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The Iowa Socialist

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Debs' Speech at the Big Meeting in Chicago

Following is Eugene V. Debs' speech at the great Coliseum meeting, as reported by the Chicago Socialist:

A few days ago the editor of the Chicago paper, discussing the returns of the recent state elections in the editorial columns of his paper, concluded that the Socialist movement had received its death blow, that in fact Socialism was dead in America. Well, then, this must be the resurrection.

Last week at the convening of the Eleventh Reichstag in the city of Berlin 81 Socialist members were missing at the opening ceremony, because under the regulations they would have been obliged to "Hoch der Kaiser." These 81 Socialists stand for "Hoch der working class."

When the labor movement goes into politics the injunction will cease, the system under which the workingman is simply a piece of labor power will be abolished.

I stand in your presence this afternoon a Socialist, class conscious, revolutionary, uncompromising. I have little time and no use for what is commonly called reform. You cannot reform rottenness. The only reform of the capitalist system which is possible is overthrow and destruction. Capitalist politics are essentially corrupt and demoralizing. Pick up your daily newspaper; it is a chronicle of crime. What is the status of the workingman in the present government? Has he a voice loud enough to be heard? A matter of fact he is completely ignored for the reason that he is not yet conscious of his conquering power.

The republican party is in absolute power in the interest, as we are told, mainly of the working class, the producers of wealth. The democratic party is not only dead, but in an advanced state of decomposition. But it will not be permitted to disintegrate entirely. It still has a mission. The time has come to shove in a democratic administration because a panic is due, and the panic must of course fall upon the democratic jackass, and then we will hear the old stereotype cry, "That is what you get for turning out the republican party. Give us eight years more of republican rule." But there is an ever-increasing number of workmen in this country who can no longer be deceived.

The workmen are beginning to realize that if they would emancipate themselves from the degrading thrall of the ages they must unite upon the economic field and upon the political field, but above all things they must unite. The solidarity of the working class is the supreme demand of the hour.

There are some so-called leaders of labor who favor solidarity upon the economic field, but who are opposed to it upon the political field. They are not in fact union men. They lack the vital, essential principle of true unionism. They lead the working class backward, not forward. They are in alliance, active or passive, with the capitalist class.

Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, said the other day that he had read socialism in two languages. He had better have understood it in one. He is opposed to politics in the union. He knows very well that when politics comes into the union he will go out of the union. He and Mark Hanna will solve the labor question if you workmen will let them alone, but when it is solved in their way it will not be solved in your way.

The capitalist press united in pronouncing the coal strike the greatest victory ever achieved by the working class. It is true that their wages were increased 10 per cent. It is also true that their living expenses increased from 15 to 20 per cent. The board created by the commission made Carroll D. Wright, the National Labor Commissioner, umpire. Every single solitary question submitted to that tribunal was decided against the striking miners with one exception, and that but a nominal exception.

The corporations are in absolute control in these coal fields, bleak, barren, desolate beyond the power of language to describe. There is an army of 150,000 human beings, miners of coal, in a state of abject slavery, from which there is no escape under the capitalist system. I have been in those mines again and again and know whereof I speak. I have heard the echo of the pit that sounded like muffled drums beating funeral marches.

Your grandfather made a pair of shoes, and they were his own. You make a thousand pairs of shoes where he made one. You do not own a single one of them. You can produce wealth in fabulous abundance, but you have not got it. Why not? Because you work with tools that belong to your master, and what you produce belongs to him. Ownership of the

tools implies ownership of the product. Your grandfather owned and enjoyed the fruit of his labor because he worked with tools that belonged to himself. Your employer goes to Europe or goes around the world in his private yacht, or enjoys what is called exclusive society, because he is the proprietor of the tools with which you work.

The politician on the eve of an election tells you that you are a sovereign citizen. You are nothing of the kind. In the present system you are simply labor power, merchandise, bought in what they call the labor market as if you were hair, hide, bone or any other commodity subject to the law of demand and supply. The more labor power and the less demand, the lower your wages. The lower your wages, the less you can consume. You are always in competition with each other, men, women and children, to sell your labor power to the owners of the machinery. You cannot compete against them with your bare hands. You have got to sell them your labor power.

At this point it is pertinent to ask, what is labor power? Labor power is human energy. Labor power is life of as sacred as life itself. Looking backward over the past forty years we read of the auction block and the slave pen. We see a human being with a throbbing heart and an immortal soul; we see him placed upon the auction block in public, his teeth inspected and his body examined to see if he is sound. He is then torn from his wife and children and sold to the highest bidder. We stand aghast as we contemplate the fact that this auction block existed for 200 years upon American soil. The time will come when the world will again take a backward look; and stand horrified as it contemplates the harder spectacle of the entire working class flung into what is called the labor market, where the labor power of human beings is sold every day and every hour, year in and year out, to the lowest bidder.

You expect to reform such a system. I ask you how? You punish crime, but you produce it a hundredfold. We Socialists do not propose to mend this system; we propose to put an end to it, and that is the reason we are appealing to you this afternoon, not to accept our philosophy unthinkingly, not to subscribe to our principles without investigation. We are appealing to you to preserve your mental integrity, your moral rectitude; we are appealing to you to think for yourselves. You have been satisfied to do your thinking by proxy. It is a thousand times better for you workmen and workingwomen to spend your time in cultivating self-reliance. Stop crawling in the dust. Stand erect. See how tall you are in the sunlight. Brush the dust of servitude from your knees. Hold high communion with yourself. You are a worker. The first thing necessary for you to understand is that you are bound irrevocably to every other worker in the country. As individual workmen you are ground to atoms, you are reduced to slavery, and you are at the mercy of the masters. When you unite, however, there will be twelve of you for every capitalist. You are fighting them with your stomachs. We Socialists want you to fight them with your brains.

Is it by chance that every member of the United States Supreme Court is a trained and successful trust and corporation attorney? Don't you workmen know that when you do succeed in pushing some law through the State Legislature, or even the National Congress, which is designed to inconvenience the capitalist class, they have the State and National Supreme Courts to declare the laws unconstitutional? And what are you going to do about it? Submit until the next election, and then vote the republican or democratic ticket and have a reputation of it. As Abraham Lincoln once said, "If you want that sort of thing, why, that's the sort of thing you want." It is simply a question as to how long you can, or rather how long you will stand it. Organize as thoroughly as you choose, they will have a mortgage on your leaders. If the rank and file in Chicago would do a little excavating they would find wires between the City Hall and the Federation of Labor. And because there are wires underground there are overhead policemen's clubs for your heads.

You had a great strike recently on the Chicago City Railway. The press announced that the union had achieved something of a victory. I would like to have a photograph. (A voice, "Get one of the buttons that they aren't wear.") I am not finding fault because policemen rode on the cars. They had to obey the orders of the capitalist politicians.

Can you tell the difference between



Fred'k G. Strickland and May McDonald Strickland at Temple Hall, Ninth and Locust Sts., Monday, Dec. 21.

Admission 10c.

The Clearing of the Fog

Franklin H. Wentworth

Parkman B. Flanders and Charles H. Coulter, Socialists, gentlemen, citizens of the world, have been defeated for re-election to the offices of mayor in the cities of Haverhill and Brockton, Massachusetts.

The capitalist newspapers are proclaiming the republican victory.

