

The Iowa Socialist

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The Fight is On Socialism

The Denver Post of March 31 contained an interview with Gov. Peabody in which he is reported as saying:

"I want to say in reply to the claim that this campaign is a fight to exterminate labor unions in Colorado, that it is absolutely false, and there is not a particle of evidence to warrant the assertion. The fight is one against anarchy and the kind of Socialism that has become rooted in the state. That and nothing more."

This shows the animus of the persecution of labor leaders who are known to be Socialists, and explains why those who are not Socialists have been immune from arrest, imprisonment and deportation. It also shows that the few hundred Socialists who are striving to maintain an organization in the state are up against a tremendous proposition, nothing less than the entire power of the state government, operated by the political machine of capitalism, for it is plain that Gov. Peabody, a little country note shaver, would never undertake a crusade of such magnitude as the present war in Colorado unless inspired by powerful influences.

Those influences control the machines of both republican and democratic parties, and they are secure, for they know that if the labor unions in their blind rage against Peabody, vote the democratic ticket, as they are likely to do, it will be all the same to capitalism, for it will use the democratic machine to crush Socialism and the labor unions which have socialistic tendencies, as it has used the republican machine under Peabody.

Organized labor in Colorado will probably make the grave mistake of again voting with the enemy this year. The just indignation of the unions against Gov. Peabody will prompt them to vote for some democrat in order to "down Peabody" instead of doing the sensible thing, which would be to vote the Socialist ticket, for nothing would be so great a blow to the capitalist class as a largely increased Socialist vote in Colorado where such tremendous efforts are being made to destroy it.

If the labor unions in Colorado are wise they will wheel into line and vote for the Socialist state ticket which will be nominated in May. Forty thousand votes for that ticket would wring more concessions to labor than all the independent organizations or democratic alliances the ways and means committee could possibly arrange.

The Socialist party in Colorado is passing through a terrific struggle but is not by any means discouraged. The greatest want now is funds and this is being supplied in part by the kind assistance of comrades in other states who have sent and are sending donations to help the state committee in its work.

There will be no compromise in Colorado as far as the Socialist party is concerned. Denver Socialists will have a full ticket in the field at the city election May 17, and in the state election next fall there will be a Socialist named for every office on the ticket. The movement is well organized, and is a clear-cut, class-conscious movement. And while Peabody's war on Socialism has almost destroyed a number of our locals and caused us great financial loss and embarrassment, yet the spirit of the movement is unbroken.

J. W. MARTIN, State Secretary.



A Class Conscious Party

MILA TUPPER MAYNARD



Much confusion arises among certain Socialists, particularly those who have not received the education of the trade unions, over the term class-conscious.

Class-consciousness is a fundamental principle in Socialism. It has been defined time and again by Socialist speakers and in Socialist literature. Yet it seems difficult for certain Socialists to grasp its significance and understand its vital importance. This is especially true of those who have been identified with political reform in the past. These do not seem to be able to understand how it is that the initiative and referendum, public ownership, etc., enacted as laws and placed upon the statute books of the state, are not just as good if brought about by a republican, democratic or populist legislature as by one having a Socialist majority. And here is where the principle of class-consciousness comes in. No trade unionist, be he a member of the American Labor Union or the American Federation of Labor (unless it be Samuel Gompers), expects to derive any benefit from the Civic Federation. And why? Because the economic interest of a majority of the members of the Civic Federation is diametrically opposed to the interest of the working class. All history shows that in human society the determining cause of human action in both individual and social life, is the economic interest. Under the present economic system—the profit system—the interest of the capitalist class is a question of the largest possible profit—in railroad parlance, all the traffic will bear. Under this system the interest of the laborer is to get the highest possible wage for all the members of his class working under the best possible conditions. This creates a conflict of interest in which the interests of one are opposed to the interests of the other. The resulting conflict between these two classes is the class struggle. The basic motive behind the capitalist in this struggle is the dollar or profits, and that behind the laborer is a living wage or manhood. The working class comprises at least 80 per cent of the population. The capitalist class represents only the remaining 20 per cent, and this percentage, under the steady concentration of wealth, is rapidly growing less.

