

The Iowa Socialist

Vol. 2 No. 83

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Dubuque, Iowa, April 30, 1904

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50 Cents per Year. In clubs of four, 25c.

Thoughts With the Halls On

E. T. Anderson

Commercialism is rampant, — man's only thought is "Will it pay?"

If the love of money is the root of all evil, how would you classify the love of what money will do?

Rubbing against the world gives to one a certain degree of wisdom, but it's hard on the fuzzi of innocence.

'Tis hard to keep milk sweet during a thunder storm. It is equally difficult to keep a sweet disposition during the present dollar era.

"How to Make Money"—Build an automobile factory. There is a demand for 60,000 more automobiles. Those who have been riding on the back of your class propose to make you carry them and their automobiles both on your back.

8,000 men, women and children fighting, screaming and pushing for an "opportunity" to work in a new department store which opened in New York city was one of the events of last week. Why this strenuousness if there is work for all who want it?

Did you ever see a calla lily blooming midst the city dumping ground? Then you expect to raise innocence in your city slums. 'Tis no wonder you produce such a crop of weeds. YOU and I are to blame for present conditions. Let us not don sack cloth, but go to scraping slime. The "too" old parties have fostered this condition, so you can't scrape slime by joining or remaining in either one of these.

When a boy I used to wonder why they called some man a fish. It's plain now. You have all observed how the big, rich fellow swallows all of his competitors—in him you see the shark, in them (those in the gullet) you will notice the suckers or chubs. And it's unnecessary to point out to you the similarity between some men and the bullhead; and it's a common fact that some men resemble the eel in more ways than one. Most men are susceptible of being hooked, or in other words, "they raise to the bait."

"He is worth a hundred million, the most of which he stole."

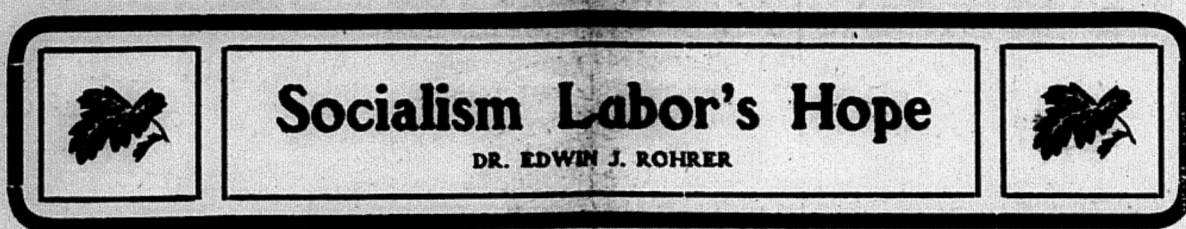
"Gracious! And he belongs to the church?"

"Oh, no, the church belongs to him." Puck.

Don't worry about what Socialism will do. Get together and keep capitalism from doing you. —Chicago Socialist.

That deputation of miners who thanked John Mitchell for helping to reduce their wages, deserves another reduction to make them feel more grateful still. —Erie People.

Sam Gompers told the House Committee on Labor the other day that it had been twenty years since his organization began asking for an eight hour law. And then he blew his nose and wiped away a (crocodile) tear. But then Sammy has drawn a comfortable salary a good share of that time and he has a lively hope that, should another twenty years intervene before Labor's eight hour millenium is realized, he will still continue to draw same. —Los Angeles Socialist.



Socialism Labor's Hope

DR. EDWIN J. ROHRER

The Socialist Movement is a world wide, organized, political effort of the workers whether in factory, farm, mine, office or store to secure Industrial Independence by the peaceful method of the ballot box.

SOCIALISM NOT UNDERSTOOD

The capitalist class, being in control of the public educating institutions of press, platform and political parties, has, generally, either kept the people in entire ignorance of its philosophy, aims and rapid growth or has misrepresented their meaning. They seem to fear nothing so much as an unprejudiced look at the present conditions of the mass of the people, and a scientific—though plain—analysis of their cause and remedy.

Capitalism is causing the concentration of the wealth of the country in a few hands and the spread of poverty among the many, and is the inevitable result of the private ownership of public utilities. Private ownership being the cause, the people will soon see that public ownership is the remedy.

The world is too far advanced toward its blossoming for the light to be longer hid from any but the blindest eyes, and even now the glad cry with which oppressed humanity is heralding the dawn of the better Day of Peace and Brotherhood is filling the uneasy minds of the exploiters of human life and hope with fear. That "Socialism" is the name of this Hope of the World will not prejudice the people. The same rose by another name would smell as sweet.

CAPITALISM vs. SOCIALISM

By Capitalism we mean a social system based upon the private ownership of the means of producing and distributing wealth, the worker being dependent on these owners for employment and receiving a small part of his product in the form of wages, the larger part going to the capitalist as profits. By Socialism we mean a social system based upon the public ownership of the means of production and distribution, public control of them, equal rights to all to labor in them on equitable terms, and the worker to receive the full product of his toil, less his proportionate share of social expenses.

