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The Tariff and Socialism

Prof. Thos. E. Will

(Abstract of public address by Prof. Thos. Elmer Will in rooms of American Socialist College, Wichita, Kansas.)

The tariff is a hoary theme. It deserves to rest in peace, but capitalism disturbs its slumbers.

England is convulsed with a battle of the giants on the tariff subject. American democrats seem preparing to drag forth this venerable topic from its closet, dust it off and make it a "paramount issue." Republicans are always glad to explain to workmen how they have protected them and propose continuing to do so.

Let us note some of the relations of the tariff to Socialism.

The progress of the race is toward freedom, in thought, speech, publication and action. "The parliament of man, the federation of the world" is ahead of us. When it arrives the fences will fall.

Meanwhile one group of capitalists is interested in maintaining and elevating, another is interested in leveling the tariff wall.

Tariffites argue that free trade means commercial dependence which, in the event of war, will mean disaster to the dependent; that our industries should be diversified and that to this end "the infants," must be protected.

Again, we may compel the hated foreigner to pay our taxes. Since he wants us to lower the fence we must keep it up on the principle of doing what he opposes.

We must maintain our home market and protect our home labor against the pauper labor of Europe.

Finally, the tariff system works. Theory is specious, but facts are stubborn. The facts show that protection has been accompanied by prosperity. The tariff provides employment for American labor, i. e., it makes work.

Replying, we may say that if commercial relations hinder war we should cultivate them; that to assume that industries will not become diversified without surrounding the country with a tariff fence, is like assuming that a wood will not develop a diversified flora without being surrounded by a palisade; that our "infants" seem to have drunk of Ponce de Leon's famous fountain and become endowed with eternal youth; that asserting that we can compel the foreigner to pay our tariff taxes is conceding that the tariff is a tax; that the "enemies" of the American worker are not the foreign toiling brethren, but those of

our own household, the American capitalists who own and control the country; that the present system instead of protecting the home market is destroying it and sending home products to seek foreign markets; that "our" industries are "ours" for the workingman while he develops them and votes for his masters, but "mine" for the capitalist when the laborer wants a modest share of their benefits; that if the tariff is to be credited with our prosperity it must also be charged with our adversity; that prosperity is a purely class affair, the laborer's share being a cold dinner eaten out of a tin pail, and that, to confess that work must be "made" while stomachs are empty, backs bare and heads roofless, while fields call, "come and till us," harvests cry, "Come and reap us," mines plead, "Come and exploit us," and forests sing, "Come and fell us," and while labor stands workless in the market place, is to confess the insanity of the present system.

The hypocrisy of the protectionist is shown by his importing the foreign pauper to take the work from the American working man, by his exporting his factory to be operated by the foreign pauper in a foreign land, and by the relentless effort to crush the trades union, the only institution ever actually established which really protects the worker.

But democratic free trade is as vain for the worker as is republican protection; witness the condition of the working class in revenue-tariff England, and the high tariff legislation of the last Cleveland administration, installed after a campaign against "republican protection, the culminating atrocity of class legislation."

To the laboring man, the tariff issue, by whichever side presented, is as barren as the east wind, as empty as the apples of Sodom. If he would enjoy protection he must win it for himself. Trades unions will help those inside them, but they will not solve the problem even for these. The workman must use the ballot in his own behalf. He must make the industries of America "ours" in fact and not in name only. He must wrestle from industrial lords their control of his means of life; he must see to it that those who "own the United States" are the whole people of the United States; and he must see the government of the people for the people and by the people does not perish from the earth.

Nose Meters

H. C. Moore

Is there any limit to the field of invention? Wonderful ones are of almost daily occurrence. Besides useful ones there are tricks and schemes of politicians and spellbinders and of financiers.

How to transfer wealth from another's pocket into our own, has very recently been shown in a striking manner by one of our great captains of industry, that throws the gold brick man entirely into the shadow. Is there ever to be an end to this great game, or can the grabbers and exploiters perfect and get a patent on a continuance to monopolize the air we breathe. From what the inventor has recently done we need not be surprised at the issue of a patent for a nose meter to measure the air we breathe and pay tax thereon for the support of government, the wearing thereof made compulsory by law. How much inferior to this nose bag meter is the cinch of Rockefeller on the oil we use, to Carnegie's and Morgan's cinch on armor plates and steel, and last, but not least, to the bank-

ers' cinch on currency. That, which is the life blood of commerce down to the pound of coffee or plug of tobacco you use, is as effectually cornered by the financier as would the nose bag meter corner the air. Cartoonists take note. Give us one with the meter applied, and the collector taking tax.

Politicians harp on harmony between capital and labor, that their interests are the same; that policies that benefit one, also benefit the other, and place especial stress upon the ills and danger of class distinction; in fact that was made one of the leading topics in an extended tour of President Roosevelt, who not entirely ignoring the fact, but tacitly admitting it—that class distinctions did exist, and exerted all the power of logic he could command to prevent its spread. As a defender of our present economic system, and the policies of the party he heads, he acted consistently. Its supremacy depends entirely in keeping us ignorant of, or completely bewildered as to the real conditions facing us. He, and the great captains of

industry, like Hanna, Morgan and Rockefeller know well that when the toilers of our country become completely conscious of the selfish motives at the bottom of their efforts, their control will abruptly end.

Class distinction—indeed! Do we need better evidence of its existence than the banding together of labor in unions to secure their rights and protect themselves from capitalistic encroachments? And stronger still the united efforts of these exploiters to barricade themselves in possession of the strongholds they now occupy?

The sooner we become conscious that an irrepressible conflict is on hand—one that admits of no dodging—the sooner shall we have that harmony we struggle for, and that our opponents pretend to want. The harmony they desire is for the laborer to submit and bend his back to their burdens. What we want, is that all may stand up erect, as they were made in the image of their Creator.

Socialist Fundamentals

We will venture to set forth in a series of postulates these fundamental principles, which are universally ignored, in the hope that if this comes across the vision of some scholastic observer he need be no longer compelled to plead ignorance on these points.

1. Social institutions are determined by the method of producing and distributing economic goods.
2. Each economic system brings into the position of social ruler the possessors of the economic essentials of that system.
3. Improvements in the methods of production constantly make new things essential economically and thus create a new class of social rulers who secure their domination only after a struggle with the previous ruling class. This is the method of social progress.
4. The present system has placed the owners of capital in a position of social control and they are using that control to advance their own interests.
5. Improvements in the method of production have now reached a stage where the capitalist class is less essential to social progress than the laboring class and hence the latter is struggling to displace the former with the certainty of victory.
6. The social system corresponding to laboring class domin-

ation of the industrial system of to-day and of the probable future will have as its distinctive feature common ownership of the instruments for the production and distribution of wealth.