The class struggle, then, is an outgrowth of the system and not an attempt on the part of either laborers or capitalists to force an issue that arrays class against class. Mankind are confronted by a condition, not a theory. A condition that must be faced. Power, both political and industrial, the capitalist class now possesses, and administers in its own interest. No legislation, no change in industry, can possibly come, under existing conditions, not in the interest of the ruling or capitalist class.

The capitalist class can be conceived of as abandoning class interest long enough to enact all that Socialists demand and inaugurate—the co-operative commonwealth—but if this were done the economic interest of that class would assert itself and govern the administration and it would be administered in the interest of capitalism. So it is and must continue to be with every change, political and industrial, as long as the capitalist class remains the ruling class. The only hope for the people lies in the coming into power a party composed of a class-conscious labor element, and this means all men who work for wages in any form, whether manual or brain workers, for daily wage or monthly or yearly salaries. It means a party pledged to the inauguration of a system that will give to the laborer all the fruit of his labor, thereby producing for human interests and not private profit. What is meant, then, by a class-conscious Socialist is one who sees that there is no hope of relief for humanity from its present crushing weight of economic burden and social ill save through a party composed of men and of women who understand the interests of the working class and are absolutely committed without any equivocation or mental reservation thereto. Men and women who have not only renounced all allegiance to all other parties, but have as well abandoned all hope of relief from any party formed by the propertied classes under whatsoever name; men and women who understand how futile is all and every measure of reform unless it has behind it a majority whose economic interest pledges them to its success. The initiative and referendum, public ownership of every kind, is opposed to the interest of capitalism and in the nature of the case any such measure will necessarily be rendered ineffective either in enactment or administration if fathered by a capitalistic party. Socialists stand for the collective ownership of the means of production and distribution, i. e., the abolition of private profit and the giving to labor all it produces, and the initiative and referendum. Socialists are not, however, in favor of any of these measures if brought about through any existing party save the Socialist party. A party whose membership in the main is composed of men and women thoroughly committed to the interests of the working class as opposed to the interests of capitalism.

The Coming Brotherhood

We have talked much of the brotherhood to come; but brotherhood has always been a fact of our life, long before it became a modern and insipid sentiment. Only we have been brothers in slavery and torment, brothers in ignorance and its perdition, brothers in disease and war and want, brothers in prostitution and hypocrisy; what happens to one of us sooner or later happens to all; we have always been unescapably involved in a common destiny.

We are brothers in the soil from which we spring; brothers in earthquakes, floods and famines; brothers in la grippe, cholera, smallpox and priestcraft. It is to the interests of the whole of mankind to stamp out the disease that may be starting tonight in some wretched Siberian hamlet; to rescue the children of Egypt and India from the British cotton mills; to escape the craze and blight of some new superstition springing up in Africa or India or Boston. The tuberculosis of the East Side sweatshops is infecting the whole of the city of New York, and spreading therefrom to the Pacific and back across the Atlantic. The world constantly tends to the level of the downmost man in it; and that downmost man is the world's real ruler, hugging it close to his bosom, dragging it down to his death. You do not think so, but it is true, and it ought to be true. For if there were some way by which some of us could get free apart from others, if there were some way by which some of us could have heaven while others had hell, if there were some way by which part of the world could escape some form of the blight and peril and misery of disinherited labor, then would our world indeed be lost and damned; but since men have never been able to separate themselves from one another's woes and wrongs, since history is fairly stricken with the lesson that we cannot escape brotherhood of some kind, since the whole of life is teaching us that we are hourly choosing between brotherhood in suffering and brotherhood in good, it remains for us to choose the brotherhood of a co-operative world, with all its fruits thereof, the fruits of love and liberty.

