

## Big Powers of Plunder Fear "Hot-Bed of Socialism" and Wage War on Coast School

### Brutal Frankness of Plutes Clashes with Aroused Public Sentiment in Struggle for Free Education; Washington Professor and Socialist Organizer Tell the Story.

By HARRY W. LAIDLER

Organizing Secretary, Intercollegiate Socialist Society

DURING the past year the most vigorous attacks on academic freedom have been made in the great Pacific Northwest—that most progressive of the sections of the country. This has been particularly the case since the November elections, which returned, in most of the states, the most reactionary legislatures seen in years. Some of these legislatures, representatives of the big lumber, water power, railroad, banking and other interests, have shown a brutal frankness in their attempt to crush all opposition in the colleges besides

## NOT ONE SOCIALIST BUT, OH! HOW THAT KEPT PRESS HOWLS

That there is not one Socialist in the teaching staff of the department of political and social science at the University of Washington, but that the university is nevertheless attacked by the subsidized press as being the "hot-bed of Socialism" is pointed out in a letter to The American Socialist by J. Allen Smith, dean of the Graduate School of the University of Washington. Prof. Smith is one of those attacked, as is shown in the accompanying article by Laidler. Prof. Smith says:

By J. ALLEN SMITH.

THE situation at the University of Washington is similar to that existing in other states where the special interests are making a determined fight against democracy. In this state, however, there is an unusually large element of intelligent public spirited citizens whose influence has up to the present time been sufficiently strong to prevent any interference with academic freedom in the University.

The fight which is being constantly made on the University is based on the alleged ground that the University is a "hot-bed of Socialism" and that it is "teaching Socialism."

As a matter of fact, however, there is not even one Socialist among the nine members of the teaching staff of the department of political and social science.

The charge of Socialism, widely circulated by the organs controlled by "the interests" is for the purpose of creating a public opinion which they hope will make it possible to carry out their plan to interfere with the freedom of teaching in the University.

What they are really trying to suppress are the twentieth century ideas concerning the labor question, monopolies and government. They seem to believe and perhaps they are right, that if the young men and women now preparing for active citizenship are brought into contact with this newer thought and newer viewpoint, it will lay the foundation for political and economic changes which they regard as undesirable.

and the following year she failed of reappointment to the Commission. The board of regents last year threatened her with discharge from the University but later thought better of it. The board has, however, persistently refused to advance her in salary. This method of reproof sometimes smokes a professor out without causing too great a scene.

PROFESSOR J. K. Hart of the department of Education, one of the most beloved of the professors in the school, has also found that his path is anything but a rosy one. For Professor Hart actually gets his students to think, to prod into the reasons for present conditions. Many of his pupils are going to enter the teaching profession and thinking teachers can do much damage. Professor Hart as well exercises his function as an American citizen and following this session of the legislature, severely criticised, in a public speech, the inexcusable failure of the legislators to consider certain vital legislation. This criticism has led to renewed attacks, and this Spring heartily with the treatment, the professor secured a leave of absence for a year, with the priv-

ilege of resigning at the close of this period.

Professor Edward McMahon of the Department of History, who takes the halo from the head of the worthy fathers of the country and treats Washington as a man rather than as a saint, is also considered unsafe. And so the fight is on.

From 1898 till the present year, partly on account of the existence of this radical group, the legislature has practically refused to appropriate money for the construction of new buildings for the university, although buildings galore have sprung up at the state college at Pullman. In appropriating \$150,000 this year for such purpose, the legislators stipulated that the remainder of the money, \$150,000, be raised through rentals and tuition, thus necessitating, for the first time in the history of the university, the imposing of a tuition charge on those who attend. This tuition will undoubtedly prevent numbers of sons of the working class from attending the college and is in a distinctly backward step in a free American university.

EVEN MORE drastic measures would have been taken had the legislature had thus far seen fit to adopt were it not for the fear of a "general strike" among the militant student body, a fear well grounded, if we can judge from their activities when a reactionary newspaper owner presented chimes to the University, as well as from their present private and public expressions.

## MORGAN AND RESERVE BANKS IN BREACH OF NEUTRALITY.

Following up the charges made in The American Socialist some time ago, the organization called Labor's National Peace Council, has sent the federal reserve board a complaint charging that the United States has been involved in grave breaches of neutrality "through the medium of an extensive conspiracy composed of certain bankers and officers and directors of federal reserve banks and member banks, acting in conjunction with officers and agents of Great Britain, France, and Russia."

