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# AMERICAN SOCIALIST

Readers For The American Socialist Now Means Party Members Later On

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## AMERICANS! YOUR COUNTRY NEEDS YOU!

THESE ARE sad and dark days in the history of the Republic of the United States.

Americans! If there ever was a time when your country needed YOU that time is NOW!

The greatest crime committed against the United States since war was declared is the conspiracy to prevent the holding of the National Constituent Assembly of the People's Council.

No greater violation of our national constitution has taken place since that document was brought into life 130 years ago this month.

Free press, free speech, free assembly is being strangled. But it will not be strangled to death. There are too many men and women in this broad land who love liberty to permit that.

AS WE go to press word comes from Hudson, Wis., that the local "Black Hundreds", after threatening to tar, feather and hang the representatives of the People's Council, had them deported—driven out of town.

It had been planned to hold the People's Council peace conference in Hudson, Wis., following the startling proclamation of Gov. Burnquist, of Minnesota, the governor who helped break the strike of Minnesota's cruelly exploited iron miners, that the gathering must not assemble in Minneapolis or anywhere else in that state.

WE CANNOT now prove that the national democratic administration is behind this very evident conspiracy to suppress the People's Council. But it is not lifting a finger to prevent this rending to pieces and desecration of our constitutional rights. It is just as silent now as it has been during the past two months when the right of free press has become a sham and mockery.

AMERICA'S greatest discussion of the rights of the masses during war time had been planned for Minneapolis, Sept. 1—6.

From coast to coast, following conferences in New York City, Chicago and San Francisco, the People's Council suddenly leaped from nothing into a national organization of threatening power for good.

It receives the support of Socialists, trade unionists, farmers, single taxers, pacifists, members of the United States senate and house of representatives. Behind it stand all who wish to struggle for democracy in the United States while we are being told that the nation's armies are carrying democracy to Europe.

ALMOST on the day of the gathering, while the delegates were speeding to Minneapolis from every corner of the land, Minnesota's governor struck from behind.

Governor Burnquist, ruthless as any German junker ever professed to be, telegraphed to the sheriff of Hennepin County (which includes Minneapolis) to prevent the meeting of the People's Peace Council, if the meeting will in any way tend to injure the government in the prosecution of the war. The governor's telegram follows:

"My attention has been directed to a so-called peace council to be held in Minneapolis beginning September 1, 1917. If the said meeting will in any way tend to injure the government in the prosecution of the war or disturb the peace within the city of Minneapolis, you are hereby ordered to prevent the holding thereof. Intentional or unintentional arousing of anti-American sentiment or the dividing of our forces through ill-considered and futile peace talk at this time will only aid and assist the enemy.

"Summon to your assistance such forces as you may need to execute the laws herein ordered. Advise me at once whether you will have sufficient facilities to cope with the situation."

THE SHERIFF of Hennepin County could hardly have read this telegram when he wired back to Governor Burnquist that, "after a thorough investigation he believed the proposed meeting would result in bloodshed, rioting and loss of life".

No statement could be more untrue. Socialist Mayor Van Lear, of Minneapolis, is in control of the police force of that city and could easily maintain order. There has not yet been a semblance of disorder, bloodshed, rioting, nor has a single life been lost at any of the peaceful conferences already held by the People's Council.

On the strength of the Sheriff's telegram the Governor issued a proclamation prohibiting the holding of the proposed meeting "in Minneapolis or elsewhere in Minnesota." In order to strengthen his position he added that "the meeting could only aid and abet enemies of the United States."

IMMEDIATELY he heard of the position taken by Governor Burnquist, in Minnesota, Governor Frazier, North Dakota's executive, elected by the Nonpartisan League, wired the officials of the People's Council as follows:

"The People's Council of America for democracy and peace will be guaranteed their constitutional rights in North Dakota. We are loyal and patriotic and believe in freedom of speech for all people."

Socialist Mayor Daniel W. Hoan, of Milwaukee, Wis., extended an invitation to the People's Council to meet in that city. He wired:

"If the principles of the bill of rights and the Constitution of the United States which guarantee liberty of speech and the right of the people peaceably to assemble to consult for the common good have been suspended in the State of Minnesota, I desire to inform you that both are living realities in the City of Milwaukee and the State of Wisconsin. I can assure you that should your organization desire to meet in this city it will be welcome."

ACCORDING to information received by The American Socialist, it was decided that it would be impractical to go to North Dakota. The choice finally fell on Hudson, Wis., only a short distance from Minneapolis.

Immediately the local and state Prussians in Wisconsin got busy and began stirring into flames every smoldering ember of chauvinism in Hudson. Speeches were made by the Kaisers of the municipality from the steps of the local armory with the result that Secretary Louis P. Lochner of the People's Council and his staff did not receive a very cordial reception. Reports from the Wisconsin city declare that the officials of the People's Council were deported to the tune of, "Get a rope!" "Get the tar and feathers!" "Hang 'em!" noble sentiments in a land said to be struggling for democracy.

The riot of lawlessness at Hudson evidently had the endorsement of Governor Philipp of Wisconsin. The peace pilgrims, after their return to Minneapolis, Minn., following their deportation from Hudson, Wis., continued to make plans for the holding of the conference.

Our latest information is that an effort may be made to hold it in Washington, D. C.

THUS is another crime added to the multiplying attacks on American institutions. The tyranny of Minnesota's czar, the Hudson deportation and the conspiracy to suppress the People's Council; all these now are enrolled with the deportation of 1,100 working men from Bisbee, Ariz.; the martyrdom of Frank Hill, at Butte, Mont.; the race riots at East St. Louis, Mo.; Houston, Tex., and many other cities; the driving of women and children into industry under the pretext that it is a war necessity; the breaking up of peaceful parades and demonstrations in Boston, Mass., Seattle, Wash., and elsewhere; the suppression of our press and the wholesale arresting and imprisonment of those who advocate peace and abhor war.

IT WILL be a difficult task to right the

wrongs that are being inflicted upon a patient people by the brutal and arrogant industrial autocracy that now has the nation in its grip. But these wrongs must be righted. And soon!

IT IS now more than two weeks since The American Socialist's application to have its second class mailing privilege restored. The despots now in control of the post office at Washington refuse to act on our application.

We are doing our best in this crisis. Only 30,000 copies of our August 18th issue were printed and sent out to the larger cities by express. The following week we did a little better; 35,000 copies of the August 25th issue going out by express to be distributed by carriers in the larger cities.

This week we are printing 80,000 copies and we feel confident that every one of them will be distributed by "The Red Express", now in good working order.

IN THE meantime we have also turned our subscription list over to a weekly called "The Eye-Opener", which has a second class mailing privilege and which will seek to serve our readers in addition to its own as long as it is permitted to do so. This explains why our readers are getting "The Eye-Opener" instead of The American Socialist, while many are getting both.

OUR greatest hope and inspiration is found in the spirited and growing response to our appeal for the raising of a huge "Free Press Defense Fund", to help get back The American Socialist's second class mailing privilege, to oppose with all the power that we possess the conspiracy to deprive other publications of this privilege, and to struggle as best we can against the crushing of the rights of free speech, free press and free assemblage.

THERE IS much and important work to be done. The press is our last refuge. They can break up our meetings, they can stop us from talking in public places; but they will have a hard time to stop us from writing and printing our ideas, our hopes, our aspirations.

Our press must be saved and strengthened at all costs. The living word, as it appears in our papers and in our literature, must not be permitted to die.

THE post office censorship is drawing the lines tighter. We thought it had gone to ex-

### People's Council May Not Hear Maurer Make This Speech - We Print It Anyway

NOTE:—James H. Maurer, president of the Pennsylvania Federation of Labor, and Socialist member of the Pennsylvania Legislature, was scheduled to make the accompanying speech as temporary chairman at the opening of the People's Conference in Minneapolis, Minn., Saturday, Sept. 1. This speech may never be made, but we publish it anyway. Maurer was last week prevented from delivering the substance of this address at Buffalo, N. Y., Gary, Ind., and other centers of super-jingoism. So here it is:

The subject of my address is, as the chairman has announced, Democracy and Terms of Peace. If a majority of the people agree with my views on this subject, or not, is indeed of little consequence. If my views are right then those who oppose me are wrong; if I am wrong, then my opponents are right. Right or wrong, if the United States is really what it claims to be—the defender of democracy, then we are all entitled to an expression of our opinions.

