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The Colorado Strike

Bertha Howell Maitly

Trinidad, Colo., Jan. 14, 1904.

Engle, some three miles from Trinidad and farther up in the mountains, is typical of the mining camps owned by the Colorado Fuel and Iron Company, or the Rocky Mountain Coal and Iron Company, or whatever company it may please Rockefeller to christen his slave-driving industry of southern Colorado.

The Engle mines employ usually, when working, about 200 men. Almost all of these men live in the company's houses, on the company's land. For these miserable shacks, which contain each two or three tiny rooms, the kitchen so low that a man cannot stand upright in it, the men pay from \$4 to \$12 per month. The houses have been built, most of them, twenty years, and have never received a dollar's worth of repair from the company. In a few cases, men have leased land from the company and have built themselves more comfortable homes. They are now learning the fatal mistake of being prosperous enough to build houses, for now they are standing fast to their union, quitting the camp and these homes, with no probability of being allowed to return to them.

The camp, a large group of the company's red shacks, the long red mule stable, the furnaces, the tipple, and wretched dobe huts where the Mexicans live, lies in a peaceful hollow of the hills in front and near to the entrance of the mine—workings.

As you approach this camp today, you notice men walking to and fro and you do not need to go very close to see that each man is armed with a Winchester rifle. You see these men in many places, on the road to the post office, down in the hollows, yonder two surly Mexicans standing close to a little black house, on the tipple, and even up above on the heights, they walk back and forth, men who are a shame and disgrace to their kind, for they can be hired to shoot down fellow workers, men of their own class. There are 38 serving in two shifts with, it is said, seven more added yesterday. These deputies receive \$5 a day. With between 30 and 40 at this one camp and not a load of coal turning the tipple since the strike was called, the company is not profiting much.

The line marking the beat of these deputy sheriffs shows the

edge of the company's land, the famous and very real "dead line." Just in front of them, at intervals, are pine sticks set up, and nailed on a cross piece this sign:

NOTICE.
This is Private Property, and all persons are forbidden to trespass thereon or interfere with the workingmen employed at the mine.
The Rocky Mt. Coal and Iron Co.

This line is drawn more closely each day. Men get in and they don't get out unless they escape as from a prison. If they get out, they don't get back. Last week men were allowed to come out to get provisions for their families at the local commissary of the Union. Now it is with difficulty that little children sent out for food, can get back.

In some mines passes for aggressors are granted by the superintendent. The following one is copied from originals possessed by the United Mine Workers of America, and issued at the mine of Rugby, not far from here.

12-26-03.
The Primrose Coal Company,
Allow Bearer to go out,
P. Brennan, Supt.

12-26-03.
The Primrose Coal Company,
Let Bearer come in.
P. Brennan, Supt.

Does a state of war exist or not?

For the past two days these passes have been absolutely refused in Engle. The miners in all this part of Colorado have never been organized until this strike. A large part of them were Italians and Mexicans. Now at the meetings of the locals all business has to be carried on through Italian and Mexican interpreters as well as in English. Mother Jones spoke on the hillside here two nights before the strike was called. Another body of men called her "La bianca Madre," (Spanish for "The White Mother") and on the morning of Nov. 9th, not a man went into the mines.

To-day the company is making desperate efforts to get men into Engle and at work. A press dispatch of Jan. 20th stated that the Engle mine was opened on that date with a small force. The following is the truth as told by one of three coal-miners who escaped

through the "dead line" of armed deputies:

"There was a carload of thirty of us brought from Virginia. Only four of us knew anything about coal mining. They swore to us there was no strike on. When we got to El Moro and saw a man guarding the train with a gun, we knew something was wrong and sent a telegram back to the second lot not to come. When we crossed the line of armed men at Engle, then I knew there was a strike and I was ashamed to lift my eyes. We did not go into the mines and that night three of us came out. There's only one man in there that ever mined any coal. Fourteen more want to come out, but are afraid."

The mines at Engle are particularly dangerous because of gas and if the inexperienced men go into them, they will surely be killed. And not a ton of coal is coming out of Engle. It is said one man is getting out enough to keep the furnaces going.

The woman who is now boarding these three escaped men just outside the camp, a slender girl in black, said to us:

"If the company obeyed the laws as well as our boys, I'd not be a widow to-day. The law says you can't have more than 10 pounds of dynamite stored in one place, and they had hundreds and hundreds of pounds where my poor Jack was blown to pieces."

The demands of the Union in the present strike are as follows:

1. Eight hours to constitute a day's work.
2. All wages to be paid every two weeks. (Now they are paid monthly). In United States money; all scrip systems to be abolished. Also, an increase of 20 per cent on all contract and tonnage wages.
3. Two thousand pounds to constitute a ton.
4. All men working around or in the mines to receive just as

much for the eight hour day as for nine, ten or twelve hour day.

5. For preservation of health and life, to be insured of a pure air supply.

Let me close with a word of an incident which occurred two weeks ago at Engle. It will serve as a sample of the treatment that the free citizens of Gov. Peabody's preserve are receiving:

Several speakers went out from Trinidad to hold a meeting. The miners got together somehow from within and without the camp. The meeting broke up finally and the men crowded the bridge just this side of the dead line in a body to go back into camp to their families. The deputies met them on the line, and refused to admit them. The speakers came and expostulated. "Bob" Lee, head deputy, an excuse for a man, who boasts of his descent from Confederate General Lee and "Light Horse Harry," seated himself on a rock just across the line, got his gun easily into position and said: "Now, ——— yez, cross that line if you want to."

