

MISSOULA POLICE RELINQUISH ATTEMPT AGAINST FREE SPEECH

I. W. W. DEFEATS CITY COUNCIL

Elizabeth Gurly Flynn Held for Trial in Test Case. Free Speech League Aroused.

The city council of Missoula has proved another exemplification of the proverb that "discretion is the better part of valor", and completely retreated from the fight against the I. W. W. speakers, and the constitutional right of Free Speech. In the midst of the clubbing, arresting, beating and other police outrages against the union workers the council held a meeting. They found themselves confronted by jury trials by the score, immense sums of court expense, an enraged populace, and fresh speakers coming in on every train as candidates for free berths at the city expense. In fact they saw no end to the "radau" that the Industrial Workers were precipitating upon their heads, and wisely concluded that they would stop bucking the United States constitution.

The council had previously made a conciliating concession that the work-

ers might speak on a by-street. But the Workers were standing upon their legal rights to speak where they pleased so long as they were injuring no one, and continued their work with fresh recruits after thirty-five had been arrested in one evening.

When the telegram went into New York telling of the attempt to suppress Free Speech in Missoula a meeting of the Free Speech League was called, and Leonard D. Abbott and others went to preparing plans to preserve the American right of Free Speech. Abbott said, "Free Speech must be maintained no matter what cost may be. We are prepared to carry the fight to a finish."

Principal Derby of the Morris High School, where Miss Flynn attended was also much interested in the progress on the fight.

The latest word is that Miss Flynn is held for trial, the council expecting to make a test case out of her arrest.

the employers were locking out the workmen those employed in the state telephone, postal, railroad and telegraph service and all municipal undertakings were, of course, not locked out, and were able to contribute to the support of the strikers. The employers institute the lockout to stop the support of strikes. The point of the lockout is to break the financial resources.

But the workers are gaining solidarity, practice, knowledge in every struggle, and thus instituting the proletarian revolutions.

THE POLE FOR SCIENCE.

Whether Cook found the Pole or whether Peary did, which found it first; whether Cook is faking or is sincere; whether Peary is just or prejudiced are matters to be decided by scientific tribunal and the judgment of future historians. They are non-essentials in the face of the great fact satisfactory to the most competent authorities, that the Pole has been discovered, the globe circled, the unknown of science vanquished by the light of investigation, and a grand new conquest made over the secrets of nature.

Not to Cook or Peary alone, in any event, is the credit of the new progressive movement due. These men were able to capture the outpost of human knowledge not through the power of their individual prowess, however able and praiseworthy that has been, but because of attempt after attempt that has been made, over a long period of search for the Pole, by others who contributed their discoveries to the information of the world, so that each succeeding adventurer into these unknown dangers of cold and desolation and terrible waters could advance upon the progress those before him had been made.

The conquest of the Pole, like every other human achievement, is a collective achievement, a triumph of human energy coupled with modern scientific invention.

To the Socialist the story of the conquest of the Pole has also a wider human meaning. Science made failure after failure to attain the Pole. Man after man was baffled, and many went down to their death with the coveted prize still wrapped in fathomless obscurity. But their efforts were not in vain. They gathered experience and information which became the heritage of explorers. Every successive repulse meant progress in method, a progress that led to the attainment of the final goal.

Thus has moved on the evolution of the physical conquest of nature. Thus is moving on the social evolution of man's conquest over his social and economic environment, focused in the effort to attain socialism. The working class has been moving up to this goal through the ages. Outpost after outpost of democracy has been captured. Again and again the ruling class has hurled back the efforts of the workers, has baffled their advance and trampled their aspirations under its feet. And the workers have retreated again and again before that tide of oppression, only to come up again with greater force, with new demands, with a better program on which to base their future efforts for the attainment of the final goal, universal emancipation.

So the apparent retreats and repulses of the socialists are merely landmarks on the frontier towards that attainment of ultimate human destiny—life for all, justice for all, opportunity for all—a justly organized and administered society, which we call SOCIALISM.

SPANISH THRONE KILLS FERRER

Scholar Executed for Advancing Education and Science in Land of Priestcraft

The Catholic Church has murdered Francisco Ferrer. The man who dared to establish secular schools in Spain. The Catholic church has murdered Ferrer through its control of the Spanish government. The home of the Inquisition with ferocious determination has intended that no education shall be given to the people except what comes through the channels of the catholic priesthood.

The greatest scholars of Europe say that education. It was his attempt to establish science and public schools in Spain, such as prevail in this country. He has been bitterly pursued by the church. They attempted to fasten the attack on the life of the king and queen upon him, but this was such a trumped up charge that even the dogs of brutal and barbarous Spain had to acquit him.

It was nothing, but pure, vicious revenge and hatred that attempted to connect Ferrer with the outraged uprising of the people against famine, war, murder for great capitalists, and the domination of the priests, enforced by those that were driven out of France. He was given no semblance of a trial. The farce by which he was murdered was called a court martial. The so-called "evidence" consisted of a forged document that he had never seen, depositions made by prisoners confined and forced by torture to do what their jailers required of them, and hearsay evidence—not a single direct and proven fact. Of the forged letters one was read purporting to have been written by son. His enemies did not know that his son was only five years old, and hardly of an age to incite revolutions.

It is the old story—a government of barbarism, ignorance, priestcraft and class tyranny, opposing science, freedom, democracy and intelligence. It is the history of the church in all ages.

His murderers added insult to their crime by sending two priests to him before he was shot. He turned his back on them and walked away. He met his death without flinching, walked to his grave, and fell pierced by the shots of twelve executioners.

But the results of this terrible crime which the church and state of Spain have committed will be far reaching. It is the last religious crime of history. From every nation of Europe already are resounding the imprecations of outraged justice. The socialists in the parliaments of Europe are calling upon their governments, and the result of this barbarous crime will precipitate an international complication. Even conservatives are predicting that Alphonse will lose his throne through this atrocity.

Ferrer's family is left without support. His daughter went to work in biscuit factory to get money for them to subsist upon. She appealed to both the king and the pope for her father's life. Class rule has no mercy. It is, "Down with freedom and intelligence." The common people, the socialists and the revolutionists throughout Europe have been moved to fury by the execution of Ferrer. In Paris and Rome attacks have been made on the Spanish embassies. The governments are with difficulty restraining their people from uprisings. Jaures, the leader of the socialists in the French congress, where there are fifty socialist members, headed a deputation of ten thousand in Paris, protesting against the execution. He stated that a "conflagration was started that would not be extinguished until Spanish political life has been purged of the clerical influences which are paralyzing the progress of the nation, and shocking the conscience of Europe."

The capitalist papers of course speak of this demonstration as "bands of anarchists" instead of outraged citizens.

M. Reinach of the Scientific Institute says, "Ferrer was the victim of the monks, now that they have been reinforced by their colleagues who were expelled from France."

At Liverpool a vast mass meeting of protest was held.

Meanwhile the poor shivering Alphonse, the figurehead of class rule, is liable to fall amid the ruins of empire in the struggle of the vast working class for freedom, knowledge and a chance for decent life.

Class War in Sweden.

The general strike now in progress in Sweden since August 4, 1909, is the result of the aggressive tactics adopted by the "Swedish Employers' association." Ever since the present financial and industrial depression set in the organized employers in Sweden have tried to break the National Organization of Swedish Workers.

The Swedish strike adds to the general turmoil of nations into which the economic chaos precipitated all matters connected with industry and trade. The Employers' association was formed in Sweden as in all other countries where capital has reached any advanced stage of development, and is attempting to deal with its chief factor, labor. The Swedish strike is a re-echo of the numerous labor strikes that have occurred all over Europe in resistance of the effort to stamp out unionism. The strike is on so immense scale that if the same sort of a movement were on foot here between three and a half and four million men would be out.

When the trouble came up the government refused to act as a mediator, but as was to be expected, threw its resources to the employers. The workers were then all called out in order to force the hand of the government. This plan was unsuccessful, and when the government took up the and when the government took up the efforts towards conciliation the strikes were called off that had been instituted against the employers not in the Association. The men went back on the same terms, as they only came out for the sake of giving their moral and financial support to the men struggling against the arbitrary methods of the Association.

