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THE REBEL

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THE GREAT APPEAL GREAT TO US WHEN WE ARE ON OUR KNEES — LET US ARISE

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The Land Question Just Over the Border

The Rebel has received a remarkable statement of conditions in Mexico, as to the Land Revolution, written by one of the best, if not the best authorities on Mexican land conditions, Ricardo Flores Magon.

The Rebel has known of Magon for at least ten years. In 1901 he left Mexico for St. Louis with a few devoted followers to develop a propaganda for land and liberty in Mexico on North American soil that was impossible in Mexico at that time, because of the despotism that existed under the Diaz regime.

He started a little paper in St. Louis which was sent to Mexico just as German Social-Democrats under Bismarckian exclusion laws sent their papers from Zurich into Germany at that time. His paper was stopped by order of the secret service acting directly under Roosevelt's instructions; and a long battle in the courts ensued, and Magon was incarcerated in several months because of his poverty on this side of the line. In Mexico he belonged to one of the wealthiest families of the country.

Jesus Magon, was secretary of state under the Madero administration. Surrounding him in St. Louis were a devoted little group which included Prof. Riveria, Antonio and Antoinette Villarsal, who is now known as the "poetess of Mexico." They lived lives of penury, equal to that of the most poverty-stricken denizens of St. Louis proletarian districts. Night and day they were harassed by the agents of the United States secret service. Arrest, prosecutions, and suppression of his paper were the order of the day, and continued through the years of 1900, '01, '02, '03, and '09, until finally the situation was created that made a Madero possible. Magon's agitation His soldiers of the line resulted in the raising of funds and the development of organization to the point where the Liberal could see his march to Mexico City from San Louis Potosi possible. The installation of Madero as president of Mexico followed, and to unite the warring factions Jesus Magon came to Los Angeles as the special envoy of the Mexican president, asking Ricardo Magon to cease his agitation and allow the development along the lines that the bourgeois "liberal" (Madero) desired.

Magon received his brother in the same spirit that Christ received the Devil when he took him to the top of the mountain and showed him the world, like Christ Ricardo Magon refused the place of power and wealth that was offered him. He told Jesus Magon to return to Madero and understand that nothing but the complete annihilation of landlordism in Mexico would satisfy him and his followers, and that this had to be done NOW, and not through a lengthy process of industrial evolution, because the Mexican people was an agricultural people who should have their "jubilee, as in the days of Nehemiah, when it was said:

"Restore, I pray you, to them, even this day, their lands, their vineyard, their olive yards, and their houses."

In reaching this conclusion Magon looked back on the years of misery that he spent in the Federal penitentiary in Yuma and later in Florence, Arizona, because of an alleged violation of the neutrality law that is now conveniently ignored by President Wilson and could almost see from his barred window through the Southwestern mackerel sky the clasping of hands of United States President William Howard Taft and the arch-destroyer of the liberties of the Mexican people, Porfirio Diaz, at the El Paso-Juarez bridge that spans the Rio Grande. He could then see that the force behind Diaz was not the fat and unctuous Taft, but was American and foreign capitalism that had entered into a conspirator with the "Cientificos" for capturing for their personal property the land of Mexico including its marvelous resources—the arable land, the timber above and the minerals beneath. He realized that he had to kill the snake and not scotch it in the tail. He fight went on that produced a Villa and a Zapata and destroyed a Carranza.

Some Socialist economists say that Mexico has to go through the same industrial economic evolution that has its highest industrial expression in the United States Steel Trust at Pittsburgh, Pa., in the anthracitic coal fields of the Wyoming Valley, or in the coal fields of Colorado or Arkansas, Alabama and Tennessee, and in the lumber districts of East Texas and Western Louisiana. If the Mexicans must buy civilization at such a price, then The Rebel thinks that it were too dear. Shall we wait for the inauguration for the co-operative commonwealth until every topographical division of the earth has a highly developed economic development If so we must wait until the last cotton in China has seen the light of day from its tilled factory, and then the proletariat will be ready for the mighty change.

So far as The Rebel is concerned, we believe that Magon is right to the extent that the lord of the Land must be destroyed, his paper titles and his "vested rights" be annulled, and then economic development can proceed on its course unhampered. So we agree with Magon so far as the freedom of the land goes, though we differ with him as to his position in decreying political action. The views of this veteran in the Mexican land fight are worthy of serious consideration and we have taken pleasure Ricardo Flores Magon's latest pronouncements regarding the fight for Land and Liberty in Mexico.

Land and Liberty.

With admirable common sense the Mexican worker has come to understand that the fountain of all wealth is the land; the land from which are obtained the cereals and other grains, and vegetables necessary for the sustenance of man and the useful animals; the land whose forests furnish fuel and building materials; the land which guards within its womb metals and quarries; the land which provides industry, directly and indirectly, with all its raw material; the land in which the foundations of the family dwelling must be laid; the land which, in its springs and rivers, seas and lakes, generates life, promotes energy and light, and furnishes animal nourishment of the most varied kinds. Therefore the Mexican worker in his struggle for economic liberty seeks to make himself master of the land, resting assured that as such he will be master of everything and consequently free.

What Was not Known.

This movement, purely economic, is the one that is not known, or very little known. In the press we read accounts of battles, skirmishes, ambuscades, shootings, burnings of properties; and the general opinion is that in Mexico they are engaged in overthrowing Huerta that they may put Carranza or Villa in his place. Such an opinion is fundamentally erroneous. The Mexican worker has risen in arms because he is tired of having suffered during four hundred years oppression and misery; an oppression and misery which reached their climax under the administration of Porfirio Diaz.

Slavery.

It was during the administration of Porfirio Diaz that the Mexican worker lost the last shreds of liberty and well-being that he had succeeded in preserving in his four centuries of servitude. The few lands that still belonged to the towns and were the common patrimony of their inhabitants, were monopolized in diverse manners by the neighboring hacienda owners, or by the government's favorites, and the town inhabitants thus dispossessed found themselves driven by the alternative of perishing by hunger or hiring out their labor, at a miserable wage, to work the even more miserable lands of peasants, who had watered with their sweat and they themselves had cultivated in common. The result of this monopolization of the lands was the enslavement of the country and city workers.

Worse Than Slaves.

The slave, by the very fact that he had cost his master money, was treated by him with, at least, the consideration with which one treats a horse or cow. The Mexican peon had no such consideration. Inasmuch as there was an abundance of workers, and inasmuch as, moreover, his acquisition had not cost the hacienda owner a single cent, the country peons had to work from sunrise to sunset for twenty-four, seventeen, twenty, fifty, even eighteen to twenty-five, thirty-seven and fifty cents (Mexican) a day, and had to make his abode, as well as the hacienda store, where goods of poor quality cost the highest prices. If the peon fell sick he had to die like a dog, without receiving medical assistance of any kind, and as his pitiful, small wages were not enough to keep his properly fed even on maize and beans he was always in debt to his master. This debt the was inherited on his father's death and it was a common thing to find peons, earning eighteen cents a day, who owed the hacienda more than two hundred dollars. This debt bound them to the hacienda, and there was not a peon who was not in debt.