The sheriff of the county in Trinidad was telephoned for. He was busy in a saloon in Trinidad, and answering that the men could take care of themselves, and that he had not time to come, hung up the receiver. Two Union men drove over in a buggy for him and forced him to come under the reminder that he was responsible for the lives of the men. He came, got the superintendent out, who identified the men as, "Tom, House No. 12," "Tony, House No. 29," etc., and admitted them.

And yet the citizens of Colorado are free and the miners have no grievances.

But the men of Colorado are awakening to a sense of their wrongs and they are fighting a splendid fight that should bring them the encouragement and assistance of every workingman and woman in the United States that has sympathy to give.

The Genesis of Opportunism

Franklin H. Wentworth

As the democratic party assumes more and more the aspect of a political derelict the earnest spirits who have clung to it begin to cast about for new affiliations.

It is natural in this emergency that their eyes should turn to the young proletarian giant who is getting up from his prostrate position and bringing consternation to the parasitic civilization built upon his back. If he should stretch and hump himself, like a sleepy cat, this civilization would scramble for re-adjustment. If he should stand erect it would slide off him, like an avalanche, into the dark of oblivion.

The man who comes too suddenly into the Socialist party from the decadent democracy brings with him a psychology which serves him to comprehend only the first of these contingencies. He can grasp the idea of the working class stretching and humping; but the idea of its getting upon its feet seems secretly to frighten him.

It is this psychology which makes him,—when he first arrives in the Socialist movement—an opportunist. It is another full step to revolution, and involves a more or less extensive rubbing of elbows with the rank and file of the party.

This psychological attitude of the evolving democrat is due to the fact that the democratic party has never stood for any positive program. It has always been a party of mere opposition. Pro has never been known in its vocabulary. Anti has been its slogan. Even the free trade it has thought it stood for was never really free trade; it was anti-protection. Democratic psychology is negative. Mr. Bryan stopped growing in 1896.

A negative attitude, too long maintained, atrophies the mind.

This attitude of negation forsakes all initiative and studies mere opposition to initiative.

A whole philosophy of partyism has sprung from this psychology; which philosophy at present dominates the parliaments of the world—the idea that wholesome politics resides in an opposition party acting as a whip and check to the party of dominant power. No other political fabric could so admirably adapt itself to the development of capitalist society. Initiative, admittedly predatory, is left with the party of plutocracy; and the so-called party of the people is considered only a sort of hedge or hurdle to harass or hamper plutocracy's advance. Plutocracy's party, being the party of initiative, naturally gathers the advantageous momentum of all progressive movements of whatever character.

The democratic party has been of inestimable service to capitalism by crying a warning whenever capitalism has made too rash a step. It has acted as a sort of faithful friend or servant in pointing out to capitalism pitfalls of reaction which might have impeded the steady and uninterrupted subjugation of the working class.

The democratic party has never risen to the conception of a positive initiative by the people, and the populist party—which gave hint of initiative—was easily translated into innocuous channels because this party, itself, was born out of reaction and possessed the democratic psychology.

It never has penetrated the democratic consciousness that a different psychology might give birth to an entirely different political movement, from which a party might emerge that could put the party of plutocracy itself to flight.

This is why the democratic

mind cannot readily understand the Socialist party and its possibilities. The democrat believes it to be an inviolable natural law that parties must be born out of great waves of public sentiment precipitated by some special crisis, and even after he allies himself with the Socialist party he is prone to believe that the Socialist party may be absorbed at any time by some emotional uprising.

It is this attitude of mental expectancy which retards his translation into a revolutionist, and gives rise to his so-called opportunism. He is earnest and honest; but revolutionary socialists are not made in a day. Mental habits are strong; more tyrannous sometimes than habits of body.

The Socialist who has not yet entirely aborted the democratic psychology would harass the enemy; would capture an outpost now and then; urges a broad policy that will bring people in; he wants to see the party grow.

But water-power is generated by narrow streams pent between rigid barriers. Mere breadth is not desirable unless the dynamic be preserved. It will be a sorry growth that spreads us into mere opposition. We do not wish to keep forever stretching and humping; we wish to get upon our feet. We must not dissipate our energy in loosening the bandages about one toe while another is being more securely fastened.

What we desire to develop is the irresistible power of the torrent; not the imposing breadth of the fog-bank. No one is afraid of a fog-bank, unless he be at sea; and plutocracy is not at sea. It knows what it is up to.

If Richard Olney, or Grover Cleveland, or Arthur Pue Gorman should be nominated for the presidency by the democratic party, the Socialist ticket would poll a notably increased vote. But it would be an anemic, unhealthy vote inasmuch as it would make the Socialist party to that extent a vehicle for expressing mere reaction; and when it fell away into its natural channels at the succeeding election the opportunist adherents of the Socialist party would suffer discouragement.

If William Randolph Hearst is nominated this reactionary vote will go where it belongs, and where it is better for the Socialist movement that it should go.

It would seem to be wise that all the manifestos of the Socialist party issued during the coming year should be of such character as only a really class-conscious and revolutionary constituency can subscribe to.

If we leave an aperture for the fog to come in, we may lose ourselves in it until it clears again. Not so many of us may climb the hard slope to the mountain top; but the air is clearer there; and this is our growing time.

We want our brother democrat whose heart is right; but we want time to assimilate him. He is a danger to us until his head is right. We desire the time to build up in his mind a new psychology which will leave no window open toward the miasmatic morass of fusion. For sometimes it must be confessed that he wriggles painfully, striking at imaginary terrors and reaching for imaginary good, when we need his long, strong pull upon the revolutionary trace.