More than 60,000 men are still out.

The most noticeable feature of this strikes in other countries is that capitalism has been robbed of the power of the press. When the trouble commenced, as elsewhere, the capitalist press undertook to poison public opinion against the workers, to arouse suspicion, jealousy and a ferment against the strike leaders. The Swedish labor organizations were on to the game, and as soon as the papers began to fight them they called out all the allied printers' trades. All the capitalists have had to carry on their part of the fight was one mimeographed sheet. Whereas the strikers were supported by thirty-one socialist and labor papers. The tables were turned in this case with a vengeance.

The strength of the Swedes has been in their passive resistance, standing like a stone wall for the integrity of the principle of organization. Wages and hours have not been the prime factor in this strike although the employers had attempt-

ed to inaugurate a reduction in wages. This passive resistance is in striking contrast to the methods of the Latin races, which immediately develop the irascible plan, and are soon in the midst of street fighting and in conflict with the troops. But the Scandinavian blood expresses itself in cold, solid, quiet determination. The education for working class solidarity has been so strong in the army that it is impossible to get the soldiers to fight the strikers, but on the contrary they are supporting the strike with funds. As an illustration of the loyalty of the Swedish workman to his class, it may be remembered that in the Cripple Creek strike a Swedish soldier threw down his gun and said he did not come to this country to fight workmen.

The metal workers of Berlin have given \$125,000 to the strike, and it is deserving of the financial support of the workers, all over the world. The struggle of the Swedish workers is the struggle that is coming on in gigantic proportions everywhere as the mad rush for profits out of labor's hide increases. This latest phase of the struggle started in England in 1896 with a lockout of the machinists by the bosses after the trust period had been entered upon, and the limited company was passing away. It spread to Belgium and then to Holland, following the classic development of concentrated capital. Even the series of political revolutions in various countries that are marking contemporaneous history with continual uproar may be traced to the disturbances in the business world. The backward countries have felt the tremendous pressure of modern business, methods the trust and concentrated capital against them. Their business class has been forced to strive after these business methods in order to maintain a business existence at all. To attain these methods was to break ancient bonds and customs which disturbed the old regime and precipitated revolution. The same condition practically exists in the world as existed from 1832 to 1850, when revolution was shaking the foundation of the nations. The capitalist class is trying to break up the organized resistance of the working class before it gets too strong for them to handle. Vorwarts called the London strike the guards brigade of the working class, and it was small beside the Swedish strike. The employers are taking more sweeping measures every day.

Each contest has ended the same as this will end. Victory will be for neither side, but a greater sense of solidarity among the workers will be the result a preparation for more gigantic struggles that are to come. Great lessons may be learned from this strike of the advantages of state socialism to the working class. When

ARE BOOSTING TOM CARTER

All Interest of the People Feeders to Political Schemes.

As an instance of how class domination through its instruments of political greed controls and vitiates what should be the most beneficial public activities, the Montana State Fair furnishes a luminous example.

Who governs Montana? What line of demarcation is there between the republicans and the democrats?

What part does the Amalgamated Copper Company play in dictating legislation, appointments and courts?

Ask Governor Norris why he allowed the fair to be run as a political machine for Carter, who after all represented only a part of the republican party. Only the friends of Carter had any say in the matter; and we may say that the Montana News was the only paper in the state that did not have passes to the fair. Not that the News expected them. The News is too well posted on the props of capitalist gang rule to expect any favors from the system that it is published to oppose, in the name of human justice. But the very fact substantiates the point we are making, that the state fair is only an instrument of the Tom Carter machine.

An amalgamation of the ruling class is bound to disintegrate sooner or later from contentions within its own ranks; and the "insurgent republicans" are making a noise in Montana. The city administration of Helena was ignored completely in the Taft program. Senator Carter, the vanguard of the corporation president, preferring by all odds a democrat who would work at the behest of the Amalgamated company, to a rebellious republican fighting the octopus, in the form of Mayor Edwards.

Another curious circumstance in connection with Taft's visit is that Charlie Shearer, editor of the Iner-Mountain was, also left completely out of the program of great events. No excuse was given, and the public is left to wonder whether in this way Tom Carter is paying the grudge because of the jilting of his sister-in-law.

It is up to those who have been taught to believe from American history that in American government there was to be no possible suggestion of a union of church and state to account for the fact that Bishop Carroll was the only priest presented

to the president, the ministers of all other denominations being emphatically ignored. But Bishop Carroll entered with all his forces into the city campaign on the democratic side against insurgent republican Edwards who was fighting the Helena Light & Power Company, otherwise Standard Oil.

It was exceedingly suggestive that at Spokane and Seattle Taft could talk of all the other welcomes in all the other states, but was ominously silent about Montana. Montana was too rank a proposition for even the affable Taft to swallow, and pretense he liked it. His reception was a fizzle amid the proletarian vassals of Amalgamated Copper. There was practically no enthusiasm. His presence on the fair grounds was without demonstration. There is too much organized labor in Montana, and not much besides, and it has an unpleasant knack of remembering that "Corporation Bill" was the father of the injunction, and that federal court injunctions have been unpleasantly prominent in Montana.

The fair itself was remarkably poor in spite of the sorry boasts of the Carter forces. Only 4 or 5 counties had grain exhibits to speak of; there was no wool exhibit, the mineral exhibit was remarkably poor; the display of horses and dogs amounted to practically nothing; the racing was absolutely bum. We cannot say whether the fault was that of Secretary Martin or not. The probabilities are that the Fair appropriations have been appropriated as a political boost to Carter's campaign for the senate.

The government of Montana is conducted on purely bi-partisan lines; and any action taken by either the democrats or republicans is favorable to the Amalgamated.

Another factor in the present situation is that Edwards is the only man in the Montana republican party that has brains enough to be a possible competitor for Carter's place as senator. Lee Mantle is absolutely down and out, and in case Slippery Tom should take it into his head to kick the bucket, it is a galling thorn in the side of the Amalgamated that Edwards and the public ownership ideas looms up as the most popular republican.

FORCE GOVERNMENT'S HAND.

Labor all over the world rejoices the pressed steel car workers have won their strike against the brutal and outrageous violence of the Pressed Steel Car company. The men are back at the furnaces and are being put to work in various capacities as fast as occasion demands. The result is a victory for the union.

The strikers appealed to the consuls of Austria and Hungary for protection after the men had been shot down at McKees Rocks. The foreigners also charged that peonage had been practiced against them in herding them in the stockades with armed guards over them to force them to scab. The investigation instituted was so fierce that the company gave in.

This was practically a victory for political methods in a strike, through the avenue of appealing to the government. During the progress of the investigations there were heated discussions and some bitter scenes between the corporation attorneys and the attorneys for the consuls. The consuls could demand damages from the United States government for the benefit of the widows and families of those killed by the Pennsylvania constabulary and those forced to scab within the stockade.

Instead of a victory for the strikers this may be looked upon as a victory for the methods they were forced to use, to affect and influence the powers of government.

AID TO STRIKE.

During the month of September \$1,342.13 was remitted from the national office to the strike headquarters at Stockholm, Sweden. According to the latest cable from Sweden the peace negotiations conducted by the government at the instance of the employers have been broken off. The strength and solidarity of the strikers is shown by their refusal to accept unsatisfactory overtures. This new situation may increase the number of strikers. Comrade C. E. Tholin, Swedish delegate now in this country desires to have it announced that the instructions of the home office is for the delegates not to personally accept any contributions but that all money should be sent direct, addressed Landssekreteriatet, Stockholm, Sweden or remittances may be made to the national office of the Socialist party, 180 Washington street, Chicago, Ill., from which office drafts are forwarded every second day directly to the Landssekreteriatet.

Parisian dispatches state that King Alphonse of Spain fears he will lose his throne through the revolution that is surging through his realm. HHHH*skkaiap' Hlllllll 78 78978

The king of Servia is shut in his palace through fear of assassination from those that want a republic. The thrones of exploitation are tottering and the days of democracy are drawing nearer.

