

# Socialist.

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When one observes the rapid growth of Socialism and the gradual disintegration of the old parties under the fire of effective argument of Socialism against the existing liberal system of political economy, the situation urges upon every intelligent citizen the question: "What is to be done?" The answer is very simple, but few there are who realize the duty of the hour. What we need in the United States is a party which will champion the principles of a Christian order in the state. We do not need a Catholic party, but a Christian party, that stands ready to fight and oppose the liberal views of our modern day politicians, who wish to solve the problems of social life without the aid of religion. We need a party to champion the cause of religion and honesty in the business world. We need a party that will oppose all the one thousand fallacies of the liberal system of political economy. We need men who will explain to the people that the trust evil and the other economic evils of the times are the result of individualism, which has proclaimed the independence of man from his Creator and His laws. We need men who will show that the remedy for our troubles lies not in continuing on the path of folly that we are treading at present. We need men who will show the world that the fallacies of Socialism are not the true salvation of mankind. It must be shown that the slave-driving Socialist state will not free humanity from the curse of greed and selfishness, but that they are forging new fetters for troubled mankind. In one word, we need men who will aid in bringing back humanity to Christ and Christianity.—Catholic Tribune.

We certainly need a party which will champion the "principles of a Christian order in the state." But we need not organize a new party. There is already one in the field—the Socialist party. It is true it does not call itself "Christian" party—probably for the same reason that the Tribune says we do not need a "Catholic" party—the oft-repeated failure of the church to solve the problems of social life with the "aid of religion." For centuries after the Emperor Constantine made Christianity the state religion of Rome, Europe was under the thumb of the pope. And what is the result of these centuries of effort in solving social problems with the "aid of religion." Let the bleached bones strewn along the Crusader's path and the cries from the torture chambers of the Inquisition answer. Let Rome, all but stripped of every vestige of her once great power, answer. But what is the cause of this vast failure? Is it not because religion has not "freed humanity from the curse of greed and selfishness?" Is it not because "self-preservation is the first law of nature" and that in a scrimmage with this inexorable law religion comes out second best? Is it not because man's material interest is his greatest interest? A hungry man is not apt to be very religiously inclined.

In the face of the facts of history, in the face of this failure of state religion, the Tribune wants to try the experiment over again and wants a party that will "champion the cause of religion and honesty in the business world." Religion and honesty in business! What a sight for gods and men! We presume, of course, that the Tribune means the Christian religion. A religion that sets up Mammon for its god may be possible in the business world, but the Christian religion, never. A business man who would attempt to conduct his business in accordance with this religion would soon find himself minus his business. And if all business men would apply the golden rule to the conduct of their business affairs we would have no "business world." Business is simply buying in the cheapest market and selling in the dearest. In its last analysis this is true of business of every kind and nature whatsoever—in other words "making profit." This is clearly antagonistic to the Christian religion and the golden rule. We presume the Tribune would have profit taking abolished, at least where the profits were in excess of what would constitute fair wages in a case where the profit-taker acted as a distributor or agent in bringing certain products to the consumer, and on this point is in agreement with the Socialists. But the latter do not propose to wait several thousand years while humanity is being Christianized, to the point where it will voluntarily do that which the Socialist demands shall be done now—the abolition of the profit system and with it the "curse of greed and selfishness." Of course, the law of self-preservation will continue to operate. But self-preservation no longer means

the destruction of others. There was a time when men went about armed with stone clubs when the assertion of this law required the backing of physical force. But we have outlived those strenuous times. And it is also no longer necessary, if it ever was, that men should go about armed with this club they call "profit" and rob their neighbors. We no longer permit men to use stone clubs, or force of any kind, to gratify this "curse of greed and selfishness." That is, we do not permit this to the individual. We do it collectively as a nation and glory in it. In the case of the individual we call it murder, while if we do it as a nation we call it war and we are simply "instruments in the hands of divine providence" in spreading the gospel of peace and good will to the uttermost ends of the earth. Truly, the spirit of the Crusades still survives. But we are digressing. Men were not induced to give up their stone clubs through religious considerations, but because they were compelled to by law. They will never give up what they call their "right" to make profit and exploit their fellowmen through any religious considerations, and will exercise this "right" as long as it is permitted to remain legal and necessary because of an insane industrial system. The Socialist proposes to make this illegal and unnecessary through a co-operative industrial democracy. Biologists tell us, and the statement is borne out by common observation, that when an organ or organism becomes useless it gradually sloughs away and disappears. This is just as true of this "curse of greed and selfishness." Remove the cause that makes it necessary and it will disappear "without the aid of religion." In fact then only will true religion and a return to Christ and Christianity become a possibility.

The Tribune says "we need men who will explain to the people that the trust evil and the other economic evils of the times are the result of individualism, which has proclaimed the independence of man from his Creator and His laws." The individualism of a Rockefeller who teaches a Sunday school is no better than the individualism of a Rockefeller who may be an atheist. Individualism is anarchy whether the person practicing it is a Christian or not.

The Tribune speaks sneeringly of a "slave-driving Socialist state." This is at least a refreshing change from that old and mildewed stock argument against Socialism that under it all incentive to effort would be lost and civilization would relapse into barbarism and savagery. To prevent this, the Tribune goes to the other extreme and kindly furnishes us with slave drivers. "When doctors disagree who shall decide?"

Finally, there is a little story entitled "The Man Under the Dray," by Prof. Geo. D. Herron, which is so appropriate we cannot refrain from publishing it in this connection. It is as follows:

"A heavy dray broke down in the street and a man crushed and held captive beneath it. On top of the dray was a load of merchandise and on top of the merchandise were sitting a lot of Monopolists.

A crowd of men gathered about and began to discuss how to relieve the man crushed by the dray. They stayed so long and discussed so hard that the people finally created them into a Legislature.

Then they called in a lot more men, called Political Economists, who decided that the man had always been so crushed; it was his natural condition, and it was useless to think of releasing him.

Other professors said it would overturn civilization to let the man get out from under the dray—and so it would.

Next, chairs were endowed in universities to teach that the man was there because he was not fit to survive, or that he had too much overproduction on top of him; that even if he got out he could not walk, because of lack of experience in walking.

Then came the Theologians, who said the man's heart was bad and that he must be saved before the stuff could be taken off; finally, that if his heart could be got right he need not have the weight taken off at all.

And the Theologians secured a life job for centuries, just for preaching that the man could not possibly be anywhere than where he was.

Finally a man came along and said: "Why, take the stuff off and let the man go free."

That man was a Socialist."

The representatives of the capitalist parties have again assembled in Washington to grind out laws for the benefit of the few and to the detriment of the many.

