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THE REBEL

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THE GREAT AFFAIR GREAT TO US ONLY BECAUSE WE ARE ON OUR KNEES LET US ARISE

HALLETTSVILLE, TEXAS, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER, 5, 1914.

No. 173

THE EUROPEAN WAR.

If it were not for the tragedy of it all, the Socialists might be inclined to genuine laughter when a donk greets him and says: "Well you Socialists did not stop the war in Europe. You are a nice lot of people fighting for the Kaiser and the kings." Why our risible faculties are stirred can be readily seen when we consider that the gentleman who approaches us with this remark is invariably a bitter opponent of the war, suffering as a result of the war through the low cost of products and the high cost of living and yet has voted for the war that we voted against and then blames us for not stopping that which he voted for.

It is amusing to watch the Donks cry out in anguish when the Socialists charge them with voting for the war. They seem an alibi and loudly proclaim their innocence, but all to no avail for this simple reason: Capitalism is international. The same economic law under which the seven big operated works alike in Berlin and Vienna, in Petrogad, London, San Francisco and New York. The same trinity of basic robbery rent, interest-profit works alike in all nations of the earth. The exploitation of labor through these channels causes a surplus of commodities. Foreign markets will have to be secured for the surplus; the workers are unable to buy back and navies are built and armies are organized. Mars is in the saddle. War, red in claw and fang, decimates the nations, impoverishes civilization and turns a continent into a lunatic asylum and a charnel horse. So he who votes for rent interest and profit votes for war, whether he votes for rent interest and profit in the U. S. of A. or any other nation on earth. He who votes for the abolition of rent, interest and profit; he who votes for the social ownership and democratic management of all the instruments of production that are social in their makeup votes against war and for peace.

Hence the Rebel laughs in derision at the muddled Donk who after voting for war complains to us because we have not stopped the war that the Donk has voted for.

When E. R. Meitzen concluded his speech before a large crowd of his neighbors in the Hallettsville courthouse on November 2nd, the night before election, he completed the longest canvass of the state ever made by a candidate for governor. He commenced speaking on the 27th of last May and spoke two and three times a day on an average; seven days a week with only three days off. He visited 82 counties and spoke at 51 different encampments making altogether 309 speeches. The above makes us think that who ever is commanded by the membership in 1916 will start about the 1st of March in an attempt to smash the Donk primary in July and will land in his home time just in time to see the avalanche of ballots that will place him in the State capitol, the first Socialist governor in the South.

Well, there is one thing that we can say, comrades, and that is that we put up the greatest campaign this year than of any other political party of the Lone Star State.

We notice that the business men are calling conferences in the big cities. Why shouldn't we Socialists do likewise and organize a petition with books on?

SOCIALIST CAMPAIGN WINDS UP.

From Hallettsville New Era.

Mr. E. R. Meitzen, Socialist candidate for governor, completed the longest tour ever made by a gubernatorial candidate when he returned here last Saturday morning after speaking in 82 counties since the 26th of last May making from two to three speeches a day with but four days off. Saturday afternoon he spoke at Sublime to a large open air meeting and on Sunday he addressed enthusiastic audiences at Ezzell and Koerth with the result that there will be increased Socialist votes at all these places.

We quote the following extract from Mr. Meitzen's campaign speech that will be of interest to those that failed to hear him:

"Any man with intelligence enough to come in out of the rain ought to see the lesson that has been written as with fire upon the hearts and minds of the people of Texas and the nation during the past few months. They have learned that old party leaders whom they and their fathers have so long supported with their votes, are weighed in the balance and found wanting. In this school of crisis, this threat of general starvation and bankruptcy. For instance the Democrat-controlled legislature and congress adjourns without having done anything except to saddle a few more millions of taxes on the workers, and producers of America. All requests of the cotton slaves of the south for something to stabilize the price of cotton have been answered with a kick in the face, with the result that the cotton gamblers, speculators, spinners will make a killing unexampled in history when cotton has been starved out of the hands of the producer and sold up in price. Of the farmers and those dependent on him, had backbones of angel worms they would resent the treachery and incompetence of their party machines and vote the Socialist ticket en masse Tuesday. Under Socialism we would not scrap cotton that cost 15 cents to produce this year below 7 cents and finished cotton goods higher than ever before. We would not see tobacco, raw rice, raw sugar and other products in the hands of the common people begging for a market while famished food and other products in the hands of the trusts are higher than ever before. Some people lay this situation entirely to the war but the question arises why are the raw products down so low and the finished products up so high? The answer is in this simple fact

"Step into your postoffice and ask Mr. Paulus if the war has raised the price of stamps or money orders. The answer will make you understand the advantage of the people owning all those things on which the people depend on for life or comfort, giving all farmers and wage workers the full product of their toil instead of letting a few adventurers men own these things and use them to hold up people as they please.

"Let the people not only own the postoffice, public schools, Panama canal, public roads, water and light plants etc. but the cotton, woolen, rice, flour and all other great food and clothing mills, the great mines, saw mills, quarries, oil wells, railways, steamship lines, telegraphs, telephones, and all other things now owned by the trust, also all the lands not used and occupied by the owner. However, let every person retain possession of his home or farm if he uses and occupies it. Let the people use these great means in their own interest instead of in the interest of a wealthy few. Then we will not have to suffer from starvation and exposure, or the fear thereof, because we have produced too many good things to eat or to wear, and for comfort, as is now the case. Instead the more good things we make, the more wages and higher prices the workers get and the fewer hours they work."

W. S. Noble, the Socialist nominee for lieutenant governor, spoke at Yoakum Saturday morning. Shiner Saturday afternoon Yoakum Saturday night and Ezzell and Koerth on Sunday. He visited the New Era office yesterday and left on the afternoon train to speak at Flatonia in the afternoon.

Mr. T. A. Hickey visited Sweet Home Saturday afternoon was driven to Yoakum where he took the afternoon train for Shiner and spoke from the cotton platform Saturday evening. He was driven in an auto with Mr. Noble to Yoakum where he spoke to a large audience in the open air Saturday night. He spoke in the O. K. theatre Sunday afternoon.

The campaign wound up with a rally in the Courthouse at which E. R. Meitzen spoke to the home folks.

Mr. W. T. Bagby who was nominated by the county executive committee to fill the place of his brother, A. P. Bagby, who had resigned as democratic nominee for representative, was unable to meet Mr. T. A. Hickey, the Socialist party's nominee for express station debate because, he states, he was

RENTERS' UNION.

The renters' union will meet in Waco in their fourth annual convention on November 14. Full particulars as to hall and so forth will appear in our next issue. This will be the most important convention ever held by the organized renters. Strain every nerve to be present.

The Battle of 1916.

I am writing this at 4:10 on election eve and the Rebel forms will be on the press within the next hour just before the battle of the ballots of 1914 have ended. We of the Rebel staff will sink into peaceful slumbers tonight conscious of a work well done and keenly aware of the fact that we have fought to the uttermost limit of human endurance to arouse the masses of Texas to a recognition of the slavery that menaces them now.

Tomorrow morning we shall arise, be fresh and commence anew the battle that will end on election day, 1916. Should we be fortunate enough to develop our organization in the next two years as we have within the past two years then the state capital will witness a Socialist Governor enter its portals shortly after the close of the next election.

That this is well within the bounds of reason can well be understood when we realize that no only the powerful organization that the Socialists have built up in Texas will help to bring around this consummation that we so devoutly wish for but all the forces of economic development are working to bring our victory around.

"Capitalism has broken down in Europe", is a trite statement that is generally accepted by every man and woman that possesses a grain of sense. That capitalism can in no wise help the masses of our people in the United States in general and in the south in particular is self evident when we find that the Texas legislature, in session for sixty days at a cost of $10,000 adjourned without doing anything for the miserables who suffer from six cent cotton and 10 cent sugar and this is likewise true of the national administration that has adjourned leaving the people in a slough of despond to face a winter of poverty and with bitter irony are handed a hundred million dollar war tax without relief. That the Democratic party, either state or in nation, can improve on this record as the days go by can no more be expected than that Porfirio Diaz would in the closing years of his dominion bring any measure of relief to the exploited masses of Mexico who saw fit fair to secure some measure of relief by laws written at the point of the sword and bayonet.