THE MONTANA NEWS.

ISSUED WEEKLY.

OFFICE 19 PARK AV. P. O. BOX 908

Entered at the Post Office for transmission through the mail at second-class rates.

IDA CROUCH-HAZLETT
Editor and Manager.

SUBSCRIPTIONS:

One Year 50c
Six Months 25c
One cent per copy in bundles up to 500

National Headquarters, J. Mahlon Barnes, Secretary, 180 Washington Street, Chicago, Ill.



SOCIALIST STAGNATION, SPIES AND DISRUPTERS.

Peyton Boswell, the editor and publisher of the "Progressive Journal of Education," published at 180 Washington S., Chicago, has recently commenced the publication of the "Modern Magazine." It is issued from the same point and its object was to furnish a medium for the publication of short stories and the more entertaining phases relating to socialism outside of dry economics and party matters.

Owing, however, to a suggestive situation existing within the party at present the editor has so modified his plans that for the next four months the magazine will be given almost wholly to matters dealing strictly with Socialist Party affairs. The statement is made that this is done because the party is admittedly at a crisis in its affairs, and the "Modern Magazine" states that "the situation is such that no other publication is available for a frank and searching discussion of 'What is the Matter?'"

In the October number A. M. Simons, editor-in-chief of the Chicago Daily Socialist, has an article on the subject that forms the heading to this article.

The Montana News was the first socialist publication in the country to point out the presence of spies and deliberate disrupters in the Socialist Party ranks. It did this because of its intimate knowledge of these vermin in the western socialist organizations and the western labor movement. A good part of this knowledge was gained while reporting the Western Federation trials; other parts of it in the course of propaganda tours, and a large part from association with the Montana Labor movement, and the criminal methods of the Amalgamated Co., the "great copper interests by which Standard Oil dominates Montana and corrupts every political measure, prostitutes the labor leaders that get to the front, and saps the vitality from every effort made by the exploited workers to gain solidarity and independence for labor.

We know of the spies in the party at Bingham Canyon, and Eureka, Utah, and at Butte, and at other points where these disrupters have emasculated and dissipated the union and socialist movement. As Simons says, our first statements were received with incredulity, not to say hilarity; but even the keenest leaders are beginning to see a great light, and recognizing that a powerful disintegrating force is at work.

The "New York Call" in a very recent editorial discontenances the idea that deliberate disrupters are at work, and says that what the party needs to overcome is better education of the members. The "Call" is right as to the needs of thorough economic education in order to build and strengthen an intelligent organization of the working class by which they can successfully cope with their capitalist antagonists, masters and oppressors. If we had a thoroughly educated and informed working class there is no doubt but what the capitalists would be powerless to make headway against their enormous proportion of numbers. But it is while this long and tedious process of education is going on, while the working class are unposted as to what they ought to do, that these hellish processes of disintegration are carried on. The consequence is that the organization never becomes strong enough, or attracts to it sufficiently intelligent persons, to gain experience in political methods and warfare, the court of final resort.

We are publishing this week the first of a series of articles by James D. Graham, dealing with socialist party corruption. These articles have been in process of preparation for some time. For over twenty years Comrade Graham has been associated with the labor movement in Montana as one of the Livingston machinists. He was active in the populist movement, made the first effort to organize the Socialist Labor Party in Montana, bolted the

populist convention when it fused, was a member of the executive committee of the Montana State Federation of Labor, was organizer for the United Brotherhood of Railway Employees, and has been a member of the socialist party since its inception. These articles are illuminating as to the crookedness that has marked labor political activity in Montana.

Below we give a number of pertinent paragraphs from Mr. Simons' article:

Socialists have always boasted that they are the first to see defects in their own philosophy or movement and most merciful in denouncing them, most relentless in correcting them. The Socialist movement, like the workers whose cause it embodies, has nothing to lose. It is a tool with which to achieve emancipation from exploitation. Therefore its members seek constantly to perfect that tool. Self-criticism has come to be as much a part of the "orthodoxy" of Socialism as its democracy.

No apology is therefore necessary for any criticism I may make of our movement. But the question may be raised as to whether there is anything fundamentally the matter with the socialist party at the present time. The membership is steadily increasing. Nearly every state is purchasing more dues stamps than at any time in its history. The number of Socialist speakers in the field is increasing. The amount of socialist literature distributed is larger than ever before.

Yet, in spite of these facts, I believe that the Socialist party is in a most critical condition. Nor am I alone in that belief. In my position as a member of the national executive committee of the Socialist Party it is my duty to study the reports made by national organizers, state secretaries and various individuals. I receive a large number of such communications each month aside from those which are presented and summarized at each meeting of the national executive committee. As editor of the Chicago Daily Socialist, an even larger number of such communications pass through my hands. Moreover, because of the central location of the office of this paper there are literally hundreds of visitors bringing word from every corner of the Union each year. It is no exaggeration to say that an average of ten states each week are represented by such visitors. There is a monotonous uniformity about the word which comes from each and all of these various sources.

With countless minor variations, which led each one to explain that the situation in his locality is "peculiar," there comes the same story of increased membership and decreased activity, of growing sentiment and declining interest in party work, of petty squabbles between scheming officials, of inability to hold new members, and loss of militancy by old one, of factional quarrels over insignificant issues, and of a general lack of that militant solidarity which has always been the universal boasted characteristic of a proletarian organization.

This same story comes from Chicago and New York, Montana, Indiana and Texas, Minneapolis, San Diego, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Denver, Pittsburg, Cincinnati and Seattle. The condition is found in large cities and in small towns. It infects whole states and disrupts ward organizations.

There are those who account for the defects in our movement by the lack of education. There is need of better education of the membership. No one can deny that. There is a painful lack of that somewhat narrow but basic knowledge of the essentials of the Socialist philosophy which was at one time the possession of every member. I would be the last to underestimate the necessity of such knowledge or deny that a lack of it plays some part in destroying the solidarity of the movement. The common acceptance and common knowledge of certain fundamental things is the basis of any sort of group solidarity. Yet those who urge this as the complete explanation of the present situation seem to me to be giving an excellent example of the very superficiality of which they complain. The cause is not big enough for the effect, and more over, I am not certain that this lack of training is not in itself partly caused by the movement itself.

Another explanation, which at first sounds almost fantastic, has been offered. It is that the socialist party has been filled with spies, not to seek out secrets (for we have none), but to actively disrupt the movement. When this explanation was first suggested I laughed at it, as indeed did nearly all the other best informed socialists. But little by little what seemed like evidence accumulated until today I do not think I am wrong when I say that nearly every one who has had to do with the management of the national organization, or is familiar with the whole situation has come to agree that there is at least a strong probability that secret agents play a part in the

disrupting work going on within the party.

The more the facts are examined the less improbable this explanation appears. Everyone knows that the unions are honey-combed with spies. Single agencies employ thousands of men for this purpose. We know that the capitalists have come to recognize that the only force that is really threatening exploitation is socialism. They need only look to Europe, with which most of them are familiar, to confirm their fears.

Moreover, we have very direct evidence that they do recognize the menace of socialism. The Civic Federation is undoubtedly the organized expression of the keenest, most far-seeing and unscrupulous capitalism in America. Its policy of corrupting the union movement, tricking the leaders of labor into the position of bell-wethers by which to lead their followers to the slaughter, the very men who compose it, all testify to the truth of this statement. This organization has definitely declared war upon socialism. It has called for a fund of fifty thousand dollars to be used in fighting socialism. We know that it has gathered around it and is supporting the most disreputable gang of literary prostitutes that this country has ever known, and is using them in its war upon socialism. We know that those who have been driven out of the socialist party because of dishonesty and immorality find a ready welcome from this defender of bourgeois morals. We know that those who manage it are adepts in the use of spies. We know that they have long been using them for other purposes. Is it, then, too fantastic a thing to suggest that some of the funds which the Civic Federation is spending in its war upon socialism are used in the hiring of spies to act as agents of disruption within the socialist party?