But so long as there remains a single spot upon the earth where a master can have a hireling, so long as from a single man is withheld the equivalent of the whole product of his labor, just so long will liberty be impossible for any man, for any part of the world. There is no extrication for the individual except through universal extrication. No man can be free until all men are free.—GEORGE D. HERRON.

Zephyrs From Olympus

He (Buddha) spake
Of life; which all can take but none can give,
Life, which all creatures love and strive to keep,
Wonderful, dear and pleasant unto each,
Even to the meanest.—*Light of Asia.*

They take us, metal pliant to their will,
And on their anvils strong we helpless lie
Then, blow on, blow their hammers fall,
until
Grown cold with pain we utter not one cry
But finer grow, and stronger. Unaware
The blacksmiths forge their own steel fetters there.
—*Ethelyn Bryant Chapman.*

There is nothing we cannot overcome;
Say not thy evil instinct is inherited
Or that some trait inborn makes thy whole life forlorn,
And calls down punishment that is not merited.
Back of thy parents and grandparents lies
The great eternal Will. That, too, is thine
Inheritance, strong, beautiful, divine;
Sure lever of success for one who tries.
—*Ella Wheeler Wilcox.*

Do you hate something or some one?
Then of course you will remember that
whatever or whomever you hate is
your master,
And that only what or whom you love has
no power to enslave you.
You are the slave of all you hate,
And made free by whom you love.
To permit anything to inspire hatred in
you is to hand over your soul to it.
To permit anyone to inspire hatred in you
is to hand over your soul to him.
To really love a thing is to be free from it,
And to really love one is to be free from
him.
There is a love-truth in everything,
A love-being in everyone.
Search for these as for hid treasure.
When these are found at last,
The world and you shall be free:
And all there is of infinity shall be no freer.
—*George D. Herron.*

Man, with his so mad Wants
and so mean Endeavors had be-
come the dearer to me; and even
for his sufferings and his sins, I
now first named him brother.—
Carlyle.

Equality—as if it harmed me,
giving others the same chances
and rights as myself—as if it were
not indispensable to my own rights
that others possess the same.—
Whitman.

So jealous of freedom is the wise
man that he will not bind himself
by any habit, good or bad, nor will
he let any passion, not even the
purest love, get the mastery over
his life.—J. Wm. Lloyd.

Nature forever puts a premium
on reality. What is done for effect
is seen to be done for effect; what
is done for love is felt to be done
for love. A man inspires affection
and honor because he was not
lying in wait for these.—Emerson.

In the present day in modern
society the strangulation of the
growth of the people is effected by
the capitalist class. This class,
together with its laws and institu-
tions, constitutes the husk which
has to be thrown off just as itself
threw off the husk of the feudal
aristocracy in its time.—Carpenter.

The desire for freedom is like a
seed; once lodged in a crack of the
walls of circumstance, it may dis-
rupt the well-built order of con-
ventional progress, but it will have
light and space. Good ventilation
is our only safeguard from disaster
in this direction. You cannot kill
the seed, you can only see to it
that the walls have plenty of wide,
airy crevices where the wind and
sun may penetrate freely.—Bliss
Carman.

The Iowa Socialist

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A WORD TO THE WISE

We are approaching a very interesting period in the progress of Socialism. We have before us the national convention which will surpass in interest and importance any that has as yet been held.

The coming presidential campaign will bring before the public great subjects for consideration—subjects fraught with deep significance to the people.

It is a most sacred duty that everyone should inform themselves on all sides of every question that comes up. To do this thoroughly, it is necessary to read what each party press has to say on these questions. The capitalist press will receive its usual quota of readers during this period.

The Socialist papers should have an enormous increase in their circulation to enable them to get before the public with their presentation of those problems which most vitally concern the working people, for upon their votes depends the result of the coming election, and their own consideration by the party in power after election.