Dayton, Ohio, work house is overcrowded, and the police judge has been requested to quit "sending them up." The place is crowded to the doors with out-of-work people who have committed some trivial offense in order to get out of the cold weather and have a place to sleep. This is the prosperity, is it?—Ohio Socialist.

Recognize our advertisements.

Thoughts With the Halls On

E. T. Anderson

Industrially we are now about to enter the winter of our discontent.

Judging from surface indications we are bound to have the "closed shop" and the unions won't win either.

While looking over a program for the Farmers' Institute of St. Joseph County, Ind., I noticed that one of the speakers had for his subject, "The Hog as a Money Maker." Most any of the Socialist speakers would like to make a speech and use that for the subject.

Socialism may not have anything to do with religion and it may deal exclusively with economics, but nevertheless, a religion based on false economics must be likened unto a house built upon the sands. Build the economic foundation of civilization right and you can rear as much filigree work (religion) as you desire.

Mr. Parry, of Indianapolis, says that the unions raise the price of things, and, as a "consumer," he registers a kick. As "producers" as well as "consumers" we have noticed that prices have been raised

by Mr. Parry's class to balance a ten per cent raise in wages given to our class. We register a kick in the shape of a Socialist ballot.

If you want industrial slavery, join the union of your craft and vote the Demo-Republican ticket. If you want industrial freedom join the union of your craft and vote the ticket of your class. Now sit down and see if you can figure out which class you belong to, but should you get it into your head that you belong to the capitalist class, I would suggest that you try to attend one of their social functions. From that time on your recovery will be rapid.

Under the present system it is impossible for everybody to do well. For instance, if we have all got our cellar full of potatoes, beans, cabbage, turnips, fruits, etc., then what is to become of the green grocer; or if we all have warm clothes in abundance then the woolen industry suffers; or if we own three or four pair of shoes then the shoe factory suspends operations and thousands are forced to hear the wolf that is forever crouching at labor's door. Let's make for use and not for profit. That's Socialism. Why of course it is.

Strickland-Kirkpatrick Lectures

The state committee of the Socialist party of Iowa has engaged Prof. Geo. R. Kirkpatrick of Kansas City, for a month's campaigning in Iowa, commencing March 2nd, and Frederick G. Strickland, Iowa's organizer, will enter the field for continuous service during the year 1904 at the same time. Both of these giants in the cause of humanity have spoken in about twelve states, and their ability as orators and their energy as party workers is everywhere recognized.

The terms for either of above speakers follow:

Option No. 1.—Local to pay \$2.00 per day, entertain the speaker and allow him collection and sale of literature.

Option No. 2.—Local to pay \$5.00 for one day, \$10.00 for three days, and entertain the speaker. Under Option No. 2, the Local retains collections with which to defray expenses, or an admission fee may be charged. For further information apply to J. J. Jacobsen, Secretary, Des Moines, Iowa.

Following are the speakers' subjects and a few comments on their work:

Prof. Geo. R. Kirkpatrick's subjects:

1. Justice to the Toilers.
2. Evolution or Revolution?
3. Five Kinds of Despotisms.
4. Think or Surrender.
5. The Purpose of a Gatling Gun.
6. What is Scientific Socialism?
7. Babies With the Harness On.
8. The Hypnotism of the Working Class.
9. The Makers and the Takers.
10. The Right of the Trust to Be.
11. The Fatalism of Capitalism.

12. Socialism and Art.
13. Objections to Socialism.
14. Socialism from a Lawyer's Point of View.
15. Why I Respect the Capitalist.

Daily Kansan-Republican: "Every one of the fourteen hundred seats in the Auditorium was taken last evening, the occasion being a lecture by Geo. R. Kirkpatrick of Topeka. * * * He is a most unique figure on the platform, and for a young man is remarkable. * * * He spoke for over an hour, and never lost control of his audience."

Frederick G. Strickland's subjects follow:

1. The Historic Necessity for Socialism.
2. The Evolution of Society.
3. The Meaning of Socialism to the Individual.
4. Socialism—The New Trades Unionism.
5. The World Task of Economic Deliverance.
6. The Working Class the Hope of Humanity.
7. What Shall We Do With the Trust?
8. Socialism and Religious Freedom.
9. Socialism—Its Meaning and Its Methods.
10. The Last Strike.
11. Socialism and the Home.
12. When Organized Labor Meets Organized Capital.

"Frederick G. Strickland is one of the strong men in the Socialist movement. As an organizer he has exceptional qualities. As a speaker he stands among the most able and eloquent on the American platform. Mr. Strickland is a young man, imbued with the spirit of the Socialist movement, and one of its most earnest, enthusiastic and effective exponents."—Eugene V. Debs.

REPORT OF NATIONAL QUORUM MEETING

National Headquarters, Socialist Party, Omaha, Neb., Jan. 23, 1904.

FIRST SESSION.

The National Quorum met at National Headquarters, Jan. 16th, 1904, with Quorum members Victor L. Berger, B. Berlyn, S. M. Reynolds and John M. Work present. The first session was called to order by National Secretary Maily at 10 a. m. Berlyn was made chairman for the session and W. E. Clark the secretary of the meeting. Reynolds and Work, who had already been selected as the Auditing Committee, were instructed to complete the work which Comrade Work had begun the day before. And a sub-committee consisting of Berger and Berlyn was instructed to canvass the vote of Referendum B. A recess was then taken for the sub-committees to prepare their reports.

When the committees were ready to report, Berger and Berlyn reported that the vote on National Referendum B, to amend National Constitution, providing for proportional voting on the National Committee had been duly canvassed and declared the result to be 5,599 for the amendment, and 2,037 against it.

Moved by Reynolds: That report be accepted and committee discharged. Carried.

