

## WYOMING COAL MINERS' FORM STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR AT BUTTE



### SOLIDARITY OF WESTERN UNION LABOR

At the conference of the coal miners of District 22, Wyoming and Montana, held in Butte August 18, the Wyoming delegates formed a state Federation of Labor for Wyoming.

Arthur Morgan, vice president of the coal miners' organization, presided, and plans were made for organizing all branches of labor in Wyoming, and also to secure better labor legislation. James Buckley of Cumberland, Wyo., was elected president of the new organization. Mr. Buckley has been for many years around the coal mines in Montana, the last time at Aldridge. He is a young man with a growing family about him, earnest and aggressive in all movements to better the status of those who toil.

James Morgan of Sheridan, the secretary-treasurer of the coal miners, is the temporary secretary-treasurer of the federation. Morgan has demonstrated his splendid ability as a master of laborious detail work in his faithful service with the United Mine Workers. He has a clear head, and a cool, determined perseverance that stops at no obstacle. Both the officers are avowed and open socialists.

**Coal Miners Organize State.**

The affiliated unions are the coal organizations in the state of Wyoming. So that the state federation starts off with an organization composed of thirty unions. Thus the coal miners are demonstrating themselves as the backbone of the organized labor movement in this territory and have taken up the task to organize the other workers, as has been done in Montana. The coal miners stand to the front pre-eminently as above the average of workmen in general intelligence and a clear understanding as to the struggles and problems of their class. In their homes will be found books of study and aspiration for better things, and their collective efforts show the result of this study and experience, and a steady, progressive growth along the lines of their organized class interests. There is not a non-union coal miner in Wyoming.

The closed shop absolutely prevails about the coal mines, and their economic organization is an indus-

trial union that protects every man that works in the mine.

**Chinese and Japs Affiliated.**

The Wyoming State Federation organized with 200 Chinamen affiliated with it, who are employed at Rock Springs, and 500 Japs working in the various camps throughout the state. This is the only place in the country where the orientals sit in the same lodge room with white labor. Wyoming has solved the Asiatic problem. The union demands the same wages and same scale for the yellow men as for white labor. This was brought about by conditions that took place several years ago in Wyoming. Before the unions were organized there was a threatened cut in wages, and a strike was imminent. The Chinamen said they would not work. Those running restaurants said they had money if the white men had not, and they could feed the miners for three months. Such a solidarity of international interests overstepping the chasm of race prejudices, settled the case of union affiliation of the alien race.

**President Starts as Organizer.**

The new state federation agreed to have a per capita tax paid for three months in advance. This is for the purpose of giving money into the treasury at once, for the work of organization. The president is to take the field as a state organizer as soon as the funds are available.

The aim of this new and aggressive departure in labor organization is to make Wyoming solid in case of trouble; and it really amounts to an enormous industrial organization, with all of the crafts of the state united in a solid phalanx, ready to stand together like men for decent conditions of human life for those who toil that others may live without toil.

**Foundation Principles Discussed.**

In the discussion of the declaration of principles the question of child labor came up. The suggestion was broached of having the legal age for children to go to work fourteen; but there was a unanimous decision against it, the prevailing sentiment being that children could not get too much education to aid them in the

struggles of life. This standpoint really, perhaps unconsciously, voices the coal miner's protection of himself and his home and his economic interests. In dealing with the question of child labor he is dealing actually with the fate of his own children, what they will become if they are allowed to go into the mines at an early age. Should they be allowed to do so they become competitors for his job, thus driving the father into the has-been class and lowering the standard of living for all. Every worker who is alive to his interests will oppose child labor with his utmost power.

**Aliens on Public Works.**

Alien labor on public works was another subject thoroughly considered by the new organization. It was decided that it was right that aliens should be allowed to work where they could. The corporations and steamship companies have brought them over here and they have to live. The proper policy is to organize them.

**All Labor Should Awake.**

All unions in Wyoming should become affiliated with the Wyoming State Federation of Labor. A policy of aggressive solidarity is the only hope the worker has to keep him from slipping into the peon's dismal ditch. Workers are many, jobs are few. A solid stand all along the line, workers join hands and demand and maintain a standard is the only promise to dignify labor with the comforts and security of existence.

**Eternal effort! bold and free.**

Alone will lift the cowering slave,  
Alone will triumph o'er the grave,  
Harsh bondage digs for liberty.

**Preamble.**

The following is the preamble and declaration of principles adopted:

The present organization of society has divided the people into classes, conspicuous among which are the producers and the non-producers, the sellers of labor and the buyers of labor—all being consumers, while many are not producers. Under such an organization of society the burdens of life are unequally distributed, and the non-producing class, by reason of its ample time to devote to the perpetua-

tion of causes which at present unfairly divide society, and the limited time allotted the producing class for recreation, study, and even the necessary rest, has an advantage which tends to perpetuate the evils endured by the producing classes and to increase instead of diminish the burdens of labor.

We, therefore, as representatives of the industrial class of Wyoming, make the following declaration of principles:

First—To make ample provision for free education of the masses, we demand that the state shall furnish the necessary text books free to every child, and the state of Wyoming shall establish and maintain its own printing plant for the purpose of printing all books used in the public schools and, all other state printing.

Second—To bring within the folds of labor organizations every wage-earner in the state.

Third—To secure to the toilers the full value of the product of their toil, more social advantages, more of the benefits of a better society—in a word, all those rights and privileges necessary to make them capable of enjoying, appreciating, defending and perpetuating the blessings of good government.

Fourth—To secure for both sexes equal pay for equal work.

Fifth—To advocate the establishment of a universal eight-hour day.

Sixth—The prohibition of the employment of children in workshops, mines and factories before attaining the sixteenth year.

Seventh—We demand from the national government that in connection with the postoffice, the government shall organize financial exchanges, safety deposits and facilities for deposits of the savings of the people.

Eighth—We condemn the principle of the contract a system on national, state, county and municipal works; but so long as it is tolerated, we insist that contracts for such work shall all contain a minimum wage clause, and the union scale prevailing in the locality where such labor is performed shall be considered the minimum scale.

### LOCAL MINERS' HOLD CONVENTION

#### Backbone of Organized Labor in Wyoming and Montana Hold Convention--Formulate Declaration for the Collective Ownership of the Industries.

The seventh annual convention of District 22, United Mine Workers of America, met in Butte August 17 in Carpenters' hall. It remained in session four days, 53 delegates being present from 25 unions. District President Thomas Gibson called the convention to order. There were at least 28 socialists in the bunch of delegates, and these represented men who have fought for organized labor in all the coal fields across the continent.

The district has only been organized seven years, and Wyoming only came into the district organization two years ago, but the treasury now has in its custody \$45,198. This is a tremendous fund. Many of the international unions have not such a treasury—such a defense fund. The money is distributed throughout twelve banks in Wyoming and Montana.

The convention voted to loan the Red Lodge Miners' Union \$10,000 at 6 per cent interest to complete the labor temple which is now in process of building and will cost \$45,000. The temple is a three-story building, a brick, iron and stone structure, now in process of erection, which, when completed, will be one of the finest edifices in the city of Red Lodge.

The first floor is to be occupied by co-operative stores, and all the upper parts are to be utilized by the various unions in Red Lodge.

There will be a large lecture hall and library. And the coal miners thus become the center of popular educational work in the community of Red Lodge.