Between now and 1916 it is the supreme mission of the Socialist party to so build their organization that they may be able to reach with their message of deliverance the last man and woman who find the raw products sold for a song and the finished products placed out of their reach because of the control of the political machines, work for the master's welfare and for them alone.

Tomorrow the fight will start for the capture of the political power and as days and weeks and months go by we expect to enroll under our banner of social democracy the best elements in the capitalist kingdom and as they marshal under our flag determined to destroy the ruling class who has brought us to this precipice of poverty we feel assured that our brothers and sisters in the north will work as vigorously for the end that capitalism from whose loins springs bank ruptcy, starvation, ruin and war will be forever buried from the sight of the race when the last ballot is counted in 1916

LORD GOD OF HOSTS, YOU WHO HAVE SET THE STARS TO SINGING IN THE SKIES, AND WHO HEARS THE SPARROWS FALL HELP US IN THIS CRISIS. YOU KNOW THAT OUR CAUSE IS JUST.

THE STATEWIDE CONFERENCE.

Judging by the letters that have come to this office within the past few days an immense turnout of the Socialists of Texas will take place at the Statewide Conference at Waco, on Friday November 13. The Cotton Palace will be in full blast in that city and excursion rates amounting to 1 and 1-5 for the round trip can be secured on all railroads. Let every comrade who possibly can be in Waco on that day because we must confer as to ways and means to grapple with the calamity that is upon us.

FIRST RETURNS

The Rebel stops the press to insert the following partial returns.

Hallettsville.

	1914	1912
Socialist	78	32
Democrat	166	215
Republican	4	4
Progressive	5	42

102 votes yet to be counted, of which Socialists will get at least 40 or 50. Our vote in town and county will increase at least 300 per cent. Unusual number of Democrats stayed at home.

Temple (First Count.

	1914	1912
Socialist	8	
Democrat	15	

TWO KINDS OF ENCAMPMENTS.

One of the most striking developments indicating the trend of thought of the people of recent years in Texas and Oklahoma is to be seen in the change in the manner in which the agricultural population spend their leisure time. When the crops are laid by from time immemorial the people on the farms have gone to encampments that were organized by various religious denominations such Methodists, Baptists, Campbellites, Seventh day Adventists etc. Then the sweet pure mothers and their daughters would climb in the Mitchell wagon and drive 20 and 30 miles with the men to hear debates between eleven different divisions of Baptists such as Hardshell, or Primitive, Martinite, Landmark and others and debates on the question whether the Campbellites should have music in the church or hear no religious strains of music until Gabriel toots his horn, or whether baptism was good by sprinkling or immersion and so these good people would hold their discussions to the end that they would be mentally benefitted by finding the truth in clash of controversy. Then again when the debates did not occur they did not starve, for they held their protracted meeting and sang songs that went with the old time religion and then they returned refreshed to their homes, where to gather the harvest that lay waiting for them after being chased by the sun of the sunny south.

A change has come over the people's dreams, they are as religious as were their fathers and mothers of another generation but they are not going to the old time camp meetings as of yore. The reason can be found from the fact that while labor saving machinery has developed that might naturally be expected to lift the curse of toil from their backs living has become ever harder. Land has gone up in price, homes are more difficult to secure, the wire and fire fence that is ever the aspiration of the man and woman at the grass roots and the forks of the creek is more difficult to sit under with the passing of the years, tenancy has increased its gaunt face scared with lines of poverty and infidelity within itself a sign spectre that of illiteracy.

And so the people that salute the white flag of cotton that has blossomed in the August sun while maintaining their concept of the God that set the stars to singing in the skies have turned to a different kind of entanglement and to a different kind of debate. They are not arguing now whether sprinkling or immersion is the right kind of baptism or whether with raptures glee to double pointed, rawboned, earnest men of Methodist reg cards in their pockets who describe the old time debates like Volney did in his Ruins of Empires when he told this story:

"One day a traveler came to the outskirts of a community and found a vast multitude of people surrying by him. Stopping an excited man who was hastening towards the point where the crowd was gathering he asked: 'Why this haste, good man, and why this mighty multitude?' The stranger replied: 'Our priests have had a serious disagreement, one set says that to be saved we must start at our heels, wash straight up to the top of our heads and the other set of priests says that we can never see the living God unless we start at the top of the scalp and wash from down to our, toenails. Because I want to go to heaven where I do I have got down to hear this discussion at once." And then he runner ma off with a vast surrying throng.

Yet I say a change has come over the spirit of their dreams. They are now discussing questions like this. Why should the land which is the gift of God Almighty be the property of a few individuals. Why should one individual own eleven hundred sections of land in West Texas? Why should a deacon of the Baptist church own 600,000 acres of Texas land? Why should one man own 1,400,000 acres? Why does tenantry increase every day of every month and every year and without the slightest sign of diminution. If we are going to have a heavenly kingdom come why can't we commence to establish it right here on old mother earth? If this heaven beyond the boundary line of this life is so splendid why not serve an apprenticeship during the years we are on this sphere. These are the questions that the men in overalls and share cloth and homespun and sash stetsons are asking side by side with their beautiful hard worked women in starched calico, and poke bonnets. Because these are questions that go right down to the heart, you go to the very sources of their existence and at the same time are questions that have called forth the thought of Moses, Nehemiah, James and Isaiah and Christ himself when he fed the multitudes with the loaves and fishes; they were the questions raised by the apostles as we read the Acts; the questions that the early Christians grappled with from the tragedy at Calvary in Calvary and Golgotha. I say be cause of these reasons the men and women on the farms and cultivated farms of Texas and Oklahoma have changed their encampment methods.

Brother, I am going to boil this down to the bone. Listen. The religious denominations held 200 encampments ten years ago in Texas and Oklahoma, the Socialists held one. This year the Socialists held 165 encampments in Texas and Oklahoma the denominations held 12. There is a reason for this change my brothers and sisters, and the Rebel believes that it is sketched in the lines above.

SEND IN THE VOTE.

So that the Rebel can reach its furthest subscribers we are compelled to go to press on Tuesday afternoon of each year. As a result we can give you no election figures in this issue because as we go to press the votes are being cast. We hope in the next issue of the Rebel to be able to tell you that the Socialist nominees for governor and lieutenant governor have beaten the Republicans and Bull Moosers and again in second place with a largely increased vote. Please send us the figures from your precinct, so that we can have it in the next issue of the Rebel. While you do this take off your coat for a most complete organization of the state, so that you can get ready to carry the state for Socialism in 1916.

GOVERNOR CRUSE ON THE COTTON SITUATION.

Mr. L. S. Noland, of Boswell, Oklahoma, wrote Governor Cruse on Oct. 27, asking him whether he as governor of a democratic administration of which he is the executive head, could do anything to relieve present conditions in Oklahoma. The following extract will show the eminent governor's idea upon the subject. Says Cruse:—

"I am quite sure you realize how powerless the Governor is to give relief in a matter of this kind. There have been quite a number of occasions since I have been governor in which appeals have been made to me from different parts of the state. To one and all of them I have given the same response: "There is nothing the Governor can do under our laws." * * * I regret there is nothing I can do to give relief to worthy citizens in your vicinity of the state. These matters, however, under our laws can be taken care of only by local communities and men in want are compelled to rely upon local charity."

Before this issue of the Rebel is in your hands the campaign of 1916, so far as the Socialist party is concerned, will be in full blast. Are you on the firing line?

The Land Issue in Mexico.