Once within the party the course of conduct for a spy is plain. He would counterfeit the fanatic. He would be a radical of the radicals. He would be intolerant and most vehement in his denunciations of capitalism. He would be extremely active in party work and very ready to show his devotion to socialism.

So far there would be no way by which to distinguish the spy from the sincere and faithful fanatic (and I would be the last to say that the time will ever come when the socialist movement can afford to dispense with him whom we call the fanatic.)

If the spy did nothing more than this he would do little damage. But he is there to do something more. He will naturally desire posts of authority. He will be especially eager for administrative positions. He will try to create factions and to make himself the candidate of a faction. He will cling to any official position he may secure and declare that he holds it in defense of a principle. He will foster everything that makes for divisions within the party. He will be ultra-orthodox and demand the expulsion of all who do not agree with the faction from which he derives his power. He will become a profession proletarian, skilled in all the arts of the demagogue. He will attack any constructive work undertaken within the party, or by any member of the party. He will pretend to veil such attacks behind questions of principle and seek to arouse a factional struggle on every point. For in this way two objects are accomplished: the party is disrupted and the work of socialist propaganda is hindered. He will foster all jealousies within the organization and seek to destroy the effectiveness of any one who may be accomplishing anything for socialism. He will play upon the petty vanities of the incompetent and the ignorant and seek to inflame them against those who are capable and willing to accomplish any work of agitation and education. When he is trusted with party work he will permit his enterprises to fall through carelessness, or even apparent incompetence.

The party official who starts out to reform the party, who organizes factions or becomes the creature of one, who attacks those who are working for socialism instead of utilizing their work and fitting it into a part of the general party work, is either incompetent or worse, and deserves no consideration in either case. If the rule is followed and all such persons are speedily relegated to private life, then the spy can do us no harm, because it is only through these methods that disruption comes.

Practically every one of the localities in which the party is now disorganized has one or more persons who display the characteristics described. It matters very little whether these persons are really paid agents of capitalism, or simply very cheap party politicians and loud-mouthed demagogues, they should be gotten rid of as promptly as possible.

The very first thing which strikes a student of the history of the socialist movement is that never since such a movement existed on American soil has there been such a dearth of differ-

ences on questions of principle. This is most glaringly evident when the alleged questions are considered. They are so peevishly contemptible that they emphasize by contrast the real questions over which the movement was once divided. And let me say right here that few things are more valuable to a socialist movement than genuine discussions on principles. We need never fear death or lethargy when the membership is divided on questions of fundamental principle.

Here, in my opinion, is the basic difficulty with the party at the present moment. It is not in sufficiently close touch with the real fight of the workers. It has somehow been caught in a backwash of the industrial current and has become academic rather than militant, a vote and dues gathering machine rather than a vital expression of the class struggle.

Whenever and wherever the socialist party is composed largely of the same individuals who compose the economic movement, and where they are active in each of these movements, many of the difficulties now complained of disappear. Where the socialist party is busy doing things, where it is participating directly in all the struggles of labor, where it is really in the class struggle and not simply talking about it, there is little room for either spies or petty politicians to do any harm.

National

For the support of the party's daily papers Locals Montrose, Colo., and South Bend, Ind., have passed resolutions, the first favoring action which will result in a 10c assessment upon all party members; the second that a special day be set aside by the national executive committee for all locals and branches to hold entertainments to raise funds for this purpose.

"I move that the national constitutional party pledge be strictly regarded both in letter and spirit and that all states be required to obtain their membership cards from the national office."

(Signed.) —C. W. Barzee."

Comment—"The question of a consolidated party in the United States is one of great moment at the present time. In some states the party lines are closely drawn and in others they are remarkably loosely defined. I have before me both Illinois and Wisconsin cards said to be or have been in use in those states. In neither of these do I find a strict agreement with the party pledge. They may, however, now be using the late pledge card as per the revised national constitution. This is not intended as a criticism of either of those states, but to prove my contention. The adoption of this resolution by the national committee would establish a precedent and tend to solidify the movement in the United States. With a dual party in the state of Washington and a similar contention forming in Oregon, Texas and other states we must guard closely the basic factor of the party principles which is contained in the party pledge if we maintain our unity."

The October number of "The Progressive Woman" is a special organization number containing contributions on this important subject from many of the field workers and state secretaries. Special rates are made on made on this number—\$12 per thousand, or 2c a copy in bundles of four or more. Publication office, Girard, Kansas. Yearly subscription price, 50c.

The state committee of Ohio has appropriated \$10 for the Minnesota primary law contest.

The national executive committee is now voting to decide between two claimants for the position of state secretary in Montana.

With the September issue of the Socialist Party Official Monthly Bulletin it enters upon the sixth year of its publication with No. 1, Vol. 6.

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.

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Corporation Corruption in the Socialist Party

By James D. Graham.

There is a crisis in the Socialist Party of Montana and it threatens the life of the organization. The usefulness of the party is about at an end unless vigorous means are taken to bring it back to its old time vigor. A year ago our dues paying membership was at the 1,500 mark and our vote was almost 10 per cent in the state. We were rapidly growing, broadening out and becoming a factor in politics to be reckoned with. The old party campaign could no longer ignore us. In municipal elections in different cities of the state our vote ran eighteen, twenty and twenty-four per cent. In a number of wards our vote ranged as high as thirty percent, and in some cities we elected the mayor and polled a majority of all votes cast. A little over a year ago we had 14 socialist office holders in the state including one mayor and aldermen in the councils of three cities. Today we have no organization, no state Secretary, no party, no socialists filling the office of mayor in any city or a socialist in any city council in the state or in any county office; all we have is a few socialist constables and one justice of the peace.

What is the cause of this state of affairs? Not lack of interest in Socialism. Our speakers can still get large audiences, literature is sold and the circulation of the socialist papers is as large as ever. The socialist sentiment is as rife as ever, but the effectiveness is not. If an election was to be held in the state this month or next month it is doubtful if the socialists would have a ticket in the field. This is a bad state of affairs, and the cause should be sought after and a remedy made.

For the past eighteen months I have watched with concern certain elements of destruction developing in the party, and observed with alarm the same tendency in the labor unions of Montana. A year ago I became convinced that the corporations had paid spies in the socialist party of Montana and my ideas were laughed at and ridiculed by some of the best socialists in the state; but as time went on, and as developments took place I became more convinced and have reached the positive stage.

Three times in the history of the Socialist Party of Montana have we faced crises; and three times has suspicion existed that the corporations were endeavoring to control or destroy our organization; and twice have the suspicions been founded on facts. Twice during the past nine years has the Amalgamated Copper Company used money to control the Socialist Party of Montana; and the question now arises: Is corporation money now being used to disrupt our organization?

Nine years ago when the Amalgamated was opposing W. A. Clark's election to the U. S. Senate, the democratic party's platform was a radical marvel, declaring for the eight hour day for mines, mills and smelters, abolition of the company store and

boarding house, the truck system, and for the millenium. The Amalgamated got scared and used money to control the socialists in the hopes of working a political scheme through to defeat the democrats. In October 1900, in the candy store of J. Fox, 51 E Park Street, Butte, \$1,500 was turned over to a member of the socialist party by two representatives of the Amalgamated, one of the two being a prominent business man in the city of Butte and now dead. This money was paid for the purpose of carrying through the plots of the Amalgamated inside the socialist party of Montana. The store in which the money was paid is now occupied by a restaurant—Worth's Cafe.

This attempt to use the socialist party by the Amalgamated created a disturbance in the party owing to con-Amalgamated element seeking to control, and the fight lasted for over a year, when the socialists of the state gathered at Helena on Jan. 1st, 1901, and formed a state organization, and applied for a charter from the National Party.