A committee was appointed to investigate the proposition of buying land so that labor halls may be erected in all the coal camps of both the states, so that the organized coal industry may own its own home at every point where it labors.

This is for the purpose of obviating the difficulty which the unions are having with the company-owned halls in regard to the conveniences in the way of meetings; and such experiences as the absolute refusal of the halls for the meetings of Mother Jones or other agitators and labor representatives, so that it had to be made a matter of special agreement between the miners and the operators that the company halls should be available for socialist meetings as well as for those of every other party.

At this convention it was decided to inaugurate a series of interstate conferences throughout the mining districts west of Iowa, with the purpose in view of having the district conferences all come at one time, so that all wage agreements will expire at one time and a uniform scale be adopted, thus making it practicable for a solid mass strike to be organized in case of difficulty in any one district.

Thomas Gibson, T. P. Fahey and Adam Wilkinson were appointed fraternal delegates to attend the convention of District 10, comprising the state of Washington, in order to arrange for these interstate conferences, and thus create a solidarity and prepare the way for united action for defense and defiance.

The existing wage scale does not expire for another year.

A communication was received from the secretary-treasurer of the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers, appealing for aid in their struggle against the steel trust, and \$300 was donated for the assistance of the steel workers.

What is still more significant in the proceedings of this convention, the assembly of the coal miners went on record in favor of the public ownership of the means of production and distribution.

Talk about American unions—who says they are not headed towards Socialism? The difference between the coal miners' convention and that of

others that might be mentioned is about the same as that between a thoroughbred and a mongrel, with the difference in favor of the coal digger. The work in their convention goes off with a snap and an air of thoroughness—no wrangling, all work and business.

The following is the list of delegates:

C. O. Six, R. A. Robinson, James J. Bledsoe, Cambria, Wyo.; Thomas Cullen, Martin Cahill, C. N. Riddle, Arthur McLee, Matt Anderson, Ben Roberts, H. B. Behring, Joseph McLee, T. P. Fahey, Rock Springs, Wyoming; Joseph D. Kemper, John Conway, Dan D. Little, Red Lodge, Montana; John H. Good, Washoe, Mont.; James Milldown, Bear Creek, Mont.; John Bailey, Goodrich, Salzman, A. Wilkinson, Roundup, Mont.; T. P. Fahey, Gunn, Wyo.; W. R. Bateman, Dietz, Wyo.; John Morton, Nathan Todd, Thomas Murray, Steve Eli, Sand Coulee, Mont.; Joseph Rhine, Monarch, Wyo.; A. G. Morgan, Kool, Wyo.; Gust Lundell, Henry Rae, T. McKeone, Patrick Keegan, Joseph Whitehead, Stockett, Mont.; Clem Behring, Hoffman, Mont.; Jas. Morgan, Hudson, Wyo.; Alex Revel, Sublette, Wyo.; Albert Shinske, Sweetwater, Wyo.; D. McWilliams, John Rae, James Buckley, Cumberland, Wyo.; A. G. Morgan, Glencoe, Wyo.; T. O. Mangan, Grant Rott, Hanna, Wyo.; John Hawley, Ben Davis, Superior, Wyo.; Matthew Morrow, Almy, Wyo.; Wm. Bainton, Frontier, Wyo.; John F. Martin, Oakley, Wyo.; Oscar Durbin, Gebo, Wyo.; Peter Kirkwood, Diamondville, Wyo.; Thos. Gibson, Chestnut, Wyo.; M. J. Morris, John Degnan, Belt, Mont.

**UNIVERSITY FOR MILWAUKEE.**

Socialist School Board Members Want Branch of State Institution.

Socialist members of the Milwaukee school board have started a fight to secure a branch of the Wisconsin State University for the city, in a building to be provided gratuitously by the local school board.

The matter came before the board through a resolution introduced by Frederic Heath, one of the new Socialist members. It provides for university branches in medicine, law engineering and similar courses.

**Makes Cost Prohibitive.**

The number of young people from Milwaukee who attend the state university is very small compared with the number that would attend if the cost of living and going to another city was not prohibitive," says Mr. Heath.

The university should be brought to Milwaukee as much as possible. The loss in educating the masses is a social loss. The plan is an unusually good one if feasible, and I think the university regents will do all in their power to further it because of the fact that it is line with their policy of extension."

Mrs. Victor Bergen, wife of Victor Berger, began her school board career by taking a prominent part in the debates of that body. By marshaling enough votes in favor of Miss Gertrude Hull, West division High School teacher, Mrs. C. B. Whitnall, Socialist, forced the board to over-ride a high school principal in the selection of teachers, publicly, for the first time in its history. Mrs. Whitnall won her point and Miss Hull was appointed.

**Handley Is Committeeman.**

Charles F. Perry, director of the school of trades, was appointed supervisor of industrial education in the schools, a new position just created by the board, and John J. Handley, Socialist, business agent of the Machinists' union, and Albert J. Lindemann, were appointed members of the trades school committee to succeed themselves.

### SOCIALIST WORK IN PARLIAMENT

#### Defense of Suffragettes by Representatives of the Working Class. Many Women In Prison Cells.

The following extract taken from the Labor Leader's Journal of the work of the British Socialists in Parliament is interesting as a record of the activity of those who work along the lines of freedom:

Wednesday, July 21. The Imprisoned Suffragists, in reply to Mr. Phillip Snowden:

MR. GLADSTONE (Home Secretary), said fourteen women suffragists were brought before the visiting committee on the 14th inst., thirteen for misconduct on reception in refusing to change into prison clothing, to give up private property, or to be medically examined, and for wilfully breaking prison windows, and the remaining one for the like offense, excepting refusal to be medically examined. They all admitted the offenses, and declined either to express regret or to promise amendment.—

They were sentenced to "close confinement" for the following periods: two for ten days, two for eight days, and ten for seven days. Some of them subsequently had been guilty of other offenses—for example, kicking and biting the female wardens and throwing their food out of the cell windows—which were not dealt with while the prisoners have obstinately refused to take any food for several days, and that I have had on medical grounds to discharge six of them, and I anticipate that several others will be discharged on the same ground today or tomorrow.

MR. W. REDMOND (N., East Clare): Can the Home Secretary say for what period were these ladies deprived of fresh air and exercise, and what is the size of the cells?

Mr. Gladstone—The cells are of precisely the same dimensions as the other cells, the chief difference being

that the windows are unbreakable. (Laughter).

Mr. W. Redmond—It is not a laughing matter at all.

Mr. Gladstone—I quite agree that this is not a subject for laughter. As regards the other question of the hon. member, it is quite obvious that when prisoners refuse food they are hardly fit subjects for exercise outside the prison.

Mr. Kier Hardie (Labor)—Are the cells underground and in an unsanitary condition?

Mr. Gladstone—No, they are not underground. It is quite obvious that no prisoners would be confined in cells which were underground, and the statement that they are underground is a complete fabrication. They are on the ground floor of the prison. Before prisoners are put in them the cells are carefully examined. They are perfectly dry and ventilated, and, except as regards the windows, they are the same as the ordinary cells.

Mr. Snowden subsequently asked leave to move the adjournment of the house to call attention to a matter of urgent public importance to the infliction upon the suffragist prisoners of punishment involving danger to their health.

The Speaker—I think it has been the rule on former occasions that where the ordinary administration of

the law is carried out no occasion arises for moving the adjournment.

