

SHOPMEN MAKING GREAT RESISTANCE

General Strike Threatened on Every Road to Support Strikers.

The strike of the federated shopmen is nearing the New Year with the ranks of the strikers as firm as when the strike began.

Fearing that the strike may possibly be prolonged to the ninety days, J. W. Kline, president Blacksmiths; J. Buckalew, vice-president Machinists; J. A. Franklin, president Boiler-makers; M. F. Ryan, president Car-men; Michael O. Sullivan, president Sheet Metal Workers and J. E. Kinsella, president Steamfitters, met in Chicago on the 16th to discuss the advisability of calling a general strike on all the western roads that receive freight handled by strikebreakers.

The plan calls for a general strike of all shopmen, telegraphers, clerks, freight handlers and switchmen, on all western roads, and extension of the walkout to such eastern railroads as handle freight which may be moved by strikebreakers on the western carriers.

Whether such a paralyzing blow to the railroads can be dealt with, of course, with the telegraphers, road-course, with the telegraphers, roadmen, clerks, freight handlers and switchmen themselves.

The plan of action is first to secure co-operation of all union men on all lines running south of St. Louis in a strike, and then to have the union employes on all connecting western lines, one by one to join the strike, until the chain of roads affected shall cover the entire western half of the nation.

Among the western railroads that will be affected are: Missouri, Oklahoma & Gulf; Missouri, Kansas & Texas; Cotton Belt; Texas Pacific; Wabash; Santa Fe; Iowa Central; C. B. & Q.; International and Great Northern; Frisco; Denver and Rio Grande; C. R. I. & P.; Northern Pacific; Great Northern; Kansas City, Mexico and Orient; C. M. & St. P.

The union membership on the roads which the five crafts hope to enlist in the general western strike, totals: Blacksmiths, 12,000 sheet metal workers, 3,000; carmen, 100,000; machinists 45,000; boiler makers, 15,000; switchmen, 12,000; freight-handlers, 100,000; clerks, 100,000; roadmen, 75,000; unskilled and semi-skilled workmen, 250,000.

The following resolutions have been drafted by the local advisory board of the Federated Shopmen at Los Angeles.

"We are in one of the greatest struggles which has ever involved any railroad in the United States. To be defeated at this time means the demoralization of all organized labor working on the railroads, and the settlement on the Illinois Central lines without a settlement at the same time on the Harriman lines west of the Mississippi River would be a detriment to each federation, knowing that if one Federation settles they would use the scabs from that system to break the strike on the other lines.

"We believe that in unity there is strength, and with a mutual understanding that there will be no settlement on the Harriman lines except both Federations settle at one time, there will be no chance of defeat. Therefore be it,

Resolved, That our International Presidents do not entertain any proposition of a settlement of either federation unless both are made at the

same time. "Resolved, That we recommend that the General Advisory Board of the Harriman Lines west of the Mississippi River work in conjunction with each other along these lines.

"We ask your hearty co-operation in helping us to block any movement which the company might make in bringing about a settlement with one Federation without settling with the other at the same time."

The following resolutions were adopted by System Local at San Antonio, Texas:

"Resolved, that we the Federated Shop Employees of the Harriman Lines, who are now and have been on strike for 11 weeks and who are now assembled in session for the good and welfare of all concerned. Do hereby petition and demand of our Grand Lodge Officers that they take immediate steps to call out all shop employes on all railroads in case a satisfactory settlement can not be made; And further

Resolved, that whereas combined and organized capital of all railroads is being used to defeat organized labor on the Harriman Lines, that we urge and demand our Grand Lodge Officers to take this concerted action, and be it further,

Resolved, that a copy of these resolutions be sent to the various heads of our organization, also to the officers of the Federated Shop Employees."

The following resolutions have been drawn up by the Los Angeles Advisory Board, and are submitted to all Local Advisory Boards for endorsement:

"It has been resolved by this local advisory board, that owing to the prolonged struggle and the probable continuation of the same, for some time to come, that action must be taken to end his struggle as soon as possible. With this end in view we must bring pressure to bear on the General Managers Association, (which in other words is the federation of the defeat us in this great struggle between capital and labor.

"Knowing that other roads are doing work pertaining to rolling stock and power of the Harriman Systems and in every way possible using all means, it is time that we should put in force some project to offset the stratagem used by the General Managers Association.

"Our object is to have all federations affiliate. By doing so it would give us a power so great which would be brought to bear on the General Managers Association and force them to recognize us and come to a settlement with the federations on the Harriman Lines and the Illinois Central.

"We believe that by Federations being affiliated and working in conjunction with each other that this would protect the interest of all railroad shop employes and in the future prevent strikes.

"Knowing that this is a struggle absolutely between labor and capital and if we are defeated in our strike on the Harriman Lines it means a continuation of slavery for the railroad employes, it also means that capital, after defeating us as a federation, will in time defeat other single federations and force conditions on the employes which we have been fighting against for years.

"Believing that this step should be taken as soon as possible, and that action should be taken to bring about a settlement at an early date.

"We beg that you will take action along these lines above mentioned and work in conjunction with us to accomplish this end.

"Hoping that in reading this com-

munication over carefully, you will thoroughly understand the great importance of this movement for the benefit of the railway employes on all lines in the United States."

REFUSE SCABS ADMITTANCE.

At Pocatello the scabs were taken from the bull pen by the railroad officials and escorted up town to take in the moving picture shows. When the scabs arrived at the show house, the manager of the theatre refused to sell them tickets claiming that he was running a respectable house and would not allow such a class of people into his house under any consideration.

The locomotives at Denver are in such a deplorable condition that it is unsafe to use one engine alone for switching, therefore the switch engines must work double header, three cars are the limit that one switch engine can handle in the Denver yards.

The Los Angeles limited jumped the track four miles from Evanston, Wyo., and all but mail car and engine were ditched. The cause of the wreck was worn flanges on the wheels, the wheels under the coaches were in such bad condition that it was impossible for the train to remain on the track, still the company will not settle the strike, but prefers paying damages to injured passengers.

Boiler explosions within the strike zone are getting to be a daily occurrence. At Houston, Texas a locomotive exploded and tore up 50 feet of track.

At Ennis, Texas a locomotive blew up in the round house and scalded thirteen negro laborers, three of whom are not expected to live.

Another engine recently blew up near La Grande, Ore.

RAILROAD QUITS FIGHT.

After a fight lasting for eight years against the machinists the Santa Fe

Railroad Company have let down the bars against union machinists. The machinists carried on a strike for five years against the Santa Fe railroad and were defeated, and since the end of the strike three years ago the Santa Fe have carried on a boycott against union men until recently, when the railroad officials quit the fight.

The union was making headway and union men were working in spite of the discrimination carried on against them by the railroad officials.

The following is taken from the daily strike bulletin of December 22: Los Angeles, Cal.—Engines 1137 and 1083 were condemned by government inspectors, another added to the list of which we have not the number.

Engine 2763 broke frames on both sides, was sent to the shop for repairs, received a coat of paint and is again in service was sent out on train No. 241 and died. Southern Pacific scabs have spoiled 200 bolsters here. McPherson a scab car inspector uncoupled an air hose without shutting off the air, is now nursing a broken jaw. Motor car No. 35 was sent out again and got stalled in the yard, sent 20 scabies out with pinch bars and it took two ours to get her started, got as far as River Station, and stalled again, unloaded passengers and was towed back to the shops. Engine 1113 bursted two fuses, engine 3051 the S. P. crack-a-jack died at Stichel station on train No. 4, engine 2730 died last night.