The socialists of Butte headed by the Amalgamated workers tried to form the state organization and dictate that the meeting take place in Butte. All attempts from Butte were ignored by the socialists of the state. The meeting called to convene in Butte had no socialist delegates present from outside of Butte, so the meeting failed to mature. A the Helena meeting the following were present: Denham of Great Falls, Alex Freeman of Bozeman, Cameron of Chico, McDonald of Clancy, Heldt of Helena, Graham of Livingston, and 2 from Butte, one of them being one of the men who received the \$1,500 from the representatives of the Amalgamated. The delegates from Butte offered \$200 to be placed in the treasury of the new state organization, but it being suspected that the \$200 had an Amalgamated taint the offer of the Butte men was absolutely refused and they went back to Butte with their \$200. After the election of 1900 the Amalgamated formed a coalition with Clark on the basis that Clark was to go to the senate and that there was to be no radical legislation passed by the democrats. F. A. Heinze was left out in the cold by Clark to fight the Amalgamated all alone and Heinze recognizing that the votes of the working class were his greatest asset in his effort to secure control of the courts and fight the Amalgamated, immediately got control of the Labor Party, and between the years 1900 and 1904 there was not a camp, town, or city in Montana but what had its Heinze men prominent in the unions. It is a fact that there was not a camp or city that had a union but what Heinze had his men in official positions; not in all the unions but in the largest unions in every town in the state, so well did he have his forces organized. Heinze controlled the unions and Heinze won, as the history of his fight with the Amalgamated bears testimony.

In August 1902 the Montana Federation of Labor in convention at Livingston went on record for socialism and the socialist party, the debate

(Continued on page 3.)

Poet's Corner

TAKE UP THE WOMAN'S BURDEN.

Ida Crouch-Hazlett

Take up the woman's burden,
Ye daughters of Mother Earth;
You with your wondrous beauty,
Queens of the world's rebirth;
Swept from the primal chaos
Into the realms of life,
Slip from the robes of romance,
Enter the age-long strife.

Take up the woman's burden,
Hampered by lore and law,
She must inspire the prophets,
From her the sages draw
Fountains of living wisdom,
Poets their songs sublime,
Heroes of war and statercraft
Strength through the scrolls of time

Mother of men and nations,
Mate of the crowning pair,
Bound and gagged and shackled,
Yet she must still be fair,
Drudge when her glory fadeth,
Ever the dear-prized toy,
Cringing to live her nature,
Creature for tears and joy.

Take up your woman's burden—
Path of her will denied—
Cursed by the man she spurneth,
Crushed when for love she died;
Bearing her children in bondage,
Slave to the cry for bread,
Slave for the babes of her bosom,
Slave that man's lust may be fed.

Take up your woman's burden—
The greatest burden of all,
To move from bondage to freedom,
To sever the hated thrall;
To cut through the ways and customs
That man and the world decree,
To live out thy true soul's being,
To lift creation with thee.

—In Progressive Woman.

Corporation Corruption in the Socialist Party.

(Continued from page 2.)

lasting over one entire day with the Heinze forces fighting with all the energy and strategy of a thoroughly organized machine. Although the convention declared for socialism only two socialists were elected out of seven elected to official positions in the Federation.

The fight was now raging between the Amalgamated and Heinze, the latter having control of most of the unions in the state, and the Labor Party, with a platform declaring for all the immediate demands of the socialists, and in fact recognizing the class struggle, but never declaring for socialism. Although in some counties the proclamation of the Labor Party ended with "Workingmen of all countries unite, you have nothing to lose but your chains, you have a world to gain."

In the summer of 1902 the Western Federation of Miners and the American Labor Union in convention assembled in Denver declared for socialism. These unions were very strong in Butte. The American Labor Union with headquarters in Butte published the "American Labor Journal" advocating socialism.

There were now two parties in the state advocating the interests of the workers and both practically advocating the same thing—socialism; the Labor Party organized by the unions of Montana and the Socialist Party. The Amalgamated saw that the more votes polled by the socialists the less would be polled by Heinze's Labor Party, and the socialists party was weak in organization and finances, (and uncorruptible at that time).

A socialist paper was started in Butte, known as the "Labor World", an eight page paper, printed on a fine quality of book paper. Being ably edited and very attractive, it published some very able articles on socialism, but all the time hammered Heinze. This paper never shrieked poverty, and in fact was the only socialist paper published in America during the past ten years that did not have a struggle for existence, its printing bills being always paid up to date, and little being known about its owners or its accounts. While at the same time the general organ of the American Labor Union was being published at a loss.

While the socialists polled a large vote in the fall of 1902, Heinze carried Butte. Immediately after the election the socialists organized vigorously. Amalgamated shift bosses and leasers joined the Butte socialist local and contributed liberally, some going as high as \$10.00 a month to the propaganda. The membership of the local was numbered by the hundreds. At a meeting of the Executive Board of the Montana Federation of Labor, held on the last Monday of December 1902, a resolution was of-

fered endorsing the "Labor World", and carried; the writer who was a member of the board, being the only one who voted against the resolution to endorse this socialist paper, although he was the only socialist on the board. The motion never was declared carried or became a part of the minutes, but an amendment was added to the resolution to the effect that the Executive Board endorsed the "Labor World" with the understanding that it was not subsidized by any corporation, and if at any time it should become known that the "Labor World" was subsidized or owned by any corporation, that the endorsement of the Executive Board was immediately annulled.

The resolution as amended was then put and carried and became part of the minutes, but all records of the first motion that carried endorsing the "Labor World" were stricken from the minutes by order of the majority of the committee.

The spring election of 1903 came on. Prof. Leamey, a school teacher was nominated for mayor on the socialist ticket. Leamey never was a socialist but just a pure out and out Amalgamated man. Out of 10,000 votes cast Leamey came within 300 votes of being elected. Heinze's ticket won.

Shortly after this election the "Labor World" disappeared, and it was common talk that its entire support came from the Amalgamated and the Amalgamated being through with it, there was no further need of its existence.

The Amalgamated concluding that it could not beat Heinze at the ballot box and other measures must be used to control him.

To the credit of the socialists of Montana, no convention or committee of the socialist Party ever endorsed the "Labor World" as there was a continual suspicion in the party that the paper was not fair and square but was being subsidized by some one.

One of the publishers of the "Labor World"—at least as far as the writer can learn—has been in the service of the Amalgamated ever since the paper suspended.

In the spring election of 1903 the socialists of Anaconda elected their ticket including mayor, city treasurer, police magistrate and a number of aldermen, besides the majority of the county offices, including representatives in the legislature.

As fine a lot of class conscious socialists as ever stood together were the boys of Anaconda, and they were aggressive and revolutionary too. Being afraid of nothing they proceeded to carry out a socialist program. The Amalgamated controls all the industries of Anaconda. In fact the Amalgamated owns the entire town, smelters, railroad, brickyard, bank, hotel, daily paper, street cars, electric lighting system, and water works. The Amalgamated began a wholesale discharge and blacklisting of socialists. Within four weeks over 600 socialists were discharged and forced to leave town. It is claimed that 1,200 socialists in Anaconda were blacklisted by the Amalgamated. It was a general lockout of socialists by the corporation. The socialists controlled every union in Anaconda and the corporation started to smash the unions. As soon as a man who was not a corporation man was elected an officer of a union he was discharged. In fact to be elected an officer of a union meant to be fired from the job. Such was the treatment of socialists by the Amalgamated in Anaconda. Twenty-eight miles from Anaconda is the city of Butte where the mines are that produce the ore that is refined in the smelters of Anaconda. While the blacklist and lockout of socialists was taking place in Anaconda, the Amalgamated did not interfere with the socialists of Butte and any socialist who was able to do the work, could secure a job in any of the mines owned and controlled by the Amalgamated in the city of Butte. This was a nice state of affairs that deserves more than passing attention. The reason is plain enough. In Anaconda the socialists were a militant body of class-conscious workers, and were wiped out of existence by the corporation; while in Butte the corporation had control of the organization, and had its henchman nominated for mayor on the socialist ticket. The Amalgamated controlled every party in Butte that year except the Labor Party and that was owned by Heinze.

P. J. Cooney was state secretary of the socialist party that year, and the socialist headquarters were in Butte. Cooney was a good man and fought against everything that appeared to have a taint of corporation about it; and every Amalgamated shift boss, or leaser who belonged to Butte local fought Cooney, and the state office was under continual fire and the work hampered while the headquarters were in Butte. The party was undermined, and entered a period of stagnation owing to the attacks made on the state office by the heelers of the corporation. Locals around the state

took action and moved the state headquarters from Butte to Livingston and the solid socialists of Butte assisted in this move and were glad to see the headquarters of the socialist party out of their midst and back from the head center of Amalgamated influences.