These are a series of simple assertions, easily understood and with no equivocation. yet we believe that 90 per cent of the literature of Socialism consists of elaborations and proofs of these. While many Socialists would disagree with the form in which they are stated and they have probably been much better stated elsewhere especially in the Manifesto itself, yet few Socialists but would agree that they contain the essentials of the Socialist philosophy. Still one might search the hundreds and thousands of volumes that have been written by the opponents and critics of Socialism in vain to find any reference to them.

They are much more easily understood than the labor value theory or any fantastic theories of a future society. Why do not the Scholastic critics of Socialism "expose their fallacy" if they are fallacious? If they do not do so are not Socialists justified in their belief that it is because those propositions are irrefutable?—A. M. Simons, in "The Socialist Review."

Thoughts With the Hulls On

E. T. Anderson

"Everything comes to the man who waits"

Even the sheriff of his chattels partakes,
Enough of these waits, my Socialist mates,
Let's upset procrastination and defy the fates.

Thousands of people were fed by the Salvation Army on Christmas Day—apparently a full meal once a year is enough for some folks.

You have the franchise brother, think well before you use it to further enslave yourself to the present capitalistic system. If you are satisfied with a bare existence then vote either of the old party tickets, but if you want equal opportunity, politically, and industrially, vote the Socialist ticket.

A good physician traces most of the ills of the human animal to bad blood. Consequently he wastes no valuable time in dosing effects but jumps onto the cause

The army of workers is shrinking while the army of unemployed grows correspondingly larger.—Ohio Socialist.

The courts seem to be slot machines into which the corporations put a nickle and draw out a decision.—Appeal to Reason.

It is to be observed that the people who talk so eloquently about "the dignity of labor," and "the blessings of poverty," are generally people who live in lux-

with both pedal extremities. You Socialists could doctor the body politic the same way, but the old partyite is blissfully satisfied to patch up effects.

Chicago—represented by a powerful figure of a good-looking female, on whose breast appears the words, "I Will," could now be depicted by a tearful, drooping figure on whose shrunken breast should be the words, "I wail." The "I will" means "I will" do anything for profit even to the snuffing out of nearly six hundred lives.

To those who are declaring so vehemently that we should not try and disturb the existing system I would ask but one question and that is "Are the majority of the people in affluence or wretchedness under this regime?" There is no man so dishonest but that he will admit the greater number are in want of the smallest luxuries of life as well as most the necessities. We stand for a system that guarantees EACH, all of the necessities and luxuries of life. Socialism courts the most rigid investigation.

ury without doing any useful work.—The Hammer.

"Is this a Christian civilization?" asks a Socialist writer. Of course it is. Did you ever hear of savages starving themselves because there was too much food?—Eric People.

It is easy now to see that Russia and Japan are about to fight over the Chinese market, but if the United States is drawn into the scrap, it will be for nothing less than the "cause of humanity, progress and civilization."—Eric People.

A Socialist Speakers Union

In the touring of Party speakers "State autonomy" is a failure. The multitude of plans in state work is not the objection. The comrades of a state can best work out the plans adapted to that particular state. The speaker can easily adapt himself to any good plan.

But the insurmountable difficulty is the competition among the speakers themselves. The national, state and city organizations stand as employers in the case; the organizers and lecturers as employees. We are still under capitalism and this relationship is unavoidable. But the speakers have not established a Union and must now work under the disadvantages of all unorganized employees. In the plain, unvarnished vernacular, they are forced to scab.

The spirit of the movement itself has alone prevented bad results. But the conditions must be changed speedily or the bad results will come. There must soon be established a "Socialist Speakers' Union."

We have the nucleus for this already in the Labor Lecture Bureau of the national organization. But in order that it perform the functions of a Speakers' Union the following changes in its administration must be effected:

1. Its membership should include all the traveling speakers of the party. Interstate speakers

should be elected by the national committee. State speakers should be elected by their respective states and such election should be final.

2. All the traveling speakers of the party should carry the same credentials (exactly as a Union card).
3. A minimum wage, not a maximum wage, should be established.

The above suggestions are made not for the healing of a trouble but for the correction of a tendency. If our speakers are left to compete, the national against the state and the state against all the others, the time will come when, under non-union conditions, our experienced workers will be crowded out. Already in some localities, the unmarried man is given the preference.

It will be perfectly in order for a state or city to employ a speaker on their own account, but they ought to employ a "Union" man who carries his "card," and at least the "union scale" ought to be paid. Otherwise the private lecture bureau will again appear on the scene, to meet the demand for higher grade work, as the standard of party work degenerates.

We have heard that the "grafter must go." Let it also be said that scabbing or the possibility of scabbing, must go.

Fred B. G. Strickland

How Capitalism Works

"The Rich don't seem to make anything. What is it they save?" asked Hodge of Professor Status Quo.

"Well, for one thing," said the Professor, "they save you from the temptations of riches. The poor we have always with us—to do our dirty work."

"Then it's our money they save?" said Hodge.

"Well, yes; of course, in a sense," said Professor Quo; "It is reward of their abstinence from consuming what you produce—their save out of the interest on their investments."

"What are investments?" asked Hodge.

"Why, land and stocks and

bonds, railroads and factories and street cars, and mines, such as you work in."

"But," said Hodge, "I work hard and yet have little to spend and nothing to invest."

"Yes; but you work only with your hands. They work with their brains, organizing labor."

"Organizing labor! What's labor?" said Hodge.

"Labor," said the Professor, "is you and your friends. They organize you—the lower classes."

"Yes," persisted Hodge, "but what do they do? Do they invent or do they write books? If they don't work on things, or work the land, what do they work?"

"Why, you Dunderhead," said the Professor, "they work you." —Bolton Hall.

Zephyrs From Olympus

Lip-service is naught, for all real homage is "in spirit and in truth." —Henry Wood.

This is indeed a time when right education is, as nearly as may be, impossible. —Carlyle.

The way to speak and write what shall not go out of fashion, is to speak and write sincerely. —Emerson.

Society is barbarous until every industrious man can get his living without dishonest customs. —Emerson.

The self, harmonized by Union, seeth the Self abiding in all beings, all beings in the Self; everywhere he seeth the same.—Bhagavad Gita.

Pity and need
Make all flesh kin. There is no caste in blood,
Which runneth of one hue, nor caste in tears,
Which trickle salt with all.
—Light of Asia.

It is time for YOU to assert the dignity of human labor. I do not object to a man saying "sir" to his equal, or to an elder, but I do ob-

ject to his saying "sir" to broadcloth, or to a balance at the bank. —Carpenter.

Gullible, however, by fit apparatus, all publics are; and gulled, with the most surprising profit. —Carlyle.

Whimpering and truckling fold with powder for invalids, conformity goes to the fourth—removed,
I wear my hat as I please indoors or out.
—Walt. Whitman.