But the victory is not a republican victory; it is a Socialist victory, because, in stringing its bow with the shaft which struck down Flanders and Coulter, capitalism has lost from its quiver its arrow of supreme efficiency.

When republicanism is so hard pressed as to be willing to win its victories with democratic votes, it is itself letting down the drawbridge that is the strategic defense of the Castle of Plutocracy.

What Socialism the most desires is the elimination of the democratic party;—that fog-bank in the channel, and plutocracy in a disconcerted attempt to recover its outposts, is clearing the atmosphere for its own undoing.

At every point at which the too old parties seek fusion to accomplish Socialist defeat the democratic organization at that point is weakened if not disrupted, and real democratic spirits are driven thereby to open their minds to the claims of Socialism. It is risky business,—for capitalism.

It is proof of the Socialist's political acumen that he has correctly divined the purposes of the democratic organization; predicted its action; and published its hypocrisies. When it goes to the service of its plutocratic masters it is doing just what the Socialist expected it to do. If, in abandoning its organization and fusing with the republican party it helps to win an election; such an election is no victory; it is a slight to cover.

Fusion is weakness; an indication of low vitality where parties are honest. In this case it is an indication of weakening and unsuccessful treachery.

Every plutocratic victory won by fusion publishes to the world the truth which the Socialist has struggled so persistently to make clear; that the democratic party is only the left pocket of the plutocratic coat,—secretly replenished from the same source as the republican party, while professing principles of difference.

When the democracy goes crawling on all fours into the republican camp as it did at Haverhill and Brockton, it blackens with infamy its whole history, and uncovers the fact so long concealed, that it has never been the real friend of the workingman, but a mere stalking-horse, prostituted for hire, to politically mislead him.

With the democratic party have been voting men who are naturally sincere friends of the working class, because they, themselves, are of the working class. Organized labor has long been casting its vote for this sham democracy as for a liberator. These men, honest themselves, are loath to believe that their professed friends have been betraying them.

In Haverhill and in Brockton they now may see it.

Few of the workmen who voted the democratic ticket in 1900, knew then, or know now, that of the money which went to elect Mr. McKinley, Mr. Hanna got more in Massachusetts from men calling themselves democrats than he got from men calling themselves republicans.

The democratic party, even in its birth never really representing anything but Bourbon greed and discontent, has, since its logical death, been galvanized by plutocratic money.

It has been kept alive as a vehicle upon which to hang just radical phrases enough to dissipate the voting energy of the workers.

When, under the pressure of "hard

times" working class discontent has grown too great in volume coldly to ignore, certain planks have been put into the democratic platform, which have had the sound of sincere utterance; but the men selected for candidates have been "safe" men,—men like Grover Cleveland, who could be depended upon when in office to nullify reactionary tendencies.

By keeping before the people a sham radical party; a party of mere, noisy opposition, designed to carry off discontent into innocuous channels, plutocracy has long forestalled the initiation of a real radical party. Hence it pays for its long immunity by the development of a party which turns from reform to revolution.

For a party has now entered the arena which declines to accept plutocratic money; which develops its resources from within; which asks no advice from experts; which creates its own servants and representatives by referendum expression. Already plutocracy has attempted to sow discord in this party by using for the purpose, weak and selfish members of the organization; but such persons are quickly discovered and forced out of the party into the public service of capitalism. This has been done in the case of two or three people in Massachusetts, and other, similar cases may reasonably be expected to develop. Such people can be effective in a false party, initiated and maintained for purposes of confusion; but the revolutionary initiative unerringly finds them and brands them.

When plutocracy begins to wipe out its stalking horse to strengthen its own position; it is a confession inexpressibly cheering to the Socialist heart. It is a confession, first, that plutocracy fears that the Socialist movement cannot be successfully corrupted; and, second, that the Socialist Party is making such headway that plutocracy cannot longer spare votes from its camp with which to galvanize its stalking horse. It must perforce carry all its eggs in one basket.

In other words it is being forced out into the daylight; out of the shadow of secretiveness, where it can no longer hide behind the bray of its long-eared faithful.

IT MUST AT LAST RECOGNIZE THE CLASS STRUGGLE, WHICH IT HAS LABORED SO RAFTILY TO OBSCURE. IT MUST AT LAST BE FORCED TO MEET THE ARGUMENTS WHICH IT KNOWS IT CANNOT MEET WITHOUT COMING INTO THE LIGHT WITH ITS AGE-LONG INFAMY.

Once the issue is clearly made, with no long-eared influence to bray the people into apathy, the principles of Socialism will spread like a prairie fire.

There will be work enough and service enough in the future for Parkman B. Flanders and Charles H. Coulter. They can bide their time.

They are citizens of the world; they are battling not for themselves but for their cause. They know that their consequent defeat has cost plutocracy dear,—so dear that the working class has won by it. They are glad to be a single battle in the van, which serves to throw far forward the whole line; which helps the winning of the ultimate victory. Their little pilot-boat has struck a reef; but under the shock a false lighthouse has crumbled. Thus the Great Ship is safer.

They are overthrown but they are not beaten.

They have been mayors when their councils were against them; they shall be mayors when their councils shall be for them.

They can bide their time; there is work enough to do.

The World of Graft

John M. Work

What are we fooling around this way station of civilization for?

To give the grafters a chance to work their precious grafts.

The race is to the swiftest grafter.

A tramp was overheard saying to his crony: "This is a damn fake world anyway."

A fake world! The bobo's shot did not fall far amiss. The majority of the people are not fakirs. But the men who occupy nearly all of the attention of the world and get the world's praise and the world's money are mostly fakirs. Graft is the order of the day. Graft is the essence of the system. Men lie awake nights concocting some new scheme to divert other people's shekels into their pockets. No qualms of conscience are allowed to stand in the way. Indeed, most of the grafters have become so hardened that qualms of conscience are unknown to them.

A newspaper publisher says: "A good liar with a small circulation can get vastly more advertising than a poor liar with a big circulation." The principle underlying that state-

ment is the one on which modern business is run. It would be more to the point to call it lack of principle.

Every stenographer in the United States has a string of lies dictated to her every day.

Industry is a mass of deception. You cannot delve into it ever so little without becoming contaminated.

It is all due to the system, the overdone, no longer necessary, capitalist system. What a lot of crimes the system has to answer for! Men are driven to become grafters in order to make a living.

When the voters of the nation get ready to vote for a better system, this will no longer be a fake world, because it will no longer be necessary for men to be fakirs.

Says an epigrammatic friend: "If civilization falls, it will be suicide, not murder."

The matter is in our own hands. We can exterminate the world of graft whenever we please and replace it with a decent system.

Thoughts With the Hulls On

E. T. Anderson

Truth is ever sharp and for this reason few care to handle it.

Merry Christmas will soon be here. Did I say Merry? O, well, some make merry at a wake, but its never the corpse.

"Workingmen have nothing to loose but their chains." Perhaps that is the reason they hang to them so persistently—they are their only assets.