J. P. Morgan & Co., and that firm's business allies are named as chiefly responsible for the alleged "conspiracy," through which it is estimated that \$200,000,000 has been obtained from federal reserve banks or member banks for use in connection with the purchase and shipment from the United States of war materials for European belligerents.

## TRY TO BE ACCEPTABLE TO THE "POWERS THAT BE."

The chief danger in most institutions is not so much the fear of discharge as the desire to be acceptable to the "powers that be" in the business and financial world," writes Comfort A. Adams, of the School of Engineering at Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass., in writing to The American Socialist. "I know of no instance in the history of Harvard University," he continues, "where a professor was discharged for his political opinions, although I have heard of several such instances in connection with other universities. I am very glad to say that in my opinion there is no university in the country where a professor is as independent in this respect as at Harvard."

## SETTLING INTOLERANCE.

(From The Chicago Tribune.) The best friend of free speech could not have set a more perfect stage for a finish row between academic freedom and intolerance than the trials now before the country. The dismissals of Dr. Scott Nearing of the Wharton School of Finance and Prof. James H. Brewster of the University of Colorado have brought the issue squarely before the public, stripped of all confusing circumstances.

Both are able and sincere men and both stand high in their respective lines, sociology and law. Dr. Nearing was dropped from the pay roll because he insisted upon the freedom of his ideas on wages, and President Ferrand refused to employ Prof. Brewster because he insisted upon answering the invitation of the industrial relations commission and testifying upon the shocking Colorado strike situation. He was notified beforehand by the president and the threat has been carried out. Neither of the men will be seriously injured financially and it is probable that Dr. Nearing's new book on "Income" will be more widely read than he anticipated and his royalties larger. In addition the leaders of American intellectual thought have recently perfected a union to protect their rights and are working on the cases.

## ANTI-WAR PROTEST, SUNDAY, JULY 18

THOUSANDS of resolutions protesting against intervention in Mexico and against involving the United States in war with any European country should reach Pres. Wilson next week from the Socialist anti-war meetings planned for SUNDAY, JULY 18, called by the Socialist Party National Executive Committee.

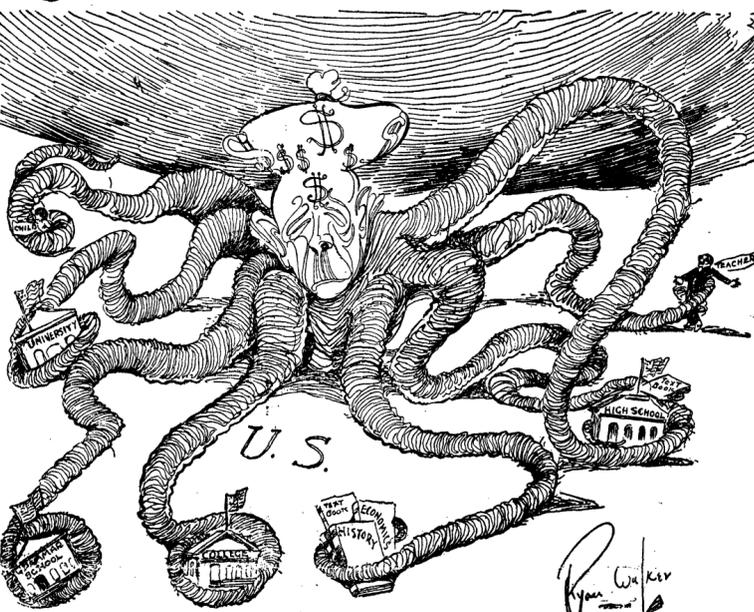
From Joaquin Corres, secretary of the Mexican Federation of Labor Unions, comes an appeal to the Socialists of America, as follows:

"Enemies are making lying famine campaign. Help us expose this imposture, which is against the workers' interests."

That some of the Mexicans are starving is one of the excuses advanced by the Wilson administration for intervention. No mention is made of the millions starving in the United States.

The German reply to Wilson's second Lusitania note, declaring that Americans are not safe on enemy ships, will bring the United States nearer the European war chasm if the American people do not voice, in no uncertain tones, their demand that, "There shall be no war!" This is the hour to strike for peace. Make your voice heard SUNDAY, JULY 18, and forward your protest immediately to Pres. Wilson.

## IN THE GRIP OF THE OCTOPUS



## AFTER STUDYING THIS CARTOON BY RYAN WALKER READ THE FOLLOWING STORY BY ARTHUR W. CALHOUN

By ARTHUR W. CALHOUN

I AM interested indeed in the attempt of The American Socialist to get a line on the question of academic slavery. My acquaintance with the field of education leads me to believe that the dominant influence of capitalism is acting as a deadly damper on the progress of advanced thought. Leading economists and others are unable to call their souls their own, and prominent educators apologize for and defend the system of muzzled servility.