One of the title utterances of the average editors of the Capitalist press is that nobody knows what is going on in the war zone of Europe or Mexico. This being understood I say with extreme gladness that I do know of something that my friends of the unstitled press are extremely silent about. I believe that I have a scoop on them when I publish the position that the fighters for land and liberty in Mexico take at this moment. This document should be read by every citizen in the United States who takes a particle of interest in human affairs It should be read carefully by the man in the side door sleepers, and the man who lives in Euclid Avenue in Cleveland, Ohio, or his friends in 5th Avenue, New York, or even in the Back Bay in that famous Boston town.

The reason these gentlemen should read the document that I publish below with exceeding care is because the man who wrote it and his thirty five officers and men have already clutched the throats of the leading landlords and cientificos of Mexico and when they did not choke them to death they stood down up against an adobe wall and shot them out of existence. just as the cientifico had shot to pieces the peons who had rebelled against the rule of the hacienda owners for full fifty years past.

The columns of the Rebel are open for Zapata. He and his stalwart men are determined that the land in Mexico, shall be as free as the prophets, the apostles, the early Christians and Blackstone have declared that it shall be. The owners up to date have declared the right of might! Zapata has called their hand and in doing so he subscribes to the sentiment the poem written by Covington Hall when appears on another page.

It has been might against right in Mexico ever since the Spaniards landed on the shores of the Aztecs. Zapata is trying to rally around a condition so, the people shall again own the land under the sunlight of 20th century civilization, which civilization has been had by shot up by the rulers in Europe within the past three months, That Mexico shall have to go through the horror of economic development as is displayed by Manchester, England, Essen, Germany, Pittsburg, Pa., Manchester, N. H., or the southern cotton mills in Alabama or the Carolinas or again Colorado, West Virginia, Michigan or Montana is something that Zapata fears and correctly so.

To those who struggle for land and liberty in Texas, Oklahoma, and in fact all portions of the cotton kingdom; to us who follow the trail of the Dismal swamp in Louisiana; to us who have gone through the agonies that of the blanket stiff's existence in California,Oregon, Washington, and Idaho, and in the timber reserve whether private or publicly owned; to those of us who have suffered from the private ownership of the land in every city in every small community, and in every state in the U. S. of A. we can say, "God speed Zapata, his thirty-five officers and his fighting men of the rank and file."

Here is the latest pronunciamento from General Zapata:

MANIFESTO TO MEXICANS, ISSUED BY EMILIANO ZAPATA AND SIGNED BY HIM AND THIRTY-FIVE OFFICERS, AUGUST 1914.

The revolutionary movement has reached its culminating point, and it is time, therefore, for the country to know the truth.

The existing Revolution did not make itself for the purpose of satisfying the interests of any one personality, of any one group or of any one party. The existing revolution recognizes that its origins lie deeper and that it is pursuing higher idealities.

The peasant was hungry, was enduring misery, was suffering from exploitation, and if he rose in arms it was to obtain the bread the greed of the rich denied him, to make himself master of the land the original landed proprietor kept for himself, to vindicate the dignity the slave-driver iniquitously trampled on daily. He threw himself into revolt, not to conquer illusory political rights which do not feed him, but to procure for himself the piece of land which must supply him with food and liberty, a happy fireside and a future of independence and growth.

They made a lamentable mistake who suppose that the establishment of a military government, that is to say, a despotic government, will insure the pacification of the country. It can be obtained only by the realization of the double operation of reducing to impotence the elements of the ancient regime and creating new interests linked inextricably with the Revolution, solidarie with it, in danger if it is in danger and prosperous if it become established and consolidated

The first task, that of making it possible for the reactionary group to be any longer a danger, is carried out by two different methods: by the exemplary punishment of the chiefs, of the great criminals, of the intellectual directors and active elements of the conservative faction, and by attacking the pecuniary resources, they employ to work up intrigues and provoke revolutions; that is to say, by the subdivision of the properties of the hacienda owners and politicians who have put themselves at the front of the organized resistance to the popular movement which begun in 1910 and has attained its crowning point in 1914, after surviving the failure of Carranza and the reactionary crisis of the Ciudadela, a tragedy let loose by the Huerta dictatorship.

This subdivision is aided by the fact that the greater part, not to say the whole, of the cultivable lands to be nationalized represents interests created under the shadow of the Porfirio Diaz dictatorship, inflicting grave injury on the rights of a multitude of natives, small proprietors and victims of all kinds, who were sacrificed brutally on the altars of the ambitious of the powerful.

The second task, that of creating powerful interests akin to the Revolution and in solidarity with it, will be brought to a happy conclusion when the natives individually and in their communities, receive back the innumerable tracts of land of which they have been despoiled by the great landowners; and this great act of justice receives its complement, as regards those who have nothing and have had nothing, in the proportional repartition of the lands given to the dictatorship's accomplices or of those expropriated from idle proprietors who do not choose to cultivate their heritages. Thus there will be satisfied both the human demand for land and that aspiration for liberty which is making itself felt throughout the republic as the formidable reply to the savagery of the hacienda owners which has maintained, even in the twentieth century and in the heart of free America, a system which the most unfortunate serfs of the Middle Ages in Europe would hardly have endured.

The Plan of Ayala, which translates and incarnates the peasants' ideals, satisfies both terms of the problem, for, while it treats the sworn enemies of the people as they deserve to be treated, reducing them by expropriation to impotence and innocuousness, it establishes, in articles 6 and 7, the two great principles of the return of stolen lands (an act of imperious justice) and this splitting-up of the expropriated cultivable lands (an act required alike by justice and expediency.)

To take away from the enemy the means of doing damage was the wise tactic of the reformers of 1857, at the time when they despoiled the clergy of its immense possessions; possessions which the clergy used solely for the purpose of plotting conspiracies and keeping the country in perpetual disorder through those military uprisings which bear so striking resemblance to the latest barrack outbreak, which also was the fruit of an understanding between the military and the reactionists.

As for the reconstructive work of the Revolution, the formation of a nucleus of interests which shall support the new order, this was the task of the Provisional Government, which for fruitful results has not had its equal to the present day; for it divided among tens of thousands of humble peasants the vast estates of the nobles and clergy, and made the multitude thus favored such vigorous supporters of the Revolution's work that not even Napoleon, with all his genius, nor the Bourbons, with their aristocratic intransigence, were ever able to root it out of the French nation's physique and temperament.

It is certain that the deluded believe that the country is going to be contented (as it was not contented in 1910) with an electoral pantomime, from which are to arise new and apparently honest men who are to occupy the curule chairs, the seats in the legislature and the Presidency's lofty throne; but during the crisis of the last few years, has reaped a harvest of lessons it never can forget, which will not permit it to lose its road, and has acquired a profound understanding of the causes of ill-being and the way to combat them.

We may be sure that the county will not be satisfied with the timid reforms sketched so ingenuously by the lawyer D. Isidro Fabela, Minister of Relations in the Carranzista government and a man who is a revolutionist in name only, since he neither understands nor sympathizes with the Revolution's ideals. The country will not be contented with the mere abolition of place-me stores if exploitation and fraud are to exist under other forms; it will not be satisfied with municipal liberties, exceedingly problematical as they are, while the basis of economic independence is still lacking; it will not be satisfied to wheedle it with a petty program of reforms in the laws dealing with land taxes when what it is urging is the radical solution of the problem relating to the cultivation of the lands.

The cientificos will see something more than the vagueness of Sr. Fabela, which the silence of Sr. Carranza is endorsing. It wishes to break once and for all, with the feudal epoch, which in some quarters, it would fain destroy with one stroke the relationships of lord and serf, overseer and slave, which, in the matter of agriculture, are the only ones ruling from Tamaulipas to Chiapas and from Sonora to Yucatan.

The country people wish to live the life of civilization; to breathe the air of economic liberty which as yet they have not known, and this they never can do, while there still remains on Sonora the national tool of the scaffold and the knife, who disposes at whim of the persons of his laborers; an extortioner of wages who annihilates them with excessive tasks, brutalizes them by misery and, ill treated, dwarfs and exhausts his race by the slow agony of the peon, the enforced withering of human beings whose stomachs and empty brains are ever hungry.