Any government that denies its people the right to express, freely and unrestrictedly, its views on questions of public policy is autocratic and despotic, and in such a country, democracy either never lived, or it has died. Autocracy and democracy cannot exist at the same place at the same time; the birth of either means the death of the other.

WE are told that our entrance into the World War was to make the World safe for Democracy. But it seems that there are certain interests in this country, who seem to think that the only way to democratize Europe is to prussianize the United States. Immediately following our government's declaration of war against Germany, these interests using the war as a pretext demanded that all labor standards and laws be repealed or suspended; that our constitutional rights of free speech and public assemblage be suspended; that the press, not owned or controlled by those favorable to the war program be suspended; and anyone who holds views contrary to them, are branded as pro-Germans, and their views as treasonable.

THEY ARE THE SAME INTERESTS.

The same interests responsible for the deportation of American citizens in Arizona, the roasting to death of women and children in Ludlow, the horrors of Calumet, the recent murder of Frank Little in Butte, the massacre of workers in the State of Washington, Pittsburgh, Bayonne, West Virginia and in fact every other industrial center in the country, are trying to arouse our patriotic spirit by pointing to the outrages committed against the Belgians.

Knowing these people and the interests they represent we are justified in suspecting that their chatter about democracy, and their tears for poor Belgium are but hypocritical snares of pretense. I have lately travelled across this continent, from coast to coast, and all along the line an official spirit of intolerance has prevailed. Halls that had been

rented and paid for have been at the last minute locked against us, public parks closed against us, our right to free public assemblage on the public highway refused, and if permitted, broken up by the soldiers or police.

The independent press is being denied the use of the mails, even petitions to Congress have been declared unavailable.

THERE IS CAUSE FOR SUSPICION.

These constitutional rights and liberties of ours are being denied us by the very officials whose oath of office demands that these rights and liberties be protected. Any wonder that many of us look with suspicion upon the newspaper noise about the war making the World safe for Democracy?

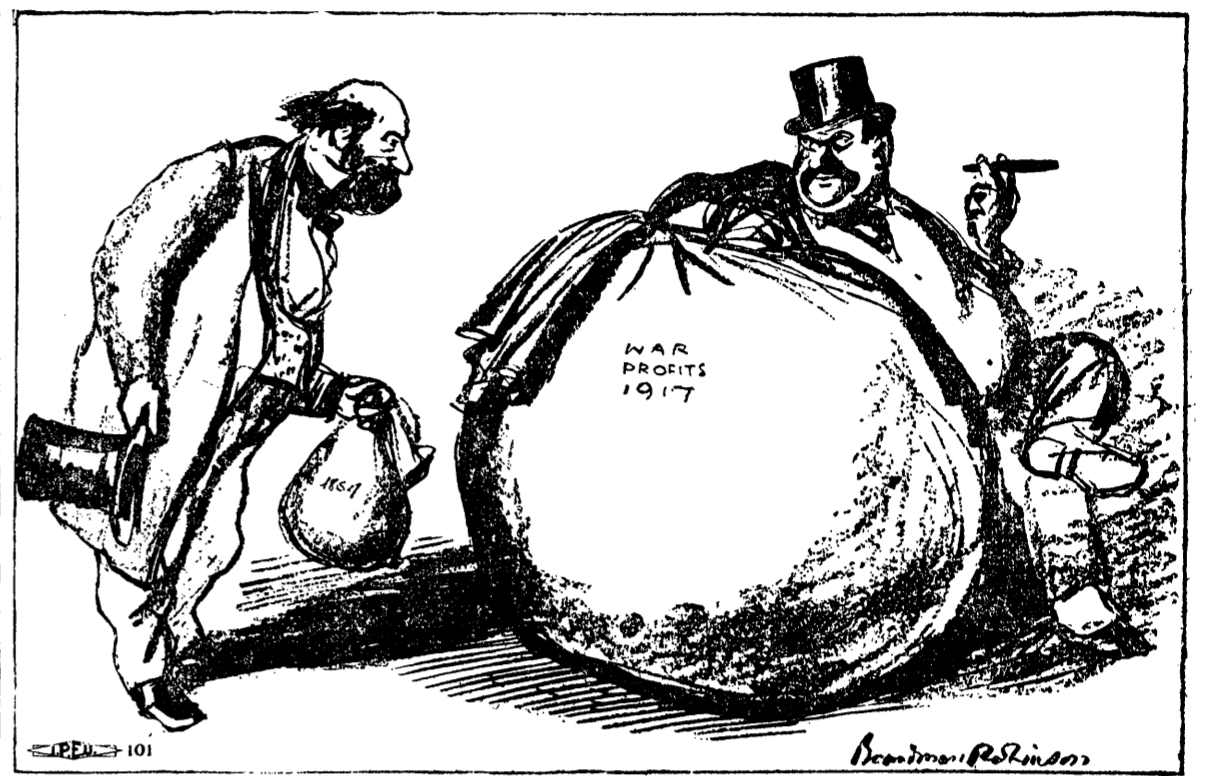
Because the People's Council of America aims to defend our constitutional rights, and preserve every inch of democracy we ever had in the United States, we are denounced as being un-American, pro-German and traitors, by the very people who never in all their lives said or did a single thing for human happiness or democracy.

The saddest of all, lately certain so-called Socialists and organized labor men have cast their lot with these opponents of real democracy.

The very same interests which in the past corrupted our courts, denuded our forests, polluted our streams, robbed us of our lands and mineral deposits, exploited, oppressed, deported, imprisoned, starved, and in industrial disputes, unhesitatingly murdered the toilers, these are the people opposing the People's and Workmen's Council, democracy and our constitutional rights.

Whether conscious of it or not, these are the interests these so-called Socialists and labor men, who are now organizing a dual organization are serving. The People's Council of America never pretended to represent labor alone, organized or unorganized. The high handed methods used in denying the citizens of the United States, their constitutional rights, made it imperative that someone defends these rights. An organization, big enough and broad enough to admit all lovers of peace and democracy was organized and very appropriately named the People's Council of America; published its adopted program to the world, and invited all who wished to subscribe to its principles to join.

MORE THAN MILLION JOIN MOVEMENT.



Boardman Robinson in The New York Call.

### Civil War Profiteer: "What A Piker I Was."

tremes when it denied The American Socialist the right to publish news and articles relating and discussing the activities of the International Socialist movement. International Socialism, the hope of the world, in the eyes of the post office autocracy, is a crime, because the capitalist politicians fear it repudiates national governments.

Now comes the censor and declares that plans are under way to forbid the discussion of the financing of this war by the conscription of wealth, because this might discourage the masses of the people from investing their savings in war bonds.

The demand is daily growing louder in congress for drafting war profits and huge incomes to pay the cost of war. The attack is made on taxing the necessities of life and floating huge bond issues to be burdened upon the shoulders of future generations.

The censor is planning to throw his support to the war profiteers, the looters of the nation's wealth, by silencing every protesting voice. The scheme seems to be not only to make the people pay for the war but to

make them like it. No greater curb was ever placed upon free discussion.

EVERY liberty-loving American is called to the colors in this hour of trial to defend free American institutions now in danger of being crucified.

Americans! Your country needs you! It needs you now! We must resist to the last the invasion of our shores by despotic European institutions. We need no Kaisers, no Junkers, no Prussians to rule over us, to tell us what to think.

America must be the land of the free!