Reynolds and Work reported that the books of National Secretary Maily had been thoroughly audited, found in excellent condition, and showed that the total receipts for the year, January 1, to Jan. 1, 1904, had been \$14,240.99, with total expenses of \$14,072.55, leaving a balance of \$168.44 and that since Jan. 1, 1904, to Jan. 15, inclusive, the receipts had been \$753.87; expenses, \$450.19, leaving a balance of \$303.68 as shown by bank statement and checks on hand.

The auditing committee further reported the assets to be \$2,458.58; and liabilities, \$1,245.29, leaving a balance of \$1,213.29.

Moved by Berger: That report of committee be accepted and committee discharged. Carried.

The National Secretary then made a verbal report of some of the most important matters to be considered by the Quorum.

Moved by Work: That Berlyn and Reynolds be appointed as a committee to draft call for the national convention. Carried.

SECOND SESSION.

The second session was called to order at 11 a. m., Jan. 17th. Reynolds was elected chairman. The minutes of the first session were read and approved.

Berlyn and Reynolds reported the following call for national convention:

"To the Socialist Party of the United States of America:

"Comrades:—The National Committee has, by referendum, designated Chicago as the place and May 1, 1904, as the date of holding the national convention of the Socialist Party of America, for the purpose of nominating candidates for president and vice president of the United States, and for the transaction of such other business as may legitimately come before it.

"The basis of representation in the convention shall be according to the provisions of the Constitution of the Socialist Party as contained in Article X. of said constitution, which is as follows:

"The basis of representation in any national convention shall be by states, each state being entitled to one delegate at large and one additional delegate for every hundred members in good standing."

"The membership shall be based upon the average number of dues paying members as shown by the books of the National Secretary for the period of December, 1903, January and February, 1904.

"Alternate delegates upon the same basis of representation shall be elected, and such alternates shall be provided with credentials to be presented to the convention in case of inability of delegate to attend.

"Only delegates or alternates shall be entitled to vote in the convention, and they must be residents of the states or territories which they are elected to represent.

"On March 1, 1904, the National Secretary shall call for nominations of delegates and alternate delegates from unorganized states and territories and in such unorganized states and territories, the basis of representation shall be the same as provided in Article X., as above noted.

protest; and that the officers elected under such referendum shall be recognized as the regular state organization." Carried.

The National Secretary reported the result of the referendum to hold a state convention to form a state organization in Maryland.

Moved by Berger: That as an insufficient number of locals had acted in the referendum of locals in Maryland for a state organization, the referendum be declared invalid. Carried.

The National Secretary submitted a report of the referendum taken of the locals in Wyoming to form a state organization.

Moved by Reynolds: That in view of the result of referendum of the locals in Wyoming for a state organization not deciding upon a specific date for the convention the Quorum select June 19th as the date on which said convention shall be held. Carried.

At this juncture a telegram was received from J. W. Slayton, accepting appointment to go at once to Colorado. The question was raised by Work as to whether or not the rules recently adopted by the National Committee applied to lecturers who had already worked under the direction of the National office.

Moved by Berlyn: That the rules governing the selection of speakers and organizers for the reserve list are not retroactive and cannot be construed to apply to lecturers and organizers who have already been appointed by the National Committee to act as such, nor to anyone selected to do specific work as lecturer or organizer, unless there is a protest in any case. Carried.

The National Secretary presented letters relative to the appointment of B. Feigenbaum as Jewish organizer.

Moved by Berger: That B. Feigenbaum of New York be appointed to act as Jewish organizer as soon as possible. Carried.

A proposition was read from Comrade Feigenbaum relative to preparing Jewish leaflets.

Moved by Berlyn: That the National Secretary be instructed to carry on negotiations with Feigenbaum looking to the preparation of Jewish literature. Carried.

The question was raised by the National Secretary as to the advisability of making some rule relative to the payment of dues.

Moved by Reynolds: That beginning February 1st all orders for due stamps from all sources shall be accompanied by remittance to pay for same. Carried.

The National Secretary presented the following statement relative to the location of national headquarters:

"After a year's experience, I am compelled to state that Omaha does not offer the proper advantages necessary for conducting the growing work of the national headquarters. The facilities for securing printing on short notice are very limited. The National Committee has already ordered leaflets printed in several languages. Some of this printing will have to be sent to other cities because there are no offices in Omaha for doing such work. In addition to this it will be necessary for the national office to issue considerable literature in foreign languages during the next national campaign.

"The mail facilities are extremely poor. Owing to peculiar geographical conditions and as a result of washouts, Omaha was almost entirely cut off from the outside world at three different times last summer, blocking all work of the office for two or three days. In the work of routing speakers and organizers, good mail facilities are of the greatest importance.

"In view of the approaching national campaign and the necessity of having the national headquarters situated so that the work can be conducted with expedition and with as little interruption as possible, I believe it is due the national organization that a city better adapted for the purpose should be selected as the location of national headquarters."

Moved by Berger: That in view of statement submitted by National Secretary, a call be issued to the national committee for nominations for national headquarters, nominations to close three weeks from date of call, the vote upon selection of headquarters to close three weeks after close of nominations.

The National Secretary reported that the work of the office had grown to such proportions as to make it necessary to secure additional help.

Moved by Berlyn: That the National Secretary be empowered to secure additional help at a salary not to exceed \$15 per week. Carried.

Moved by Reynolds: That renewed attention be called to the organizing fund, with an especial

view to securing assistance for organizing among the foreign speaking population, and that the National Secretary be authorized to prepare the call. Carried.

Adjourned to meet in Chicago, April 28, 1904.