First a platform and then a parliamentary government, with administrative reforms, that the reorganization may be able to last; ideal purity in the management of the public funds; official responsibilities scrupulously exacted; liberty of the press, for those who not know how to write; liberty to vote, for those to whom the candidates are unknown; the correct administration of justice for those who never will employ a lawyer — all these democratic prettinesses, all these fine ideas which our grandfathers dreamed on from the time delight, have lost today their magic attraction and significance to the people. The people have seen that with elections and with suffrage and without it, with the dictatorship of Porfirio Diaz and with the democracy of Madero, with the press gagged and with the press given the fullest liberty, always and in all circumstances it has still to chew the cud of its bitter lot, to endure its miseries, to swallow humiliations that know no end. For this reason, and with abundantly good cause, it fears that the liberators of today may prove, themselves like the leaders of yesterday, who whitlled away at Ciudad Juarez their beautiful radicalism and in the National Palace forgot all about their seductive promises

Therefore the Agrarian Revolution, distrusting chiefs who are looking for their own triumph, has adopted, as a precaution and as a guarantee, the most just rule that the revolutionary leaders of all the country shall be the ones to choose the first authorities as Provisional President, charged with the duty of calling the elections; for it knows well that on the Provisional President depends the future of the Revolution and, along with that, the fate of the country.

What could be more just than that all those interested—the chiefs of the groups engaged in the fight, the representatives of the people in arms—should have a hand in the selection of the functionary in whose hands there must be placed the tabernacle of the revolutionary promises, the sacred ark of the people's aspirations? Why should the so-called Constitutionalists fear the crucible of revolutionary revision or shrink from rendering tribute to the democratic principle that the candidate should be discussed freely by those interested?

Any other method of procedure will be not only disloyal but dangerous, for the Mexican people has shaken off its indifference, has recovered its courage and will not be the one to allow others to erect their own government on its back.

There is still time to reflect and avoid the conflict. If the Leader of the Constitutionalists, considers that he has the popularity needed to stand the proof of its submission to a vote of the revolutionists, let him submit to it without vacillation; and if the Constitutionalists love the people and understand what they demand, let them do homage to its sovereign will, accepting with sincerity and without any reticences the Plan of Ayala—expropriation of the lands for the sake of public utility, expropriation of the property of the people's enemies, and restitution to the towns and communities of the domains of which they have been despoiled.

If that is not done they may rest assured that the agitation of the masses will continue, that the war will go on in Morelos, in Guerrero, in Puebla, in Oaxaca, in Mexico, in Tlaxcala, in Michoacan, in Hidalgo, in Guanuato, in San Luis Potosi, in Tamaulipas, in Durango, in Zacatecas, in Chihuahua, in Sonora, in Sinaloa, in Jalisco, divided or to be redivided, and the great movement of the South, supported by all the country population of the Republic, will continue until, conquering all opposition and combatting all resistance, it shall finally have attained, by the hands of its powder-blackened warriors, the lands which its false liberators have undertaken to keep from it.

The Agrarian Revolution, calumniated by the enemy's press, unrecognized by Europe, misunderstood with great exactitude by the diplomacy of North America and yet viewed with the little interest by its sister nations of South America, lifts on high the banner of its ideals, that those who have been deceived may see it, and that it may be contemplated by the egoists and the perverse, by those who deafen their ears to the lamentations of the suffering people, to the cries of mothers who have lost their sons, and to the groaning shades of the struggle-dead—the struggle, alas, who does not wish to see, and who will not hear their aspirations for liberty and their glorious dreams of redemption for their people brought to naught.

* * *

The Rebel hopes that there will be enough wisdom, patriotism and courage among the masses of the people of the south to prevent a condition of peonage in this country of ours such as has led to the deplorable condition that has driven Mexico in recent years and thus made a Zapata revolution possible. To prevent this condition we have presented to you the Socialist solution for the land question which is: That use and occupancy be the title to land. Accept it and we shall have peace, and quietness in the sunny south and elsewhere in the broad confines of the nation. If you do not accept this solution then look out for another Zapata to arise on this side of the Rio

TO THE RENTERS OF TEXAS.

By "Investigator".

Do you Rebel readers realize that you are being robbed in cold blood and in open daylight everytime you render your little personal possessions for taxation,and all under due form and process of law?

If you doubt it just go to your county courthouse and ask the county clerk to show the deed records showing land sales from June to December 1913. Just take the sales as you come to them on the record noting the survey and number of acres sold and the price paid as well as by whom and to whom sold omitting only those sales showing the consideration to consist of all or part of other property as prices in such cases are apt to be inflated.

After you have copied a dozen or two transactions then go to the assessor or collectors office and ask to be shown the 1913 tax rolls and compare the rendition of the different tracts with the prices paid for the same tracts before the year was out and tell me what you think of the full redition law and the honesty and intelligence of your tax assessor and your county commissioners will in honesty and of equalization.

I live in a county where I think our tax assessor and our county commissioners will in honesty and intelligence compare favorably with similar officials in any county in the state. I examined eleven cases and here is what I find: The rendered prices of the different tracts instead of being 100 percent of the value as the law requires showed to be from 25 to 50 percent which will be no injustice if this percentage was uniform through the list, thus unlawfully treating all alike; but such is not the case, the percentage running from 14 per cent up to 60 per cent. The sixty per cent man pays over four times as much according to his property as the 14 per cent man.

Now taking 29 per cent as the price for taxation purposes and 100 per cent as the selling price. If you have a wagon worth $80, you should render it for about $23. If your mules are really worth $300, render them for $85. If your cow is worth $35, call it $10, to the assessor. If you have sold your horse for $200, render her for taxation for $30, for even money. If you have money on hand or in the bank you know it is taxable; but you just give the tax assessor the house laugh and ask him if he thinks he is assessing John D. Rockefeller. That is the way the big fellow does provided the assessor has the impudence to ask such a question.

I forgot to state that the percentage of the first and last mules on my list are, respectively, 60 and 55 per cent. So if I had not secured these two and only the nine others the percentage would have been only 23 per cent; instead of 29 per cent as I have figured it so this time one fourth of the actual selling value.

This shows wonderfully honest, and competent officials who are sworn to enforce the 100 per cent rendition law.

Say renters: This is simply a case of common sense justice and self protection. So don't let your conscience worry you when the tax assessor gets there and by the way, ask him how much cotton he assessed in his lands of the Bayou last January 1st. In our country in one small railroad town alone the buyers had over $50,000 worth of cotton June 1, 1913 and the tax assessor had the gall to tell me that he was not able to secure the rendition of a single bale of it. Some one else will assess the taxes in this county next year.

Say Mr. Renter Man as far as you know this article is being written from your own county and from your home town and if you don't have the courage and nerve to fit your county just take time to visit your court house and consult the records and report to the Rebel if it has had.

Otherwise cut this piece out of the Rebel and show it to your assessor when he comes around and ask him what he knows about it. Be sure to ask him what he is going to do about it.

Grande who will proceed to hang as high, as Haman, those who have by subterfuge, trick and fraud secured possession of the land upon which the people must live and have their being. Believing this way the Rebel is glad to publish the Zapata Manifesto.

U. S. MAY TAKE OVER COAL MINE.

Mr. E. R. Meitzen, the Socialist nominee for governor, prophesied over a year ago in the columns of The Rebel that President Wilson would be compelled to take over, the great trusts owl by one as a war measure in the fight between capital and labor, Just as President Lincoln was compelled to issue greenback currency and issue his emancipation proclamation. The following from the United Press would indicate that Mr. Meitzen's prophecy is coming true:

Washington, Oct. 29. — Tiring of the repeated refusal of millionaire mine operators of Colorado to join in any attempt to arbitrate differences with the striking miners, President Woodrow Wilson may take over the Colorado mines.