### What Two Congressmen Think.

U. S. Senator Asle J. Gronna, N. Dak., writes: "I am very sorry indeed, to learn that the Postmaster General should see fit to exclude from the mails The American Socialist. While I am not a member of your party, I want to assure you that I want to see fair play. More than that, I believe that if the administration shall continue to exclude from the mails newspapers which may differ and also criticize the administration, it will be the means of creating dissatisfaction, and will ultimately destroy the party in power."

"It is not necessary for me to call your attention to the first amendment of the Constitution of the United States. That provision is so plain that no American citizen can fail to understand it, and I am sure it was the intention of the fathers who made the Constitution, that we should enjoy free speech, and freedom of the press."

"In my judgment, no government can continue to be a free democracy, if the cherished principles of free speech, freedom of the press, and freedom of conscience and religion, are to be hampered and discriminated against by official censorship."

Representative Stuart F. Reed, West Va. 3d district, writes: "I want to assure you that I most earnestly desire to see every American institution and interest given a square deal, and cannot tolerate tyranny over any class or classes of people."

### Gaining The Light

Senator Gore, Oklahoma, in telling the U. S. senate why he is opposed to sending conscripts to Europe, took occasion to have inserted in the Congressional Record the complete decision of Judge Rose, of Baltimore, Md., holding that a leaflet issued by the national office of the Socialist Party was not seditious and treasonable in spite of the fact that it had been so declared by the tyrannical censorship of the post office.

Judge Rose's decision, with Senator Gore's speech, was recently published in Hearst's Chicago American, several weeks after it had appeared in The American Socialist. We are forcing our fight upon the attention of the nation and if the people do not put an end to the outrages perpetrated by the postal department during the reign of Czar Burleson it will not be because of their ignorance as to prevailing conditions.

"Probably the most significant thing about the peace proposal from the Vatican is that it suggests peace on the Socialist basis of 'no annexations, no indemnities.' Certainly, it is not often that the Vatican and Socialism are in substantial agreement, but it would be difficult, indeed, to maintain, at least in this matter, that we 'are opposed to religion.'—The New York Call.

The junkers are on the job strong in Kenosha, Wis. When George Fischer, Jr., member of the city council, protested against the arrest of Ira V. Yingst, Socialist, on a trumped up charge of "disloyalty", he, too, was ordered to appear before the federal officials. When a member of the local board of education tried to intercede, he was kicked out of the federal building.

Dispatches from London state that the British government has sent lecturers among the soldiers on the western front to tell them about America's ideals, aspirations and endeavors in the war. Wonder what they are saying about the crushing of a free press, free speech and free assemblage in the United States.

Congresswoman Jeanette Rankin, in a speech to striking coal miners at Roundup, Mont., urged them to "hang together" to get their demands. If they don't they'll hang separately, a la Frank Hill; or get deported, after the fashion of Bisbee, Ariz.

Yes, wage slaves, it is even pro-German to demand that the rich pay some of the cost of this war.



"THANKS to the greed of business men who should be ashamed to call themselves American citizens, our population from coast to coast is being bled white of its money and health by the food grafters and profiteers. The only way to meet this situation is to meet it practically, by common sense methods, organizing and getting food from the producer to the consumer without any taint of illegitimate war profit between."—From speech of Carl Vrooman, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture.

We Violate No Law! But Our Power Grows! No Wonder They Hate, Jail And Persecute Us

One of the most successful meetings held in Chicago since the opening of the war took place Sunday, August 19, under the joint auspices of the People's Council and the Progressive Cigar Makers' Union at Riverview Park. The capitalist dailies were unusually bitter in their denunciations of this popular gathering. Among the speakers was J. L. Engdahl editor of The American Socialist. He said:

WE come here to discuss our constitutional rights during war time. I hope this discussion, I know it will result in action to enforce the rights of free speech, of a free press and free assembly, rights guaranteed the American people under the constitution adopted by our forefathers more than 130 years ago.

During the week just past we had an example of such action down in the wide awake, forward looking city of Dayton, Ohio. After an exciting campaign, with the questions of international peace, free speech, a free press and free assemblage the great, dominating issues, the voters walked up to the ballot boxes and cast their decision.

The majority of those voters, under the standard of the Socialist Party, cast their ballots against conscription, in favor of peace, in favor of free speech, in favor of a free and outspoken press, in favor of the freedom of the people to gather in mass meetings to discuss the big, fundamental issues of the day and hour.

Roll Up Big Victory. The candidates of the Socialist Party, the only great political party in this country that stands squarely upon the constitution of the United States—the candidates of this party received more votes than all the other candidates put together. The candidates on the citizen's ticket, representing the good people of Dayton, Ohio, who are making money out of this war—these candidates ran second.

The candidates of the democratic party—the party that kept us out of war—ran a poor third. They were at the bottom of the heap. This election in Dayton, Ohio, is an indication of what the verdict would be if the great masses of the people of the nation were given an opportunity to voice their sentiments on the problems confronting us. The fact that they have not been given this power is added evidence that those in power fear the thoughts that are now uppermost in the minds of the people.

The Associated Press, the world-wide news-gathering agency of the capitalist dailies, did not send one line over its wires about the magnificent victory scored by the people at Dayton. Why? Let Melville E. Stone, head of this news trust, answer. He told us why on another occasion.

Our people today are not suffering the wrath of the administration in power because we have committed any crime. I have already pointed out who the real criminals are. We are being victimized because we really speak what is in the minds of the people, and the organization that gives voice to what the masses think is feared and hated because of its power.

The Socialist Party has gained 25,000 new members since the war started. The People's Council is becoming a power in every city, town and hamlet in the nation. That is why they hate us, fear us, persecute us. I recently accompanied the committee of prominent men sent to Washington to protest against the autocratic power being exercised by the post office to crush our newspapers and bar our literature from the mails.

After we had found that little was to be gained either from the department of justice or the post office department we called on members of the United States senate and the house of representatives. Both senators and representatives protested that it was never intended that the now infamous censorship provisions of the espionage law should be used to suppress thinking newspapers. This power had been assumed by the post office entirely upon its own initiative.

We learned incidentally that the fear of Socialism was big in the hearts of the democratic and republican politicians. The democrats said there would be only two parties in the field in the congressional elections in November next year—the democratic and Socialist parties.

The republicans said there would be only two parties in the field in the next national election—the republican and Socialist parties. The democrats were saying "Good bye!" to the republicans, and the republicans were saying "Good Bye!" to the democrats.

And they were both shaking hands and saying, "How do you do?" to the Socialists. In fact, one republican of national renown, claimed he would rather run on the Socialist ticket in the next national campaign, because, he declared, he would stand a better chance of election.

(To be concluded next week.)

The Political Program By MORRIS HILLQUIT.

If the Socialists were in control of Congress, what would be the first thing they would do?

This is one of the questions most frequently addressed to the Socialist propagandist. On the surface the question seems perfectly legitimate, but on closer analysis it will be found to be based on a misconception of the Socialist philosophy and a wrong notion of the established course of social and political progress.

Socialization Not "First Thing." The one great aim of all Socialists is the socialization of the industries, but that is obviously not the "first thing" that Socialists in office could attempt to bring about.

The collective ownership of the social instruments of wealth production cannot be established by a single legislative enactment. Rather will it be the culmination of a long series of political and industrial reforms of a socialistic nature.

These reforms will be numerous and varied in character and scope. Some of them will have to be dealt with by Congress, others by state legislatures or local political units.

The measures will probably not present themselves always and everywhere in the identical form and sequence. Accidental occurrences and local conditions may force different issues to the front at different times and places.

To determine in advance the exact succession of proposed Socialist reforms would be an idle undertaking. The test of practicality of Socialist policies is not whether the Socialists have agreed on a "first" practical measure, but whether they present a political program comprehensive enough to meet all important social problems of the day. They do.

Political Program Definite. The Socialist Party has a very definite political program, which differs radically from the platforms of all other political parties in scope, structure and contents.

The political platforms of the old parties are built largely on the same plan as a menu à la carte in an opulent restaurant. They are framed to meet all tastes and to satisfy all appetites. Their object is to "catch votes"—all kinds of votes, and each of their "planks" is designed to appeal to a special class of voters.