By "Means of Production and Distribution" we mean mills, factories, mines, land, railroads, telegraphs and all industries controlled by trusts and combines.

FOR EXAMPLE

There are a number of public utilities which are now publicly owned and run for the common benefit, such as public schools, the post office, public roads, parks, libraries, gas and electric plants and water works, and Socialists think we would fare better if we extend this principle of public ownership to all other wealth producing industries and run them for the people's benefit. In short, Socialism means Industrial Democracy.

PUBLIC AND PRIVATE OWNERSHIP

Socialists think that what is socially needed to produce the means of life should be socially owned, and what is individually used should be individually owned. For example, they do not propose that the public own your clothes, but that we shall own the mills and factories which produce cloth and clothing and sell them to you at the labor cost of producing them. They do not propose that the public own your home, but that it own the lumber mills and nail and hardware factories and glass works, and that it sell these things to you at labor cost so you can build and own a home such as you would like.

They do not think that the public should own your carpets and furniture and pianos (got one now?) but that we own the mines and forests and factories which produce and work up the raw material and sell them to you at the labor cost of producing them. They do not propose that the nation own your home, but that it own the lumber mills and nail and hardware factories and glass factories, and that it sell things to you at cost so you can build and own your home.

They do not propose that the nation own your carpets and furniture (what kind have you got now?) but that we own the mines and the forests or factories which produce the carpets and furniture and pianos and stoves, and sell them to you at cost, and then you and everybody else who works or has worked will be able to live in a pleasanter home. We want to produce things for use and not for profit. We don't want to send two billion dollars worth of goods abroad every year while thousands at home freeze and starve, but want a decent system of industry so that all can have opportunity to labor and enjoy the full fruits of their labor.

NO MORE DIVIDING UP

Under Capitalism the workers have to "divide up" the product of their labor with some "capitalist" because he owns the "tools" (machines, factories, etc.) with which he labors. Under Socialism the workers will not have to "divide up" with anyone, because they, the public, will own the tools and so own all the product.

Under Socialism the workers will not have to labor long hours on one hand or suffer through lack of employment on the other, because society will be sensibly organized and the WORK "divided up." A man can work or not as he pleases, but if is able and won't work he can live on free air or starve. Millions are now idle who won't work; millions are now idle who can't get work, and millions are now working at occupations which would be useless or nearly so if society were rationally organized. In the first class are millionaires and tramps; in the second a vast army of constantly unemployed; in the third class are traveling salesmen, lawyers, liquor dealers, merchants, personal servants, peddlers, advertising agents, bankers and so on. These men cannot be blamed for working at these occupations now, for under this system their work must be done by somebody, but the system which costs so much wasted labor must and will be succeeded by one in which there will be nothing but useful labor performed.

SOCIALISM INEVITABLE

Capitalism is concentrating the wealth of the country into fewer and fewer hands and poverty is correspondingly widespread. Crime and insanity is increasing so rapidly that if it keeps up the people in five generations from now will all be in the penitentiary or the asylum. Scientific students see the economic cause of crime, insanity, intemperance and other ills of humanity, but it seems people generally are not made aware of this fact.

With a small class owning the wealth of the nation and a large class doomed to hopeless slavery to the owners of this wealth comes the conflicting interests of the two classes. It is to the interest of the capitalist class to get long hours and small wages while the interests of the workers are to get short hours and high wages. This class struggle is on. The issue is plain and the solution will become clearer as it progresses. Labor produces all wealth and should own the wealth it produces. Only when we own the means of producing wealth can we own the product. This is the goal of the race. This is justice. This is the golden rule brought down to earth and used to build a human brotherhood. Poverty and its attendant vices and miseries will be wiped away and every resource of the earth which will make life full and free and glad will be within reach of its humblest inhabitant. Then and then only will it be possible for every one to be "a scholar, a saint and a gentleman."

Zephyrs From Olympus

I am a voice singing the song of deliverance—
The song of joy—of deliverance.

—Edw. Carpenter.

No Man may escape the flow of his spirit toward his ideal, and this is worship in its central sense.—J. Wm. Lloyd.

Love is marriage, incompatibility is divorce, the illegitimate child is the one begotten against its mother's wish.—J. Wm. Lloyd.

That love for one from which there doth not spring
Wide love for all, is but a worthless thing.
—Lowell.

It is not because of his toils that I lament for the poor: we must all toil, or steal (howsoever we name our stealing), which is worse.—Carlyle.

Be like the Ocean which receives all streams and rivers. The Ocean's mighty calm remains unmoved; it feels them not.—Voice of the Silence.

I hold it true that thoughts are things,
Endowed with bodies, breath and wings;
And that we send them forth to fill
The world with good results or ill.

—Ella Wheeler Wilcox.

Some of these days all the skies will be brighter—
Some of these days all burdens be lighter,
Hearts will be happier—souls will be whiter—

Some of these days!

—Frank L. Stanton.

Welcome is every organ and attribute of me, and of any man hearty and clean,

Not an inch nor a particle of an inch is vile, and none shall be less familiar than the rest.