Hanna cries, "Stand Pat." That's all right, but there's another pat hand

Jotted Down

By Observer

A night school is about to be established in Dubuque for the benefit of those who were compelled to go to work when they should have been at school. The board of education has generously (?) permitted the use of one of the rooms in the Audubon school. The night school will not be free—that would be asking too much—the board of education could not afford it. The large property owners of the city—those fellows who own anywhere from \$50,000 to \$100,000 worth of real estate and have it assessed at one-half its value—might kick. You never hear of a poor man going before the equalization board to have his assessment reduced. It's always the large property holder. Anyhow, the school would be free—the students will be taxed 50 cents per month.

This is the same school board which, a short time ago, granted the teachers an advance of about \$3.00 per month. Its generosity in the night school matter is on a par with its generosity on the salary question. There is not a teacher in the Dubuque public schools that is not worth at least \$50 per month. A teacher that is not worth the above amount is not worth anything. As a matter of fact, many of them receive as low as \$35 per month.

According to the reports published in the Dubuque papers, about seventy-five students attended the first meeting of the night school, ranging in age from 18 to 55 years. Think of it! A man 55 years old seeking an opportunity to acquire a little education in order to better equip himself for the battle of life. At 55, too, when he ought to be thinking of taking a rest for the remainder of his existence! What a beautiful system of civilization we have. And, of course, it can't be improved upon. So they tell us. However, it must be satisfactory to the majority of workmen, else they wouldn't vote for it.

Well, well, the world "do move!" The United States supreme court has declared the Kansas eight-hour law constitutional. Of course, there has never been any doubt in the minds of trades unionists as to the constitutionality of an eight-hour law. Why a state has not the same right to say how many hours shall constitute a day's labor as it has to say how that labor shall be done has ever been a mystery to the trades unions. But think of the United States supreme court arriving at that conclusion! And that eminent democrat, Chief Justice Fuller, dissented from the opinion of the majority! The first thing we know that august body will declare an income tax constitutional.

The fellow who wanted to test the legality of the Kansas eight-hour law

out, and that's a royal flush held by the Socialist Party, and we'll win after the show-down.

Rent, interest and profit. Take the three first letters and we have RIP—that's exactly what they do to a fellow's wages. Wages cannot stand against this trinity. Vote out the wage system.

What would you think of the Socialist who would use an eclipse of the moon as an argument against the present system (capitalism)? Yet the bellicose Chicago Chronicle uses the failure of Dowle as an argument against Socialism. Personally I would call Zion a monarchy with "Lige" as King.

did so because he was afraid it conflicted with the fourteenth amendment to the federal constitution. Funny how those fellows are always invoking the constitution when they think it is on their side, but are always silent when they know they are violating its provisions.

For several weeks past the Orthodox Tribune, of Dubuque, has been publishing a series of articles under the heading, "A Brief History of Socialism." Of course, the articles mentioned are antagonistic to Socialism. They are written by Rev. M. Mueller, C. P. P. S., of St. Joseph's college, Rensselaer, Ind. The reverend gentleman has not yet gotten down to Socialism proper—he is merely doing a little skirmishing by giving short biographies of those connected with reform movements in the Nineteenth and Eighteenth centuries, laying particular stress upon their religious views. Of course, it is easy to understand his object. If he can only convince his readers that these men were irreligious, then anything they advocated must be wrong, and anyone who believes in what they advocated must be irreligious. In other words, Bob Ingersoll being a very prominent republican in his day and also an infidel, it naturally follows that every republican must also be an infidel. That style of argument might have done a quarter of a century ago, but not now. People nowadays are a little more intelligent.

However, the reverend gentleman has discovered that Socialism and anarchy are identical because he avers they first: both strive to overthrow the present social order. Second, are divided as to the present method of procedure, whether it shall be violent or peaceful. Third, base their theory on the atheism of Hegel, Feuerbach and Schauer. Fourth, advocate the abolition of marriage and the emancipation of woman. Fifth, advocate the theory of evolution.

How a man can be in favor of violence and evolution at one and the same time we will leave to Rev. Mueller to explain, it passes our comprehension. It would seem, however, that it is about time the Rev. Mueller and others of his ilk learned that Socialists are not free lovers, that the vast majority of them regard the marriage contract as sacred as do the majority of Christians. At the recent election in Germany more than 3,000,000 votes were cast by the Socialists. Presumably these 3,000,000 votes represent 15,000,000 of people. Does Rev. Mueller mean to say there are that many people in Germany who have no regard for the marriage tie? Is there a man or woman of German birth or extraction in Dubuque or vicinity, be he Catholic or Protestant, who believes such rubbish? Does Rev. Mueller himself believe it? We shall have occasion to refer to Rev. Mueller again later on.

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THE WORLD'S PROBLEM.

The editor of the Dubuque Daily Times has proven that he knows nothing about Socialism. He says: "Former Mayor J. H. Quick told the Sioux City Ministerial association the other day that poverty is the problem Mr. Quick is a single taxer. He believes the single tax on land would abolish poverty."

"Though they have a different solution, the Socialists agree with Mr. Quick that poverty is the problem. They call it the bread and butter problem. Solve this, they say, and the millennium will be at hand."

He says, "this is materialism." Yes, there is surely a bread and butter problem confronting us, and it is a very material one. Does the editor mean to infer that he is so spiritual that he can get on without the material basis of life? How many meals does he eat a day, and what quantity of "material" things does he consume at each meal to provide the necessary energy to run a daily paper?

He says "experience and observation" prove this materialism false. If so, why does he continue to eat? Has he proven by "experience" that he can ignore the materialistic basis of life in this form? If so, why does he not give the world the benefit of his experience?

Then the dear fruit of the price of butter and eggs need no longer concern us—we will give our thoughts to other things.

He has much to say about virtue. Virtue is all right, but the word means different things to different people. From some view points, Sunday School Rockefeller is a very virtuous man, yet there be people who would not stand in his shoes for all his millions. Virtue in the abstract and not in the relative is something that no class or sect has ever been able to "corner."

"For 'tis well understood The good are half bad and the bad are half good."

He assumes that the Socialist would put every one beyond the need of work—make all idlers, whereas, just the contrary is the truth. Every Socialist knows that a certain amount of work is a blessing. It is overwork and idleness that Socialism would abolish, and anyone with a grain of sense knows that these two extremes are harmful to a high expression of human life. John Ruskin once wrote: "It was written: 'In the sweat of thy brow,' but it was never written: 'In the breaking of thy heart.'"

The editor continues: "The contented mind is the creature of no scheme for the division of property." There you are! That same old "dividin' up" dodge. If ye editor would only study a few of Carrol D. Wright's reports, he would know something about the "dividin' up" that is now going on, and then it would mean something to him when he hears the Socialists say they mean to stop forever all dividin' up!

There are no people on earth so opposed to dividing up as are the Socialists, and the constant enforced dividing up by the laborers of the world under this present profit system of industry is rapidly increasing the number of Socialists.

In conclusion, ye editor "draps into poetry," and among several lines is this:

"True joy to all is free." Yes, but there isn't much joy in an empty stomach! If ye editor would try a complete fast for a few days he would be better fitted to write upon the "bread and butter problem." O, but he would get some awfully materialistic thoughts and feelings along about the third day of the fast. He would lose interest in "virtue" and "spiritual things," and "the joy that is free for all," and wildly clamor for the 'fish-pots.' He would find his joy in "free-for-all soup." He would know that, no matter how divinely high we may soar in our individual aspirations, our life is

this body has and must ever have a materialistic, or bread and butter basis.

