

Here's Way To Strike Terror Deep Into The Heart Of Wall Street

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE SOCIALIST PARTY OF THE UNITED STATES:

COMRADES: The West is answering the call of the East! Comrade E. B. Smith of Oakland, California, writes me that my appeal for subscriptions to the series of campaign leaflets I am to write has not fallen upon deaf ears in the Golden State. "My local", he says, "will probably take 60,000 or 80,000 of your leaflets". Comrade Smith is organizer of Local East Oakland, a district, he says, of about 50,000 population.

In other words, Local East Oakland is going to distribute from 6,000 to 8,000 leaflets during each of the last ten weeks of the campaign. The cost of the leaflets will be either \$3 or \$4 depending upon whether 6,000 or 8,000 are ordered.

What do these figures mean? They mean that if the rest of the country were to order leaflets on a basis of 6,000 to each 50,000 of population that each leaflet would have a circulation of 12,000,000!

IS \$3 a week too much to pay to bring our message to the attention of 50,000 persons? If it were, Socialism would not be worth bothering about. For \$60,000, we could distribute 12,000,000 leaflets a week for ten weeks—120,000,000 leaflets in all—at an average cost to each party member of less than \$1.

EITHER WE ARE IN EARNEST, OR WE ARE NOT. EITHER WE ARE WILLING TO SACRIFICE A LITTLE TO BRING SOCIALISM HOME TO THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES OR

WE ARE NOT. EITHER WE WANT SOCIALISM TO GO AHEAD BY LEAPS AND BOUNDS OR WE DO NOT.

The supreme duty of the hour is to make this leaflet campaign a tremendous success. It can be done. It is being done. The orders are coming in to the National Office. What I ask is for every local in the country to order all it believes it can afford, AND TO PUT ITS ORDER IN NOW! Not another local meeting should pass without sending an order of at least 6,000 to each 50,000 of population. I want each comrade to know that I consider this the most important business that confronts each local that has not already sent in its order.

Terror would strike deep into the heart of Wall street (which is the heart of the Amer-

ican capitalist class) if the news were to be published abroad that the Socialist party were distributing 12,000,000 pamphlets each week. Why not give these gentlemen a run for their money this year? They have always had contempt for the Socialist Party. So long as they have too easy victories, they always will have contempt for it. Let us wipe the sneer from the face of Wall street this year.

A word about distribution. The Milwaukee plan probably cannot be improved upon. The Milwaukee plan is the bundle brigade. Let each local call for volunteers for the bundle brigade. Let each brigade elect a commander. Let the commander assign to each comrade certain blocks in which to distribute leaflets. Let the brigades and their commanders meet at the local rooms

at 8 o'clock each Sunday morning. In two or three hours each city can be peppered with our message. Remember, the Milwaukee plan is the plan that made Milwaukee a Socialist city!

The greatest opportunity we ever had is walking into our arms! The country is now ready, as it never was before, to hear our message. We must make good—we shall make good!

Yonkers, N. Y. ALLAN L. BENSON.

NOTE.—Nearly half a million of these leaflets, for each week during 10 weeks, have already been ordered. Additional orders are piling in every day. Send all orders to National Office, Socialist Party, 803 W. Madison St., Chicago. These leaflets are 50 cents per thousand, \$5 for 1,000 each week for 10 weeks, 10,000 in all.

HELP WIN OKLAHOMA FOR SOCIALISM THIS YEAR!

No. 197 If No. 198 appears on your address label, your subscription expires next week. Do not fail to renew.

AMERICAN SOCIALIST

OUR TICKET THIS YEAR

For President
ALLAN L. BENSON
For Vice-President
GEORGE R. KIRKPATRICK

VOL. III. No. 5.

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CHICAGO, SATURDAY, AUGUST 12, 1916

60c per year; \$1 per year outside United States; 25c for 40 weeks in Clubs of 4 or more except in Chicago

Mighty Victory Won In Oklahoma; Socialists Crush Democratic Machine

WE HAVE won in Oklahoma! The iniquitous plot of the world party politicians, backed by plutes of every stripe, to rob the industrial workers and farmers of the state of their right to the ballot has been overwhelmingly defeated. An open field for a state-wide Socialist victory in November is the promising outlook.

The capitalist press of the nation has again been silent. The merest mention was given this great victory by the subsidized newspapers of the land. Late returns of Tuesday's election show that the "literacy test amendment" opposed by the Socialists alone was defeated by a two to one vote.

This great news came to The American Socialist from H. M. Sinclair, state secretary of Oklahoma, in a telegram as follows:

"Democrat machine crushed. The 'Oklahoman' concedes defeat of 'literacy test' two to one. Democrat vote by far smallest in its history. Socialist vote by far the heaviest. Greatest victory ever won. The donks are a sick bunch. Landslide is on for November election."

The "literacy test" would have disfranchised any person unable to read or write any section of the state constitution and was admittedly intended as a substitute for the infamous "grandfather" law, declared unconstitutional by the United States supreme court because it in effect deprived negroes of the right to vote. The Socialists killed the "grandfather" law and in the fight against the "literacy test" pointed out that it not only was intended to disfranchise negroes but white men as well.

The "literacy test" was the last hope of the Democratic political czars to control the state and local government in behalf of the landlords, bankers and other plute parasites. With this "test" in force enough Socialists could be disfranchised to keep the Democratic machine in power. With this "test" defeated the way is open for a complete Socialist victory in November.

The democratic bosses fought to the last and died hard. By noon on election day half the voting precincts in the state were without ballots. Thousands were therefore denied the right to register their protest against the "literacy test."

Immediately the results became known in Chicago, Adolph Germer, national secretary, on behalf of the Socialist Party and The American Socialist, sent this message to the Oklahoma Socialists:

"Accept hearty congratulations from the national office force on your sweeping victory. Verily this is the year for the workers of Oklahoma and the nation. Keep up the good work. We are with you!"

Here is a special story sent to The American Socialist by State Secretary Sinclair telling about the struggle that preceded election day:

The Fight In Oklahoma

By H. M. SINCLAIR,
State Secretary.

Oklahoma Socialist Party.

OKLAHOMA is blessed, or cursed, just as you prefer, with the most corrupt political machine that ever existed in any state.

The Democrats have had full sway ever since Oklahoma became a state and adopted its constitution and their chief ambition since that time has been to centralize the power and rule in the hands of a selected few who constitute the political machine. And the tactics they have used would have been a disgrace to any civilized community.

The State Constitution gave the people certain rights and powers to make or unmake laws which were forced upon the delegates to the constitutional convention thru the farmers' organizations by committing them before the election to a "pledge." These delegates were hirelings of the Capitalist Class, smooth in tongue, tricky in tactic, and deceitful in their real intent. They were representatives of what we term in the state as the "Interlocked Parasites", constituting bankers, landlords, credit store keepers and parasites of smaller degree. They were parading under a caption "Let the People Rule" and started right to make good their pledge, but no sooner had they been enthroned than their tricky tactics became evident and since that memorable occasion they have been tearing down the constitution, stripping the people of all their rights and making laws in the interest of the group they represent, the Capitalist Class.

Republicans Also Subservient. The Republicans played along the same line of attack. They, too, had no desire to antagonize "Big Business" and the Lords of Industry. They have had no organization in the past nor do they have any now. Their campaign consists chiefly of the usual harangue a few days before election and thrives on hopes of a National victory that the inside few may get at the public teat again.

In the meantime, the Socialist Party by insistent work has kept hammering away on the class struggle, carrying on a campaign of education along this line, and building up a

fighting organization to combat this would-be Colossus.

The strength of this new and young fighting organization became apparent when they commenced to do big things and then the fear of God came into the hearts of the machine in control and since that time there has been no rest for the wicked.

Determined that "The People Should Rule" and that True Democracy should reign supreme in Oklahoma, the Socialist Party started its campaign against these political crooks by initiating a constitutional amendment a measure for "A Fair Election Law. Thirty-eight thousand signatures were required to initiate this measure and at less than \$250 expense to the State Office there were secured more than 69,000 names and the petition was filed according to law.

Parasites Become Uneasy. It was here that the Socialist Party strength became known and caused the parasitical group so much uneasiness. It was the work of the "Boys down at the forks of the creeks, on the cross roads" as we term it, that did the work. It is the real producers of wealth that constitute our organization. The men and women who work in the field all day and ride their precinct at night delivering the message of Socialism to their unwary neighbors.

In the meantime we had been waging a fight in the courts against one of their disfranchising laws previously enacted and commonly known as the "Grandfather Clause" and after years of court delay and expense we succeeded in knocking out this unfair law, as unconstitutional. It was up to their Master Mind (Gov. Williams) to do something to save the party from defeat for well he knew that it could no longer maintain its hold upon the state government by an honest expression of all the voters in the state. A part of the citizenship must be disfranchised to perpetuate themselves in power.

He called the legislature together in Special Session and proceeded to pass a "Registration Law" and a "Literacy Test" against the wishes of the people of this state who thru the Socialist Party organization sent petitions of protest against their passage with more than 190,000 names signed thereon and these names were secured during the busy time of

the year in less than two weeks without any expense to the State Office except that of printing and mailing out the petition forms. At the last election for Governor there were last some 253,000 votes cast, and this you can get an idea of the efficiency of the organization that is doing things in Oklahoma.

Disregarding the entreaties of their constituents at home, these murderers of human liberty met and in a grand finale of curses, flying ink wells, drawn automatic guns and other ungentlemanly maneuvers forced their disfranchising laws and attached the emergency clause so the people could not get a chance to have a straight, and honest vote on their adoption.

"Literacy Test" The Issue.

This "Literacy Test Law" was the issue in this campaign. It was aimed at the working class. It gives an appointed member of the Machine the power to put a "Reading and Writing Test" to any voter and the autocratic power to pass final judgment on his qualifications. There is no danger of the meek and servile Donk, the one who votes for straight or wrong, being put to the test. It is not intended for any one who votes to suit the Gang in control but will be hell on the opposition man whether he be Republican, Socialist or Anti-Machine Democrat.

Being a Constitutional Amendment this law, with others, were voted on by the people at the Primary election, August 1.

The manner in which it was submitted was dangerous. They, knowing well that it could not be adopted by an honest Yes and No vote, as 8 other constitutional amendments on the same ballot appear, had attached a specially prepared system in order to accomplish their purpose. This new system of voting consists of the following:

Following the Ballot Title, which is well worded to deceive, were printed three small words with no distinguishing marks about them.

FOR THE AMENDMENT.

In order to vote against this infamous law it was necessary to mark out the three words with a LEAD PENCIL and failure to do so meant that the vote would be cast for the law.