Is it not obvious that the poverty of the mass of the people stands in direct relationship to the wealth of the money-lending classes, that they are the two opposite sides or faces, in fact, of the same thing. —Carpenter.

A thousand lives and deaths—the days and nights
Of being—pays we in our outward way;
Until we see, beyond the farthest heights,
The sweeter dawning of the perfect day,
Where love is light; where beauty truth and good
Are endless, boundless—the Beatitude.
—J. A. Edgerton.

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WHERE DO WOMEN BELONG?

This thing of using one's thinking apparatus is a risky business. We get started on a train of thought and never can be certain of our destination, till we have arrived. Sometimes we travel by slow freight, at others by lightning express.

It is quite apparent that most women are traveling by slow freight in this thinking business, and if they only knew it, it is to their interest to board the lightning express, or they will find themselves most woefully left behind.

Women have been classed with "minors, Indians, paupers, and idiots" about long enough; yet there seems to be many women who like that classification; and so long as they are satisfied with their company, that is the place they belong; only in such cases it seems hardly necessary when running over the list of non-voters, to add them to the list—they might as well be grouped with the other idiots, for it is evident they either do not or can not think—have no brain capacity.

Meanwhile the "lords of creation" are preparing to teach their slow-thinking sisters a much-needed lesson. In fact, whoever has even a miniature brain will be able to extract several lessons from the following item taken from a daily paper:

Des Moines, Ia., Jan. 8.—"No women employes of the legislature" is the slogan of a part, at least, of the members of that body and an idea that will be pushed during the coming session. Several years ago a similar move was inaugurated and last year the ban extended to the pages.

It was declared by all members to be very much better than under the old system by which there were girls for pages, as well as boys. Now it is proposed to put the ban on women for clerks and engrossing clerks and for clerks and similar positions. The claim is made that in every way the men would be superior to the women in these positions and that many arguments can be advanced why men should have the positions.

"The plain and practical view of the matter," said one member of the house, "is that these are political positions and they should go to the voters of the party. The plums to be given out are the persons on whom the party must depend in the future for its strength should be favored. I know this is a cold-blooded and unsentimental view of the matter, but politics is not a matter of sentiment, and political parties are neither built nor maintained without the exercise of common sense above all else. A young man comes here and holds a position for the winter and he naturally absorbs a vast amount of information as to the workings of the affairs of state, and when he reaches the voting age this is all useful to him and forms a part of the training which fits him for party leadership in the state and good citizenship. It is not so with the girls who are given positions. In this view our present plan is all wrong. And beyond this it is well known to every member that occasions arise when it is extremely embarrassing to have the clerical work in the hands of women and girls."

The matter of shutting out women from all positions is receiving serious consideration among the members, who do not happen to have candidates for places. It may assume considerable proportions and ripen into something effective. Now you have the situation plainly stated. It is the same old story—the class in power looking to every means to keep in power. As Bebel says: "Women have as little to hope from men as workmen from the middle classes."

In the first place, why should either girls or boys act as pages? The best and only proper place for girls and boys is in school. It is strange that there is any one in this day and age who can not grasp that point. If the claim that "men would be superior to women in these positions" can be substantiated, then by all means let the change be made. Woman must prove her right to every place she holds by ability to do the work; but let man also be submitted to the same test. But the key to the situation does not turn on the question of ability, as this "one member of the house" has plainly stated. These "political plums" must be given to the voters, and as women as well as other idiots cannot vote, they must not expect to hold any of the appointive government offices. The working woman as well as the working man must fight her own battles, and look out for her own interests. There is no woman who has not some influence; to a large extent woman molds public opinion; it is in her power to change this condition, if she only will do it.

The head of the woman suffragist movement has recently said some more things about "women purifying politics." The situation in Colorado and other states where woman has the franchise proves that she does not have that effect.

The truth of the matter is that woman—or any other factor—can never purify democratic or republican politics. These parties are run for boodle in the interest of profit, and the only way to purify them is by the extinction process. Industrially, woman belongs in any office or position which she can fill with credit to herself. All limitations—except the limitation of her own ability—must be removed from her path.

If there are occasions when it is "embarrassing" to have women and girls in our legislative halls and offices, it is time the people knew it, and understood the whys and wherefores. When a legislator makes such an admission, he brands himself as in need of an investigation.

Politically, she belongs in the ranks of the Socialist party—the only party whose door is open to her; the only party that recognizes equality before the law; the only party that stands for her interests; the only party that can or will bring a ouster from emancipation.

There's a good time coming, sisters, wake up to your interest and help in the great battle for industrial freedom for yourself and your families! Come into the Socialist party where you belong and see these modern Socialists at Des Moines play their game of political-power for a little longer; they see their doom, and that is why they are trying in every way imaginable to secure their position.

They cannot do it. The fiat has gone forth—we the people are coming to take possession of our own. Yet a little longer and we will all leave the old freight train, and on the lightning express of Socialist philosophy we will arrive at our next destination, the Co-operative Commonwealth.

Thus far we have not heard of any "petitions of protest" being forwarded to the czar of Russia ancient the situation in Colorado. There can be no real opportunity for anyone so long as there is not equal opportunity for every one.

A trust is a small body of capitalists entirely surrounded by a large body of propertyless workmen.

Nothing seems to disturb the present "powers that be" so much as a little class-conscious voting on the part of the working men. Here is a wail from one of our daily papers: "The labor unions are becoming aggressive in politics at Marshalltown. Last fall they carried the park tax proposition and next March they will have a candidate for park commissioner, the president of the Trades and Labor assembly. The commission will locate the park. The question of location is not a class question and no reason why any class should vote as a unit on it is visible to the naked eye." It is sometimes difficult to become reconciled to the inevitable, especially when the inevitable is not tending in our direction. The workmen are gradually waking up to the fact that they must stand together on election day, or it will do no good to stand together at any other time. This is a lesson that the capitalist class has been teaching them, but the workers are slow to learn. There is no reason at any time why the working people should not vote as a unit, and every reason why they should. The capitalist class votes as a unit always; it votes for its own interests; it votes for the continuation of the present industrial system under which they are able to exploit the ones who produce all wealth. This system will continue in the interest of the capitalist class until such time as the working class shall have learned that it has nothing to hope from present law makers and law breakers; that its interest is on the other side of the political fence, and votes accordingly. The workers must vote to put men from their own ranks in national and state legislatures and in city councils. Only representatives from his own class will make laws in his interest. And why should not labor unions "become aggressive in politics" and "vote as a unit" on the location of a park? Too often parks are located where they are quite inaccessible to the working people. The majority of the workers of the world live in the most undesirable parts of the city, the larger the city the more miserable the surroundings. It is only when they are able to escape occasionally to some park that they get a bit of sunshine and fresh air. The location of a park may mean much to the workers and their families, and there is nothing strange in the fact that they sometimes realize this and "vote as a unit" in the matter. It is a hopeful indication; it is one of the signs of the times; it shows what the Socialist has long foreseen—the final unity of the working class at the ballot box.