The United States is now fifth in the number of Socialist votes. It is led by Germany, France, Austria and Belgium. With our rapid way of doing things we will soon be first. Mark the prediction.

Rev. W. A. Allen, D. D., pastor of the M. E. church of Billings, Mont., after having carefully studied the subject in all its phases for fifteen years, has come out as an advocate of Socialism. Next!

At a fashionable wedding in London last week the bride's dress, according to the society news in the daily papers, was ablaze with diamonds. It is safe to say the dress did not adorn the daughter of a producer.

Municipal elections were held in several Massachusetts cities on December 9. Two of these cities, Haverhill and Brockton, had been carried by the Socialists in previous elections and they were hopeful of again winning. Up to the time of going to press not a line has appeared in the daily papers as to the election, which is strong evidence in favor of the presumption that the expectations of the Socialists were realized.

The press dispatches report stormy scenes in the German reichstag as a result of an attempt on the part of the center, national liberal and two other parties to railroad a tariff bill through the reichstag in violation of its rules and to which the Socialists are opposed. The latter are availing themselves of every means in their power to obstruct the passage of the bill. That the Socialists are in the right is shown by the following, also reported in the press: "The ministry is quietly supporting the majority parties in bringing the tariff to a vote without a detailed discussion as the rules provide. The cabinet ministers have kept discreetly away from the reichstag during the excitement of the last two days, but Chancellor Von Buelow is actively holding conferences with the majority leaders behind the scenes."

In the character of Javert in "Les Miserables," Victor Hugo paints a striking picture of the hounds society—that is to say, the ruling class—sets upon the trail of offenders against its sacred laws of private property rights. We sometimes hear of a Jean Valjean in real life, but a modern Javert is seen in the following case in New York reported by the New Era:

"J. B. Hendrickson, when released from the penitentiary a few months ago, on rejoining his wife, found it impossible to secure employment when he gave his right name. So he and his wife moved to a quarter where he was not known, took another name and secured employment as a street car conductor under the assumed name. To get employment under an assumed name is a violation of the wise statutes. Hendrickson did not know that, but the law presumes that everyone knows what the statutes are, except as the epigram goes, the judges of the courts, to correct whose mistakes appellate courts are maintained at large cost.

So the convict went to work unconscious of his illegal course. He was earning a living for himself and wife by fourteen to sixteen hours' work per day till he happened to meet the judge who sentenced him. He felt kindly toward the judge, who had exhorted him to reform when he should be released. So he told the judge who he was and how well he was doing. The judge seemed to retain the epigrammatic ignorance of the law, for he told others of the incident as a gratifying one. So the news got around to the detective who had arrested Hendrickson for the original offense. The detective did not let any violations of the statutes get away from him. He traced Hendrickson down, and that habitual offender is in prison again on the charge of obtaining employment under a false name.

Observe the care with which the law provides a penal offense for something that the ordinary poor man would never suspect of being wrong. The financier can change the name of and "reorganize" his bubbles and obtain millions thereby. Humbug charters and illusory valuations are entirely safe. But let a man trust himself into the confidence and worm of a street railway conductor's position by saying that his name is Robinson instead of Jones and he is an outlaw.

Run your eye over Secretary Jacobs' report and see if your branch has paid its dues.

There is a three-cornered fight on in Wall street to secure control of the Colorado Fuel & Iron Co. Those who do not voluntarily enter trusts are absorbed.

The American Labor Union Journal, published weekly at Butte, Mont., in the interest of the American Labor Union and Socialism, has been increased in size to eight pages.

It is said that within the last three and a half years eighty-two trusts were formed in this country with an aggregate capital of \$3,818,000,000. Competition is up against the real thing.

A special dispatch to the Chicago Record-Herald from Berlin says that on account of the trouble in the German reichstag over the attempt to pass the tariff bill as a whole the Socialists, who now have fifty-eight members in that body, would double their number at the next election.

President Roosevelt, in his message to congress starts out by saying: "We still continue in a period of unbounded prosperity," and in the next sentence issues this note of warning: "There will undoubtedly be periods of depression." Even the chief of the great "prosperity" party admits that there will be a slump in business very soon. Senator Allison wishes to save some of the financial institutions. He says: "I am in favor of legislation at this session that will make a stringency in the money market impossible. A simple measure of some sort to this end could, I believe, be passed at this session. Some plan must be devised to authorize the issuance of an emergency circulation upon certain securities for the specific purpose of helping the country out in times of currency famines."

Commenting on the election in Iowa a press dispatch from Des Moines says: "The most astonishing gain was made by the Socialists. They have almost doubled their vote in the state. Their largest vote was in the Second district where their candidate for congress polled 1,162 votes. When it is taken into consideration that Judge Wade was elected in this district by about that plurality and the prohibition candidate for congress received about 800 votes it will be seen that the majority over the republican candidate was about 2,500. The astonishing increase in the Socialist vote in Iowa was probably due to the same causes as was the increase in other parts of the country. The trust issue doubtless appealed strongly to the Socialists. It now looks as if the Socialists might dispute the third place on the ballot with the prohibitionists next year."

Two news items in the daily press of Monday, Dec. 1, illustrate very plainly where the incentive under Socialism would come from. One item gives an account of a 16-year-old bank clerk who was attacked by four robbers, and who defended the bank's strong box against big odds and finally gave up his life. This youth did not have time to think of any reward that he might receive for protecting his employers' interests; it was duty which impelled him to give up his life. The other case was that of a young nurse who rendered valuable assistance in looking after the wants of the injured in a railroad wreck. Neither one of these heroic deeds had gold as an inducement to act, but the mere thought of duty and to relieve distress was incentive enough for them to act as they did. There are many cases similar to these happening every day and not one of them is impelled to sacrifice himself or herself on account of the competitive system's great incentive—gold.

Owing to wholesale frauds on the part of the democrats the Socialists of Colorado claim they lost thousands of votes. In Denver many Socialists were unable to vote because democratic repeaters had come in and voted in their name. In addition to this many of the votes cast were not counted. The latter is undoubtedly also true of every other section of the country. At the next election we must have watchers at every polling place in the country.