After the election of 1903 Prof. Leamey dropped out of the socialist party, as did the Amalgamated shift bosses and leasers, and the membership of Butte local dropped from the hundreds to less than fifty. All during his time there were good staunch and true socialists in Butte local, as good socialists as could be found anywhere in America; but what could they do? Some dropped out of the party and have never been active since.

Mrs. Hazlett's Trip.

After the enforced rest at Lakota, North Dakota, for a week I resumed the route and wrote an account of its very interesting meetings which I mailed from Grafton. That copy, along with a large amount of other which was prepared, never reached the office of the Montana News. We have been continuously hampered in the News by the interference with the mail through the postal system. This is continually repeated at office after office, and with the mail in transit.

Two hundred and sixty papers mailed to me at Grand Forks were never delivered. They could not have been lost through the slipping of the wrappers because in such cases they are sent back to the office. It was during the Boise trials that the first serious interference with the Montana News mail commenced. A letter with important copy was held up seventy days. We succeeded in getting the postmaster at Rathdrum, Idaho, fired because he held a special delivery letter twenty hours. The letters containing copy showed a systematic opening and extracting the private correspondence. The inspector before whom the facts were laid said there was no doubt of this. The trouble occurs in the small offices or in the mail cars.

We may say that there has never been any trouble that we knew of at the Helena office; but on the contrary the utmost zeal in attempting to straighten any tangled matters out. A registered package to Los Angeles worth about \$5 was lost. Since then \$30,000 worth of bank notes was lost in the registry department of the Los Angeles office. An important business letter of Graham's never reached its destination at Livingston. Letters sent to A. B. Anderson at Devil's Lake, N. D., are returned with the man living right there and getting his mail every day. At Grafton the advertising never reached its destination and several letters mailed there have been lost completely. There was trouble with this office from the first, the comrades living there complaining of the nondelivery of socialist papers.

So it is the defective postal service, intentional or otherwise, that is the cause of my writing another report of the summer work in eastern North Dakota.

At work once more.

After a week's rest at the home of Comrade Grant at Lakota I started to lecture again on Sunday evening in the court-house. The weather was rainy, but a fair crowd was present in spite of the storm. The next night we decided to take the street and as a result spoke to an attentive and enthusiastic crowd of several hundred people. Books sold well, and there seemed to be great interest in learning what socialism really is.

Michigan was the next point. Here the hospitable Comrades Weller, owners of the hotel, entertained the speaker with the best they had for several days while the street meetings were being held.

Inkster was the next point. To reach this it was necessary to lie over one night at Larimore. As the town is a railroad point with over 10,000 inhabitants I thought it was too bad to waste the time since the weather was fine. We had no correspondents in the place and knew of no socialists there.

So I started out to circularize the town. I soon learned that St. Olaf's band, a Norwegian combination of some forty pieces, very popular and that had toured Europe, was touring the country on its way to Seattle, and had been engaged by the city fathers to play in the court-house park that evening. That meant that the attraction of a street meeting would be nil. So I went to the park with the rest of the town to hear the music. Soon after nine o'clock the musicians were preparing to close their concert. The opportunity was too good to be missed, so I slipped around to Policeman Fadden to whom I had had an introduction through Comrade Grant, and told him I would like to speak

as soon as he music ceased. He said "All right," and that he would go around and tell them to leave on the lights with which the courtyard was illuminated.

The moment the last note was blown I was up on a chair talking socialism to several thousand people that would have scorned to attend a socialist meeting. And they stayed; and they cheered. I had been talking about fifteen minutes when the lights went out and left us in total darkness. Nobody stirred. I then gave a little talk on fair play, and the fact that the socialist party should be given the same fair hearing that would be given to the representatives of other parties however distinguished. The crowd applauded. In the meantime a disturbance was brewing on the part of some radical tax payers who said they were going to see that that woman giving a sensible talk should have a decent hearing. The policeman went round to the power house and the lights were turned on.

I spoke for over an hour. So we got a socialist hearing in Larimore. The meeting resulted in the discovery of several socialists, and the foundation laid for future work.

Good Inkster Meeting.

Comrade W. G. Bailey is the moving spirit and the faithful and conscientious agitator at Inkster. He is the owner of the lumber yard there, but his business interests have never conflicted with his ceaseless teaching of socialism. His comfortable and artistic home provided a restful day for writing. His wife is also much interested in the socialist thought, and the visit there will long be remembered for its pleasant hospitality.

In the evening Comrade Bailey and his men made a platform in front of the hotel under the trees, and seats were placed around. A representative hearing was given, and the meeting was a success in every way.

The next morning Comrade Bailey's auto took me to Johnson, where I could take an early train for Grand Forks.

State Fair in the Forks.

At Grand Forks one of the finest series of meetings was held that I ever participated in. The state fair was in progress and the place was crowded with strangers. For five evenings meetings were held on the street with very nearly a thousand people listening every evening. The local here is very active, with about a hundred members. A headquarters is maintained and Comrade Kulstad, the secretary, is one of those active spirits that is always on duty. The local assisted actively at every meeting, and the selling of books and subs was exceedingly satisfactory.

These meetings have been adequately described by others so I will not go into an extended account of them here. Suffice it to say that Grand Forks is probably the most active center for socialist propaganda in Dakota at present.

Voice breaks down.

My next point was Grafton, and then I was to speak in Winnipeg Sunday. But the severe strain at Grand Forks had been telling every night, and when I got to Grafton I could not croak. So I was obliged to send word to Winnipeg canceling the date, and cut out the rest of the North Dakota dates. It was most unfortunate, just at the time when I was able to throw money so rapidly into the socialist party debts of Montana, and when it was so badly needed to maintain the honor of the organization. But a human instrument is bound to wear out, and when your voice is gone you can't make money out of it.

So I subsided and loafed into easier work for a month wishing there were twenty people to do the work demanded of me and which I cannot do.

IDA CROUCH-HAZLETT.

A Union Man

BUCKS

at

SCAB STOVES

because they

ARE

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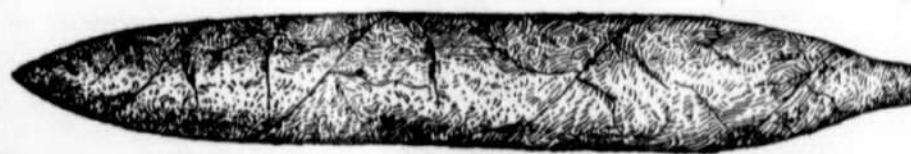
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LOCAL DEPARTMENT

Debt of Honor

There still remains a debt of \$700 contracted by the Socialist Party of Montana while it owned and was publishing the Montana News. The State Committee has done nothing to liquidate this debt, and the creditors are looking to those who are at present running the News for their money.

To pay the debt is an exceedingly heavy task and is handicapping and worrying us considerably. \$500 must be paid as soon as possible, and we are asking individual socialists and locals to loan the Montana News any sum that they may feel disposed and able to advance.

The response has been as follows: Local Lima.....\$20.00 J. E. Bush..... 5.00 Edwin Dew..... 5.00 Wm. Dew..... 5.00

Total \$35.00 To be raised \$500.00 Balance to get \$465.00

Grateful to his Friends.

John Webster, the old coal miner, whose case was before the convention of the Montana State Federation and Coal Miners' Convention, was a visitor at the Montana News office last week. He wishes to thank all his friends for their efforts in his behalf. He is now visiting relatives in Lethbridge, and later will go to his ranch in Wyoming.

Five dollars in from Missoula as support for the Free Speech fight.

\$5 worth of sub cards in from Whatcomb—the result of the work at Zortman.

The Machinists' Union of Havre has sent \$25 to the National office in support of the Swedish strike.

Twenty-five subs from Great Falls last week, and several wide-awake comrades rustling for the News.

Ten subs from Local Grafton, N. D. These northwest locals are ready to respond nobly to the support of a sectional paper.