CLASS VOTING.

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The Rockfall Woolen Company, of Rockville, Conn., is run on the profit-sharing plan. \$1,150 has just been distributed among its 300 employes, divided according to term of service. The largest amount received by any one employe was \$5.00 and the smallest fourteen cents. President Merriam of the company says the policy has caused a saving of over ten per cent in labor and removed all friction between employers and workmen. Verily, profit-sharing is a good thing for the boss. To the employe it is worth from fourteen to five hundred cents per year, according to the term of his slavery.

The Iroquois theatre fire appears to have dazed the editor of the Chicago Chronicle so badly that he forgot all about blaming the Socialists for it. Up to the present time, also, he has not charged the ghouls who were caught robbing the dead with being Socialists or union men.

A trust is a small body of capitalists entirely surrounded by a large body of propertyless workmen.

Capitalists don't want politics in the unions, but they haven't any objections to union leaders going into politics—capitalist politics.

It is all right for Mark Hanna to "stand pat" with his "royal flush," but how about you workmen with your "four flushes?"

Capitalists of all countries unite—you have everything to lose but brains; you have jobs to gain.

Socialism will not destroy anything in place of which it will not substitute something better.

It is naturally to be expected that voting "steek" will eventually land in "bull pens."

Wage reductions, like strikes we presume, are also "ear marks of prosperity."

Capitalism, having outlived its usefulness, is no longer fitted to survive.

Eternal slavery in the price of the full dinner pail.

Carnegie seems to be very much alarmed lest some of his wage slaves disgrace themselves by dying rich. Thousands of men in the Carnegie mills have had their wages "readjusted" (downwards) from five to forty per cent. Andy's unselfish (?) and loving devotion to the welfare and good repute of his "partners in industry" ought to inspire an emotion of reverence in a cigar store Indian.

Hearst says "it is the duty of the democratic party to ally itself with the legitimate business interests of the country, and, with their aid, to overthrow the republican party, which has sold itself to the criminal trusts." It would be interesting to know what difference it can make to the workingman whether he is robbed by "legitimate" or "criminal" methods.

Parry's emphatic pronouncement to that the workers shall not rule this country is a flat admission that they are not ruling it now, although it is supposed to be ruled by the majority, which is constituted of workers.

Although Parry would like to smash the labor unions, it is noticeable that he doesn't advise them to adopt Socialism, which some good union men believe would bring about such a result.

All wealth is the product of labor, but all labor does not produce wealth. Labor that merely appropriates the wealth of others, no matter how strenuous, is not productive, and therefore useless.

If a two-by-four shanty is a "home" it is highly probable that Socialism will destroy a few. And if a palace where love never enters is a "home," it may also play havoc with a few of that kind.

"It's a poor rule that won't work both ways." The rules (laws) of capitalism work only in the interest of the capitalist class, and therefore are poor rules and ought to be abolished.

The most effective boycott is that which boycotts the candidate of another class than your own at the ballot box. Don't vote for anybody who hasn't your class label.

Sam Gompers says it is "better to resist (wage reductions) and to lose than not to resist at all." But it is still better to resist where there is no possibility of losing.

"I am a Christian Socialist, but I am not a secular Socialist," says the Rev. Dr. Henry Irving Rasmus, of Chicago. Wonder if he isn't a "secular" Christian.

The people who howl loudest about no incentive to work under Socialism are usually those who seemingly have also found none under the present system.

A plan of battle which leaves your base of supplies in the hands of the enemy is also prima facie evidence of economic, strategic and mental "unsoundness."

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National Committee

National Headquarters, Socialist Party, Omaha, Neb., Jan. 7, 1904. To the National Committee, Socialist Party: Comrades:—Herewith is submitted report of your committee upon motions submitted December 14, 1903, the vote upon which closed January 4, 1904:

MOTION NO. 1. By Lovett, South Dakota:—(Acting upon report of Quorum meeting):

"In regard to the resolutions providing for the establishment of a reserve list of national organizers, I move that the following be stricken out as it appears in paragraph 2 of said resolutions, 'but no applicant shall be deemed acceptable for the reserve list until he or she has received the endorsement of the State Committee of the state wherein the applicant resides.'"

Yes—Floaten, Colo.; Goebel, N. J.; Massey, N. D.; Lovett, S. D. Total, 4.

No—Richardson, Calif.; White, Conn.; Healey, Fla.; Berlyn, Ill.; Reynolds, Ind.; Work, Ia.; Dobbs, Ky.; Carey, Mass.; Turner, Mo.; Fox, Mont.; Christenson, Neb.; Clafin, N. H.; Hillquit, N. Y.; Critchlow, Ohio; Halbrook, Okla.; Barnes, Pa.; Kerrigan, Texas; Boomer, Washington; Berger, Wis. Total, 19.

Not Voting—Mills, Kan.; Fox, Maine. Total, 2. The motion was therefore defeated by a vote of 19 to 4.

COMMENT.

Richardson, California:—"Under the rules that now govern the appointment of National Organizer, I feel compelled to vote against Comrade Lovett's motion. It is evident that this question of National Organizers has in it the seed of discord. In addition to the honor, distinction and responsibility that naturally attaches to such a commission, that necessary and proper appendage of \$3.00 per day and expenses is not an ordinary tail to an ordinary kite. It is worth going after and to me there is nothing surprising in the comment of our National Secretary. 'He has many applicants; he will have many more.'"

"Some more satisfactory method for their appointment must be devised and it must be such a method as will not subject the National Secretary to criticism—a method that will relieve him of responsibility in the matter."

"I think that an applicant should come properly recommended; but to permit a few men to debar an applicant because they chance to constitute the local quorum or state committee of a certain state, by refusing endorsement from a similar body in from one to twenty other states, is, to say the least, attaching importance to state boundaries that is devoid of the Socialist spirit. No, we must move on broader lines. Let us let the matter rest until our National Committee and National Convention meets again."

Berlyn, Illinois:—(Voting No.): "Because I consider it the duty of the National Committee and Quorum to obey the constitution, which guarantees state autonomy, and prevents the national office from sending into a state any one not in harmony with our state organization. The free lance is not controlled by the office. He makes his own dates and pays himself."

Reynolds, Ind.:—(Voting No): "I speak for myself as a comrade to Comrade Lovett, and say that my vote was made upon a careful examination of all the facts relative to appointments of organizers and the suggestion that there was some insidious working by the Omaha Local, etc., injected into the resolution will be recalled by Comrade Lovett. If the actions of the Quorum on this or any other question does not commend itself to Comrade Lovett or other comrades, the Quorum, I am sure will be thankful for criticisms and suggestions to amend their action, but when doing our whole duty for the good of the great cause, such a motion as No. 1 should be withdrawn and not sent to the comrades to discredit the integrity as well as the good sense of the comrades composing the Quorum."