If the workers behind a paper receive the encouragement of an ever growing subscription list, they can put forth more effort and in better spirit toward the general enlightenment and uplift of the human family.

The workers behind a paper cannot do the whole thing; they must have the co-operation of their readers. To do this, it is only necessary that every reader who enjoys a paper and approves of its object and tone shall appoint himself a committee of one to send in a club of new subscribers.

The Iowa Socialist will contain all subjects of interest that come up in the convention, and all points of importance on questions that arise during the campaign, as well as all party news.

To be effective and accomplish the good of which it is capable, to prove that it has a right to continue to live, it should have its circulation doubled—in fact a tenfold increase would be the proper caper. Let us hear from our readers at once in this good substantial manner. Let us know whether or not you appreciate the work we are trying to do, by your co-operation in this way, and let us hear at once. Do not put it off, or the co-operative commonwealth will arrive and you will have had no hand in bringing it.

OUR COMMON HUMANITY.

It is reported that the czarina is suffering from influenza, and that there is an epidemic of influenza in St. Petersburg.

No class legislation can control an epidemic; it, at least, is no respecter of persons; it enters the palace with as little compunction

and as perfect ease as it enters the meanest hovel in all the land.

An epidemic will prove our common life and our common interests when nothing else will; it will show beyond the shadow of a doubt that even those whose position seems to raise them above the common dangers of life are not safe until all are safe.

This law of our common interests, which none can escape, is proven in many other ways, but in no other is it so emphatically impressed upon our minds as in the time of epidemics.

The czarina has now, at last, proven her sisterhood to all her subjects. Will she recognize the relationship? It is doubtful.

But some good may result from it, in an effort toward better sanitary conditions for all, and so the world will move another step toward that state that is best suited for the habitation of a happy, wholesome common life.

The other day in declaring General Bell and Captain Wells in contempt of court for refusal to bring President Moyer, of the Western Federation of Miners, into court on a writ of habeas corpus issued by him, Judge Stevens of Colorado said: "A very great question is presented as to whether it is the striking miners or the governor of Colorado and the national guard that are engaged in insurrection and rebellion against the laws of the state." To the unbiased observer on the fence there can be no question as to who the rebels are.

One of Mark Hanna's last messages to his beloved and admiring working class was to the effect that there are two jobs for every one willing to work. In New York the other day 8,000 persons—men, women and children—were on the street waiting for the opening of a new department store to make application for a job. Street car traffic was blocked and a large force of police had their hands full to prevent accidents and a riot. Wonder why some of these people didn't go after that other job.

A bill has been introduced in Congress providing for the pensioning of mail carriers at the age of sixty-five who have been thirty-five years in the service, the pension to be eighty per cent of their pay at the time of retirement. This is very commendable, but why stop with mail carriers? Are there no other useful laborers who deserve pensions? Why not include all workers?

Chattel slavery, feudalism and capitalism were not plans or schemes thought out in all their details by some man or organization of men. These systems are steps in the evolution of society. And thus Socialism also is no cut and dried scheme or plan, nor yet a dream. It is the next necessary step in the evolution of society—if civilization is to survive.

Certainly, the consumer "pays the freight." But who is the consumer? The consumer is the producer—the worker. He is exploited as a consumer after he has been exploited as a producer. He gets it "in the neck" after the manner of the possum in the darkey's trap—"comin' and gwine."

Lincoln said no man is good enough to own another man, but the people still believe that some men are good enough to own other men's jobs. What is the difference whether some one else owns you or merely that upon which you depend for life.

So long as union men will "have nothing to do with working class politics" the smooth politician will continue to "do" them.

Andrew Carnegie's latest is a fund of \$5,000,000 for the benefit of heroes and their dependents. We presume the widows and orphans of the Homestead martyrs will be among those remembered.

A capitalist is a man who has nerve enough to tell another man that if he will go to the river and pull out driftwood for him he may have half of it. It is unnecessary to say what the other man is.