—Whitman.

Like warp and woof our destinies are woven fast,
Linked in sympathy like the keys of an organ vast.

Pluck one thread and the web we mar;
Break but one of a thousand keys
And a jarring pain thru all will run.

—Whittier.

All Nature is but Art, unknown to thee;
All Chance, Direction which thou canst not see;

All Discord, Harmony not understood;
All partial Evil, universal Good;
And spite of Pride, in erring Reason's spite,

One truth is clear, whatever is, is right.
—Pope.

It is an universal maxim worthy of all acceptance, that a man may have that allowance he takes. Take the place and attitude to which you see your unquestionable right, and all men acquiesce. The world must be just. It always leaves every man with profound unconcern to set his own rate.—Emerson.

Nothing is secure but life, transition, the energizing spirit. No love can be bound by oath or covenant to secure it against a higher love. No truth so sublime but it may be trivial tomorrow in the light of new thoughts. People wish to be settled; only as far as they are unsettled is there any hope for them.—Emerson.

Pray not! the darkness will not brighten!
Ask
Nought from the silence, for it cannot speak!
Vex not your mournful minds with pious pains!
Ah! Brothers, Sisters! seek
Nought from the helpless gods by gift and hymn,
Nor bribe with blood, nor feed with fruit and cakes;
Within yourselves deliverance must be sought;
Each man his prison makes.

—Light of Asia.

The Iowa Socialist

Published every Saturday in the interest of the Socialist Party by
THE IOWA SOCIALIST PUBLISHING CO
Cor. Sixth and Iowa Sts., Dubuque, Iowa.

TERMS TO SUBSCRIBERS.
One year \$ 50
Six months 25
In clubs of four or more, one year 25
Four yearly postal subscription cards 1.00
Sample subscription for four weeks .50
Bundle rates per hundred .50
Weekly bundles to one address per hundred .50
Payable in Advance.

Address all communications and make money orders, drafts and checks payable to The Iowa Socialist. Communications intended for publication must bear the writer's name (not necessarily for publication, however, and if for the current issue, should reach this office not later than the Wednesday preceding date of issue. Rejected manuscripts will not be returned unless stamps are enclosed. All communications to insure consideration must be written on one side of paper. Receipts are never sent to individual subscribers. Acknowledgment is made by number on the yellow address label.
Advertising rates furnished upon application.

Entered October 3, 1902, at Dubuque, Iowa, as second-class matter, under Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.



AN OMINOUS SILENCE.

Have you stopped to question why the editors of the old party press are so silent in regard to the situation in Colorado? This same silence has held possession of the editorial page during the entire strike and troublous times in the mining districts of Colorado. Recently the following item appeared in one of our city papers:

Denver, April 21.—When the train bearing Charles H. Moyer, president of the Western Federation of Miners, to appear this afternoon before the supreme court for a hearing on habeas corpus proceedings, arrived today accompanied by a military guard, a small sized riot resulted. Secretary Haywood, of the Western Federation of Miners, walked into the train and shook hands with Moyer. Captain Bulkley Wells immediately made a move toward Haywood, to strike him. A fight resulted in which Wells was knocked down. Haywood was bayoneted and clubbed by the troopers into insensibility. Haywood was arrested.

And among other headings to it is this: "A Militia Captain Aided by His Men, Clubs His Victim into Insensibility."

It would seem that there was sufficient food for thought to start the most sluggish brain into activity. In the first place, what constitutes a riot? Can one man make a riot? It is usually understood that it takes a group of people imbued with a spirit of lawlessness to make a riot. Everyone who knows Comrade Haywood knows that he would not initiate any act of violence, but being attacked, he would defend himself. It is plain to be seen that the militia are the ones who rioted. At the beginning of the strike they took the cue from their superior officers and have ever since disregarded all law. That they should "club their victim into insensibility" is not surprising—it is on a line with their other conduct. A long list of "victims" have marked their path through this period of labor troubles. Nor will this "victim" be the last.

Only a few years ago such occurrences would have aroused the people from ocean to ocean; but now it meets only apathetic silence; the public conscience seems deadened to all these outrages. Apparently, we may expect the "Czar of all the Russias" to be the first to protest.

And what does the daily paper quoted above have on its editorial page in this same issue? Here are the topics: "A Good Idea," being a learned disquisition on farming; "False Charges," being a quarrel among the parasites in congress as to whether or not the president had disregarded the civil service rules; "Won't Have Parker;" "Roosevelt as a Speaker;" "The Pennsylvania Democracy;"

"Educating the Esquimaux," and a few squibs of no possible import to the working world. Now what do you think of that? No reference whatever to the Colorado "victim" of mob violence! Are the editors of the capitalist press worthy of confidence when they so deliberately ignore all these acts of tyranny?

The secret of the matter is this: As Gov. Peabody admits, the fight is against Socialism, and members of the Socialist party have been singled out for the various brands of abuses and outrages that have been perpetrated by the tools of capitalism in Colo-russia during this strike. President Moyer and Secretary Haywood of the Western Federation of Miners are both members of Denver Local of the Socialist party.