To give one's personal experiences is always a delicate matter; for one may readily be suspected of cherishing a personal grudge or of seeking to make incompetency by pleading that he has been a victim of the dominant plutocracy. I may say at this point that what follows is in no sense a personal issue with me; I cherish no personal grievances; I have no personal enmity toward any one concerned. It is not a question of personalities. The progressive educator is not attacked as a person, but rather as the voice of unpalatable truth. The adversaries are, in turn, mainly blind or cowardly focuses of an exploiting system. It is a battle of principles, not of personalities.

During the past four years I have never been able to forget that the live educator is on the firing line. There was a time when I saw life from the narrow, individualistic, capitalistic point of view. I had no patience with what I deemed the excesses of organized labor. I believed that this is a world of opportunity and that a man gets what he deserves. I upheld the system with enthusiasm. The education that I received in school and college did not open my eyes to the reality of life and did not turn my gaze toward the vital future. I was dead. But somehow or other truth began to leak in—the truth that makes men free. In the course of four or five years I found myself "born again." I was committed to the socialist movement and realized that the big purpose of education is to bring about social progress, yes, social revolution.

ABOUT THAT time I accepted a position as instructor in the Florida State College for Women. I had then been a teacher for a number of years and had pursued the even tenor of my ways in peace. The new conception of the mission of the

## SEND IN THE FACTS

The American Socialist wants to know to what extent the truth is being suppressed and how the education of the people is being tampered with by the Money Power, not only in the colleges and universities, but in the high schools and the elementary schools as well.

In this crusade, therefore, The American Socialist appeals to the workers in the schools, to the great army of teachers, to send in their stories, to tell about the obstacles that confront them in their efforts to tell the truth, and the reign of terror exerted over the teachers everywhere by the rule of gold.

Tell us how you are shackled. We want to publish these facts. If you do not care to have your name used, for fear of losing your job, your name will not be used. But we want to know what you know and how you feel. Help in this crusade to free the schools from the greed of gold.

teacher had been growing upon me, but had not yet made me an undesirable citizen. Part of my work in the Florida State College was to instruct classes in American History. I was delighted with the work, and I opened up in the light of sound economic interpretation. I had a pleasant year in my instructorship and at the end of it was advanced to an Assistant Professorship with an increase in salary.

signation. This action of the board, I was informed, was not because they took exception to my making public addresses on Socialism during the vacation, (a feature played up in the press attack); neither did they have any special objection to my class room teachings; but my personal influence upon the students was the ground of complaint. The outcome aroused a wave of protest that found expression even in newspaper editorials, but there was no recourse.

SINCE THAT time, I have held several positions, and in every case have been vividly aware of the reality of the class struggle and the menace of plutocratic control over the school system. My last position as professor of Sociology and Economics at Maryville College, Maryville, Ohio, from 1913 to 1915 has just terminated in discharge. No one in authority took the trouble at any time to inform me of the ground of dissatisfaction with my work. My classes were an undoubted success from the standpoint of interest and enthusiasm. But local "interests" were sore and pressure seems to have come from a distance. So I once more belong to the great army of the unemployed.

I am sure that in my teaching I am able to look at the social question from both sides. My past history makes me as alive to one viewpoint as to the other. I aim at fairness and completeness of view. But I teach with a purpose, and I think, with a vision, and I am persuaded that the forces that dominate the educational system can be depended upon to squelch the spirit of the social revolution wherever they think it safe to do so. What the future is to be I do not know. I sometimes feel that we "have not yet begun to fight;" that a greater bitterness and a fiercer enmity lie ahead and that the educational system will be a storm center as it has not been heretofore.

In a way I welcome this prospect. I hope the issue will be so clearly drawn, and the iron hand of despotism so ungloried that some of the well-meaning teachers who so far have held their positions at the sacrifice of their manhood will be forced into revolt before they lose their souls.

It is a great thing to learn that things proceed as they must rather than as we want them to. Such philosophy keeps the promoter of right from being discouraged when he apparently loses.

## ELECT MRS. BERGER, SOCIALIST, HEAD OF MILWAUKEE SCHOOLS

Mrs. Meta L. Berger, Socialist, has been elected president of the Milwaukee school board, the first Socialist and the first woman to be elected to this responsible position in any large American city.