They flushed the Registration law by automatically registering voters who have been dead for a year, many who had moved from the state, and other irregularities and thus make their state registration appear extra large.

With this self-voted ballot, they expected to stuff the boxes with blank ballots and count them as voting for the law. They will take advantage of all the illiterate votes, the "don't care" element and likewise count them in their favor. Then to cap the climax they have the election machinery to give out the figures and steal as many as are necessary to defeat it.

A clean cut majority of 50,000 is necessary to overcome their dirty work. I believe the good work done by the comrades in this state accomplished its purpose and saved the day.

Socialists Fight Alone.

The Socialist Party has waged the only campaign against this and other machine measures and the victory was in their credit.

One million, five hundred thousand pieces of literature were sent out during the last six weeks besides thousands of personal letters.

Just before the election the Machine passed word down to its tools in county and precinct to deny the Socialist Party a counter at the primary election, in open violation of the Law and decisions of the Supreme Court. Mass conventions were held in every county seat and Mandamus proceedings instituted against the culprits. We were forced to fight for every inch that was ours under the law. We are fighting and will be at it every minute until the last vote is counted and the Machine crushed in the general election in November.

The Socialist Party is pitted against the Political Machine. It champions the fight for the people against corruption. It has been an uphill fight against tremendous odds but I believe the fight has been won.

tiated a constitutional amendment nullifying their infamous registration law and substituting one for cities of over 1,000 population that would be fair to every one, getting 81,931 signatures which, altho circulated during the busiest time of the year with the farmers, is the largest ever filed in this state.

Notwithstanding the statute law, the constitution and all laws of decency the Governor who rules with an iron hand in this state has refused to submit the Fair Election and Fair Registration Laws initiated by the people at the primary election. The power of mandamus does not extend to his czarish position.

Sacrifices Heart Rending.

The people of this state are fast awakening to the fact that the Socialist Party is making their fight and are joining hands with us by the thousands. Poverty lurks on all sides. The sacrifices that are being made to carry on this fight are heart rending in some cases but the fight goes merrily on and Machine Rule will be crushed in Oklahoma this year and the Socialist Party will send three and possibly six loyal, class conscious comrades to congress, will get 30 to 50 members in the lower house and about 10 in the senate and will send ten electors to the Electoral college and cast their votes for Benson and Kirkpatrick.

Win Oklahoma!

The American Socialist feels there are thousands of Socialists and sympathizers thruout the country who would like to help carry the entire state of Oklahoma for Socialism this fall.

A very simple plan has therefore been worked out by which you can help. The party national executive committee has just decided to send 280,000 of the Benson campaign leaflets each week for five weeks to help the Oklahoma campaign.

State Secretary H. M. Sinclair, of Oklahoma, says that the Oklahoma comrades would like enough of these leaflets to cover the state, every precinct of it, every week for 10 weeks. Whether the national organization can comply with this request depends upon your campaign contributions.

Let the readers of The American Socialist pay for the remaining five issues of this series; 280,000 each week for five weeks; 1,400,000 in all at 50 cents per 1,000; that's only \$700.

Allan L. Benson, our presidential candidate, is going to write these leaflets, ten of them, all different. The American Socialist would like to see every Oklahoma voter read every one of these leaflets. Therefore, let us help the national executive committee by contributing the \$700 necessary to pay for the second 1,400,000 leaflets. Let us do it all in one week. Just to help you, here is a blank, all ready to be filled in. Remember, we are out to win an entire state for Socialism. Will you help?

TO HELP WIN OKLAHOMA THIS YEAR!

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

Enclosed please find \$....., my contribution to help send 280,000 of the Benson campaign leaflets into Oklahoma each week for five weeks, 1,400,000 in all, and help carry the state for Socialism this year.

Sender's Name

Address

City State

Warning That Routed Oklahoma Plutes
(Reproduction of Final Oklahoma Socialist Campaign Poster)

DANGER!

You Are to Be Disfranchised!

Another registration of ALL voters is to take place between
August 10th and 20th,

Unless You go to the Polls on Aug. 1
and vote down the Literacy Test proposed by the Williams machine

TRICKY BALLOT

You cannot vote YES or NO on this Literacy Test Law

It will appear on the ballot thus:

State Question No. 82. Initiative Petition No. 55.
"Proposition prohibiting property qualifications, but imposing literacy test for electors, excepting those who served in army or navy of the United States in war with Mexico, or on either side in war with certain Indian tribes, or on either side in Civil War, or in war with Spain, or of any foreign nation, or in National Guard or militia of any State, and all lawful descendants of such persons and those that served on the side of the Colonies in American Revolution and in War of 1812, and those prevented by physical disability from complying with such test."

FOR THE AMENDMENT.

These last three words constitute the trick. To vote against the amendment, you must strike out the words

FOR THE AMENDMENT

with a lead pencil, making it appear thus:

FOR THE AMENDMENT

The gang will see that no lead pencil is furnished with the supplies. You must have your own lead pencil. After striking out these three words, put your pencil in your pocket, mark the rest of the ballot with the words you find in the box. IF YOU USE A LEAD PENCIL ON THE REST OF YOUR BALLOT, THE GANG WILL THROW OUT THE BALLOT AS MUTILATED.

H. M. SINCLAIR,
Secretary-Treasurer of the Socialist Party of Oklahoma.

Post in a Public Place at Once.
Leave at least one to post near polls on election day.

This is a reproduction of the final poster used by the Oklahoma Socialists in their war against the "literacy test", which resulted in an overwhelming victory for them Tuesday, August 1. The original poster was printed in red and was about twice the size of this reproduction. It shows how the Socialists carefully explained away the tricks and pitfalls, the unscrupulous democratic machine had planned for the voters. The "literacy test" has been killed, the democratic machine has been crushed, the way has been cleared for carrying the entire state for Socialism in November.

An innocent resolution by Socialist Alderman Emil Seidel, former Mayor of Milwaukee, calling on the national government in its plans for preparedness to consider first the welfare of the American people, and to seek to improve their living conditions, drove the "Non-partisan" majority of the council into an insane spasm during which they hounded about in their seats, shouted epithets at the Socialist minority, and grew so purple in the face that several of them came within an ace of choking to death. One guy, after the militaristic stuff was jammed thru, began to hum a patriotic tune to show what a really good American he is, but the still didn't go out and enlist, and neither did any of his cabal.

When an idea strikes it wins.

Extremes may meet, but under capitalism it is hard to make ends meet.

What is the world coming to, if you can't escape the shark even when you get into the swim?

The preparedness parades didn't induce even the promoters of them to enlist.

The "spirituality" that is "born of the war" will have hot eyes and a tiger's heart. Soul it will not have.

The paralysis germ is poverty. One must clean up the palaces and counting houses to destroy it.

War debts mean the management of the nation's finances for the benefit of the bondholders.

The troops on the border have discovered that they are not out on a lark. They seem rather to be on a wild goose chase. 'Tis a foul deed, however noticed.

An army is a great convenience. These troops on the border may be moved back in case of a railroad strike and so help to break it.

Government control of industries, coupled with private ownership thereof, means only that the government shall so manage it as to rob the many for the benefit of the few.

Greatest Mystery Of The Age

By DUNCAN McDONALD,
Secretary, Illinois Mine Workers.

Science has shown us some really wonderful things. Evolution has brought about remarkable changes, but to my mind there is one thing that neither Science nor Evolution has been able to account for; one thing to the average person seems beyond the realm of possibility and no one thus far has accounted for it; that is the spectacle of a man or a woman of the working class and especially a trade unionist, fighting and starving on the industrial field, and dying, as is often the case, because of an unjust, inhuman, wolfish, industrial system, and then when election day comes the same system is again voted for.

If we complain of our misery we are discharged, if we organize we are blacklisted, if we strike the militia are sent out to perform their usual vocation of protecting strike-breakers and scabs, to shoot down and imprison the workers and to force them to submit to the terms of the masters. All of this work has had the support and approval of the Republican and Democratic Parties including some of the labor scabbers who are waiting for some sort of a grafting political job when the workers turn them out.

Vote For Strike-Breakers.

The Socialist Party has raised funds for every strike to help them win a part of what they are justly entitled to. It has not only raised funds but its members have been on the firing line in every industrial contest in recent years. Their press, their publication and their whole machinery have been at the disposal of the workers; on the farm, in the shop, in the mine and in the mill. The Republican and Democrat Organizations have helped by sending out strike-breakers or the militia, and yet, there are some workers who cut off their nose to spite their face, by voting for strike-breaking Parties—the reprobate Republican or the Demogorgon Democrat Party.

To see both these Parties in actual operation go to Washington, D. C., where they are burning up the people's money in pork barrel appropriations, and drawing \$7,500 per annum out of the treasury for doing what the common people do not want them to do and refusing to do what they are hired for.

Take Look At Yourself.

If you want to see operating separately go to a Republican State and watch them dance to the music of the Interests and carry out the mandates of the Trusts and Corporation shlylocks, who pay starvation wages but contribute liberally to the campaign fund, and violate the law with impunity—There is a Republican Judge on the bench. Or, go to the Southern States and see the child slaves in the cotton mills or the poor colored fellow doing the street work chained to prevent his escape. Then with a guilty conscience timidly approach a good strong—guaranteed never to break—brass bound, copper riveted, looking glass, and after due and humble apology for having supported an infamous, inhuman, unjust industrial and political system, make a new Declaration of Independence, and pledge yourself never more to vote for the greedy old Plutes but vote for yourself, and everything else shall be added unto you. Vote for the only Party that represents the Working Class and be honest both with yourself and your fellow workers. Vote the Socialist Ticket.

Socialism must be making great headway in the Argentine Republic. At the recent election three Socialists were chosen members of Parliament in Buenos Aires. The chief city of Argentina, the party polling 50,000 votes. In La Plata the Socialists secured 10,000 votes and 2,000 in San Fe. A late report says that an attempt was made to assassinate Jus B. Justo, one of the Socialist elects to Parliament, who is also editor of a party paper. Justo is recovering. The thug escaped.

Here's Brilliant Record Of Lone Socialist In Congress

By LUCIEN SAINT.

Special Washington Correspondence.

WASHINGTON.—For two years the Socialist Party and the working class of the United States have been represented in the House of Representatives by one man—Meyer London, of the 12th New York district. London during this period has been the minority party of the lower chamber. His was the one voice heard against the voting of funds for the famous "Get Villa" expedition into Mexico. He voted against the big preparedness program, along with a few timid pacifists and members who wanted a still larger program of defense. He always voted and raised his voice for labor in those halls where labor's voice is rarely if ever heard.