There were six suicides in one day in New York last week, all out-of-works. Of course this is better than the "dead level" of Socialism.

Roosevelt and Hearst may both pose as trust busters, but the Socialists will have the field to themselves as busters of wage slavery.

Hearst and Roosevelt may both be in favor of going after foreign markets, but the Socialists propose to supply the home markets first.

The union man objects to the scab taking his (?) job, but is satisfied to leave the deed to it in the hands of the boss.

A large balance of trade in our favor (?) is significant of an unbalanced condition of the minds of the working class.

We will have the social revolution just so soon as the wheels in the heads of the workers begin to revolve.

What is a fair wage? The Socialist says it is the full value of that which you produce. Do you get it?

The civilization of any society cannot rise permanently above the level of its downmost man.

Socialism also received a "crushing blow" at Milwaukee. Let's turn the other cheek.

The working class is long on votes, but short on knowledge of how to use them.

It is from force of habit, we presume, that the scab scratches the Socialist ticket.

Parry may have gone to Europe to tell his troubles to Kaiser Bill.

Yes, "Socialism is passing"—in the mind of the worker.

Capitalism is chattel slavery on the installment plan.

Exploitation will cease when co-operation begins.

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

Eugene V. Debs, Geo. D. Herron, Edward Carpenter, Jean Longuet, Enrico Ferri, H. M. Hyndman, Karl Kautsky, Jack London, and many other well known Socialists have declared The Comrade to be excellent. The Socialist press is continually recommending The Comrade, pointing out its great value to the Socialist movement. Thousands of subscribers have sent us letters expressing their appreciation. The Comrade is a publication you need, no matter what else you are reading. Each number is beautifully illustrated. Published monthly. Subscription price \$1 per year, or 50c to shareholders of The Comrade Co-operative Co. Bound volumes of The Comrade of the first and second year are \$2 or \$1.20 to shareholders, postage 30c extra. Any Socialist may acquire by monthly payments of 50c a \$5 share and thereby enjoy special rates on The Comrade and other Socialist literature. To new subscribers we make this liberal offer: For 50c we will send The Comrade for six months, and Free, the first three issues of the third volume, if this publication is mentioned. Comrade Co-operative Company, 11 Cooper Square, N. Y.

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.

Sioux City Local meets every Thursday at 7:30 p. m. in Trades and Labor Assembly Hall, fifth floor Opera House Block.

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 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.

Clubbing Offer

The Iowa Socialist for one year and any of the following papers for one year for 60 cents: Willshire's Magazine, Coming Nation, Chicago Socialist, The Vanguard; or the Iowa Socialist for one year and The Comrade for six months for 60 cents.

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

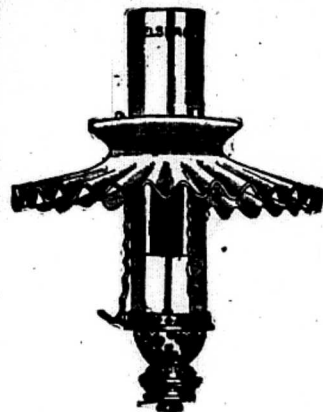
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National Headquarters Bulletin

NATIONAL ORGANIZING FUND.
Total to noon, April 15.....\$ 13.50
Previously reported.....3187.00
Total.....\$3181.46

Remaining dates for George H. Goebel will be in Ohio and Indiana as follows: Dayton, April 22; Xenia, 23; Monticello, 25; Elkhart, 26.

State Secretary Jas. S. Smith, of Illinois, has issued a circular of information concerning hotel accommodations at the convention. Those writing for this information should enclose stamp for reply.

The bulletin is short this week because of making preparations for removal of the office furniture to the seat of new headquarters. Address mail as usual until official announcement of new address is given.

Robert Saltiel, German organizer, reports fine meetings at Cincinnati, and many new members for the German branch. After the Cleveland engagement he will speak as follows: Akron, May 1; Sharon, Pa., 2; Franklin, 3; Butler, 4; Pittsburg, 5, 6, 7 and 8.