On this plane of manifestation, a live man is apparently more useful than a dead one, and a well fed man than a starving one; but sometimes an employer can get more profit out of a starving man, and so he is told of the 'joy that is free for all' to keep his 'mind contented' with the present 'scheme for the division of property.' The only reason 'True joy to all is free' is because "joy" is an abstract thing that cannot be "cornered."

"But mark how just the ways of heaven." We cannot do it—we are not living there—we are in the "other place," for "competition is war" and "war is hell."

PIT.

Did you ever play Pit? Every one ought to play it once—it is a good initiation into a clear understanding of the law of Economic Determinism. You have heard of this law that the manner in which we gain our bread and butter, or the industrial system under which we live colors every other phase of life. In other words, tell us the economic system of any age and country and we will tell you what was the nature of the laws, customs, art, education, literature, sports, domestic life, religion—everything of that country.

Have you ever attended a session of the Chicago board of trade—or any other? If you have, you know what the game of Pit is; if you have not, then play a game of Pit, and you will know something of both. The game is an imitation of the stock exchange, and your aim is to get a "corner" on something before any of your competitors can do it. When the dealer of the cards declares: "The pit is open," then all the players cry out "Trade one," "Trade three," or whatever they have that is not desired. This goes on for some time, until some player gets all the cards alike, when he then calls out, "Corner on wheat!" or corn, hay, barley, or whatever it happens to be. Then he is marked up with whatever is the value of his commodity as indicated by the number on his cards.

The present economic system has surely "determined" the nature of this game, has it not? The law of economic determinism works perfectly in all directions. Just open your eyes and your thinking machinery and watch it work. Is it not a sad commentary on our day and age that we are put to such straits for our amusements?

O, well, there is a good time coming. "The people's step is growing stronger."

Library of the World's Best Literature (Slightly Revised)

MORGANICA. Thy country! Not for me, Great land of Carnegie, For thee I mourn. Land where our statesmen lied! Land of the hoodlers' pride! Where shameless grafting's piled Let robbery thrive. O'er craven country where— We tribute bring to Baer— And other lords; We work their shops and mills, Their fields and burrowed hills; Our toll their coffer fills, Like that of kings. Tho' Morgan's got the seas, In fact the whole darn cheese, Let's joyful be: But mortal man beware: If he should get the air, We'll have to go elsewhere— To get our wind. Almighty Hanna! Hail! The "full and empty" pail," To thee we owe. Long may this land be bright With Standard's oily light; Rob us with all your might, Great Dollar Kings!

A STORY FOR THE YOUNG.

Robinson Crusoe's man Friday, after a time became discontented with his lot. The conviction had dawned upon his mind that he was a slave. Being ignorant, and consequently superstitious, he attributed his hard lot in life to the fact of his being named Friday. Thus it is supposed to have originated the popular belief that Friday is an unlucky day.

Brooding over this until his rebellious mind seemed to be a seething fire of revolt, he finally resolved to demand of Crusoe that his name be changed to Saturday, his befuddled brain also harboring the strange delusion that he would thus gain a day in the week for himself. His savage cunning, however, prompted him to be careful as to the ways and means of securing this concession. The plan he finally decided upon was to formulate his demand in a "round robin" petition, having satisfied himself that a number of the younger and headstrong goats in the flock would place their marks upon the same.

In due time this plan was carried out. Robinson Crusoe was thunderstruck by this strange demand, but politely told Friday to call the next day, when he would give him an answer. Friday withdrew highly elated. Crusoe spent the greater part of the

night wondering what it all meant. Suddenly he remembered that he had one day found Friday reading some trade union and Socialist papers which had evidently floated ashore with the debris from the wreck. He at once became suspicious. This demand, though trifling, if granted, would lead to others perhaps more exacting.

Although he had almost decided to grant the request, he changed his mind and resolved to refuse, and so informed Friday when he called for his answer.

Friday was furious. He threatened to call a strike which would tie up the manufacturing interests of the island, including the goat milk industry—he having organized a union of all the goats.

Crusoe was obdurate. He explained that the name Saturday would interfere with his plan of writing a history of his life in monosyllables for the children of posterity.

"Posterity be blowed," angrily exclaimed Friday. This expression has become historic, although corrupted into "The people be d—d."

Friday again threatened to call a strike as he started for the door.

"Remember," said Crusoe, "if there is any rioting or violence I shall call out the army and navy," hoping against hope that Friday's knowledge of naval architecture was too limited to grasp the fact that the big canoe was only half finished.

This had the desired effect. Friday began to weaken.

"Can't we arbitrate this matter?" he asked.

"There is nothing to arbitrate," replied Crusoe, thus also giving expression to a saying now commonly used.

Beaten at every point, Friday withdrew saying the strike would be called the next morning at 4 o'clock.

"Do your worst," hissed Crusoe, inwardly chuckling as he thought of the large supply of smoked Bologna he had stored away in a big cave at the other end of the island unknown to Friday.

Friday reported to his union, but the members only blinked at him with their deep soulful eyes in mute sympathy, the while they munched their supper of union-made tin cans. Friday was pleased to note that they had taken his speech on the necessity of patronizing the union label to heart.

The next morning the strike was on and Crusoe was compelled to forego his usual eye-opener of milk punch.

The strike lasted two days, when something occurred which struck consternation to the hearts of the unionists. One of the leading members had allowed herself to be seduced by an appetizing bran mash, offered by Crusoe, and had gone over to the camp of the enemy. This is the first case on record of a labor leader who "went wrong."

Although discouraged, Friday managed to keep the union in line. But meeting Crusoe by chance the next day, he began to make overtures for peace. An "overture for peace" is the dignified admission of a hungry striker that he is beaten.

Crusoe suggested a conference for the next day. Believing that he had taught Friday a lesson, and having again caught him reading a Socialist paper, Crusoe now thought it best to grant the demand, lest the union declare for independent political action. So when Friday called he told him that he had always been in favor of union labor so long as it didn't conflict with his material interests, and made a proposition that in six months from that day he would rechristen Friday and call him Saturday. The six months clause was inserted merely to prevent Friday from taking pride in a complete victory.

Friday at once agreed and signed then and there for the union.

Robinson Crusoe passed around a box of scab cigars and Friday went away happy. He immediately began making a wood cut of himself for a book on the labor problem which he intended writing. He also sent an application to Mark Hanna for membership in the Civic Federation.

When the six months were up Crusoe re-christened Friday by placing his foot on Friday's neck seven times, symbolizing the seventh day of the week, Crusoe having become a Seventh Day Adventist.

But after a time Saturday became aware that he was no better off than formerly when he was called Friday. Also, he was obliged to continue working six days.

He again began reading the Socialists, paper and finally became the original Socialist of the island. He brought the matter before the union but they would have none of it, suspecting a scheme to disrupt the union.

So Saturday settled down and became resigned to his fate.

The moral of this tale, dear children, is that if you are dissatisfied with your sphere in life, in which you have been placed by an unkind system, don't try to remedy matters by changing your names (girls included). Seas of blood have been shed by wage slaves to change their classification from "subjects," to "sovereigns;" years of misery have been suffered by men that they might call themselves "union" men; oceans of oratory have rolled and roared to induce men to call themselves "democrats" or "republicans"—but they are wage slaves still! If you desire to remedy an evil get at the root and abolish it. Study Socialism.