"Alone in Congress" might be the title of a book by Meyer London, for he has worked with little help from even the so-called "labor group" in the House. Yet he has not been alone, for outside the walls of Congress were hundreds of thousands of men, women and children, whom he really represented, and who stood behind him, giving him moral support and power.

London's bare record shows two years of hard activity. During his term he has held membership in three committees—Labor, Mines, and Expenditures in the Department of Labor. He spoke in debate some thirty times, and answered to eighty-four roll calls.

Here is the barest summary of the record:

URGES CONFERENCE OF NEUTRAL NATIONS.

INTRODUCED, Dec. 6, 1915, House Joint Resolution, calling upon the President to call a conference of neutral nations to offer mediation to the warring powers, and outlining principles on which a durable peace should be based.

Took this resolution up with President Wilson, in company with Hillquit and Maurer of the Socialist National Executive Committee on January 24. Conducted hearings on it, February 13 and 24, before the House Foreign Affairs Committee. Twenty national organizations sent spokesmen to the hearings to support it.

Secured its introduction in the Senate by Senator Lane of Oregon.

WORKS FOR NATIONAL INSURANCE FUND.

INTRODUCED, February 19, 1916, House Joint Resolution 159, "For the appointment of a Commission to prepare and recommend a plan for the establishment of a National Insurance Fund, and for the mitigation of the evil of unemployment." Social Insurance plan.

Conducted hearing on this measure, May 6 and May 11, before the House Committee on Labor.

Secured approval of Labor Committee for a modified form of this measure, which he reported on behalf of the Committee as H. J. Res. 250, on July 1, 1916. Provides for a Commission on Social Insurance, to investigate and recommend to Congress to set up a national fund for old age pensions, sickness insurance and unemployment insurance.

VOTES AGAINST INVASION OF MEXICO.

MADE speeches, introduced and defended amendments to bills, and voted in Committee of the Whole and in the House, against all phases of the military and naval expansion program.

Voted alone against the appropriation for the expedition into Mexico. Cast one of the two votes registered against drafting the National Guard for service on or beyond the Mexican border.

Cast the only anti-militarist vote against the Hay military bill. Prevented, as a result of this fact, the agreement of the House to the proposal of 250,000 men for the regular army, adopted in the Senate.

Spoke and voted for immediate independence for the Philippines. Made almost single-handedly the fight against disfranchisement of 165,000 workers in Porto Rico. As a result, the Senate Committee recommended that this disfranchisement be postponed for ten years.

Made only speech of the session to House urging direct government development and operation of hydro-electric power.

Voted for government armor-plant and nitrate-plant amendments to the army bills respectively, but voted against bills as a whole.

Spoke and voted for Child Labor bill, and offered amendment to Workmen's Compensation bill to make it cover occupational diseases.

Spoke and voted for income and inheritance tax provisions of the Revenue bill. Spoke and voted against retaining tariff on sugar. Urged federal taxation of unearned increment of land values.

Spoke and voted against "Holland riders" increasing the hours of labor of 30,000 government clerks in the District of Columbia.

Spoke and voted against stop-watch "efficiency" systems in government shops. Supported Nolan \$3 minimum wage bill for government employes.

Spoke and voted against literacy test in immigration bill. Urged President Wilson to use his influence with European governments to secure civil rights for Jews.

Voted for government-owned and government-operated shipping lines. Took up with the several administrative departments, during the year, the defense of the right of registration of voters in Oklahoma, of free speech in Ohio, of free political expression in the Mare Island Navy Yard, of residence of Japanese radicals in Seattle and San Francisco when threatened with abduction to Japan, etc.

PERSONAL REPORTS TO CONSTITUENTS.

DELIVERED personal reports to his constituents in New York City at intervals, explaining the work of Congress.

Circulated printed speeches on "Preparedness", "Child Labor", "National Honor", "Increased Military Establishment", "The Villa Expedition", "United States Commission on Industrial Relations", "Immigration", and "Social Insurance".

Introduced and defended resolution declaring that Congress would not approve war begun in defense of right of Americans to travel on armed merchantmen of the belligerents.

JUST OUT
NEW CAMPAIGN LEAFLETS
Hot Off The Bat

The following new leaflets are just coming off the press at the National Office. More are to follow very shortly. But these are going into type and will be ready for shipment by the time the orders are in. Every one of these is a brand new leaflet—right up to date—live stuff that will burn up the enemy's opposition.

All are four page leaflets.
Price 20c per 100; \$1.50 per 1,000; \$1.15 per 1,000 in lots of 5,000 or over.

GET SOME FRESH AMMUNITION AND GO AFTER THE PLUTES.

- By John M. Work,—"THE GOLD BRICK TWINS"—shows up the two old parties—rips all the fuzzy splinters off their platforms and shows there is no difference between them—both trying to put over a gold brick on the people. Just the thing to hand to the man that has just jarred loose.
- By Geo. R. Kirkpatrick,—"WHAT WE HAVE AND WHAT WE WANT"—tells you what we have under capitalism so clearly and so vigorously that it makes you mad clear—then tells you just as clearly and definitely what we Socialists want—one of the best presentations of our ideas ever written.
- By James H. Maurer,—"A HEART TO HEART TALK WITH UNION MEN"—a straight appeal to union labor by the President of the Pennsylvania State Federation—an argument that no trades unionist can dodge—ought to be read by every trades unionist in the United States.
- By A. M. Simons,—"AMERICA DECIDES THIS YEAR"—a smashing blow at Militarism and War—literally on fire with the denunciation of capitalism for its murderous war policies—and shows the Socialist Party and its program the only way to peace.

SELECT YOUR LEAFLET NOW. BE PREPARED. ORDER TODAY. THESE LEAFLETS WILL GO FAST.

Socialist Party
803 WEST MADISON STREET, CHICAGO.

"A burnt child dreads the stove" as the old saying has it, puts some old-party voters in a different class than the children, because they get burnt and still flutter near the flame.

If you don't believe that Socialism is a good thing, just look up what some of the worst labor haters the world has ever witnessed, say about it.

Col. Teddy has been indulging in his favorite pastime of "rough riding." Only this time the riding was done on the backs of his faithful political followers. Such is the lot of "followers."

The people that want progress in reality, instead of in name, will vote for Benson and Kirkpatrick, which means that the REAL Progressives need not lament the passing of the so-called Progressive Party.

If you don't know what Socialism means, you ought to find out before November, as you may pass up something that is very much worth while.

Because Socialism is a preventive to exploitation, some people that consider this a sacred institution, will tell you that Socialism means the destruction of morals.

The funniest people in the world are the variety who stoutly maintain that Socialism, is all theory, unworkable and impossible—and still grow hot under the collar every time the subject is mentioned.

Most reformers attack some limb of the tree of Capitalism, but when it comes to attacking its roots, they draw the line, and for that reason most reformers are fighting wind-mills.

In order to have real political democracy, you must begin by controlling YOUR political party. Socialists control their party. The "too" old parties are controlled by political bosses and by propertied interests.

Capitalism means that the workers who produce the wealth of the world are to receive for their work as little as possible in return, and the reason that the workers have not grasped the system by their votes, is because they haven't grasped this fact.

The reason that many workers still act contrary to their best interests, by voting against, and not with the Socialists, is not because they have no sense—but because they have failed to "sense" the truth about the present system.

Socialist literature is the best possible seed to plant, in order that a goodly harvest of Socialist votes shall be reaped. For that reason even the humblest party member or sympathizer has full opportunity to help prepare a good harvest.

The rulers over in Europe fooled nearly all of the people with their preparedness bunk, and now the politicians in the United States are seeking to contradict Lincoln's maxim—"that you can't fool all the people, all of the time".

Some people will never learn that lying about things will profit them very little. This applies in particular to writers and speakers that lie about Socialist principles.

Socialists believe in making war—upon poverty, which is caused by capitalism, and for which no possible justification can be found.

If you want to firmly establish your "right" to live, you must establish your right to work—which means that you must establish a social order that will place the land and the tools of industry into the people's hands.

We can see no more difference between the platforms and policies of the republican and democratic parties than the names and if the labels were changed around, hardly anyone would be able to tell the difference.

Of course the "outs" know why they want to get "in", but where do you fit "in"?

Many voters have so often thrown their votes away, that they can't imagine that there is such a thing as voting in a manner to make one's vote count.

To get real meaning into the "voice of the people", begin by sending more Socialists into Congress, to give voice to the things the people really want.

There is as much reason why the railroads should be owned by the government as there is why the wagon roads should be so owned.

Reforming capitalism is as futile as placing hempen cords around an old tree to keep it from falling to pieces.

The trust is a private institution that is after plunder. Make the government a trust to prevent plunder by acting in your behalf, and you have dismantled the privateer.

Texas is no longer the state of the Cyclone; but its politicians are pretty witty at that.

In speaking of "Justice" Hughes' "splendid decisions concerning labor" it is well to remember how his Danbury Hat decision deprived hundreds of workers of their homes in the interest of the master class.

Capitalism has, since last Presidential campaign, dragged the world into medieval war and preparedness. Socialism has, during the same period, dragged all parties into profession of progressivism. Facts indicate the tendency of each.

The world has never been cured by wishes and never will be. "Good will to men" is fine for the individual that exercises it, but it is stopping exploitation that will really count.

It is a great thing to know enough to not know too much.

All that the individuals who ever were sent to the penitentiary for theft ever stole is not a thousandth part as much as what the capitalist system steals legally from the workers of the world every year.

With Debs Down On The Wabash

By GEORGE R. KIRKPATRICK
Socialist Candidate For President.

IT ISN'T fun—but it is tremendously interesting and worthy while—to travel by automobile from 75 to 140 miles a day in the pestiferous dust and broiling sunheat, and make from 5 to 11 speeches a day, averaging a half-hour each. Which same I did last week—the record breaking hot week—down on the Wabash—in 'Gene Debs' congressional district. No, it isn't fun, but it is as good as fun—with 'Gene as the candidate for congress in a district where he really has far more than a "chance" of being elected.

BATTLE OF DEBS' LIFE.

"Does 'Gene have a reasonable show of being elected to congress?" He has!

