

AN EPOCH-MAKING CAMPAIGN

Enthusiasm for Debs Amazes Old Party Politicians

We have before us copies of newspapers—not labor and socialist papers, but daily republican and democratic organs—printed in cities touched by the "Red Special," and we must confess our surprise at the uniformly fair reports of the meetings that are given. While those reports are nearly all conservative in tone, as though begrudging the valuable space they are compelled to waste on this new movement, yet the remarkable demonstrations that have taken place in scores of cities and towns between Chicago and the coast have compelled the old party organs to take notice and they tell pretty much the same story.

Everywhere the "Red Special" is greeted by enthusiastic cheering multitudes. As a rule the halls engaged for meetings are too small to hold the enormous crowds that attempt to gain admission and gladly pay from 10 cents to 50 cents for the privilege.

And Debs, the magnetic, eloquent, fearless champion of labor that he is and always was, seems not yet to have passed the zenith of his wonderful popularity and power to attract the working people and charm them with his splendid oratory.

In cold print Debs' speech reads like messages from one truly inspired by noble and lofty ideals. They combine the defiant, ringing words of a Patrick Henry, the cold logic and biting sarcasm of a Wendell Phillips, and the heart-throbbing, blood-warming appeals of a Burke.

The Omaha Daily News, speaking of Debs' speech at a great mass meeting in that city, says:

"Argument followed argument like the fall of a trip hammer, and the rasping voice seemed impatient of the rafter-shaking applause. From start to finish there was no mincing of words. He flayed his audience for letting republicans and democrats bulldoze them. He dissected mercilessly the ignorance of the wage-slave. His sarcasm was a fuse, his epigrams a spark, and the thunder of a Vesuvius roared and reverberated as the wildest cheers rose and fell."

In Denver 4,000 persons jammed themselves into an auditorium and sweltered in the heat and round upon round of applause greeted Debs' bombardment of the plutocracy of Colorado and the nation. As many more people unable to gain entrance to the hall held an overflow meeting on the outside, which was addressed by A. M. Simons and others.

In Salt Lake City and Ogden, Utah, a total of 15,000 people were addressed in three meetings held, and the Mormon politicians were speechless with surprise at the immense gatherings and the enthusiasm manifested by the multitudes.

Over 5,000 workers crowded into the rink at San Francisco to hear the new message and thousands of others thronged the streets unable to secure admission.

Militia officers at Portland, Ore., who boss the army that was built with public funds, refused to rent the auditorium to the socialist when the "Red Special" came to town because

Debs had criticized the militia too severely. The "reds" obtained another large hall, which was packed with 10,000.

In Seattle 3,000 persons, the capacity of the building, secured entrance to the rink, while an overflow of 2,000 was addressed outside.

Five thousand people shouted and applauded at a noonday meeting in Tacoma and the whole town of Everett, Wash., sat up to hear Debs speak at midnight, something that was never heard of before in that locality.

And it should not be forgotten that the people who attend these meetings pay admission of 10 cents to a dollar. How many people will pay an admission to hear Taft and Bryan?

Lethargy may confront the old party speakers, as the newspapers and managers assert, but it is perhaps due to the fact that the people are tired of hearing the old songs and stories and are waiting for something new. Debs and his "Red Special" will fulfill their expectations. Keep your ear to the ground and listen. You can hear the approach of the rumbling, roaring Engine of Progress. At the throttle stands the graduated fireman, Eugene V. Debs.