W. E. CLARK,
Secretary for Quorum.

Opposes a "Speakers Union"

Washington, Ia., Jan. 22.
Fred G. Strickland, Iowa City, Ia.

Dear Comrade:—After reading your article in The Iowa Socialist, entitled a "Socialist Speakers Union," I cannot help but comment upon it.

Knowing you personally, and after having the pleasure of hearing you write it for the purpose of organizing such a "union," but simply to draw fire from the rank and file of the Socialist party.

In answer to your first suggestion (Its membership should include all traveling speakers of the party. Interstate speakers should be elected by National Committee. State speakers should be elected by their respective states and such elections should be final) will say that to speak upon, and laud Socialist principles, in private or in public belongs collectively to all the members of the party and not to a certain part of them.

For the Socialist party to recognize and uphold a union of orators, would mean the perpetuation of the family of attorney and attorney generals of capitalism, under Socialism. I favor their election by the state and national committees in preference to appointment by the state and national secretaries, but always subject to a referendum upon application of two or three locals.

In your second suggestion you say (all the traveling speakers of the party should carry the same credentials exactly as a Union card.) As though the good old membership card is not good enough to show his right to speak in public upon any principle set forth in our national platform.

The traveling agitator is simply a necessary nuisance, created by the youth of the movement, and will almost totally disappear after thorough organization of the party. For, I believe, the average Socialist is intelligent enough to express his thoughts in public after a little training in the local.

Then you say (A minimum wage not a maximum wage should be established.) The party has not established a maximum wage, but a stipulated or general wage of \$2 board and collection to be paid by the local by the party direct, which has proven to be enough, as you will see out of the National Secretary's reports.

Moreover it is thoroughly democratic. Good speakers are made by constant practice, which they get when in the employ of the party, for which they receive the same compensation as the speaker arrived at the height of perfection.

The party has paid them for their education. Can you give any good reason why they should receive any higher wage except the preference over the less advanced?

You are needlessly alarmed about the "high grade work" being crowded out, as long as the party need it, especially under the general wage system. Or do you think the national and state secretaries or committees stupid enough, to prefer a poor speaker for a good one, when they can get them at the same price?

I could say more in regard to this article, but time and space forbid. Let it be enough to say that the party needs no dictator or leaders. But teachers of its principles and that to organize is better than to agitate. This letter will go to the Socialist press.

Fraternally yours,
A. FILARSKI.

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 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 and political rights for men and women.

7. The initiative and referendum, proportional representation and the right of recall of representatives by their constituents.

But in advocating these measures in steps in the overthrow of capitalism and the establishment of the co-operative commonwealth, we warn the working class against the so-called public ownership movements as an attempt of the capitalist class to secure 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. Maily, National Secretary, 303-304 McCague Building, Omaha, Neb.
J. J. Jacobsen, State Secretary, 1129 12th street, Des Moines, Iowa.

Secretaries of Iowa Locals

Albia, W. I. Shields.
Atlantic, Chas. D. Beers.
Avery, F. J. West.
Bloomfield, B. H. Osterhoudt.
Boone, John H. Cook, 1021 Meridian St.
Burlington, Conrad Holstein, 1324 N. 7th St.
Centerville, D. E. Hayes.
Clarinda, T. F. Willis.
Clinton, A. R. Kolar, 511 2d St.
Correctionville, John Tangborn.
Cresco, E. P. Dieter.
Davenport, B. W. Wilson, 821 E. 14th St.
Deloit, Stanley Browne.
Des Moines, J. R. Blenes, Box 766.
Dubuque, E. Holtz, 205 6th St.
Fairbank, S. E. Moore.
Ft. Dodge, H. A. Rayne.
Grinnell, J. G. Fangmeyer.
Hamilton, Louis Paulding.
Hiteam, Wm. Truman.
Hocking, Thomas Love.
Holly Springs, Jared Prichard.
Jamestown, Chas. D. Leroy.
Keokuk, Miles Martin.
Lake City, Oakley Wood.
Lehigh, John Heslop.
Lester, Joseph Brucken.
Little Rock, W. H. Attlesoa.
Logan, A. D. Wilson.
Lost Creek, Lovel Talmage.
Madrid, C. J. Feelsstrom.
Mapleton, Ezra DeWolf.
Marshalltown, Myron T. Wiltse, 610 Frederick Street.
Mason City, Leslie A. Tillison, 119 West Miller St.
Missouri Valley, John T. Culavin P. O. Box 124.
Monroe, Henry Bewans.
Muscatine, Lee W. Lang, 700 W. 8th St.
Mystic, W. B. Bedinger.
Newton, Abe Miller.
Ottumwa, Isaac H. West, 601 Richmond Ave. S.
Polk City, W. W. Ingersoll.
Red Oak, E. W. Churchill, 109 W. Elm St.
Rock Rapids, George Monlux.
Ryan, Chas. Hickett.
Sac City, W. J. Martin, Box 475.
Scandia, A. F. Adams, P. O. Madrid R. F. D. No. 2.
Shambaugh, John Rhoads.
Sheldon, E. W. Farnsworth.
Sigourney, Edward J. Rohrer.
Sioux City, Miss Carrie Yeager, 507 Douglas St.
Waterloo, F. Connor, 1113 Franklin St.
Winterset, McK. Miller.

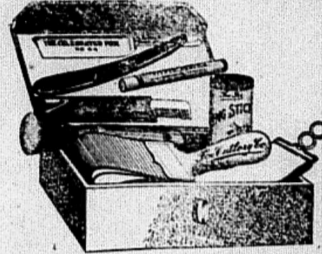
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Feed a Specialty. Cor. 8th and Main

..PHILIP PIER..