If the hon. member had shown that the ordinary administration was departed from there would have been a proper occasion for such a motion, but I do not think that has been shown or even suggested.

Mr. Snowden—Is not the ordinary punishment for political prisoners first-class treatment?

The Speaker—The hon. member begs the whole question by that statement, which is very controversial. I understand that these ladies were sent in due administration of the law to the second class. Whether that was properly done or not it was done by the magistrate, and the home secretary has no power to alter it.

The general strike in Sweden, having behind it the unanimous support and sympathy of the workers of that country, has developed into a financial endurance test.

The annual conference of Socialist Party clubs of Massachusetts will be held in Paine Memorial Hall, Appleton street, Boston, on September 26. This is the legal convention. The regular party convention will be held on the following day at the same place.

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**COMMON CAUSE LEAGUE.**  
The political makeshift has struck  
Montana. The Hearst Independence  
League was a dreary fizzle, here  
but the "liberal" politicians of  
Montana, those who want to get  
public support without treading the  
thorny road of society, have  
patched up another short cut and will  
talk all around, about, above and under  
the real cause of the festering social  
sore, while dodging the critical  
issue that makes for stable reform  
and social change.

The insane stupidity of those who  
have perverted the name of socialism  
by calling themselves socialists in  
Montana, has called an apparent halt  
in the socialist party, while the  
process of weeding out freaks and fools  
and reorganization is going on, has  
opened the door for political demagogues  
and notoriety seekers to rush in.  
The Socialist party has been such an  
aggressive affair heretofore in Mont-  
ana, it has commanded and held steady  
such a large per cent of the vote,  
it has held so strongly both the finan-  
cial and moral support of the organ-  
ized labor of the state, it has pressed  
forward and into active operation so  
many practical public measures in  
Montana, that no shoddy goods have  
been able to fool the working class  
voter since the Heinze balloon of in-  
flated proportions and deadly gaseous  
contents.

But, now that the socialist party  
had moved forward out of its primary  
stage, and was ready to go into the  
hardy work of acute political ability,  
it was found that its mass material  
was altogether lacking in capacity to  
keep pace with the program demanded  
of it, that the party had reached a  
stage where it required stalwart fiber  
and not babes in reason and action,  
and where, as a consequence, there  
was a halting of ranks and an exam-  
ination and culling of timber, the polit-  
ical barn-stormers, operating  
through a very mil species of brain-  
storm, have again marshalled the  
forces of reaction under the yellow  
flag, and will attempt to clean the  
sewer by skimming off the scum on  
top. It is the old story—century  
worn to the student of economic and  
political history, of the instruments  
of oppressing and exploiting labor  
becoming alarmed when they had  
the full power of control so obviously  
in their hands as the Amalgamated  
Copper company has in Montana at  
the present time.

Even the highwaymen of capital-  
ism are alarmed at such an open  
flaunting of insulting power before  
the people as the large capitalist  
class in Montana exercises through  
its servile, venal, and unprincipled  
politicians. Its success is too thorough  
too browbeating, too insulting. Even  
such gold-drunk recklessness as  
copper kings and vandals of finance  
are rushing to their own destruction  
with, could not be blind to the fact  
that opposition to injustice can never  
be ultimately subdued in the human  
breast; that there will be a division  
of forces, revolt, rebellion and they  
had better engineer the rebellion by  
manufacturing a mild imitation of  
their own. That is what the "common  
cause" league is. It is a safety valve  
to blow off the surplus steam that the  
working class of Montana is generating  
in good, substantial, socialistic  
quantities against John D. Rockefeller's  
open prostitution, of courts,  
legislatures, and even the puff-bellied  
tool of a labor leader who postures  
with his filthy slime the efforts of  
the workers to attain solidarity.

No man who has the slightest  
idea of historic progress in the social  
evolution of labor and liberty will  
waste his time with the insane platitudes  
of the "common cause" league.  
If these (ing) reformers want to  
remove the festering social sores  
why don't they cleanse the system?  
The "Montana Lookout" that stands  
sponsor for their "good" intentions  
expressly states that there is no in-  
tention to organize a new political  
party. Such as that radical and all  
demanding socialist party, of course  
Oh, no—by all means, workers, do

not go into any new party. Just put  
a rod apple into the barrel of rot  
ten ones and so how soon the "com-  
mon cause" apple will make the  
rest of them rot. Persuade men on  
trotting the work and the millions  
of the nation, that get their graft  
and rob the workers solely through  
their control of the political mach-  
inery, to ease up on the handling of  
the two great political parties, and  
drive with a loose rein for awhile.

The capitalists are not built that  
way. They are in a mad, frantic  
rush after profits. Nothing will stop  
them, nothing ever has stopped them,  
except a firm intelligent, revolution-  
ary demand on the part of the op-  
pressed, that they step down and out  
and the new regime take their places.  
No use to put new wine in old skin  
bottles. The new wine will swell and  
burst the old pelts. The working  
class are demanding freedom, ab-  
solute emancipation from the sys-  
tem that exploits them. Their pro-  
gram already circles the globe, and  
is carried by an international organ-  
ization, the largest political organiza-  
tion the world has ever known.  
This organization is causing the  
thrones of Europe to tremble with  
the march of its progress. It is fill-  
ing the parliaments of the old world;  
it is thundering along the shores of  
the plutocratic republic, and send-  
ing its voice of challenge and cour-  
age from every intellectual center  
in the land.

If these "common cause" philan-  
thropeats have the real welfare of  
humanity at heart why don't they  
throw their brains and their efforts  
into the socialist party? Why don't  
they make it a good party, a strong  
party by fortifying it with the best  
material they can boast of?

The reason is plain. These would-  
be reformers do not want to eman-  
cipate labor, give it the fruit of its  
toil, and destroy the capitalist,  
thereby removing the cause of the  
ills that be, by a just distribution of  
the social product. They want to  
leave full scope to the grafter and  
thief, and only make the effects of  
his rapacity a little less evident.

We are told that the object of the  
league is to "promote cooperation  
between all interdependent interests  
within the state". This is the old  
farce in another dress—"The inter-  
ests of labor and capital are identi-  
cal". The Socialist knows the absurd-  
ity of such an attitude. Capitalists  
profits by labor's loss. Labor profits  
by opposing the capitalist's program.  
For the working class to go into  
any identity-of-interests program  
with the capitalist is to demonstrate  
the lamb and lion lying down to-  
gether process—the lamb inside of the  
lion.

The Lookout takes a slap at the  
Socialists by saying that the object  
of the league are "not dependent  
upon any subversion of natural laws,  
or upon radical changes in existing  
constitutional provisions and statu-  
tory enactments." There you have  
it—don't change anything that the  
powers that be have established—  
appeal to reason and leave the powers  
of compulsion in the hands that  
own our lives by owning our jobs.

Harry Hall one of the "labor" poli-  
ticians of Helena, that votes the re-  
publican ticket, is the promoter of  
the league, and hopes to get the lab-  
or organizations interested in it.  
He found out he was treated with  
contempt in an Amalgamated legis-  
lature, and so he wants to use a few  
"reform" pellets to bombard John D.  
Rockefeller politics.

Altruism is supposed to take the  
place of economic determinism, a  
theory exploded long ago by all  
scientific thinkers.

Great stress is laid on the fact that  
this movement is started by wage-  
earners. The workingman's vote and  
political allegiance is the prize most  
dearly coveted by the capitalists.  
Just turn him away into anything  
from that horrible, radical, revolu-  
tionary socialism. Yes, and retard  
the solution to his problems by  
twenty years.