From high official sources, accredited as being reliable, word was today given out that President Wilson and Attorney General Gregory held a long conference in regard to the situation. Attorney General Gregory has been asked by the president, it is said, to report on the legality of the government's taking over the mines and operating them under federal supervision.

Recently President Wilson, after consistently prosecuting a program of arbitration for the mine operators,suggested a three years' truce. Of this the mine owners had the decided advantage. Although believing they were getting the ragged edge of the deal, the striking miners assented to it. The mine operators refused, thus perpetuating the strike which has necessitated the presence of federal troops in the mine region.

MINERS FIGHT WITH U. S. MARSHALLS.

The miners in Arkansas like their brothers in Colorado are in a state of rebellion against their masters. They have armed themselves and determined that there shall not be any more Ludlows or in other words their wives and children shall not be burned at the command of Holy John through the agency of his red light thugs. Taking this story into line with the story of Colorado' in another column it seems to be time for the United States government to take over the coal mines either by confiscation or compensation.

Fort Smith, Ark., Oct. 29. — Eight unoccupied houses owned by the Bache-Denman Coal Company at Terry's Crook near here, were destroyed by fire and the United States deputy marshals and striking miners engaged in a pitched battle with the incendiaries last night, according to reports received here today.

Fifteen employes and two deputies were driven out of Terry's Crook by the hail of bullets. They told the story of the fighting.

They said fully 75 men composed the fighting party which began firing at about eight. Employes and marshals were all out but it is said they fired but little. The incendiaries fired several thousand rounds, it is claimed.

Union miners went out on strike last April when the company adopted the open shop policy. In July five of the company's mining camps were destroyed and in a battle between miner guards and strikers ten guards were killed.

The orders for 6,000 copies of the Rebel for October 10 and 7,000 for October 31 were the two largest orders for papers ever received by a country office in the south. It takes the Rebel to do things and break records.

TEXAS NOTES.

C. A. Hickey, State Secretary, Halletsville, Texas.

ORGANIZE! ORGANIZE!

The Rebel believes that the work that the Socialists of the state should turn to now is that of organization. The state must be carried for the Socialist party in 1916. Every man who has studied the workings of political parties knows that it matters not how strong the sentiment may be among the masses of the people for a party unless that party is thoroughly organized it will meet with certain defeat and when the Rebel says thoroughly organized we mean that it has been organized and devoted adherents in every voting precinct of the state.

Take the democratic party for instance. It has a pie-fed organization in every precinct in every county in Texas. It has a county one of the 253 counties of Texas. It has a county executive committee in every one of these counties. It has precinct officers in every precinct in the state. It has weekly papers standing for its reactionary principles in every county seat and these papers in every voting precinct. It has a congressional organization with a secretary who is ready at all times to keep every portion of the congressional district in touch with everything pertain. This is what the Donks have and if we are to be successful in 1916 we must do likewise.

The ground work for such an organization both county and congressional has been well laid. Our state constitution has with splendid thoroughness gone into the depths of the organization work. Already we have several congressional districts organized and in the coming winter and spring we should see to it that every congressional district in the state has a live, energetic secretary who will see that his district is organized to the fullest possible extent. With 16 active congressional secretaries continually on the job the work of organization of the state would go forward with leaps and bounds. The state office of the party at Halletsville is prepared to strain every nerve to help those who are ready to help in this congressional organization work. The state secretary would like to hear from every congressional district at once. Get in touch with us and we will send you a list of counties in your district and information that will help you towards this necessary work. Get busy and get busy right now.

* * *

Tired of Promises.

Lequire, Okla., Oct. 28, 1914.

Mr. T. A. Hickey,
Halletsville, Texas.

Dear Comrade:—

We are just now ready to back these long shank rough riders off our backs in Haskell county, Oklahoma. There have been many stomachs emptied since the primary and no prospect of having them filled soon. You know that some people can use their heads and scheme a way to get something to eat when their stomachs get empty, but some of them cannot and they are the ones that will have to worry.

We had three Socialist speeches in our town last Saturday and the streets were packed with empty pockets and empty stomachs. After our speaker had finished a Democratic speaker took the stand and ten minutes after he began he didn't have two, going hoarse. The workers are getting tired of promises and want some one in office that will do something.

Yours for freedom.

E. W. Echols.

* * *

A Typical Case.

De Leon, Tex., Oct. 23, 1914.

Mr. T. A. Hickey,
Halletsville, Tex.

Dear Comrade:—

We working mules with apologies to the real mules are up against it. Cotton is a failure. A good many have planted peanuts as a money crop. We have a good crop of nuts but we cannot sell them at any price and can't even pay our debts with them. Further we cannot get anything on credit and haven't got any money. We may not know the cause of it all but we are sure we know the remedy and that is Socialism. To this end we will work and will vote for our candidates and with them until the fight is over and victory is won and justice is given to every man, woman and child in this land.

I want to tell you of a little circumstance that I happened to know of. A farmer made some molasses, carried it to town and wanted to sell it to a merchant. Merchant told Mr. Farmer he would give him 30 cents per gallon for his syrup. And the farmer replied that he thought that the war had caused the cost of catalogs to go up. Mr. Merchant replied that if the war kept up much longer that he would be glad to take 20 cents for his syrup. So the farmer in need of money sold him the goods. In about two hours another farmer came into the store and asked the merchant if he had any molasses and the merchant replied that he had some fresh syrup worth 60 cents per gallon. "That seems rather high" said the farmer. "Yes," replied the merchant, "but you may have to pay $1.00 a gallon for it if the war continues." Now what do you know about that!

L. A. Coan.

* * *

The Rebel,
Halletsville, Texas.

Dear Comrade:—

Am sending you my card in with the money for dues unto January 1915 as I have withdrawn from McGregor local and am out in the country for the present and must become a member at large.

Have disposed of sub cards and will begin getting the money for the ten I have not paid for and will send the money to you as fast as I can. Am doing all I can for the people are in a terrible shape in town and also in the country. No money all among them. Oh, it is horrible the suffering we have among us now. What will it be before another year is gone.

Fraternally,

J. S. Yarbrough,
Waco, Texas, Rt. 5

* * *

Stirred El Campo.

El Campo, Tex. Oct. 25, 1914.

Mr. T. A. Hickey,
Halletsville, Texas.

Dear Comrade:—

We want to thank you for the Meitzen-Noble date here. They have come and gone and the great amount of good they done for the movement at this place can hardly be estimated owing of course to the fact that the people are anxious to hear something besides, "Wilson prosperity", "Coloquitt Legislation" and "Jim Ferguson Policies."

Noble spok in the afternoon in a big show tent to a large audience of the very fellows who were almost helpless and blind of their economic welfare. Let me say right now Noble certainly delivered the goods. Men were heard to say that they had always voted the Democratic ticket but would vote the Socialist ticket from now on.

E. R. Meitzen spoke in the Opera House at night to a large and appreciative audience. On account of a constant downpour of rain which began late in the afternoon and continued all night Meitzen's audience was not as large as Noble's and was not half as large as it would have been if we had good weather. Mr. Meitzen made good use of the situation and spoke for about an hour. He featured the land situation from A. to Z. His voice was clear and deep; he linked his words together so smoothly that it was restful to listen to him. He made no attempt at spread-eagle oratory and seemed to care nothing for it.

Our audience listened in perfect silence except an occasional hand clapping that would instantly stop when he again raised his voice. On the whole the Meitzen-Noble appointment here will be worth more to us than anything we have had for years.

Your comrade,

J. C. Smith.

* * *

NOTICE TO CANDIDATES.

Remember, all candidate for office in the next election must file a sworn statement with the County judge within ten days after said election giving amount spent as candidate for such office. This applies to all, whether elected or defeated. Even if a candidate spends not one cent he must certify to same.

* * *

The Socialists of Henderson county are hereby notified that there will be a Socialist mass meeting in the Court House in Athens November 7th, at 10:00 o'clock clock sharp for the purpose of organizing and opening up the campaign for 1916. Every Socialist in the county is urged to be present.