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: G. H. Strobell, Newark, N. J. \$ 50.00 Branch 1, Local Neenah, Wis. 2.25 Julius Mobus, Herman Mo. .50 W. H. Schock, Platteau, Utah 1.00

Total to noon, Jan 23 53.75 Previously reported. 2,541.24

Total \$ 2,594.99

John C. Chase has begun work in New Hampshire and will continue there for some time.

The election of National Committeeman for Alabama for 1904, resulted in B. Andrus of Patton being elected.

Winfield R. Gaylord has completed his southern tour and makes a most interesting report which will be sent out next week.

The German and Bohemian organizers, Comrades Sattler and Pergler, respectively, will take the field early in February, and Italian Organizer Origo will begin in March.

State Secretary Martin, of Colorado reports the election of National Committeeman for 1904 as follows: A. H. Floaten, 202; J. Monroe Stewart, 26; A. H. Floaten was therefore declared re-elected.

John M. Ray has been working in the northern part of Wisconsin during January, but owing to a change of plans on the part of the Wisconsin comrades, he will spend February in Michigan and return to Wisconsin later.

Dates are being arranged by the National Secretary for A. M. and May Wood Simons for their eastern tour to begin March 20, instead of March 24th as previously announced. The tour will probably only extend for four weeks.

The following dates have been arranged for Franklin and Marion Wentworth for their eastern tour: February 7, Cincinnati; Feb. 9, Toledo; Feb. 10, Cleveland; Feb. 13, Baltimore; Feb. 14, Washington, D. C.; Feb. 15 and 16, Reading; Feb. 17, 18, 19, New York City.

The election of National Committeeman from Minnesota for 1904 is reported by State Secretary Holman as follows: Thos. Lucas, 36; M. A. Brattland, 22; C. C. Talbott, 2; E. Nash, 54; S. M. Holman, 95. Comrade Holman was declared elected.

The report of the organizing and lecture work being carried on by the national headquarters should stimulate every comrade to renewed activity for the organizing fund. The amount and extent of necessary work performed by the national office will depend upon the comrades in all parts of the country.

The Michigan state convention of the Socialist party has been called to meet in Lansing, Feb. 20. The call issued by State Secretary Menton specifies that the convention will hold two sessions, the first to consider the constitution propaganda, choose headquarters for the party, and such other business as way properly come before it. At the next session nominations will be made for candidates for presidential electors and state officers.

The lecture tour of James F. Carey under direction of the national headquarters, has so far been remarkably successful. Thirteen meetings at Cleveland, Toledo, Akron, Cincinnati, Ohio, and Covington, Ky., are reported among the best ever held at those places. In Cincinnati the hall was filled and the doors had to be closed to prevent overcrowding. The Akron comrades made application for a return date. While in Colorado in February, Comrade Carey will spend a week in the southern coal mining district among the strikers at the expense of the national office.

The following list of speakers has been engaged for a week each by the National headquarters for the municipal campaigns in Wisconsin, especially in Milwaukee: Feb. 1st, John M. Work; Feb. 7

F. E. Seeds; Feb. 14, Jas. H. Brower; Feb. 21st, Max S. Hayes, Feb. 28, Fred G. Strickland; Mar. 6, A. M. Simons; Mar. 13, John W. Slayton; Mar. 20, J. Mahlon Barnes; Mar. 27, Jas. F. Carey. Charles Pergler, Bohemian Organizer, and Silvio Origo, Italian Organizer will also spend a few days each in Milwaukee. George D. Herron will address a special meeting and the Wisconsin comrades are making arrangements direct for the services of Eugene V. Debs, Seymour Stedman, B. Berlyn, and Thomas J. Morgan.

The report of the National Secretary for the year 1903 will be ready within the next two weeks. The report will contain among other things complete data as to the condition of the party organization throughout the country, receipts and expenditures of the national office, and tables showing the work of the national organizers and lecturers, with receipts, expenditures, number of meetings addressed, cities and towns visited, locals organized, etc. The standing of the different state organizations towards the national office on January 1, 1904, will also be shown, with total amount received from each state for dues and supplies during the year. The work of preparing this report has been delayed, but when issued the party members will be made fully acquainted with all the details relating to the affairs of the national organization.

Thornwick Rye Equal to the Best And Better than the Rest.

Iowa Notes

A number of the locals are getting ready to nominate city tickets.

Commencing February 1st, Comrade John M. Work has a week's engagement in Milwaukee.

Claude Patterson, a high school student in Des Moines, captured the 12th prize in Wilmstore's contest, having 120 yearlies to his credit.

National Organizer, John W. Bennett, sends in an application for charter from Holly Springs. The local starts out with seven members.

At Cincinnati the town trustee refused to rent the town hall for a Socialist meeting. This unfairness on the part of "small potatoes" within the ranks of the capitalistic parties will result in another local.

In spite of the unfavorable weather—ice, and snow of the granulated sugar variety everywhere, Organizer McCrillis secured fourteen names to an application for charter at Centerville, and the prospects are good for a large increase in the near future. He held successful meetings at Hamilton and Avery also.

Prof. Geo. R. Kirkpatrick, who has been engaged by the Iowa state committee for a month's campaigning in Iowa in March, writes that he should be pleased if the locals would arrange afternoon addresses before Women's Clubs in addition to his evening lecture. There will be no extra charge for these afternoon addresses, and the subjects most appropriate are "Barnes With the Harness On" and "Socialism and Art."

J. J. JACOBSEN, Secretary

Sioux City, Jan. 20, 1904.

Dear Comrade:—Last Sunday's meeting was not so well attended as is usual, but we managed to get up a discussion, the subject being the cause of wage reductions.