It is proposed to start a paper,  
and let these petty, superficial re-  
formers push the noble propaganda  
of socialism indefinitely into the back  
ground.

**KEIR HARDIE ON THE LAND QUESTION.**

In a recent article in the Labor  
Leader Keir Hardie discusses the so-  
cialist propaganda relative to the land  
question. He states that Richard  
Cobden saw clearly that the social prob-  
lem had its roots embedded deep in

the feudal system of land tenure. The  
great estate on the one hand and  
thousands of landless semi-serfs on  
the other was an evidently unnatural  
arrangement.

Since his day the depopulation of  
the country has gone steadily on, and  
England's dependence on other lands  
for food supplies has steadily in-  
creased.

Mr. Hardie says that it is obvious  
that the first thing to be done is to  
quicken the interest of the farm  
hand. He has a voting power in the  
rural councils, and, although these  
powers are limited, once the land  
worker begins to stir himself they  
can be enlarged.

Meanwhile the question is how to  
get at the farm laborer. The town  
artisan and the collier have been set  
a-going on the pathway of political  
independence which leads to socialism  
and once the farm hand has been  
started the pioneer work will be  
nearing completion.

In England a beginning is being  
made in the taxation of land values.  
If the effect of the tax is to compel  
the impoverished landlord to sell out  
to the rich manufacturer the situation  
may be worsened instead of bettered.  
As Hardie says, "When the land is  
transferred we want it to be to a  
public authority, and not from one  
private owner to another."

But the task of organizing the lab-  
orers in the rural districts is great.  
A vigorous plan of specialized cam-  
paigning is recommended, with a  
special fund raised by the party for  
campaigning in the rural districts.  
Special leaflets and pamphlets would  
require to be written, the former for  
free distribution and the latter for  
sale.

Hardie closes with these words.  
"Municipalization of trams and gas,  
nationalization of railways, canals,  
and docks are all very well in their  
way but they don't get at the root of  
the trouble. It is only when the  
people own the land from which  
comes all the necessities of life,  
apart from air and sunshine,  
that they begin to get in touch  
with economic freedom. The lesson  
needs emphasizing, especially among  
those town-bred socialists who see in  
the capitalist alone the source of all  
our troubles. To reach the land we  
must get at those who are its tillers  
and tillers. The times are ripe for  
a big land movement. Who will help?"

**NORTH DAKOTA PROHIBITION.**

For eighteen years the temperance  
ranks have pointed triumphantly to  
North Dakota as a bright and shining  
star in the reform constellation. A  
slight study of the subject aided by  
personal observation suffices to bring  
forth the facts that the prohibition law  
is a farce. It is admitted on every side  
that it has never been enforced. The  
saloon has vanished to be sure, but  
the ubiquitous drugstore has taken its  
place. And the pool room abounds  
to such an extent that a facetious editor  
exclaims:

"Hush, little poolroom, don't you cry,  
You'll be a drug store by and by."

The "blind pig" is a familiar topic  
of conversation, drunken men abound  
on the street, and outside breweries  
are rejoicing over the large demand  
for beer to be shipped to North Da-  
kota.

What impresses a socialist the most  
forcibly is not that the druggist make  
the profit instead of the saloon keep-  
ers—there is to all accounts no differ-  
ence as to who gets it—but the gigan-  
tic, monumental fraud, deceit, hypoc-  
racy and criminal violation of law  
that are practiced under the name  
of "reform."

Every boy growing up in a town is  
taught to evade the law and become  
a criminal. The power of the state is  
made a laughing stock through the  
search of profit through fraud.

All profit is fraud, a social fraud;  
but it need not all be legal fraud also.  
The socialists as a unit denounce the  
law. They say the saloon is better than  
the present situation.

The prohibitory law is the fertile  
and perpetual source of political issues  
for all parties. The query never waxes  
stale as to how to enforce the law.  
The present governor, "Honest John"  
Burke, is a democrat with a republi-  
can legislature. Being in the minority  
he is of course frantic for "reform";  
and so he made a grand stand play  
to get the legislature to pass an act au-  
thorizing him to "enforce" the law;  
which the legislature as promptly re-  
fused to do. So Honest John can pose  
as a martyr to republican wickedness,  
and have an excellent excuse for let-

ting whiskey selling go on in North  
Dakota.

Think of the marvel, the intricacy  
and the legal depth of capitalistic law.  
Our entire government is based upon  
a threefold division into legislative,  
executive and judicial functions. The  
man elected to the chief executive po-  
sition is placed there for the purpose  
of seeing that the law is enforced. All  
Governor Burke has to do if he is as  
honest as he would have the people be-  
lieve, is to begin and knock things  
right and left, stand upon the consti-  
tution and the law, as Governor Waite  
did in Colorado, and let the lawbreak-  
ers and the disobedient officials get  
out of the way. But he is not honest to  
the extent of interfering with profits.  
He is a governor elected on a capital-  
ist program, and capitalism exists for  
profit.

A study of the whisky traffic under  
the most pretentious capitalist moral-  
ity demonstrates most clearly that the  
evil in the traffic will find its final so-  
lution only through the working men  
themselves. It is working class politics  
alone that can handle the wisky ques-  
tion in the interests of the welfare of  
the working class. The Gothenburg  
proposition, government ownership  
and control of the traffic, under work-  
ing class administration that will en-  
force the law in the best interests of  
society—this way effective administ-  
ration lies.

**AGAINST THE CZAR.**

**Italian Union Men May Call Strike  
the Day He Arrives**

In order to know the sentiment of  
its members as to the action to be taken  
in order to demonstrate the  
hatred of the Italian workers for the  
Czar at his approaching visit to the  
King of Italy, the executive committee  
of the General Confederation of Labor  
has sent the following list of ques-  
tions to all the branches and affiliated  
organizations.

"Do you think it advisable that we  
order a general strike of all trades  
and all public services the day that  
the Emperor of Russia arrives in  
Italy?"

"If so, will you guarantee the suc-  
cess of the strike in the territory under  
your jurisdiction?"

"Let us know your ideas in regard  
to this proposition."

The answers to these questions must  
be sent in by August 16, after which  
the executive committee will issue in-  
structions to the confederation in ac-  
cordance with the opinions of the  
branches.

**THE VALUE OF A WAGE**

**SLAVE IN BINGHAM**

The Utah Copper Company is a  
mining company that does a great  
deal of surface mining, and in order  
to reap huge and greedy profits end-  
angers the lives of horses and men.  
For the horses it has erected a stable  
built of three by twelve inch material,  
and covered with corrugated iron.—  
For the men, who are in just as much  
danger as the horses, a building is  
constructed of one by twelve inch  
lumber and covered with atmospheres.  
This company is constructing another  
emblem of liberty in this canyon. It  
is a solid board fence, made of two by  
twelve plank, and several strands of  
barbed wire are to be placed on top.

A good many of the republican  
and democratic slaves working for  
this company, when the tariff bill was  
passed, and they saw that the cost of  
living was higher, they think the com-  
pany will raise the wages, but to us  
class-conscious ones the fence spells  
just the reverse.