Richardson, Calif.:—(Voting Yes): "Personally I did not see much that was objectionable in National Referendum B, but perhaps that was because I live in and at present represent a state that has a large membership. We do not always realize what influence or elements of our environment most affect us. But be this as it may, I now plainly see that the

ment of Comrade Hyland—because a man's views on tactics should not be allowed to stand in the way of his appointment as Organizer unless the tactics referred to are such as the party as a whole has spoken definitely on. Socialists are human beings with as many prejudices, etc., as most other people. Who will deny that even Karl Marx himself would find it impossible to get the endorsement of most state committees if his views on tactics were not in harmony with those of the majority of the state committee of the state in which he resided, although perhaps his views on the disputed questions might be those of every other state. We want no De Leonism and cannot be too careful to avoid even the slightest approach to it. A National Organizer should be appointed solely for his ability to serve the Party and no risk should be taken of the ability of some comrade being lost to the cause because active work in his own state may have made him some personal enemies there."

Massey, N. D.:—(Voting Yes): "I vote to strike out this clause because it appears to be a direct thrust at Comrade Thompson, whether so intended or not, and as he is demonstrating that he is the peer of any organizer in the field, it should not apply to him."

Critchlow, Ohio:—(Voting No): "Some system must be pursued, and while the present one is not perfect, yet it seems better than the previous method."

Lovett, S. D.:—(Voting Yes): "In voting 'Yes' on this motion I desire to state that the contention of the Quorum and yourself relating to this appointment is correct as a general rule. But there are exceptions to all rules and in this particular I am prepared to say that if the Omaha Local Quorum had proved its charges against Comrade Thompson, or had brought a single authenticated witness to prove that he had been guilty of any wrong doing, I would have been one of the first to have condemned him. But in this they have failed miserably, and their last communication on this matter proves conclusively to my mind that they are mired in their own 'mud-slinging.' As the matter now stands, to my mind the National Committee ought to give no more credence to the attacks and criticisms of the Omaha Local than they did to the statements of the Utah Local Quorum in the Edler controversy, except to reprimand the Omaha aggregation for making an unwarranted and malicious attack on certain individuals, whose only crime has been a desire to see the work of Socialism pushed energetically in all sections of the country alike. Is it the purpose of the Omaha aggregation and its ally, the Seattle Socialist, to place a ban on all 'intellectuals' and not admit them into membership of the party. If that is their purpose, they had better be in at home and do some tall cleaning house. In fact their work would necessarily extend throughout the country, and many of our leading Socialists and best workers, and for whom the writer has the most profound admiration and respect would be subjected to expulsion from the movement. I will not be a party to any such high-handed performance."

MOTION NO. 2.

By Massey of North Dakota:—"Moved that 'Referendum B' amending Section 1, Article 2 of the national constitution be declared out of order, as it conflicts with Section 2 Article 9, and therefore no vote can be recorded on same."

Yes—Richardson, Calif.; Floaten, Colo.; Healey, Fla.; Fox, Mont.; Goebel, N. J.; Massey, S. D.; Critchlow, Ohio; Lovett, S. D.; Kerrigan, Texas. Total, 9.

No—White, Conn.; Berlyn, Ill.; Work, Iowa; Dobbs, Ky.; Carey, Mass.; Turner, Mo.; Christenson, Neb.; Hillquit, N. Y.; Halbrook, Okla.; Barnes, Pa.; Boomer, Wash.; Berger, Wis. Total, 12.

Not Voting—Reynolds, Ind.; Mills, Kan.; Fox, Me.; Clafin, N. H. Total, 4.

The motion is therefore defeated by a vote of 12 to 9.

COMMENT.

Richardson, Calif.:—(Voting Yes): "Personally I did not see much that was objectionable in National Referendum B, but perhaps that was because I live in and at present represent a state that has a large membership. We do not always realize what influence or elements of our environment most affect us. But be this as it may, I now plainly see that the

'Whereases' are growing and will continue to grow more lengthy and numerous. And it is certainly evident that they are 'comments' and as such nullify a part of our National Constitution. While our law exists, let us live up to it. If it is wrong, right it."

"Of course the National Secretary is in no way to blame for submitting these motions as made. I hold that to be his duty. He is a secretary, not a chairman with authority to decide on fine points of order. That is purely a function of the committee or finally of the body of organized Socialists."

Healey, Fla.:—"In voting Yes on Comrade Massey's Motion, I desire to explain that the confusion in the affairs of the Florida State office made it impossible for me to attend to the National Committee business at that time."

"I do not remember having seen this referendum (B) until the ballots were sent out. I am very sure that the 'Whereases' prefixed to Referendum B, were put there as an argument for the 'Resolution.' Therefore they are comments and in my judgment violate Article 9, Section 2, of the National constitution."

Two of our locals have voted on the Referendum (under protest) making this same objection of comment, and have also objected that if this resolution became law it would disfranchise any state having a minority of 100 members. This would be out of harmony with Article 6, Section 2, which makes the minimum membership of a state organization 20, viz., 4 locals of 5 members."

"The wording of the resolution should be changed so as to read something like this, after committee read, 'Shall have one vote up to 100 members of his state and one vote for each additional 100 or majority fraction thereof.' And be submitted without comment."

Clafin, N. H.:—"I do not vote on 'No. 2' as I have not the Constitution at hand at this moment and presume that the committeemen who make the necessary investigation will have no difficulty in settling the question. It occurs to me that such questions could be safely left to the judgment of our National Secretary, in which case a motion could be declared out of order or constitutional on parliamentary grounds before going to a vote of the Committee in the first place. If a majority of the Quorum sustained the Secretary, this would save needless work."

Goebel, N. J.:—"On Motion 2, made by Comrade Massey, I vote Yes, as I consider Referendum B a gross violation of Socialist law and precedent, and as well calculated to give suspicious minded comrades the thought that questionable purposes were being attempted. I do not agree with the National Secretary at all in the position taken in his explanation sent out as to his reason in submitting the Referendum as proposed. And feel he had not looked at the matter in the proper light. He is in the position of a member of a body temporarily called to the chair as presiding officer—it is his duty of course to submit for a vote motions offered. But what presiding officer knowing his duties of his office will submit a motion unless it be in order and properly presented? This Referendum was worded in an unconstitutional way, and the duty of the National office was to return the motion to those locals calling for its submission, directing their attention to the unconstitutional form in which it was presented and asking that it be changed to conform to the law. And that a vote has been or is now being taken does not alter these facts. I wish to state publicly that I did not receive the form of Referendum as member of the National Committee, and had no knowledge of the wording until hearing it read in a local in Louisiana. In justice to the National office I want to say the reason I did not receive it in advance was doubtless due to the manner in which my mail had to follow me. But if I am correctly informed only eight committeemen voted on this matter, indicating either lack of interest or understanding as to the matter. And I think the latter the case. I desire my comments on this motion sent out to the committee in full, as I want it clearly understood that I in no way was sponsor to what I regard as a dangerous precedent, the end of which no one can foresee."