Salt Lake, Utah—All the scabs at the shops are on a big drunk to-day and the foremen are about ready for the insane asylum. No. 8, on the Salt Lake was wrecked at Otis at 5.30 last eve, engine and five coaches were turned over and several badly injured report to us is, that it was caused by a defective wheel, engine was taken

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To Our Readers and Many Friends We Wish A New Year of Happiness and Prosperity

Workmen's Compensation

Washington, Dec. 28.—"The Relation of State to Federal Workmen's Compensation" was discussed last night at the opening session of The American Association for Labor Legislation, now holding its Fifth Annual Meeting in Washington, D. C.

Delegates form official commissions, departments of state, workmen's organizations, and experts from manufacturing establishments were present to take part in the three days program. Prof. Henry R. Seager, of Columbia University, Department of Political Economy, presided.

"Not more than fifteen per cent of the men injured in work accidents under the so-called common law," said Mr. Wallace, "were able to obtain compensation under the so-called common law," said John H. Wallace, of the Industrial Insurance Commission of the State of Washington, in an address on State Insurance from the Workmen's viewpoint.

"Mr. Wallace said that the amount paid by employers to protect themselves from verdicts was not less than a million dollars in each great industrial state. So the majority of workmen were left to bear their burden alone or as charges upon society.

In leading what the State of Washington had done in inaugurating a system of compulsory state insurance against industrial accidents, Mr. Wallace said that the question of proper legislation had been considered by a commission of five employers and five employees. Among the decisions made was that the limit to be paid upon death was five thousand dollars, which would be a reserve that would guarantee a pension throughout life

or dependency and insure self-respect and good citizenship of all survivors.

"The committee," said Mr. Wallace, "also agreed that lump sum payments should rarely be given. However, the Commission, at its discretion, has ample power to pay off the mortgage on a widow's home or advance money to permanently cure a helpless child. In other words, commute a portion or all of the reserve fund set aside for the survivor's use into a lump sum payment.

"The scale of payments for partial disability was graduated down from \$1,500 maximum, the compensation for the loss of the major arm."

Mr. Wallace pointed out that under the Washington law the first care has been that the child of the present shall have an opportunity to be a good citizen of the future.

The law provides for a monthly payment of from \$20 to \$52 to a workman temporarily, totally disabled, provided such payment does not exceed 60 per cent of his wages.

I. M. Rubincov, formerly expert U. S. Bureau of Labor, said that the nation is in the uncomfortable position of being a very much worse employer than many of the large corporations which have, of their own free will, established a very much better system of compensation than the United States Government.

"The government cannot in good faith come before the country with the demand for a more liberal treatment of the railway employes than it cares to give to its own servants," said Mr. Rubincov. "There must be immediate legislation if the United

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OLD PARTY IS HALTED

Socialist Congressman Proves That Democrats Are Unfair

(By National Socialist Press.) Washington, D. C.—Representative Sulzer, (Dem. N. Y.) resorted to a clumsy dodge when he was cornered by a few pertinent questions relating to the Russian-merican treaty question which was submitted to him on the floor of the House by Victor L. Berger the Socialist Representative.

Berger asked Sulzer whether, in his opinion, Russia would not be hurt more by the abrogation of the extradition treaty of 1887 rather than that of the commercial treaty of 1832. Sulzer had no answer. So he cut off the Socialist Congressman's right to the floor by yielding to Representative Berger from his perilous position.

Later in the day Berger was given three minutes to discuss the treaty question. He said:

"Mr. Speaker, I shall vote for this resolution, although I am quite certain that the object desired will not be obtained. The treaty of 1832 is a commercial treaty, and Russia buys about four times as much from us as we buy from Russia.

"The treaty that should be abrogated is the treaty of 1887, which provides for the extradition of persons charged with crime, and used by Russia to get possession of her political refugees. In Russia everybody who works for political liberty of any degree is considered a criminal. In Russia everybody who tries to get a Government such as we have, a republic, or even only a constitutional monarchy, is considered a criminal.

"If he escapes to this country, then he is charged with all sorts of crimes by the Russian Government in order to have him extradited. The Russian Government is even employing spies to ferret out such refugees and a exercising undue influence upon our officials.

"That is the treaty we ought to abrogate in order to reach the weak spot in the armor of our 'great friend', the Russian Czar.

"Moreover the abrogation of the treaty of 1832 is not going to help the poor Jews of Russia nor the former Russian Jews in this Country who want to go to visit their relatives. It is not going to help the gentleman from New York (Mr. Sulzer) in his political ambitions, because he will be in the position of a lawyer whose law suit has been settled."

Berger has introduced a bill to abrogate the extradition treaty. It has been referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, of which Sulzer is chairman. Readers of the Socialist and labor press should write Representative Sulzer stating their position on the abrogation of the extradition treaty with Russia.

The abrogation of the treaty of 1832 with Russia was marked in Congress by the cheapest kind of politics. Debates over treaties have always been the most learned and dignified in the history of Congress. But times have changed. The recent treaty debate was not only undignified but actually disgusting.

Scores of members of the House took the floor to utter simply one sentence so that they would qualify for the privilege of extending remarks in the Record. Others got up to indulge in extravagant laudations of the Jews, and particularly "of those in my district."

But the worst spectacle was the taking of a photograph of Congressman Goldfogle, of New York, in the Speaker's chair, with gavel in hand, and surrounded by clerks and official underlings. This picture was taken before Congress convened to take final action on the treaty question. It will, no doubt be used as a campaign document to get Jewish votes for

the Tammany Congressman. DEMOCRATS KNIFE LABOR. When the Senate—mind you, the reactionary Senate—put in an amendment to the urgent deficiency bill allowing \$35,421 for traveling expenses for the underpaid and overworked railway mail clerks it was the democratic House that insisted that this amendment be stricken out. And so it was.

Again when the same Senate amended the deficiency bill to appropriate \$50,000 to the Bureau of Mines which needs money badly in its humane rescue work, it also remained for the Democratic House to insist that this amendment be stricken out. And so was.

It seems that the democrats are willing to pass labor legislation when there is not the slightest chance that such legislation would pass the Senate. But they act otherwise when it requires only their approval for such labor measures to become laws.

It should be noted that the democrats did not object to the clause in the deficiency bill which provides an allowance of 20 cents per mile to each member of Congress from his home to the Capital and back. Berger, the Socialist Congressman, voted for an amendment which provided that members should get only their actual cost of travel. But of course the republicans and democrats defeated this amendment.

Miners may be killed and railway mail clerks may be starved as long as democrats and republicans in Congress can provide liberally for themselves.

Miners may be killed and railway mail clerks, and other workmen may read this story—and may think.

INDUSTRIAL SLAUGHTER CON

Industrial Slaughter Continues. There were 10,936 persons killed on the railroads during the year 1911, according to the Interstate Commerce Commission. Of this number 256 were passengers, and the rest mainly employes and "trespassers." Out of 150,159 persons injured, 14,433 were passengers and 45,848 employes "on duty in train service."

The Commission charges that many accidents of workers are due to the "inefficient systems of car inspection." It also says that many of the derailments have been due to defective and broken rails on car wheels.

That the courts are construing the hours of service law making it "practically a dead letter" is also charged by the Commission.