From a Bingham Wage Earner

The reason the Utah Copper com-  
pany takes better care of its horses  
than its men is because a horse does  
not hunt a master, but the master  
hunts the horse and pays \$150 to  
\$250 for him. Consequently he must  
be well taken care of as he is valu-  
able, while the men are worth nothing,  
as hundreds stand ready to replace  
those last

Montana News readers should give  
careful attention to the announcement  
in its columns of "The Library of  
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tain priceless information, and are  
a liberal education in themselves.

**Montana News  
50c the Year**

**Don't Be a  
SOCIALIST**

unless you know WHY you are one. The cause of So-  
cialism has been tremendously injured and retarded by  
the ignorance of those who talk and write about it without  
a proper understanding of its principles. The foolish  
notion of "dividing up" and the story of the "Irishman's  
two pigs" come from that source. The capitalist writer  
and speakers deliberately misrepresent our principles, but  
if every comrade thoroughly understands Socialism, it will  
hasten the coming of liberty for all.

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Original Sources"**

*In the original Documents—Translated.*

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cumulated around Religion, Government, Law, Social  
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why Socialism is coming. The "Documents" cover as  
well the entire field of thought.

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Party could not make a better investment than a set of  
these books."

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gotten—easy to grow enthusiastic over, difficult to find  
fault with."

VICTOR L. BURGER: "Of great value to Socialist  
students—a treasure mine of information."

ERNEST UNTERMANN: (Lecturer Scientific So-  
cialism:) "Your kindness is most appreciated and I  
enclose check. The documents will be my most valued  
companions this winter."

TOM CLIFFORD: (Socialist Lecturer:) "That which  
I have longingly desired for years, and which I must  
confess I despaired of ever enjoying—"The Library of  
Original Sources,—a service to civilization."

A. R. LIVINGSTON: (Sec. Local, Hackberry, Kan. )  
"I owe you my thanks—greatest addition I ever made to  
my library."

WALTER LOHRENTZ: (Sec. Longshoreman's Union  
Seattle, Wash.) "A Boon to the working class who have  
neither time nor money to secure a university education."

ARTHUR MORROW LEWIS: Lecturer Scientific So-  
cialism:) "I regard it as the most valuable part of my  
library."

SEYMOUR STEDMAN: "It stands like a pyramid in a  
desert."

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enthralled and think for themselves.

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Poet's Corner

LAISSEZ-FAIRE.

By Ida Crouch-Hazlett. For excuse that he offers no matter— This life is a grand free-for-all; If a fellow can't stand, he drops under...

Perhaps 'twas the love of a woman That crushed out the hope from his heart; Poo! why should the baby be crying? Just waded in and take a fresh start.

Perhaps 'twas the comforter whispered And lured from the rare, ruby wine; Perhaps 'twas the clink of the dollars, Whose charms from the long table shine;

Success is his only who wins it, The fittest is bound to survive; The strong tread the weak in the mire He struggles who comes out alive.

CONFISCATE SOCIALIST PAPER.

The labor party of Great Britain held an enormous demonstration in Trafalgar Square, London, as a protest against the government receiving Nicholas, the Bloody, Czar of Russia, as a guest.

Justice, the weekly organ of the Social Democratic Federation, was confiscated by the police because of its cartoon called "The Czar's Nightmare," which pictured Nicholas standing aghast before a sputtering bomb.

This sort of action is most remarkable for England, where freedom of speech and press have been preserved more sacredly than in any other country in the world.

Will Thorne, Socialist member of Parliament, rose in the House of Commons on Wednesday, July 28, "to ask the Secretary of State for home affairs if his attention had been called to the action of the police in Trafalgar Square, on Sunday, July 25, in attacking several persons, men and women, who were engaged in selling a news paper called Justice and tearing papers from them and confiscating them;

A number of the most eminent socialists in England addressed the populace: Keir Hardie, H. M. Hyoudman, editor of "Justice," who received an ovation, Bernard Shaw, Ramsey MacDonald, Ben Tillett, H. Quelch.

Keir Hardie said: "We are protesting against the Czar of Russia being received as a guest by the government and by the King. In Russia there is a great constitutional struggle going on, in which the people are ranged on one side, and the autocracy, headed by the Czar, on the other.

Such demonstrations must cause consternation in the courts of the world. This beast, the people, will no longer be still, but he leaps and shows his teeth and bellows thunderously whenever the grandees arouse his displeasure. Labor is awake and militant and demanding its own. Soon it will rule the world instead of be ruled.

Buy sub cards. Pick up active party work. Sustain the News. Remember it takes money to do labor work of any account.

Women's Clubs

A SOCIALIST WOMEN'S REASON.

Why am I a Socialist? Because, if I consider the material reasons, first, I like nice things. I like beautiful splendid things. I like the sort of things that the common people today do not have. The working class, to which most of the people belong, live mostly in cheap, shabby homes. Their houses are ugly on the outside, and fairly hideous inside, if we judge from the artistic standpoint—and until we do judge from that standpoint we are not a cultured, civilized people.

What to the average person is a Bokhara, or a Cashmererug? A Cloisonne vase, a bit of Serbian china, a piece of Martele silver, a Turner picture, a strong mission chair with straight lines, and the fine grain of wood showing? What are splendidly bound books on commodious shelves? What operatic music, and the great in the drama? And if there are a few to whom all this means something, they so often say that these things very properly are, or should be the property of the rich.

And yet the rich are so few, and the poor so plentiful. And because the poor are so plentiful, we must see every where the ugliness of their lives—their environment. The truck, which, for commercial reasons, is forced upon them, must always be with us, too.

For it is out of their cheap, shabby gods that the factories make their greatest profits. And the poor people these profits when they buy their ugly house furnishings.

Under Socialism cheap stuff will not be made for commercial reasons. Things will not be made to sell, but to use. And they will be good things, artistic, and well made. Almost every artist is a Socialist—and there is a reason. He hates the vulgarity of a commercialized life. He likes beautiful things; not to own always, but to look at always. And he knows that under capitalism these things are as scarce as the people who can own them.

The material reason for being a socialist leads to the spiritual reason. We absorb our environment. What we live in, we grow like. Morality has generally been considered to consist in refraining from killing our brother, stealing our neighbor's wife, or pilfering from another's purse. Under this limited definition many a mean person is considered highly moral. When we are really developed we will discover that bad tempers, civil thoughts, jealousies, bickerings, scandal mongering, cruelty, ugliness, and a host of other recognized virtues are highly immoral. That they are enervating, depraving, harmful. We will also learn that an ugly environment is largely responsible for all of this immorality. And we will proceed to make a better environment, one thoroughly good, and beautiful and pleasant. In this way we will produce poets, singers, humanitarians, workers, lovers, artists, and a real brotherhood of man where we today have anarchy, strife, greed and individualism rampant.

This is the reason why I am a Socialist.

Josephine Conger-Kaneko, Editor Progressive Woman

CLASS-CONSCIOUS ACTION.

Local Union No. 93 of the I. W. W., Bingham Canyon, Utah, is composed of an aggressive and militant bunch of workers. This union has taken an active hand in all matters pertaining to the welfare of the workers ever since its organization. It recently showed that it considered the injury of one the concern of all by subscribing for a thousand copies of the Appeal each week until the Warren case is concluded. No 93 believes that it needs its own class papers to carry on its fight for the freedom of labor. Constant vigilance is the price of liberty. When labor is awake and always awake, then alone can the heavy hand of oppression laid on those who toil be given a warning that the time approaches when to toil is not to be another man's slave.

All socialists who can afford to buy good reading should purchase a set of the "Library of Original Sources." It contains the master efforts of the world's thought.