Critchlow, Ohio:—(Voting Yes): "Since point is brought, I can see our mistake in allowing the 'whereases' to go out. We must rectify it in the best manner possible now."

MOTION NO. 3.

By Reynolds, Indiana:—"Resolved that the national convention be held in the city of Indian-

apolis, Ind., June 15, 1904."

Yes—White, Conn.; Reynolds, Ind.; Critchlow, Ohio. Total, 3. No—Richardson, Calif.; Floaten, Colo.; Healey, Fla.; Berlyn, motion closed with the result that the National Committee voted Ill.; Work, Iowa; Dobbs, Ky.; Turner, Mo.; Fox, Mont.; Christenson, Neb.; Clafin, N. H.; Goebel, N. J.; Hillquit, N. Y.; Massey, N. D.; Halbrook, Okla.; Barnes, Pa.; Kerrigan, Texas; Berger, Wis. Total, 17.

Not Voting—Mills, Kan.; Fox, Maine. Total, 2. The motion was therefore defeated by a vote of 17 to 3.

COMMENT.

Goebel, N. J.:—(Voting No.): "I would vote yes, but my state committee requested me to vote for Chicago."

Massey, N. D.:—"I think Chicago is a more convenient place for holding the convention."

Critchlow, Ohio:—"Please withdraw my former vote for Chicago. We are for Indianapolis in preference to St. Louis or Chicago."

Lovett, S. D.:—"I have already voted for Chicago, but would gladly make Indianapolis my second choice in the event of no decision."

Boomer, Wash.:—(Voted Yes): Provided Chicago was defeated?"

MOTION NO. 4.

Shall the proposed form of circular for "Referendum C" be approved?"

Yes—Floaten, Colo.; White, Conn.; Reynolds, Ind.; Work, Ia.; Dobbs, Ky.; Turner, Mo.; Fox, Mont.; Christenson, Neb.; Hillquit, N. Y.; Kerrigan, Texas. Total, 10.

No—Richardson, Calif.; Clafin, N. H.; Massey, N. D.; Critchlow, Ohio; Barnes, Pa.; Lovett, S. D.; Berger, Wis. Total, 7.

Not Voting—Berlyn, Ill.; Mills, Kan.; Fox, Me.; Carey, Mass.; Goebel, N. J.; Boomer, Wash. Total, 6.

The proposed form of circular was therefore endorsed by a vote of 10 to 7.

NOTE—This Referendum will be known as Referendum A, 1904, to conform to the new year.

COMMENT.

Floaten, Colo.:—(Voting Yes): "No comment, except that I prefer to leave off all 'whereases' on all motions."

Healey, Fla.:—"I vote yes, conditionally upon the 'whereases' being omitted, being in my judgment 'comment' and a violation of Art. 9, Sec. 2, National Constitution, and would raise the same objection that Referendum B is now doing."

Reynolds, Ind.:—(Voting Yes): "It is probable that some comrade may object to the explanatory 'whereases' as being comment, but it seems to me that some such reason for proposing a change may be made without violating the spirit of Sec. 2, Article 9."

Clafin, N. H.:—"I vote 'No' on Motion 4, because I believe it should be submitted to the membership in form absolutely without argument. Hence I propose that the 'whereases' be left out."

Goebel, N. J.:—"If the motion by Comrade Massey to declare out of order Referendum B is carried, then I vote to declare out of order Referendum C, but if his motion be defeated then I vote to approve the form of Referendum C, if it is to be sent out. But both Referendum B and C are gross violations of Socialist law and precedent and can but lead to bad feelings and dangerous results."

"I therefore offer the following motion: Resolved, that both Referendum B and Referendum C carrying with the proposed motion comment upon the same, which is contrary to Socialist practice and law, therefore the National Secretary be instructed to at once suspend the vote on Referendum B, or, if the vote has been closed, to announce no result of the same, but to at once return to those locals initiating them Referendums B and C with a letter calling attention to the fact that both Referendums as submitted carry comment and cannot therefore be submitted until submitted in proper form."

"No matter what action has been taken upon any of these matters I insist upon my motion being promptly put to the National Committee for a vote and that nothing be done to delay a vote thereon, Socialist precedent and safety are more important to me than that either side of a battle over methods or for supremacy should succeed and therefore insist on my motions being put to a vote."

Barnes, Pa.:—"In the submission of all referendums, I believe only the amendment proposed should be submitted and no preamble or resolution should be attached thereto; a statement may be made but not as part of the

voting blank."

Lovett, S. D.:—(Voting No): "While I am heartily in accord with the proposed amendment or addition to the constitution, I am violently opposed to the proposed form of its submission. I therefore propose that the 'whereases' be stricken from the ballot and that simply the resolution as it appears in paragraphs 3 and 4 be printed on the ballot in strict conformity with the constitution. Had I had an opportunity to have protested against the form of ballot used in Referendum B, I certainly would have done so."

NOTE.—The National Secretary did not submit and call for a vote upon Comrade Goebel's motion (mentioned in comment above) for the following reasons: To have submitted the motion when first received would have been irregular because a motion upon the same subject (that of Comrade Massey) was already before the Committee. Since that time the vote of the National Committee upon Comrade Massey's motion closed with the result that the National Committee voted down the motion declaring Referendum B out of order. The Committee also endorsed the proposed form of circular for Referendum A, 1904, and this should dispose of the matter for the present. Fraternaly submitted, WILLIAM HAILLY, National Secretary

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

Samuel Gompers advises all workmen in a recent editorial to resist all wage reductions. He also advises them to keep out of politics—that is, Socialist politics. But Gompers is in politics, and his son holds a fat federal job at Washington. Advice is cheap, but such rot as this is abominable.—Ohio Socialist.

An amusing answer is made to the claim of the capitalist press that Socialism has been killed off in Massachusetts, by a recent issue of the Brockton (Mass.) Enterprise, a capitalist sheet, which says excitedly: "The Socialists are not dead, and it is doubtful if many of them are sleeping." It is very naughty of the Socialists not to know when they have been killed.—Social Democratic Herald.

LOCAL MEETINGS

Des Moines Local No. 6 meets second and fourth Sunday afternoons of each month at 3:00 o'clock in Yeoman Hall.

Davenport local meets every first and third Friday in the month at Turner Hall. Visitors always welcome. B. W. Wilson, Sec., 821 East 14th street.

Dubuque Local meets every Tuesday evening at 8:00 o'clock at Socialist Headquarters, 6th and Iowa streets.