This is the reply of the Socialist movement to the Rockefeller and the Carnegies who are trying to subsidize education in America and keep the teachers of the nation's youth, from the kindergarten to the university, in intellectual slavery.

ACTIVE IN SCHOOL WORK. Mrs. Berger has been an active member of the Milwaukee school board for six years. She is a native of Milwaukee, a daughter of Capt. Bernard Schlichting, an early resident of the city. She received her early education in the Eighth Ward school. After graduating from the high school she finished the normal course and for four years taught in the Sixth Ward school. She was married to Victor L. Berger in 1897. Their children were educated in the Milwaukee public schools. Mrs. Berger became a member of the Socialist party 16 years ago.

During her six years' service as a school director Mrs. Berger served for one year as chairman and for the whole time as member of the committee on courses of instruction and text books. She has also served on the building, finance and complaints committees.

Besides advocating free text books for pupils, Mrs. Berger has paid special attention to the work of night schools and supported all plans for giving educational opportunities to unfortunate children such as the schools for crippled children, exceptional children and the fresh air school.

WORKS FOR GREATEST GOOD. "My aim as president of the Milwaukee School board," said Mrs. Berger, "will be, as it has been since my election to membership on the board six years ago, to work for the greatest good to the greatest number; to give the best and broadest chance for educational development to all the children of the people. I want our boys and girls to have every chance. I believe that should be the only object of a school board."

"In order that the children shall have this chance, I am open to conviction on all matters in connection with the schools and education."

Massachusetts Socialists at their recent state convention unanimously adopted a platform which was adopted on militarism and war, on the activity of the Knights of Columbus and kindred organizations, on the race question, in favor of night classes, and on other important questions. The platform also emphasizes the Socialist opposition to war and militarism.

## GREAT VICTORY FOR OUR CAUSE

By VIC'OR L. BERGER

The American public school system is one of the few socialist institutions which we possess and enjoy even with the capitalist system.

It took a great deal of fighting on the part of the American proletariat to win free elementary education for the children of our country. The capitalist class is fully aware of the danger of enlightening the workers and, is therefore, jealously guarding against any liberal extension or further development of the free public schools.

The Socialists, on the other hand, indeed understand how closely emancipation of Labor is interwoven with the free education, hence we consider the control of the public schools one of the paramount issues before us.

In this respect the election of Mrs. Meta Berger — my honored wife — as President of the Milwaukee school board is to be considered a great victory for our cause; a victory which, although it was not accomplished by Socialist votes alone, is the more significant because a few capitalist dailies and all the non-partisan politicians, had for weeks warned against it.

Our enemies declared that the election of Mrs. Berger as President of the school board of Milwaukee — while they conceded her exceptional ability and fitness for the position, — in their opinion, would nevertheless mean another black eye for Milwaukee. They say it would prove once more to the world that today the cause of Socialism is as much alive in Milwaukee as it ever was.

I may also add, that while we have only five members on the school board, — which is one-third of the total membership, — I believe that with the best fore-sight and chess consciousness which our members there have shown so far, we may expect some remarkable results in the future.

## OUR BIRTHDAY!

THIS IS our birthday issue! Just one year ago today THE AMERICAN SOCIALIST was born. One year ago today The Party Builder, which was no more than a weekly bulletin, turned over its 20,000 subscribers to THE AMERICAN SOCIALIST and the first party owned news and propaganda paper came into existence.

We now have 54,290 paid up subscribers. When THE AMERICAN SOCIALIST was little more than a week of the great slaughter in Europe started and an industrial depression spread over the United States that threw millions of workers into the ranks of the jobless.

With the war still on and the army of unemployed still undiminished THE AMERICAN SOCIALIST continues with unabated strength to carry the Socialist message of hope and cheer to the enthusiastic and untiring workers of the Socialist cause on this side of the Atlantic.

It is fitting that on its first anniversary THE AMERICAN SOCIALIST should be engaged in its greatest campaign, an effort to arouse the nation's workers to the great danger of the control of our public schools by Big Business. The workers are awakening to the great threat to their liberties contained in subsidized education — an education controlled by Rockefeller and Carnegie.

Because it feels that the workers are more alive to their interests than ever before, THE AMERICAN SOCIALIST faces the future with confidence and enthusiasm.