The Block Signal and Train Control Board complains:

"The time has come when something more than mere investigation is necessary, and believes that there should exist some central authority with power adequate to deal with the question of safety upon the railroads in all its phases. It refers to the piecemeal character of existing safety legislation, and while commending the result obtained in the operation of existing laws, it does not believe that such results are at all commensurate with their cost both to the public and to the railroads."

Washington, Dec 24—During the discussion of the eight hour bill in the House, Socialist Representative Berger showed that the democrats are playing politics.

"Day before yesterday," he said, "they tried to rake in the soldiers' vote; yesterday they tried to get the Hebrew vote, and today they are trying to get the labor vote."

Berger called attention to the fact that over a half dozen eight hour bills have been passed in Congress, and they are reenacted because the courts knock them out anyway. "I

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THE RAILROAD STRIKE

There appears to be a crisis rapidly approaching in the labor world in America, and the possibility of a strike on nearly every railroad in the United States and Canada.

The strike of the shopmen on the Harriman Lines and Illinois Central has developed to the stage where it is liable to spread.

Other railroads are hauling the freight for the Harriman lines. Cars belonging to the Harriman Lines and Illinois Central Railway are being repaired by union men on other railroads.

Any objections that the union men employed by railroads outside the strike zone, may make against shipping cars from the strike roads are met by decisions and laws, rules and regulations of the Interstate Commerce Commission, and if the union men refuse to do the work on any car from off the Harriman Lines, they make themselves liable.

The injunction made by President Taft, while a Federal Judge, 22 years ago against the engineers on the Michigan Central Railway, who refused to handle the C. B. & Q. railroad cars will give the railroads a basis to apply for the protection of the courts against the union men refusing to handle the cars of the Harriman Lines and Illinois Central Railroad. But in case of a strike on all railroads it will be a different matter.

The decision of the United States Supreme Court in 1895 on the appeal taken by the unions of the Northern Pacific Railway against the injunction issued by Judge Jenkins of the United States Circuit Court, sitting in Milwaukee in December 1893 gives all railroad men the legal right to quit working for a railroad at any time they see fit.

The injunction issued by Judge Jenkins was without doubt the most wide-sweeping injunction ever issued against any union.

The Northern Pacific Railroad made a reduction in wages that averaged 18 per cent. The employees of the Northern Pacific railroad threatened a strike, the officials of the railway company applied to Judge Jenkins for an injunction, the injunction was granted and enjoined the railroad men from quitting the service of the railroad either singly or collectively under pain of punishment for contempt of court. The judge basing his decision on the fact that the railroad was in the hands of the receivers appointed by him, and that the employees were employees of the court and could not quit work unless the court said so. The injunction was composed of over 7,000 words. This injunction prevented a strike on the Northern Pacific Railway in January 1894, but the injunction was a splendid organizer for the American Railway Union and the men went on strike six months later regardless of the injunction.

An appeal was taken to the Supreme Court on Judge Jenkins injunction and nearly two years later the highest court in the land decided that railroad men could quit their jobs either singly or collectively at any time they saw fit, thereby legalizing the right to strike on railroads even if the railroad in question be in the hands of receivers. But, the employees of the Northern Pacific Railway were ahead if the Supreme Court by eighteen months as they went on strike June 26, 1894 in the face of the injunction and in defiance of Judge Jenkins, and thereby asserted their manhood and guaranteed their right to quit when they saw fit.

Without doubt the Sherman Anti-trust law will be evoked extensively against the unions, and it is as likely as not we will see an attempt made before many weeks are over, to dissolve all unions similar to the action taken against the Standard Oil Company, but more effective.

Should the railroad strike last 60 days more, there will be in all likelihood be a strike called on all railroads, with a demand for an eight hour day. This will bring about the greatest railroad strike America has ever seen, and will without doubt change the whole form of unionism on the railroads, and create a new phase in the labor movement and advance the time of nationalization

of therailroads. In fact there are only two ways open to the railroad union men to win the strike on the Harriman Lines and Illinois Central Railway and that is to supply the strikers with more money to carry on the strike than the railroad companies care to spend in defeating the strike, or to call out the men on every railroad in the country at the same time, on a demand for the same schedule as the strikers are now making, an eight hour day without a decrease in pay.

If the strike on the Harriman Lines and the Illinois Central Railroad is lost the unions on the railroads will suffer a reverse that will take years to recover from.

MRS. PANKHURST'S MEETING.

The half hearted manner in which the club women of Helena took part in the lecture in Helena by Mrs. Pankhurst the veteran suffragette does not speak well for the cause of woman's suffrage as far as the women's club is concerned.

Mrs. Pankhurst's meeting showed no enthusiasm either before or after, on the part of the Helena women.

The meeting was under the auspices of the silk stocking and pink tea element of the west side, no advertising was done, except the free notices given by the press. Fifty cents admittance was charged to the lecture, this money went to help pay the expenses of securing the Auditorium, although there are a few club women in Helena, who individually could have paid the expenses of the meeting alone, had the desire for suffrage been strong enough in them.

Governor Norris acted as chairman of the meeting and introduced Mrs. Pankhurst, the governor acted in a very gingerly manner, was noncommittal regarding the merits of suffrage and seemed to be ashamed of the fact that he was on the same platform with a suffragette, perhaps the governor may have been living in anticipation of getting a drubbing such as Premier Asquith receives over in London from the hands of the Pankhurst crew.

One thing was demonstrated at the Pankhurst meeting and that is, if the women of Montana desire the ballot they will have to organize and work for it, without allowing the silk stocking and pink tea element of Helena monopolize speakers and throw wet blankets over the work.

It is not banqueting or holding receptions for the speakers of the woman's suffrage cause that is required, but a good hard campaign of education. Women will never receive the ballot in this state until they demand it.

Had Mrs Pankhurst's meeting in Helena been held under the auspices of Socialist women there would have been a greater audience listened to her lecture, but, there would have been no auto-mobile rides around town, or receptions at the swell hotel.

FREE EMPLOYMENT BUREAU FOR HELENA.

Herman Luehman, the Socialist alderman in Helena has succeeded in getting the city council to establish a free employment bureau. The city employment bureau will commence operations on January 1st, and present indications are that it will be a popular institution.

A municipal employment bureau existed before in Helena, in the days when the Populists held sway, but with the down fall of Populism the municipal employment bureau went out of existence.

With only one Socialist in the city council, Socialist Alderman Luehman is to be congratulated on the good work he has accomplished.

Let us imagine two slave owners, one owning fertile land, on which he works ignorant slaves, and produces large quantities of cheap foods, the other owning poorer land, from which he produces valuable, high-grade crops by means of slaves whom he takes pains to educate. Even under slavery the latter group would be being intelligent, they would be more likely to rebel against their masters. Whatever the original intention of their masters, be they never so selfish the skilled slaves are far nearer freedom than the ignorant slaves. The application of the parable is obvious.

AGAINST DEPORTING REFUGEE.

At the request of Berger, Secretary Nagel, of the Department of Commerce and Labor, has granted a stay in the deportation order against Marcus, a Russian political refugee.

Nagel assured Berger that the Russian Government charges that Marcus is "an ordinary criminal." As a matter of fact Marcus' "crimes" consists of his active participation in the Russian revolutionary movement. He has already served six years in Russian dungeons for his "crimes".

IS SOCIALISM OPPOSED TO RELIGION.

Wild R. Shier.

It is said that Socialism is opposed to religion.