Remaining dates for Jas. F. Carey previous to the national convention are as follows: Newark, Ohio, April 21; Portsmouth, 23; Fremont, 25. The Anderson date has been cancelled. After the convention he will speak at Erie, Pa., Buffalo, Jamestown and Rochester, N. Y., reaching home May 10.

The New England Passenger Association has also given a rate of one fare and one-third on certificate plan, under same conditions as other passenger associations previously reported. All who come to the national convention should remember they must get delegate's certificate from railroad agent at time of purchasing ticket if they want reduced fare home from Chicago.

Writing from Spokane, Comrade J. W. Brown gives an idea of the difficulties to be overcome by a Socialist lecturer in Washington: "None of the hotels out here are heated. They have stoves in them and charge a half a dollar extra for fire. I got a cold in Portland, March 3, and it has hung to me ever since. This is the rainy season here. I have seen just three days that it has not rained since the 1st of February. I thought it wonderful when I first came out here to see people walk four and five miles to a meeting. But I've got where I can trot off ten or a dozen miles of an evening and come up next morning like a circus horse. The 21st I went to Granite Falls. The train only went as far as Hartford Junction. I had to walk six miles through rain and snow and was wet to the skin when I arrived. I went to a hotel. The proprietor took my clothes and dried them out at the range. After the meeting I had to walk back to Hartford Junction, so as to take a train in the morning. A man couldn't stand this in the east. But one gets moss covered if he stays out here long enough. The 24th I went to Edmonds. I had to get back to Seattle in time to take the morning train for North Yakima. Edmonds is eighteen miles from Seattle. There was only one way to get back and that was to hoof it. I took Comrade Martin along with me—'misery likes company.'"

Following is a brief synopsis of the work done in Rhode Island by John C. Chase: "I closed my Rhode Island tour on March 8, being there two and a half weeks. I organized but one local, that being the one in Pawtucket. The situation in Rhode Island, as you know, is a peculiar one. The state has been the stronghold of DeLeon in the past and we have been unable to make much headway there with our organization. At the present time the S. L. P. has but one section in the state, located in Providence. The charter of the second one was revoked about Feb. 21. Nearly all of the S. L. P. members outside of Providence and many of them there are out against DeLeon and in open revolt against the S. L. P. I had some very good meetings in their strongholds during my stay in the state, and during the latter part of my stay put in personal work rather than public among the former S. L. P. members. I was treated very kindly by them. In Pawtucket we got some of the best workers to come in. In Woonsocket I held two public meetings and one private conference with those I could reach by communication and would have secured one organization there, giving the necessary number for the state organization if extremely bad weather had not interfered with the meeting. I could secure only four names, one short of the required number. The work of organizing there, however, was left in the hands of a former worker in the S. L. P. and he promised me that he would secure the required number and has written me an encouraging letter since my return home. Our local in Providence is a good one and the comrades are doing all

they can to organize the state and have given me much help in my work there. I feel very much disappointed over not securing a state organization, but feel that it is only a matter of a short time we will have it.