It knows that its message is reaching an ever widening audience through the enthusiastic support of the rank and file of the Socialist movement. The birthday of THE AMERICAN SOCIALIST should be the first of a big forward movement. We do not want to stand still or slip backwards during the dull summer months. We must go forward. We have several thousand enthusiasts to step forward and celebrate the first birthday of THE AMERICAN SOCIALIST by signing the accompanying "5,000 PLEDGE," which means that you will send in one subscriber now, and then keep it up every week until the subscription list of THE AMERICAN SOCIALIST reaches the 100,000 mark.

## THE 5,000 PLEDGE

The American Socialist, 803 W. Madison St., Chicago, Ill.

Enclosed find 25 cents for which send the paper to:

Name Street and No. City and State

I hereby pledge myself to send in one subscription a week at the rate of 25 cents for 40 weeks until the subscription list reaches the 100,000 mark.

Your Comrade in the Fight for Socialism,

Name Street and No. City and State

P. S.—Single subscriptions at the rate of 25 cents for 40 weeks will be accepted only from those who have signed "THE 5,000 PLEDGE."

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SATURDAY, JULY 17th, 1915.

Our Slogan ORGANIZE FOR 1916!

NEWS OF THE WEEK

Here is all the week's news worth knowing. It is the only paper that gives you the news of the week in a concise and readable form.

TUESDAY, JULY 6. British government begins coal liquor sale in many places. 10,000,000,000 francs fall in battle as Carranza and Villa forces clash near Mexiquito.

Wednesday, July 7. The Holt, who shot and seriously wounded J. Pierpont Morgan, commits suicide in cell at Mineola, N. Y.

Thursday, July 8. Terrible fire strikes in Ohio River valley and list of dead may reach 100. Twenty-four dead in Cincinnati and vicinity.

Friday, July 9. Fourteen Toronto, Ont., Sunday school children killed and 68 injured when school bus overturned.

Saturday, July 10. The New Jersey Zinc Co., the Zinc Trust, planning to split a \$25,000,000 "million" among its stockholders.

Sunday, July 11. St. Louis, Minn., steaming to Halong after explosion supposed to have been from bomb exploded by Frank Holt, assistant of J. P. Morgan.

Monday, July 12. Austrian said to have lost 15,000 men in unexpected attack by Russian. Germany will ask United States to O. K. ships in reply to Lusitania note.

Tuesday, July 13. U. S. strike of Chicago suspenders comes to an hour in wages.

Wednesday, July 14. London speaks with fare added at big peace meeting in Carnegie Hall, New York City.

Thursday, July 15. Germany rejects Russian latest Lusitania note. Declares American not safe on sea ships. Peace breach widened by Berlin radio.

Friday, July 16. Archbishop Guizy of Chicago dies at Rochester, N. Y.

Saturday, July 17. Main force falls before Carranza. Train robbers get \$500,000 at Green-Wilson administration plans to renew the demands on Germany.

Sunday, July 18. Full of republican party shows Blinn Bull Wall Street's dearest friend. Is favored as 1916 presidential candidate.

Monday, July 19. Held following notices New Orleans paper that explosives have been placed on two British liners.

Tuesday, July 20. British forces said to have lost 100,000 men on 20 mile front in western war.

Wednesday, July 21. Carranza sets up government in Mexico City.

Thursday, July 22. The American Socialist is the only publication in the United States that is telling the real conditions in the nation's educational institutions.

Friday, July 23. That led up to the firing of Prof. Scott Nearing from the University of Pennsylvania, and of Prof. James H. Brewster from the University of Colorado.

Saturday, July 24. It is showing that these are not isolated cases. It is pointing out that this is only part of the studied campaign of big business to keep the public schools, from the kindergarten to the university, in its own hands.

Sunday, July 25. While other publications treated the Nearing and the Brewster cases briefly, The American Socialist will of be satisfied until it has unraveled and published all of the story of the University of Pennsylvania and the University of Colorado all over again.

Monday, July 26. The same conditions are to be found in their universities. When you have read the whole truth in The American Socialist, then you will be prepared to go out among your fellow men and fight for the kind of schools we want.

Tuesday, July 27. At will make enlightened men and women out of the great mass of humanity.

Wednesday, July 28. We are often told that inventions are a blessing to humanity. Occasionally we find a multi-millionaire, who voluntarily boasts the ages of his workers a little, and a considered a blessing to humanity.

Thursday, July 29. Always the blessing comes from someone or something else. Humanity is never supposed to bless itself.

Friday, July 30. The arbitration hearings following the great street car strike in Chicago are now being held. The traction barons are trying to show that every new invention in human transportation has been a blessing to the workers. The traction workers do not agree.