Young Mr. Rockefeller is the teacher of a Bible class in a Sunday school. Recently he said to his class: "I feel that the modern tendency is to forget the duty we owe to the Lord in the struggle to advance ourselves in a worldly sense; to accumulate riches or acquire a position of power. It should not be. Our first thought should be: 'How can we best serve the Lord.'" This may be true, but we wouldn't advise the employees of the Standard Oil Company to devote too much thought to this problem on the company's time.

The Dubuque Times fears that because of Prof. Small's declaration that the present legal rights enjoyed by capital are "all wrong," Mr. Rockefeller will not remember Chicago University on Christmas. This may be likely, but cheer up, brother, for it's an ill wind that blows nobody good. If there is no gift it is likely there will be no advance in the price of oil. The grafters seem to have revived Teddy's maxim to read: "Speak easy and carry a big wallet."

The Dubuque Times says "those virtues which are indispensable to the peace, order and progress of society and the happiness of the individual are of spiritual origin and independent of external circumstances." Having been before the court for nineteen hundred years, or more, we are of the opinion that the plea of "spiritual origin" has become invalid under the statute of limitations.

Iowa Locals are urged to vote on the two referendums now before them and make returns to Secretary Jacobsen as soon as possible.

The number of shops that are "closed" to non-unionists, and unionists also, continues to increase.

Mark Hanna would rather be president—when times are good.

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National Committee

NEW MOTIONS.

Relative to national convention: No. 1. By National Committeeman Richardson, of California:

"That a national convention of the Socialist party of the United States (including the Social Democratic party in the states wherein the law compels the use of that designation) be and is hereby called by the national committee of the said party, to meet at 10 o'clock a. m., on June 15, 1904, in the city of St. Louis, Mo."

2. That said convention shall nominate a candidate for president and a candidate for vice-president of the United States, and transact such other business as it may deem necessary.

3. That the various states and territories shall be entitled to representation in the said convention as follows:

One delegate for each organized state or territory and one additional delegate for each 100 members or majority fraction thereof in good standing in the locals of a state or territory on the first day of March, 1904.

4. That each delegate shall have one vote to be cast in person or by proxy as he may determine.

5. The manner of apportioning and electing delegates in any state or territory shall be determined by its membership.

6. No part of the expense incurred by any delegate in attending this convention shall be paid by the national organization.

Comment submitted with motion: "I name St. Louis solely because of the International Exposition that will be in progress next summer at that place and the very natural desire of delegates to visit it."

"The time, June 15, will make our campaign none too long, and yet, perhaps, long enough."

"If representation is based upon would have been the proper motion for membership of March 1, 1904, sufficient time is given the various states and territories to determine by referendum the manner of electing delegates and also to accomplish such election. I think the time none too long."

No. 2: By National Committeeman Berger of Wisconsin:

"I move that the next national convention of the Socialist party be held in Chicago instead of St. Louis, as proposed by Comrade Richardson."

Comment by Berger submitted with motion:

My reasons for substituting Chicago are as follows:

1. There is no Socialist movement of any strength in St. Louis that would cause the St. Louis press to give great attention to our convention.

2. The World's Fair held in St. Louis at that time would result in the white elephant from St. Louis or the congress of long-haired men getting about the same attention in the St. Louis press and especially in the dispatches as our convention.

3. In spite of the World's Fair, the number of delegates in attendance in Chicago would be much larger than in St. Louis, because Chicago is nearer to the great bulk of the membership, while, on the other hand, delegates who attend a convention on account of a world's fair are liable to give more attention to the fair than to the business of the convention.

4. Chicago has better railway facilities than St. Louis, and would enjoy all the advantages of the low fare to St. Louis.

5. The advantages of a low fare to St. Louis would be more than offset by the tremendous prices they are charging for hotel accommodations even now.

For these reasons I favor Chicago.

No. 3: By National Committeeman Berlyn, of Illinois:

"That the national convention be called to meet on May 1st in the city of Chicago."

Motion presented as the result of the conference of the Illinois state committee and the national committeeman from Illinois:

Relative to national committee meeting:

No. 4. By National Committeeman Richardson, of California:

"In case the motion carries calling for a national convention of the Socialist party to meet in St. Louis on June 15, 1904, that the national committee of the Socialist party meet in St. Louis, Mo., at 10 o'clock a. m., on June 19, 1904."

Comment submitted with motion:

"I think the National Committee should meet before the National Convention, as matters may come before it that it desires to refer to the Convention. If the committee desires to meet after the convention adjourns it can so determine at its earliest meeting."

Relative to election of delegates to the national Socialist congress:

No. 5. By National Committeeman Hillquit, of New York:

"As to the proceedings of the national quorum I agree with all the acts and resolutions of that body passed at its last meeting, except in the proceedings adopted by it for the election of delegates to the international convention. It seems to me the members of the quorum have again confounded the international congress with the international bureau, and the functions of delegates to the congress with those of our secretaries on the bureau. We are entitled to two secretaries on the international bureau, since the S. L. P. has elected none, but in the congress we are entitled to as many delegates as we choose to send. Instead, therefore, of electing one delegate and two alternates, we should first decide on the full number of delegates to send, bearing in mind that we are in no way restricted as to number, and then elect them as delegates. Furthermore, the Amsterdam congress will meet by the middle of August, our own convention will most likely be called not later than June, and I believe it will be best to leave the entire matter in its hands. The convention can act more intelligently on the question of the number of delegates to be elected and on the choice of proper representatives."

"I will therefore ask you to submit

the following as an amendment to the resolution of the quorum:

"The number and choice of delegates to represent our party at the international Socialist congress in Amsterdam shall be left to the ensuing National Convention of our party."

Actions upon the foregoing motions will close Dec. 28.

NATIONAL PARTY REFERENDUM.

Credence has evidently been given in some quarters to the statement that the national party referendum to amend Section 1, Article 2 of the national constitution, now being voted upon, has been submitted in conflict with the national constitution, and an explanation from the national office may therefore be in order.

Section 2, Article 6, of the National constitution provides that "all propositions or other matter submitted for the referendum of the party shall be presented without comment."

The statement is made that the insertion upon the voting blank and ballots of the three paragraphs beginning "Whereas" preceding the proposed amendment constitutes a violation of the foregoing clause, upon the ground that these are "arguments."

These three paragraphs were part of the original proposition endorsed and forwarded to the national office. They were not inserted by the National Committee. The constitutional clause quoted specifies that propositions shall be SUBMITTED WITHOUT COMMENT. This was done in this case. The three paragraphs in question cannot be construed as "comment" made by the National Committee or the National Secretary when the proposition as originally drafted was submitted exactly as received at the national office.

The form for the circular carrying the referendum to the party membership was submitted to the National Committee three weeks before being issued to the membership. Not one national committeeman objected to the form as proposed by the National Secretary, and the circular went out accordingly. Not only that but the proposed form itself went to the Socialist Press at the same time it was submitted to the National Committee, and not a single paper or party member said anything then about its "illegality."

There is another side to this question. Would the National Committee have any right to omit the three paragraphs from the proposition when submitting it to the membership? When the present National Secretary, to meet what he believed an emergency, proposed last spring a substitute to the National Committee for the two referendums initiated upon the question of national headquarters and composition of the Quorum the substitute was objected to, mostly on the grounds that the National Committee had no right to alter or amend any proposition demanded for referendum. And it would be as dangerous for the National Committee to assume the power to strike out any part as it would be for it to present any comment of its own upon a proposition.