I was skeptical before I went down there—but not now. 'Gene is wide-awake to the situation, his head is cool and his heart is hot for battle—THE BATTLE OF HIS LIFE—the battle to win the right to stand up in our National Legislature and speak—as only HE would speak, or could speak—to the entire country—mark that: to the whole country. He realizes just what the opportunity would be. 'Gene has had great audiences for many years—very great audiences; but the audience he would have as a Congressman would be—of course—incomparably large. His soul is burning with big, important things he wishes to say—to this supreme audience; and believe me: his plans are ripe—already, thoroughly developed, elaborated in detail—for the district campaign—a campaign to win—to win the greatest opportunity he could possibly have—to serve. That's 'Gene's passion—to serve, and he sees that as a Congressman his opportunity to serve would be a thousand times multiplied.

The campaign is already on, going finely, and is developing rapidly. Only the excessive heat prevents "Full steam ahead!"

VOTING POPULATION PROMISING.

What is the composition of 'Gene's district? The chief elements composing the voting population of 'Gene's district are distinct and promising:—miners; railway trainmen, trackmen and shopmen; clayworkers; glassworkers; factory workers general in large numbers; and farmers. Also to be mentioned are the considerable numbers of middle-class people whom prosperity does not richly and promptly endow, who have justifiable contempt for 'Gene's milk-and-water, hot-air, place-hunting, time-serving opponents, who are known to be licking the hands of the corporations,—people who are growing disgusted with the same old bunk from the same old bunch of "gold brick" politicians,—people who are saying and others who are ready to say,—"OH, WELL, LET'S TRY DEBS. Millions love the man, everybody respects him, he's absolutely unbrilliant, and known to be brave as a lion, and is cordially hated by the corporations that seek ever to wring our necks; and he is a man of power—infinite unlike the two two-by-four shyters opposing him in this race. Let's try the tall man with the eloquent voice, the world-wide reputation, the charming manner, the heart of sympathy and the character of gold!"—Lots of folks thinking like that down there.

As for the farmers—I was stimulated to the limit by their cordiality and courtesy toward the campaign for Debs.

The purely proletarian groups, mentioned above, have a specially desperate battle for life with the plutocrats of that locality. These groups are keen in willingness to learn WHAT'S THE MATTER; they are eager at our meetings, they rush for our literature, and 'Gene is idolized by great numbers of them.

SPLENDID CHANCE FOR VICTORY.

HAS 'Gene a chance? He has a splendid chance to win the three-cornered fight for congress. His election and his work in congress would mean free space in the public press for our movement that could not be purchased for millions of dollars.

I hope the comrades everywhere will wake quickly to this opportunity—this very great opportunity.

I wish 10,000 comrades would work a half day for 'Gene's campaign—by sending the half day's wage to the district campaign committee at Terre Haute; or sell a bushel, or two of potatoes, or some other farm product,—and rush the money to Terre Haute. Every dollar will be spent with conscientious care and maximum intelligence for victory.

I count it an honor to be permitted to help in 'Gene's campaign—none more worthy, he's fighting fiercely for victory—and has a big chance in the three-cornered fight.

Let's get busy, Comrades!

Why Debs Should Go To Congress

By BASIL M. MANLY.
(Formerly Director United States Commission on Industrial Relations.)

I am not a socialist, but I would regard the election of Eugene V. Debs to congress as one of the finest events of a life time.

There are a number of men in congress who will fight on the right side of almost any issue, and will even fight courageously and unselfishly, if they are strongly urged. But almost without exception they have to be taught which is the right side. These men are good politicians, but poor soldiers of the common good. For it's a poor soldier that must be taught which side he is fighting for in every battle, and must be driven to the front by those behind him.

With Debs in Congress, there will be at least one man who will instinctively be on the right side, and who will charge the enemy's line, even before it is formed for the battle.

You can take every event in Debs' life and analyze it as closely as you please, and you will find not only that he has never harmed a human being, even in his bitterest fights, but that through his whole career, he has been fighting for the weak, the humble, and the oppressed, unselfishly and devotedly.

Every man that thinks a child is worthy of more consideration than a dollar, ought to vote for Eugene V. Debs for Congress. I wish I could.

The total number of voters in the Debs' district, the Fifth Indiana, now receiving The American Socialist every week is

4,103

That's going some! But we want to do better. The American Socialist wants to be the fighting 42 centimeter gun in the big battle to SEND DEBS TO CONGRESS.

For every \$1 sent in to the Debs' Fund, The American Socialist will put seven voters in the Debs' district on its subscription list for 15 weeks each, and 15 cents will be contributed directly to the Fifth Indiana Socialist Campaign Fund.

Send your contribution to the Debs' Fund, The American Socialist, 803 W. Madison St., Chicago, Ill.

All that were ever killed in private murder since history began will not equal in number the workers who have been killed by this war that capitalism precipitated for purposes of loot and murder.

"The distinctions between our parties are not profound, nor are they wholly sincere," says the American Review of Reviews, one of the most widely read of the magazines, in taking a survey of political conditions. "The parties are all made up of the same kind of people, whose political programs are not sharply divergent, excepting only for the Socialists. There are, doubtless, certain differences of tendency between the two parties. Yet to a great extent American politics is more than ever a big game, in which party contests have no more intrinsic quality of principle or policy at stake than is to be found in the rivalry and partisanship aroused by the final games in the world's series of the champion baseball teams. Politics, like baseball, is for some people a practical business and for others a diversion from private routine. With most of the party managers and 'small-fry' politicians, politics is a business in which they make what they can out of offices or in other ways."

WILSON AND THE REST OF US

By JOSEPH E. COHEN.

At the time this is being written there is no way of telling whether we shall be at war with Mexico or not. Neither can it be predicted if we shall join in a lovefeast with Carranza or be content with finding our foreign news in the base ball column. For Mr. Woodrow Wilson is President of these United States, and we are free to say that he may be the servant of the people, but the people have no knowledge as to what their servant will do next.

In addition to being the servant of the nation, theoretically at least, the President of the United States is likewise expected to do many things which make him, practically, a dictator.

THUS he has power to repel invasion; he is commander-in-chief of the navy; he has the power to pardon himself, without being required to attend to affairs of State, and he is in every way regarded as the spokesman of the American people.

But what if the spokesman be silent? The gentlemen of Republican faith, who found in Justice Hughes' reticence a commanding virtue, must take off their hats to the Democratic leader. For he has done more than hold his tongue. He has talked and acted often, yet the nation is as much as ever in the dark as to his frame of mind.

It is a serious mistake to hold it certain that the American people are not interested in Mexico. They are. The group that is attached to the holdings of American capital may be small, but it makes a din and disturbance worthy of a greater body. And the thro-going pacifists may be equally few in number, but they have a word that is worth saying to the rest of us.

WHAT other elements there are here and what they want may not be so easy to learn. But it is pretty safe to declare that a large following, if not the bulk of Americans, are ready to see Mexico free of the goad of foreign capital.

Up to the present the President may be given credit for keeping us out of war, just as he might be given credit for not having done one of a thousand foolhardy things. But it has not been claimed for him that he has been outspoken on the side of the Mexican revolution which aims to restore that country to its people.

Moreover, whether or not we stay out of war, it must be clear to all that the President is very much interested in extending American trade into the Latin countries to the south of us. If he can clinch a hold for American enterprise in South America, and, at least, find a passage for it thru Central America then he will have won his peace with big business in this country and will be entirely acceptable to the ruling class.

On the basis of what is taking place in South America, it can be predicted that the President will safeguard and promote the desires of American trade. That is now his first consideration. He is just as much an expansionist as McKinley and Hanna ever were. We may be kept out of serious trouble in Mexico; whether we are or not, we shall get their markets, if not their resources.

AND WHY should we not be kept out of trouble? Is it certain that our capitalist interests generally would be benefitted by a peaceful acquisition of Mexico any the less than they would be a military occupation? The armament crowd and the circle of material supplying corporations may be hunting for war. But the other captains of industry may be quite cool in the matter.

What would it benefit them if a war of some proportions is let loose? They will have to bear part of the burden in many ways. First of all, our treasury would be depleted in war waste, instead of building up a merchant marine, say, and promoting other of their industrial and commercial needs. Then comes the possibility of heavier taxation, with the threat of advancing tolls on incomes and inheritances. Apart from that, why should the whole machinery of profit taking be thrown out of gear, on the problematical issue of establishing a permanent holding for our trade?

A war the size of that now raging in Europe may be impossible to avert in the future so long as predatory capital runs the world. But why go to the trouble and expense of actual conquest by arms in smaller corners, when more indirect ways will do as well—and cheaper?

So Mr. Wilson may keep us out of war in Mexico. That may be a virtue. But it is a mighty small one compared with the great wrong of his having the power to do so.

THAT power should be ours. It cannot be ours so long as either the Democratic or Republican party is in power. For no amount of tinkering with their influence will disturb the essential fact that the trusts own

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SATURDAY, AUGUST 12, 1916.

this nation and the old parties are their servants.
Mr. Wilson is no more the head of his party than Mr. Hughes is of his. We have this condition of practical monarchy because the rule of the capitalist class is now absolute.
The rest of us have nothing to say with regard to the policy of our government at present. We have only to obey. It is true of our whole nation, as it was true of the Light Brigade: "Their's not to reason why, Their's but to obey and die."
But we have everything to say as to whether or not we like this sort of government and we can say it now and on election day.

Cornelius Lehane of Ireland, co-founder with James Connolly of the Socialist Party of Ireland, has completed his Connolly Memorial lectures in the states of New York and Connecticut, and is now on his way to Ohio, where his dates are: Cleveland, Aug. 3, 4 and 5; Youngstown, Sunday, Aug. 6; Warren, Aug. 7; Hubbard, Aug. 8; Akron, Aug. 9, 10 and 11; Sandusky, Aug. 12; Fostoria, Sunday, Aug. 13; Hamilton, Aug. 19; Cincinnati, Sunday, Aug. 20, to Sat., Aug. 26. After leaving Ohio, Comrade Lehane is to campaign for Debs for congress. Everywhere Lehane is enthusiastically received by the Emmett societies, the Gaelic league, the Friends of Irish Freedom, with record collections at the meetings, and an enormous number of applications for membership in the party from Irish Catholics and labor union men. This is the greatest opportunity in history for reaching the Irish. They are excited about the Dublin revolution, led by the Irish Socialists and Lehane is availing of the opportunity.

The Road To Power.
MANY thousands of Kautsky's great book, "The Road to Power," have been sold. The original price was 25c per copy. We bought a lot at a cheap price and can let you have them at 10 cents each. This is a classic and should be read by every Socialist. Order now—Socialist Party, 803 W. Madison St., Chicago.

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The Gold Brick Twins

By JOHN M. WORK.

DID YOU ever buy a gold brick? Now don't get indignant. Maybe you have bought gold bricks a good many times without knowing it. If so, it will be well to get your eyes open so you will know a gold brick when you see it.