The manufacturers and the workers, the railroad magnates and the farmers, the producers and consumers, the foreign-born citizens and the negroes of the South in turn receive promises, pledges or compliments.

The platforms are mainly adjusted to the minor "issues" of the hour and usually fight shy of the more vital and permanent social problems of the nation. The planks are often inconsistent and meaningless, and are never cemented by a cohesive social philosophy.

There is hardly a pledge in the platform of the Republican Party that could not find legitimate judgment in that of the Democratic Party and vice versa. Very often it is a race between the two old parties for the most popular issue, and sometimes both endorse the same popular demands with varying degrees of emphasis.

It would be a vain task to attempt to distinguish the social philosophy of the Bryan platform of 1908 from that of the Roosevelt platform of 1904, or that of the Parker platform of 1904 from the Taft platform of 1912.

Socialists Have Definite Aims. The political platform of the Socialist Party, on the other hand, is based on a definite social conception and on a dominant and consistent political purpose.

The Socialist aim in politics is to better the lot of the workers, to curb the power of the capitalist classes, to extend the social and industrial functions of the government and to place the latter more directly in the hands of the people—all with the ultimate object of transforming the present industrial and political system into a social democracy.

These aims are formulated in concrete and definite planks or "demands," which constitute the invariable political platform of Socialism. The Socialist platform may be re-drafted periodically and greater prominence may be given to the issues surging to the foreground at a particular time, but the whole is practically unchangeable. It could not consistently be otherwise.

The Socialist Party was organized for the accomplishment of a definite social and political purpose. Its platform is but the expression of that purpose and a statement of the steps by which it is expected to be realized. So long as that purpose remains unaccomplished and so long as the party adheres to its main aim, principles and methods, so long must the substance of its platform remain intact.

After each of the six suffrage petitions of the president at Washington had stood up before Police Judge Pugh last Friday and had demanded a jury trial, the judge sentenced them to "twenty-five dollars or 30 days." He not only refused to let them face a jury trial, but he tried at first to keep out of the record the fact that they had asked for a jury.

Plan To Draft War Profits Now Before U. S. Senate

Borah Insists That Conscription Of War Profits Will Fix War's Cost On The Rich -- Where It Belongs

The past week has witnessed an historic debate in congress on the question of conscripting wealth for war purposes. We herewith reproduce extracts from the speeches of Senators Borah, Gore and Thomas on this great question.

Senator Borah, of Idaho, supported the conscription of war profits in a vigorous attack on the bond issuing policy which dominates the administration's revenue bill, especially condemn it for taking but a paltry \$562,000,000 of war profits out of an admitted six billions.

"Raising the money to carry on this war means business worry, countless hours of grinding toil, means sacrifice, means children deprived of education, means families deprived of the necessities of life," said Borah.

"When we think of the deprivation, the hours and weeks and months and years of drudgery to meet these obligations, we realize that the suffering and the agony of the battlefield are not the only suffering, the only agony of this horrible sacrifice now imposed upon us as if by fate?"

"But how shall we meet the situation? There are three ways to meet it, one by loans, the other by taxes, and another by a combination of loans and taxes.

"The latter is of course the one we will pursue. It is extremely important to my mind, however, that we make taxation the fundamental principle of our revenue-raising policy and loans the incident.

Raise All Possible By Taxes. "We ought to have the courage and the wisdom to raise all we can possibly raise by taxes. We ought to endeavor to pay as we go, in so far as we can do so. That is business. That is just. That is wise. The loan system is calculated to produce inflation and to demoralize business. It is bad finance and worse morals.

"I want to submit this plain simple proposition, which will go home to every lay mind in this land upon whose public opinion this war must be fought: "Do you think you are meeting the situation when you take \$562,000,000 from some \$6,000,000,000 of war profits?"

"How shall we face our constituencies and what answer shall we make to posterity in leaving these accumulated profits practically untouched and unscathed, while we impose upon the common people of this country and that is what a bond issue means—some \$10,000,000,000 in the way of indebtedness and accumulated interest?"

"Bonds mean that wealth will buy them, hold them, collect interest, and that when war profits are gone the necessities of life will be taxed to pay.

"Is this the purpose for which we have been sent here? Is this our portion of the task?"

Weeks For Blood Profiteers. "The Senator from Massachusetts, Mr. Weeks, said that we should not so tax the business of the country as to destroy its productive efficiency. "We are all agreed to that. Certainly that would be disastrous. It would injure the whole country—labor even as much as capital.

"But do you think when you take \$562,000,000 out of some six billion dollars of war profits that you are destroying, or touching the line where you would destroy, the productive efficiency of the country?"

"If you should take, in addition to \$562,000,000 another \$562,000,000 from the six billions of war profits, do you think you would have reached the point where you need discuss the productive efficiency of the business of the country?"

"If you should in this great emergency take all the war profits, leaving the normal profits, would it destroy productive efficiency?"

"Instead of coniving at this increase of the cost of living, instead of conspiring to aid inflation we ought to exert every energy along opposite lines. It is one of the remorseless axioms of war that do the best we may, it is impossible to distribute its burdens, its sufferings, and sacrifices equally among the people.

Surplus Wealth, Excessive Profits, And Large Incomes Pay Far Too Little, Say Senators Gore And Thomas

In a joint criticism of the war revenue bill, Senator Gore and Senator Thomas indicted it for its evident attempt to saddle the cost of the war on the poor while resorting to wholesale exemptions of the rich.

"By the method of taxation proposed in the bill and the report of the majority of the members of the Committee on finance," declares the statement of the senators from Oklahoma and Colorado, "the tax burden is unjustly distributed in that it will fall with undue weight upon those least able to bear it, while surplus wealth, excessive profits, and large incomes pay far too little.

Bond Issues Denounced. "Of all forms of taxation, that involved in bond issues is the worst. The people must redeem the bonds, principal and interest, and in a comparatively short space of time the interest comes to equal and exceeds the principal.

"The burden of taxation should be apportioned among the taxpayers in proportion to their ability to pay. Income or profits constitute, if not the best, at least one of the best standards by which to measure ability to pay.

"Nothing can more certainly invite disaster to our arms by destroying popular confidence in the purposes of the war than to pass a bill which heavily taxes the necessities of life of the poor while lightly touching the luxuries of the rich.

"We claim to have profited by the military experiences and mistakes of the other warring countries, particularly Great Britain, and therefore to have adopted the policy of drafting men into the army from the very start.

Urges Draft Of Wealth. "Why, then, should we not profit by the financial experience and mistakes of other countries, particularly Great Britain, and therefore draft wealth in the form of taxation into the service of the country from the very start?"

"Great Britain levies a flat rate of 80 per cent on war profits, and that rate, if adopted by Congress would yield \$2,300,000,000 in revenue if based upon war profits for the calendar year 1917.

"The British income tax last year yielded one billion dollars in round numbers. On the British basis similar income tax rates in the United States would yield about two and one-half billion dollars.

"From these two sources alone, the income tax and the war profits tax, we can raise, without subjecting the country to serious financial strain and without depriving the wealthy of even the luxuries of life, more than double the amount proposed in the bill submitted by the majority of the finance committee.

"This is the minimum amount which we can afford to provide by taxation from these sources at this time. To do less than that is to enter upon a course that is bound to be ruinous to the country on account of the excessive bond issues that will be required, and which is unjust and indefensible from every point of view.

Unfair To Tax Necessities. "It is monstrously unfair to tax the everyday necessities of the average man and woman to pay the expenses of this war, in addition to commanding their service, and the lives of many of them, and of their children, so long as the swollen and abnormal war profits of the big corporations are not taken—profits which the war has created, and which will disappear as soon as the war ends.

"Every dollar of war profits can be taken and still leave the enormous peace time profits of the great corporations untouched.

"Every stockholder would still receive his handsome peace time dividends, every officer his princely salary, if all the war profits were taken.

"Will anyone contend that the food and the medicine and most of the absolute necessities of the poor shall be taxed so long as the enormous war profits remain as a source of revenue?"