WILLIAM MAILLY, National Secretary.

Editor Iowa Socialist, Dubuque, Iowa. Thus far but little has appeared in the Socialist press relative to the proposed amendment to our national constitution. This is of so much importance that I cannot refrain from saying a word about it for publication. Under the present constitution, national committeemen, so far as voting is concerned, stand in about the same relation to the party membership as United States senators do to the people, except that there are two of the former. No matter what the membership in any state, the committeeman's vote balances the vote of any other committeeman—though one may represent ten or twenty times as many members as the other. This works a disfranchisement of a percentage of the voting power of every state with a membership above the average, and on the other hand, states with a membership below the average are enabled to pad their voting power way out of proportion to membership of such state. Being opposed to both the principles of disfranchisement and "ballot box stuffing," I want to register my protest against the continuation of a system that is foreign to the spirit of democracy. If the Socialist movement stands for anything in party affairs it stands for democratic management and control—not management and control through a representative system which gives to some states ten or twenty or fifty times more voting power in proportion to party membership than some other states.

I happen to have been one of the committee on constitution at the Indianapolis convention, and I well remember that this question of state representation and power in the national committee was one that caused considerable perplexity—to myself, at any rate. I realized that to give each state one vote regardless of party membership would be inequitable and unjust. But with the limitations in every direction which then hampered the movement, just what plan to offer as a substitute was the puzzling question. We were launching upon untried seas, and the only thing we could do was to adopt the plan which seemed best at the time, and trust to the value of experience to improve upon it. We have found from experience that the plan then adopted is foreign to the spirit of democracy—it is a mere copy of the capitalist system of representation—and the time has come when the Socialist movement of America demands the substitution of something better.

I may be something of a crank on the subject of democracy, but unless I am badly mistaken the first great lesson Socialists must learn is the lesson of democracy. We can never have the co-operative commonwealth until we understand how to democratically control party affairs, not to mention industry. So anything that tends towards democratic control in the party ought to be encouraged. But we must learn as we go along and never hesitate to change our system in any respect

whenever it is advisable to do so.

One mistake made by comrades is in thinking of the proposed system of voting in the national committee as "a referendum system." It is not a referendum at all. We are now about to take a referendum vote on a constitutional amendment. If this amendment is adopted then each national committeeman will vote according to the number of members of the party in good standing in the respective states—which will still be a representative system, but a long step nearer the democratic ideal than the present plan of each state having one vote. Wipe out the state lines, and who for an instant would tolerate the present inequitable distribution of voting power? The system which brings into play the proportional voting power in the national committee is far more just than voting by states. And we shall continue to have the safeguard of the general referendum.

One argument I have heard against the proposed change is that if we rely too much upon the membership direct opportunity movements may grow up in different sections, which would compromise the whole movement. We are face to face with that danger now, it seems to me, just as much as we are ever likely to be. The membership must be made to understand its responsibilities, and in no way can this be accomplished so effectively as by placing responsibilities upon it. But this is beside the issue. National committeemen will continue to vote, under the new system, according to their best judgment, just as they do now—unless individual states take a referendum on any given proposition for the purpose of instructing their committeemen. The proposed change affects only the voting power of committeemen. It is a step toward democratic control—in the direction of majority rule—and it is a very lame Socialist movement that can't rely upon the principles of majority rule. When we depart from that we follow in the footsteps of the old parties, and every one knows what that will lead to.

I have faith in the general membership to do the right thing. The alleged "half-baked" in the party evidently are a small minority. The majority is all right. Let us not seek to keep that majority from being heard, or prevent them from acting. Most of the Socialist press is as clear as a bell—let them continue to do their duty and all will be well. The revolutionary press will, I am satisfied, from this time on, largely outnumber the papers with an opportunist tendency. Therein lies our greatest safeguard. I can see no danger ahead from the adoption of the proposed change in the constitution, and it will save us from the rocks and quicksands of opportunism. Let us adopt the amendment "by a unanimous rising vote."

Sincerely yours, F. L. ROBINSON, Louisville, Ky., Dec. 1, 1903.

Debs' Speech

Continued from 1st page.

the quality and effect of an injunction issued by a republican judge and one issued by a democratic judge? (A voice, "The brass molders know it.")

I want all trade unionists of Chicago to take the affairs of their unions into their own hands and make it impossible for the fakir and fraud labor leader to flourish in the labor movement.

They say the Socialists are trying to destroy the labor unions. I like to use plain words: They're. I would enjoy the opportunity of meeting President Gompers or President Mitchell on this platform before this audience, in the presence not of the Socialists, but of their own trade unionists, in discussing this question. They tell you that we propose to destroy the movement. We propose nothing of the kind. We propose to vitalize the movement and make it fulfill its historic mission. We do not propose that Mark Hanna, Archbishop Ireland, or Bishop Potter shall run the trade union movement in the interest of the capitalist class. We propose that the trade union movement shall run itself in the right channel and in the right direction. We do not propose to make a Socialist party of the trade union movement. We simply propose that the trade unions shall recognize the class struggle. We want the trade unions to say, "Yes, our eyes are open. We recognize the fact that here is a mighty struggle in progress between capital on the one hand and the working class upon the other hand. We realize that we must organize, unite and act together; that we must strike when there is no other recourse, levy the boycott and do what we can on the economic field, and every time you engage in a battle of that kind I will guarantee that you can rely upon the support of every Socialist. Two years ago, after they had been telling the trade unions that we Socialists were trying to wipe out the trade union, a street car strike came and a boycott was declared. It was not a great while afterward until the leaders of the Central Labor Union, began to dicker with the capitalists to sell out that strike. In spite of our opposition it was not long until they arranged a settlement, declared the strike off, and left the entire body of union men out of jobs. We, the Socialists, are still walking in the city of Terre Haute, and we are the only ones who are.

You outbatter your oppressors twelve to one. You can not only relieve yourselves from the consequences of this accursed system, you can absolutely abolish it. You can put yourselves in control of the government, take possession of your own and emancipate yourselves from slavery.

The average workmanman is satisfied with so little. Give him a steady job, enough wages to keep his passive soul within his half-dressed body, and he wants to thank somebody. He is looking about for a benefactor. He wants to pass resolutions thanking some politician, some priest, some parasite of some description. I am doing what I can to argue the discontent of the working class, to direct that discontent properly, and give it intelligence, give it solidarity to press forward, and in due time the working class will reach the heights of economic emancipation. I may not live to see it. The Socialist does not stop to consider whether the change is coming next week or next month or next century. He knows that it is coming, that it is inevitable. He has taken his place as a class conscious Socialist, and he never can become anything else. You never

of a man who voted the Socialist ticket last month. If he is not going to vote it next month it is because he never was a Socialist. So we wait and watch and work because our movement is in alliance with the evolutionary forces, and as certain to triumph as that the rivers roll to the sea. It is but a question of time, and we can afford to bide that time.

The Chicago City Railway employees were organized as thoroughly as they can be if they wait a century. But they lost. Why? Because there is a vast body of men always out of work under the capitalist system. It is called the reserve army of capitalism, and can be drawn on at will. If a hundred thousand or two hundred thousand men lay down their tools and give up their employment there are the same number always ready to take their places.