Complicity of the Authorities.

If the peon, despairing of his situation, left the hacienda in search of better paid work, the master notified the authorities of the bear-by towns and they returned him to the hacienda where he was given a flogging that left him half dead, or was tied to the spokes of a cart wheel in such a manner that throughout an entire day he had to turn as the wheel turned, or he was put in stocks, or he was given the water torture, which consisted in letting water fall, drop by drop on the back of the victim's hand. At first he laughs at the torture, but after a little while he cries to them to stop, but rather than put an end to the acute pains this apparently in offensive operation produces. All this was wont to be done as an example to the others, to prevent possible escapes.

Lords of the Scaffold and Knife.

The hacienda owners, therefore, were lords of the scaffold and the knife; masters of life and of their haciendas. The peon considered the appearance in his family of a hacienda owner as a misfortune, for he knew that she would have to be prostituted to the master or the master's son, and that if he did not consent to such prostitution he would be sent to the prison or the gardhouse if he were not killed like a dog at some turn of the road by the rural police known as the "Acordada." Workers who did not take off their hats in the master's presence, or who dared to protest against injustices they suffered, used to suffer the same penalties.

General Conditions.

The toilers in the mines, the factories and workshops were no less unfortunate, than were their brothers of the country districts, for the wretched wages they earned served only to add to the tyranny of their employers and of the authorities. Misery was universal. Citizenship was dead so far as the poor were concerned. Children had to work from the time they were six or seven years old, to add to a few cents to the family earnings. He who had a piece of land, or a few head of cattle, or a little house, and refused to sell his land, belonging to the hacienda owner, became the victim of the "Fuga (Law of Flight), or, if he were lucky was sent to the prison or garrison. To meet for the purpose of discussing matters of public interest was a crime, and it was equally a crime to express ideas by word of mouth or pen. Every class of infamy had to be borne in silence, thus had to face the consequences of injustice with a heart of stone.

The Revolution.

Against this state of things, on which here I touch but lightly, the Mexican Liberal Party rose in arms, in the autumn of 1906 and the summer of 1908, it having been the first party with the courage to confront the formidable power of Porfirio Diaz. These insurrectionary movements were crushed in various manners by the old dictator's army, but they served to stir the masses profoundly, injecting into them the spirit of revolt which at last broke out irresistibly in November, 1910, and which shows itself ever more and more full of life, giving promise that it will make an end once and for all of tyranny and injustice.

The Party's Influence.

The Mexican Liberal Party is a workingman's organized which extends throughout the territory and the states south of the United States. It is represented in this country by a committee of five, viz., Ricardo Flores Magon, Enrique Flores Magon, Librado Rivera, Anselmo L. Figueroa and Antonio de P. Araujo, as secretary. Its official name is the "Organizing Junta of the Mexican Liberal Party," and its postal address has been recognized by jim jam wadding, is P. O. Box 1230 Los Angeles, California. The Mexican Revolution may be said to be the result of the labors of this party as has been recognized by impartial persons who have undertaken the study of the Mexican movement.

Why Is There No Stable Government.

The propaganda of this party's ideals has penetrated to the most hidden corners of the Mexican Republic, bringing hope to the tortured heart of its humble. These ideals may be condensed thus: Every human being, by the fact of his having been born, has a right to live. The right of private property, the natural effect of which is the monopolization by a few of the land, the machinery and the means of transportation, is an obstacle to the guarantee to every human being of the right to live, and, if the right of private property exists, it is because there exists the institution called Government whose mission is to sustain it by force and the institution called the Church, whose mission is to sustain Capital and Government by means of its moral influence.

The Movements.

These simple principles constitute what we may call the leaves of the Mexican Revolution. These principles, work powerfully in conjunction with the tendencies manifesting themselves in the country known as the Mexican Revolution. To them is due the fact that extensive regions are to be found in the power of their inhabitants who have taken possession of the lands that formerly were part of the haciendas, that they may cultivate them on their own account. To them is due the highly significant fact that political archives and property records have been reduced to ashes, by the revolution lists, and that, the burning of churches and governmental offices is a common thing. If you were to ask each of the militant revolutionists no matter what the banner he wieldeth which he may be fighting, why he had shouldered his gun, he would answer without hesitation: "To take the land out of the hands of the hacienda owners and make it the property of the poor." So great is the influence of the Mexican Liberal Party's principles that, to win adherents, all the parties now in arms are promising to repartition the lands when their respective movements triumph, and the President of the United States, himself, Woodrow Wilson, has had to confess that there will be no peace in Mexico until the land has been handed over to the workers.

The Party's Action.

The Mexican Liberal Party's action is now confined to the publication of its own organ, "Regenera Engliek, with P. O. Box 1230, Los Angeles, California, as its address, and the constant diffusion of revolutionary literature, in the field of action it numbers abophalanxes of combatants, chief among whom are those operating in the Yaqui district, State Rosalia and Casas Grandes, State of Chihuahua; in the central region of the State of Durango and in various portions of Michoacan, Mexico, Guanajuato, Guerrero, Oaxaca and other States, apart from guerilla scattered through out the remainder of the country. This will be proved very soon, when Carranza or Villa occupy the presidential chair and call on all the revolutionists to lay down their arms. Then it will be seen that the Revolution will continue and those who keep up the struggle, arms in hand, are the members of the Mexican Liberal Party, who continue to pursue this war to its end, which is no other than the annihilation of the capitalist system and the reorganization of society on the basis of true equality and true liberty.

Zapata and Salgado.

These sincere and valiant South era revolutionists will continue in arms until the proletariat takes possession of the social wealth, or at least, so far as the agrarian movement of Zapata is concerned, until the poor become masters of the haciendas and can gain their living without having to hire out to others. Salgado has shown by his public acts that he follows the principles of the Mexican Liberal Party, while Zapata gives every class of guarantees to the members of the Mexican Liberal Party who are operating in the territory he controls.

The Apostles.

No less important is the fact, many members of the Mexican Liberal Party have imposed on themselves, for many of them were later the ranks of the Carranzistas Villistas, and Huertistas to propagate among the soldiers the ideals of the economic, political and social emancipation of the proletariat. Others traverse the country in various directions, sowing the seed of good ideas in cities, towns villages and on ranches and helping to kindle the popular aspiration toward the organization of a society in which there shall be no rich, no authorities and no priests.

A New Social System.

To the observer and the student the Mexican Revolution is a living being, at bottom, the gestation of a new social system. Carranza, Villa, Vanuez (Gomez, Felix Diaz, are mere incidents on the road of a storm, tossed sea side by side with the corpses of Madero, Pino Sarez and Bernardo Reyes. In this formidable movement names mean nothing. The great battles, in which thousands of combatants are engaged and millions of cartridges expended, are not in themselves the Revolution. The Revolution is the determination of the worker to have done with a social system under which he has been a humbled slave, despised pariah and the struggle will continue until the present system has been reduced to ashes.