But, in what way is Socialism opposed to religion?

Is there anything in the Socialist Party platform inimical to religion?

Has the International Socialist Congress, or any of its affiliated bodies, ever adopted a resolution aiming to destroy belief in a supreme being, in a future life, in the divinity of Jesus or in any other religious doctrine?

Has any Socialist in any legislature at any time introduced a bill that sought to demolish the churches or to interfere with any one's religious ideas?

All those questions must be answered unreservedly in the negative.

Then has the Socialist platform nothing whatever to say about religion? No, it has nothing to say about religion, except to say that the Socialist Party is not concerned with it.

It is true that many Socialists are avowed atheists. But it is also true that many Socialists are avowed Christians. Scores of clergymen belong to the Socialist Party.

It is easy to quote attacks upon religion from the speeches and writings of certain eminent Socialists. And our unscrupulous opponents make liberal use of such quotations to discredit the Socialist movement in the eyes of religious people.

But is that a fair method of attack? Is it fair to censure any organization because of the personal opinions of some of its members? And is it fair to dwell on the bitter things they have said while not giving them credit for the many sweet things they have said?

Would it be fair to say that the democrat party advocated vegetarianism because many democrats are vegetarians? Or would it be fair to charge the republican party with agnosticism because Robert Ingersoll, an ardent republican, went up and down the land declaring that he did not know whether there was any God or not?

Certainly not. Well, a Socialist's religious belief, like a republican's or democrat's religious belief, has no more to do with his politics than the way he parts his hair.

That this is so may be quickly determined by asking yourself whether religion will not be just as safe under a working class government controlled by corporation magnates, whether there is anything in the nature of public ownership to make people irreligious or immoral, and whether labor legislation is likely to upset anyone's religious ideas.

If Socialists criticize the church it is because the church is so backward in espousing the cause of the working people. The only way the church can escape such criticism is to cease deserving it, by stepping into the ranks of those who are fighting for economic justice.

Men are not like horses, becoming more docile as they become more intelligent. The more they have, the more they want. The more intelligent they are in industrial matters, the more likely they are to be intelligent in political and economic matters.

WE LOST THE ELECTION IN LOS ANGELES.

By Josephine Conger-Kaneko.

We lost the election in Los Angeles. But don't lets waste any time speculating as to why we lost. It may have been the McNamara confession. It may have been the enfranchisement of the women, it may have been a number of things. But rest assured, there was one thing responsible, and that above and beyond all others; abthabove and beyond all others: There were not enough Socialists in Los Angeles to elect Harriman. That is the reason we lost the election.

And that is a cause that can be remedied in time.

It can be remedied if we do the right thing, the intelligent thing. What we need in Los Angeles, what we need everywhere, is more education. The people's minds must be revolutionized before their votes can count for anything. We need more and better literature. We need constructive literature. And we need workers to distribute it. We need fewer leaders "Chewing the rag" over "fine points", and greater solidarity among the rank and file. We need a rank and file that reads, thinks and acts. Whatever we may gain, if it does not come from the heart and brain of the masses is superficial and means little in the real count of things.

We have just had a great object lesson in the Labor and Socialist movements. We have had a great

city going wild after "votes"; votes must be gained at all hazards, whether they understood the full meaning of Socialism or not. Even protest votes would do. We were crazy to "elect our mayor". But the masses didn't understand Socialism, and we lost. Los Angeles must do now what every city should do—concentrate her forces and wage such a campaign of education as the city has never known before. When the masses understand there will be no question as to how the "vote" will go.

The Labor movement has given us an object lesson in "direct action". And it has failed miserably. Those who believed they could carry the labor movement to victory the destructive methods employed by capitalists, have found themselves at last stripped of all powers, helpless children in the hands of the enemy. And their impracticability and their lack of faith in their own methods have shown themselves through their "confession" at the hour when another wing of the labor movement was hoping to sweep into victory on the political field.

Had these men, who were so willing to risk their lives of others in their "direct action" methods been as ready to risk their own when the test came they might have won some bit of respect even from those who are not in sympathy of such methods. But as their methods were capitalistic and cowardly, so have been their support of their methods. And this object lesson in "direct action", with its logical results should cure any budding, or unnamed revolutionary Socialist of all "direct action" fever. It is too apt to result in tragic-farce.

Neither votes for the mere sake of inaugurating revolutionary Socialism Socialism must come in through the intelligent and conscious activity of the masses of the people. That is why we must never stop our effort at education. We have scarcely scratched the surface. We have got to dig deep, and sow our seed thick, before we can have satisfactory results. We will never swing into the co-operative commonwealth at the heels of a few orators and bomb throwers.

Good literature, plenty of it, and with workers to distribute it, that is what the Socialist movement of America needs to-day. And the least conspicuous, most timid woman who carries a bundle of papers, or leaflets to her neighbor's door is a better soldier for the cause than a score of world-be heroes whose mental processes would continually read the party into broils and scraps and final disruption. Let us have more of the silent and effective workers!

THE WOMEN OF READING.

By Theresa Malkiel.

Reading, Pa., has come into the public eye, first through the election of Comrade Maurer as the first Socialist to sit in the Pennsylvania legislature, and next because of the wonderful activity of its Socialist local during the last municipal election. Every phase of that activity, but, one, has been gone over a number of times and that is—the activity of the women interested in seeing Socialism victorious.

It has ever been thus, woman has never come down to posterity, but for her connection with some one great man. And yet, the women of Reading have played a considerable role in the life and welfare of the Socialist movement in Reading.

It was the women who have made the social life of the Reading Socialists one worthy to be copied by every Socialist local. While the social phase of the movement remained a great necessity to the movement, while the people of the town had still to be shown that the Socialists are not home destroyers, but on the contrary promoters of brotherly feeling, of human relationship, the women gave their time to arranging suppers, entertainments, picnics, and so forth, were all the Socialist members and sympathizers met in social intercourse, ate, danced and made merry, while discussing the graver, bigger phase of life.

The money realized from all these affairs the women used for the purpose of making the Socialist home, or the Reading Labor Lyceum appear homelike and comfortable, they papered the place, bought furniture and decorations, saw that it was kept clean, while a small portion of the money was set aside for an entirely different, though equally noble, purpose. Every sick woman of Reading who was either a Socialist, or a Socialist sympathizer, was sure to receive a bouquet of flowers from the Socialist women in her hours of pain and sorrow. The flowers were, as a rule, brought to the sufferer by a committee of two who expressed personally the love and sympathy of her sisters. Small and insignificant as his purpose may seem at first glance, it meant much to the Socialist cause in

the end. We all know the had life of the workingman's wife and can easily realize how much harder that life is made by sickness. It is then that things seem things seem blackest. It is then that the poor woman yearns for love, for sympathy, and receiving it at the hands of the Socialists she remains true to them forever after.

But the women are not as narrow as some think them to be. This year, when Socialism made good in Reading and prepared to become the political guide of its citizens, the women realized the seriousness of the situation, the many obstacles in the field, and at once changed their method of action. Just as enthusiastically as they used to bake, cook and brew for Socialism, they commenced to organize, speak, distribute literature and hold meetings for Socialism.

The large knitting mills, where thousands of women and children are employed, were covered with Socialist literature especially written for women. The markets, too were not slighted. The women comrades were there on the job at 7 A. M., and while a Socialist speaker would explain to the good housewives the cause of the high cost of living, the women comrades would supplement the speaker's argument with proper leaflets. Street and indoor meetings were held where women speakers appealed to women to protect themselves and their children, to use their influence for the Socialist cause.