The promoters of the seventeenth Universal Congress of Peace are to be congratulated on the success attending their efforts last week, which culminated on Saturday in the Trafalgar square demonstration. Naturally, as social-democrats, we are averse to war; but we cannot but think that the non-socialist part of the delegates at the congress seemed to be bravely but blindly struggling against fate. It is all very well for an English delegate to say "God bless the kaiser" because the latter has not yet produced a war; it is also very well for a French delegate to refuse the socialists' remedy as "too simple," though we agree with him "as to the folly of refusing" to bear arms. But after all, it was left to the socialist workman representative as usual to point the moral properly. Our comrade, Will Thorne, M. P., well quoted the resolutions of the various socialist congresses in favor of the abolition of all standing armies and the establishment of a citizen force. He emphasized the fact that the workers of this country had no quarrel with the workers of Germany—their quarrel was with the landlord and capitalist class in all parts of the civilized world, and he said that as long as there were capitalists war would always be brought about. That is perfectly true; and no amount of pious resolutions or good intentions can stave off a war today if the necessities of the capitalist system require such a war, either as a vent to its over-production or as a dread necessity for deciding which of twin shall live or die in a particular commercial market. So long as this cannibal system lasts, men will war upon men; until the workers discover the economic cause of the mischief and remove it by the establishment of socialism. Then, and not till then, will universal peace be possible.—Justice.

series of losing battles in which labor unionism, under the leadership of Mr. Gompers, has engaged, defeats which have forced upon him the hateful innovations of politics in the unions. Defeat, not socialism, has been the main reason for this advance.

And we socialists who have for so many years urged political action upon the unions, and been apparently defeated by Mr. Gompers and his associates, we are in the position of seeing that the thing we fought for has come about in spite of our defeat and when it came it turned out not to be what we meant, as Morris observes in the quotation at the head of this article.

The politics for union men this time, says Mr. Gompers in effect, are democratic politics. And as a reply to this dictum, hundreds of thousands of workmen who habitually vote the republican ticket, and other hundreds of thousands who resent any interference with their supposed "independence" in matters political, are preparing to impress upon Mr. Gompers by still another defeat, that his conception of politics in the unions "turns out to be not what they meant." It will be left mainly to those who have followed Mr. Gompers' teachings in matters pertaining to trades unionism to convince him that the "emancipation of labor" through political action, lies not that way.

All this the socialist can view with complacent satisfaction. Though he will know that the elements of opposition which Mr. Gompers has raised against himself in the ranks of labor by his endorsement of democratic politics have little or no conception of the ultimate result of frustrating Mr. Gompers' efforts, he knows both themselves and their leaders still another step nearer the only tenable position from which the class struggle can be fought to a victorious finish—the field of socialist political action.

To the socialist who has not learned patience from a long experience of being impatient, this process may

seem somewhat irritating by its delay. But none the less, it is the method of economic evolution. It is through struggle alone that the race makes progress, and it is certain that defeat, even repeated defeat, is the most potent experience that leads to victory. And it would seem also that this experience must be our own; we cannot profit to any great extent from the experience of others. Our labor movement is going through a process almost exactly similar to that through which British trade unionism has passed in recent years. They had to discover alliances with "liberal" and other capitalist parties only meant continued defeat—that political action of this kind "turned out to be not what they meant," and that "other men had to fight for what they meant under another name"—and that name is socialism.

Mr. Gompers and his associates and those who support and those who oppose them, are all working out the same experience through which their British fellows have passed. Whether they recognize it or not, makes no difference in the ultimate result. It was found impossible to transform the liberal party in England to an efficient labor party or even a weapon that a labor movement could efficiently use. The democratic party here will be found equally useless for the same purpose. And the reason in both is essentially the same. Both parties are capitalist parties and cannot be any other. This fact, however, must be discovered by actual experience. It may be true that it can be completely demonstrated by socialist theory, but it is equally true this alone is inadequate.

Experience so far has forced the labor leader and his associates and followers to recast the doctrine of "no politics in the unions." It has still another to teach them, viz: that capitalist politics in the unions is the identical "disrupting force" which they ignorantly ascribed to socialism, which latter in turn must finally be recognized as the only form of political action capable of being effectively utilized by organized labor.—Call.

hereafter reclaimed by irrigation or drainage shall remain public property.

Fourth—Abolish "government by injunction" in all disputes between employers and employees.

Fifth—Use all the powers of government that might be at their disposal in the interest of the workers rather than of the capitalists, as is the case at present.