In case you have at any time in the past voted against your own best interest, this means that you fell for a political confidence game. If you vote against your own best interest this year, it will be proof positive that you are still in the harmless nut stage of development.

No, not so harmless after all, for a few million nuts voting against their own best interest can and do thereby keep the people surrounded by many social evils.

TWO OF the political parties—the republican and democratic parties—are each trying to put over a gold-brick on the people.

Let's take a look at them and size them up.

The republican platform stands for exaggerated nationalism. The baleful jingo spirit pervades it throughout.

Such scanty labor planks as it contains, on child labor and workmen's compensation, were scared out of the party by the rising Socialist vote. The credit for these planks is therefore due to the Socialist party, not to the republican party.

The suffrage plank, such as it is, was scared out of it by the suffrage organization and the rising Socialist vote. The fact that the women now have the ballot in a number of states was an important factor. When suffrage was unpopular, the republican party couldn't see it at all. The plank, however, is a compromise, for it leaves the matter to the states, and sidesteps the question of granting suffrage by amendment of the federal constitution.

But these labor and suffrage planks are, to the republican party, minor matters thrown in for the purpose of catching votes. They will do just as little as possible in the way of living up to them, as their record abundantly shows.

The great bulk of the platform is given up to that which the party really stands for—the interests of the capitalist class. Of course they do not say this in so many words. Perish the thought. They are too smooth for that. But it is all there just the same. A strong foreign policy. Horror and indignation concerning the Mexican situation. Hang on to the Philippines. Special privileges to the merchant marine. Encouragement for big business. Protective tariff. A big army and a big navy.

The shameless greed of capitalism smirches the whole platform.

THE DEMOCRATIC platform does not differ from the republican platform fundamentally at all. Of course the democratic convention was held a week later than the republican, and this gave the democrats a chance to see what the republicans had done. Naturally they decided to go the republican one better in bidding for the labor vote. Like the republican party, the democratic party stands for the interests of the capitalist class, and it will do just as little for the working class as it can and get by. The labor planks were frightened out of the democratic party by the rising Socialist vote. Therefore, the Socialist party, not the democratic party, is entitled to the credit for them.

They also straddle the suffrage question, leaving it to the states. Like the republicans, they dodged this issue altogether until it became popular.

These scanty labor and suffrage planks are minor matters to the democratic party. Their purpose is merely to catch votes.

The great body of the platform is devoted to boasting about the alleged achievements of the democratic administration, and boosting for nationalism, so-called preparedness, and foreign markets.

The platform says that the life, health and strength of the men, women and children of the nation are its greatest asset.

This is true.

If the platform stood for principles which would give the utmost life, health and strength to the men, women and children of the nation, it would be all right.

But it does not.

On the contrary, after boasting about the achievements of the administration—of which all the good ones were frightened out of it by the rising Socialist vote—they proceed to say that they must now remove, so far as possible, every remaining element of unrest and uncertainty from the path of the business men of America and secure for them a continued period of quiet, assured and confident prosperity.

Do you get that?

IF THE democratic party had ever been anything else than a political representative of capitalism, one could say that this plank is a complete surrender to those who already own and control it?

This plank merely shows distinctly who does own and control the party. It shows that the party is body and soul the property of the capitalist class. It stands for the continuation of capitalism, with its long and hideous train of woes.

In order to abolish evils, it is entirely necessary to cause unrest and uncertainty among the big business men who profit by the continuance of these evils.

But the democratic party says we must not disturb their serenity.

In other words, it stands for the continuation of the great existing social evils.

THE REPUBLICAN and democratic platforms are more remarkable for what they do not say than for what they do say.

The republicans and democrats are fully aware of the fact that hundreds of Americans die of starvation each year. They know that millions of Americans are underfed all the time. They know that hundreds of thousands of Americans are compelled to accept degrading charity. They know that every little while millions of Americans tramp the streets in a vain attempt to find an opportunity to earn a living. They know that thousands of Americans are killed, and hundreds of thousands injured, by preventable accidents. They know that thousands of Americans are driven to suicide. They know that thousands of Americans are driven to insanity. They know that hundreds of thousands of Americans are driven to crime. They know that hundreds of thousands of American women and girls are driven to prostitution. They know that the masses of the American people are in poverty. They know that the masses of the people are compelled to starve themselves mentally, morally and spiritually, in order to keep from starving physically. They know that the private ownership of the industries enables a comparatively few capitalists to get for themselves the bulk of the earnings of the rest of the people.

Do the republican and democratic parties propose to abolish these evils? Not on your life.

Why?

Because it is against the interest of the capitalist class to do so—and these parties represent the interest of the capitalist class.

THERE IS no way to abolish these evils except by means of Socialism—and that would abolish the capitalist graft. Therefore, the republican and democratic parties are against it.

Furthermore, they seize every pretext to get the people interested in something else, for fear they will flock to the Socialist party and do away with the capitalist graft. They are willing to make a big noise about fake preparedness, which both of them are in favor of, or any other old humbug, just as they can keep the wool pulled over the eyes of the voters and keep them from voting for their own interests.

For, if the masses of the people vote for their own interests, they will vote the Socialist ticket.

Please get that thoroughly soaked into your head.

If the masses of the people vote for their own interests, they will vote the Socialist ticket.

The private ownership of the exploiting industries gives the capitalists the whip hand over the rest of the people. It enables the capitalists to deliberately appropriate to their own use most of the earnings of the rest of the people—thru profits, dividends, interest, and rent. This keeps the masses of the people impoverished, and results in all the wretched and unnecessary evils which I enumerated above.

THE SOCIALIST party stands for the collective ownership and control of the exploiting industries.

They will then be run for the benefit of all the people, instead

of being run for the benefit of a few as they are now.

Socialism will also guarantee to every willing worker, male and female, an opportunity to earn a living, and to receive his or her full earnings.

This will cause the above mentioned evils to disappear like mist before the morning sun.

The Socialist party is the party of the working masses. It stands for the genuine interests of those who do the necessary and useful mental and manual work. It stands for their ultimate interests and also for their immediate interests. Our platform states this very plainly. Read it. You will find that it stands for the collective ownership and control of the exploiting industries. You will also find that it stands for a long list of minor measures, all of which are in the interest of the useful masses of the people. Among them is equal suffrage. We stand for an amendment to the national constitution extending suffrage to women. Our platform has carried an equal suffrage plank ever since the party was organized. We did not wait until it became popular, before espousing it. We helped to work it up to the point where it achieved popularity.

Socialism is not hard to understand. Just consider a moment. It is easy to see, is it not, that the benefit of an industry goes to those who own and control it? Practically all the industries are now owned and controlled by capitalists. Therefore, the capitalists get the benefit. Socialism will make these industries collectively owned and controlled. Owned by the public. Owned by all the people. Therefore, all the people will get the benefit. The billions of dollars which now go to the useless capitalists will then go to the useful masses.

That is clear, isn't it?

Then vote for it.

VOTE THE Socialist ticket.

The republican and democratic parties are each trying to put over a gold brick on you.

Are you going to fall for it?

If you are wise, you will investigate Socialism. You cannot learn the truth about public questions unless you read a Socialist paper.

Subscribe for The American Socialist. It is a weekly and the subscription price is fifty cents per year. Its address is 803 West Madison Street, Chicago.

Send for it, and you will get your eyes open so that you will know a gold brick when you see one.

And you will vote the Socialist ticket as a matter of course.

Work's Eye-Opener In Leaflet Form

This scathing indictment of the old party platforms is being issued by the national Socialist Party in leaflet form for distribution in this campaign. You will want it to take up the Henry Dubbs in your neighborhood. The price is 20 cents a hundred and \$1.50 per thousand. Send all orders to National Socialist Party, 803 W. Madison St., Chicago, Ill.

Death-Dreams

By MURRAY E. KING.

Pity the ones who have to go;
Pity the brave who have to die,
In the world's dark hour, and cannot know
The hope of death where they are dying lie.

We weep not alone for those who lie,
Blown by the breath of the cannon away;
But pity them most who have to die
With the light of the dream of a Better Day.

For who will tell them when they are gone
That out of this horror some good shall dawn,
Or say in their ears at the end of the war,
"Is this better, far better, to lie as you are?"

We pity them most whose earth-dream bright
Is lost in the murk of the world's red night;
Who hear Death whisper with lips of blue,
"You die in the dream that may never come true."

Whose hopes, whose loves, whose lights go out,
In a common doom of darkness and doubt;
Who hunger in vain for that sweet death-sign,
The earth's last promise, "I am divine."

Turn turn, oh turn, ye legions of hate,
Turn back from the gulfs of an awful fate;
'Tis not only men and nations ye slay;
Ye murder the dreams of the Better Day.

IN THE WORLD OF LABOR.

By Max S. Hayes.

A REPORT from Denver says that the organized workers of Colorado are stirred and feel resentful over a threat of Governor Carlson to enforce involuntary servitude on strikers by the help of the State militia. The law under which the Governor intends to carry out his threat was put thru the State Legislature last year. It is modeled after a Canadian law written by Mackenzie King, Rockefeller's "expert" and prohibits strikes until the State Industrial Commission, a tool of the mine owners, has investigated and reported. If Carlson carries out his threat in future strikes, he will doubtless have the solid backing of the bipartisan political machines, as well as Standard Oil, all the mine owners and other big interests whose servant he is, as was shown by the investigation of the United States Commission on Industrial Relations and the Supreme Court decision ousting Jeff Davis, the notorious and crooked Sheriff of Huerfano county.

THE NEARLY simultaneous claim of the British capitalists that trade is increasing wonderfully and the German bankers' boast that deposits are piling up enormously causes the New York Volkszeitung to ask why anyone should expect that these profit-mongers that are fattening on the miseries of their peoples will favor an early peace, and the same paper suggests that unless the masses sicken of the slaughter it is not likely to end in a long time. And that view is correct. To further its material interests, to advance itself, capitalism would kill its own grandmothers and its grandchildren, so to speak.

"WE" HAVE a paltry \$1,206,000,000 loaned to foreign countries, the great bulk of it to the European belligerent nations, according to the latest Wall Street estimates. Hence it will be necessary to establish the largest navy in the world to defend "our" interests at home or abroad, for it would be an insult to our honor and the flag to permit any country to hornswaggle our money-lenders. The bare thought of such a possibility is sufficient to make the terrible Roosevelt and other great patriots boil with rage.

READY TO QUIT.

News dispatches say that the troops on the Mexican border, especially the militiamen, have had enough of soldiering; that they are now ready to quit and return home.