There is scarcely another woman suffrage city in the country, where the average housewife was made as thoroughly acquainted with the issue of the campaign as she was in Reading, Pa.

This was due to the activity of the women comrades who stand shoulder to shoulder with their husbands and brothers in time of war as well as in time of peace. The battle was temporarily lost, but the seed planted is bound to grow and the women comrades are sure to help its growth.

BAREFACED SOCIALISM.

The Panama Canal Commission, besides making the statement that the big ditch would be ready for business in nineteen hundred and thirteen, made another very interesting statement that will be of great importance if it is carried out, because it will mean that the Canal Zone will never mean that the Canal Zone will never harbor a middleman. At present Uncle Sam, besides cutting the waterway, is running a railroad, steamship line, telegraph and telephone lines, the postoffice, the banking business, free

schools, big stores where everything is sold at cost, and doing everything else in the most socialistic manner, and in such a way as to bring credit to himself and joy to the heart of every one with whom he has dealings. This system, according to the commission, is to be kept up and extended as conditions may require if the plans proposed for the ultimate settlement of the Zone are carried out.

For state reasons, all foreigners are to be drawn from the Canal construction corps as their services can be dispensed with and none will be employed permanently upon the canal establishment except American citizens. The force necessary to operate the Canal and its auxiliaries and all the machinery necessary to keep such a big undertaking in active operation will be enormous, and it is proposed to do for them in the same way as the construction corps is being dealt with now. Tracts of land will be granted to all employees who will make use of them and no title will be necessary, none given or required, nothing but occupancy and use will be the title. Production and distribution will, in this way, belong to all the people of the Canal Zone and will be an example and an incentive for a further extension of the idea in the remainder of Uncle Sam's domains. When the middleman is eliminated and with him his extortionate greed, the people are no longer skinned and can live better and enjoy life better, they less than it formerly cost them. All this is very objectionable to those who that such methods would undermine society and deprive the worker of his independence and whole lots of other things of an evil character too numerous to mention, but if the people can live better an enjoy life better, they won't grumble if Uncle Sam runs the business. So success to the Panama Canal Commission and their scheme to occupy the Zone, even if it is Socialistic.—Machinists' Journal.

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IN MEMORIAM

Ring out, wild bells, to the wild sky,
The flying cloud, the frosty light;
The year is dying in the night;
Ring out, wild bells, and let him die.

Ring out the old, ring in the new;
Ring, happy bells, across the snow;
The year is going let him go;
Ring out the false, ring in the true.

Ring out the grief that saps the mind,
For those that here we see no more;
Ring out the feud of rich and poor,
Ring in redress to all mankind.

Ring out a slowly dying cause,
And ancient forms of party strife;
Ring in the nobler modes of life,
With sweeter manners, purer laws.

Ring out the want, the care, the sin,
The faithless coldness of the times;
Ring out, ring out, my mournful rhymes,
But ring the fuller minstrel in.

Ring out false pride in place and blood,
The civic slander and the spite;
Ring in the love of truth and right,
Ring in the common love of good.

Ring out old shapes of foul disease;
Ring out the narrowing lust of gold;
Ring out the thousand wars of old,
Ring in the thousand years of peace.

Ring in the valiant man and free,
The larger heart, the kindly hand,
Ring out the darkness of the land,
Ring freedom in, that is to be!

Alfred Tennyson.

OTIS' FAKES ABOUT MILWAUKEE
By Carl Sandburg.

"Rainbows Dissolved" and "Milwaukee Socialists Unable to Carry Out Their Glittering Promises" are the headlines of the Los Angeles Times. A list of things promised but not secured by the Milwaukee Socialists for that city is then published.

Some of these things have been secured. And wherever a platform demand has not been attained, it has been because of either one of two conditions.

First, the city of Milwaukee in many important, necessary matters, is handcuffed and helpless through acts of laws. Until the state legislature acts the city cannot make a move toward certain actions for the common good. This is why Mayor Seidel in his

first message to the common council said, "Before all things, home rule—the right to self government—should be secured." Over forty home rule bills were sent by the common council to the state legislature for passage. While a larger number of these passed than had been expected, most of them were defeated, and very important rights were denied by the republicans and democrats of the legislature.

The city asked for the right to conduct a municipal loan department, putting loan sharks out of business; for the right to render free legal service to citizens who cannot afford a lawyer; for the right to buy land and construct model homes for workingmen. All of these, among others, were denied.

Second, the city of Milwaukee for a half century has been in the hands of political exploiters. For years it was run by a crew of politicians as cunning, resourceful and reactionary as are to be found anywhere in America.

To coddle the taxpayers, they played the game of "keeping down taxes". And with a wild, shrewd vengeance they played this game. Every payment of cash was put off to the farthest limit of time, through bonds. It was a carnival of long time bonds for short time improvements. For payments that broke up and wore out in seven and less years, bonds for twenty years were issued.

The city was plunged into debt. One of the first things found by the Socialists on entrance to office was a deficit of \$200,000 which had been carefully concealed by the old regime through the juggling of figures.

Land contracts aggregating \$350,000 came due Jan. 1, 1911. That principle payment on these had been evaded for ten years was not publicly known in the city till the Socialists began their "open book" policy. Thus, a third of a million dollars debt fell due on an administration which was meeting debts in a way different from the frenzied finance methods which had prevailed.

These affairs cut down the amount of cash available for new enterprises. In spite of this, however, every step that could possibly be taken toward the realization of the platform demands, has been taken.

When the Los Angeles Times says that the Milwaukee Socialists have not brought about city ownership of public service enterprises, it tells the truth. When it says the Socialists promised such public ownership, it

lies. Under its present charter, the city is forbidden from such action.

What the Socialists did do was the only thing possible for them to do. They introduced a bill in the legislature asking the right for the city to condemn, buy and operate such enterprises. And the bill was defeated in the Wisconsin legislature, despite all its pretenses to "progressive" principles.

When the Los Angeles Times, says the Socialists have not established four public markets in the city, it tells the truth. When it says the Socialists have taken no action in the matter, it lies. A public market commission has been appointed and it is a certainty that recommendations will be brought in that will assure the establishment of markets in the proper way in the year 1912. One market which has been operating for thirty years has not proven a success because of unwise methods. And before plunging into what might be a repetition of this failure, there will be used careful thought as to where the markets should be located and how operated.

Workmen's Compensation

(Continued from first page.)

State government is not willing to remain among the worst of employers. This quick action of the United States government is important as an example to our State and Municipal government, which together employ millions.

"The public at large does not appreciate the many hazardous occupations in which Federal employees are engaged. Outside of the dangerous Isthmian Canal Zone operations there are the navy yards, the power stations, the railway mail service, the forestry service, the rural mail delivery and many other branches each with dangers of its own. Over two hundred persons were fatally injured in Government service in the first year's operation of the law. The United States Government should not remain among the worst of employers, rather being a model employer which each government institution should strive to be. Besides this quick action of the U. S. Government is important as an example to our state and municipal governments, which together employ an enormous number, reaching perhaps into the millions.

"It is considered," said Professor Ernest Freund, from the Law School of the University of Chicago, "that if an employer for the purpose of his business provides and requires, the use of dangerous appliances which are, humanely speaking, certain to result in accident he ought not to let the consequences of the accident lie where they fall, but assume his share of them."