So numerous are the acts that an efficient government might perform in this emergency to relieve the distress of the people that this list of suggestions is susceptible of almost indefinite extension.

But perhaps before this point has been reached the average non-socialist reader has thought to himself, "What's the use of all this ownership by the government, and if it were advisable, how could it be brought about?"

Fine questions!

Here is the answer to the first one: Government ownership of all the tools of production (that's the term we socialists use when we mean railroads, mills, factories, and other places on and in which men work for wages) is necessary because the ownership must rest somewhere; it cannot rest in the operatives because the machinery is too expensive and they are too poor; it cannot rest in the hands of a few, as it does now, without giving that few the power of life and death over the many who must use these tools of production if they are to live; and the only other possible ownership is by all of the people, through the government.—Allan Benson in Socialist Campaign Book.

And while several years would be required to do all of these things, Mr. Debs and his associates might be depended upon to relieve immediate distress by doing, among other things, any or all of these:

First—Take immediate steps to relieve the unemployed by undertaking works of improvement and education until all should have an opportunity to work.

Second—Enact laws providing for the better protection of the workers in the factories and on the railroads.

Third—Prevent the disposal by the national government of any property now owned, especially the public land, and provide that all land that may be

WHAT SOCIALISTS WOULD DO IF THEY WERE IN POWER

WHERE DEFEAT TEACHES VICTORY

Joshua Wanhope, Socialist Candidate for Governor of New York Flays Gompers.

"I pondered all these things, and comes turns out not to be what they in spite of their defeat, and when it how men fight and lose the battle, and meant, and other men have to fight the thing they fought for some about for what they meant under another names."—William Morris.

Possibly in the entire range of social and industrial struggle there is no group of individuals to whom the above observation of Morris applies so exactly as it does to the efforts of the modern labor leader at this particular juncture. The present dilemma of Mr. Gompers, for instance, may be cited as a sufficient example of this truth.

For years this veteran combatant in the ranks of organized labor has steadfastly set his face against political action as a tactic of the labor struggle. Under his influence and that of his many associates the watchword of "No politics in the union" became almost a fundamental article of faith in the creed of American trade

unionism. The member who sought to bring the claims of socialism to the attention of his fellow unionists and urged them to political action in the interest of labor was universally regarded either as a fool who could not realize the disastrous effect of the adoption of his views, or a deliberate malignant who from wifful maliciousness sought knowingly to wreck the structure of organized labor.

Judging from his writings, Mr. Gompers seemingly held out and still perhaps holds both of the above views. No amount of socialist argument has been able to force him to abandon them. Socialism is still "economically unsound, socially wrong and industrially impossible." But one position he has been compelled by the logic of events to abandon—the opposition to political action by the unions. Not only has he been compelled to abandon it, but to become an advocate of the very principle he has opposed for so many years.

Direct socialist action has had little to do with this volte-face. It is, on the contrary, a result of a long

series of losing battles in which labor unionism, under the leadership of Mr. Gompers, has engaged, defeats which have forced upon him the hateful innovations of politics in the unions. Defeat, not socialism, has been the main reason for this advance.

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KEIR HARDIE ON POLITICAL ACTION

Parliamentary Labor Leader of England Advises American Workers

Keir Hardie, socialist and labor member of the British parliament, addressed the delegates of the Central Federated Union, New York, at its regular meeting recently. The hall was crowded and the remarks of Mr. Hardie were received with enthusiasm and every sign of approval.

Mr. Hardie explained the development of labor in British politics, saying:

"Gentlemen and Brother Trades Unionists: I am very glad to have an opportunity of meeting with the members of this organization. I happened to be in the city for a few days on a personal visit to my friend, Robert Hunter, and I thought I could not put Sunday afternoon to better use than to come and pay my respects to yourself (Mr. Coakley) as the head of this great organization and to my fellow trade unionists who compose its membership.