Their greatest complaint is that they do not get enough to eat. One complaint published in a St. Louis paper is as follows:

Now take July 11, for instance: For supper we had one small spoonful of rice and a very small portion of syrup, no coffee. Now that is just one meal out of many. Some are worse: some are very little better. We are compelled to sleep on the ground with just a blanket, and for some time the most of us had no blanket at all. Quite a few of the boys have been sick and have not had proper attention. Ninety per cent of the boys are ready to quit if they had a chance. I, myself am ready to leave, and have talked to a great many and they all talk the same. They are disgusted, as I, myself, am. It could hardly be worse.

But suppose these militiamen are turned loose and sent back home, as we hope they will be as soon as possible. When they return home they will, in their own neighborhoods, find all the rotten conditions of which they are now complaining. They will find men, women and children, starving for lack of food; they will find housing conditions worse than sleeping in the open air without a blanket; they will find a sick, unhealthy people, too poverty stricken to call in a doctor, too penniless to quit work and take a rest or go on a summers vacation.

But why wait to be sent to the Mexican border to find out what it is to starve, to be uncomfortable, to be sick. The militiamen on the Mexican border are discontented. They will soon return home and then they will carry some of this discontent back with them. Then discontent with present conditions will begin to sprout everywhere thruout the nation. This is the opportunity of the Socialist Party to give the reasons for the poverty and wretchedness that exists everywhere thruout this nation, in the city and on the land. Those who sorrow and suffer will gradually grow to learn that capitalism is responsible, that the only way to get rid of these conditions is to wipe out capitalism and put Socialism in its place.

The militiamen are ready to quit the Mexican border. How soon will the masses be ready to quit the capitalist system?

Kate Richards O'Hare, at Lawton, Okla., in speaking of the Outlook for Socialism, said: "The Democratic machine in Oklahoma knows that its days are numbered and it is dying hard. Things are mighty queer politically. At Ada the politicians got out an injunction at the last moment and shut the Socialist encampment out of the park. The encampment was held in an open pasture, without shade, in the blazing sun; to complete the politicians work, the county commissioners had the adjoining road plowed up the day before the encampment opened. I never saw such a hot, dusty place in all my life. I got overheated, and had to get out for a while, but went back and talked to five thousand people. For the last three days I have been coughing up red mud, and my throat and lungs are so raw that they bleed. No one can imagine the fortitude and interest of the thousands of men and women and children who thronged the hot dusty grounds daily to make the Ada Socialist encampment a success. They feel that the merchants of Ada, whom they support, should have seen to it that they were treated better, and you may be sure that the town will not profit by its cussedness.

DATES FOR COMRADE HAZLETT.

Thru an oversight Ida Crouch-Hazlett's name was omitted from the list of speakers recently published in The American Socialist. Comrade Hazlett is now doing work in Baltimore and is available for work in the East and states adjacent to Maryland. Comrade Hazlett can be reached by addressing her at General Delivery, Baltimore, Md., or direct thru the Speakers' Bureau, National Office, Socialist Party, 803 W. Madison St., Chicago.

Police To Conscript For State Militia

By JULIAN PIERCE.

WASHINGTON. — Raymond W. Pullman, Superintendent of the Police Department of the District of Columbia, has issued an order calling upon the members of the police force to act as recruiting agents for the National Guard of the District.

The District of Columbia, contingent of the National Guard is unable to recruit upon enough of the youth of Washington to "join the colors" to bring the membership up to the minimum war strength. Owing to orders issued by Major General Leonard Wood, commanding the Department of the East, that none of the National Guard units shall proceed to the border until they are recruited up to the war strength, Brigadier General Harvey's District of Columbia troopers are not able to go to the border.

In co-operation with the War Department, the National Guard recruiting officers have worked every device to lure young men into accepting a job to work for the Government in the Army at fifty cents a day and their "keep".

The latest War Department device consisted in an offer to pay the enlisted men two dollars per head for every recruit landed at the recruiting stations. This incentive to industry National Guard officers appealed to Major Pullman, Chief of Police, to instruct the members of the police force to hustle for recruits. As a result of the appeal, Major Pullman has issued the order calling upon the police to corral all the men they can between the ages of eighteen and forty-five and send them to the recruiting stations.

Major Pullman's order mobilizing the police force as recruiting sergeants reads as follows:

HEADQUARTERS METROPOLITAN POLICE
District of Columbia.

CAPTAIN: This Department is informed that the 3rd Infantry of the District of Columbia National Guard lacks only seventy-five men under its full quota of minimum strength which it will have to have before leaving Washington.

If members of your command have any friends or know of any persons whomsoever, between the ages of eighteen and forty-five, who may desire or may be induced to enlist in the National Guard, I SHALL APPRECIATE IT VERY MUCH if they will co-operate as far as possible and request the citizens to go to one of the recruiting offices, of which there are now two in the city, one at 1225 Pennsylvania Avenue, and the other at 419 9th Street, N.W., or at Fort Meyer, Va.

I should like to have the names of any officers of your command who do direct men to either of the recruiting stations or to the camps, and also the names of the individuals who are sent to apply for enlistment.

It is a patriotic duty for us to co-operate with the National Guard authorities in filling their quota of the force to be sent to the border, and I hope you will give this matter your very best attention, and that you will give your enthusiastic support to the movement.

Raymond W. Pullman,
Major and Supt.

The Threatened Strike

By WILLIS ANDREWS.

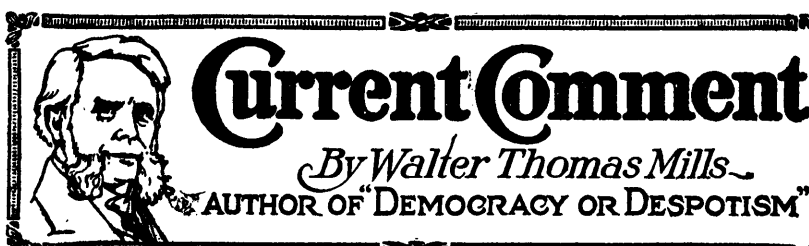
Railway employes are entitled to all the demands they are making for a larger share of the wealth they are creating.

What a travesty on justice to see toiling men piling up colossal fortunes of hundreds of millions for the Goulds and Vanderbilts and others of their ilk, and then to see the fruits of their labor wantonly wasted in the purchase of titles for daughters and spent in rehabilitating the impoverished estates of the dissolute and degenerate "nobility" of the Old World.

What an insane industrial system that makes it possible for the sweat and blood of American workmen to be coined into dollars to buy castles and manors and chateaus and yachts for the profligate debauches of continental Europe!

Railway managers say that to grant increased pay to the workers means the wiping out of dividends. It might affect dividends on "watered" stock, but honestly invested capital would not seriously suffer. Stories of railway magnates suddenly acquiring fortunes of hundreds of millions of dollars over night are getting to be quite common. The public is led to believe that this nocturnal acquisition of riches is all the direct result of a prodigious brain and tireless energy. But when closely scrutinized this matter of getting hold of millions in the twinkling of an eye is seen to be quite a simple matter. Indeed it is the casual observer. The capital stock is arbitrarily increased to \$200,000,000, and additional stock to the extent of \$100,000,000 is sold to the investing public, which amount is unceremoniously pocketed by the "great organizer". This \$100,000,000 comprises the watered stock upon which additional dividends must be declared, all of which is necessarily deducted from the earnings of labor.

Of course labor can never attain exact justice under the wage system. But it is a demonstrated fact that the better paid labor is most susceptible to socialist argument and reason. Such labor has had a taste of the better things of life which seems to begot a desire for more and more of the things that make life worth living.



Current Comment

By Walter Thomas Mills.

THE WAR-DANCE AND PREPAREDNESS. THE WORK OF SLAUGHTER.

IT WOULD seem that the work of murder is an undertaking so repugnant to natural human instincts that it is never undertaken except in rage, or by those who are themselves the victims of the most marked personal degeneracy.

Murder resulting from individual degeneracy could never be undertaken on the large scale which is necessarily characteristic of all war.

Individual murder frequently follows the loss of self-control thru sudden passion arising from jealousy or anger, but such sudden passion could never explain the wholesale murder involved in war.

THE OLD WAR DANCE.

IT IS altogether likely that it is because of these reasons that in all barbarous and savage communities war is never undertaken on the part of the aggressor without first arousing the passions, and so overcoming the kinder human instincts by directly inducing the frenzy of the War-dance.

Deeds of cruelty and wholesale murder are never undertaken on such a scale as to involve the action of whole tribes of savages except this work of slaughter is first preceded by the councils of the chieftains, and by the War-dance of the tribesmen.

In the War-dance, every effort is made by the circling warriors, thru the blazing fire, thru the swinging of tomahawks, thru the outcry of the fighting men, thru the daubing of war-paint and the beating of tom-toms, to induce forgetfulness of every worthy consideration, and to stimulate the beastly passion for plunder and for blood-shed.

It has been observed that the most quarrelsome cattle in all the herd are rendered gentle as well as harmless by the simple process of removing their weapons of offense, that is, the cutting off of their horns. It is as impossible to send a savage tribe on the war-path without first inducing insanity by the war-dance, as it is to involve a de-horned steer in further attacks upon other members of the herd, all of whom have been rendered harmless by dis-arming.

MODERN CRAZE OF PREPAREDNESS.

NO STUDENT of the world-crisis now upon us can study the American craze of Preparedness without being immediately reminded of the savage and barbarian war-dance.

Not even civilization has led to such general degeneracy that whole nations can be induced to undertake the work of world-wide slaughter unless the rational and humane instincts ordinarily in control shall be first smothered, and the blood-thirstiness of our remotest ancestry be aroused.

The Moving-pictures, the Magazine writers, the poisoned news, the jingo oratory and the preparedness parade are nothing other than the modern form of the old war-dance. Bon-fires, Tom-toms, war-paint in the shape of brass-buttons, banners, uniforms and street parades, the music and deliberately artificial military fervor are all of them modern manifestations of the old war-dance, necessary to induce social insanity as the necessary precedent to undertaking social murder on a large scale.

Reasonable people know that the world-powers will stay in this war until their strength fails or their resources are exhausted.

Reasonable people know that no amount of preparedness which could have been undertaken by the United States could have so increased her comparative strength, as related to other nations, as has already been accomplished by this most destructive of all wars.

Reasonable people know that when this war is over there will be more occasion for the role of the trained nurse and the builder; for the services of the Good Samaritan; for international helpfulness, than there will be danger of international war.

THE BIG INJUNS.