The election is over and another campaign on. The Socialist vote of last month must be doubled next year. This will require hard work, agitation and education. One of the best and cheapest ways of getting Socialism before the people is through the Socialist newspaper. The comrades of Iowa have been given a splendid opportunity of doing this through the establishment of The Iowa Socialist. It should go to the homes of not only the 6,360 who voted the ticket at the last election, but all of these should make an effort to get it into the homes of their neighbors. In order to add much needed equipment to our plant and to improve the paper we need a larger subscription list, and we ask every comrade in Iowa and elsewhere to assist us in this matter. Socialism is international and not bounded by state lines. Socialist papers are devoted to the propaganda of Socialism and because a paper may bear the name of any particular state does not necessarily limit its usefulness within the confines of that state. We want a subscription list of 10,000 within the next few months and we want your help in securing it. However, we will not ask you to work for nothing, but will make a very liberal offer for your services. We shall not promise you a premium on condition that you send in a certain number of subscribers within a certain time, or on condition that the number sent in by you is the largest. There is no element of chance in our offer. All will have the same opportunity whether they send in one subscriber or a hundred. For every 50 cent cash subscription to The Iowa Socialist sent to this office we will allow a commission of 10% cents. For every 25 cent or six months subscription 5 cents will be allowed. This is a commission of 20 per cent.—20 cents on the dollar. We trust every Iowa comrade will avail himself or herself of this opportunity of advancing the picket lines of Socialism. Forward, march!

Says the German emperor: "I wish for the German people freedom of thought, religion and scientific research, but not freedom to govern badly at one's will." But what does he do? Freedom of thought and press is denied, and the freedom to govern at "one's" will he reserves to himself. Of course, in his conceit he will not admit that he governs "badly." His government is not to blame for the hunger of the thousands out of employment; the present high price of beef, due to the prohibitive tariff placed on live stock to protect the agrarian class; the enormous tax to support a large standing army and the "crown." No, these things are all laid conveniently at the door of providence, of course. This is the beauty of "divine right" and partnership with God. We can always place the blame for our shortcomings on our partner.

Wonder why the delegates to the late convention of the International Typographical Union didn't sue out an injunction restraining Max Hayes from shaking off that muzzle they placed on him. Oh, no, Max didn't work for "any political idealism." With Comrade Berger, of Milwaukee, Max was just about the whole thing. He was elected fraternal delegate to the next labor convention of Great Britain, and he wasn't asked not to work for "any political idealism" either. This isn't strange, however, as nearly half of the delegates at New Orleans were Socialists, or at least in sympathy with the Socialist movement. The "pure and simple" unionist will be a lonesome looking member in a year or two from now.

What a glorious world this might be made if men, in striving for a common object—the making of a living—would agree to work together instead of against each other. As Robert Burns says:

If ye could ken ye sons of men,  
How truly ye are brethren,  
Ye'd mak' guid speed if ye'd stand agreed,  
The horns of various miters.

# The Western Labor Movement

By Eugene V. Dahn in International Socialist Review.

There seems to be considerable misapprehension, especially among Socialists, in regard to the trades-union movement of the Western states, whose delegates, recently assembled in National convention, adopted the platform of the Socialist party and pledged the support of their organizations to the International Socialist movement. This radical departure from the effete and reactionary non-political policy of the American Federation of Labor, so long and so earnestly striven for by the Western leaders, and so entirely compatible with the Socialist conception of class-conscious and progressive trades-unionism, should have been met with the prompt and hearty approbation of every unionist and every Socialist in the land. That such was not the case, the luke-warm comment and the half-approving, half-condemning tone of the Socialist party press, with but one or two exceptions, bear convincing testimony, while the uncalled for, unwise and wholly unaccountable official pronouncement of the St. Louis "Quorum," purporting to speak for the National Committee, capped the climax of unfairness and injustice to the Western movement.

Stripped of unnecessary verbiage and free from subterfuge, the Socialist party has been placed in the attitude of turning its back upon the young, virile, class-conscious union movement of the West, and fawning at the feet of the "pure and simple" movement of the East, and this anomalous thing has been done by men who are supposed to stand sponsor to the party and whose utterance is credited with being ex cathedra upon party affairs.

They may congratulate themselves that upon this point at least they are in perfect accord with the capitalist press, and also with the "labor lieutenants," the henchmen and heelers, whose duty it is to warn the union against Socialism and guard its members against working-class political action.

The writer takes issue with these comrades upon this vital proposition; and first of all insists that they (including the members of the Quorum) speak for themselves alone, as they undoubtedly have the right to do, and that their declaration in reference to the American Labor Union is in no sense a party expression, nor is it in any manner binding upon the party, nor is the party to be held responsible for the same.

As a matter of fact the rank and file of the Socialist party, at least so far as I have been able to observe, rejoice in the action of the Denver convention, hail it as a happy augury for the future and welcome with open arms the Western comrades to fellowship in the party.

"Why didn't they stay in the Federation of Labor and carry on their agitation there? Why split the labor movement?" This is made the burden of the opposition to the Western Unionists who refused to be assimilated by Mark Hanna's "Civic Federation"—the pretext for the scant, half-hearted recognition of their stalwart working-class organization and their ringing declaration in favor of Socialism and in support of the Socialist party.

And this objection may be dismissed with a single sentence. Why did not those who urge it remain in the Socialist Labor party and carry on their agitation there? Why split the Socialist movement?

It is not true that the Western unionists set up a rival organization from geographical or sectional considerations, or to antagonize the Federation; and they who aver the contrary know little or nothing about the Western movement, nor about the causes that brought it into existence. A brief review of these may throw some light upon the subject.

In 1896 the annual convention of the Federation of Labor was held in Cincinnati. The Western Federation of Miners, at that time an affiliated organization, was represented by President Edward Boyce and Patrick Clifford, of Colorado. The strike of the Leadville miners, more than 3,000 in number, one of the bloodiest and costliest labor battles ever fought, was then in progress and had been for several months. The drain and strain on the resources of the Western Federation had been enormous.

They needed help and they needed it sorely. They had always poured out their treasure liberally when help was needed by other organizations, East as well as West, and now that they had reached their limit, they naturally expected prompt and substantial aid from affiliated organizations. Boyce and Clifford appealed to the delegates. To use their own language they were "turned down," receiving but vague promises which, little as they meant, were never fulfilled. At the close of the convention they left for home, disappointed and disgusted. They stopped off at Terre Haute to urge me to go to Leadville to lend a helping hand to the striking miners, which I proceeded to do as soon as I could get ready for the journey. It was here that they told me that the convention was a sore surprise to them, that three or four men had votes enough to practically control the whole affair and that the dilatory and reactionary proceedings had destroyed their confidence in the Federation.

Afterward I was told by the officers in charge of the strike that no aid of the least value, or even encouragement, had been rendered by the Federation of Labor and that the financial contributions were scarcely sufficient to cover the expense of the canvass for same.

It was not long after this that the Western miners withdrew from the Federation and a couple of years later, conceiving the necessity of organizing all classes of labor in the Western states, which as yet had received but scant attention, the American Labor Union was organized, the Western Federation of Miners being the first organization in affiliation with the new central body.