Professor Freund said that all legislative commissions appointed to investigate the matter favored the principle of compensation as distinguished from liability. He outlined the points involved in the principle of compensation as being:

First: Payment for injuries or death, irrespective of fault or negligence except when caused by willful misconduct.

Second: The benefit payable bearing a definite relation to the former earning capacity.

Third: The payment of the benefit in periodical installments, subject to commutation to a lump sum under specific conditions.

Fourth: Denial of compensation for a brief initial period, in order to eliminate the great mass of insignificant injuries but liberal provision for medical treatment.

Fifth: Abrogation of the right of action at common law except where the fault of the employer is aggravated.

The bomb is out of place in a country where workers have the use of the ballot.

Socialism is not anarchy. It is as different from it as is light from darkness or good from evil.

Give labor the full social value of its toil, and poverty will largely disappear, and along with it the vice, disease and crime which poverty produces.

Capitalism enables the cunning and the strong to live in idleness and luxury on the toll of others.

Profit-making robs labor of four-fifths of the output value of its toil. This supports the employers, the wealthy unemployed and our other society parasites—those unnecessary middlemen, advertisers, servants, etc.—who are not producers, and who are not needed as distributors of commod-

ities. The present system is so foul as to be a stench in the nostrils of millions of right thinking people, and will have to go under the advance of Socialism.

Under Socialism, with profit making abolished, and with the better sanitary conditions which would prevail, most, perhaps nine-tenths—of our present day diseases and accidents would not occur.

Socialism will start the human race on the highway to quick attainment of such perfection in ourselves, physically, mentally and morally, and in our environment as to world has never seen.

Those who can, but will not labor, though they may, should there be such under Socialism, shall receive according to what they produce—nothing if they produce nothing.

Under Socialism a certain period of social labor time would be the unit of value, and this work time necessary to produce any commodity would fix its value. Commodities would then be exchanged value for value or bought at a price thus fixed, instead of at the highest price which deception can secure for them.

Socialism will immediately, on its adoption, begin to remove the need, if there be such, for the brothel and the saloon, and will soon eliminate them both. Under it you can be clean in business and Christianlike seven days in the week, instead of on Sunday only, as now, which makes you a hypocrite all the time, even against methods. It will reform politicians your will because of our competitive and make them upright men.

Socialism will win, because the workers are a hundred to the masters' one, and all they have to do is to reach for political power and take it. All that is needed is the awakening and the awakening has begun.

Socialism should win, in order that the many workers and wealth producers, the wage slaves, may be free from exploitation by the few masters, and the right of all be established over the might of the few.

Socialism urges that the means of production and distribution of wealth that are social and public in their nature shall be owned collectively. This includes the great wealth of raw material in the earth—oil, coal, iron—which nature created for all men alike, and machinery for its elaboration and distribution which machinery the workers have made but do not own.

Socialism is a world-wide movement of the working class and its sympathizers to have the products of labor go to those who produce them; in other words, to secure for the producers of wealth to wealth which they produce, that they may be better housed, better fed, better educated and live a larger and better life.

Socialists believe that Socialism, by abolishing the profit-making system in business, and by establishing the co-operative commonwealth, will remove more than anything else proposed, the political corruption and economic motive as well as the opportunity for wrongs, and without destroying individual liberty or the incentive to worthy effort.

Society should be so organized that all parasites would become producers of something useful. This would increase the producing army and greatly shorten the hours of work necessary for the production of all needed commodities. Three hours of work per day would do this, it is believed, with modern machinery, under the economy of Socialistic management.

Socialism would make all social utilities collectively owned; there would be work for all; each worker would be paid well for services performed; the great surplus called profits, which now goes to the exploiters, would be saved for public welfare.

Society being so rich filthy sweatshops would be abolished; human rookeries would be torn down; streets and public parks would be improved beyond anything now attempted; better water supplies secured; public service of all kinds enlarged and made better in quality; better public schools and other institutions of learning established. The money now spent by the wealthy in giving monkey dinners and dog parties could be used by the state for a better civilization.

But individualism, in its greed for profit has little thought for these things.

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207 Washington Street

Chicago, Illinois.

MONTANA SOCIALIST PARTY ACTIVITIES.

Local Helena has issued a challenge to Bishop Carroll of Helena to meet George D. Brewer in debate.

Bishop Carroll is an anti-Socialist, and of late in his sermons he has been attacking Socialism and Woman's Suffrage.

George D. Brewer is one of the lecturers attached to the National Lyceum Lecture Bureau and is in Helena this week.

As Bishop Carroll's criticism of Socialism is so unjust, the Socialists of Helena, decided that the best way to reply to him was to challenge him to debate.

The increase of Socialist sentiment is developing rapidly in Montana. As one travels over the state, a continual revelation is given him on the growth of Socialism. A good organizer in Montana could easily organize fifty new locals in the next ninety days.

Organization is what is required at present.

In Gallatin county there is room for four more locals. Three Forks especially is ripe for organization, and a local of at least 25 charter members could be secured.

At Whitehall one is surprised at the number of Socialists he meets, but no local is in existence there. Whitehall is at the extreme southern portion of Jefferson county and if the adjacent territory to Whitehall was given attention, there is no reason whatever why the Socialists should not carry Jefferson county at the next election, especially the legislative ticket.

Over in old Madison county, where Socialism used to be a back number, the growth of Socialist thought is marvelous. If the comrades of Local Norris would spur themselves into their old time activity the Socialist vote in Madison county at the next election would show at least, an increase of 500 per cent over the vote that has been polled for the past seven years in Madison county.

Organization, and more organization should be the subject for discussion at each local meeting. Keep up the agitation for more and efficient organizing.

LECTURE DATES.

George D. Brewer the third speaker on the National Lyceum Lecture course will lecture in Helena, Dec 28; Missoula Dec 29; Livingston Dec 30; and Red Lodge Dec 31.

May Wood-Simons the fourth speaker on the Lyceum course will speak Lewistown, Jan 2; Great Falls, Jan 3; Helena Jan 4; Missoula Jan 5; Livingston Jan. 6; Red Lodge Jan. 7.

ARE THE FARMERS DESERTING CAPITALISM.

By Clyde J. Wright.

"Nine-tenths of the Socialists of Texas are farmers," so says Nat L. Hardy. One-half of the Socialist of Kansas are farmers, says the State secretary. Let me add that two-thirds of the Socialists of Nebraska are farmers. This speaks volumes.

Have our papers neglected the farmers? Yes, just as they have neglected the question of organization. Leading Socialists have been heard to say that outside the cities there is no Socialist movement.

There is Socialism and then there is the power of Socialism, the power of Socialism is organization. Examine the state secretaries' organization maps, if you will, and note the small and numerous country centers that are now being organized, and perhaps for the first time realize that the country districts are generating the heat of Socialist organization which is likely to yet burn up capitalism in the cities; while the cities are deliberating upon some technical point of science.

Are you still asking, "Can a farmer be a Socialist?" You should observe that the relative proportion of organized farmers in the middle west as compared to the whole movement indicates that the farmers need no asking. These organized precincts answer.

The renters' rebellion in Texas seems to say that there are no more political hayseeds in the country than there are political thin-heads in the town.

If it is a question of the class struggle, then the tenant is having fully as many "ups" in the country as the wage earner is having "downs" in the cities.