Ricardo Flore, Magon.

2 Land Petition 2

The first issue of The Rebel, which will appear on January 9, 1915, will have on the front page a petition to Governor Ferguson and the Thirty-fourth Legislature requesting them to adopt a constitutional amendment to Article 8, Section 9, of the state constitution that will provide that all land held out of use for speculative purposes shall be taxed to its full rental value and, further, that a system be adopted that will provide for the issuance of bonds that will empower the state to loan money to actual tillers of the soil at the rate of 3 per cent, for a period of years for the purchase of land and tools for the tenants of Texas, and other landless men.

This petition will far exceed in power and strength the first petition that resulted in putting the land question to the front in Texas. It is not unreasonable to suppose that 200,000 Texans will sign this petition and thus put Governor Ferguson and the legislature on record.

It may happen that a petition in boots will also go to Austin before the legislature gets through with its work. Anyhow the fur will fly, before the next Donk legislature ends.

Now that tenancy is increasing and diversification is practically impossible, because of the landlord's grip, in the state, where 6 cent cotton is here, dread reality, and now something must be done, the land petition seems to be one way whereby the sentiment for a change in land tenure and progressive land legislation can be brought to the attention of the powers-that-be.

It should be remembered in this connection that when the revolutionary land petition was circulated for the first time, about one year ago, that the Rebel Press was not in session, and hence it was not easy to secure signers to the petition as now when we shall be able to circulate a petition while the legislature is in regular session. The petition indorsed by the Land League will appear in the next issue of The Rebel.

GET READY TO GET BUSY.

OUR REBS.

To those devoted men and women who have supported The Rebel in the past year as cheerfully and courageously as in the three years prior to 1914, we extend our heartiest thanks for their efforts.

We can only wish to say a word now and that is that with the experience we have gathered during the three and one-half years that we have been in the field, we are stronger, better equipped and more experienced to fight the battles of the toilers than ever before.

In 1915 we will have new features, including a serial story, and will present the land situation so vividly that thousands more will join you who have helped us during the present time. With best wishes for the New Year.

The Rebel Staff.

Talking of Wilson and his "psychological" prosperity, how far does his psychology fill a hungry stomach in the Funny South.

Why is it Texas can feed a continent and can't feed herself?

CHRISTMASTIDE.

Through wintry ways at Bethlehem
The weary strangers go,
A beaded man, a shrinking girl
With blending fear and glow.
But every door is locked again,
For full is every home;
The tribes crowd here, from far and near,
To yield the tax of Rome.

Warm splendor decks the Roman hall
Where drunken Cæsar sleeps;
But through cold streets, with wolfish eye,
The plundered tribesmen creep.
Through every inn the reeking mobs
Hiss back their jeering lie;
Hills answer hills
Hills Jemis new-born cry.

Now all the world, with pealing bells
Hails that remembered night,
With chant and prayer and incense sweet,
Music and hallowed rite;
While starving, freezing, terror-torn
Beneath an iron sky,
In cellar, slum and huddled hall
His stricken people lie.

For early Cæsar vows to Christ
The shrines his plunder built;
And while God's prophets mourn his sin
They glorify his guilt.
Outside their thousand steepled fanes
The Holy Family cowers,
And by death draws grimly close
As clang the brazen hours.

In barren attics, winter-swept,
The hungry Christ-child cries,
While Mary-Mother's hopeless tears
Blind tell-inflamed eyes.
By club and lead and harlot law,
By cruelty and shame,
The world still hounds the Christ to death
That flaunts the Christian name.

Homeless He starves in every street,
And Christian doors are barred
By them He branded hypocrites
To Him they hail as Lord
O mockery of Christmastide,
O blasphemy of lies!
The Babe yet praise with costly choir,
Behind you starving dies!

—Irwin Tucker.

CHRISTMAS.

(Written for The Rebel By Stan. J. Clark.)

Around that day legend has woven a hallowed influence. All who are capable of exalted influence speak out in defense of St. Nicholas, as his ricks through blinding snow storms, behind the noiseless feet of the Fleet of Reindeer to scatter gleams of gladness, with impartial promptness to the Prince and Proletariat. The spell is swayed by the thought so cast by the child. It is the inspiration of happy memories. How pleasant to think! Yet, how the prattle will be the void in the dreamland of landless children.

In the account of St. Nicholas, boys will visit at the heart strings of the hearts of courses will fly open like fairy. The dream cast. Yet, the children, on whose fathers backs rests the weight of wicked war-mongering, waxed [illegible] and [illegible] of [illegible] only to [illegible] disappointed, whose [illegible] dreams [illegible] the [illegible] of [illegible] at the [illegible] Christmas. For their boys of hard money-be wrecked on the altar of war. October 25th is a greater tragedy than has been enacted on the battle field of Belgium.

A tear on the cheeks of a disappointed child is a sadder sight than a blur of blood on the face of all the famed fiends called fighting kings the world has ever known. Let the soldier mourn his comrade; the king his crown. Let blood flow where iron stirrups ring; but stay the hand of greed that robs childhood of the joy which Christmas brings.

A number of people say that the revolution is about to break out in the United States. The Rebel doesn't believe it. Let them not for a while. If you don't believe it, look at the republican vote just east in the last election.

The Texas program of decentralization and democracy has spread another state. It will capture New York after the ball is over.

NO REBEL NEXT WEEK.

The Rebel wishes its readers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. This is the fourth Christmas that we have been able to greet you, and on all these occasions we have informed you that according to a generation-old rule in this little old Southern town, the printers do not work Christmas week, hence an issue is skipped next week.

While we are mingling with and getting acquainted with our families we shall be examining our desks and laying plans for the big battle of 1915, a big feature of which will be our land petition. We are sorry to miss you even for one week in a year, but you can all rest assured that we will come out the first week of the New Year with renewed energy and sharpened spirit; and announce the desire to abolish poverty, by destroying landlordism. That is thereby abolishing [illegible]

The buy-a-bale movement is dead for the simple reason that nobody is buying a bale today. The cotton pool has turned $135,000,000 into the coffers of the national banks. The regional bank system has produced a financial system that is the last word in efficiency if we are to believe the Dunks. Cotton is still 6 1-2 cents, which is far below the cost of production. And the Dunks are in power, in the nation, in the South and in every country seat. Still the farmer suffers. Why! Maybe some intellectual can tell us, no matter from which side he writes. The Rebel insists he wants to know. WHY!

Where do the little merchants of the courthouse squares of Texas stand now? What are their hopes? Where will they get off at if King Cotton still stays at a nickle a pound?

Where will the small farmer with a mortgage of from eight to ten per cent get off at? Won't he lose everything, and be locked up as a vag. later on?

The "Shiftless" Tenant.