Directory of Secretaries

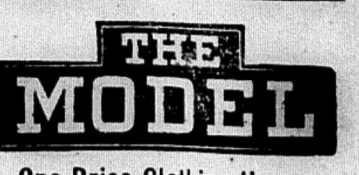
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Party News

National State Local

National Headquarters Bulletin

SPECIAL ORGANIZING FUND

The following contributions have been made to the special organizing fund since last report: Chas. A. Nelson, St. Louis, Mo. \$1.00

Total to Noon, Jan. 9, 1904 \$22.00 Previously Reported \$2,508.91

Walter Lanfersiek of Newport has been elected state secretary of Kentucky for the ensuing year.

John W. Brown will conclude his tour of California February 2, and make his first date in Oregon February 5th.

State Secretary Menton of Michigan reports the election of William E. Walter, of Detroit, as National Committeeman for 1904.

State Secretary Holman of Minnesota reports the receipts for dues in December (\$86.00) the largest in the history of the party in that state.

The eastern lecture tour of A. M. and May Wood Simons will last four weeks, beginning March 27th. They will go as far as Massachusetts before returning.

State Secretary Smith of Illinois reports the result of the election of National Committeemen as follows: B. Berlyn, 603; Samue. Block, 111; Jacob Winnen, 40. Total vote, 760. Comrade Berlyn was therefore re-elected for the year 1904.

James F. Carey's lecture dates for January so far arranged include Cincinnati, Ohio; Newport and Louisville, Ky.; Memphis, Tenn.; Thayer, Mo. He will probably fill two dates in Arkansas, between the Memphis and Thayer dates and begin in Missouri in February.

Dates for Franklin and Marion Craig Wentworth have been secured at Cincinnati, Toledo and Cleveland, Ohio; Reading, Pa.; Washington, D. C.; Baltimore, Md.; New York City and Rochester, N. Y. They will be in Cincinnati, Sunday, Feb. 7th; Toledo, 8 and 9th; Cleveland, 10th.

Wilfield R. Gaylord will conclude his southern tour as National Organizer at Pineville, Ky., Jan. 15th, after filling dates at Avon and Chattanooga on his way from Florida. Pineville is in the heart of the coal regions of southern Kentucky and an especially good field is offered for Socialist propaganda.

The Socialist Party of Oklahoma met in territorial convention at Enid, December 29th. D. S. Lands, Stillwater, and J. A. Kolachny were nominated for Secretary-Treasurer and C. G. Halbrooks for National Committeeman, subject to the referendum. Several amendments to the constitution were proposed, and will also be submitted to referendum.

Now that comrades throughout the country are waking up from the justifiable apathy following the state campaigns they should keep the national organizing fund in mind. With the advent of the German, Bohemian, Italian and French organizers in the field, in addition to the English ones, all of whom should begin work in February, will come an increased expense which the national office must meet. Toward this good work the comrades are asked to continue contributing. Every little helps, and the more little helps there are the larger the amount of help given altogether.

The special correspondent of the Pittsburg Dispatch at Berlin, Germany, sends the following under date of December 26th: "The opening of the first session of the new Reichstag has brought home to the German nation the realization of the remarkable power which the German Social-Democratic party has acquired in the Federal Legislature. The story of the steady rise of the Social-Democratic party since the foundation of the German Empire is well known, but never before have

the German people grasped the truth about the growth of Socialism as they have been obliged to grasp it this month. In the last Reichstag, which was dissolved in June, there were 56 Social-Democratic deputies, but in the new Reichstag there are no less than 81 Social-Democrats, representing more than 3,000,000 electors throughout the country. No other party polled as many as 2,000,000 votes, so that the Social-Democrats come back to the Reichstag with the knowledge that they are the representatives of by far the most powerful party in the country. These 81 Social-Democratic deputies form a solid phalanx of political and economic revolutionists who will give Count Buelow and the government endless trouble before this legislature is dissolved in five years' time. Already the orators of the Social-Democratic party have adopted a more aggressive tone than was their custom in previous parliaments, indicating that they feel sure of their ground and of their future. The members of other parties, too, listen to them with visibly increased respect, so that Socialism is very much to the front in the German Legislature and seems likely to remain there."

Iowa Notes

The convention for the nomination of a municipal ticket in Des Moines will be held January 20th.

Comrades D. Ehrhart and J. S. Burrell, of Logan, continue their monthly contribution to the state organization.

Comrade Stanley Browne, of Deloit, has received the endorsement of the State Committee for state organizer.

Comrade Peelstrom, of Madrid, called at state headquarters last Monday. He speaks very encouragingly of the movement in his burg.

Organizer McCrillis expects to become one of the "wheelhorses" of the party. If the weather and roads permit, he will make part of his proposed lecture tour on a bicycle.

The State Committee is voting on a proposition to engage Prof. Geo. R. Kirkpatrick for a lecture tour in Iowa in March. Frederick G. Strickland may also be pressed into service while the municipal campaigns are on.

Comrade J. B. Osborn, the blind Socialist orator, who is at present lecturing in California, is due to arrive in Iowa in March. Both the capitalist and Socialistic press speak highly of his ability to present the Socialist philosophy in terms address the Iowa Secretary.

The vote on national Committeeman and national referendum bill from local Sioux City, came in too late for publication last week. John M. Work received 20 votes; John P. Sargent 1, and John Bennett 1. Eight votes were cast for the amendment and twelve against. For national committeeman John M. Work received 199 votes. For the amendment, 171, against 63.

J. J. JACOBSEN, Des Moines.

Sioux City, Iowa, Jan. 11, '04. Editor Iowa Socialist:

Dear Comrade:—Local Sioux City was treated to a fine paper by Comrade H. C. Moore entitled "The Basic Foundation of Socialism." Comrade Moore is 82 years old and it shows how elastic some old minds are and should be an object lesson to some of our younger Socialists. If every Socialist was as active as this old comrade we would soon have a strong movement in the United States. The class struggle was brought out very plainly Sunday and Lawyer C. C. Treadway got up like a roaring lion and denounced us as violent disturbers of the peace and accused us of arraying class against class and inciting revolution. Poor man, he wants a capitalist class without a proletariat, he wants classes without a class struggle and he blames all our ills to the republican party. It was Unterman's article in the Appeal on the Class Struggle that aroused his ire.

Next Sunday the subject for discussion is the "Citizens' Association vs. the Socialist Party." The former is a Good Government and Just Taxation party which is

to take the place of the democratic donkey in the spring election.

We are arranging for a dance and supper on the 28th of January for the benefit of the Socialist Club, the music to be furnished by J. W. Wilson's orchestra.

Fraternally yours, J. W. WILSON, Org. Local Sioux City

MUSCATINE NEWS.

Oyster supper Saturday evening January 16th. The Local Socialist Comedy Co. is preparing for the entertainment on the 28th inst.