Saturday, July 31. "In the days of the horse car a driver would handle from 400 to 500 in a 16-hour day," declares W. D. Mason, international president of the Ammen's Union. "Along came the motor car, which carries as many as a round trip. The mule power means of transportation was abandoned. A far more profitable as well as more rapid and comfortable transportation medium replaced it. But no benefit from the improvement has come to the men who toil. Inventions have come to benefit humanity. Labor is entitled to its share in the benefits that accrue. Labor has never gotten its share. Then a great mechanical improvement has resulted from the creative genius of some mind capital has taken the plum and thrown to labor the seed and the rind."

Sunday, August 1. So in spite of all the inventions that have been introduced into the transportation of human beings in cities, there has been no increasing benefit to labor. Capital grabbed all of the benefits. Henry Ford is now planning to

PUSH PHILOSOPHY

By LINCOLN PHIFER

The man whose business it is to job others is quite sure anybody can get a job if he wants one.

If our message fails to reach the people, the fault is probably neither in the people or the message, but in the way we present it. Let us try it in a more attractive way.

Humanity has been waiting too long for some one to bless it. Just suppose that humanity stopped for a moment and blessed itself by putting the food trust and the traction trust and all other trusts out of business. With the improved machinery now being used on the nation's farms enough food can be produced to feed every man, woman and child, with food to spare. But food is not produced to feed hungry people. It is produced to feed hungry dollars with profits.

Ford's traction engine may make it possible to produce wheat at 25 cents a bushel. But if the farmer produces "dollars" then wheat will cost a dollar, and there will be a corresponding increase in bread and flour prices.

It is the same in the cities. Street cars are not run for the purpose of carrying people. They are run for the purpose of producing profits. If the people owned the street cars they could ride for two or three cents. But they are satisfied to let the "Nickle Hogs" remain on the job and so they continue to pay five cents for an opportunity to hang on a strap.

Let humanity really bless itself for the first time in the history of the world by immediately abolishing all profits.

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ousting of Nearing and Brewster to be given "proper attention" says Walsh

By LINCOLN PHIFER

The American Socialist, on behalf of its quarter of a million readers, forwarded to Chairman Walsh of the Industrial Relations Commission, a letter urging that the commission investigate the ousting of Prof. Nearing from the University of Pennsylvania, and of Prof. Brewster from the University of Colorado. The letter was as follows:

CHICAGO, ILL., July 5, 1915. FRANK P. WALSH, Chairman, U. S. Commission on Industrial Relations, 608 South Dearborn Street, Chicago.

Dear Sir:—On behalf of its quarter of a million readers, THE AMERICAN SOCIALIST, official organ of the national Socialist Party, urges that your commission investigate the unwarranted dismissal of Prof. Scott Nearing from the Wharton School of Finance of the University of Pennsylvania, and of Prof. James H. Brewster from the law department of the University of Colorado.

Your commission was appointed to investigate the relations between labor and capital. Labor cannot win its own emancipation unless we have free schools and free speech in those schools. No one doubts that Prof. Nearing was dismissed because his views favored the working class and were hostile to the big business interests, the representatives of which dominate the board of trustees of the University of Pennsylvania.

It is also equally clear that Prof. Brewster was ousted from the University of Colorado because he appeared before the commission of which you are the chairman and championed the cause of the exploited miners of benighted Colorado.

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YOUR DUTY NOW!

This issue of The American Socialist reaches nearly 60,000 subscribers and approximately a quarter of a million readers. Every reader ought to be a dues paying member of the Socialist Party.

SOME YEARS AGO AND NOW

SOME YEARS ago when the Socialists contended that there were classes in the United States, a wall of protest and denial was heard from every city, village and hamlet in the country.

LABOR organizations are now, and have since their inception, struggled for a higher standard of living, while organized labor fought glorious battles for the uplift of their class, and incidentally the human race.

THE SOCIALIST Party was organized to capture this governmental tool for the working class, not for the purpose of using it as the capitalists do, but to abolish their system—capitalism—which is based upon labor exploitation.

WALTER LANFERSCHKE, national secretary, is preparing to circulate all the local organizations of the Workers' Sick and Death Benefit Fund (German) and the Arbeiter Ring (Jewish) in support of the "ORGANIZE FOR 1916" campaign.

Executive Department

WALTER LANFERSCHKE, Secretary

National Executive Committee:

JAMES H. MAURER, 1886 N. 11th St., Reading, Pa.

ARTHUR LAUBER, 20th St., Kansas City, Mo.

GEORGE H. GOEBEL, 14 Bridge St., Newark, N. J.