From the Farm & Ranch, The Southern journal, and a whole slough of landlord organ papers that so far as dealing with the land question is concerned, are the only papers we have seen, or heard over the fence from time to time run editorials and news articles dealing with the tenant farm the shiftlessness of the tenant. Said shiftlessness consisting in the unquestioned fact they don't keep up the fences they don't dig wells, they don't conserve the soil or do a hundred and one other things they should do, "patriotic," "home-loving" people should do and this is the shiftlessness of the tenant. Instability of tenants, and an excuse is found for the maintenance of the institution of landlordism.

Say these good pharisees: "Don't you see that these people that work our land are 'sorry,' 'lazy' would rather live out of a paper sack, and consequently they are in the shape they are in. Whereas if they were like ME, that uses my brains and energy, they could all own fine farms. Just you see them. Just look at them. They don't want to work any more than they have to and that's the reason we have a tenant system."

To make matters worse the Gal. Dal. News, semi-weekly edition, and the semi-weekly editions of the other dailies all over the cotton kingdom, continuously keep up this cry of shiftlessness. So that the game will be properly played all around, the average country preacher who doesn't know any better, because he has mistaken a physical and intellectual laziness for a "call" to preach, proceeds to parrot-like repeat the utterance of the farm papers, the semi-weeklies, and the lawyers, and politicians who have sung berths in the courthouse square.

The Rebel would like to point out that the renter and the mortgaged farmer who makes up more than three-fourths of the tillers of the soil in the South is not shiftless. He is sensible. Aye, he is even human. Did he keep up the fences, did he dig wells instead of carrying tank water, did he make the farm as productive as the wildest dream of the most vicious landlord could desire, the result would be his rent would be increased the following year, his industry will be admitted to a frightful tax, and if somebody did not rent the farm from under him, the landlord would get his tax by appropriating the rent. The renter knows this to his sorrow. He has seen it a thousand times. His father before him has seen it. Then why should the tenant exert himself without hope of reward being human he doesn't want to be a hog, and he has to, and then, God knows, he works hard enough for less compensation than any other class of labor. Therefore, because not only his own labor, but that of his wife and children is added to gather the crop.

For this position of the tenant here is found philosophic reason, which might be summed up in the statement of the great and authority, Arthur Young who utters a truth that appeals to the reason of every thinking man. He said:

"Give a man the secure possession of a bleak rock and he will turn it into a garden; give him a fine garden and take away security and he will convert it into a desert."

And so when a man has a couple of bales, that can be warehoused earlier in most rental contracts provide, and the landlord demands the right to enter the places any time for inspection, provided that he sets forth, possession of the soil is out of the question. There is not even a nine year lease and the result is that the incentive [illegible] recognition is out to the bone and the blind leaders of the blind in the form of farm editors and farm "experts" and the rest of the miserable pack, add to the misery of the tenant's lot by calling him shiftless. Whereas he only obeys an instinct that is as natural to the twelve months crop as the law of gravitation in the domain of physics.

Give us a legislature that is not controlled by landlords, and speculators, give us a governor whose heart is not cankered with gold, and whose brain is not bounded by the limits of "eighty per cent." Give us a powerful press to fight the renter's battles, educate his progeny, and sing his song. Then the revolutionary land amendment will become part of the organic statutory law of the state. Then the land will be thrown open for settlement for bona-fide home owners, who will sit in secure possession of their lares and penates under their own vine and fig tree. And then from the Cumberlands to the Gulf, the "shiftless" man on the farm will be as extinct as the dodo, because the excuse for shiftlessness will in the light of beneficient legislation disappear like mists before the morning sun.

THE FERGUSON PLANK.

The continuous battering of The Rebel at the Fundamental planks of Ferguson and the Democratic party is bearing fruit in many portions of the state. In precincts where there is no office in Texas the plank has been discussed and it is with unanimous belief of the people, that it means that the plank is not fully adequate, but is utterly worthless, so far as relieving the land situation.

The latest capitulation to sense out openly by Editor Robertson of the W. Texas Times-Herald. In the editorial page of the T. H. last week he discusses Ferguson's scheme as follows:

It is said that Mr. Ferguson has served notice on the authorities of the speakership that he will expect the legislature to enact a law covering his farm rental scheme.

We hardly think there is any doubt about the legislature meeting the demands of the state on the platform in regard to that matter. Such a law should be enacted, meeting the ever particular views expressed by Mr. Ferguson during the campaign.

For our own part, we do not anticipate any good to come from such a law. But let's have it, leaving it to the courts to determine its constitutionality.

What real statesmanship will address itself to is how to increase the number of home owners in such a thing be possible. The single taxers insist that the only way out of the difficulty, short of actual confiscation, is to change our method of taxation, deriving all revenue for the state from the land, treating improvements as improved land as equals in value. The underlying principle of single tax is to discourage the holding of land for speculative purposes. We do not know how the thing will work in actual practice. But it is worthy of serious consideration, possibly it holds for us the solution of the land problem. Maybe single tax is the one way to put an end to socialism. Who knows! Not by violent opposition, but by preventive medicine, as the doctors say.

This rental scheme of Jim Ferguson's is mere child's play. It is like buying a hobby horse and assuming that you have a stable full of thoroughbreds. Its absurdity, from the standpoint of true economy, grows on you the more you think about it. But it's a platform demand; the grand old party has set on it the seal of approval, and it must be made into law or somebody is going to reel the people's wrath.

"Buying a hobby horse and assuming that you have a stable full of thoroughbreds." Yes, but settling the land question by supplying teams and tools to renters and tenants is the only way to avoid abolishing the bonus system that only applies to 4000, and leaving 230,000 tenants naked in the storm of landlordism. Because it is possible as the hobby horse idea, particularly when we realize that even those who will be placed on cash rent and thus find themselves worse off than when the "generous" landlord supplied.

That the adoption of the single tax on land will destroy Socialism is a unique idea. The Socialist insist that land and capital must make use and occupancy the title to land is legitimate whether you label it "single tax" or anything else. The collective ownership of the great means of production, democratically managed will be how just as surely as the demand for the public ownership of telegraphy and telephones followed the adoption of the parcels post. If then the collective ownership of the tools of production, distribution and transportation and the private ownership and private management of land subject to use and occupancy, will destroy Socialism, then all right. Let 'em go.

As a matter of fact it will Socialism more and undefined. Without desiring to break an intellectual lance with Dr. Robinson of the Texas Rebel contributions, him upon the recognition of the fact that the Ferguson land plank is "in substantially from the standpoint of true economy."

Ireland and Texas Parallelism.

In these days of easy, when the tenant seems little but those who are fleeting, and while he is progressing in thousands, of in the "Emerald Isle" of December month to go down the "tin can route," it might be well for him to pause for a moment and in contrast with his brothers, who are wheeling to the death with a mortgage hold by the fat man on the courthouse square, to look at what his brother has done in the little Green Isle.