The subject for debate January 4th was "Resolved, That Recruits from the Middle Class are Detrimental to the Socialist Movement." Decision going to the negative.

January 11th, "Resolved that Socialism is More Apt to be Ushered in by War Than by Peaceable Means." This was the warmest subject debated to date, the affirmative contending that historic changes from one system to another having been characterized by war, the transition to Socialism would result in war, while the negative held that educational means would prevent bloodshed. The decision went to the affirmative.

The literature committee met January 10th and after transacting the regular business dispatched 50 four-week subs to the Iowa Socialist.

At the regular meeting of local Muscatine, January 11th, February 4th was set as the date for holding our municipal convention at which time a city ticket will be nominated. A committee of five on platform and resolutions was elected with instructions to report at the convention.

Mary had a little flea; She got it from the docks; She put it on a hitching post; And now it's on the working ox. O. C. WILSON.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

December 1, to December 31, '03.

RECEIPTS.

Table with columns for date, item, and amount. Includes entries for Avery Local, Monroe Local, Hiteman Local, Fairbanks Local, Hocking Local, Ryan Local, Lost Creek Local, Muscatine Local, Correctionville Local, Logan Local, Maurid Local, Burlington Local, Lehigh Local, Davenport Local, Boone Local, Mapleton Local, Cresco Local, Jamestown Local, Deloit Local, Mo. Valley Local, Muscatine Local, Supplies, Lester Local, Keb Local, Wm. Bateman, Seymour, Dubuque Local, Jos. Lewin, Swan, Siourney Local, Supplies, Mapleton Local, Des Moines Local, B. F. Bates, Olin, Muscatine Local, Lester Local, Clinton Local.

Total \$160 37

EXPENDITURES.

Table with columns for date, item, and amount. Includes entries for Postage, Typewriting, Postage, Postage, Wm. Maily, National Dues, Typewriting, Kenyon Ptg. Co., L. B. Patterson, Printing, Postage, J. J. Jacobsen, Salary.

Total \$60 20

RECAPITULATION.

Total Received \$160 37

Total Expended 60 20

Balance on hand Dec. 31, 1903 \$100 17

Respectfully submitted, J. J. JACOBSEN, Secretary.

Des Moines, Ia., Jan. 9, '04. We, the undersigned, auditing committee, have examined the State Secretary's books for Sept., Oct., Nov. and Dec., 1903, and find them to correspond with the printed monthly reports as submitted by the Secretary in the Iowa Socialist.

Will also say, that unless objections are made, we will hereafter audit said books quarterly. E. L. CROSBY, E. ERICSON.

David S. Cameron, carpenter. Terms very reasonable. 3126 Pine street.

Local Notes

The last meeting was one of the largest in attendance in the history of the Local.

Next Tuesday evening the program of Dubuque Local propaganda meeting will be varied. Comrades Cameron, Byard, Leonard, and Fisher will debate the relative merits of "Unionism and Socialism." Let every one come for there is sure to be an interesting time.

At the regular meeting of Dubuque Local last Tuesday evening, Comrade Dieterich spoke on "Birds and Political Birds." The address was so entertaining that there was general regret that he did not speak longer. Other Comrades followed with remarks and comments and altogether the evening was very pleasantly spent. These meetings are growing in interest and attendance, and everybody is invited to come to listen or to participate if they so desire.

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

Weekly Report to National Committee

National Headquarters, Socialist Party, Omaha, Neb., Jan. 4, 1904.

SPEAKERS AND ORGANIZERS:

John W. Brown in California; Gaylord in Florida; McKee in Northern California; Wilkins in Montana; Carey in Pennsylvania.

ACTION OF QUORUM.

Quorum members Berger and Dobbs have not yet reported action upon matters submitted Dec. 31st.

MOTIONS.

The action of the National Committee upon question of appointment of Carl D. Thompson dating from November 20th resulted in a vote of 10 to 5 against appointment.

Action upon Lovett's motion relative to applications of organizers resulted in a vote of 19 to 4 against the motion.

Action upon Massey's motion to declare referendum "B" out of order resulted in a vote of 12 to 9 against the motion.

Action upon Reynold's motion to hold national convention in Indianapolis resulted in a vote of 17 to 4 against the motion.

Action upon the proposed form of circular for Referendum "C" resulted in a vote of 11 to 7 in favor of same.

Full reports will be made upon these motions within the next few days.

NATIONAL COMMITTEEMEN ELECTED.

The following comrades have been reported as elected National Committeemen by referendum in the respective states named:

- For Michigan—William E. Walter, Detroit. For Wisconsin—Victor L. Berger, Milwaukee. For Kansas—Walter Thomas Mills. For Kentucky—Chas. Dobbs Louisville. For Iowa—John M. Work, Des Moines.

NATIONAL PARTY REFERENDUM.

The proposed form of circular for Referendum "C" having been approved by the National Committee, the same will be sent to the membership within the next few days.

NOMINATIONS FOR NATIONAL SECRETARY.

William Maily, by Committee-man Fox of Montana, Healey of Florida and Work of Iowa.

SPECIAL.

The State Secretary of Minnesota reports that Comrade C. C. Talbott, was elected National Committeeman by convention, and in accordance with the constitution and the protest of Berlyn of Illinois, Comrade Talbott will no longer be recorded as National Committeeman from Minnesota.

Herewith is submitted correspondence between Robert Badlow, Cleveland, Ohio, and the National Secretary, which is self-explanatory.

Herewith is also submitted additional correspondence with H. H. Caldwell for the National Committee's information.

As the National Secretary will be engaged in drawing up his annual report during January, he asks the indulgence of the National Committee until the report is completed.

Fraternally submitted, WILLIAM MAILLY, National Secretary.

All the best Socialist literature for sale by the Iowa Socialist.

Job printing of all kinds at the office of the Iowa Socialist.

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 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 waged 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 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 employees, 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 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 cooperative 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.

HISTORY OF SOCIALISM IN THE UNITED STATES

By MORRIS HILLQUIT

This interesting book contains: 1. A complete account of the Socialist movement in this country from the beginning of the last century up to the present day, including Utopian, Christian, Fabian and Modern or Scientific Socialism. 2. An account of the Free Soil, Labor Reform, Anarchist, Single Tax, Populist, Nationalist and other Reform movements in the United States. 3. An account of the evolution of the present methods and policies of the Socialist Party. 4. A comparative study of the social philosophy of all American schools of social reform. 5. An analysis of the present conditions and tendencies of the future development of the Socialist movement in the United States. 371 pages, with full index, cloth bound, large type. Price \$1.50. Postage 17 cents extra. Discount to Agents. COMRADE CO-OPERATIVE CO., 11 Cooper Square, New York. SPECIAL OFFER:—Upon receipt of \$1.00 (and 17 cents postage), we will send the "History of Socialism" and the "Comrade" for one year.

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