But notwithstanding the withdrawal of the Western Miners from the American Federation they continued loyally to support the Eastern boycotts levied by the Federation, and it is a fact not to be gainsaid that while some of these boycotts were so feebly supported in the East, where they had been levied, as to be practically impotent, the union men of the West recognized them as scrupulously as if imposed by their own organization, and in Montana and other states drove the boycotted Eastern products out of the Western markets.

So far as I am able to inform myself there is no instance on record where the American Federation, or any organization affiliated with it, ever sanctioned or supported a boycott levied by the Western unions.

On the contrary, cases can be cited where the Eastern organizations bluntly refused to recognize boycotts declared by the Western organization.

Not only this, but the Western unions have always contributed promptly and liberally to the financial support of all labor unions, East and West, North and South, affiliated and otherwise, Butte leading with thousands of dollars in support of all kinds of strikes, in all sections of the country, the liberality and loyalty of the Western Federation of Miners in such cases being proverbial—and yet I have never heard of an instance where the Western unions received a dollar from any Eastern organization since the withdrawal of the Miner's Federation.

At this very time, while the miners of the East are making a desperate struggle against starvation, the miners of the far West, affiliated with the taboed American Labor Union, are contributing from their hard earnings to the support of the Pennsylvania strikers, though they never expect to receive a penny from the East; and President Moyer of the Western Federation of Miners is sending messages to President Mitchell of the United Mine Workers. Still more—notwithstanding the bituminous miners of the middle states, members of the same organization as the anthracite strikers, decided not to strike in support of their anthracite brethren, President Moyer and Secretary Haywood of the Western Federation wired President Mitchell that in their judgment all the miners of the country should stand by the Pennsylvania strikers and that the coal miners of the Western Union were ready to a man to lay down their tools until the anthracite strike was won.

This is the militant, progressive, liberal spirit of western unionism—now re-

forced with a class-conscious political program—that could not brook the ultra-conservative policy of the Eastern movement, and seceded from it with motives as loyal to labor as ever prompted men to action.

The opponents of the Western Labor Union may search the annals of organized labor in vain, all the circumstances considered, for as noble an example of fidelity to the principles of union labor, as that of President Moyer and Secretary Haywood of the Western Federation, speaking for the coal miners of the western states, having no grievance of their own and belonging to another organization, to which the East, if not hostile, was at least not friendly, voluntarily agreeing to lay down their tools and give up their jobs to help their fellowmen more than two thousand miles distant whom they had never seen and never expected to see.

Had the situation been reversed and the miners of Montana gone on strike, would the eastern unions have sent any money out there or would the eastern miners have volunteered to strike in sympathy with their western brethren?

The conventions of the Western Labor Union, the Western Federation of Miners and the Hotel and Restaurant Employees' Union, held simultaneously at Denver in May last, attracted wide attention chiefly because of their declaration in favor of Socialism and their adoption of an independent political program. Prior to this these organizations were rarely mentioned, in fact almost unknown in the eastern and middle states and no reference to them was ever made by the capitalist press outside their own immediate jurisdiction. But the very moment they declared in favor of Socialism, the capitalist press, the "pure and simple" union element and, strange to say, some Socialists, "Cry havoc and let slip the dogs of war." As for the Socialists who joined in the outcry, or "damned with faint praise," they were perhaps persuaded, after a survey of the East and then the West, that it was wiser policy to curry favor with numbers than to stand by principles.

The impression prevails in some quarters that the American Labor Union was first instituted at the convention in Denver last May. This is erroneous, as the organization has been in existence several years, and at the late convention simply changed its name from the Western Labor Union to the American Labor Union to more properly describe its expanding jurisdiction.

Fault has been found because of the rival disposition shown by the convention to the American Federation and the purpose to invade other sections and organize rival unions, thereby dividing the movement and precipitating a factional labor war.

The delegates to the Denver convention considered this phase of the question in all its bearings; they did not propose to antagonize the American Federation, nor to invade its jurisdiction, nor set up rival unions, they simply proposed to protect their own movement in the western states and they did not propose to allow attacks to be made upon it without resenting them; and when they finally took action, even in the matter of changing their name, it was in self-defense, for from every quarter, even some of their own disgruntled element who sought to defeat the proposed adoption of Socialism, came the threat that if the Western Union did not return to the American Federation, the latter would send a corps of organizers into the western states to institute rival unions and "wipe the western movement off the earth."

The "pure and simple" element in Denver and vicinity, affiliated with the American Federation, and not a few of the local politicians, who saw their doom in the Socialist tendency of the convention, were loud and persistent in the threat of "annihilation" if the delegates refused to vote for affiliation with the American Federation. While there I heard it frequently upon the street and elsewhere and in fact Secretary Morrison who, with Thomas I. Kidd, of the Executive Council, represented the American Federation at the convention with the purpose of inducing the Western Labor Union to dissolve, and its affiliated organizations to join the American Federation, gave it out that if the delegates declined their overtures the American Federation would proceed to organize in all the western states, as it acknowledged no boundary line to its jurisdiction in the United States.

The charge, therefore, of "invasion"

and "rival unions" against the western movement falls to the ground. It can be proven beyond doubt that the western movement acted upon the defensive in this matter and that only when the threat to "wipe them out of existence" in their own territory was made, did they conclude to extend their jurisdiction to such sections as desired to embrace their organization.

If it is held that the American Federation had prior jurisdiction, it may be answered that George the Third and Great Britain had prior jurisdiction over the colonies, and that the jurisdiction of the Knights of Labor antedated that of the American Federation, and the National Labor Union that of the Knights of Labor and so on back without end.

Whatever difference may have prompted the separation several years ago—and whether it was wise or otherwise, I shall not now consider, having no share in the praise or blame, as the action was taken by the Western Miners upon their own motion and they are entirely willing to accept the responsibility—it is certain that there is today a radical fundamental difference between the eastern and western wings of the American labor movement and that in their present state and with their present conflicting policies and tendencies, they cannot be united and even if they could be, factional and sectional strife would be at once engendered and disruption would be inevitable.

The western movement could only have consented to go back and backward to the American Federation by stultifying itself and betraying and humiliating its thousands of progressive members who are far enough advanced to recognize the futility of labor organization without class-conscious political action and who will never retrace their steps to the fens and bogs of "pure and simple" unionism.

The western men want unity and they want harmony, but they will not go backward, they will not sacrifice progress to reaction to secure it.

They have declared their class-consciousness and they cannot and will not snuff out that beacon light to emancipation.

They have committed their organization to the Socialist party and they can not unite with an organization that is hostile to independent political action by the working class.

There is one way and one only to unite the American trades-union movement. The American Federation of Labor must go forward to the American Labor Union; the American Labor Union will never go back to the American Federation of Labor. Numbers count for nothing; principle and progress for everything.