The discussion was opened by Comrade Betow, who had a short paper on the same. He contended that competition was the cause of wages being reduced, but Comrade Wilson took issue with him on that point and went on to show that competition was not the cause. He contended that wages on the average throughout the world were never above the cost of maintenance of the laborer, though wages might go up in this country through some artificial means, such as the tariff, giving the home market to the capitalist to the exclusion of the foreign capitalist creating a demand for home labor, and making it possible for the trade unions to make a collective bargain with their masters, it is only during this period that the trade unions can se-

cure any of their demands. The tariff makes it possible for the capitalist to sell abroad cheap and at home dear, enabling them to sell the enormous surplus which cannot be sold at home. So long as this condition continues, wages will go up some in the country that has the advantage, to the detriment of some other country. This is what the republicans term prosperity, but then the reaction must soon set in and we can see the first symptoms already. It is the private ownership of the earth, creating a master class and a slave class that makes the wage system possible, and also which makes competition among the workers for jobs possible.

The Socialist dance comes off on Thursday, the 28th.

The subject for next Sunday will be "Socialism and the Farmer."

The Iowa Socialist is certainly becoming one of the best papers in the movement, and as was said last week it should not be confined to this state alone, and I hope to see its circulation extended so as to take in the whole country.

Yours for Success, J. W. WILSON, Local Org. Sioux City, Iowa.

Ryan, Ia., Jan. 26, 1904. Editor Iowa Socialist:

Dear Comrade:—We have had a very nice treat here in Ryan in the way of a lecture by Comrade H. C. Darrah of Colorado Springs, Saturday the 26th. Though the weather was very unfavorable (cold), so that no one could come in from the country, yet we had a fair audience and very attentive. Comrade Darrah made such a good impression on the Ryanites in the way of explaining the Soc-

HEAR JAMES F. CAREY,

—THE— Socialist Orator,

—AT— The Temple Hall,

Ninth and Locust Sts.,

Friday Evening, Feb. 5. Admission 10 Cents.

...ialist principles that quite a number are anxious for him to come back again in the near future. Every one I talked with who heard him said THAT is the best one you had here yet, so you may know that I am well pleased too. If you could see the smile on my face since I was up in town you would think I was very good looking after all, though I am 73 and quite wrinkled. My wife says I look ten years younger, so I will say to you, Comrade Darrah! come again soon. Yours for the great cause of Socialism, CHAS. HICKETHER.

Following is the Des Moines Socialist ticket and platform: Mayor—A. D. Pugh. Solicitor—I. S. McCrillis. Engineer—F. Hubbell. Treasurer—J. C. McFadden. Police Judge—E. H. Larson. Assessor—G. R. Jones. Park Commissioner—John J. Donai.

Aldermen-at-Large, West Des Moines—M. L. Pate. Alderman-at-Large, East Des Moines—F. G. Lockwood. Alderman First Ward—C. W. Davis. Alderman Second Ward—A. H. Weeks.

Alderman Third Ward—George A. Leach. Alderman Fourth Ward—W. H. Chase. Alderman Fifth Ward—E. Ericson.

Alderman Sixth Ward—George A. Turbett. Alderman Seventh Ward—E. McKukin.

The Socialist party of Des Moines, in municipal convention assembled hereby reaffirms its adherence to the principles of international Socialism and the national Socialist platform; and declares the aim of the Socialist party to be the organization of the working class and those in sympathy with it into a political party with the object of capturing the powers of government, through the ballot, and using those powers to establish the public ownership of all the means of producing and distributing wealth, including transportation and communication and the control and management thereof by the entire people.

The making of a living vitally concerns all the people and they must therefore own and control the means by which they live in

order to regain and preserve their freedom.

The choice is between industrial despotism and the re-establishment and extension of free government to include industry.

We will not compromise or endanger these great principles of Socialism to gain any lesser reforms, for in the triumph of Socialism all true reforms and their true solution.

The capitalist class fears only the united political action of the working class, for the working class have enough votes to abolish capitalism, and the capitalist class has not sufficient votes to prevent it.

We point to the organization throughout the country of employers, and the present military government in Colorado as typical of the real spirit and methods of capitalism in dealing with the non-political movements of the laboring class to improve its condition, and as highly suggestive of the united political action of this class.

As helps to the accomplishment of our object we favor the initiative, referendum and recall, proportional representation and equal suffrage.

We congratulate the Socialists everywhere upon the unprecedented growth of the party and the quality of its membership, and we commend it to our fellow citizens as the fairest hope of humanity.

We call attention to the loss of 500 lives in the Iroquois theater disaster, to the killing of the past year of 3,500 and the maiming of 47,000 others by the railroads of the country according to the last report of the interstate commerce commission, and to the wholesale sacrifice of life and limb in various industries as illustrating the cheapness of human life in the eye of capitalism, and its hideous sacrifice on the altars of greed.

We earnestly request the cooperation and counsel of all Socialists, and invite them to join the organization and meet with us on the second and fourth Sundays of each month at 3 p. m. in Yeomen hall.

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

Colorado Notes

Comrade A. H. Floaten of Telluride, who was imprisoned last summer for the crime of speaking on the street, has been re-elected member of the National Committee on a vote of 202 to 20.

Comrades Guy E. Millef, president of the Telluride Miners Union, who is an exile from his home, has been inspiring the Denver comrades by his presence, and his words during the past week.

Comrade Ricker of the Appeal to Reason gave a very fine address to a crowded house in Denver, Sunday night; he has spent about two weeks in the state preparing to write up the industrial situation for the Appeal.