It may be true that there is more gutter in the cities to attract attention, and also that the class struggle is more clearly defined, but this does not tell us that the wage workers are necessarily quicker or slower to

understand. But we do know that they are more helpless, more dependent, and therefore have less political independence. Capitalism knows the value and power it has to feed the town man's mind with cheap and unfit vaudeville, detective stories and other sensual literature. Whatever may be the intellectual advantages, they are offset by the very poverty which they breed—they teach the wrong lessons.

The workers have been tricked, tricked. Once the fiction of the antagonisms between town and country producers is exploded and these two ends together turn upon the capitalists "middle", an irresistible force will have been added to the revolution.

THE RIGHTS OF HALF A NATION.

By Joseph E. Cohen,

Suppose that some one were to suggest that half the voters of this nation should be disfranchised. Might not such an act bring about a civil war as terrible as that of 1861.

Yet as wild as such an idea is, it is no wilder than the idea that the women of our country, or of any other country, are to remain permanently disfranchised.

For women are one-half of this and every other nation. And as true as it is that no land can endure part slave and part free, it is true that woman must be given the title to every political and social right possessed by man.

So long as woman's seat was at the fireside, such a question could not arise. So long as the circle of her needs and wants centered in her own home, such a problem could not present itself. So long as woman was only a silent partner in her husband's concerns, woman remained on the edge of the current of political and social struggles.

But all this changed when the throbbing of the gigantic machine became the dynamo of progress; it all changed when the bleak, sinister factory wall cast its lengthening shadow over the family hearth.

When woman became a factor in industry, then she became a factor in political and social matters.

When certain trades came to be set apart as "woman's trades," then woman became a part of trade and a part of industry.

When there sprang up "sho towns" where men are relatively as few as are women in the lumber and mining camps and the "he towns" then woman became an important item in all industrial political and social questions.

When the point was reached that millions of women in America must regard wage-labor, instead of the care of the home and the rearing of a household, as their means of subsistence, then woman became one-half of the social problem.

When the sex-cancer of olden times became the established institution of our own day; when woman's very soul was reduced to terms of barter and price, then the position of woman and child, even more than that of man, became the aching heart of the social problem.

An when woman became bonded to wage-labor for life, then there was born in her the knowledge that her lot, in a larger sense than ever she had dreamt of, is riveted to that of man's.

Then her vision broadened and her mother love became part of that fraternity and solidarity which is the basis of workingclass consciousness.

And as time advanced, woman, especially woman in industry, realized that governments are the agencies whereby the bread and butter of life are portioned out, and that those who control the government divide the portions.

Then came the movement for woman suffrage, the right of woman to self-expression, the right to have voice and vote in regulating the affairs that concern her, the fight to help build the civilization of equality and comradeship that is to be.

Nor can the importance of securing suffrage for woman be overestimated.

All struggles of any consequence, industrial and social, expresses itself in political quantities. No class ever rose except by political power. No class can ever free itself and free society by becoming the government.

And the fight for woman's suffrage is as much man's work as it is woman's work. For man cannot be free himself until woman shares that freedom with him.

To free half the nation who are politically inferiors is to elevate the whole nation to a high place such as it has never occupied.

Let us make the rights of woman, the rights of half a nation, the concern of the whole nation!

Old Party is Halted

(Continued from first page.)

would suggest," Berger said, "that instead of lawyers, you would get a bricklayer to write the law and have it looked over by a newspaper man. Then you would have a law that would be plain, a law which everybody would understand."

Representative Kendall (Rep. of Iowa) advanced his belief that the democrat did not deserve credit for the passage of the soldiers' pension bill. To this Berger replied.

"The democrats initiated the bill. Give the devil his due. But remember that this House has passed a half dozen eight hour bills."

"The gentleman from Wisconsin was looking at the republican side when he spoke of giving the devil his due," interjected Representative Anderson, of Ohio, to the amusement of his democratic colleagues.

"I was looking first at one side and ten at the other," come back the Socialist Congressman like a shot.

Both sides of the House saw the point, and members and spectators roared with good natured laughter.

FIGHTS FOR OLD AGE PENSIONS.

Berger introduced his old age pension bill as an amendment to the Sherwood bill, which provides for an increase in pensions to veterans of the Civil War. His amendment was ruled out as not germane on a point of order raised by Representative Bartlett, (dem.) of Georgia.

The Socialist Congressman however, secured to floor and made a vigorous speech in behalf of the veterans of industry. He said in part:

"There are more workers killed and injured every year than we in the entire Civil War. Only last Saturday we read of a terrible mine disaster in Tennessee. Such things happen every day."

"In addition, we should also consider the number of women who are subject to disease contracted because of their occupations, and who become total or partial invalids by the hundred of thousands every year. The work of the soldier of industry is infinitely more necessary and must be performed every day or our civilization ceases."

Shopmen Making Great Resistance.

(Continued from page one.)

from train No. 1 to take out the wrecker.

Tucson, Ariz.—Engine ran trough the wall in Gila round house. Helper engine on passenger train at Benson burst a flue when starting and had to be cut out. The engineers are sick of their jobs, 15 scabs were shipped west last night to Los Angeles. There are 24 dead engines in the round house here and three on the pits. It is reported that the chief train dispatcher is laying off on account of nervous break down brought about from condition along the road.

COAL MINERS ACT SANTA CLAUS FOR STRIKERS CHILDREN.

Again we have a demonstration of the true spirit by the Local Unions of District No. 22 United Mine Workers of America at Cheyenne Wyo., who have circulated posters and hand bills announcing that they will be Santa Claus to the children of the striking shopmen of Cheyenne, Christmas Eve Sunday Dec. 24th, 1911 at Eagles Hall at 7:30 o'clock. Bring the children and we will load them with good things, candy, fruit, and nuts and a present for each of them.

In behalf of the Coal Miners of Wyoming—Thomas Gibson, President, A. G. Morgan, Vice-President; James Morgan, Secretary-Treasurer.

SUPPORT FOR THE STRIKERS.

The following letter was received at the headquarters of the strikers on the Harriman lines:

"East Ely, Nev. Dec. 18th. 1911.

"On Dec. 9th. a grand ball was given at the Auditorium in East Ely, under the auspices of the Allied Trades Unions of White Pine County. The general arrangements committee was composed of 27 union men selected from every union in the District. Jas. F. Beggs of the Machinists Local was chairman; with W. G. Mason, of the Painters Local as Secretary and E. G. Marquiss, of the Mill and Smeltermen as Treasurer.

"It was thoroughly advertised that the net proceeds of the Benefit Ball would go to support of our union brothers of the Federated Shopmen on the Harriman System, who are now on strike and fighting, honorably against oppression; who are fighting not only for themselves but for all their race; and whose defeat or victory is our defeat or victory.

"The efforts of that committee was quite liberally rewarded by the working men of the district, and mighty

little support came from the business men except the few who donated all the ingredients that made up forty gallons or fine claret punch, which was served free and made mild enough for ladies to drink without danger of intoxication, and of which every one drank their full share.

The total receipts amounted to \$743.79 The total expense was\$674.20 Leaving a cash balance of\$69.59

One enthusiastic member of the committee gladly offered to donate an additional eighty cents to make up even dollars.

"When some of the business men, those so called "Friends of Labor" heard of the large amount being sent to the strikers they exhibited that unmistakable act of great astonishment and many of them no doubt, very much deplore the fact that so much money is being sent out of the district, but all such men who feel that way are far too selfish to be considered at all by the working class. The boastful business men derive their income and luxurious living from the working class, and the time has come when the business men shall cease to combine against the working class or the business man will be thoroughly and severely ignored by the working class. Then the business man will have to go to work and be a real producer or look for support from those "higher up" in the plundering, grafting, greed crazed corporations.