When the American Federation of Labor sheds its outgrown "pure and simple" policy, when it declares against the capitalist system and for union, class conscious action at the ballot box as the supreme test of union principles, as the American Labor Union has done; when it relegates "leaders" to the rear who secure fat offices for themselves in reward for keeping the rank and file in political ignorance and industrial slavery, when it shall cease to rely upon cringing lobbying committees, begging, like Lazarus at the gate of Dives, for a bone from a capitalist legislature or congress it helped to elect, and marshals its members in class array against their exploiters on election day to vote their own class into power, then unity will come and the western men will hail with joy that day. And it is coming. It is simply bound to come.

In the meantime there need be no quarrel between the East and the West and there will be none unless the threatened attempt to "snuff out" the West should materialize, in which case the "snuffers" will be entitled to the credit of having inspired a refreshing exhibition of the "staying" qualities of the class-conscious trades-union movement of the western states.

The speaking tour of the national officers and executive council of the American Federation, in the mountain states, following the Denver convention and widely heralded by the capitalist press as an "uprising of the conservative element of organized labor to squelch the western radicals" can claim anything but a victory if that was the program of President Gompers and his colleagues. Some of their meetings, with all the advertising they received, scarcely amounted to a "corporal's guard," and where they had hundreds, the meetings held under the auspices of the Western Union

(Continued on Third Page)

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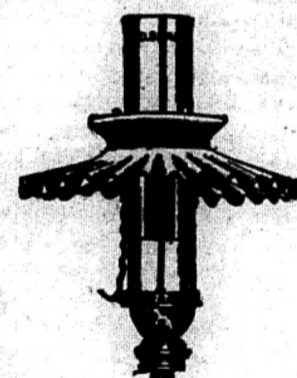
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# Union Labor



The following synopsis of facts and figures regarding organization of the various unions is taken from Max Hayes' report to the Cleveland Citizen:

**Allied Metal Mechanics**—Charters issued, 57; surrendered, 5; gain in membership, 2,000. Number of strikes, 15; won, 10; compromised, 1; pending, 4.

**Bakers**—Charters issued, 76; surrendered, 15; gain in membership, 3,747. Number of strikes, 16; won, 11; compromised, 1.

**Barbers**—Charters issued, 107; surrendered, 12; gain in membership, 4,242. Gains have been general and very satisfactory.

**Blacksmiths**—Charters issued, 110; surrendered, 25; gain in membership, 3,500. Number of strikes, 10; won, 7; compromised, 3.

**Boilermakers and Iron Ship Builders**—Charters issued, 66; surrendered, 20; gain in membership, 2,784. Number of strikes, 81; won 62; compromised, 1; lost, 3.

**Bookbinders**—Charters issued, 20; surrendered 1. Cost of strikes, \$9,295.

**Boot and Shoe Workers**—Charters issued, 52; surrendered, 24; gain in membership, 7,446. Number of strikes, 6; won, 5; compromised 1.

**Brewery Workers**—Charters issued, 34; surrendered, 7. Gain in membership, 5,000. Number of strikes, 6; won, 4; compromised, 1; 1 pending.

**Broom Makers**—Charters issued, 21; surrendered, 6. Cost of strikes, \$300.

**Carpenters and Joiners**—Charters issued, 320; surrendered, 56; gain in membership, 42,500. Number of strikes, 200; won, 127; compromised, 1; lost, 2.

**Car Workers**—Charters issued, 63; gain in membership, 4,052. Number of strikes, 5; won 4; lost, 1.

**Cigarmakers**—Charters issued, 30; surrendered, 13; gain in membership, 1,622. Number of strikes, 114; won 100; compromised, 10.

**Clerks**—Charters issued, 180; surrendered, 1; gain in membership, 2,500. Number of strikes, 3; won, 3.

**Coopers**—Charters issued, 30; surrendered, 5; gain in membership, 500. Number of strikes, 16; won, 5; compromised, 3; lost, 8.

**Drivers, Team**—Charters issued, 154; surrendered, 34; gain in membership, 15,500. Number of strikes, 37; won, 31; compromised, 3; lost, 3.

**Electrical Workers**—Charters issued, 128; surrendered, 27; gain in membership, 5,000. Number of strikes, 28; won, 23; compromised, 3; lost, 2.

**Engineers, Steam**—Charters issued, 64; surrendered, 5, and 3 revoked; gain in membership, 1989.

**Fitters and Helpers, Steam**—Charters issued, 9; surrendered, 3. Number of strikes, 6; won, 3; compromised, 1; 2 still pending.

**Garment Workers, United**—Charters issued, 48; surrendered, 6. Gain in membership, 9,500. Number strikes, 12; won, 8; compromised, 3; lost 1.

**United Hatters of North America**—Gain in membership, 1,000. Number of strikes, 1; won, 1.

**Hotel and Restaurant Employees**—Charters issued, 195; surrendered, 32; gain in membership, 10,864. Number of strikes, 31; won, 30; pending, 1.

**Horse Shoers**—Charters issued, 45. Number of strikes, 18; won, 18.

**Iron, Steel and Tin Workers**—Charters issued, 39; surrendered, 10; gain in membership, 7,000. Number of strikes, 3; won, 1; lost, 2.

**Lathers**—Charters issued, 46; surrendered, 3; gain in membership, 2,150. Number of strikes, 16; won, 14; compromised, 1; lost, 1.

**Laundry Workers**—Charters issued, 70; surrendered, 49; gain in membership, 2,000. Number of strikes, 11; won, 8; compromised, 3.

**Leather Workers on Horse Goods**—Charters issued, 19; surrendered, 2; gain in membership, 1,400. Number of strikes, 32; won, 22; compromised, 5; lost 3; pending, 2.

**International Association of Machinists**—Charters issued, 109; surrendered, 11; gain in membership, 6,000. Number of strikes, 72; won, 50; lost, 4; pending, 8; compromised, 2.

**Amalgamated Sheet Metal Workers' International Association**—Charters issued, 78; surrendered, 5; gain in mem-

bership, 1,870. Number of strikes, 7; won, 5; compromised, 1; lost, 1.

**Mine Workers, United**—Charters issued, 372; surrendered, 158. Cost of strikes, \$1,748,268.91.

**Iron Moulders Union of North America**—Charters issued, 36; surrendered, 12; gain in membership, 15,000. Number of strikes, 36; won, 18; lost, 6; still pending, 17; cost of strikes, \$102,220.87.

**American Federation of Musicians**—Charters issued, 85; surrendered, 5; gain in membership, 3,900.

**Painters**—Number of charters issued, 300; gain in membership, 15,400. Number of strikes, 149; won, 129; compromised, 15; lost 5.