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National

The people of the Mexican border states, knowing the atrocities of the Mexican government, are greatly agitated over the proposed love feast of Taft and Diaz at El Paso, and the cause of the Mexican refugees is being strengthened daily. Mother Jones has recently been holding immense tent meetings in the city of San Antonio. John Murray of Chicago, Secretary of the political Refugee Defense League, is on the scene. Resolutions of sympathy with the Mexican Revolutionists are being passed by many labor organizations.

Following the textile strike the bosses began to lock out other trades and the ranks of the strikers are constantly increasing by lock-outs on one side and sympathetic strikes on the other. More than one hundred thousand unorganized workers are involved. The strikers now number about three hundred and fifty thousand.

The Dockers of London, England have sent a substantial contribution and the workers of all countries are coming nobly to the support of the Swedish strikers, according to reports from delegates Tholin and Sandgren.

The Scandinavian organizations of this country are holding numerous meetings and gathering funds, but this is not sufficient. The whole working class should know the facts of this Titan struggle between capital and labor which effects an entire nation.

The referendum of the locals and members of Nebraska for the election of state officers and convention city and date which was conducted by the National Office and which closed on August 21st, resulted in the election of Comrade C. R. Cyle, 1709 North 33rd St., Lincoln, as a member of the National Committee, and Comrade Clyde J. Wright, 1729 J St., Lincoln, as State Secretary. September 6th was chosen as the date and Lincoln as the city for holding the state convention.

WANTED—IDEAS: Having been designated to make a special study of Organization and report on that subject to the National Congress of the Party next year, I hereby request all comrades who have ideas on the subject to send them to me. Please don't wait, but send them now. Address me at 1311 Harrison Ave., Des Moines, Iowa.—JOHN M. WORK.

The Political Refugee Defense League has been informed that thirty Russian political offenders and army deserters have been arrested in Nome, Alaska, after crossing the Bering Straits in skin boats, and are being held in the federal jail there pending a decision of the secretary of labor and commerce on their deportation. Immediately upon receiving the information President Chase of the Chicago Defense League made arrangements by wire with the New York league to send an attorney to Washington to look after the interests of the thirty men. The attorney, S. J. Pollock, has secured an extension of time in which to prepare for the defense and feels confident that deportation will be prevented, as it has been held in the recent case of two stowaways, Kazimirov and Puchnevski, that a violation of the immigration laws will be disregarded in cases of political offenders.

John Murray, secretary of the Defense League, is now in Texas looking into the cases of Rangel and Sarabia, the two Mexican revolutionary leaders recently arrested in Texas. He reports that mass meetings of protest against the detention of these men are being held in all sections of Texas by labor organizations and by Socialist locals. Sarabia, it is believed, will soon be discharged, but the trial of Rangel will be delayed several months.

At the Commerce, Texas, Socialist encampment a crowd of rowdies cut out the lights at an evening meeting and pelted the speakers with eggs. Comrades Lena Morrow Lewis, national organizer, and Thomas A. Hickey were the speakers. Much confusion prevailed in the large audience and a Mrs. Hendricks was seriously hurt. The Texas papers are almost unanimous in their denunciations of the outrage.

Comrade Solomon, state secretary of New York, reports: "That Local Rochester expelled from its ranks William McNamara and William Pez, the former for expressing a desire to vote for a republican candidate and the latter for being active in the democratic party."

International

During a discussion in the Turkish parliament on some labor bills a debate on socialism occurred. The world do move.

FRANCE

Great satisfaction is expressed by the leaders of the socialist party here at the decided victory just won by the socialists in the city of Toulouse in the municipal elections. The socialist ticket received 10,280 votes as against 99,458 for the Radicals. This is taken as an indication that at the general elections next year the radicals will lose heavily to the socialists in all the industrial center as a result of the government's policy of repression of labor unions.

At the general election in Holland a few weeks ago the Socialists made a gain of over 25 per cent, increasing their vote from 65,000 to 82,000. The growth of the socialist vote was particularly marked in the large cities. For instance, in Amsterdam, it rose to 14,559 compared with 9,852 four years ago; in Rotterdam, from 3,251 to 5,907 and in the Hague, from 2,312 to 3,598.

A socialist movement has been organized and is spreading rapidly in Bosnia, the principality recently annexed by Austria. Eighty per cent of the population is Greek and Mohammedan, but the nationalities are pulling together in good shape. Wood and tobacco workers and weavers as well as farmers are taking the lead in the new movement.

L'Humanite, the Parisian socialist daily, declares that the revolution in Persia is largely directed by socialists. Two Persian socialists are now in Paris to interest party members in various European parliaments to demand of their governments to compel Russia to keep out of Persia. Persians claim if the czar can be forced to withdraw his support of the reactionists in Persia they will duplicate the work of the Young Turks in overthrowing their old regime and setting up a constitutional government.

In Germany, where working men are not pawns for politicians to joke about, a new mining law has just been enacted that is thoroughly revolutionary in character. The law applies merely in Prussia at present, but will be copied in other German States. According to the new law, the owners of mines must at all times provide the latest safety appliances to protect their employes. Moreover the latter, through their unions, designate what improvements and alterations shall be made and there is practically no appeal from the union decision, nor can employers victimize any union or individual for demanding the installation of safety devices. Of course, certain of the capitalists of the open shop breed are howling that the law permits the union to run their business, but that makes no difference in Germany.

The social-democrats won a fine victory at the local election in the town of Lambrecht, Germany, the other day. The Liberals, who were supported in power by the capitalists of the textile industry, thought the time had arrived to strike a crushing blow against the rising "menace" of the socialists and they resigned in a body. To their deep dismay, however, the socialists won 16 out of the 20 seats, thus obtaining an absolute majority in the new council. They then proceeded to elect the mayor as well.

"Great Britain is nearer socialism to-day than at any other time in her history, in the opinion of those who have studied the financial budget for the coming fiscal year," is the startling cablegram sent from London last week, referring to the program presented to Parliament by the present government. "The more the budget is considered the more it is denounced by the Conservatives as a surrender to the Socialist demands of the radicals and Labor party, or the 'proletariat,' as the Conservatives call the defenders of the budget."

The government proposes relief to the unemployed by inaugurating an insurance system against loss of employment, state aid to labor exchanges to minimize unemployment, state aid to afforestation, reclamation of land and agricultural projects and other means to provide work to toilers who are involuntarily idle. The British government proposes to finance these great projects by increasing the taxes on incomes, inheritances, liquors, auto mobiles, mining royalties, unused land, a stamp tax upon conveyances, checks, etc. Nowhere does the movement towards socialism present a more remarkable aspect.

Comrade Jud Harris of Sparks, Nev., has been elected to fill the unexpired term to January 1, 1910.

THE STATE SITUATION.

The Montana News has been under the fire of considerable criticism because it has not kept the party membership posted on the development and status of the situation within the party in the state, in order that the socialists might have some guide as to what they ought to do, some information by which they might shape their actions.

The reason that the News has been practically silent on the trend of affairs in Montana is because of its widespread circulation outside of the state. The support of the News is drawn from the entire northwestern territory, and it has been our purpose not to bring in the discouraging features of a state hocus-pocus as a needless irritation to the readers of the News in other states outside Montana, where there could be no interest in the unseemly squabbles into which stupid and ill-disposed persons have precipitated the party in Montana.