Cannot Escape Socialism By VICTOR L. BERGER.

With or without social reform we cannot escape Socialism. The cooperative commonwealth is the aim towards which from a law of nature, the entire political and economical development of modern times is moving.

Guilty? Of What?

NOTE.—Cleveland Socialists have issued a little pamphlet entitled "Guilty? Of What?" containing the speeches of C. E. Ruthenberg, Alfred Wagenknecht and Charles Baker before the jury that sentenced them to one year in the Canton, Ohio, jail for alleged opposition to the draft. The introduction to this pamphlet is as follows:

C. E. Ruthenberg, Socialist Candidate for Mayor, Alfred Wagenknecht, State Secretary of the Socialist Party, and Charles Baker, State Organizer of the Socialist Party, have been sentenced to serve a year in Canton jail by Federal Judge Westenhaver. This is what they are guilty of: Having as Socialists declared before the beginning of the present war, that all modern wars are the product of the profit system, they dared show by facts and argument that the war this country is engaged in is a struggle over the commercial interests and property rights of the capitalist class.

They dared speak the truth and declare that the claim that we are fighting for "democracy" was mere hypocrisy used to trick and delude the people.

They dared point out that the present administration had secured reelection by appealing for support because it had "kept us out of war" (a war for democracy it now calls it) and after its re-election had hurried us into the war against our will to fight for the profits of the capitalist class.

They dared denounce the conscription law as the rape of democracy in this country and to demand its repeal.

They dared pledge themselves to the principles of fraternity and brotherhood toward all people no matter what their race or nationality and to pledge themselves to refuse to murder their fellow human beings to preserve the profits and investments of the capitalist class of this country.

And because a certain Alphonse Schue failed to register for conscription and when caught, in order to save himself from punishment, said he had heard the speeches of these three men and on account of these speeches had not registered, C. E. Ruthenberg, Alfred Wagenknecht and Charles Baker are sentenced to serve a year in Canton jail.

They are not under jail sentence because Schue did not register, but because the ruling class wants to stop further truth telling about the evil motives behind the war in which the lives of the youth of the nation are to be sacrificed. Schue is merely the excuse, the tool, thru which these men are to be stopped from working for Socialism, peace and democracy.

Pettigrew Gives Views R. F. Pettigrew, former U. S. senator from South Dakota, notices the Draft Law passed by Wilson's Rubber Stamp Congress in language as follows:

"The conscription law passed by Congress is in violation of the spirit of American institutions and, in addition, is in direct violation of the Constitution of the United States in the following particulars:

FIRST: It violated Section 13, Subdivision 1, of the amendment to the Constitution, which reads as follows: "Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States or any place subject to their jurisdiction."

That the conscription law imposes military, agricultural or industrial service under any conditions determined by the military or Congress as to hours conditions and pay.

SECOND: That it violated Article I of the amendments: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof."

That the conscription law does establish a religion, in that it gives a special privilege to members of any well-recognized sect and does not belong to any well-recognized religious sect or those who have no religion at all.

THIRD: That it violated Article 1 of the Constitution, Section 8, Subdivision 15 and 16, which only gives the United States the right to call forth the militia in the case of invasion or rebellion and that neither an invasion nor a rebellion is taking place.

To raise and support armies, but no appropriation of money to that use shall be for a longer term than two years."

FOURTH: That it violates Article 4, Section 2, Subdivision 1 of the Constitution which reads as follows: "The citizens of each state shall be entitled to all privileges and immunities of citizens in the several states."

That the law imposes military, agricultural or industrial service on all male citizens between the ages of 21 and 30 years, inclusive, with certain exceptions, and excluding the excepted class and older and younger males.

Boston Journal Champin Of Free Press and Speech

From The Boston Journal (Aug. 16) A bill offered by Senator Myers of Montana prescribes jail terms for persons who speak disrespectfully of the president, the government or the congress of the United States. The Myers bill, broadly speaking, is aimed to penalize seditious but within the interpretation of any petty official it might punish an ordinary criticism.

Certainly no person or paper need speak disrespectfully, disloyally, violently, contemptuously, etc. But neither should the United States government, in its honesty and frankness, fear disrespectful or disloyal criticism.

A criticism of any given official may be in either a bitter or mild terms. If it is offered for the purpose of calling attention to an evil, it cannot be disloyal, contemptuous, etc., but is, on the other hand, intensely patriotic. Under such a law as the Myers bill suggests, however, any criticism might be interpreted as disloyal.

The bill is a plain denial of American rights and would so operate. We advise the public to study every such bill introduced, and to be on guard against any slightest tampering with the constitutional guarantees of free speech and free press.

In this country we not only have numerous subjects which need full publicity, but we have ample laws for the protection of military secrets.

There is always the chance, of course, that the press may learn things for itself; and we do not want that chance destroyed. The British press learned for itself of the Cornwallis-West scandal, a society woman holding reins on the field marshal. Inefficient cabinet ministers have gone under the hammering of the British press and Britain has profited hugely.

And in this country shall we blind the people by gouging out of the constitution the solemn promise of a free press? Many people dislike the present make-up of this government. But is it not their own government, born in revolution and bidden to make men free?

Surely the Myers bill could not be passed with the consent of the people. And the consent of the people never will be obtained for any such piece of autocratic savagery while the press remains free.

But why, people are asking, must this sinister effort to stifle free speech recur so persistently when we are offering a million of our sons on the altar of liberty? It speaks ill indeed, of our high national purpose.

Once and for all the president of the United States should give assurance that he will neither support nor countenance any scheme for reducing our freedom below the minimum point which it already has reached in these days of stern war reorganization.

If the American people are fit to fight for democracy as a great and democratic nation there is not the slightest danger that they will be swayed by shrill-voiced nobodies condemning the government.

Hang spies and the traitors; send the seditionists to jail. But do so under the laws already on the statute books. We need not another line of law on that subject.

Any proposed law bearing upon the rights of the people and the press is now open to suspicion. The country does not need it, the people will not tolerate it.

For Better Conditions From The Free Press (Milwaukee)

Government contracts are alleged to have been let out to firms whose working conditions are undesirable. Home work, in unsanitary surroundings, is permitted.

Military uniforms are made in sweatshops. This is doubtless due to blunders on the part of the authorities. But the outcome is naturally an apathetic attitude towards the war by organized labor. Well organized shops lie idle and competent work people go unemployed while the incompetent are working at cut rate prices.

It is a matter for the councils of defense to intervene where government contracts are undertaken, for labor conditions must be perfect. Frequent inspection is absolutely necessary. Without it conditions cannot measure up to just requirements. In questions that react on policy, no inquiry can be too intimate.

If the government would retain public respect, if there is not to be a gigantic show-up of inefficiency, then there must be proper inspection of contractors' workshops. It is necessary that working conditions be above reproach. Unless the government is prepared to be arraigned before the bar of outraged public opinion for slurring the rights of citizens of the union, then there must be fair play.

OUR BEST BOOKS NOVELS The Ragged-Trousered Philanthropists By Robert Tressall. An Epic of British Labor PRICE, \$1.25. JACK LONDON'S NOVELS CALL OF THE WILD ADVENTURE WAR OF THE CLASSES LOST FACE MOON FACE THE GAME PRICE, 50 cents each. SOCIALIST CLASSICS Socialism Summed Up By Morris Hillquit PRICE, 60 cents. The Truth About Socialism By Allan L. Benson PRICE, 25 cents. The Mexican People; Their Struggle for Independence By Gutierrez de Lara PRICE, \$1.50. What's So And What Isn't By John M. Work New and Revised Edition PRICE, 25 cents. Our National Kitchen By Anna A. Maley PRICE, 10 cents. Regulation, a Failure And a Fraud By Daniel W. Hoan PRICE, 10 cents. National Office, Socialist Party, 503 West Madison St., Chicago, Ill.



# Who Shall Protect The Workers If Their Press Is Strangled?

**A** DANGER threatens you and your family. A greater peril than has ever before confronted our Republic, is upon us now. It is not invasion from without, it is destruction from within.