"I shall have much pleasure in conveying to the movement on my return the fraternal greetings which you have been good enough to express, and I can assure you of this, that no matter what the distance that divides us, no matter if you live under one flag whilst we live under another, we are all members of one common brotherhood, the brotherhood of organized labor.

"I remember when last I visited New York, thirteen years ago, I had as a fellow passenger on board the steamer in which I cross, the duke of Marlborough. He was coming out with a business purpose. (Laughter.) He had a proposition to make, which was accepted unanimously I believe. But the morning after our arrival one of the New York papers announced that on the previous day two distinguished Englishmen had arrived in the city; one was the famous duke of Marlborough and the other the notorious Keir Hardie. (Laughter.)

"Now the notoriety which I was supposed to possess at that time still clings to me somewhat, its chief distinguishing feature being that having been born in the working class, having worked in the pits of Scotland from my childhood until my twenty-fourth year, I have never seen reason to be ashamed of the class to which I belonged, or to desert its interests either in trades unionism or in politics. (Applause.)

Some Things in Common.

"I have said that we have many things in common. We have a great trade union movement on the other side, as you have here, and I am glad to be able to report that never in the history of Great Britain was the trades union movement so powerful numerically as a fighting force as it is at this moment. (Applause.)

"We have our labor parades. We have our unemployed processions. We have all these things in common."

"It will interest you to learn what the organized labor movement on the other side has done, and one of the results—I shall name only one—which we have been able to achieve.

"Previous to the last general election three years ago the working class of Great Britain had to depend upon the good will and favor of one or other of the political parties. The working class vote decides every election in the old country, and we went on electing first conservatives, then liberals and then again conservatives, and after having elected these we spent thousands of dollars every year in sending trades union delegates to lobby the members of parliament to endeavor to induce them to fulfill their election pledges.

"The method was not very successful and so at last election we tried a new plan. We stopped sending petitions to parliament, we stopped sending delegates to lobby in parliament—a very demoralizing occupation, I may say—and instead we sent fifty-four direct representatives of the working class to parliament. (Applause.)

"Out of that number, twenty-nine were sent under the auspices of the Labor party, and the Labor party is a separate working class political organization, which is financed by the working class, controlled by the working class and allows neither liberal or tory to put their dirty fingers into our political affairs.

Some of the Results.

"Now, what has been the result? I could weary your patience by telling you of the results already achieved. Let me mention one, and I mention it for this reason: It has a very direct bearing on the biggest question now

before organized labor in the United States of America. Previous to the last election our law courts had practically declared trades unions to be illegal associations.

"They didn't say so in so many words, but that was the practical outcome of the decisions handed down by the law courts. We had injunctions issued against trades unions and trades union funds and trade union officials. We had pickets sent to prison. We had all the circumstances with which you are so familiar in this country.

"The Labor party drafted a bill to remedy that state of affairs, and the object of course of the bill was this: That a trades union and trades union funds should not, under any circumstances, be the object of a suit at law at the instance of an employer. The object of the bill was to make it impossible for the employers through the law courts to cripple or interfere with the work of the trades union movement during a trade dispute.

"Now remember there were only 51,000 workmen in the house of commons out of 670. That both the liberal and tory parties were against our bill. That naturally the house of lords was against the bill. That practically every newspaper in Great Britain was against the bill, and at the back of all that we had the report of a royal commission opposed to our bill.

A Significant Victory.

"The liberal government brought in a bill of its own in opposition to ours. We refused to accept it. They passed it through its first stages in the house of commons and defied us.

"We then brought forward our own bill, and by force of argument and by the strength of the labor vote in the country the liberal government in the end dropped its own bill and adopted ours, which at this moment is the law of the land. (Applause.)

"I want to say to you men that if we had nothing else standing to our credit except that one act it would be worth all the money that has been spent in connection with our entire labor movement.

Why Divide Politically?