**Patternmakers**—Charters issued, 5; surrendered, 3; gain in membership, 2,600.

**Plumbers and Gas Fitters, Steam Fitters and Steam Fitters' Helpers**—Charters issued, about 60; surrendered, 10; gain in membership, 2,000.

**Printing Pressmen**—Charters issued, 53; surrendered, 12. Cost of strikes, \$8,300.

**Street Railway Employees**—Charters issued, 70. Number of strikes, 11; strikes won, 8; pending, 3.

**Railway Telegraphers**—Charters issued, 31; surrendered, 5. Eleven new schedules gained without strikes; 7 old schedules revised.

**Stereotypers and Electrotypers**—Charters issued, 3; gain in membership, 254.

**Tailors**—Charters issued, 51; surrendered, 5; gain in membership, 4,000. Number of strikes, 16; won, 12; pending, 4.

**Textile Workers**—Charters issued, 50; surrendered, 6; gain in membership, 12,500. Number of strikes, 10; number won, 3; compromised, 2; lost, 2.

**Typographical Union**—Charters issued, 126; surrendered, 26; gain in membership, 3,187. Strikes, 20; won 7; lost, 2, pending, 11.

**Wood Workers**—Charters issued, 87; surrendered, 31; gain in membership, 5,500. Number of strikes, 26; won, 20; lost, 4; compromised, 2.

### Labor Notes

Silk weavers are organizing a national union.

The teamsters organized twenty-three new unions during October.

Chicago electrical workers have received an increase in wages.

The bakers of Jamestown, N. Y., won their fight against the bosses.

Toledo, Ohio, tailors unionized one of the largest shops in that city.

Green Bay, Wis., brewery workers get an increase of \$5 a month.

Teamsters in Lincoln, Neb., and Pawtucket, R. I., secured increases in wages.

After a year's struggle, the street car men in Knoxville, Tenn., won all their demands.

Jacksonville, Fla., carpenters received an increase in wages and had their hours cut to eight.

Plumbers and carpenters in New Bedford, Mass., won the eight-hour day with ten hours' pay.

The strike of the employes of the Macbeth-Evans Glass Company at Pittsburg was compromised.

After Jan. 1 all printers will receive their official journal, a per capita tax having been voted for that purpose.

Since organizing, the laborers in Berlin, N. H., were given an increase amounting to 12½ cents on the dollar.

The demands of the carpenters and mill men of Topeka, Kas., for an eight-hour day and 36 cents an hour have been granted.

Chicago barbers and their bosses have united to close all shops on Sunday and will try to enforce the state law against all labor on that day.

Comrade F. A. Lyburner has returned from New Orleans where he represented the Iowa Federation of Labor at the convention of the American Federation of Labor.

The state of Ohio employs 1,151 convicts in the manufacture of brooms. The broom manufacturers are kicking, and the legislature will be asked to correct the complaint.

## Stolen Thoughts

Nothing could better express the growth of the Socialist movement than the increase in the number and force of its press. A few years ago there was not a paper published in the interest of the movement—in fact there was no movement. Now there are hundreds of papers. There is room enough for all and the more papers the more energy will be put into the movement. Every earnest publication should be welcomed. Each will reach some class of people a little better than any other one. Every state should have a publication, and that will soon cultivate a field ready for the harvest. Besides the Socialist press, the labor press, almost solid, is advocating Socialism pure and simple. The next two years will be a great time in the development of Socialism in this country.—Appeal to Reason.

Capital and labor are just as harmonious as roast beef and an empty stomach. There is the most beautiful harmony, the most natural partnership between the two—when they are possessed by the same person. But when one man has the beef and the other has the appetite, the beef proprietor may consider it "natural, wise and useful," to take advantage of the hungry man's extremity to extort as much labor from him as the beef will enable him to perform. Under these conditions discords are apt to arise.—Toiler.

Socialism, like Christianity, cannot be lived individually until it is lived collectively. I defy anyone to show me a living man who lives the "golden rule" or who can do so under the present system.—Coming Nation.

### The Western Labor Movement

(Continued from Second Page)

had thousands in attendance without the aid of capitalist newspapers and in spite of the opposition of capitalist politicians.

As to whether the western movement is growing or declining since the Denver convention, it is sufficient to say that the reports show that during the month of September the organizations affiliated with the American Labor Union added more than four thousand new names to their rolls of membership.

Passing through Denver recently I noticed by the papers of that city in scare-head articles that the organizer of the American Federation, who had just been interviewed on the subject, declared in emphatic terms that he had been instructed from headquarters at Washington to organize rival unions at every available point and where there was even one applicant to admit him, totally regardless of the American Labor Union. If this is to be the policy of the Eastern Federation it will have to be that of the Western Union and as a result we shall have an era of unprecedented activity in the work of organizing the trades-union movement of the country.

One thing is noticeable in this connection and that is that the American Federation has evinced a greater interest in the western states, spent more money and worked harder to organize them in the comparatively short time since the Western Union is in the field than in all previous years.

The rise of class-conscious trades-unionism in the West was not the result of mere chance or personal design, but obedient to the rising tide of the revolutionary spirit of the proletariat of the rugged and sparsely settled mountain states, a composite population composed of pioneers, the most adventurous, brave and freedom-loving men from all states of the American continent, and it is impossible that they, with their keen instinct and revolutionary tendency could be long content to creep along in the creaking chariot of conservatism, even though it still bear traces of the union label.

The class-conscious union movement of the West is historic in origin and development and every Socialist should recognize its mission and encourage its growth. It is here that the tide of social revolution will reach its flood and thence roll into other sections, giving impetus where needed and hastening the glorious day of triumph.

I am the friend, not the enemy of the American Federation of Labor. I would conserve, not destroy it. I am opposed, not to the organization or its members, many of whom are personal friends, but to those who are restraining its evolu-

tion and preventing it from fulfilling its true mission. I would not convert it into a political organization, but simply bring it up to date and have it, as it must become if it is to survive, a class-conscious industrial union, its members recognizing the Socialist ballot as the weapon of their class and using it accordingly, thus escaping the incongruities and self-contradictions of the present "pure and simple" union, whose members strike against and boycott the effects of the capitalist system while voting industriously to perpetuate that system.

It is true that there are elements of progress at work within the organization. Let them continue their efforts. Such men as Max S. Hayes, J. W. Slayton, J. Mahlon Barnes and many others who have done and are doing excellent work on the inside have all help and no hindrance to expect from the western movement.