By order of the county chairman,

H. O. Jeter.

* * *

The comrades of this community met at our meeting last night and organized a local with 12 charter members. I have a good reason to believe that others will follow.

B. P. Alsobrook,
County Chairman.

* * *

Socialism the remedy.

Say Brother worker did you ever think what Social and Socialism means? It does not mean war, hatred, destruction, oppression, slavery or anything of that sort, it does mean love, sociability, kindness, peace, co-operation, just opportunities and the good of all and as the immortal Frances E. Willard said: "It is Christianity applied" and that the ethics of Socialism and Christianity were the same. Then it must be good and not bad. "Under Socialism we would not have war, destruction, strikes, tramps, scabs and hired thugs.

A Preacher,
Holland, Tex.

"Farmers Coming to Socialism."

Just received a letter from Comrade Lingan who says, never in his life before did he realize the poverty of the farmer until lately. He says also, the farmers are flocking to Socialism which confirms the old adage. "Something one can learn through an empty stomach but they cannot through an empty head."

Yours for revolution,

D. E. Nash.

* * *

Literature Bargains.

"War, What For," by George R. Kirkpatrick, 320 pages; paper cover, regular price 25c, now 3c etc., paper cover. E. V. Debs says: "It is an immortal achievement."

"Socialism, What It Is and How to Get It," Ameringer's great little pamphlet; 12c booklet. Full they are sold, at 5c straight, express or postpaid.

"No Compromise, No Political Trading," by William Liebknecht, 64 pages. A powerful argument why Socialists should not swerve from the straight and narrow path. 10 cents each or 3 for 20 cts.

"What Is So and What Isn't," John M. Work, 160 pages. A clear concise refutation of the objections to Socialism. 10 cents each.

Platform Text Book, former price 25c, now 20c, postpaid.

"Socialism Made Easy", by James Connolly, 61 pages. A simple easily understood expanation of what Socialism stands for. 10 cts., each, 3 for 20 cts.

"Men and Mules, Bees and Butterflies, and other Rice books at 5c each, 3 for 25 cents.

"Danger Ahead," by Debs and Chas. Edward Russell. All Social students should read this 5c booklet now going at 3c a copy.

T. A. Hickey, State Sec.
Halletsville, Texas.

* * *

By the way did you ever stop to think that Ferguson will be the first governor that secured only one term in the governors chair?

SOCIALISM AND POPULISM.

It is amusing to watch the manoeuvers of Congress and the Texas legislature during the past few months. Many remedies have been proposed that would relieve the awful condition that now hovers over our country. When these measures are about to find favor with the majority the whole thing is exploded when some sarcastic orator cries out: "It is Socialism, it is Populism." They acknowledge that it would relieve the situation but The Henry Bill proposed in congress would instantly relieve the situation in the South, the State bank bill proposed by Coloquitt would relieve the situation in Texas but they are called Socialist measures and it would not do to enact them. Now I am like the preacher that was called to pray for the Dutchman's boy that had been snakebitten. The preacher prayed: Oh, Lord, we thank that thou hast sent a snake to bite Mike. Oh, Lord, send another snake to bite the old woman and a bigger one to bite the old man for nothing but snakes will bring them to repentence." Now if nothing but Socialism will bring relief let it come. I repeat, let it come.

F. S. Roundtree.

* * *

THE ELECTION RETURNS.

Our readers who may be disappointed because they do not get election returns at once through the columns of the Rebel will please remember that so as to reach our subscribers who live all over the cotton kingdom we are compelled to go to press on Tuesday evening although our date line reads the following Saturday. Hence we are not in a position to say anything about the increase in our vote and how much further we have pushed in the battle line in this issue. We expect to be able to supply all our comrades with election returns in our next issue, provided all our comrades will promptly inform us of election results in their voting precincts. DO THIS NOW!

* * *

HE FLATTERS US.

I would drop a few lines to the grand old Rebel, one of the best papers in the entire world. Comrade Hickey you know that I think of you very often and wish that the big state of Texas had just 100,000 such grand war horses of justice, truth and liberty as you are. I tell you Tom, there is not a man in America that has fought and more valiantly for the Union winged angel of Socialism than you have from the speakers stand and through the columns of The Rebel.

Well, there is one good thing that occured in this election and that is the awful manhandling that the Socialist government gave to the Republicans, Bull Moosers and all other third parties. The Socialist party is here to stay in second place until we land in first place.

* * *

The Socialist party made a gallant to stop the war in Europe and failed. Let us build up our organization to the point where we can stop the oncoming war in the United States. "Down with war" say the Socialists.

* * *

The Rebel would like to meet you all face to face at Waco on the 13th and 14th of November. That Renters Union will be going some and the Socialist conference will be historic.

* * *

During the next two years, the fight will be turned on the court house rings of Texas as never before. This is part of the educational work of the Socialist party.

* * *

Every congressional district and every county in the state must be organized from top to bottom in the year 1915. Intensive organization must be the watchword now.

Petition of the Renter's Union.

The Executive Committee of the Renter's Union of Texas has prepared the following petition to be submitted to Governor Coloquitt which he is invitted to call the Thirty-fourth Legislature together in session at the first possible moment after the Thirty-third legislature dies which will be November 4th, 1914 and that failing in this project we call upon the governor who will take office in January, 1915 to pay heed to the requests embodied in the said petition.

To O. B. Coloquitt, Governor of Texas:

Dear Sir:—

We have repeatedly pointed out during the past three months that something must be done for the cotton farmer and renter, tenant wage laborers of Texas and the small merchant, all of whom are on the verge of bankruptcy and penury due to circumstances over which they have no control and with which you are thoroughly familiar. The last legislature has, as you have pointed out, done nothing, although they were in session 60 days at a cost of $110,000. Can we hope that better results will come from the Thirty-fourth legislature. Believing that anything is possible because the situation grows darker every hour, we respectfully request you to call the legislature in session to act as follows;

First: Pass a moratorium or stay law preventing the collection of any and all debts for a period of 6 months.

Second: Issue bonds in the usual legal manner of small denominations for the purpose of building factories to be owned and operated by the state of the manufacture of cotton cloth of all descriptions. The operators of the said factories to be employed eight hours per day at the prevailing rate of union wages.

Third: Pass a law to restrict the acreage in which cotton can be planted to not more than at the ratio of 20 acres to each quarter section or a 160 acre farm.

Fourth: Recommend to the senate that they initiate a constitutional amendment that shall have for its object the taxing of all lands held out of use for speculative purposes to their full rental value. This amendment being to Section 8 Article 9 of the present constitution that now provides that no land shall be taxed for more than 35 cents an the $100.

We believe that if you present these propositions to the legislature, they will carry, provided that there are big enough men to grapple with the present deplorable situation. If they are not, then backbones may be stiffened and their mental energies aroused when there is presented to them a petition of not less than 150,000 Texas citizens of voting age who believe that these measures should be acted into law.

Believeing that you will give this communication your most careful consideration, I subscribe myself on behalf of the committee.

Yours respectfully,

R. O. MEITZEN.
Secretary-Treasurer of Renter's Union, Halletsville, Texas.

Tarrant County and Congressional Ticket.

For congressman, 13th district, Dr. S. J. Brownson, senator, 30th district, Geo. D. Ackley; flotorial representative 54th district; J. M. Sanders; representative, place No. 1, Theo Thompson; Place No. 2, J. H. Hicks; Place No. 3, R. A. McFarlane; county judge, H. B. Gibson; county judge, civil cases, John Kilander; county attorney, M. Baker; sheriff, P. J. Conolly; district clerk, Mrs. Alice Brown; county clerk, Miss Rose Johnston; tax collector, M. T. Hollis; tax assessor, T. E. Newton; county treasurer, T. J. Bedingfield; county surveyor, B. C. Bledsoe; county commissers, precinct No. 1, Joseph McClure; precinct No. 2, George Blizzard; precinct No. 3, G. M. Barager; precinct No. 4, W. M. Crawford; justice of the peace, place No. 1, H. H. Kelly; place No. 2, C. S. Robertson; constable precinct No. 1, J. E. Hardy.