Some socialists have stopped the News. You had better pay your 50 cents, and help pull with those that are pulling.

Mrs. Hazlett spoke two nights at Great Falls during Fair week with good results. A large amount of literature was sold.

If you want a good socialist paper you must do your part. To wait to see whether a man can swim ashore before throwing him a rope is a poor way to help a paper struggling as the News is.

James D. Graham addressed Local Great Falls Sunday night on the "Labor Crisis". His remarks showed a clever analysis of the existing labor situation throughout the world, and were well received.

Local Lima, organized last spring by Mrs. Hazlett, is thoroughly in earnest, and wants to do good organizing and wants to see the News go forward. They send in \$3 for job work, and encouragement for the future of the paper.

From Lima: "Yours of recent date received with receipt for \$5. We enclose money order for \$20 which Lima local donates to the News. Long may it live. With very best wishes for the perpetuation of socialism and the Montana News."

Comrade Buzzell expects to attend the irrigation congress at Billings and will probably speak at Bozeman, Livingston and Billings. Montana certainly needs good educational work. Internal dissension and bitter animosity will not assist the proletariat in achieving its freedom.

Our old friend and valiant supporter of the News, Hank Rutherford, formerly of East Helena, was a visitor at the News office last week. Hank has been working in the mines of Butte. He left \$5 as a help to the common cause. It is the old friends and the true friends that weather the storm.

Never in the history of its existence was the News so much in need of financial cooperation and assistance as at the present time. Remember, we are paying your debts instead of our own and striving to maintain the paper we have struggled so hard for the last five years. If you are really interested in the socialist cause it is your duty to assist the News now.

Wanted.

A good socialist to solicit subscriptions for the Montana News in Helena.

Apply at the office of publication, 19 Park Ave Helena, Mont. Particulars stated to right party.

Comrade Henri LeBeau of the new local at Java sends in his best wishes for the success of the News, as he says the promoters certainly deserve success. He also promised an order of job work in the near future and asks for a price list of rates.

Comrade LeBeau has a level head and wants a party organization that will be able to do effective work for the working class.

The coal miners of Cumberland, Wyo., send in their accustomed order for letterheads, as do those from Gebro with assurances of other jobs in the near future. Our business among the coal miners has been so demoralized by the rascally interference with our mail, stealing of letters, side-tracking of orders, juggling with money sent in and a deliberate purpose to ruin us among the trade unions, that it has taken pure class grit and determination among those who have stood by us in spite of hell and high water.

Comrade Ole Wagulid of Farmington, Teton County, was a visitor at the News office last week. He was in Helena trying to reserve the rights of the farmers in a ditch project that the Heinze-Warfield-Kenedy interests are robbing the producers of as usual. But the little fish have small chance among the big sharks in this "free" country. Comrade Wagulid handed four subs and left a substantial order for job work, with best wishes that the News may pull through the straits and strike clear sailing again.

Everyone who can possibly do so should send for \$5 worth of Montana News sub cards. We are a long way from being out of the woods with the News yet. Old debts still hang over us which we are working ourselves to death to pay. An honorable party would pay these debts. Now if you want a local paper in the Northwest, if you want the News to live—a paper that stands for constructive socialism in the Northwest, send for \$5 worth of sub cards. The well-wishers of the News can afford this. Help us in our fight against the scoundrels that are putting the knife of capitalism at the throats of the working class.

Editor Montana News:

Dear Comrade: I am very much pleased to see the News has been resurrected and is in so good hands as Comrade Hazlett's. She is radical and aggressive, and able to hold her own with any of the "plute" gang. Enclosed you will find ex order for one dollar for which please advance my subscription to June 1911. Yours for the Revolution JASPER GRAHAM, Rexford, Mont., Aug. 24, 09.

New York, N. Y., Sept. 29, 09. Editor Montana News:

Kindly announce that I require trade union papers from every city in the United States and Canada, which contain names and addresses of trades unions and other workingmen's organizations. Please ask your readers to kindly obtain such publications for me and to forward same to above address, and oblige Fraternalty yours JOHN SANDGREN, per H. Trewig, Delegate to America from the National Organization of Workers in Sweden.

Zortman, Mont., Sept. 26, 1909. Editor Montana News:

Dear Comrades: It seems a shame that a state like Montana cannot support one labor paper. I should surely hate to see the News fail but it is hard to do much here. Bob Donohue said he would send five dollars to help along the cause and I enclose five for the same purpose. I tried hard to have miners' union to try and get Mrs. Hazlett to talk to us on Labor Day; could not get the money. Hoping the friends of labor will wake up and clear off all debts and give the News a chance, I remain Yours sincerely, J. E. BUSCH.

Our old friend George Wieglanda of Gilt Edge is still at the bat. He says of the Missoula outrages, "Am not surprised at the stand taken by the 'Custodians of Wealth' and their lickspittles in that scabby neck of the woods. We were told by Donlan, Toole, and other representatives of the B. E. M. Co., and others a year ago that

they 'loved unionism' (nit) but drew the line at the I. W. W.; said they objected to having a union running their business', etc. Well, let her come. The more persecution and opposition, the more food for reflection. As to the Montana News, she's a hard game; playing short money and the cards stacked against you besides.

The bunch here has been mighty good this summer—in the neighborhood of \$200 in donations and subscriptions going out this summer on working class lines. Considering that full time is unknown owing to it, being practically outside work, and only about 25 working this is a big showing for a quartz camp.

Note the struggle you are making to keep things afloat. I send you \$2 for sub cards, and must say I feel for you."

Lynch, N. D., Aug. 31, 1909.

Editor Montana News:

Dear Comrade: I thought I would write the News once more before I left for Canada. I have missed the Montana News for the last three weeks as I was traveling through parts of Canada, but on my return found it awaiting me, and was pleased to pick it up once more.

Local Lynch is still holding regular socialist Sunday schools every two weeks. Comrade Daiziel is secretary and a hard worker for the cause of socialism, and he, like myself, has had many hard bumps and kicks, and I hope he will be rewarded in the sweet bye and bye.

I have sold my place and before this reaches you will be located in Canada. So please change address from Lynch, N. D., to Keithnell, Canada, Saskatchewan. I will try and send you some subs.

Fraternalty yours, C. C. POTTER.

Dear Comrade:

A client of mine, Mrs. L. Sossman, has been deserted for the second time by her husband of 9 months, Louis Sossman. He evidently from his talk has a wife or mistress somewhere else and goes to her when he leaves the Salt Lake one. He claims to be an anarchist, a Russian Jew, but associates with the socialists wherever he is in lieu of anarchists. His wife is distracted at his desertion, having learned the second time to love him and wants to get him back. If you come across him in your city or amongst your other locals in such cities, let me know. Also send me a list of the secretaries of those locals in such cities in your state in which a plumber, automobile repairer or engine repairer would likely go to. I am active in the socialist movement been chairman of the State Campaign committee. Wishing you success in the work for the cause, I am Fraternalty yours, F. B. SCOTT.

P. S. The man marked with a cross on the enclosed card is Slossmen. Please show it around.

14 Eagle Bldg., Salt Lake City, Utah. Headgate, Sept. 27, 1909. Ed. Montana News:

I enclose 50 cents in stamps for which please send your paper. I wish to know what is going on at the front.

A Comrade, Ben Anderson, U. S. R. S. Haedgate, Glendive, Mont.

Socialist Picnic.

The Woman's Mutual Improvement Club and the socialists and friends of Great Falls and vicinity were invited to a picnic at the grove of Comrade J. D. McDermid near Sun River on Labor Day. A great crowd of people turned out and had an exceptionally good time.

McDermid be it remembered, is the comrade who met last winter with a terrible accident in a dynamite explosion at Armstrong while engaged by the Great Northern R. R. Co. to do some drilling and it was believed that he could not live or if so, he would be both a physical and mental wreck. The railroad company settled with him for damages and paid to him the sum of seventeen thousand and five hundred dollars, but Comrade McDermid is in many ways a most remarkable man. He has, it is said, baffled the grim reaper three times in late years by his wonderful recuperative powers. Some years ago he nearly lost his life by drowning and about five years ago he was horribly scalded, yet no one would think by looking at him that he had passed through such experiences. Perhaps it is his good nature and kind disposition along with his great strength that keeps him yet so well preserved. Of course he lost the sight of one eye and the sense of hearing of one ear but the sight of the other eye he is slowly recovering and also the use of one ear.