Certainly Max Hayes, elected delegate to the approaching convention of the American Federation of Labor by a popular vote of his organization, the International Typographical Union, upon the issue that he was a Socialist, and now muzzled by an order of a delegate convention instructing him to vote against Socialist measures, will not object to a little help from the outside.

In time the two progressive forces will meet and the work of redemption will have been accomplished.

Until then, as in the past, I shall support every boycott and every strike of the American Federation of Labor, and every organization affiliated with it, to the best of my ability, and when they lose in any of these struggles no disheartening word from my lips shall darken their counsels or add to the bitterness of their defeat.

I have been plain and unreserved in my criticism as I have a right to be. For many years I have been an unofficial organizer for the Federation of Labor, and for all the trades-unions connected with it, and in my travels, especially the past seven years in which I have been almost continuously traversing the country, I have organized and been the means of organizing hundreds of unions of all kinds. In the southern states I held the first great labor meetings when there was little or no trace of organization, in many places not even a single member, and I at once set to work organizing each point with the result that when I covered the same territory shortly after, there were unions everywhere and the movement spread rapidly over that section of the country. In view of these facts I think I can consistently assert the right of candid criticism.

The attitude of the Socialist party toward the trades-union movement broadly endorsing and commending it, but stopping there and allowing it to manage its own internal affairs is, without doubt, the correct one, as any intermeddling must result in harm with no possible hope of good. The party, as such, must continue to occupy this friendly yet non-interfering position, but the members may, of course, and in my judgment should join the trades-unions east and west and north and south and put forth their best efforts to bring the American labor movement to its rightful position in the struggle for emancipation.

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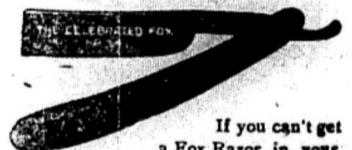
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Whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap. The rich do not recognize the rights of property. They confiscate the labor and even the personal property of the workers, or of each other. This practice will come home to them.—Cleveland County Socialist.

P. C. Murray, the lawyer in the office building, makes a specialty of drawing wills and settling estates.

Let the nation own the trusts; let the workers own the nation.—Advance.

Five copies of The Iowa Socialist to one address for one year for \$2.00.

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To John Mitchell

A Present

"Mr. Mitchell, in reply to further questions, and that he regarded as living wages for a miner six hundred dollars a year."—Daily Papers of November 15, 1922.

Mitchell, spokesman of the miners, I had hoped for better things Than the bit of information that my morning paper brings;

You have named six hundred dollars to the Arbitration Court, As sufficient yearly income for a family's support— Scarce enough to keep the miner an efficient working tool,

In a fairly good condition, like a wagon or a mule; It will save him from starvation till he finishes his task—

Think you that is all a workingman can reasonably ask?

While defining thus the limits of the laborers' desire,

Had you not a strong temptation to responsively inquire,

Which among your Arbitrators, whatsoever be his sphere,

Lives on thrice six hundred dollars as his salary for a year?

Possibly it might have shocked them; let us then concede that they

Are superior to the miners, and composed of finer clay;

In their households do these gentlemen, so just, and kind, and wise,

Feed their children in proportion to their smartness or their size?

Have we banished "equal rights" as an impracticable scheme,

But a figment of the fancy, and an iridescent dream?

In the face of gospel teachings shall we formally forswear

"Human brotherhood" as being a delusion and a snare?

Does the boasted Declaration of our Independence mean,

One man shall be lord and master and his brother a machine?

Mitchell, tell your Arbitrators, justice is your sole demand:

Equal rights to nature's bounties—water, air, and light and land;

That the mineral treasures hidden in the earth were all designed,

Not for one man, nor for some men, but alike for all mankind;

That the wonderful inventions of the wise of every age,

From Prometheus to Marconi, are the toiler's heritage;

Leave him all his labor's product—with no portion of it spent

Others to enrich with profits, interest, dividends, or rent;

Free him of his present burden—'tis the heaviest he bears—

Of supporting sumptuously a horde of greedy millionaires;

Let the plunderers and parasites, of low degree and high,

Earn their bread by useful work—unless they choose to starve and die.

Let the workingman who builds them dwell in costly marble halls;

Let the sculptor's and the painter's finest gems adorn its walls;

Let the orator and poet all their choicest treasures bring—

Ablest actors play their dramas, grandest prima donnas sing;

Let the laborers' wives and daughters be the ones that shall receive

Rarest silks and finest laces human skill can plan or weave;

Let them visit distant countries with historic memories stored

Gain the knowledge and the culture foreign travel can afford;

Let the long-delaying twilight of the worker's life be blest

With abundant store of comforts, while he takes his well-earned rest:

All of which could be accomplished—no one wealth or leisure lack—

But for these insatiate idlers mounted on the laborer's back.

Then no longer bend and truckle, and as uncomplaining slaves,

For a miserable pittance, crawl to ignominious graves!

—J. L. McCreery.

From the Mills School

KANSAS CITY, Nov. 30, '02.

IOWA SOCIALIST: Dear Comrades:—The Iowa Socialist always receives a hearty welcome from the Iowa boys here whenever it is received. Iowa is now represented by five students at the school and more may yet arrive.

In the last issue of your paper which has just arrived I notice the pleasing returns of the election, and judging from the gains reported I would say that we can double the vote next year. All that is necessary is the proper work, and the Socialists can be depended on for that.

Comrade Mills speaks in the Academy of Music each Sunday afternoon to full houses and there is an interest here which will before next election make the old partyites wonder where they are at.

We have some good material here for workers and writers, and you may look for some good reports from the students of the I. S. S. E.

S. R. McDOWELL

For Sale—Single, double strap harness; almost new. Address C. J. Mathis, Russell street.

Secretary Jacobs' Monthly Report

RECEIPTS FOR NOVEMBER

Table with columns for date, description, and amount. Includes items like 'Nov. 1, amount on hand', 'Nov. 4, Diamond branch charter dues', etc.

DISBURSEMENTS FOR NOVEMBER

Table with columns for date, description, and amount. Includes items like 'Nov. 1, postage', 'Nov. 7, W. A. Jacobs, balance on extra account', etc.

SUMMARY

Summary table showing Total receipts (\$117.00) and Total disbursements (\$92.64).