The rights, the liberties of the American working class have been threatened with extinction. The Constitution has been rendered out of force, and the Bill of Rights, guaranteeing freedom of speech, of press and of assembly, has been struck down by the hand of autocracy.

Clothed in the mantle of irresponsible authority, a subordinate law clerk of the Postoffice Department in Washington has suddenly assumed the powers of a THOUGHT-CONTROLLER of the nation.

At a time when the price of food goes higher and higher; when tremendous war loans are piled up mountainlike upon us, when every attempt on the part of workers to secure improvement in their condition is met with deportation, intimidation, threats and violence;

At a time when the Council of National Defense has turned Labor over, bound and gagged, into the hands of its enemies, to be dealt with as they will;

At this moment that last and most sacred right of labor, the right to ask better things, the right of a free press, is stripped away.

**THE THOUGHT-CONTROLLER** has stricken down at one blow more than a score of labor, Socialist and radical periodicals, who speak with the voice of labor. At one blow, a blow from behind, a stroke in the dark, more than a million readers of labor papers have been forbidden to know facts or to think thoughts that their press would give to them.

What protection have you or your children against oppression, if your press is strangled?

What safeguard is there for any freeman's rights, when the right of free press is taken away?

**ARTICLE I** of the amendments to the Constitution of the United States reads as follows:

"Congress shall make no law abridging the freedom of speech or of the press, or of the right of the people peaceably to assemble and petition the Government for a redress of grievances."

Without this addition, the Constitution

would never have been adopted. In obedience to its mandates, Congress struck from the espionage bill as first introduced, a provision placing the press of the United States under a strict censorship.

In the last days of the debate, after the censorship provision had been struck out in response to an overwhelming demand from the whole country, a clause was surreptitiously slipped in at the insistence of Postmaster General Bursleson, authorizing him to stop any publication which might "obstruct recruiting."

Under cover of this surreptitious amendment, W. H. Lamar, solicitor of the Post Office Department, has struck. He has become plaintiff, prosecutor, judge, jury, executioner, and court of appeal; he is in absolute control of the press of the nation, and thru the press, of the thoughts and ideas of one hundred million people.

And he has promised to use this power ruthlessly against labor's press.

**WHO SHALL** present the arguments for a peaceable change, if the Socialist papers are killed?

What shall prevent the ever spreading discontent and murmuring of defrauded work-

ers from breaking out into disorder, if Socialism, which seeks to prevent violence, is not allowed to show the peaceful way toward change?

Acting on instructions from the National Executive Committee of the Socialist Party, a committee went to Washington to investigate and protest.

And this is what they found:

The Department's position is that if a single issue of any paper is excluded from the mails for containing non-mailable matter, this destroys the continuity of the paper. Even tho the decision may not be reached for several weeks after the paper has been mailed, the theory is that if it is decided to be unmailable, it has in fact not been printed.

**ACCORDING** to the law, if any paper enjoying the privilege of second-class rates misses even one issue without valid excuse, it forfeits the right to the second-class rate.

Therefore; if even weeks after a single issue has been presented to go thru the mails, some clerk in Washington decides that it contains a sentence, a paragraph or even a word that this clerk does not like, that issue has never been printed: the paper is guilty of

criminal negligence, and is to be debarred from the mails.

Even the Department of Justice, the official legal department of the government, is unable to discover what is unmailable in the issues of The American Socialist which have been barred from the mails.

No answer is given to inquiries. We are not told what was wrong. We are given no guidance as to the future issues. We are told we ought to have known. But even the Governmental Department of Justice does not know. Only Lamar knows, and he won't tell.

**WHAT** is wrong? Is it that Socialism is spreading like wildfire, and Big Business everywhere is afraid.

What is wrong is that Socialism is gaining the upper hand thru the United States. The world-catastrophe shows the breakdown of the capitalist system, so long foretold, so long prophesied by Socialists. We are getting ready in this country to take over the reins of government; and the Plutocracy fears us!

**Who shall protect the workmen from robbery, if their press is strangled,**

**WILL YOU HELP US PUT AN END TO THE RULE OF GREED?**

## Cuban Workers Building Strong Socialist Party

Antonio Correa, secretary of the Socialist Party of Cuba, fraternal delegate of the Cuban labor movement to the Pan-American Federation of Labor Conference Committee, reached Washington this week.

Correa is also the secretary of the International Retail Clerks Union of Cuba, which has a membership of 10,000.

Correa's special work will be to study the American labor movement in both its political and industrial forms and make a report to Cuba in particular, and Latin America in general.

The Socialist Party of Cuba publishes a bi-monthly paper called "The Class Struggle." Correa was formerly the business manager of the paper.

"The Socialist Party is rapidly increasing in membership in Cuba," declared Correa. "Formerly our socialist organizers and lecturers were almost exclusively Spaniards. The Cuban government compelled them to leave Cuba. It has taken us some time to develop Cuban Socialists to take the place of the exiled Spanish Socialists. We have accomplished the task, however, and are now well started toward a bona-fide class-conscious nation-wide Cuban Socialist Party."

Correa holds the Cuban workers must be thoroughly organized, politically and industrially, in order to emancipate the Cuban workers from American capitalism which now dominates the island.

## Private Ownership Folly Exposed in San Francisco

By JACK JUNGMEYER.

The difference between a street railway system run as a public utility and one operated primarily for the benefit of stockholders is being glaringly demonstrated in San Francisco, Cal., during the United railway employees' strike.

The situation in San Francisco today is the strongest possible argument for publicly owned traction lines.

When the United railway platform men, numbering about 2,000, refused longer to operate the cars unless they were paid \$3.50 for an 8-hour day the company said it was an impossible demand.

But in the same city, on the same streets virtually, and under identical conditions, the San Francisco Municipal railway is paying its men \$3.50 per day for eight hours work.

And the city is making money on its railway.

## Hits Gompers' Attitude

Paul Scharenberg, editor of the Coast Seaman's Journal, speaking for the International Seamen's Union of America, takes exception to Gompers' attitude on the aims and efforts of the People's Council. He says the labor press can ill afford to be silent on the important questions of What Are We Fighting For?

He also scores the executive council of the American Federation of Labor for doing what no other national labor organization in Europe has dared to do, by putting the ban on the Stockholm conference proposed by Scharenberg.

Scharenberg reminds Gompers that at the last convention of the American Federation of Labor the delegates did not mince words in the solution they adopted in opposition to the officials on war and militarism, and he says that the coming convention in Buffalo will give a heavy blow to efforts being made to bring about peace by working class.

## OUR BOOK SHOP.

**Socialism For The Farmer;** by Oscar Aminger. Price 10 cents. (Admirable for getting farmers into the Socialist Party.)

**General Bankruptcy or Socialism;** by Lucien Sanial. Price 5 cents. (A prophecy of the conditions which now confront us, written just prior to the outbreak of the war.)

**Public Ownership of Railways;** by Carl D. Thompson. Price 10 cts. (An illuminating discussion of the big problem now confronting the American people.)

National Office, Socialist Party, 803 W. Madison St., Chicago, Ill.

## Unfair!

**NOTE.**—The Illinois Federation of Labor denounces the so-called "fairness" of the capitalist newspapers in a scathing attack on the manner in which they reported the findings of the grand jury that investigated the East St. Louis, Ill., race riot. The statement prepared on this question declares that:

Newspaper editors frequently resent the charge, often made, that a great part of the press fails to deal fairly towards labor, in the publication of news, and that news articles are deliberately colored to favor and protect the employing interests. "It is true that we do not always understand the issues and thus fail to properly construe the facts reported, but few editors are guilty of deliberately distorting the truth," say they. Why then did so many of them suppress that part of the East St. Louis grand jury report which condemned the action of certain employing interests? Every newspaper in Chicago cut it from its columns. One morning paper carried the full report in its early edition, the circulation of which is small, but when the large regular edition appeared all reference to the employers' responsibility had been removed. Was not this deliberate distorting of the truth by withholding information for the purpose of shielding the employers? The full report was sent over the wires by the press associations. The part suppressed by the editors refers to the labor situation and then continues:

"That employers abused this situation seems to us to be a warranted charge. Every community should assure good living conditions to all without regard to racial questions, but the intent of the employers is to place the workers of one race at a disadvantage by notoriously favoring workers of another race must draw down condemnation."