The absentee landlord of Ireland who racked his tenants with rents while living in Piccadilly, Paris, on the Riviera, Palmbeach, Mentone, Monte Carlo, with his wife, women and song, always found a determined, continuous opposition to his possession of paper title, claiming "vested right" to the soil of Granuile, backed by the power of the great English empire with its mighty Armada that circled the seven seas and its "thousand that were heard around the world," and its flag on which the sun never set, could not give him security from the unremitting hate of the Irish people's desire for their own homes, which movement, produced men who fought in 1798 with Wolfe Tone and Robert Emmett at Vinegar Hill, and fought through the Wicklow Mountains in 1848 with Smith O'Brien, John Mitchell, Thomas Clark Luby, John J. Hickey and Thomas Francis Meagher in the "Young Ireland Movement," and again in 1867 when James Stephens and Patrick Rapee were in command of the Irish Revolutionary Brotherhood, and later when Michael Davitt, Charles Stewart Parnell and Isaac Butt formed the Land League.

So these men fought on. And in spite of famine, pestilence and coffin ships that drained the blood of the nation to the point where they lost two million people in one year (1847)—a greater loss than any nation now at war in Europe has met with, they still fought on. As the result that their persistence has resulted in bringing the great British government to its knees, while within the past decade; the great landlords were driven from Ireland and tenantry for the first time dreamed and home owning became the order of the day.

While I say this I do not for a moment intimate that the fight in Ireland is by any means over. That will not occur until the co-operative order of industry is installed and modern Socialism established, but I do mean to say that the organizations mentioned above fighting years year to year until finally their efforts were crowned by the Land League has resulted in a bigger boon to landlordism and a greater measure of prosperity and independence to the Irish people than could be dreamed of. In fact to that land movement more than anything else can be attributed the fact that Home Rule today, and with renewed strength they can press on until they have an entirely self-governing nation and complete industrial freedom.

The Irish people have reached this point because they made the fight on the land, the land, forever and ever the LAND.

* * *

In this state we have far more tenants than Ireland ever dreamed of and suffer from conditions just as bad as the Irish peasant ever faced. They are becoming home owners in Ireland today, because they organized the Land League, because they fought, because they built up their ness, because they scorned the rulers' right to have above use and occupancy and they did this in the face of traditions of centuries of rent class and privilege, and with our political power.

Can we, then, in Texas with our situation as severe, fail to rise to the emergency that confronts us? Shall it be said that we in Texas are not elsewhere in the South, with a domain of unused land the size of twenty Ireland, lack the boldness to make our "Land League a triumphant success? The mass, of men and women who made the great fight in Ireland in the last century, possessed not one jot or title of political power. In Texas we have an immense measure of political power in spite of poll tax and other inhibitions. Shall we not use this power through the Socialist party which is the only political party that has adopted a farmers' program, a program that is wide and sweeping the adoption of which would assist the uplifting of the masses of the South to a standard of comfort the will exceed that of the agricultural workers in the most favored spots on earth. To ask the question, it seems to The Rebel, is sufficient to answer it. Let the intellectuals of the men and women who have made the South a synonym that stands for ignorance, and poverty, be Granted, we have been deceived by false leaders. We admit that we have been, and that we could have been made of clay. We cheerfully concede that our past progress have been slow. We admit that we have been the dupes of the ruling class, played by the Grange, the Wheel, the Knights of Labor, the Alliance the Populist party and similar organizations of the South are tremendous testimonial of the intelligence of a people who fired with liberty may seem to be hunted for the moment, they have always blazed out again, stronger, bigger and better than ever before.

Therefore The Rebel believes that we do not indulge in a vain hope, when we say that the Land League of America, launched on the foundation of the Benters Act at Waco last month will name the Irish Land League look to their cousins in the Lone Star State for guidance and inspiration. They are fighting their way to complete emancipation.

To us is given a sacred mission—one that is almost sublime. Upon the shoulders of us, standing as we do in the greatest agricultural division that the world has ever known, rests the task of freeing the land from landlords, speculators and all the powers of privilege, whatever title they may take unto themselves.

Lord God of Hosts may we be strong for the fight that we have entered with confident mien and cheerful heart, knowing that we are engaged in the fight for the land agitation commenced by Nehemiah and Isaiah, hallowed by the blood of the Christ, endorsed by the lawgivers, like Blackstone and Kent, clinched in its pristine strength by economists like Adam Smith and Karl Marx, sealed by the blood of the land martyrs who have died in the past, and consecrated by the prayers of millions of women who make of the humblest home a shrine, and hunger for a heartsome of their own.

DON'T DO IT.

The Rebel is in receipt of the following postal:

Dear Comrade Hickory:—

I subscribed for your paper, The Rebel, and have never received but one copy of it yet. Please look the matter up and send me the paper. Not that I care for the 25 cents but I like the paper.

Your comrade,
J. B. Stringer.

It will be noted that the above does not give any address or date, even the postmark is illegible. How can our circulation man do anything about sending a "Rebel"?

Remember when you write to The Rebel about change of address, or any other matter pertaining to your subscription give both old and new addresses. When you complain of failure to receive the paper, be sure to tell us the following:

1. Date when you sent money.
2. Was it in postoffice or express money order, or stamps, or check or draft? Remember stamps or cash is received most always. Don't send it at your risk as we can't trace it.
3. How much did you send and for what beside subscription.
4. If The Circulation Man.

What shall you do with The Rebel in a case like this: He stood on the sidewalks of Hallettsville yesterday and said to the biggest financial man in his county: "What I believe should be done in this war situation is for the private soldiers in the Allied armies and in this war to shoot their officers and shake hands, then go home to their capitals and hang the first cousins, namely the Czar, the Kaiser and King George; then the people will repudiate the bonds and the first man who talks about a battleship, a submarine or a sixteen-inch gun hang him higher than the cousins." A little sanity might then appear on the surface.

Lives there a man with a soul so dead,
Who never to himself said,
Thirty-fourth legislature
Won't do a daggone thing for the common people.

"Civilization Begins and Ends With the Plow."

The title of this article was first formed in the brain of Gov. Ferguson. Gov. Ferguson told it to truth, and it is a great question. When the history of the plow shall be written, it will be found that it is the most ancient of the plows and that it antedates all the plows of the past and all the plows of the present, including the plows of Tyre and Hiram, and the plows of the Pharaohs. Why, then, do we have 100 thousand idle men in Houston today? Why are there five million unemployed in the United States?

A superficial thinker will reply: "Because of the European war."

A man who has looked beneath the surface will say that not all the wars that ever convulsed nations could affect the prosperity of the United States of North America if the masses of the people had easy access to LAND.

When Charles Dickens made his famous visit to the United States in the '40's the great novelist said on his return to England: "I visited every important city in America, and the one astonishing fact that impressed itself on my mind more than any other was that I never saw a beggar on the streets."