BUT THE Big Injuns have other plans. It has been determined to use the unbroken strength and the untouched resources of America to make her an industrial and commercial despot and robber among the nations of the earth. There can be no other explanation of the great activity of the industrial robbers of America in behalf of "Preparedness", than that it has been deliberately determined by them to rob all the world in the same way as they have robbed the people of this country in the past.

To frankly state this purpose would make impossible the program. To appeal to reason, to give consideration to the humane and kindly instincts of the race, would be absurd in the face of such a purpose. If the purpose in hand is the vilest, if the program they have adopted is one involving greater disaster than any other program which could be adopted, they will adopt exactly the tactics which they would need to adopt in order to accomplish an end so infamous.

Get the tribesmen crazy, put into the background the holiest faculties of our human nature, arouse the bloodlust of the beast that survives within us, make the young warriors crazy with the frenzy of the war-dance, then let traitors carry the flag, and the dogs of war be loosened, and world-wide calamity must follow.

That is the character of the effort now being made by some ministers of religion, some editors and Chambers of Commerce, but NOT by the organizations of labor, NOT by the Builders of the Better Day. The enemies of man are struggling everywhere to provide the greatest War-dance ever given, as preparatory to greater misfortunes than have ever before befallen this Land of Ours.

Under such circumstances, only demons could cry, "On with the dance!"

ANOTHER LIE.

In every large city of the nation today there are wives and children, suffering and starving, because their husbands and fathers have been trapped into going to the Mexican border to get ready for a campaign of murder against the Mexicans.

Before they left, the jingo sheets heralded abroad the promise that the capitalist exploiters of these husbands and fathers would pay wages usual to those the "soldier boys left behind". Now the truth is gradually leaking out. These capitalist exploiters lied. They never had an intention of donating wages to anybody. They lied when they said they would, just as the crowned monarchs of Europe lied when they said, each and every one of them, that their nation" was threatened by invasion by the alien hordes of some other country.

Listen to this letter from a Detroit, Mich., wife and mother, written to the military satraps of one of Michigan's regiments now stationed at El Paso, Tex.:

"Dear Sir: I have no means of support. All I had to depend on for myself and my children was John. I have no money; my rent is due; my furniture isn't paid. I was to the Co. to see if they would pay me his wages, but they told me that they didn't know anything about paying wages to anyone that wasn't working."

"So, please, if it is in your power to send him back to me and my children, you will save us from starvation. I am a stranger in Detroit. I have no mother or sister or brother to help me. So please in God's name, I pray you to send him back to me."

That letter ought to make every right-thinking citizen join in a movement to tear down all the recruiting posters in every city of the land, disband every regiment and tie up every hideous battleship in some

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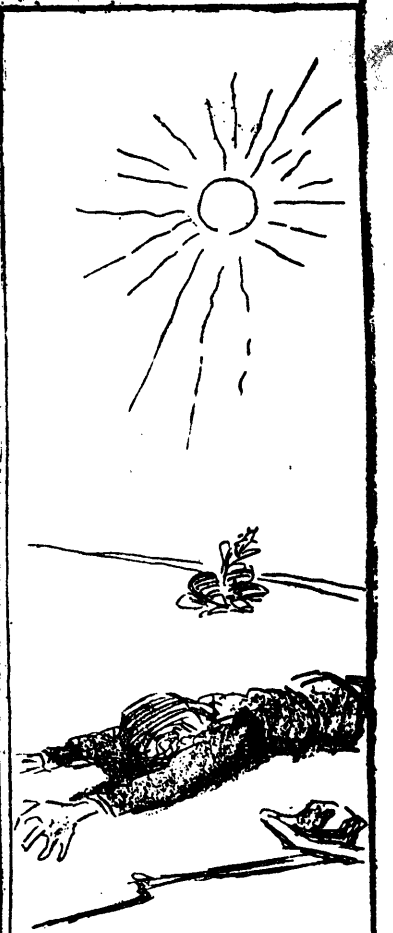
Going To The Mexican Border.



Rides In Rotten Cars And Gets Ancient Food About Every 36 Hours



Starvation At Home.



Seeing The Country.

Send This Story Of The National Guard To The Boys On The Mexican Border.

Eight Socialists In Congress Great Goal In This Campaign

By J. L. ENGDALH.

Eight Socialist congressmen—possibly more—isn't that worth fighting for? That's the goal the national executive committee, at its meeting just held in Chicago, has set for this campaign. While not neglecting the rest of the country, every atom of available strength in this campaign will be concentrated in these congressional districts:

Twelfth New York District, where Meyer London, now the "One Socialist in Congress" is up for re-election. This year we RE-ELECT our first Socialist congressman.

Twentieth New York District (Harlem district in New York City) where Morris Hillquit, counsel for the striking cloakmakers, is the candidate.

Fourth and Fifth Wisconsin districts in Milwaukee, where Victor L. Berger and Winfield R. Gaylord, are the candidates.

Fifth Indiana District which is fighting to send Eugene V. Debs to Washington.

Third, fourth and seventh, These districts are practically sure and do not take into consideration the heavy vote that will be cast in the other districts and possibly result in carrying the state for Socialism.

Struggle Is Now On.

These are the eight districts on which the Socialist Party national executive committee in session here has decided to center its efforts. It has already sent \$500 into the Debs' district. An additional \$500 has been voted for the Meyer London district as a starter. And it was decided to send 280,000 of the Benson campaign leaflets each week into Oklahoma for five weeks. This will be changed, if finances permit, to 10 weeks, the entire period during which these leaflets will be issued, so that nearly three millions of these leaflets will go into Oklahoma alone.

On top of this a special effort will be made to elect Grant Miller United States senator from Nevada and to carry the city of Minneapolis, Minn., for Socialism and elect Thomas Van Lear, mayor.

It is felt that this is an ambitious program, the most ambitious ever attempted by the Socialist Party in any

Pearson's Will Be Illustrated.

Beginning with the September number PEARSON'S will become an illustrated magazine. Cost of production will necessarily be increased as the magazine is improved.

In view of these facts the management has decided to withdraw on November 1st the fifty-cent certificates by means of which Pearson's has been subscribed for at the rate of \$1.00 a year.

The withdrawal of these certificates also means that on and after November 1st all clubbing rates will also be raised.

Subscribe NOW and get The American Socialist for one year and Pearson's for 9 months both for one dollar.

Send orders to THE AMERICAN SOCIALIST, 803 W. Madison St., Chicago, Ill.

THE PANAMA CANAL.

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Fourteen years of marvelously successful business. During 1913 the Isthmian Canal Commission (United States) netted \$105,533.63 in the Subsistence Department on a business of \$7,500,000.

Mr. Donaldson's booklet is a strong, practical, convincing argument for Socialism, and a clincher for the opponents of Government Ownership and Operation. Price 10 cents and postage. Order thru Socialist Party, 803 W. Madison St., Chicago.

campaign. Eight congressional districts, two states and one of the nation's largest cities is big game for one election. In order to achieve this program the Socialist vote will have to be doubled, it should reach two million, resulting in the doubling of the Socialist Party membership, making it 2,000,000.

This great effort calls for extraordinary energy in raising campaign funds and it is felt that nothing short of \$100,000 can put this program through. The national executive committee decided to put 3,000 more of the now famous dime banks on the job, making 5,000 in all. These dime banks will be sent to all active Socialists and it is hoped to raise at least \$20,000 thru them alone during the campaign.

Called To The Colors.

Every force in the Socialist Party, the 6,000 locals, the 100,000 dues paying members, are called to the colors for "Socialist Red Week", Sunday, Sept. 3, to Sunday, Sept. 10, including Labor Day, Monday, Sept. 4. Here is the program for "Socialist Red Week" which speaks for itself:

SUNDAY, Sept. 3.—Benson-Kirkpatrick and Literature Distribution Day. Distribute literature in the morning, the first of the Benson campaign series. Hold mass meeting or picnic afternoon and evening.

MONDAY, LABOR DAY, Sept. 4.—Labor Union and Farmers' Day. Distribute appropriate literature among organized and unorganized workers and among the farmers. Join with labor unions and farmers' organizations in celebration of this day.

TUESDAY, Sept. 5.—Membership Day. Devote this day toward rounding up the delinquent members, getting the deserters back into the organization, and in bringing new members into the party.

WEDNESDAY, Sept. 6.—Wage Fund Day. Urge the contribution by all workers of at least half the day's wages on this day to the Socialist campaign fund.

THURSDAY, Sept. 7.—Young People's Socialist League Day. Use all efforts in building up the Young People's movement in your locality.

FRIDAY, Sept. 8.—Women's Day. Devote this day to spreading the propaganda of Socialism among women. Campaigns for women suffrage are on in two states, South Dakota and West Virginia; women have the ballot in a dozen states and more are getting it at every election.

SATURDAY, Sept. 9.—The American Socialist's Day.—Use every means possible to build up the circulation and influence of the national weekly, The American Socialist, or in strengthening the local Socialist Press.

SUNDAY, Sept. 10.—The final effort—Campaign Fund Day.—Devote all energy toward getting contributions to the campaign fund, thru meetings, circulation of dime banks, contribution lists, punch cards, etc., etc.

Most Ambitious Program.

This is considered the most ambitious program for one week's work ever attempted by the Socialist Party and a special call has gone out to all Socialist locals to get all committees appointed now, and calling on all Socialists to decide now just what work they are going to do during "Socialist Red Week".

Here are some of the other matters taken up by the national executive committee at its Chicago meeting:

Suggested to Socialist locals in large cities that they establish permanent headquarters in the business districts for a perpetual campaign, where Socialist literature will be sold and meetings held during the day and evening.

That state and local organizations share the proceeds from the dime banks with the national organization.

That a special appeal for funds be sent to labor organizations and working class fraternal organizations, also that the Rand School, The New York Call, the Intercollegiate Society and similar organizations be asked

for lists to be used in circularizing for campaign funds.

That a special organization campaign be started to embrace the following features:

- (1) State secretaries be requested to report in detail on condition of organization in their respective states and the special problem within their states.
- (2) Letters urging organization be sent to all state and local secretaries.
- (3) That instructions be issued to party speakers to include a plea for joining the party in every propaganda speech.
- (4) That suitable literature be prepared urging unorganized Socialists to join the party.
- (5) That a special week be set aside for a membership campaign to recruit new members thruout the country.
- (6) That special articles followed by form of application for membership be prepared and published in all Socialist papers during the membership week and at all times thereafter.
- (7) That a corps of organizers be created to do organization work under the direction of the national office or the various state offices when requested.
- (8) The national executive secretary be authorized to employ special assistant in charge of organization work whose duty it shall be to carry out, under the direction of the executive secretary, the organization program of the national executive committee, and to advise local organizations on methods of securing and retaining members and to do other work to strengthen the organization of the Socialist Party.