The Union men and Socialists who have been on trial at Georgetown for blowing up the Sun and Moon property at Idaho Springs, have been acquitted; the testimony showing that the detectives employed by the citizens alliance blew up the property to make a case, and break up the Union.

State Organizer Mrs. Ida Crouch Hazielt is carrying on a vigorous campaign in Arvada and other suburban towns, while the state organization is perfecting plans for a vigorous two weeks campaign by Carey in February. The internal dissensions have nearly disappeared, and the comrades throughout the state are taking new courage.

These are "strénuous" times in Colorado; many of our Socialist comrades having suffered imprisonment and deportation from their homes by the militia, and our one local at Telluride has been almost annihilated by those uniformed bandits, but wherever our deported comrades go, they go as propagandists of the Socialist party program, and are the most outspoken of all its advocates.

The past week has been one of intense interest in labor circles. A delegate convention of all the labor unions in the state convened Monday night and continued in session three days about 400 delegates being present. Nearly all the leaders and a majority of the delegates were Socialists.

There was much speculation as to what, if any political action would be taken, many expecting that the intense feeling against Governor Peabody would precipitate the forming of a union labor party, or an alliance with the democrats. It was soon discovered however that neither of these results would be realized, that in

fact the only possible independent political action was the endorsement of the Socialist Party, and this the leaders deemed unwise at this time, although it had a majority in the convention. The opinion of the Socialist leaders in the labor movement is, that an endorsement of the party does no good until the rank and file have become sufficiently class-conscious to stand firm, and not be swept over their feet by the campaign promises of reform parties or popular candidates.

As it is, the Socialists in the convention prevented the formation of a new party, which is a distinct gain to the Socialist movement in the state.

The result of this is being felt already in increased interest in the Socialist propaganda. The meetings in Denver now crowd Concord Hall every Sunday night, every available inch of standing room being occupied.

J. W. MARTIN, State Secretary.

David S. Cameron, carpenter. Terms very reasonable. 3130 Pine street.

Local Notes

Don't forget the Carey lecture next Friday evening.

Comrade Carrie L. Johnson will be the speaker at the propaganda meeting next Tuesday evening. Comrade Johnson always has something interesting to say, and the ladies are especially invited to come and hear her next Tuesday evening.

Comrade Lymburner gave a very good talk on Socialism at last Tuesday's propaganda meeting. He covered many of the main points in the Socialist philosophy, and made them clear for the benefit of those who came to find out what the Socialists are really after. This is probably the last time we shall hear Comrade Lymburner, for awhile at least, for he expects to leave the city soon. Dubuque Local will lose a good worker, but some other local will be the gainer.

The entertainment committee held another session on Tuesday evening, and are ready to report that Thursday evening, February 11th is the date of the long-promised affair. Keep it in mind, come and bring all your relatives and friends. You will be "held up" at the door for ten cents apiece, but you will find the attractions inside worth many times that sum. Never mind now what those attractions are to be—the committee will take care of that—your part is to come and bring your friends and your dimes to the Socialist headquarters on the evening of February 11th.

James F. Carey, of Massachusetts, will lecture on "The Future for Socialism" at Temple Hall, Friday evening, February 5th. Comrade Carey has become widely known throughout the United States as a Socialist agitator and legislator. For five years he represented the Fifth Haverhill district in the Massachusetts legislature, and was only defeated in 1903 for a sixth term after an unprecedented campaign conducted by both the republican and democratic parties. Carey's tireless advocacy of working class emancipation has earned for him the bitter antagonism of every enemy of the workers in Massachusetts.

Carey began work in the shoe factories of Haverhill when a boy, has always participated in trade union affairs, and was the first Socialist elected to political office in New England, being chosen a member of the Haverhill Common Council in December, 1897. The following year he was elected to the Massachusetts legislature, being one of the first two Socialist state representatives elected in the United States. He was re-elected in the face of stubborn opposition in 1899, 1900, 1901, 1902.

In 1895 Carey presided over the convention in Boston at which three national organizations were consolidated into the National Boot and Shoe Workers' Union, which organization he represented at the American Federation of Labor Convention at Boston in 1903. For ten years his work has extended throughout every phase of Socialist and trade union activity. As an orator and debater Carey has few superiors on the Socialist platform. His recent defeat for re-election to the Massachusetts legislature presents the first opportunity to extend his sphere of usefulness to the country at large.

Admission ten cents. Everybody come!

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

The Iowa Socialist in clubs of four or more for twenty-five cents per year.

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Our Semi-Annual Shoe Sale before Xmas gives you a chance to save money on your Holiday purchases.

Choice of any of our Ladies' \$3.00 Shoes in any style. Xmas price..... \$2.35

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Peter Meyer, 1564 CLAY ST.

The coral polyp is a very small and very fragile specimen of marine life. It has not even the power of motion. By itself, during its brief life, it would be the sport of every tiny wavelet. But it lives out its brief time, dies and mingles its bones with those of billions of its kind. And by its death, weak as it is, it helps to rear a wall stronger than was ever built by human hands, a wall that defies the pounding of the great waves and outlasts the centuries.

The Socialist movement is a vast movement—as vast as the earth. It is a long way from Germany to Japan, from Australia to Canada. We are rearing a wall as strong as the reefs of coral islands or the ribs of the mountains; a wall that the ocean of capitalism will beat against in vain and that will last—as long as the world needs it.

The individual Socialist is like the coral polyp. Individually we have little power. But we can die for the cause as the polyp dies. What is daily death to us is life to the cause for no effort put forth is lost but will show in the rearing of the mighty wall which will forever shut out oppression and sorrow and social hell.—Los Angeles Socialist.

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