"The efforts of the Musicians Local far exceeded that of any three other locals, and that they did so nobly in a united effort to offer moral and financial support to our union brothers who are at "the front" and fighting our fight and bearing the brunt of the physical suffering as well as that silent, mental suffering that the working class has endured, Oh so long that our patience has ready "ceased to be a virtue."

"In behalf of the working class of the Ely district and in token of sympathy and brotherly love, I herewith enclose a bank draft for \$675. to you as Secretary of the Federated Shopmen of the Harriman Lines. We sincerely hope that it may be the men in their struggle against oppression. We hope that it may be the means of giving good cheer and real comfort to some striking, fighting brother who might feel somewhat despondent of victory, or who might not be as fortunate as other brothers in possession of food, clothing and shelter for himself or his beloved wife and innocent, helpless babes. We hope that our efforts an financial success will encourage, not only other districts to do as we have and to do all in their power to send forth their best and kindest thoughts hoping that the same may be heard and felt, by our union brothers, upon the sweet, wireless, sound waves of sympathy and brotherly love, for such acts of charity and kindness are not transmitted to the suffering, working class through the "kept sheets" of the corporation owned press.

We must have faith in our cause for it is RIGHT AND JUST. We must have hope in ultimate solidarity of the working class. For great and grand is "Faith, Hope and Charity, but the Greatest of these is Charity.

"May those who would enslave us become mere slaves."

Hurrah! For the Shopmen's Federation!

Hurrah! For greater affiliation!

Hurrah! For labor's emancipation!!

We must keep pressing on!!!

Yours for Justice to the Working class.—E. G. Marquiss, Treasurer Benefit Dance, Ely, Nevada.

The shopmen on the Rock Island Railroad have assessed themselves one days pay a month for the benefit of the strikers. 60per cent of the money thus raised goes to the strikers on the Harriman lines and 40 per cent to the strikers on the Illinois Central Railroad.

The round house machinists on the Great Northern railway at Clancy, Montana are giving a ball at the Alhambra Hot Springs on New Year's eve. The proceeds to go to the benefit of the strikers. Let other places do likewise.

C. R. McMurray an ex-railroad man and now a traveling agent for the Continental Casualty Insurance Company, is doing all he can to secure scabs for the Southern Pacific Railway while canvassing for business for the insurance company he represents.

The strike committee desires all holders of policies in the Continental Casualty Company to write the head office of the Continental Casualty Company, protesting against the conduct of this agent of the company. Railroad unions can also assist by having the secretary of the union write a letter to the insurance company. The insurance company sells its policies to railroad wage slaves, and without the wage slave the company would go out of business.

Montana News Prospectus.

The Montana News will be issued hereafter by the UNION PRINTING and PUBLISHING COMPANY, from its offices at Helena, Montana. The said company is incorporated under the laws of the State of Montana. Authorized Capital Stock \$10,000 Shares \$5.00 each

Object of Corporation.
To print and publish at the City of Helena, Montana, a weekly newspaper to be devoted to the interest of the working class of the State of Montana and the Northwestern States, and for the purpose of transacting, carrying on and conducting a printing and publishing business in all its branches.

Need of Local Paper.
The working class movement must have a powerful local press before it can hope to influence the government or the state as a party. Such a press can be a power in the Northwest as the expression of a working class remarkably aggressive and devoted to freedom and justice. Without a paper of protest against the horrors of a system of profit and plunder it would have been impossible to expose the Donohue Militia bill passed by the late legislature!

There is tendency to reaction in the state at present. Franchisees are being given away lavishly to the exploiters of the working class—street cars, electric lines, electric lighting, and gas—with no provisions to allow the public to own these necessities in the future; whereas, ten and twenty years ago such franchisees contained specifications for the transfer of such property to the commonwealth.

Blows at Labor.
The last legislature in Montana appropriated \$10,000 for the purpose of bringing in labor to compete with the laborers already here. Montana employers are even advertising in Europe for men to work in the state, while we are already overladen with idle men.

Little Revolutionary Reading.
There are only 9,000 subscribers to Socialist papers in Montana. We must have at least 50,000 persons reading Socialist papers before the spirit of protest can be aroused or the workers make their impress upon the state and municipal governments.

There are 80,000 voters in Montana, and a population of about 375,000. Cold figures tell the tale of work to be done.

Purposes.
The News will fight the battles of the workingclass through all present evils and obstacles of exploitation. It will point out the emancipation from exploitation in the abolition of the private ownership of the industrial machinery. It will direct the workers to co-operate production. It will expose the outrages of capitalism which we encounter at our door.

It will enter the arena and struggle with strong and self-interested opponents to construct better laws, institutions, and opportunities. It will at all times inform the populace of malicious laws passed and enforced by our law making bodies. It will also be a center from which the Initiative and Referendum will circulate.

Plans of Operation
The News will henceforth be a Socialist party paper, but not a party-owned paper. It will be handled exclusively by the Union Printing and Publishing Company. This company will own its own machinery, equipment, linotype, motors, and presses, and is pleasantly and commodiously situated at 19 Park Avenue, Helena, Montana. It makes a specialty of union job work, bills, constitutions, by-laws, etchings, and whatever organized labor may require in the way of printing. We support you; you support us. Labor withdraws its support from its enemies and co-operates with its friends.

It will issue special editions dealing with the local issues in any town or community at the minimum cost, so that any such point may have all the advantages of a local paper, and scatter it by the thousands.

Advertising.
The News will carry a special line of high class advertising, covering a widespread territory. It has applications from and companies, book firms, library associations and other enterprises of a general character to advertise on a large scale, and will give special attention to this valuable feature in the future. The News is an unusually able medium as a publicity organ because of its extended circulation, entering almost every state and territory in the United States, crossing the borders of Canada and Mexico, and going also to many foreign countries. It is read by the buyers, the chief consumers, the workers, who are 90 per cent of the population.

Policy and Program.
The News will stand for the constructive program of Socialism. It will work for the industrial revolution through the conquest of political power by a new class, the workers. It will take an aggressive part in all political and municipal activities. It will encourage and serve in every way the organization of the workers both Politically and Industrially. It will be first to serve the unions in time of trouble and to reprove them for errors that obstruct their progress. It will be labor's staunchest friend when in trouble no matter what the cause. It will be the fearless advocate and labor leader of the Northwest, and the rallying center for the activities of the Socialist movement.

Financial Support.
If you want to help in this grand world movement of labor you want to put some money into it and be a part of it. You want to take several shares of stock and get your union and neighbors to take some. You can pay \$5. down for each share of stock or you can pay \$1.00 a month for five months, or for as long as you please, and every \$5.00 you pay will give you an additional share of stock.

This method is a sure winner so far as a solid support for Socialist enterprises is concerned. It is what has made the success of the Kerr Publishing Company, The Social Democratic Herald, and the Chicago Daily Socialist. Everybody's business is nobody's business, but definite system will make a paper in the west as successful as those in the east.

The News is 50 cents a year, one cent each in budies. Further information can be had by writing G. A. Brown, Box 1132, Helena, Montana, and send all money for stock to the above address. All subscriptions for the News and orders for printing should be addressed to Montana News, Helena, Montana.

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