The average workmanman is an abject slave. I would rather be a dog and bay at the moon than to be that kind of a sovereign citizen. I love to think of a sovereign citizen. The term appeals to me strongly. But in the present system 't is a hollow mockery. Think of a sovereign citizen looking for a boss, going to the factory, quivering at the knees, taking off his hat in the presence of a 2 by 4 boss and announcing himself for sale.

Chattel slavery would be impossible in the present development of the capitalist system. Free competitive labor is cheaper than slave labor. The capitalist's responsibility ceases when the wages are paid.

It is said that Socialism is impracticable. Socialism is the only system that is practical. It is the present system that has shown itself impracticable.

I am a Socialist. I am one of several hundred thousand in the United States who absolutely refuse to shoulder a gun at the command of Roosevelt or any other man and shoot down workmen. If he wants any killing of human beings done he will do it himself, so far as I am concerned.

The reason a labor leader is popular to-day and has office and salary is because he is not true to the working class. I do not want Mark Hanna to bear testimony to my efficiency as a labor leader.

SOCIALIST PLATFORM

Adopted at Indianapolis, Ind., 1901.

The Socialist party in national convention assembled, reaffirms its adherence to the principles of International Socialism and declares its aim to be the organization of the working class, and those in 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 capitalist 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 hostile classes—the capitalists and the 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 capitalist the control of the government, the press, the pulpit and the schools, and enables them to reduce the workmen 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 domination 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 democrat, 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 of 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 capitalist 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 consumer.

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 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 government control of public utilities for the purpose of obtaining greater security in the public exploitation of other industries and not for the amelioration of the conditions of the working class.

Directory of Secretaries

Wm. Mailly, National Secretary, 303-304 McCague Building, Omaha, Neb. J. J. Jacobsen, State Secretary, 1129 12th street, Des Moines, Iowa.

Secretaries of Iowa Locals

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Party News

National State Local

National Headquarters Bulletin

Table with 3 columns: National Headquarters, Party, and amounts. Includes entries for Omaha, Neb., Dec. 12, 1933, and various contributions to the National Organization Fund.

in the territory. We hope to secure his services again. Bigelow will close his tour December 22nd in Kansas.

With the approach of the holiday season early all of the organizers who have been for several months working ardently to hasten the coming of the time when "Peace on Earth Good Will to Men" will be something more than a phrase, will return to their homes for a rest before again taking the field against capitalism. That they have earned and deserve a rest no one can gainsay. There are few harder worked men in the Socialist party than those who have been acting as National Organizers. How true this is can be appreciated when it is remembered that the territory worked this year has been almost entirely new, virgin soil, but not barren by any means. The results that are bound to follow will testify to the value of the labor performed more than it is possible to estimate now.

Chas. G. Towner entered Virginia after the election was over in Maryland, and thus broke into new territory. He visited Winchester, Warrenton, Woodstock, Harpersburg, Staunton, Waynesboro, Shenandoah, Luray, Manassas, Warrenton, Culpepper, Charlottesville, Louisa, Richmond, Lynchburg, Pulaski and Middleboro, Ky., closing his tour at the latter place December 2nd. Towner secured many of sympathizers, and subscriptions for Socialist papers en route. He also received a warm reception from the daily press at several places, as a Socialist speaker was a novelty. He reports about Virginia that in no other state that he has visited have things appeared so unfavorable. "The negro is the bogey man that the old party politician is constantly holding up before the working class." Comrade Chappelle writes most enthusiastically of Towner, and declares him the most suitable man for the South that he has seen, without attempting to belittle other organizers who have visited Richmond.

State Secretary Waldhorst, of Alabama, reports the acquittal of Comrade J. L. McGuire on a charge of obstructing the streets. McGuire was arrested last August for addressing a Socialist meeting in Birmingham. The case was tried before a jury in the criminal court of that city on December 3rd, and the jury brought in a verdict of not guilty. The prosecuting attorney brought out an ordinance on kite flying, and another on ash and rubbish barrels in an effort to make a case against McGuire. The judge's charge to the jury contained some sweeping statements, which caused the Socialists' attorney to protest vigorously and make the judge give the vital points of his charge in writing. Comrade Waldhorst says the local Socialists are jubilant, as the acquittal of McGuire establishes their right to the use of the public streets for meeting purposes.

Geo. H. Goebel makes a lengthy report of his work in Texas since November 1, having held meetings as follows: Dallas, Kaufman, Elmo, Saline, Grand Mineola, Alba, Emory, Greenville, Tyler, Chandler, Corsicana, Ennis, Bristol, Ft. Worth, Cleburne, Waco, Houston, Beaumont. At Greenville a lawyer tried to disturb the afternoon meeting, but Goebel gave him the platform and after the lawyer had finished trying to arouse prejudice against Goebel by calling him a "Northern Nigger Lover" and "Man trying to destroy the democratic party" Goebel opened up on him with the result that there was a larger crowd at the night meeting. During a total of fifty-four days in Texas Goebel spoke seventy-one times, organized six locals and took about 200 yearly subscriptions to Socialist papers and put out much other literature at no expense to the party. He writes hopefully of the outlook in Texas. Goebel began in Louisiana November 26th. He will fill dates at Mobile and Birmingham, Ala., Nashville and Knoxville, Tenn., on his homeward trip closing at the latter place, December 17th.

It would require too much space to give a detailed report of the work of the organizers during the past month. The most that can be done is to give a brief summary, and let the imagination of the reader do the rest. It is to be regretted that the organizers' reports to the national office cannot be printed in full, as they make very interesting reading. The letters from comrades at different places visited are also interesting, the feature of these reports being the unanimity of opinion that the particular organizer who had visited that particular place was "the right man in the right place". From November 9th to December 1st, John W. Bennett visited Hecla and Britton, S. D., and Lidgerwood, Fairmont, Waphton, Christine, Fargo, Mapleton, Casselton, Hunter, Larimore, Grand Forks and Buxton, N. D. New locals were organized at Hecla, Hatton and Buxton. A miscarriage of justice caused Bennett to lose several days. From among the many letters of commendation of Bennett's work received the following words from National Committeeman Massey, of North Dakota, are quoted: "Comrade Bennett gave a splendid talk on the Philosophy of Socialism to a crowded house. Everybody present was delighted with the way he handled his subject, and many expressed the wish that he would return in the near future when a larger audience was pledged, although our large hall was filled yesterday, every seat being occupied and many standing. Bennett will close his tour December 22nd."

The municipal elections in Massachusetts on Tuesday, December 8th, resulted in the defeat of the Socialist mayors of Haverhill and Brockton in their candidacy for re-election. In the other cities, Lawrence, Chicopee, Holyoke, Somerville and Worcester, there was a decrease in the number of Socialist votes cast for majority candidates compared with the state election in November 2nd last. In Salem the

Socialist majority candidate polled 1118 votes as against 239 for Chase in November. There was no democratic candidate, the republican polling 4709 votes. In Haverhill, the fight was an open one between capitalism and Socialism. The democrats did not nominate for mayor, but supported the republican candidate in order to defeat Mayor Flanders for re-election. The vote cast was the largest in years, the Socialist receiving 2001 votes against 3273 for the republican candidate. The Socialists also lost their councilmen and only elected an assistant assessor in ward five. The Socialist vote for governor a month ago was 1301. In Brockton, Mayor Coulter was defeated for re-election by 350, polling 3542 votes against the republicans' 3947. The democrats polled 1116 votes, a large falling off. The Socialist vote in the state election was 1928. The election was the most in the history of Brockton, the opponents of Socialism going to the extreme to secure its defeat. Two Socialist aldermen and three councilmen were elected. Mayor Coulter will return to pluming when his term ends and in an interview said: "I am not defeated, and neither is the Socialist party, and we shall not be until the latter has performed its mission and carried on the high principles which it represents."