The Socialists of Fort Worth will put out a complete city ticket Due announcement will be made.

Did you ever see a fellow sitting on a box whittling? Did you ever see him the next day or the next week going behind the plough or riding a cultivator from 5 a. m. for 75 cents and his board! And then only employed half the year? Then did you ever notice that he gets naturally mad, goes to a big city, gets locked up on his way by a fee hunting Donk constable and after he gets over his trouble finds that the poll tax law wont allow him to vote in the state in which he was born. Then can you imagine what a state of mind he is in or if he has any mind. Drop a few sweet lines to the Rebel and tell us what you think about it.

* * *

"The fellows that talk about the Socialist party dividing up can usually be detected and easily described, their hair is sticking out through their hats; they have the map of Colorado on their pants, and Rockefeller wouldn't use them for a $3.50 a day gunman.

* * *

"The only flag that is not waving over the battle fields of Europe is the Red flag and yet the Donks said that the Red flag was the flag of bloodshed. Let them alone brothers, they are wakening.

* * *

They used to say that the Socialists would break up the home, look at the million homes that are already broken under capitalism in Europe. Hurrah for the Donks!

LET US HAVE A CONFERENCE.

The working class of Texas is up against a bigger crisis than the people of Texas and the other Southern states were up against when the guns boomed at Fort Sumpter. This office is in receipt of stories of human suffering that were beyond the pale of imagination one year ago. The small merchant forced by the wholesaler who is in turn forced by the country banker, who is again forced by the big bankers of the north, has cut off the credit for the renter who expected such credit to make next year's crop, as a result tens of thousands of renters are on the ragged edge of starvation. This is

It appears to me that some orderlied steps should be taken and taken at once. I have not the right to call a state convention that is a matter that should be put through the regular parliamentary But I would suggest that inasmuch as there is a called convention of the Renters Union to meet in Waco on November 14th that the membership of the Socialist party should confer with such a convention on the previous day and discuss ways and means to bridge this crisis.

I would suggest that every member of the Socialist party be be at the congressional secretary, local secretary, county secretary or any other office of the local or state paying member should meet in Waco on Friday November 13th and there organize themselves into a mass meeting to discuss this situation. I have written to the secretary of local Waco to hire a large hall, which I will pay for out of my own pocket and there we can come together, get organized in a statewide mass meeting and devise means to bring relief to the workers of Texas.

Mr E. O. Meitzen, secretary-treasurer of the Renter's Union will be in Waco that day along with the members of the executive members of the Renter's Union in preparation of the state convention that will open the following morning. He can be with us and help us to outline a plan of campaign. While the Renter's Union is non-partisan and non-political the delegates will undoubtedly be glad to advise with the members of the Socialist party as to the best methods keep the wolf of hunger from our doors temporarily.

Fraternally,

T. A. Hickey
State Secretary Socialist Party, of Texas.

Correspondence

From A Man.

Terrellanta, Ind., Oct. 21, 1914.

Dear Comrade Tom:—

We are just back from the East. There is a bushel of mail here awaiting attention and there is but just time to make a hundred cleaning up and start out on the next trip which will last until along toward middle of next month.

But who could resist the request of the Rebel's editor. The weekly who could right to be electrocuted and only the fact that we are unalterably opposed to capital punishment would save him.

You will find the article enclosed. Everything made ready and with you in time. I am getting it to the post office so it will leave here on the first mail. Gene has occupied more space than usual feeling that your big edition should have really worth the space. He hopes the enclosed will at least partly fit the demand. Anyway, it is sent with pleasure. We know how gladly you have always done for us to the full extent of your power and you may be assured that when you call on us it is always with joy that we do the little we can to help you. You are doing a really big work down there for the cause, and why should it not be a pleasure to us to give you a hand when you chance to need it?

I feel particularly interested in the Rebel and the Southern Worker and I would give almost anything I could put my hands on to give them each a hundred thousand circulation for they are doing the work down in the dark and democratic South where it is done under such great difficulties and where it is so greatly needed.

We are keeping with all our hearts that the comrades in Texas this year may make history that will be an inspiration to every state in the southland.

Wishing you and the Rebel and the great cause prosperity and victory I remain as ever,

Yours for emancipation,

Theodore Debs.

* * *

The Lemon Squeezed.

Denison, Tex., Oct. 28.

Mr. T. A. Hickey,

Hallettsville, Texas.

Dear Comrade:—

The debate at Sherman between Comrade T. S. Miller of Texas Socialist, and W. F. Lemmons, Dunk occurred and everything was a victory for the cause. Lemmons slipped into town and announced in the press that he would lecture and we phoned for Comrade Miller who was here on time. When Lemmons was informed that Miller was in town his feathers fell. He exclaimed, "I can't go anywhere but what that Socialist wants to debate with me." Comrade Miller is a minister of the church of Christ, so is Lemmons. Miller used the bible on Lemmons and squeezed the juice out of him. It is putting it very mildly to say he simply grated the rind before he quit. The debate lasted two nights and I venture to say there were not ten of Lemmons adherents in the house the last night. The first night there were three preachers with Lemmons but the last night they were all absent when one of them slipped in. This was their first debate and I expect their last.

A. J. Humphries.

* * *

Three Cheers, Starved.

Well Comrade Hickey every thing is in the worst shape in this country than I ever saw it. There are at least one half of the people, some say that 75 per cent of them are on starvation. They did not make enough cotton to pay their debts and most of them are head over heels in debt with no chance to ever pay the money they owe. They have no corn, no money, no credit and most of them have very little to eat and 8 to 9 months to go. This condition will prevail since the laboring man has got to sell it down in price and everything he has to buy is continually going up in price, it seems like the people have lost all interest in everything except one thing and that is how they are going to live until another crop is made. One crop failure and then starvation at the door then talk about prosperity in Texas among the farmers where it is all gone to.

H. F. Kerr.

Dilworth, Tex.

Every Hands Will Plant Cotton.

How about the law to regulate cotton acreage, are such laws necessary and just? The farmer is a fixture of nature and to an extent is subject and amendable to the laws of nature. It strikes the writer as probable that any farmer who after present experience continues to vote the old ticket and begins to plant a big cotton crop will at the same time show other symptoms of a mental condition that will warrant his being taken into custody and turned over to some of our institutions for treatment of mental disorders. Since that man will not plant a big cotton crop in 1915. But how about the landlord who requires that his land be planted in cotton. It is the peculiar belief that the heads of the landlord class are of ivory and very hard through out. Recent scientific research has proven the fallacy of such a theory since it has been discovered that near the center of some of these heads at least there exist a minute vacancy, cavity or hollow into which light can penetrate if some device can be brought to bear that will deliver a blow of sufficient violence to produce a fracture in the polished exterior of sufficient extent to connect with the cavity.

Present conditions may produce some effect in this direction and the result of all this may be that farmers and landlords will have a lesson that will lead them in future to plant largely only of such crops as they raise at home in some way in case the market refuses to pay for them. If present conditions should prove sufficient to teach this lesson to the farmer he will then be in position to teach the world that it needs cotton and must pay for it in which case it may become necessary to enact laws to increase rather than diminish the cotton acreage. See. So note it be.

W. A. Nally,

Tolbert, Texas.

* * *

Here is Hell.

Rosebud, Tex., Oct. 19, 1914.

I am writing you these few lines to let you know how things are running down my way. Yes I can tell the gospel truth; first will say that myself and three children aged 14, 15 and 16 are picking cotton for a living and just the other day when we were picking scrap cotton at 60 cents going 2 miles to get the pittance this is what notice we got, that there were other picking cotton and that we need not come back any more because the man told us that he could not pay us for the work. Of course I cannot blame this man because his hands were tied. I only lay the blame where it belongs. I owed a store account of about $134 and paid all of it except $17.40 got a receipt and all as I get out of a job and was out of money went to as I went to the merchant and told him the circumstances and his reply was. I cannot do anything for you. So I had to rustle around for a day and hump something to eat and then the next day I had to hunt for a job and finally I secured a sixty day job and now that the time is up I do not know what I will do next.