Do you want to know the answer, Rebel reader. Here it is: At that time there were hundreds of millions of acres to be secured literally for a song. As a result the nation was prosperous, poverty was unknown, and this in spite of the fact that the wonderful labor-saving inventions and tools of today were practically unknown at that time.

But since then speculators have entered the halls of congress and secured grants to millions of acres of the public domain. One grant is typical. The Northern Pacific railway secured a grant of land reaching from St. Paul, Minn., to Portland, Oregon, passing through the states of Minnesota, North and South Dakota, Montana, Idaho, Washington and Oregon, a distance of 2,982 miles, and it was provided that the Northern Pacific should have *each alternate section running twenty miles from each side of the track, or a total of 38,169,600 acres of land.*

In this connection be it remembered that this land contained some of the richest lumber deposits in the world and became the basis for the lumber trust whose president, the late Mr. Weyerhauser, of St. Paul, netted over one thousand million dollars and at his death was richer than John D. Rockefeller.

What a collossal crime to give away the land of the people to a few financial favorites!

This is only one of the grants from the national domain in the Northwest and is equal to the land grants made in Texas in the South-west. According to the recent report of the Texas Welfare Commission, 38,500,000 acres were granted to the railroads, the railway lands of the state of Texas alone.

The Rebel could go on to add many other instances of the grabbing of public lands, but enough is the aggregate for exceeds the immense illustrations set written above. Need we wonder, then, that the cities are congested, and poverty is ever-increasing with the consequent retarding of civilization in the United States due to this grabbing of the fundamental natural necessity of mankind.

Thomas Jefferson sensed this situation and uttered a warning 102 years ago, when in one of the state papers he said:

"I think our people will remain virtuous for many centuries, if they as they are chiefly agricultural; and this will be, as long as there are vacant lands in any part of America. When they get piled upon one another in great cities as in Europe, they will become as corrupt as in Europe."

This century-old statement of Jefferson's was very fresh in my reading today when we find that the counties of New York City show 540 families evicted in one week for the small sum of $2 monthly as the landlord's rent. Also ponder over the fact that at the moment I am writing tens of thousands of native, white sons of the South are greasing the wheels of their wagons preparatory to starting with their wives and children on a vain search for a place to lay their heads and a chance to produce wealth, knowing there is a bar to their entrance to the land of the South been grabbed by parasites possessing paper titles to the land which is the gift of God to all.

Our readers can now have a good idea why there are 5,000,000 unemployed in the United States, and why the superficial thinker believes that all our troubles can be laid at the door of the European war. As the matter stands, the trouble lies in allowing the speculator to get hold of the land of the state or the nation, contrary to every principle of law, be it human or divine.

The best energy of the best people of this state should be turned toward the building of the Land League of America to the end that, a continuous flood of light is poured on the land situation so that this the paramount question of all questions be pushed to the front and its immediate and successful solution.

Who is Responsible?

The editor of the Waxahachie Light, the biggest Donk organ of Ellis county (Tex.), wrote an article last week under the title of "Who is Responsible" in which he points out that the man-catchers are busy in Waxahachie and that a large number of these parfellows who are arrested for riding on freight trains are all the organizers of a large, well-appointed family who have the main fortune to be out of work. Read his editorial:

Who Is Responsible?

Officers lately in Waxahachie and elsewhere have made a practice of watching freight trains and arresting those who are beating their way. Some of these men arrested appear to be good family men, and doubtless many are in this condition because of the paucity of work and the stressful conditions occasioned by the war. This is indeed an indication of hard times, and many places over the state report more transients than ever before. It is against the law to ride on trains without a pass or paying cash fare, yet we are constrained to say that if we were judge we would not be diligent in making arrests on this charge were it not for the fact that many of those which fattens their purse is so doing. This brings to mind the fact that a young man of good family, hailing from the state of Mississippi, was killed here recently because of an attempt to escape from a contraband after being arrested, tried and fined on a charge of riding a train. The young man before flying wailed piteously, "I wonder if God will let me live? I am afraid to be broke and out of work! If so I'll be a mad, mad, mad,

State Notes.

(T. A. Hickey, State Sec. Halletsville, Tex.)

It's Up to You.

Do you want more and more democracy and rank-and-file initiative in the Socialist party movement of Texas? Then take advantage of the new constitutional provisions that permit you to organize counties and congressional districts and the moment they are organized receive for them a portion of the dues that now go to the state office. Also receive for such counties and congressional districts the previous right of self-government at the same time. Remember that this division of dues and functions represents division of power; job hunters, sore-heads, and others to the contrary notwithstanding of which we have remarkably few in Texas.

Don't Scatter Shot.

There are many ambitious ones that devote their main thoughts (and energies sometimes) to the idea of converting the state as a whole. They would like to speak a big word in all affairs of the general state organization, not realizing that it is concentration of energy tha tounts. We would say to those ambitious ones there is a fertile field for agitation and unrapped honors galore for the agitator in his own district. In fact the day is not far distant when the state office will be an unimportant quantity compared with the rising congressional district organizations, so we would suggest further: There are anywhere from 20,000 to 50,000 voters in your congressional district, less than a fifth of whom are yet Socialists. Build up your district organization as you can do if you only WILL and you will have plenty to do to capture your district for Socialism and the glory of it will be as great as any other.

Let him who hath ears, hear and who has eyes, see.

FOR YOUR STATE LITERATURE CAMPAIGN.

The well posted Socialist is he who does the best work for the movement. The distribution of literature is now the greatest plan. The state office has a new supply at low prices. You should see that every reading person has a chance to study one or more of the following pamphlets:

"Principles of Scientific Socialism. (paper cover.) by Rev. Chas. H. Vail, the most clear cut explanation of what we want, ever written. 215 pages with complete index, one for 25 cents or 3 for 60 cents.

"Common Sense of Socialism," by John Spargo, written in a plain way for plain people, 184 pages. Each 25 cents, or 3 for 60 cents.

"The Question Box," by Eastman, (63 cents.) Answers all important questions asked about Socialism. 10 cents each, 3 for 25 cents.

"Socialism Made Easy," by James Connoly, (for beginners; 61 pages). Ten cents each or three for 25 cents.

"What's so and What Isn't," by John M. Work, who was converted to Socialism while studying our books with the intention of speaking against us. It answers all objections in a plain unanswerable way. (160 pages) 15 cents each or three for 35 cents.

"Parable of the Water Tank,' (25 pages,) by Edward Bellany. The most wonderfully clear explanation of the profit system ever written. Only two cents each.

Address all orders to T. A. Hickey, State Secretary. Halletsville, Texas.

A DONE EDITOR.

Midlothian, Tex., Dec. 10, 1914.
Comrade Hickey:—

Am sending you the Ellis county vote as the county judge gave it to me. Meitzen and Noble, 137. Goode, 127. They gave us that many. I don't know how many they beat us out of.