We do not intend to swerve from that purpose. We expect to devote the News to the handling of the interests of the proletariat in this section of the United States. The new and, to a large extent, inexperienced organizations of the Socialist party west of the Mississippi river are constantly embroiled in trivial differences that one might almost say are inseparable from new people coming into a great labor organization, without any experience in labor movements, with no practical knowledge of what they are in, and whose theoretical knowledge is both limited and erroneous. In such a combination of circumstances, incompetent and mischievous persons find a large and inviting theater for evil-doing.

In a good, clear, experienced movement, where there are enough able persons to maintain a movement of that sort, as in some of the other states, these mischievous persons and tactics can never get hold of a movement and deflect it into the absurdities that are making a number of the western states the ridicule of practical socialists; as Texas and Washington at present, and we regret to say, Montana.

It is a matter of humiliation to posted socialists that such a state of affairs exists. The publicity of the condition cannot bring us adherents from the ranks of labor or dignify our claims to a scientific solution of the miseries of labor. Therefore an intelligent propaganda is interested in keeping these childish trivialities away from the main sweep of the Great Cause, and going forward courageously with the essential work of education and construction.

But recognizing all this as a well grounded policy, there is another feature that must be considered. When interests are at work utterly defeating the purpose of Socialism they must be calmly set forth and explained that the feet of the unwary may not be led astray into labyrinths that can only indefinitely retard any possible advantage to working class interests.

Believing that the foregoing is a sufficient explanation of the policy of the News in regard to the Socialist party in the state of Montana, we hereby append a brief resume of the situation as it now exists.

James D. Graham resigned as state secretary in April, the resignation to take effect, in accordance with the instructions of the national executive committee, when a successor was properly elected and installed. The cause of the resignation was his long period of work for nothing for the party, and the necessity of his giving all his time to the rehabilitation of the News, which the asinine actions of the bolters had so riddled and weakened.

In the meantime the boom of the bolters was put out of commission by the party authorities. It now devolved upon the executive committee to elect a new secretary, and the way they have gone about it is a caution to gods and men, so far as practical methods are concerned.

Caulfield, the executive committee member from Missoula, has refused to be a party to the illegal violation

of party methods that the other two members, Duncan and Kruse, have striven to inflict upon the party.

It should be said in passing that T. D. Caulfield is the only member of the executive committee that has ever had any experience in labor affairs. He was a member of the Debs strike committee in the great strike of 1894 and is thoroughly familiar with the American labor movement in all its phases, as well as being one of the best grounded men on the literature of Socialism in the state.

Of the other two members, one is a preacher and the other a farmer, now a student at Bozeman. Neither has had the slightest experience in the labor or Socialist movements, and they are not familiar with the most ordinary positions that the party is accustomed to take.

These two members have attempted to elect a state secretary by the votes of non-party members. That is a number of weak-kneed locals ceased to pay dues to the party because they could not have their own way about party matters. It was the old story, so familiar to school teachers and editors, that every man, no matter how unskilled, could do better than the one who had the task to do.

These committee members wish to record votes on Socialist party matters from these points that are not in touch with the state organization, and are consequently paying no dues into the national office. To show their bad faith with the party, some of these locals persist in saying they are in good standing, when the only evidence of a local's standing is the books of the state secretary. To let non-paying members vote on party affairs on just an empty statement is to throw the gates open to every crook that wishes to break in and ruin the revolutionary movement. That is the reason there are such ironclad barriers against such a procedure throughout the international Socialist organization. And members of a committee must indeed be poorly posted in party tactics to try to force such capitalist chicanery upon a movement to protect the working class in its revolt.

C.E. Tholinand, John Sandgren, delegates of the General committee of Labor Unions of Sweden, have arrived in this country to secure financial aid. They will visit Socialist and Labor organizations in the larger cities and hope to stir all labor societies to a recognition of the importance of this contest.

Such locals as have not yet subscribed twenty-five cents for a copy of the Official Monthly Bulletin, should do so at once. The purpose is to secure the second class mailing privileges. This departure should start with the new volume, beginning with the September issue. About one local in five has thus far subscribed, consequently there are not nearly enough subs at hand.

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Order From The Montana News.

**LOCAL DEPARTMENT**

The attention of Montana News readers wants to be called to the fact that it is impossible to put out the kind of a paper that the management desires today, and is able to do, so long as the editor is obliged to be away from her desk and in the field earning money to pay the debts of the Socialist party. Ever since the party owned the paper Mrs. Hazlett has always been obliged to take the field to support it, the committees of the party taking no steps whatever to finance the undertaking.

A tremendous effort was made to show up this state of affairs last summer so the party would get an intelligent understanding of it and meet their responsibilities like men. The only result was to precipitate them into a senseless fight, not remotest idea of meeting their financial obligations, if indeed there was the business-like ability to do this.

This state exists to this day. The committees do absolutely nothing, and Comrades Graham and Hazlett have the ancient debts to meet.

No editor can do the proper work on a paper and be in the field most of the time. There is so much routine work about an office, as any person with even a trifle of experience knows, that it is a continual struggle to do proper editorial work, with just one person to attend to everything, and at the desk all the time. With Mrs. Hazlett on the road getting money to pay party debts, and all the rest shirking, the paper simply cannot be run as it should be, and could be, and would be, if the editor could be in her office and do the required work there. A fearless labor paper for this section of the country the Socialist movement must have. When would-be Socialists awaken to this fact we shall do something. In the meantime, it is the stagger of the few against the stupidity of the many—the old historic struggle. When those who are genuinely interested in the progress of labor in the northwest see this, and come into the fight and throw the proper economic support to the News, so that the editor can stay in her office and do something, you will have a paper able to fight the capitalists in a way to make them fear the rising revolt of labor.

In the foolish fight that a few disgruntled individuals are trying to embroil the party in, a circumstance has recently occurred that should show to all sober minded and sincere Socialists that it is time to quit foolish personalities and unite on a grand, constructive labor movement in Montana.

At the instigation of the bunch who formed a bolt in Montana a few months ago, A. D. Peugh of Livingston, who has been rattling round in the position of state committeeman for that local, preferred charges against Graham regarding his conduct of the state office. The charges were a weak rehash of what was thrown out as nonsense by the convention, that was threshed over in the state committee and Graham exonerated. The charges had nothing whatever to do with local affairs, but as they applied wholly to the state office came purely under the jurisdiction of the party at large. The burlesque that an attempt was made to dignify into a "trial" was set for several weeks ago. Graham could not be present, as he was engaged with the postoffice authorities over the final arrangements for the mailing rights of the News under the new ownership.

The "trial" was certainly a sorry farce—a foolish reading of private correspondence such as people are writing to their friends, and on the business of the socialist movement every day. The members of the party were utterly disgusted at this puny attempt to wreak personal spite and most of them stayed away altogether. At the end of the fiasco, which only showed the ignorance of the disturbers of the simplest party matters, only one vote was cast against the secretary. And on the other hand, the congratulations and friendship showered upon him by the members of the party, his old friends and comrades, the machinists, with whom he has labored against corporate oppression since his boyhood days, gave eloquent testimony to the hearty good will on all sides.

Peugh gave notice of an appeal to the national committee. He does not even know enough of party affairs to know that it is an integral part of Socialist party administration that the national committee never meddles in local affairs. The action of the local is final. Besides, Peugh is completely out of his place in giving notice of anything on his own hook. He is in that place to represent the wish of the local only, and can take no action on his own initiative.