EMIL SEIDEL, 1154-20th St., Milwaukee, Wis.

ARTHUR LAUBER, 20th St., Kansas City, Mo.

Address all communications to The Socialist Party, 803 W. Madison St., Chicago. Address all mail to departmental addresses.

Letters from "American Socialist" Readers.

RULES FOR THIS DEPARTMENT.

The national committee of the Socialist Party in providing for an Open Forum in The American Socialist ruled that:

Recommendation No. 6.—An open forum to contain communications from party members or organizations on disputed points of party policy, views and tactics. No personal abuse or intemperate language shall be allowed.

Contributors to this department will facilitate matters considerably by carefully observing this rule.

GET ON THE FIRING LINE.

It appears to me that the time has come when every class conscious Socialist should get busy spreading the seeds of the revolution that has for its ultimate aim the emancipation of the wage slaves of the world.

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and comrades, but we do not help each other now. Instead we look into the future and dream of the "Happy Socialist Days" to come.

MANIA FOR REFERENDUMS.—The Socialist Party is suffering with an acute mania for useless referendums and constitutional amendments.

HOW TO GET SOCIALISM.—In answer to your question—"What can we do?" I think we could get immediate results on every line by simply practicing what we preach.

DIFFERENT IN TOLEDO.—In the issue of The American Socialist of June 26th, in the article on the recent street car strike in Chicago, most active through the National Day Book, you say of him that "His brain thinks with labor."

THE CRISIS.—The articles on "The Crisis in the American Labor Movement" are timely. I consider Comrade Untermyer the best of the lot, as voicing the thoughts of the party of the rank and file of the party.

ADVERTISING.—I was shocked, to say the least, on reading the article by John M. Work entitled "The Advertising Nuisance."

What is advertising, anyway? The dictionary says that to advertise is to inform—to give public notice of, and if that isn't just the purpose of Socialism I give it up.

MUST INDUCE LABOR TO VOTE AS UNIT.—For some reason, Mr. Gompers appears not to realize that the chief cause of the present political impotence of the American Federation of Labor is its unwillingness or inability to induce labor to vote as a unit.

STICKING TOGETHER.—We Socialists do not hang together enough. This morning I received a letter from an Eastern Socialist who said that the cause of business is at Washington, Pa.

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.—Comrade Frank Cooper, Executive Secretary and the heads of the various National Office departments as a means of promoting efficiency and restoring confidence in the party membership.

ANOTHER REASON.—Another reason for the increased effect of the program by Socialists and other men is the fact that the program is being carried out in the most efficient manner.

THE INTELLIGENTIAL MOVEMENT.—The intellectual movement which is growing up around the Socialist and labor movement in the world today, recently declared, Fred Murray, the famous English classicist, can be compared only with the intellectual movement found in the golden age of Greece.

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conception of enthusiasts who are utterly unable to forecast the stumbling blocks that lie in the way and that have in the past saddled burdens upon the membership that have shaken confidence in our National Office. There is little doubt too, that under such a National Committee, there would be a decided decrease in the number of loony propositions that have had the same effect.

Of course, the question of proportional representation will be raised and the stickler for theoretical democracy will have his say. The first can be answered that even if so inclined, the State Committee and the membership of the state will be loyal enough to see that the State Secretary does not act in the interest of his particular state but rather in the interest of the movement as a whole.

With an Executive Committee composed of the best of the movement, the National Office and a National Committee composed of the head of each state organization, restored hope and confidence could be expected. — GEORGE T. MCCONNELL, Millvale, Pa.

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BIG BOOK BARGAINS

Table listing book titles and prices, including '100 Life and Deeds of Uncle Sam', '100 Brain Jitters', '100 Hillclimb-Gompers Debate', etc.

We are offering you here a list of books at LESS THAN ONE-HALF the usual wholesale price and LESS THAN ONE-FOURTH THE RETAIL PRICE.

NATIONAL OFFICE SOCIALIST PARTY 803 W. MADISON STREET CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

In our educational institutions should attract the attention of the Socialist movement. That they are turning to Socialism with increasing interest each year is evidenced by the report of the year's work given by Harry W. Laidler, organizing secretary of the Intercollegiate Socialist Society.

According to Laidler, 15 undergraduate chapters for the study of Socialism in the colleges of America have been added this season to the membership of the I. S. S. These include Vassar and Syracuse in New York; Bates and Bowdoin in Maine; Pittsburg, Carnegie Institute of Technology and Temple in Pennsylvania; Howard in Washington, D. C.; Oberlin in Ohio; Albion in Michigan; University of Utah in Utah; Northwestern in Illinois; La Crosse Normal in Wisconsin; and Fargo Agricultural and the University of North Dakota in North Dakota.