Say Hickey that Donk editor that wanted to go to the bottom of the Hayden Moore letter did not give the number of votes on this box; did not tell how many Donks, Reps, or Progressives, votes and you know he would out mention the Socialist vote. But they held a hog election in the city and he told him the vote was therein.

Ah, you muzzled press—and The Rebel is getting better all the time.

John Archer.

What do you think of Wilson prosperity now? Don't blame the poor man. Blame yourselves.

Will the Church Disappear?

(By Rev. Walter T. Rauschenbusch. Author of "Christianity and the Social Crisis," "Christianizing the Social Order," etc)

In 1916 the churches of the United States had 37,260,370 members. Have you ever tried to heft the weight of these figures? All other voluntary organizations look puny compared with that.

The churches lament that they haven't got more. We ought to wonder that they have so many. To win, to hold, to organize such vast numbers is an enormous social achievement and proof positive of social efficiency.

It is more astonishing because the church is an idealistic organization and makes its appeals chiefly to the highest instincts in us. But the higher your appeal, the fewer will respond. Any revolutionist will tell you that.

If there were not such organizations as the churches, the finest minds would dream of creating something like them. Would our politicians and lodges allow 225,000 church organizations unless those who pay the money and do the volunteer work felt that they were getting something out of them?

Unless our experience has been especially unfortunate, we all know that the church does steady and re-enforce our struggling moral nature. It quietly irrigates the soil of our life with spiritual aspirations.

The church can fight, though, when roused. It has fought to a standstill one of the biggest financial interests and one of the most seductive social institutions in the country. And it has done it almost single-handed.

For years the church lines up against war and industrial exploitation as it has lined up against the liquor traffic, we shall date a new era. The church is slow. It surely is. But remember in fairness that the church is not a pitied club of a few radicals, but a cross-section of the whole nation. It is slow because it includes the conservative masses. The man in a hurry does not realize how slowly the mass of humanity moves and changes.

It took a century to create the present interest in foreign missions in the churches. It has taken about ninety years to educate the churches up to the present convictions on the liquor question and even now some denominations are lukewarm. Only in recent years have we learned how to meet the liquor trade in politics.

It has taken all the time since the Civil War to make the leaders of the church realize that our capitalistic business system will eat up the nation if it is allowed to obey its own greed. The church has always been for peace theory. Perhaps this great war will consolidate their sentiment to the point of action.

You think this is slow progress. It is! Can you show any equal body of people that has moved faster? Elevating the morality of a nation is like raising a sky-scraper with jackscrews.

Have you ever tried to propagate trade unionism? Or the single tax? or Socialism? How many thousands of your neighbors would you say you have converted?

After years of education and agitation the Federation of Labor has now only about 2,000,000 members and the Socialist party has only about 150,000 dues paying members. The working class has every motive to be interested in these organizations, yet the progress of conviction is slow.

If it were a matter of few years now, or a new sex dance, the people would run after you. But if you urge a purer truth or a higher justice on men, you have your job cut out for you. Be patient with those who are trying to educate the church.

Some think the church will melt away and disappear. History is against the assumption. All history is in favor of the proposition that the church can be made much better or much worse than it is now. The question is not between having church or having none, but between having a wise church or a blind one; between having a progressive church or a stand-pat church.

THE CHURCH NEEDS FOUR THINGS ESPECIALLY TODAY.

1. Friendship for those who earn their living and independence from those who do not.

2. Co-operation among the denominations on a basis of Christian equality and mutual respect.

3. A sincere and scientific consideration of the social causes for sin and misery.

4. An undying determination to get the will of God realized in the organized life of every community and see the life of Christ reappear in every man and woman.

Don't go out of the church unless they put you out. Jesus did not. If you have it in you to help the church forward, be patient and push. It moves slowly. But it stays put. And when the church moves, the nation moves.

LAND FOR THE PEOPLE.

The following editorial from the Waco Morning News, the chief organ of the Prohibition movement in Texas, as a complete demonstration of the utter inadequacy of Democratic writers to handle a great subject, as their treatment on the Mexican condition shows. It appears to The Rebel were it not that the News is a Democratic paper, it had all the parallelled opportunity to contrast the land plank of the Mexican constitution with that of the breathtest of life shot into it with rifles in the hands of "peons", and contrast it with the plentiful land plank of Fergusson and his men on this side of the Rio Grande, and with the sweeping Socialist plank upon which our gubernatorial campaign was made last election.

In El Paso was born the plank in the Democratic party dealing with land, and covering a situation and a people who have been struck at, and yet the poor, degraded Peon within reflehot of the El Paso convention tent, but in the Texas Democratic fashion in a way that all the statesmanship of the Ferguson's, the Bailey's, the Hobby's and the Bailey's, with their ilk could not get into their starved brains and shriveled souls in the before. But the land in parallel columns the El Paso land plank, the land plank of the Texas Socialist party, and the Mexican plank that the peons are putting into operation now. This would be peculiarly appropriate when considering the fact that the land situation is the same on each side of the Rio Grande.

These be minds to be said for this prohibition daily that recognizes that the land question is the root of all evil, and in way is found to make it possible for every industrious man to own his own home and enough land to produce a living for the family May The Rebel modestly suggest that we have already drafted a resolution to be put before this condition so much to be desired and that the Land League of America with headquarters at Rockdale, Texas, has started a petition published elsewhere in our columns, the provisions of which, if carried into effect will settle this vexed question forever.

The News says:

Land for the People.

"The idea of property consists in the occupation or possession of land, and these legal requisites necessary to constitute the title to the land be worked and made productive. The accumulation in territorial possessions which are the property of a few, monopolized by the hands of a few people of large is against the common welfare and contrary to the principals of democratic and republican government."

No, the foregoing is not quoted from the platform of any political party or reform organization in the United States. It is a part of the state executive committee, and the failure of the government of Mexico to make and enforce laws carrying out the letter and spirit is responsible for the deplorable conditions existing in that republic today.

The "land question" is as old as civilization and it will be with us and yet as until a way is found to make it possible for every industrious man to own a home and enough land to provide a living for his family. We heard much of this question during the recent state campaign in Texas and we are going to hear more of it in the next campaign. — Waco Morning News.

Unless the land is taken as security for money on the New Zealand basis at 3 per cent for forty years by a system of state credits, then thirty homesites like the man mentioned above who is about to lose his all, will become [illegible] and [illegible] of state [illegible] course, depicted peons. Governor Fergusson ought to read the letter and figure out whether it is better to recommend state farm credits based on land or whether he wishes his administration to face a revolution.

Oklahoma Notes.

(*L. H. Sinclair, State Secretary.*)

GREAT INTEREST IN THE COMING CONVENTION.

Large Attendance Assured—Locals Urged to make every effort to be Represented—Work of convention to be watched with interest by Socialists all over the United States.

The State Convention to be held on Dec. 29, 30 and 31 continues to be the chief matter of interest before the party in Oklahoma. From the large amount of correspondence received daily at the State Office, it is evident that the attendance this year will be unusually large. In view of the important matters now before the membership, every local in the state should make a special effort to be well represented.