Amount on hand Nov. 29 \$ 24.36

W. A. JACOBS, State Secretary.

Word comes of gratifying gains in the municipal elections in England. In Birmingham Comrade Fellows had a majority for councillor of 181, an increase. In Blackburn Comrades Warwick, Brooks and Ward won in the St. Marks, St. Pauls and Trinity wards—a gain of one representative. In Burnley Comrade Irving had a majority of 206 and Comrade Jones one of 37. In Darlington Comrade Robinson was unopposed. In Halifax Comrade M. Blatchford (Mont Blong) won out with 248 votes to spare. In Neath (S. Wales) Comrade Jones won out to the surprise of everyone. In Northampton the Socialists gained 703 votes and gained one seat. In Salford Comrade Nuttall won a great Socialist victory and is the first Socialist councillor ever returned to the Salford Borough council. In Southampton Comrade Walter won a seat with a majority of 36. Comrade Barker won in Southend-on-sea. At West Ham Comrades Godbold, McCallen, Davenoy and Thorne were elected, a gain of one seat, that of Thorne, who was unopposed. At Wolverhampton Comrade Evans also won. Besides all these there were numerous labor representatives returned. The Clarion gains everywhere for Socialism and labor—thirty seats in all.

Secretaries of Iowa Branches

- Avery, F. J. West. Berwick, Moses Slack. Boone, George E. Bisbee, 600 Monona St. Brazil, R. Sharp. Burlington, Thomas Breen, 322 Plane St. Carbondale, Wm. Collins, Fair Ground Station, Des Moines. Cedar Rapids, J. H. Cail, 209 S. 1st St. Centerville, Edward Lowrey. Clearfield, Wm. McGinnis. Clinton, Carl Reick (P. O. Lyons.) Davenport, Max Hageman, 114 W. 5th St. Deloit, Lewis Wright. Des Moines, J. J. Jacobsen, 1220 Laurel St. Dubuque, E. Holtz, 1365 Clay St. Eldon, John Mulvaney. Hiteam, Wm. Truman. Hocking, Thomas Love. Hynes, Samuel Cooper. Keb, James Nevin. Lake City, S. R. McDowell. Logan, W. N. Pa.mer. Marshalltown, Oscar H. Hay, 603 S. 3d St. Monroes, W. M. Shaw. Muscatine, T. J. Grant. Mystic, G. H. Freyhoff. Newton, W. J. Porter. Oelwein, Wm. H. Luebbe. Ottumwa, J. M. Winn. Sheldon, E. W. Farnsworth. Sigourney, Edward J. Rohrer. Sioux City, John E. Shank, 614 Bluff St. Van Hornes, Roy L. Schroeder. Winterset, W. H. Bobbitt. Waukegan, J. R. Bennis, 701 Logan Ave.

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COMRADES—Enclosed find \$ for which please send THE IOWA SOCIALIST to the addresses below.

Table with columns for Name, Street and No., City, State.

SOCIALIST PLATFORM

Adopted at Indianapolis, Ind., 1921.

The Socialist party in convention assembled, reaffirms its adherence to the principles of International Socialism, and declares its aim to be the organization of the working class, and their sympathy with it, into a political party, with the object of conquering the powers of government and using them for the purpose of transforming the present system of private ownership of the means of production and distribution into collective ownership by the entire people.

Formerly the tools of production were simple and owned by individual workers. Today, the machine, which is an improved and more developed tool of production, is owned by the capitalists and not by the workers. The ownership enables the capitalists to control the product and keep the workers dependent upon them.

Private ownership of the means of production and distribution is responsible for the ever-increasing uncertainty of the livelihood and poverty and misery of the working class, and divides society into two hostile classes—the capitalists and wage workers. The once powerful middle class is rapidly disappearing in the mill of competition. The struggle is now between the capitalist class and the working class. The possession of the means of livelihood gives the capitalists the control of the government, the press, the pulpit and the schools, and enables them to reduce the workingmen to a state of intellectual, physical and social inferiority, political subservience and virtual slavery.

The economic interests of the capitalist class dominate our entire social system; the lives of the working class are recklessly sacrificed for profit, wars are fomented between nations, indiscriminate slaughter is encouraged and the destruction of whole races is sanctioned in order that the capitalists may extend their commercial dominion abroad and enhance their supremacy at home.

But the same economic causes which developed capitalism are leading to Socialism, which will abolish both the capitalist class and the class of wage workers. And the active force in bringing about this new and higher order of society is the working class. All other classes, despite their apparent or actual conflicts, are alike interested in the upholding of the system of private ownership of the instruments of wealth production. The democratic, republican, the bourgeois public ownership parties, and all other parties which do not stand for the complete overthrow of the capitalist system of production, are alike political representatives of the capitalist class.

The workers can most effectively act as a class in their struggle against the collective powers of capitalism, by constituting themselves into a political party, distinct from and opposed to all parties formed by the propertied classes. While we declare that the development of economic conditions tends to the overthrow of the capitalist system, we recognize that the time and manner of the transition to Socialism also depends upon the stage of development reached by the proletariat. We therefore, consider it of the utmost importance for the Socialist party to support all active efforts of the working class to better its condition and to elect Socialists to political offices in order to facilitate the attainment of this end. As such means we advocate:

- 1. The public ownership of all means of transportation and communication and all other public utilities, as well as of all industries controlled by monopolies, trusts and combines; no part of the revenue of such industries to be applied to the taxes of the capitalistic class, but to be applied wholly to the increase of wages and shortening of the hours of labor of the employes, and to the improvement of the service, and diminishing the rates to the consumers. 2. The progressive reduction of the hours of labor and the increase of wages in order to decrease the share of the capitalist and increase the share of the worker in the product of labor. 3. State or national insurance of working people in case of accidents, lack of employment, sickness and want in old age; the funds for this purpose to be collected from the revenue of the capitalist class, and to be administered under the control of the working class. 4. The inauguration of a system of public industries, credit to be used for that purpose in order that the workers be secured the full product of their labor. 5. The education of all children up to the age of 18 years, and state and municipal aid for books, clothing and food. 6. Equal civil and political rights for men and women. 7. The initiative and referendum, proportional representation and the right of recall of representatives by their constituents.

But in advocating these measures in steps in the overthrow of capitalism and the establishment of the Co-operative Commonwealth, we warn the working class against the so-called public ownership movements as an attempt of the capitalist class to secure governmental control of public utilities for the purpose of obtaining greater security in the exploitation of other industries and not for the amelioration of the conditions of the working class.

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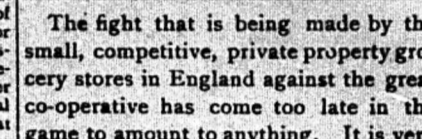
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The fight that is being made by the small, competitive, private property grocery stores in England against the great co-operative has come too late in the game to amount to anything. It is very much like Mr. Bryan's and Mr. Roosevelt's anti-trust talk. They are kicking against the pricks, or to change the figure to the other end of the anatomy, butting their heads against a stone wall.—American Co-operator.

NOTICE TO SECRETARIES!

Secretaries of Iowa branches will confer a favor by sending to this office all news in regard to the movement in their respective localities.

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