The carrying out of this program, which will be continued after the election, will mean a stronger Socialist Party able to take advantage of the victories won in November.

The Membership Week will no doubt come the first week in October, one month after the "Socialist Red Week" in September.

Have you sent in your list of 15 week subs to The American Socialist? These 15 week subs are 15 cents each and every one of them will make a Socialist voter for November.

"BE A PATRIOT, ENLIST!" "Follow Funston!"--"Fight For The Flag!"

By ADOLPH GERMER.

HAVE YOU ever seen large banners bearing these and similar inscriptions? Of course you have. Every city is full of them.

Thousands of Henry Dubbs have been tricked into the military by those alluring appeals. Thousands from the ranks of the workers have permitted their "patriotic" zeal to take them to the colors and be shipped to the border. Thousands of them have left their firesides to manifest their patriotic ardor by donning a soldier's uniform and shouldering a rifle to shoot or bayonet some poor creature inspired by the same patriotic zeal.

Isn't it fortunate that people become so patriotic that they will kill each other? In this brief note to recite the numerous complaints made public as to the treatment accorded the patriots who were shipped to the border to "Follow Funston", "Fight for the Flag" and capture Villa. Those scandalous incidents are too well known. There is another and more serious phase of the military program that the workers cannot afford to overlook. We may not be directly affected by it today but there is no assurance that we will not be the victims tomorrow.

THE SLAVES of the cement works at LaSalle and Oglesby, Ill., went on strike. They were tired of working 12 and 14 hours per day for a paltry wage. So when their masters refused to correct the wrong, they used their united economic power and went on strike. But what happened?

Why, immediately the political tools of the Cement works, who, by the way, were elected by the votes of the workers, became hysterical and asked the Governor to send in the troops. They were sent and the "patriots" who enlisted to follow "Funston to fight for the flag", were used to cow the strikers.

Was that in Colorado? No, it was at LaSalle and Oglesby, Ill.

That is not the only incident of the kind.

IN NEW YORK City the street railway men are on strike against a piratical an institution as ever cor-

rupted a city administration. A few cars have been damaged and the political powers became alarmed. That was not the case when Broadway and Seventh Avenue caved in last fall and a number of lives were lost thru the carelessness of a profit-mongering contract company. The soft peddle was put on that. But what happens now? Not all the patriots who enlisted to "follow Funston to fight for the flag" have been sent to the border. Quite a number of them are still in the State of New York and they are "held in readiness to be called into active service upon a moment's notice". In other words, upon a moment's notice they are to be used as scab herders and if necessary to murder as they did at Croton Dam when the "Terrible Teddy" was Governor.

They are to be shot down, in cold blood, upon command the men who want a little greater reward for their toil. A greater reward means more comfort for the home.

They must upon command push their fixed, cold steel bayonets into the white, quivering flesh of those men. Can anyone descend to lower depths than that? They must, upon command, murder their sister, brother, sweetheart and even father and mother.

YES, ENLIST! BE A SOLDIER!

PRESENT indications are that there will be a tie-up of all the railroads because the private owners and mismanagers of them will not meet the reasonable demands of the men employed in the train service.

Strange, indeed, the railroad plutes are already giving out paid-for statements telling us that the railroads are in the "Public Service—our Service." Since when? We will, for the moment, forget how they stole millions of acres of the nation's choicest land.

I am dealing with the military.

If the railroads—"our Service"—(who laughs there?) are tied up, as in the past strike breakers will be recruited. And who will protect that festering sore upon society? As usual, the soldiers who enlisted to "Follow Funston to fight for the flag", a la Pullman 1894.

Gee, it must be wonderful to be a soldier, to act as scab herders and murder on command!

Hoan Shows "Wisconsin Idea" Proving Costly Experiment

HERE is another chapter in the story of that fake reform, "Regulation". Daniel W. Hoan, Socialist mayor of Milwaukee, calls it "A Fraud and A Failure". After reading this chapter you will want the book, which is being given away free with a six months' subscription to The American Socialist at 25 cents. Send all orders to The American Socialist, 803 W. Madison St., Chicago, Ill.

By DANIEL HOAN, Milwaukee's Socialist Mayor. CHAPTER V.

What The Regulation Advocates Claim For Regulation In Wisconsin.

IT WAS to be expected that if the state protected the public service corporations from competition, and also guaranteed that it would compel the cities to buy and pay for all their equipment, in case they desired municipal ownership, that some concessions would be obtained from these companies from time to time. It is not claimed here that the citizens of Wisconsin have not received some of these concessions by means of this law, but I stand upon the propositions:

First. That the people gave over to the corporations rights, the value of which was incalculably greater than any benefits received.

Second. That as a real remedy for solving the problems of monopoly and giving to the people their just due, regulation is a farce and a fizzle.

It is claimed by the commission (1) that during the first seven years of its existence it had required from time to time reductions in rates of the various corporations so that in 1912 they approximate a saving of \$2,700,000 per annum. It is also claimed that they have prevented some utilities from

pretense. How can one gas inspector keep track of the speeding up of all the meters of the gas companies whose rates the commission may have reduced, etc.?

The commission has also required alarm bells, guard-gates, or other protection to be placed at some railroad crossings. It has and will order certain grade crossings to be abolished. All this work was formerly taken care of by the various localities, and was merely transferred to the state commission by the regulation law.

Boosts Value Of Stocks.

Finally, the commission claims that it has, up to 1912, examined into and approved the issuance of \$850,000,000 worth of stock and bonds of public service corporations of Wisconsin. It is very likely that this approval, like the United States meat inspection approval at the Chicago stock yards, serves more to enhance the value of the stocks than to benefit the consumer.

Let us be generous, however,—let us estimate, in the absence of other calculations, that all these services, in addition to the rate saving, are actually worth to the people of Wisconsin the sum of \$500,000 annually. This means that the commission has

saved all told the sum of \$3,500,000 per year to the inhabitants of this state. Compare this with the fact that one company alone—the Milwaukee Electric Railway and Light Company—after being thoroughly regulated by the commission, and after paying all necessary expenses, extracts from each man, woman and child in Milwaukee a net profit in interest and dividends of over \$3.50 apiece each year. (2)

We fear, however, that the commission has rather exaggerated its value. It forgot to mention in its report that there was a tendency in all growing cities for the public service corporations to lower their rates voluntarily before we had a commission, because many being monopolies, they feared reductions being forced by the legislature. The Milwaukee Gas Company, for example, has gradually and from time to time since 1885 made voluntary reductions in the price of gas from \$1.60 per thousand and cubic feet to 75c for the same amount in 1913.

Orders Rate Raises.

Then, too, the commission neglected to give and subtract from its accomplishments the total amount per annum of rates that it had ordered raised. It has ordered, up to 1912, seven private water, gas, electric and street railways, and twenty private telephone companies, to raise their rates.

We might state, in passing, moreover, that there has been an ever-increasing number of companies applying to the commission for permission to increase their rates until now it may be safely asserted that nearly one-half of the rate proceedings before that body are of that nature. Increases are now being allowed in a surprisingly large number of cases.

The commission forgot to mention in its report also that the reductions in rates which it made were in many cases for the benefit of the large consumers only, and not for the little householders. This will be fully discussed hereinafter. Then the commission bases its conclusions of large savings upon the assumption that wherever it has ordered rates reduced, the companies did not lower the standard of the service supplied. That such an assumption is a myth, will hereafter appear.

Subtract also from the commission's claims of accomplishment the two hundred thousand dollars which itself costs the State of Wisconsin, and then subtract the value of the time spent by other departments of state government which are necessarily engaged in some phase of this work, and you will find that your total remainder will be little more if not actually less than the actual expense which cities and private persons and corporations were put to in prosecuting and defending regulation cases before the commission and in the courts.

(1) Report of Commission on what it has accomplished on file with Reference Library at Madison.

(2) Discussed in Chapter VII.

OPPOSE ECONOMIC WAR.

Resolutions opposing an economic war after the present hostilities and demanding the freedom of the seas were adopted at the closing session of the international conference of neutral Socialists held at The Hague.

The conference also protested against the imprisonment of Dr. Karl Liebknecht and censured the Socialist majorities for supporting the war governments, declare cabled reports to this country.

The complete re-establishment of the independence of Belgium and Poland and a democratic federal union of the Balkan states, were points also unanimously agreed upon.

Pieter Jelles Troelstra, head of the Dutch delegation, who delivered the principal address, said that national differences among the belligerent socialists were still too strong for united socialist action. He urged all the socialists to speedily realize the tasks confronting them and to see that the development of socialistic tendencies produced by the war were not used for the strengthening of absolutism and bureaucracy.

The Swedish delegate, Branting warned against the exaggeration of disarmament, but advocated a reduction in military burdens.

The question of Belgian independence was raised when a letter was read from Emile Vandervelde, the Belgian minister of munitions. Minister Vandervelde, who is one of the leaders of the socialist party in Belgium, insisted that the conference should declare itself unreservedly for the restoration of his native land. There was no opposition to this, but it was decided not to attempt to deal with the thorny question of Alsace-Lorraine.

Algernon Lee, the American representative and socialist candidate for the governorship of New York, reviewed the effect of the war on socialist organizations in America. He said that during the first year the influence was very depressing, people being more or less thrown off their balance, but they have thoro recovered now. Lee said that the small socialist wing in America is pro-German, and perhaps a somewhat larger section definitely anti-German, the great bulk of the party thought it would be best if neither side was crushingly defeated.

What the War Really Means—

WAR is a pitiless revealer of motives.

The present war is a struggle for economic supremacy between the capitalist interests of various nations.

But—what are the deeper economic causes? The "law of motion" driving the nations to slaughter?

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A Brief Compilation of the Industrial Commission Report.

This compilation is in vest pocket form and contains extracts from the report of the Commission. These extracts were made by Fred Warren. The booklet is issued by the People's College.

The report of this Commission is one of the most stunning documents ever issued by the United States Government and the gist of it should be in the possession of every socialist. For the small sum of 10c this compilation can be secured, and no one should be without it. Copies may be ordered from the Socialist Party, 803 W. Madison St., Chicago, Ill.

The Carpenter And The Rich Man.

FEW copies of this book left. This was a regular dollar book, but we will send you one or more copies at the price of 50 cents, postage paid—Socialist Party, 803 W. Madison St., Chicago.

10c for three months trial subscription to The New World, Lincoln Philier's Paper-Magazine, Girard, Kans.