The Vassar group was the largest that applied this year. It has a membership of 86. The Yale, Harvard, Columbia, Union Theological, Radcliffe and other chapters were most active through the National Day Book, you say of him that "His brain thinks with labor."

Mr. Cochran's brain does NOT think with labor. It thinks with the brain of a capitalist. It is in harmony with the middle class to which he belongs.

It is true he advocates reforms which, if carried out would tend to gloss over the evils which the working-class endures and would thereby divert the class struggle which is the true Socialist work.

As a nearly as I can express it, his policy was to belittle the Socialist Party at all times; towards labor it was to give the impression of being from going to the front when he had trouble at home, and a blatant ringing of the tocsin when labor troubles cropped up outside the State of Ohio.

Just to see what a preacher can think and say, how vigorously and unsparringly a theological professor can go after capitalism, read the following from Vetter's book: "Modern industry has as its noble end the employment of the smallest possible number of workers, at the most possible work day, at the largest possible profit. Hence profit always and of necessity involves getting more than one gives. It is appropriating labor power or its product without giving an equivalent. When violence we call it robbery; when the confidence man does it by a trick we call it swindling; when the manufacturer or merchant does it we call it business. All three take advantage of human weakness, ignorance or necessity. The ethical quality of highway robbery, selling gold bricks and business is precisely the same. Our social ethics make a distinction, but there is no difference.

"Yes, there is one important practical difference; profit is an end in itself, while robbery and swindling supports thousands of pious people; it maintains churches and foreign missions; it endows schools; it makes possible (and necessary) all our hospitals and asylums and sanatoriums. But it remains theft, for it is the taking of property from those who have produced it and giving it to others who have produced nothing. This is done under process of law and in the most seemly way, but it violates the law of God."

THE PEOPLE'S COLLEGE, No. 8, Fort Scott, Kansas. Let us help fit you for better service. Delay robs you of your own time. Write us today.

SONG WRITERS Reliable Publishers never charge you a cent to publish your work when they accept it. WHY? "MANUAL OF SONG WRITING" will tell you all about the business. Price 50c, no stamps. Sold under a "Money Back Guarantee." Address—Western Valley Distributors, 1628 Monte Vista, Colorado.

THE FOOL-KILLER The hottest and funniest paper on earth. Written with a red-hot poker dipped in razor-soup. It rides the devil's straddle without a saddle, and spurs him at every lunge. Death to fools, rascals and hypocrites! Monthly, 25c a year. Special offer: Send ten cents and ten names and get it a year for your trouble. The Fool-Killer, 18 S. St., Moravia, Pa. U. S. C. P. D. No. 10,000.

NOTICE TO SHRETTABLES! All secretaries (and other) are requested to send 50 cents for a FREE Sample Package Socialist "PACER" Blotter, Envelope (with Post Card-Endorse Two Families) (stamp) for mailing expense.—Geo. Dickert, 1007 N. Fla., Philadelphia, Pa.

START FRIENDLY CONTEST IN "ORGANIZE FOR 1916" EFFORT.

The biggest kind of a friendly contest is developing between the English and foreign language locals in the United States in the "ORGANIZE FOR 1916" effort.

In Chicago, for instance, the German Central Committee, has ordered all of its affiliated branches to send \$2 asked of each of their 6,000 socialist locals by the National Executive Committee.

Walter Lanferschke, national secretary, is preparing to circulate all the local organizations of the Workers' Sick and Death Benefit Fund (German) and the Arbeiter Ring (Jewish) in support of the "ORGANIZE FOR 1916" campaign.

All of the foreign translator-secretaries of the Socialist Party have translated the "ORGANIZE FOR 1916" call of the National Executive Committee and it is being published in all of the foreign language Socialist publications. This is what the locals say in sending in their contributions:

"Hope that every local will help and that the great cause will advance as never before." — E. B. BERTZ, Sec'y, Local, Martinsburg, W. Va.

"I hope the response to the appeal will be the greatest since we started a little while ago." — WALTER BERTZ, Sec'y, Local, Martinsburg, W. Va.

"We send it with a spirit of good will and earnest wish for your success." — J. CELLO, Local, Portsmouth, Va.

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WALTER LANFERSCHKE, Secretary

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Address all communications to The Socialist Party, 803 W. Madison St., Chicago. Address all mail to departmental addresses.

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