M. W. Wilkins reports his work in Idaho as follows: "It has been a hard month for work. It has either rained or snowed four nights out of five. My three meetings at Middle Valley, Feb. 29, March 1 and 3, were a great success—the largest meetings ever held there by any political party. The interest was intense and I organized six locals with thirteen members, and more in sight. I found an active local at Council, Idaho, and had two crowded meetings there in spite of the storm. At both these places the old party leaders were very excited and wrathful. On the morning of March 5 I started for northern Idaho through Oregon and Washington, speaking at Milton, Ore., the evening of the 7th. I found a local there, but it was the first Socialist meeting ever held there. It rained heavily but sixty voters came out. I expect to speak there on my return to southern Idaho. I spoke at Coeur D'Alene 10th and 11th. Very bad weather both nights. There are fifty-six members of this local, but not more than ten are at present good material for a local, and they but poorly posted. Sentimentalism dominates the thought there with the usual certain results. On the 12th I spoke at Lane, Idaho, to an audience of seventy voters—a large audience for that place. I found there a local of eight members, all good material. Would have spoken there on the 17th except for a dance. On 13th I spoke at Burke—one of the Coeur D'Alene slave camps. Had a fair audience considering the conditions that prevail. The local there has ten good members, who are to be commended for the stand they have made. At Wallace, I found that what Comrade Wrigley has said through the party press about the local there is altogether too true. At Mullen, Idaho, the conditions are exceedingly bad, that is a slave camp of the slave camps. The Socialists there 'don't work' at it. My audience was only thirty and those calling themselves Socialists disappeared quickly after the meeting. It was pay day and each one of the dozen or more saloons had a larger and more appreciative audience than myself—the way some of the so-called Socialists there talked Socialism with their mouths and poured cold water with both hands on the idea of organization makes me think their chief function is to keep Socialism out of the camp. The atmosphere of the Coeur D'Alene mining camps is very oppressive to a free man. And mark you the great mass of workers there are men of American birth and ancestry. It must have taken a master effort on the part of the mining companies to get together so choice a lot of slaves. The spotter and spy abounds there. Men dare not open their mouths on political affairs for fear their working mate is a company sucker. There, too, we find the so-called 'Industrial Union,' composed of men and masters, the latter dictating the policy thereof. My experience in those mining camps is the most disagreeable in the nearly year that I have been in the field. But one thing is certain if I have ever lacked anything in plain speaking before, I made it up in the Coeur D'Alene. The slavishness of those miners makes them contemptible. On the 19th inst. I delivered my eighth speech at Spokane, Wash. Though admission was charged, even the standing room of the hall was taken. On March 20 I spoke to thirty-five people at Moscow, Idaho. In the afternoon of the 21st the audience swelled to 100, and in the evening 200. The interest was intense. On the evening of the 22d I delivered what I believe was the first Socialist speech at Genessee, Idaho, to about eighty voters. There was a very heavy snowstorm that doubtless kept many away.

General Notes

Chicago has been selected by referendum of the membership as the place for the national headquarters. The vote was: Chicago, 5,867; Indianapolis, 1,182; Washington, 506.

Northwood, Iowa, April 18.

Dear Comrades: Prof. Kirkpatrick delivered three lectures at Northwood, April 12, 13 and 14, and I am pleased to report that the professor had a good attendance of interested citizens on each evening. We should have more Kirkpatricks. He is certainly an instructor of unquestionable ability. Not the least bit bitter and very convincing. I would especially mention his lecture entitled "Think or Surrender." These meetings were Northwood's first experience in Socialism and I am sure our vote will be increased this fall by reason of them.

W. A. WILLING.

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5000 Pieces of Lace Curtains on Sale at Cut Prices

Muscatine, Iowa, April 17.