It is a sorry day for the efforts of

labor when malignant influences attempt to breed suspicion against its leaders and workers, and undermine the results of long years of hard toil.

Let us hope this will put an end to the nonsense that is disturbing the party at this time, and the membership settle down to a realization that the fight against capitalism and not workingmen is the paramount issue in the Socialist party.

Comrade Charles Simpson, one of the most intelligent and militant of the organized working men in Livingston, who was the socialist alderman before the obnoxious tactics of certain individuals had dissipated and weakened the party there, said to a young socialist apropos of the bald attempt to discredit Graham, "Boy, after you have fought corporations for many years, in an attempt to protect your class and your job, you will be slow to take much stock in the efforts made to set the working class against their leaders and workers. Be slow to believe evil against the men of your own class."

Local Java, a new organization in eastern Montana, is coming to the front with an active and intelligent interest in party affairs. Let all other locals assume their burdens in the attempted organizing of the proletariat. To shirk the problem is not to solve it.

Fight capitalism if you ever want decent conditions on this earth for human beings.

What paper carries the labor banner in the Northwest? The Montana News.

The nigger in the woodpile that has been raising Cain in the Socialist party in Helena for several years has at last shown his shiny heel. Mayor Edwards has organized a "non-partisan political club," and a number of those who have posed as socialists have joined it. Thus is the old adage fulfilled, "Out of nothing, nothing comes."

Ten subs in from Livingston last week.

Local Manhattan recently purchased ten subs.

"Subscriber," of Kalspell writes: I rejoice to see the News taking a fresh start. You folks certainly have grit. It is too bad the labor movement is held back by the senseless follies of those who are not labor men. It is to be hoped that some one who is really interested in the socialist movement, and able to do so, will at sometime pick up the News and finance it properly, so that it will not eat into the vitals of a few who are doing the hard pioneer work. Enclosed find \$5.00 to help along.

If you are not receiving the News and have paid for it, drop a card to that effect to this office. Any mailing list is subject to accidents, but we are using every precaution to see that the subscribers to the Montana News get their paper.

You must support a labor paper if you want a labor movement to grow. Can't you send in a few subs for the News.

Remember the establishing of a labor press is a giant fight. Those that shirk now are only fooling when they say they want Socialism.

As soon as your local is organized subscribe for a dozen copies of the News. You can easily raise that much money, and you strengthen your home movement, keep in touch with the socialist work of this section of the country and help to build up a labor press that will influence the public thought of the future.

Any items of interest from locals are gladly welcomed to this department. Keep us posted on what you are doing and we will keep the western labor movement posted on its progress.

Remember that we want subs now and always. A political movement of the people must spread to succeed. Send for \$5.00 worth of sub cards and see how quickly you can dispose of them.

The University Research Extension of Milwaukee is doing a valuable work for the toilers who are beginning to think for themselves in presenting the "Library of Original Sources" to the public. The book contains the cream of the original thought of the world. A small price per month will get them. Read the advertisement in another column and inquire concerning it.

**HISTORY OF THE GREAT AMERICAN FORTUNES.**  
By GUSTAVUS MYERS.

This remarkable work, which has attracted widespread attention in the course of its serial publication in the Worker and Evening Call, will shortly be brought out in three handsome volumes. From the beginning of the serial publication of this work, an incessant stream of inquiries has poured in as to when it would appear in book form. The first volume will be issued in September, 1909, and two other volumes will appear as they can be published.

The History of the Great American Fortunes is a truly monumental work, covering an original field, and dealing with the subject in a way never before attempted. When Mr. Myers' History of Tammany Hall appeared some years ago, it was extensively noticed and reviewed the world over. It is safe to say that the History of the Great American Fortunes will call forth a far greater and wider amount of attention. It is the pioneer work in its field, and its value is already so thoroughly recognized that it is being translated into many languages.

The facts as to the origin of America's great fortunes have hitherto been shrouded in the densest obscurity. Yet the subject is one of the greatest interest and importance. Such articles as have been written on the careers of great men have nearly all been highly eulogistic and partial, hence historically worthless. There have also been denunciatory articles, violently attacking certain of the American multi-millionaires. These articles have been equally valueless, inasmuch as they deal prejudicially with individuals, and give no understanding of the conditions under which the great fortunes have been acquired. Moreover, practically all of them have been tirades, lacking facts and the knowledge of how to interpret facts.

So unexplored has the subject of the great fortunes been hitherto, that Mr. Myers has had to spend many years in gathering the facts. His research has been stupendous. He has gone through thousands of official documents dealing with three centuries of American life, and the results are seen in his work. It is not merely the first work of its kind, but is the most comprehensive and authentic history of American economic progress that has ever appeared. It gives the most lucid views of conditions from the very settlement of America down to the present time. It is, therefore, far more than a work dealing with the personal careers of the founders of the great fortunes; every phase of the conditions and social contrasts prevailing at different periods is fully illumined. You get the clearest kind of an idea of the forces

of the tremendous movements and struggles, the culmination of which is seen in the American plutocracy of today, on the one hand, and the tens of millions of dispossessed, propertyless people, on the other.

Above all, the history of the Great American fortunes gives the facts, and facts as surprising as they are unassailable. Unlike many writers of the day, Mr. Myers does not waste himself on vague rhetoric, or tax the reader's patience by a difficult, academic style. He writes directly, forcibly, always sticking to the facts, and going straight to the point. He has taken the enormous mass of facts unearthed by his years of study and research, and has produced a virile work every line of which is interesting if not every line of which is interesting if not fascinating, in the graphic picture it gives of the causes leading up to the colossal fortunes in the hands of a few, and the impoverishment of the many.

It is bound to rank as the greatest work of its kind, and as the standard authority. It is history written in a new way, with the correct knowledge and interpretation of the facts, a scientific work at every step, and at the same time so simply presented that a child can read and fully understand it. Numerous prevalent errors and sophistries will be absolutely overthrown by this work, and it can be predicted that many future works will be written in the light of facts Mr. Myers brings out.

The author has given the publication of this book to our co-operative association of working people, because he has good reason to believe that almost any capitalist house would soon be induced to suppress the book when its revolutionary importance once came to the attention of the great captains of industry. We have little working capital, but our publishing house is owned by over two thousand socialists who can not be bought off.

We shall publish the book, so far as the author has completed it, in three handsome volumes, printed on fine book paper, with eight engravings in each volume. The first, dealing with the conditions in Settlement and colonial times and with the Great Land Fortunes, will be ready in September. Volumes II and III will deal with the Great Railroad Fortunes, and we hope to publish both of these by the end of 1909. The price of the work will be \$1.50 a volume.

CHAS. H. KERR & CO.,  
153 Kinzie St., Chicago, Ill.  
For Sale by the Montana News,  
Helena, Montana.

The Women's Progressive League of Livingston is still active. They held a little social meeting last week when Mrs. Hazlett was present. They expect soon to reorganize for active socialist work.

**The Butterick Publishing Co.**  
of New York City

Publishers of the DELINEATOR and the DESIGNER, and the NEW IDEA, the STANDARD, MARTHA DEAN, and LA BELLE Patterns, has instituted proceedings in the Federal Court at Helena, asking for an injunction against certain Labor Organizations in Montana, and also asking for \$10,000 damages, sustained by reason of an alleged boycott levied against the publications of the aforesaid Butterick Company—

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