If there were editorial comment on the persecution of these men and others who have suffered similar treatment it would advertise Socialism, and they know it. The "voting stock" would inquire why this attack on Socialism by capitalism through its servant Peabody? And they would find that capitalism is beginning to feel the pressure of Socialist thought and teaching; and to entrench itself and secure an extension of its "graft" on the workers of the world, capitalism must resort to every means possible; while it is in control of the state every power of the state will be used; and if that goes not far enough they will step outside the law to accomplish their ends. All these things will continue until the working man and woman get sense enough to know that they are mere puppets in either old party, and stand for their own interests in a party of their own. This will make Socialists of them, and with the dawn of Socialism will come an end to all the exploitation and persecution of the working people.

Hail the day! May it come speedily!

The Rt. Rev. N. C. Matz, bishop of Colorado, in an Easter sermon in Denver is reported to have said:

"In the name of society, in the name of progress, we must hurl an anathema against any system (call it Socialism, collectivism, communism, or by whatever name you please) which threatens to impair or remove the eternal foundations of charity, justice and authority whereon society rests. We hurl an eternal anathema against the nefarious agents who are propagating such systems by their speeches, their literature, their associations, disseminating their anti-social and subversive doctrines, deceiving their unsuspecting victims into a social vortex by their delusive hopes of wealth and happiness. We denounce them as fiends of humanity whom society, for its own salvation, should condemn to the DUNGEON OR THE GALLOWS."

And this monster poses as a representative of the gentle Jesus! What's the matter with Colorado? Is hell full to overflowing and is his satanic majesty using Colorado as a dumping ground for the fiends who populate his realms?

A question that will be discussed at the national convention next week is the attitude of the Socialist party toward the farmers. We cannot see why any distinction should be made between the farm laborer and the city proletarian. And by farm laborer we do not mean merely the laborer who works for hire. The tenant farmer as well as the slave to a mortgage or a title deed to an 80 acre lot is also a laborer. The fact that according to the last census 38.3 per cent of the farms of the United States are operated by tenants, together with the large numbers who are mortgaged or merely owners of small farms, leaves no doubt but that the farmers as a class are "prowling terrors."

Nobody knows anything about Judge Parker's views. But what's the odds? So far as they are of any interest to the working class, it makes no difference whether this class knows or does not know how the candidates of the old parties stand on any question of the day.

A New York doctor is said to have advanced the interesting theory that people do not think wholly with the brain, but rather with all parts of the body. It is our opinion, expressed before, that a great many people do not think with any part of their anatomy.

The republican party is putting up a mighty poor brand of weather for a presidential year. The prospects are they will not be able to point with pride to a large crop under their wise and beneficent administration, etc., etc.

There is as much difference between the scientific Socialist and he of the sentimental, utopian variety as there is between the astronomer and the savage "medicine man" mumbling incantations to the stars.

Two thousand families evicted from their (?) homes (because they could not pay the rent) in New York city in one week is a prosperity item that has somehow escaped the ubiquitous reporter of the capitalist press.

You will notice that both old parties are anxious to nominate candidates for president who are considered "safe" by the capitalists. They don't care what the working class may consider them.

The distinguished anarchists of Colorado continue to do business at the old stand. Thus far they have not incurred the righteous wrath of the esteemed Chicago Chronicle.

It is strange, but a fact nevertheless, that the utopian, sentimental, Christian Socialist is generally one who "can't come out openly for fear of losing his position."

Of the 16,187,715 families in the United States in 1900 only 31.8 per cent owned their own homes. And that was the year they voted for the full dinner pail.

Political power is merely the organized power of one class for oppressing another, but a great many people seem to think it is merely a joke.

The attempt of the capitalists to crush Socialism is on a par with the smashing of labor saving machines by the early trades unionists.

The man who is afraid of losing individuality under Socialism would have a hard time showing you where to find it under capitalism.

Prosperity item: Dun's reports 241 failures last week against 166 for the corresponding week last year. Fill up the dinner pail.

That snow storm in St. Louis was perhaps the one that failed to arrive in time to snow under the Socialists of Milwaukee.

Whether or not you are an anarchist depends also upon whether or not you are in agreement with the Chicago Chronicle.

The ideal trades unionist from the capitalist's point of view is one who doesn't believe in "politics in the union."

Is Colorado in America? According to the map makers it is, but otherwise we should say it is in hell.

There is power in thought. See to it that you do not allow others to do your thinking for you.

Don't expect that Socialism is going to be handed to you on a gold platter by the capitalist class.

Public utilities owned by a capitalist government generally turn out to be futilities.

There are three kinds of liars—common liars, republican liars and democratic liars.

The democratic party is dead but the parasites find it hard to leave the carcass.

A capitalist may be a Socialist but it is more likely that he is a capitalist.

Capitalism will destroy itself, but there's still a lot of life in the critter.

The anarchy of the capitalist class is usually called "law and order."

Hearst's love for the working-man, like his papers, has a yellow streak.