"Of the many instances where this has been done we cite one form. It is the custom at the large industrial plants in East St. Louis to maintain a so-called employment gate, where men, white and colored, assemble each day to seek work. Often the employer marched up to this gate and in an uncalled for and offensive manner caused the white applicants to stand back and made his selection from among the negroes. This open flaunting along racial lines injures the negro no less than the white man, for it is predicated on racial indifference."

Some editors, by the way, made the peculiar "mistake" of using the words "unwarranted charge" instead of "a warranted charge," and then, to make the lie plausible, cut out the remaining sections of the two paragraphs quoted above!

## Forcing Socialism

The spectre of state Socialism threatens to materialize and the tactics of the owners of public utilities and natural resources are rapidly bringing about a condition which advocates of the present industrial system fear. The masses of mankind are being forced to accept a system of government founded upon the principles advocated by the more conservative Socialists.—From The Union (Sacramento, Calif.)

The kind of socialism that is represented by government control over the production, sale and distribution of the necessities of life will become increasingly popular as the war forces the necessity therefor upon our attention, and we are not likely to give up the benefits to be expected, once we have tasted of them. Few will quarrel with anything that tends to make the cost of living less.—From The Record (Fort Smith, Ark.)

## THE SUPPRESSED PRESS.

The suppressed press is speaking louder than when allowed to speak freely. The Masses and The American Socialist seem to be the special targets at which the post office censors are directing their attacks. Both papers are being bought by the public. The International Socialist Review also seems to come in for its due share of boost by Mr. Lamar. Like Madden who made The Appeal To Reason famous, Lamar seems determined to boost all the Socialist press.—From The World (Oakland, Cal.)

## Here Is The Nation's Answer

Comrade Z. L. Bailey, Indiana, rushes in a contribution list containing \$7.25 and trusts that the comrades all over the country will respond liberally.

A money order for \$2 comes from "Somewhere in Highland, Ill." to help out in the present crisis.

Comrade T. J. Eiler, of Defiance, Ohio dropped into the office for a visit while in Chicago the other day. Before he left he had contributed \$1 to the Free Press Defense Fund.

Comrade C. S. Haskin, Indiana, sends in a record contribution list containing an even \$10.

A comrade down in Mobile, Ala., sends in \$1 and wishes he could make it \$100.

Four contributors in Hagerstown, Md., join in sending \$1.25 to help swell the Free Press Defense Fund.

Comrade Ellen Persons, Dowagiac, Mich., sends in \$5 as, "A little donation to help in the censorship fight."

Comrade C. H. Bloom, our hustler at Rockford, Ill., sends in his contribution and asks for a bundle of The American Socialist to sell on the streets in this coming Socialist city.

"I am with you until we win!" accompanies a \$1 bill from New Baden, Ill.

"I am very sorry to hear that our paper has been suppressed," says a Kansas City, Mo., comrade in sending in \$1, because he says "I believe that we should do everything in our power to get a new second class mailing permit and keep The American Socialist alive. Yours for Socialism and a more civilized world."

They are "pressing" us hard, Comrade, but we have not yet been "suppressed."

"Will send more later to help along," says a letter from West Union, Ind., that contains five contributions amounting to \$1.25. The letter also states that the sender, "will send more subs if the paper gets started again." Comrade! The paper has not stopped. The post office censorship merely caused us to hesitate for a minute or two. That's all! Send in the subs!

"I miss The American Socialist in my post office box badly. Get started again!" writes one of our subscribers in Oatman, Ariz., and sends \$5 to help us get busy.

"Best wishes for the future of The American Socialist," says "A Friend" in Galesburg, Ill., as he sends in \$1.

"Good luck to you in your fight against the tyranny of 'our postal authorities'," writes Dr. Frederick A. Blossom, of New York City, treasurer of the Birth Control League of New York, as he sends in his check for \$1.

"It sure is an inspiration to see how some of the old time workers are coming to the front and back into the local as soon as there is a crisis big enough to be called one," declares comrade Bessie E. Davis, Michigan, as she sends in \$2.32 collected on a list. She says, "I may be able to get more later."

"I read in The New York Call of your need for funds to recover the second class mailing privileges for The American Socialist," writes Comrade Caroline E. Nichols, Connecticut, enclosing \$1.

"Hope to see The American Socialist

win out," accompanies a \$1 contribution from A. J. McGregor, Michigan. We know it will!

The secretary of the Carpenters' Union in an Indiana town sends in \$3.80. "To help get The American Socialist back in the mails. This is a small amount," he says, "but I think if every hustler will do as well we will get thru all right." You bet we will.

Comrade O. S. Watkins, "Somewhere in Minnesota," the state that put the lid on the People's Council Peace Conference, sends in his check for \$2 to help us get back our second class mailing privilege from those who have taken an oath to safeguard and protect our personal rights and privileges, "which the constitution of the United States gave us."

Comrade J. B. Byrnes, Washington, sends in his contribution and suggests we increase the subscription price of The American Socialist.

"The people must be informed as to what is going on in the United States of Siberia," writes a Montana contributor, as he also incloses a nice big list of subs.

A Louisville, Ky., street car conductor who is doing his best to support a wife and four children on 25 cents an hour wages, sends in his contribution to defend the right of a free press.

"I am sorry that the government has taken the stand it has toward The American Socialist," writes one of our New Jersey woman comrades. She sends in \$1 to help carry on this fight "for the good of all."

## From The Firing Line

"We are still working for Socialism here, war or no war, censorship or no censorship," writes a comrade from Iowa who sends in a good list of subs.

"If you will send me the names of all subs in my town, and send the papers by express, I will pay express charges and deliver the papers to you," says another subscriber in Iowa, who sends a list of subs and a substantial contribution to get back our second class mailing privilege.

"We have just organized another Socialist Local. We mean to take advantage of the present grave crisis and furnish the workers with all the literature we can get. We will buy. Another comrade and myself went out doing the work of Uncle Sam, that is, delivering literature, especially The American Socialist. We secured nine applications for membership in the party, several subs to The American Socialist and the Appeal to Reason. As Gov. Bursleson has placed the ban on The American Socialist, I suppose you will be obliged to send the papers by express," writes a comrade in Lansing, Mich.

"Send me 200 copies of the Labor Day edition. I am making the most of this thing while the war lasts for it may not last forever," writes a comrade from Muscatine, Iowa.

Comrade Erik L. Nyland, sends a contribution to assist The American Socialist in its struggle for "right and justice."

"I can not get along without the paper," writes a comrade who sends in a renewal.

A comrade in Transfer, Pa., sends in a list of subs and says, "There are two new ones in this list who have become disgusted with the old parties and have deserted them forever."

A comrade in Three Forks, Michigan, sends in her subscription and says, "I have often thought that as soon as I could afford it I would take as many Socialist papers as possible, for I think it is every true Socialist's duty to do this little bit for the publishers of Socialist papers in return for the fight you are waging for us."

"We will not do without The American Socialist even if it must cost one dollar per year. If we cannot obtain second class mailing privileges within six months, we will again forward extra postage money," writes a comrade in Highland, Ill., who sends extra postage for his paper.

"Sorry I cannot send more," accompanies a 50 cent contribution from "Somewhere in Newburg, N. Y."

Local Duval, Fla., sends in \$3.30. The local secretary writes, "We sincerely hope The American Socialist will overcome the resistance offered by the postal autocracy, and that it will become a greater factor than ever in hastening the Social Revolution."

"Hope this will help you keep the paper in circulation," is the message that accompanies a contribution of three comrades in Norfolk, Va.

