There is where you have say so. Use it to benefit yours.

ARTHUR W. WETWER.

Comrade Goodson writes: "I am in for anything for the welfare of the Socialist party. We want to have a State Committee meeting represent the State, and in order for it to do that we must have funds before hand to insure a good attendance, and not be as the other one was, with thirteen members only. I concur in the referendum so far as to have the money to pay all possible expenses so as to insure a representative from every local. But I would suggest that we raise the money by assessment large enough to meet all needs. We don't want controversy. We have had enough of that. In case of a meeting I think that there should be ample time for the notice, say five weeks, so that all would get the word, and have time to prepare to leave their work. Socialism stands for every man to use his thinker, and that is the only way to do. It is to be heard from afar."

Nine subs in from Local Pocatella, comrade D. J. O'Mahoney, that old warhorse from Erin's revolutionary isle, informs us that the local reorganized last Sunday and elected comrade Rosine secretary, a committee was appointed to obtain a permanent hall uptown for the meetings. Action has been commenced looking to the nomination of a city ticket this spring and a vigorous pushing of local issues in connection with some shady transactions of the city council. The administration at present is supposed to be a "reform" one, with all the rotten hypocrisy which capitalist "reform" always carries. It is proposed to order a special edition of the News of 1,500 copies for this city campaign dealing with the local

issues, and flooding the city with them. Another example of the value of a local paper fighting the capitalists where they live.

A bunch of subscriptions in from Basalt, Idaho. Comrade John Quinn writes that a flourishing local was organized there last week with seventeen members, and with comrade Quinn as secretary. This little community has developed remarkable Socialist activity, polling 33 votes out of 200. The local is composed of bright and enthusiastic young men and women, women are voting here and take a live interest in political questions. Mrs. J. W. Curd, the first woman to join the local keeps a little candy store, and proposes to keep the Socialist books and papers on sale. The teacher at the place is a progressive man and thinker and has proposed a series of debates on Socialist questions. It is also the intention to place a number of the best Socialist books in the school library on the subjects of science, history, the conditions of child labor and other Social questions. Basalt is one of those farming villages that are taking so rapidly to Socialism since the last campaign. Watch local Basalt grow.

It is time to begin your city Socialist campaign for the spring. Local organizations should begin their plans six weeks before the elections. Elect your committees, prepare your platforms carefully. The platform should contain a brief general statement of the Socialist position, the points of appeal to the working class and of local issues that are of such advantage to the general welfare that all persons except selfish capitalist interests will see the justice and humanity of the Socialist position. Then prepare to give your platform the utmost publicity. Have it printed in the local papers if you can get it there by paying for it. Get it printed by the thousand and distribute it broadcast over the city. Send your printing job to the News. It will help both ways. By taking a large number of copies you can have a special local edition of the News printed with facts about your local situation that will make your capitalist bosses' hair curl. Carry the fight to the walls of the enemy's city. And do it all the time.

There is no paper published that can do for the workers in this section of the country what the Montana News can do—not the Daily Socialist or the New York Evening Call, or the Appeal to Reason or the International Socialist Review. These all fill a different place and do a different work. But the News is the forerunner of the local Socialist press that is to be—one in every city, one in every county. The Social-Democratic Herald of Milwaukee, St. Louis Labor, Common Sense of Los Angeles, are putting up the same splendid local fight. Whatever other papers you support, it is your duty to support your home paper. You will have no socialism in this section of the country till the Socialist party is strong enough to support its organs of publicity. It is of more value to a paper to extend its circulation than to give it donations. Any Socialist can get a few subscribers for his home Socialist paper any time. You are extending the education of socialism, you are giving a protective weapon to the working class, and you are laying a solid foundation for local Socialist activity. We would rather have you work for the News than simply shove donations into it. We are willing to work for what we get and we want you to do the same.

Public meetings have been held and lectures given during the past few weeks at Belt, Creston, Dell, Dillon, Kallispel, Kendall, Lewistown, Lima, Manhattan, Sand Coulee, Somers and Stockett. Considerable activity in agitational and organizing work is being shown by the small locals. It is time that our city locals were getting busy, the municipal campaign will soon be on in full swing.

Editor Montana News:

Dear Comrade—Enclosed please find five dollars, for which send me sub cards for the News. We must try and keep the News in circulation. It is the most reliable paper in the state and it will be a shame if there are not enough working men in Montana to keep it going. Yours truly, J. E. BUSH.

Comrade Bauman of Livingston writes: "Our League has got through with the woman suffrage petitions, and we have sent them to New York. We ran out of petitions, so we sent what we had, 377 names. It was very much pledged over the way some of the people treated me. But I never dreamed that we would have to contend with quite so much ignorance and selfishness among men, especially among what they call the "higher class" in society. Some of them told me that woman's place was to stay

at home and care for her household, and if she did not care for a home she had better go to work elsewhere. But, however, that kind are only a few and we will carry on the work of freedom and justice just the same, and we care little what some of these ignoramus have to say. When you see what is going on in our city, if the women couldn't run things better than city fathers are doing, and especially the present police force, they wouldn't be mothers. And they all hold to both old parties. If Socialists were surely would believe in free love and breaking up the homes. We all down here wish you the best success. The paper is getting better every day and comes on Saturday now. I am more than pleased. I herewith send my subscription for renewal. Times are very dull here. The machinists are only working eight hours, and it is certain the force will be reduced again. Hurrah for 'republican prosperity.' The workers are just getting what they voted for. I hope it will soon teach them a dear lesson."

Livingston, Mont., Feb. 8 '09
Montana News

Helena,
Comrade Editor:
At our last meeting the Women's Suffrage petitions were turned over to Comrade Bauman by the various members. The sheets were well

filled despite the fact that the comrades found some appalling cases of ignorance. Many women would not sign because they had never thought of the matter, and their conversation told that their minds were not gone far from the scrubbing floors and darning socks. And of course we met some whose names we would not have on our papers after having a sample of their intelligence. However we have hopes for all and left a supply of good Socialist literature at all places, that we hope will have developed some gray matter by the time we take around the state petitions. Our letague is doing fine. We wave many visitors at our meetings and some of those we hope soon to have as members. Our next meeting will be held at the home of Comrade Bartsch, Wednesday evening, Feb. 17th. Good luck to the News Slucecrely, Florence M. Staves.

These earnest women comrades are finding the curse of ignorance that excessive labor without thought brings. The great majority of those scrubbers and darners have never been taught to think. It is the province of Socialism to bring thought and knowledge and hope for the future to those over hardened women laborers. The working for the ballot for women is breakin only one of the many, many donds that bind them in slavery.

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- 20c quality Children's Good Ribbed Black Hose, spliced heel and toes, special, per pair.....10c
- 20c quality Children's Good Fleece Lined Black Hose, all sizes, double heel and toes, special, pair.....12 1/2c
- 35c quality Women's Good Fleece Lined Vests or Pants, gray only, special, choice.....25c
- 75c value Women's Good Fleece Lined Union Suits, cream or gray, all sizes, special per suit.....50c
- 75c value Women's Jersey Ribbed Vests or Pants, extra fine, white only, silk taped vests, all sizes, special, each.....50c
- 15c quality Women's Plain Black Hose spliced heel and double sole, all sizes, special \$ 1-2c; 3 pairs for.....25c
- 35c quality Women's Black Hose, lace boot effect, spliced heel and double sole, spliced seam, all sizes, special, per pair.....35c
- 85c value Women's Good Fleece Lined Union Suits, high neck, long sleeve, ankle length, pure white special, choice.....65c

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