Smoke "The Iowa Socialist" 5c cigar. Best in the city. Give it a trial.

Iowa Notes

Several state organizations are agitating the question of following in the footsteps of Iowa by increasing the state dues to fifteen cents. Comrades Frederick G. Starickland and I. S. McCrillis, the Iowa organizers, are getting ready for their winter campaign. Send in your applications.

Boone has a special election for alderman for the first ward December 21. The present incumbent, who was elected on the Socialist ticket, has removed to another ward.

President Parry lectured in Marshalltown last Saturday night and advocated "chopping the whole tree of trades unionism down." Wonder how that would affect the conservative limbs?

It seems strange that after all the death blows the party has received the national republican committee should appoint a committee to investigate Socialism. Perhaps the party is a pretty lively corpse, after all.

Comrades John M. Work of Des Moines and John D. Sargent of Correctionville Local have been nominated for national committeeman from Iowa. Referendum ballots have been issued and the returns must be made by January 1, 1934.

The Logan local secretary suspects that a circular is being prepared for Socialists who are not members of the party and fires in a large bunch of eligible material in his county. His suspicions are well founded and more names are wanted. J. J. JACOBSEN, Des Moines.

Comrade Joseph Brucken, secretary of Local Lester, reports renewed activity by the local of his town. He desires the names and addresses of some good German Socialist papers.

MUSCATINE NEWS.

Local Muscatine is making arrangements for an oyster supper, the primary object being a future propaganda fund. Profit, 2 per cent oysters, 88 per cent soup. Fall in boys.

The Sunday afternoon meeting brought out a fair attendance, the feature of the same being an essay by Comrade Lang, entitled, "White Slavery", and dealt with the child labor question of the Southern states. Also an address by Comrade Zetler upon "The Object of Socialism". Comrade Zetler quoted extensively from the "Communist Manifesto", dwelling at length upon the modern phase of the Class Struggle and its inevitable result.

The subject for debate following the business meeting Monday evening, December 7th, was: "Resolved That a Study of the Past History of the Human Race is Necessary to an Understanding of Socialism". The debate was intensely interesting, but would have been more scientific had sentimentalism been left out. The negative brought the Bible into play and through emotionalism carried the decision by working on the hearts of our lady comrades rather than by logic. O. C. WILSON.

Nebraska News

Acting on the advice of Organizer Hyland, a charter has been granted to Local Oakdale.

New locals have been formed at Laurel and Lexington. Charters are being held pending investigation, as is the rule of the state organization, a rule of which every Socialist will approve after reading an account of the Chadron affair. After a thorough investigation and on the withdrawal of two charter members who held office in the democratic party, a charter was granted and Secretary Stanton writes that the work is promising.

Many letters of commendation have been received giving unstinted praise of the speakers sent out by the state lecture bureau. Since Comrade Hyland re-entered the state to speak and organize under the direction of the state committee, we have received many letters which more than justify his selection. An exceptionally good letter was received this week from Secretary Dewey of Local Oakdale. After referring to the Nazarine Carpenter who left his tools to work among the people, Comrade Dewey says: "When you sent Comrade Hyland to us you sent a noble man. He is not a congressman, seeking re-election, nor a judge, who can abrogate laws, nor a political trickster of any kind. We realize that he, too, was a laborer; that his tools were left idle on the bench when he went out into the glorious work, his

heart and mind had so well fitted him to do. He did not come to us with pompous dignity. Self esteem does not overshadow the good qualities of his heart. He is plain. He is posted. He is intelligent. He is a good man." After reading this letter about Comrade Hyland's work, you will be better able to judge of the many slanderous falsehoods that have been carted through the state by a prominent speaker who should have been teaching the scientific principles of our party instead of slandering the party officials and the members of the state quorum and our lecturers.

The state lecture bureau has been instructed to arrange another tour for Comrade McCaffrey. Many letters have been received asking for him to fill return engagements at places visited on his first trip. Among these was a request from Maywood, the place that has been a frequent text for purposes of vilifying the Nebraska state quorum. This only proves that the Socialists of Nebraska prefer scientific discussions of Socialism to political buncombe, reason to campaign oratory, intelligent and progressive action, to blustering and spluttering anarchy, the teacher who works with the party organization to and instead of the free lance who would rather work with corrupt political bootlers than with the regular party organizer. Time will continue to vindicate the Socialists all over Nebraska who have waged a constant and successful warfare against every effort at disruption. The "strike at the ballot box" idol is giving away to an educational campaign which must necessarily end in a better and more solid organization, one that will put the party in fit condition to withstand the attacks of the capitalist class. J. P. ROE.

For Christmas Cigars, Pipes and Tobacco, go to L. SCHUSTER, 1961 Coulter avenue.

Colorado Notes

A Local of ten members has been organized at Loveland. P. L. Case is secretary.

A Local of six members has been organized at Rend, Delta County, by State Committeeman Wm. Ash. Mr. Frank Lemaster is secretary.

At the Charter election in Denver December 8th the Socialist ticket polled 814 votes; a gain of 215 since the state election of one month ago.

Local Denver has initiated a movement to hold a monster "meeting or protest" in the Coliseum in the near future. The various labor organizations of the city have been invited to participate and the most of them will co-operate actively. The object of the meeting will be to protest against the outrages which are being committed against workmen in Colorado by the mine owners and employers of labor through their plant tools, Gov. Peabody, Adjt. Gen. Sherman Bell, and the underlings of the tin horn brigade, alias the Colorado National Guard. It is expected that there will be an outpouring of the people that will pack the large hall to the doors. The date has not yet been definitely announced. Fraternally, J. W. MARTIN.

Local Notes

Chew Sterling Navy Plug tobacco.

Local Notes

Comrade Chas. W. Miller of Bloomington, orders a bundle of No. 63.

Comrade Jacobson says the Iowa Socialist is improving all the time.

Comrade James Oneal, of Indiana, writes: "You are certainly getting on a good paper and I trust it will meet with the success it merits."

Comrade D. S. Cameron was the speaker at last week's meeting of Local Dubuque. His subject was "Money," and he handled it in an interesting manner.

May McDonald Strickland, who has just finished a course in the "Ott School of Expression" of Chicago, will give a reading at Temple hall Monday evening, Dec. 21, on the occasion of the lecture by Frederick G. Strickland.

Comrade John Collins, of Chicago, spoke at East Dubuque on the evenings of the 15th and 16th at the City Hall. A number of Dubuque comrades went over on the 16th and listened to an able address on the class struggle by Comrade Collins. Comrade Carrie Johnson also made a short speech on the necessity of getting the women interested in the movement.

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