"I am sending you my widow's mite," accompanies a \$2 contribution from Roanoke, Va. "Trust it will help along our cause and our paper. Am glad to help in its present trouble. May the Henry Dubbs awake to their interests."

"May the good work go on and may our cause triumph," is the hope that accompanies a list of five contributions amounting to \$2.25 from Bemidji, Minn.

"My politics have never been Socialist until now," writes a contributor from East Pittsburgh, Pa. "I think I shall vote from now on as it seems to me it is the only party for the people and by the people."

"I feel lost without The American Socialist," accompanies a contribution from Columbus, Ohio. "Win we must for our cause is just. The Socialists will have five candidates on the ticket here this fall, AND BELIEVE ME THEY WILL BE ELECTED."

"After reading the first page of The Eye-Opener at our local meeting a collection was taken up and we got \$3.30 to help our paper in its time of need," comes from the local secretary at Woonsocket, R. I.

Sauk Rapids, Minn., comes in with a contribution of \$2.75 for the FREE PRESS DEFENSE FUND and a promise to get busy organizing a local station of "The Red Express."

"We trust that intelligence and humanity will soon triumph over the hosts of tyranny," accompanies a list of contributions amounting to \$2.25 from Palestine, Texas.

Two friends of honest government at Bainbridge, Ohio, send in \$2.

"I will help more next pay day," writes a comrade in Albion, Pa., as he sends in \$1.

"Let each one of us do likewise or better," accompanies a \$1 contribution from Tampa, Fla. "We must fight our enemy—the capitalist system."

"I hope to collect more in a few days," says a note attached to a \$2.50 contribution list from Friend, Neb.

"I wish you a world of luck," writes an Arkansas mother, sending 50 cts.

"I wish you the greatest success in the great fight before you," accompanies \$1 from Logansport, La.

Butte, Mont., comes to the front with a contribution list containing \$4.05.

"I hope you will be successful in your fight," drops in with 50 cents from Martin's Ferry, Ohio.

"I will pay for mine at any cost. We must have The American Socialist at all hazards," writes a contributor from Albany, New York, sending in \$1.

The jingo sheets down in Indiana are getting excited because many cities thruout the state are being covered with Socialist literature, the kind the people like to read.

War by the profiteers upon the labor movement of the United States had a bad setback when an agreement was signed to insure labor standards in American shipyards for the period of the war.

The movement to import Chinese coolie labor to take the jobs of the men who go to war is gaining ground. In Canada, where the labor forces made heroic efforts to stave off compulsory servitude, including conscription, the issue will first have to be met.

Brunswick, Md., Socialists have elected another councilman. They now have two out of six. "We are getting one at a time," writes the local secretary. "We will soon catch the entire roost. The boys here are imbued with a new spirit since our victory at the polls."

The Petrograd Utrou Rossijo confirms the recently reported execution of thirty-two Socialists in Jassy, the provisional capital of Roumania. One of the executed men was S. Wechsler, the leader of the Roumanian Socialist Party who was accused of having aided the well known revolutionary Rakowsky to escape from prison.

Defendant (in a loud voice)—Justice! Justice! I demand justice! Judge—Silence! The defendant will please remember that he is in a court room.—Ex.

## I Want YOU to Get a Ford Car FREE

DON'T SEND ME A CENT! JUST YOUR NAME! Let me give you one of my brand new, never-used, 1917 latest model, 5-passenger Ford Touring Cars. I have given away a lot of them. You might as well have one, too.

## I Have Given Cars to One Hundred People

I have given nice new cars to one hundred people. Not one of them paid me a nickel. They were actually amazed to think how little they did for the cars they got. You just ought to see the letters of thanks I get from them.

## I Have One For YOU Will You Take It?

I want you to have a car. Do you want it? It's all up to you. Don't sit around and twiddle your thumbs while your friends are all out riding. Get a car free and join the happy throng. Send me your name today and get full particulars. It's just as well as riding in your own car as not.

## This Big FREE Book Tells All About It

I want you to have a copy of my nice new, two-color, free book. It tells you all about it. Just how to proceed to get your car free. It also contains enthusiastic letters from many of my Ford users.

## Send For Your Copy At Once

Write to me today and let me send you this book. It will open your eyes as to how easy it is to get an automobile.

## You Can Be the Proud Owner of a Ford

Don't envy your friends. Have your own car. Become the proud owner of one of my Fords. You may. What a wonderful source of pleasure! 100 per cent producer of health—an asset in the struggle for success. It is your duty to yourself to own one.

## Let Me Hear From You Today—NOW!

I have given cars to old men, young men, blind men, women, ministers, business men, farmers, merchants—even to boys and girls. You can get one, too. Let me know if you want one. Fill out the coupon below and send it today. This is your BIG CHANCE!

W.W. Rhoads, Manager, 100 Capital Bldg., Topeka, Kan.

Rhoads Auto Club, 100 Capital Bldg., Topeka, Kansas

Send me a free book and full particulars as to how I can get a new Ford Touring Car free.

Name..... Address.....

Coal miners of Illinois, Indiana, Ohio and Western Pennsylvania are to ask a substantial increase in wages. This was made known when the United Mine Workers of America invited coal operators of the central competitive field to meet with them at Indianapolis, Ind., September 6 and discuss the proposition.

One of the latest anti-Socialist raids took place in Philadelphia, Pa., when the Socialist Party book store was invaded by government agents and the local secretary and one member of the executive committee and two employees of the store were held before the local department of justice officials.

Defendant (in a loud voice)—Justice! Justice! I demand justice! Judge—Silence! The defendant will please remember that he is in a court room.—Ex.

## I Want YOU to Get a Ford Car FREE

DON'T SEND ME A CENT! JUST YOUR NAME! Let me give you one of my brand new, never-used, 1917 latest model, 5-passenger Ford Touring Cars. I have given away a lot of them. You might as well have one, too.

## I Have Given Cars to One Hundred People

I have given nice new cars to one hundred people. Not one of them paid me a nickel. They were actually amazed to think how little they did for the cars they got. You just ought to see the letters of thanks I get from them.

## I Have One For YOU Will You Take It?

I want you to have a copy of my nice new, two-color, free book. It tells you all about it. Just how to proceed to get your car free. It also contains enthusiastic letters from many of my Ford users.

## Send For Your Copy At Once

Write to me today and let me send you this book. It will open your eyes as to how easy it is to get an automobile.

## You Can Be the Proud Owner of a Ford

Don't envy your friends. Have your own car. Become the proud owner of one of my Fords. You may. What a wonderful source of pleasure! 100 per cent producer of health—an asset in the struggle for success. It is your duty to yourself to own one.

## Let Me Hear From You Today—NOW!

I have given cars to old men, young men, blind men, women, ministers, business men, farmers, merchants—even to boys and girls. You can get one, too. Let me know if you want one. Fill out the coupon below and send it today. This is your BIG CHANCE!

W.W. Rhoads, Manager, 100 Capital Bldg., Topeka, Kan.

Rhoads Auto Club, 100 Capital Bldg., Topeka, Kansas

Send me a free book and full particulars as to how I can get a new Ford Touring Car free.

Name..... Address.....

## To Help Stick In The Fight And Win!

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

Enclosed please find \$..... as my response to your appeal for hurry-up action in the present crisis. I want to see The American Socialist get back its second class mailing privilege as quickly as possible.

With best wishes,

Name..... Address..... City..... State.....

Jan. 1—Brought forward.....	\$31.45
Jan. 2—St. Louis, Mo.....	7.25
Jan. 7—Philadelphia, Pa.....	2.00
Jan. 13—Seattle, Wash.....	2.00
Feb. 13—Cleveland, O. (Econ.).....	3.25
Feb. 23—North Side Pittsburgh, Pa.....	14.05
June 9—Peoria, Ill.....	5.00
June 15—Morristown, W. Va.....	25.00
June 19—Arlington, N. J.....	2.50
June 23—Newark No. 3.....	10.00
July 6—Douglas Park, Chicago, Ill.....	4.00
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