Dear Comrades: Muscatine local held its regular meeting Thursday evening, April 14, at the new quarters, and on account of it being centrally located and an announcement in the evening paper, we had an unusually large crowd, quite a number of unemployed button cutters being present. One of the first things that the local attended to was to elect a committee composed of Comrades Zetler, Lang and Kent to make arrangements for Comrade Snyder's meeting on the 25th, at which time he will deliver an address on Socialism. Three applicants signed the party pledge and took out dues cards, which is encouraging. After the regular business was transacted, Comrade Zetler made a brief talk on the class struggle, simply showing how all struggles were between the wealth makers and the wealth takers, between the workers and the shirkers, and he showed that in former times the working class tried to get more of the wealth they produced through local organizations, but realizing that they could not accomplish their ends they organized all the locals in the cities into one big federation comprising international organizations and in course of time the employers also organized into large federations, such as Parry is organizing for the purpose of keeping the working class from getting a little more of the wealth and wanting to have a voice in the number of hours and providing sanitary conditions. He also showed up the fierce class struggle going on in Colorado at present where the workers have elected a Gov. Peabody, capitalist hireling, and it only shows the workers in that state that if they intend to have an eight hour law established they must put men of their own class into the state legislatures and run the government of that state in the interest of the working class. Comrade Peck also made a short talk on the value of voting for the Socialist party in municipal elections and not simply giving one's vote to some friend if he will only do him some favor. One instance was in the Fourth ward, where a democrat promised to put in a ditch so as to connect a stagnant slough with the river, and he caught a number of so-called Socialist votes. No doubt the ditch would be a good thing, but if they would dig it, it probably would flood the part of town known as South Muscatine, and the government would interfere. Comrade Peck simply showed that in order to inaugurate Socialism we must vote the straight Socialist ticket at every election. Quite a number of other comrades made short talks on the unemployed problem, and taken altogether we had a very good meeting and expect to have a full house for Comrade Snyder. One little incident is that we have a comrade, Corwin Leslie, who attends our meetings regularly in spite of the fact that he has to walk from Conesville, about six miles. He expects to make a talk at our next regular meeting, April 28, and then he goes straight through to Chicago to attend the national convention. I guess I'll ring off.

LEE W. LANG.

Iowa Notes

The Iowa vote on national headquarters resulted as follows: Chicago, 191; Indianapolis, 12; Washington, 11.

The locals in the Tenth district will nominate their candidate for congress by referendum vote. The committeeman from that district instigated the proceedings.

Comrade Harry M. McKee, of California, a national organizer, has been dated by the national secretary as follows: Des Moines, April 27; Marshalltown, 28; Dubuque, 29.

The state convention will be held at

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Marshalltown July 4. Commence to prepare for representation now.

About 340 votes were cast on the state referendum—an excellent showing.

Fewer coin cards have been returned than were sent out.

Why not keep the name before the public and nominate your congressman before the state convention.

The Iowa delegates are: John M. Work, J. J. Jacobsen, John W. Bennett and Carrie L. Johnson. Alternates: W. A. Jacobs, A. K. Gifford, J. F. Sample and John E. Shank.

Comrade Bennett will close his month's trip at Rock Valley on the 25th.

Comrade A. W. Ricker will address the propaganda meeting in Des Moines Sunday afternoon, April 24 at 3:00 p. m. He is temporarily located in Des Moines.

J. J. JACOBSEN.

Local Notes

Comrade W. W. Ingersoll, secretary of Local Polk City, hands in a club.

Comrade Jacobsen says: "The Iowa Socialist is doing more for the party organization than any Socialist paper published."

"I like the Iowa Socialist because it is neat and newsy without being burdensome to read," writes Comrade Ada K. Schell, of Ponca, Neb.

The members and visitors of Dubuque local were well entertained last Tuesday evening. Comrade Fischer opened the program with a short talk during which he propounded several Socialist conundrums. Comrade Lena Milan followed, making her first appearance as a Socialist speaker. Comrade Milan is imbued with the right spirit—always ready to do her part in the work for Socialism, the local may congratulate itself on numbering such women in its membership. Comrade Doremus next gave us an interesting discourse on the ethical side of life which was well received. Then we had some music from a graphophone furnished by Comrade Green, of Boone, Iowa, which was very enjoyable. Comrade Green also told of the Socialist work and victories of Boone, so that altogether it was a very pleasant and profitable evening for all present.

Next Tuesday evening the address at the propaganda meeting will be given by Comrade H. O. Dieterich, and his subject will be "WHY WOMEN SHOULD VOTE." He expects to say some things that will probably be distasteful to the men and desires the ladies to be out in full force to protect him from "wearing eggs," bricks and the like. This is a subject of especial significance to both men and women, and the hall should be crowded with both members of the local and visitors. Everybody come and bring your neighbors.

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