The man who does not think for himself always works for somebody else.

In any event the democratic candidate will not get the Socialist vote.

This would be a mighty poor world but for the kickers in it.

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

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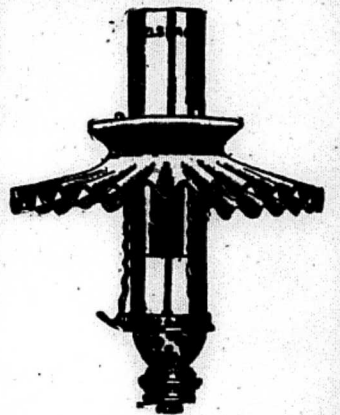
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Down at the Corners

The little Socialist speaker had returned to the Corners. The comrades had become so greatly interested, as election day drew near, that all other interests were but incidental to the main issue. The Socialist meetings were no longer held in the street; the largest hall available was in use, and that did not suffice to accommodate the crowds.

On the evening in question, Sile presided and introduced the speaker. In doing so he said:

"Comrades and feller citizens! It was not many months ago when the speaker of the evenin' first come to the Corners and begun his work of convertin' the heathen. There was lots of the heathen then; a blamed sight more than there is now, judgin' from the crowd here present this evenin'. Many of us thought when we first heerd him that he was a leetle cracked in the upper story, but now we know that his upper story was all right, and that it was ourn that was out o' whack.

"It has been a source of satisfaction to me durin' the past few days in readin' the newspapers, at a time when the people and the editors are speakin' their honest sentiments. It shows how near we air to the good time comin'. Socialists air makin' hist'ry fast these days. Newspapers are comin' over and the multitude is comin' too.

I don't know how you feel about it, but as for me, I'm mighty glad I'm alive.

"I'm not here, though, fur the purpose of makin' a speech. There's another feller here that can do that to your and to my satisfaction. You want to hear him and so do I, and I'll quit and give him a show. He don't need any interduction; you all know him. I'll quit and he can begin."

Sile sot down amid applause and the little "feller" arose and began. Said he:

"I cut this out of one of Mr. Dooley's articles in one of the newspapers the other day. It's about freedom, and I want to read it to you," and he read:

"Hunger, Hinnessey, is about the same thing in a raypublic as in a despotism. There's not much choice in unhappiness between a hungry slave and a hungry freeman. Ye can't cook or wear freedom. Ye can't make freedom into a stew, an' ye can't cut a pair iv pants out iv it. It won't bile, fry, bake or fricassee. Ye can't take two pounds iv fresh creamery freedom, one pound iv north wind, a heapin' taycupful iv national aspirations an' a sprinklin' iv bars from the naytional air, mix well, cook over a hot fire, and sarve shtraight fr'm th' shtove; ye can't make a disht out iv it that would nourish a tired freeman whin he comes home afther a harrd day's work lookin' f'r a job."

"There, fellow citizens and comrades, you have it; much in little. Nothing truer was ever written. Freedom is not a beautiful theory; it is a sturdy fact.

"It isn't living in a republic that makes a man free. As Mr. Dooley says: 'Hunger, Hinnessey, is about th' same thing in a raypublic as in a despotism.' It's the size of the wage that determines the amount of freedom which a man has. A man cannot be free as long as he receives but an infinitesimal portion of the product of his toil. When his labor, or the bulk of it, is used to purchase the freedom, the liberty and the privileges enjoyed by another man, a laboring man is not free and cannot be free. No power on earth or in heaven can make a

poor man free. Today the laboring man of the world receives just 17 per cent. of the freedom they are entitled to. They receive 17 per cent of the product of their toil, and the capitalists get the other 83 per cent for profit. Labor and liberty ought to be synonymous terms. They ought to mean the same thing. But they do not and they cannot until the working class get the 100 per cent; get all that they produce. When they do that and not until then, will the working class receive all the freedom they are entitled to, and can fully claim.

"Under the system of private profit men cannot be free. As long as one man makes profit from the labor of another, just so long must the man who labors be a slave. How much of a slave depends upon how much is taken from him by the capitalist for profit.

"The amount of his labor which goes to profit will determine just how far the laborer falls short of being a free man.

But don't worry, fellow citizens, men are bound to be free. The love of freedom is inherent in the nature of man, and what's in the warp must come out in the woof. Men are bound to be free. God's laws—the laws of nature—would bring it some day, but 'the mills of the Gods grind slowly.' Men are beginning to see and to understand how the profit system robs them of their freedom; how it enslaves them, and they are going to do as Father Haggerty said: 'Make evolution hustle from this time on.' Human selection will aid natural selection. In the language of my religious brethren, men are going to become co-workers together with God and hurry up the time when mankind will come into their full birthright of freedom.

"Let me illustrate: Scientists tell us that the ancestor of the apple tree, the pear tree and some other fruits, was a shrub on the mountain-side, resembling a wild rose bush. Inherent in that tree, however, was the power to bring forth fruit. It would have done it, too, under the operation of nature's laws. It would have been washed down the mountain-side, and in time—it might have taken ages—it would have lodged in an environment that would have developed the tree to the point where it would bear fruit.