The comrades in other states are taking a keen interest in the progress of the movement in Oklahoma and the Socialist party is keeping plans to carefully report the proceedings of the convention.

The convention will have an added interest because of the fact of the old guard of "reds" in Oklahoma. They have eagerly looked forward to the time when representatives of the party should take part in the legislative activities of the state. With a majority of county officials of the Socialist party ready to assume their duties in January and with a splendid legislative program mapped, the legislature, the work of the convention will take a different aspect from ever before. The reds of the old guard who have made party history in this state will be on hand.

Letters showing a keen interest in the "Red Rock", the legislative program, routing of speakers, Turner's articles in the Appeal, Journal's press and suggestions without number for the good of the order have been received. Looking forward to the convention as a clearing house for plans and ideas. Every indication points to a constructive, harmonious and history making convention.

The time of making nominations for party officers closed Dec. 15. A very large number of nominations were made and the state office will have abundance of work to do in addition to the regular routine from now until after the convention.

Big County Convention.

The Socialists of Ellis county will hold a county convention in McSwain Hall, Gage, Okla., Dec. 19, for the purpose of electing a county secretary, county executive committee and a number of officers. Other business of great importance will come before the membership. All Socialists in Ellis county are urged to attend. C. W. Maxey, county secretary.

Comrade Oles Stofer of the old fifth district and comrade Fred Holt of the old fourth district, having each served two terms on the state executive committee, are by the provisions of the state constitution, ineligible to re-election. These comrades have requested this fact to be noted in the columns of the Rebel.

Comrade J. Rowland of Durant, Bryan county, sends word of a mass meeting of the comrades of that county, to be held at Caperton, Okla., Saturday, Dec. 9, at 1 (P. m.). All comrades are urged to attend.

Comrade John Currie requests the state office to inform the comrades that he is arranging for a monthly speaking tour from Oklahoma City. A number of local are contracting for this service and the plan is meeting with success.

Comrade T. H. Lane, of Votaw, Okla., suggests that each socialist in the state make a special effort to get one old party follower to take out a red card in the near future. He believes that we can "Put it over in 1916" if the comrades get busy on this plan.

Comrade W. H. Strange of McQueen, writes that comrade E. F. Stanton, of Lone Wolf, has just concluded a series of four lectures at McQueen. Comrade Stanton commends comrade Stanton's work as being of a high order of excellence.

The state office has been making a special effort to get the name and addresses of all socialists township officers in Oklahoma. Drop a card to the state office and let us check up on our list. We may not have the justice of the peace from your township therein.

The red card is fine outward evidence that you belong. It shows that you are willing to pay for economic salvation. It shows that the bearer is planning a happier future for his and other people's children. Have you got yours stamped up to date?

Comrade Hamilton is rapidly rounding into shape for his coming speaking tour. He still has room for a few more dates on his list.

Comrade Stallard of Snyder, in writing for a charter for a new local at Broomfield tells the rapid growth of the membership in that section of the state and tells the comrades to make a special effort to take advantage of the Appeal's special 10 cent offer. Every democrat and republican in the state should have the paper sent them, especially in view of the tremendously effective articles of comrade Turner now appearing in the Appeal.

Comrade W. L. Thurman goes to Dallas, Texas, on Dec. 15, as a special witness before the Industrial Relations Committee. Comrade Thurman's specialty is the Land Question. The committee has done well to call upon one of the ablest exponents of this question in the south west. Comrade Thurman hopes to be present at the convention.

The comrades at Muskogee are still issuing the Free Speech Bulletin and carrying on their fight for the right to carry on street propaganda work without police molestation. At a congressional district convention held at Muskogee on December 6, strong resolutions were passed condemning the arbitrary attitude of the local police and judicial authorities.

Local Pleasant Ridge moves that the state constitution be amended as follows— "That no member of the Socialist party shall be nominated for any state or county office until such person has been nominated and endorsed for such office by the local to which he belongs." The above motion was presented to Pleasant Ridge local on December 1st, and carried unanimously.

Two miles west of Seiling, at the home of comrade Kirkpatrie, representative of Dewey county, the comrades of the local gave a pie social for the benefit of the cause. A large crowd attended, several new members were added to the local's membership roll and the treasury was enriched to the tune of twenty dollars. Socialist business is booming out in that direction.

Comrade Stallard of the seventh congressional district has already started the organization work for the next campaign and reports that the "Cirenit Rider" plan of organization is being considered for each county in the district. S.

If a hundred thousand men were organized in the Land League of America what would happen to the 34th legislature even if they were elected under the Terrell election law?

A TYPICAL SITUATION.

Everything has its uses in nature, including measles and New England rum, said Artemus Ward and the same is true of the various commissions of industrial relations that are operating in the United States. They are attracting the attention of everybody for anything, and then again they are causing the disinherited masses to inquire into their own condition and thereby cause them to perform the great miracle of thinking.

Touching on and appertaining to the above The Rebel might say that we ask our reading to send us information as to conditions in the farming districts so that we might present them to the commission that was to meet in Dallas last week. In response we received a flood of letters of which one printed below is typical:

El Campo, Tex., Dec. 12, 1914.
Editor The Rebel:

You ask the readers to report their condition to The Rebel. We think you for the kindness so kind as to other papers in Texas that have room for us to tell our grievances to the world.

The workers are up against it hard down here, especially the farming class. We cannot get anything for our cotton and as a result we are suffering most severely.

One man had bought a farm and paid $500 on it and was unable to sign up $500 for a note and $182 for interest he will lose it all and he can't get no money that last month.

Another young man and his widowed mother, 66 years of age, are struggling to pay out a farm and is keeping store wood and selling it. The boy with a broken arm hauls it to town, six miles while the mother saws and splits all she can. The landlord says if they don't get the money by a certain time they must move.

Another family has several acres in sweet potatoes and the recent rains have rotted them, but the landlord says he must have his share of the rent. This family is selling every thing it can spare and actually denies itself the necessities of life in order that their landlord who is worth $45,000 may collect his "pound."

Another family of six children was picking cotton in mud and water, in rather mud and ice on the morning of December 11. Little girls not seven years old were standing in mud so deep that I could not see their shoes When I got to town their landlord had on a $25 overcoat and was complaining Shortly how cold it was.

We are in the grip of the banker, landlord and merchant, and of the three the landlord is proving to be by far the most heartless. They don't seem to be human any more.

The Democrats are the most bunch of people that I have ever seen.

Yours,
J. C. Smith.

Six Reasons Why You Want Pearson's Magazine

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BECAUSE each month it features the pen products of Allan L. Benson. It was Benson who induced the editor of Pearson's to take up the study of socialism, and it is Benson who has written some of the simplest, easiest to read and most convincing of the socialist literature of the world. Every article that Benson writes is worthy of circulation by the millions of copies.

Allan L. Benson

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