Mr. McDermid says therefore that if any one has anything good to say to him, to say it to the ear by which he can hear but anything mean he was said to the ear that is deaf. As to the picnic, well, it certainly was a most enjoyable affair. The host

and hostess had so considerably provided various treats and amusements; there were boats for those who cared to go rowing and fishing, bathing robes for others desiring to have a good swim, the piano at the residence attracted some lovers of music, while quite a crowd listened to an up to date phonograph making use of some of the choicest records, managed by Mrs. McDermid, the owner of the instrument.

While boys and men went boating down the river, a goodly number of women and children availed themselves of the chance to swim, and there was much fun for the onlookers as well as those in the water watching the timidity of the beginners as well as the antics of the accomplished swimmers. Unlike the muddy and turbulent Missouri, the Sun River is rather picturesque as it glides so gently along its course, sunbeams playing on its surface so smooth and clear and willows drooping and mirrored along the shore.

It was an ideal and most beautiful day for a picnic. Under the shading crown of an immense big tree dinner was served, and of course it goes without saying that each good housewife brought a generous supply of viands produced by her culinary skill and of the best procurable in the market, and it was said that the poultry yards of the McDermids and McDermids contributed no mean amount of the good things.

Everybody commented on how extraordinary it all tasted, well, no wonder, kind mother nature has had much her own way in seasoning and fixing things up; with the wealth of luxuriant foliage, the odor of woodland, the fragrance of flowers, the orchestra of singing birds, and with the happy crowd, and no care or illfeeling whatsoever.

All seemed to be perfectly happy that day, except perhaps for a persistent sad undertone. It is Nature too, who induced to laughter and jollity that also whispers to the secret consciousness in tone of such sad and touching pathos: "Child, the object of life is that you shall be happy. But I have many other children; countless many of your brothers and sisters are ringing their hands in maddening sorrow, sickness and despair, because a brutal capitalist has defrauded them of their birthright on this earth and the enjoyment of life with its boundless blessings. This is contrary to the plan of the universe and unspeakably wrong. Under these perverted conditions a perfect, healthy, happy and long life is not possible, I charge you to try with the best of your ability to assist in finding ways and means to disillusion society from gross misconceptions and foolish prejudices, to jar men and women out of callous and criminal indifference and, make plain that what is called the "Lord's Prayer" was intended to materialize here. And any time when mankind will arise and with a will unite to dethrone god mammon from the world and banish its blasting influence out of the affairs and dealings of humanity this is the first step to establish out of chaos the cooperation of a harmonious universe."

Comrade Klamroth whom some rudely call the "Appeal Tramp" because he travels via bicycle through the country working for socialism, happened to come to the picnic also. He gave a short and able address on the advantages that might be enjoyed under a cooperative commonwealth.

After the sun finally reflected a smiling farewell the people half regretfully concluded to return homeward, but the memory of that picnic will no doubt be treasured by all those who were present.

MARGARET PALSGROVE.

North Dakota Letter.

Lakota, N. D., Aug. 13, 1909.

Editor Montana News:

Comrade: Better late than never. In the words of the immortal Bobbie Burns, "I am not the thing I should be, nor the thing I could be under the blighting curse of the feudal lord."

Perhaps Bobbie did the best he could, under the blighting curse of capitalism. I am trying the best I can. Yes, Comrade Hazlett was at Lakota and stopped at the Grant home to rest her voice, and the neighbors said "Strange place to rest one's voice." But she did rest her voice and spoke twice in our little city, and surcharged the political air with socialist electricity so that it appears to be contagious. And the old political fossils are trying to invent some scheme or dope to avert the coming revolution. Your only escape is death; and to those young pinheads that cheered so lustily and aimlessly, we have nothing to say. But we feel a sort of sorry contempt for the thinness of that gray matter in the thick cocoon they call a head. But that crowd at Lakota did cheer with a soul. Yes, the same cheer that old liberty bell rang out to the world at the signing of the Declaration of Independence. And they were demo-

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crats and republicans. You could hear in the crowd, "Is she not eloquent?", and "Every word she says is rue". One republican automobilist was heard to say, "If I understood an automobile as well as she does socialism, wouldn't I go some?"

One democrat in passing his half dollar into the hat said, "That is the best spent half dollar I ever let go in my life."

Even Congressman A. L. Grona, after spending four months in Washington, D. C., in that cesspool of corruption and fashion, and taking part in defeating the farce-comedy tariff bill, to protect the dear wage-earners of America—whatever may be the cause, the congressman looks better, feels better, and seems more hopeful than I have seen him since he entered politics. Can it be possible that the change has been brought about by Com. Hazlett's stopping in Lakota one week? Or has the change been brought about by his name being recorded on the roll of dishonor for voting against a tariff bill so plainly in the interests of the classes and against the interests of the consuming masses? Or has the change been brought about by listening to that speech delivered in congress July 19, 1909 by Honorable Samuel W. Smith of Michigan, wherein he contrasts the difference in costs to the people of the countries where they own the public utilities, and the cost for the same service in the land of the brave and the free? Yes, in the land of the trust grafter and political parasite.

Or can it be possible that the congressman is contemplating joining the socialist local at Lakota, and running for congress on the socialist ticket? If that be true we will abandon the auto and adopt the flying machine, and just go through the air. The only crime that man has ever committed, is man's inhumanity to man.

While Comrade Hazlett was in Lakota the Society of Equity was discussed. After the discussion Comrade Hazlett asked me to write my ideas for publication in the Montana News, as a great many of the readers were farmers and belonged to that organization.

I was born und raised on the farm. Have farmed in North Dakota for thirty years and have no other interests, and will write from the standpoint of a North Dakota farmer.

I have been a constant reader of "Up to Date" from its birth, Everts' mouthpiece of the Society of Equity. The only principle or lack of principle that I could discover in the organization as conducted by Everts was that we should attend to our own business, fix our price, and let the other fellow attend to his business and fix his price. Well, I think the other fellow has got the price fixed now without any advice from the American Society of Equity.

John D. Rockefeller swore his profits on oil were ten hundred and fifty-one per cent. Now the Society of Equity figured out that it costs \$1.19

to produce a bushel of wheat in North Dakota, and it fixed the price at \$1.15 per bushel at the terminal. Now I cannot see where equity or profitable prices come in. Suppose we fix the price of wheat at \$2.50 per bushel. Does anybody believe that everything the farmer has to buy would stay at the present price?

Why, no—the other fellow is in the fixing business too. It would only be a struggle to see who could raise the price the fastest and the trusts could beat us to a standstill for they have got in their possession all the means of manufacture and distribution.

Mr. Drayton, President of the national organization, was here and delivered an lecture in the interests of the society. I had a nice visit with him at the hotel, and we went over the ground in good shape.

I said, "Mr. Drayton, the trust question is the greatest question before the American people to-day."

He said "Yes".

"Well, Mr. Drayton, what is your remedy?"

He said, "The only remedy I know of is—let the nation own the trusts."

I said, "Comrade, shake; that is what we socialists are advocating."

"But I am not a socialist."

I said, "The society of Equity is not advocating the government ownership of anything."

And he said, "No, we are not in politics as a class."

I said, "Mr. Drayton, don't you know that the trusts spend millions of dollars every year bribing the press of the country, and giving free transportation to public speakers to advise the toiling masses to keep out of politics as a class?"

I said, "Mr. Drayton, I wish you would tell the farmers this afternoon that the only remedy is—let the nation own the trusts."

He said, "No, I cannot do that."

I said, "Give me five minutes after he meeting closes and I will do it."

"No," he said, "you might upset everything I had said."

Funny way, isn't it, of advocating the only remedy? Yours for the revolution and the only remedy—let the nation own the trusts. ROBERT GRANT.

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