"A man saw the shrub and one day was attracted by it. He did with it in an hour what nature would have been centuries in doing. He pulled it up and transplanted it to his garden. He watered, fertilized and cared for it, and one morning he found fruit on it; the tree had come into its own. The power to bring forth fruit had fulfilled itself. The tree had come into its own. It had realized its own higher life. Man had 'made evolution hustle' as far as that tree was concerned.

"Throughout centuries nature has been working out from the nature of man the freedom inherent there. It has all come through the slow working of nature at first, but there came a time when man saw what nature was trying to do, and he took hold and assisted her; he made evolution hustle, and the job was done.

"Nature is now trying to bring industrial freedom and make all the other kinds of liberty real, through giving mankind industrial liberty.

"She'll do it, too, if we let her alone, but man is beginning to see the object aimed at by nature, and he is putting his shoulders to the

wheel and evolution has got to hustle and she is hustling. Yes; she is hustling—how she is hustling these days! She will go on, too, with an ever accelerated hustle, and we'll soon be free. Isn't it good to be alive these days? Isn't it? Good night." SAM OAKS.

Socialist Seedlings

R. A. and M. T. Maynard

A system of private profit aims at dividends, not public benefit, at financial success not justice, at money not manhood. Socialism will aim at service, justice and humanity.

The system of private profit has some advantages and many disadvantages. The problem is to keep the advantages and get rid of the disadvantages. The advantages arise from union and the elimination of internal conflict that characterizes all monopoly. The disadvantages arise from the antagonism of interest between the owners of a powerful monopoly and the public. Socialism keeps all the advantages of internal union and eliminates the disadvantages of monopoly by making the owners and the public one and the same, thereby removing antagonism of interest.

Socialism will eliminate the slavery of existing condition by insuring to all the right to work, the necessary prerequisite to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. It will abolish the dependence of the many upon the will of the few.

It sounds extravagant to claim for Socialism all that students of the subject do claim, but it is not. No one claims that there will be no evils or suffering. They only know that democracy in industry will uproot the cause of unwilling poverty, demoralizing unearned wealth, slavery for the workers and industrial wars. This is not everything but a good deal.

Better conditions make possible better morals. Let a people see to it that its unemployed are given employment; that there are no houses unfit for decent habitation; that there is no overcrowding in the homes of its poorer classes; that the burdens fall equally upon all its citizens and the necessary foundation for further advance has been laid. These are all external things, affecting material conditions merely, but by them the higher human interests are largely effected.

The people are giving evidence of becoming aroused to a sense of justice and equity. Once fully aroused the will of the people will be executed. They will not be content to allow to favored individuals privileges made possible by the needs of all. They will not be content to dole out charity when a better system will eliminate three-fourths of the poverty. They will not be content with the punishment of crime alone, but will prefer to strike at the root and remove the over-crowding, the misery, the hopelessness and the lack of employment which is a fertile source of crime.

An economic cause was behind the French revolution, the American revolution, the war of the rebellion, the uprising of the Cubans against Spain, the war in the Philippines and in South Africa.

Two thousand evictions in New York this week, and Trinity church corporation enforces the majority of them: "Blessed are they who devour widows' houses and for a pretence make long prayers." This quotation may not be exactly correct, but the beatitudes need being brought up to date anyhow.—Erie People.

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: Wilshire'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.

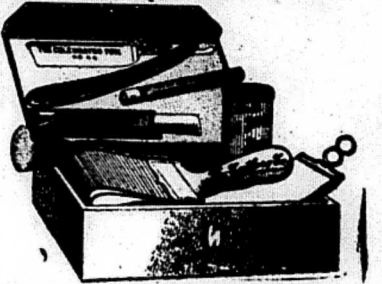
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Party News

National
State
Local

National Headquarters Bulletin

NATIONAL ORGANIZING FUND.
Total to noon, April 23 \$ 12 30
Previously reported 3181 40
Total \$3193 75

The police of Portland, Ore., are interfering with the right of Socialists to hold street meetings, but the local comrades are determined to resist this usurpation of authority and will continue their agitation notwithstanding.

The national headquarters of the Socialist party has been removed from Omaha and established at room 300, Boylston building, 260 Dearborn street, Chicago. All communications for the national secretary should be addressed accordingly and all remittances made payable to William Mailly, national secretary.

Reports to the national headquarters to the effect that a large and representative gathering will be in attendance at the national convention which opens in Chicago May 1. The national secretary is arranging to have the official report of the secretary of the convention issued to the Socialist press as soon as the convention closes.

The meeting of the national convention will necessarily require the attention of the force in the national office and the national secretary therefore requests that correspondents take this into account and have patience if their letters do not receive immediate attention. The removal of headquarters just preceding the national convention places the national office force at a temporary disadvantage, but the normal condition of affairs will be restored as soon as possible.