A. L. Stafford.

* * *

The Rebel Is IT He Says.

While there may be other papers doing valiant services in the great Socialist movement but the Rebel has been doing and is now doing a work unsurpassed in arousing a deeper interest among all our people in regard to our present and future interests. I think it is giving information to and educating the masses of the people. And it is most apparent that at no time in the history of our common country were the people brought face to face with conditions so fraught with such dangers as confront them today. I need say state are the best list of grievances with which the other entire country is menaced and are in dreadful peril at this very hour.

I have read with interest what you wrote in regard to the attacks of Lunsdell, Ferguson on the preachers. You know and I know there were some as grand and noble men who were attacked, slandered and persecuted as Co[illegible] Socialists called them political preachers as live in Texas, men who opposed Mr. Ferguson's position on school land matters. I need not add the Roman Catholic church for as a shrewd, cunning crafty and unscrupulous politician he disguised his friendship to the Catholic church and her hired boomerang, Catholic priests. However, it look ed out this farmer Jim was getting almost the entire support of the Catholic press.

S. A. Knoebs.

Kidnapped Because?

Athens Texas, Oct. 20.

Dear Comrade:—

I lectured at this place last night and heard one of the most probable stories of wrong, treachery, kidnapping that I have heard off in all my life. This is the story as the father told it to me.

My wife is dead. We had four little children. I have a stepson who is working here in town. I married my home, own it now. I have a team and wagon. I had a job, and have it yet. I have two sisters and the children have an aged grandmother who will care for them in my home. But I am a Socialist and I talk it. As a penalty a preacher at Abilene named Nicholas, came with a deputy sheriff to my house while I was at work and my children and I do not know where they are. I have tried in vain to find some trace of them and my heart is breaking."

That was the father's story. An interview with the stepson disclosed the fact that the father was always kind to the mother and the children including the stepson Not yet satisfied I interviewed a neighbor of the family well and this is the information I obtained. The man does not drink. He has never beaten, nor brought any women into the home with the children and spent all the money he obtained upon them. I asked What was the excuse given? The neighbor said: "The Ladies Aid said he was neither mentally, morally nor financially able to care for them. His morals are good, except he votes the Socialist ticket." You can judge of his mind and I will make affidavit that he is as well able financially to care for them as the average working man of Anson.

This is the neighbor's testimony. Now Mr. Hickey I myself have talked to the man and know that he possesses normal intelligence. He is a kind man and wore neat clothes. He gave me the letters received in answer to his pitiful inquiries and I have them in my possession. They are curt, and absolutely make it quite plain that the poor fellow is never to know where his children are, and never to see them again.

I haven't words, Comrade Hickey, but I have great faith in your vocabulary. I have heard you speak and I want you to publish this in the Rebel and comment on it in Tom Hickey's style. Not only that suggest to the Comrades of West Texas the best thing to do. We are ready.

Dora Merts.

* * *

He Says: 500 per cent.

Vernon Tex., Oct. 20, 1914.

Mr. T. A. Hickey,

Hallettsville, Texas.

Dear Comrade:—

I find in your last Rebel that you offer a four years subscription to the first person sending in the exact percentage the bankers make on emergency currency. The farmer deposits his cotton as security for a loan of more or less greenback currency. After he has deposited it the government gives the currency to the bankers who loan it at 12 per cent. The banker pays the government 2 per cent for the money that the banker secures on the farmers security. The difference in favor of the banker seems to be 10 per cent to the superficial observer.

I am at a loss to know whether I have the solution or not. I have been so overpowered with high priced cotton, and my pate is so bumfuzzled as knowing what to do the coming year. Anyhow I give you my solution. If you are the least doubt as to its accuracy let this drop in the waste basket:

.02:: 100 per cent on what bank or pays for use of one dollar.

.04:: 50 per cent.

.10:: 100.50 per cent :: 500 per cent.

J. W. Wells.

* * *

The Banks Should Burn.

Alvin, Tex., Oct. 25, 1914.

The Rebel,

Hallettsville, Texas.

Dear Comrades:—

For one dime enclosed send me twenty Rebels of the campaign edition No. 2.

My first Socialist ticket or ballot will be cast on November 3rd. The plutes had a job to shake me out of the "Democratic" party.

Yours for freedom,

J. R. Clarke.

Beginning to Elect.

Troup, Tex., Oct. 29, 1914.

Mr. T. A. Hickey,

Hallettsville, Texas.

Dear Comrade:—

Enclosed you will find 10 cents for which send me state platforms.

We cotton raisers are in a pell of a fix. We have raised the cotton and clothed the world and our families are naked and hungry. Some thing must be done soon and not later than Janutry 15. I am one of the election judges in my voting place and will see that we get a fair count. I am sure we will elect justice of the peace and constable in this precinct of Cherokee county.

Yours for freedom.

W. E. Webb,

Secretary of Local Mixon.

* * *

Abilene, Tex., Oct. 22, 1914.

The Rebel,

Hallettsville, Texas.

Dear Comrades:—

Enclosed find sub card and 25 cents for 40 weeks to the Rebel which is a "Key to mystery" of the modern Babylon reign. The oppressor, the cause of poverty, sickness and death, Old Babylon has gotten hold of us during the year of 1914. He is visiting the pantry and smoke-house by day as well as by night, making a distinct track that anyone might detect, though he be a democrat or republican. The effect of the last primary was upon the stomach as I find a lot of those primary subjects vomiting and raging under the primary nightmare. Once in a while an enemy-some enters his objective mind he sees those that are around him nursing him from the state of darkness to that of light in the co-operative commonwealth. He declares he will never take another dose of such dope any more. So continue to prescribe the same medicine as we are gaining ground on Mr. Babylon.

Yours for enlightement,

W. F. Johnson.

Route 2, box 55.

* * *

Bad In The Black Land.

Midlothian, Tex., Oct. 27, 1914.

Mr. T. A. Hickey.'

Hallettsville, Texas.

Dear Comrade:—

I am sending you 25 cents in stamps for special edition of the Rebel. Also clipping from the Midlothian Argus. I surely was glad you stung that Dunk Editor. I tell you, Hickey, things is getting equally up here. I have added several Dunks how about Woodrow and prosperity and they look down their noses and say: "I never expect to vote the Democratic ticket again." The merchants are pinching their stomachs and making their brains work. Hurrah for Meitzen, Noble and Hickey.

John Archer.

* * *

Durham, Okla., Oct. 20, 1914.

Dear Comrade:—

I want to say that all laboring people have voted themselves into poverty for years by voting the Democratic and Republican tickets. You have also voted away your rights and liberty. I want to ask you if you are going to continue to vote in the interest of landlords, bankers, speculators and do you think you are protecting your wife and children right when you vote for corporations they are the ones that keep you and your wife in poverty and boss if you want liberty and justice vote the straight Socialist ticket next month. Never vote a democratic or republican ticket again.

E. L. Davis.

* * *

Boycott The Capitalist Press.

Moore, Texas Oct. 18th, 1914.

Mr. T. A. Hickey, Hallettsville, Texas.

Dear Tom:—

I have just got through the last issue of the Rebel and I want to say it is the news paper worth while to read. It is the only publication in Texas that is resolved not to read any history of the European war put out by the capitalist press.

Yours for the good old times that are coming.

D. P. Dickson.

The Socialist party is again the second political party of the state. Let us see that the Socialism lion devours the Democratic donk by the next election.

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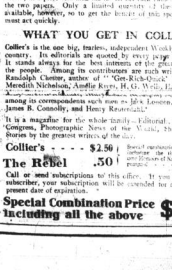

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