Geo. E. Bigelow reports as follows: "I have been kept so busy making so many drives and being entertained where I have had no place or opportunity to write that I am behind with my report. I doubt if I will be able to complete it at this time as Comrade Jacobs is to be here in a few minutes to drive me to Bullard, seventeen miles, which drive I have to make to reach them for an afternoon meeting, also to get back here tomorrow by 10:30 a. m. to get train to Alba. Beginning at Watonga, O. T., on Monday, March 1, I could find no advertising matter out, nor could I find a Socialist till 5 p. m. and he informed me the meeting was to be at Hitchcock, fourteen miles away. We drove, got there at 7:30 p. m. and had a good meeting with about fifty present. We drove back to within one mile of Watonga, arriving at Watonga the night of the 2d, one of the comrades volunteering to drive me twenty-two miles to Geary the morning of the 3d so I could make El Reno that p. m. We were in Watonga the night of the terrible storm. Had just started our meeting after a very still and warm day, when the wind began to blow, blowing in three of the court house windows where we were speaking, and creating a stampede, most effectively breaking up our meeting. It became very cold during the night, but at 7 next morning our comrade was on hand to drive the twenty-two miles to Geary. We reached there at 12 noon after much tribulation, wading rivers and the like. I made El Reno in good time and found comrades hustling around seating with plank an old hall having been refused the use of the court house. It was a fairly enthusiastic meeting and comrades seemed pleased. I left an appointment for Sunday night, as I had to lay over there from 2 p. m. till 12:20 a. m. Sunday the 6th. At Geary, the 4th, comrades had secured the new opera house. It was terribly windy, dusty and cold, which very much depleted our crowd. There were 130 or so present, but it was so cold in the room everybody huddled around the stove at the opposite end of the room from the stage, leaving me to talk over a sea of vacant chairs. I was depressed and felt that my wireless telegraphy would not carry so far. At Calumet, the 5th, it still continued to blow. There were about fifty out, some coming five miles in the fearful storm of wind and dirt. The Christian preacher was out and the next morning, Sunday, asked me to preach for him. I preached, showing the impossibility of living the life of brotherhood under the present system. At the conclusion, a saintly old sinner of a hidebound republican came and thanked me and said I gave him some thoughts he never "thanked" before. He even came to the depot before I got away, thanked me again and said he should attend our Socialist meetings and learn more of it. At El Reno at night, Sunday the 6th, we had an audience of 80 or 100, got \$3.16 collection, which beat nothing. Left El Reno at 12:50 a. m., the 7th, for Texas, arriving at Henrietta at 3 p. m. where we had a good meeting at night with about 150 present. At Vernon on the 8th things were arranged and ready. We spoke in a poorly lighted room (court room) to sixty-

five or eighty people. The outlook as well as I could see from my brief stay is hopeful. I left at 1:40 a. m., the 9th, for Ft. Worth, being up all night, as I also was the trip to Henrietta two days earlier. I found arrangements made and advertisement well along when I got to Ft. Worth at 8 a. m. The democrats promised the main court room, but tricked us, only opening a little dark room instead, people came and left while our comrades were hustling for the main room, which they finally got opened by 8:45 p. m. By that time I had sent out and got a lamp and the crowd having gone I spoke to about sixty in the small room, I came to Dallas on the 10th and spoke to about 350 people, and on the 11th to about 400. Comrades said they were the two best meetings ever held in Dallas. Dallas has a good clear movement. Comrade Kerrigan is a wise, well posted, clear-headed man from Maine and Texas is fortunate to have him. At Elmo a storm came up and prevented a meeting. From Elmo I rode on a train to Wills Point and drove to Canton on Sunday, the 13th, where I spoke to about fifty people at 2:30 p. m. and about the same number at night. Comrade Lester is practically alone there. From there I went across country to Edgewood, twelve miles, and caught a train for Tyler where I found comrades waiting who took me to the court house where I spoke at 3 p. m. and again at 8. There were about 100 present in afternoon and about 150 at night. Tyler has a good movement. At Bullard we spoke at 2:30 p. m. and at 8 on the 15th to sixty in the afternoon and 100 at night. I drove from Bullard to Tyler enroute to Alba on the 16th where I arrived on the afternoon train. I found Comrades Gibson and Rhode at station waiting for me as well as a large number of others. We went to the school house where school was dismissed to give us an opportunity to speak, which we did and again at 8 p. m. There were about 200 present at the two meetings. There are some good clear fellows at Alba. Here, Greenville, I spoke yesterday, the 17th, at 3 p. m. to about 200 and at night to 100 in the court house. Comrades notified me here in advance that a certain democratic lawyer, Evans by name, got after Goebel and others of our speakers and would likely be after me at night. I announced at my afternoon meeting that I expected a 'performance' at night, but if there was anything I loved it was a performance and they would find me around at the finish. Well, at night meeting he came in late, but even though he sat right up in front (I knew him not), I skimmed deeper than I ever did before, not knowing but he might be present. And after the meeting was over I was surprised to learn that he sat just at my left. He stole away as silent as a skulking cur. Our comrades are congratulating themselves and me as having carved the bracket. The comrades here are loyal, but few, and overawed by the domineering tactics of the democrats. Their courage is on the boom this morning however. Although I have paid from \$4 to \$5 railroad fare on several occasions and livery to quite an amount, I only lack about \$3 of being even to date on expenses, salary and all."

General Notes

Comrade Miss Bertha Wilkins is a delegate to the national convention from California.

Comrade Mrs. Ida Crouch-Hazlett has been elected as one of the delegates to the national convention from Colorado.

Comrade Hermon F. Titus, editor of the Seattle Socialist, has been elected as delegate at large from the state of Washington to the national convention.

Illinois Socialists held their state convention on April 17 at Peoria. A full state ticket was nominated headed by John Collins for governor. The program adopted will be submitted to referendum of the state.

The Socialist Educational Association, of which Dr. M. J. Konikow, 330 Shawmut avenue, Boston, is treasurer, is endeavoring to raise a fund of \$10,000 to establish a Socialist weekly paper, The New Liberator.

President Moyer, of the Western Federation of Miners, was denied his freedom on a writ of habeas corpus by the supreme court of the state of Colorado. The militia officers claim his detention is a 'military necessity.'

In a straw vote taken by The New Nation on presidential candidates Eugene V. Debs leads with 117 votes, followed by H. Gaylord Wilshire with 72 and Geo. D. Herron with 54. That the Socialist party lacks no timber is shown by the fact that twenty-four others received votes ranging from 1 to 49.

W. T. Withrow, the "Socialist Poet" is

working on four books which will be completed inside the next year and will then appear under the following titles: "The Autobiography of a Dollar," "Social Problems and Their Solution," "The Hell of It," and "The Last Ditch." We are in receipt of a small collection entitled "Damascus Blades."

Muscatine, Iowa, April 26.

Dear Comrades: Muscatine Socialists and sympathizers were given a treat when they attended the lecture given by Comrade J. E. Snyder, national delegate from Oklahoma, Monday evening. Although it rained all morning and even drizzled in the evening, there was a fair turnout, about seventy-five people being present. The speaker held their attention for nearly two hours. Mr. Snyder's address was to the point. He began by giving a definition of Socialism and contrasting it with anarchy. He said the one adds to the government by seeking to increase its power, while the other seeks to destroy government altogether. He blamed the working class for existing as it does at present—slaves of the capitalist class. By organization the working class can easily be the master. Although there will be only one comrade from this city at the convention, we will read the Daily Appeal with interest and expect the national convention to do a great work.

LEE W. LANG.

In a speech delivered in Chicago last Sunday John Turner, the noted English anarchist, said: "Events are leading up to a general conflict. I am not a doctrinaire anarchist, but a firm believer that a general strike of the workers of the world is inevitable. The history of organization of workmen shows the sign of the times and the only logical outcome is a general warfare of the classes, in which the working people will triumph. The greatest strikes of the world have demonstrated the inclination of all workers to join in the conflict and some day conditions will be ripe for a conflict in which all men who work for wages will engage in a struggle for supremacy with the class which dominates society. The Anglo-Saxon workmen are too cold blooded to precipitate the issue themselves, but the Latin people will bring on a general strike. It is coming in France and Spain as sure as fate and the day is not far off. It may be that the capitalist of the Anglo-Saxon countries is shrewd enough to delay the conflict a long time, but if he is blind enough to force it, then capital must suffer the consequences." When he was asked what the next step would be after labor had triumphed over capital he said he did not know, except that society would conform to just whatever the triumphant working people devised. "All will then depend upon the ideals of the people, he said. Whatever the state of society that will give to the masses the kind of society desired will be established."

"The Pirates of Penzance," the comic opera given by local talent with such success several weeks ago, will be repeated next Wednesday evening at the Grand Opera House as a benefit for Prof. C. M. Thomas, the popular leader of the Grand Opera House orchestra.

Local Notes

Comrade D. S. Cameron will assume the responsibility of instructing and entertaining the audience at Socialist Headquarters next Tuesday evening. He will probably tell us some more about his dear friends Sammy and Johnny. These meetings are free and everybody is invited.

During the past week Local Dubuque lost two comrades, F. A. Lymburner and A. A. Leonard. They leave a gap in the

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NEW CARPET DEPARTMENT NOW LOCATED IN THOMPSON STORE.

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ranks which will be hard to fill with the same kind of timber. Comrade Lymburner will settle in the state of Washington and Comrade Leonard will vote the Socialist ticket in California. They carry with them the best wishes of the Dubuque comrades.

Last Tuesday evening the members and visitors of Dubuque local were delightfully entertained by one of Comrade Dieterich's characteristic addresses. Every one present knew many good reasons "why women should vote" before he had finished speaking. For some reason, the men were very backward in discussing the address, and the women—most of them—observed a discreet silence, not wishing to mar the effect of all the good things that had been said in their favor. Comrade Dieterich has more to say along the same line, and it is to be hoped he will give it in the near future to a much larger audience.

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

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.

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Gents' \$2.50 and \$2.25 Shoes in all styles, at.....

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