"A week ago I saw the great parade on the streets of New York organized by this central body. I admired the men as they marched in thousands in ranks through your streets. And the thought that was in my mind all the time as thousand after thousand marched past was 'Why is it that these men can be so united on Labor day and so divided on election day?' (Applause.)

"What is the secret of it? Why is it that labor all the world over is weak in politics? Why? Because we allow our enemies to set us fighting, when we ought to be combined to fight them, not merely during the strike, but also at the more effective point of the ballot box. And remember this, remember this: That the enemies of labor are not scared when the working class leaves the republican party to go over to the democratic party, or leaves the democratic party to go over to the republican party. No matter which of those parties you are under, you are under them all the time. But what does scare them is when organized labor leaves both parties to form its own party. (Applause.)

The Influence of Combination.

"And so a small party influences politics to an extent and a degree far beyond its mere numerical strength. We have won our success because we have found a means to unite the trades union movement and the socialist movement into one great fighting whole. We no longer have the spectacle of these two sections of the labor movement, the socialist and the trades unionist, fighting. The two are combined and work together unitedly, and vote for each other's candidates with the result that I have already indicated.

"Suppose at next election, suppose at this coming campaign Eugene V. Debs (applause) polls two million votes, as he may well do, the press will then be up against a fact which it will be compelled to recognize and be fair.

"Suppose, before next election, four years hence, the trades union movement was to come out from both the democratic and the republican parties, and join up with the socialist movement to form a combined labor party, the press then would take notice of

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NATIONAL TICKET

 EUGENE V. DEBS BEN HANFORD

STATE TICKET
ELECTORS.
J. F. MABIE, of Fridley.
HIRAM PLATT, of Como.
HERMAN SCHNICK, of Lewistown.
CONGRESSMAN.
LEWIS J. DUNCAN, Butte.
GOVERNOR.
HARRY HAZELTON, Missoula.
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
F. L. BUZZELL, Conrad.
ASSOCIATE JUSTICE OF SUPREME COURT.
H. L. MAURY, Butte.
SECRETARY OF STATE.
A. T. HARVEY, Lewistown.
STATE TREASURER.
JOHN POWERS, Billings.
ATTORNEY GENERAL.
C. H. PARR, Butte.
STATE AUDITOR.
PAUL H. CASTLE, Hamilton.
SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.
ETTA LYONS, Fridley
RAILROAD COMMISSIONERS.
Six-Year Term—A. D. PEUGH, Livingston.
Four-Year Term—JESSE F. GILCHRIST, Billings.
Two-Year Term—JOE BILLINGS, Flathead County.

STATE COMMITTEE MEETING.
 The state committee of Montana met on September 23 in Helena and remained in session three days. A more extended report of the proceedings will be printed next week, as it is late to get the matter in type. The committee worked hard and did good, vital work.
 A cabinet was elected, composed of L. J. Duncan, Caulfield of Missoula and Kruse of Bozeman. McDowell of Billings was elected state secretary and A. W. Harrack manager of the News.
 Definite arrangements were made to finance the News, pay off the old debts, and meet the expenses, and the prospects are that an era of useful and active work is now ahead of the Montana Socialist party that will lead to splendid results for the party of the working class.

SOP TO LABOR.
 American labor still enjoys the superlative opportunity of making a fool of itself every time it gets a chance to have any say in regard to the machinery of government. The man who understands the motive force of history, economics and politics, which is the exploitation of labor, looks with pitying contempt upon the deluded working slave who, on the one day of the year when he can push his power to become his own master and labor in freedom and possession of the product of his toil, still bows his head humbly to the yoke of his master's institutions, and gives his consent to the damnable chains which enthrall him, through his ballot.
 Yet Helena working men have fallen victims to the same old cheap play. The republican party, the wea-

pon by which the rulers and employer keep labor subservient, his deigned to "honor" two of them, Jake Werner and Harry Hall, by naming them for the legislative ticket. And these working men, one a barber and one a printer, go to the trades assembly and tell them how "grateful" they ought to be that they, the workers have been permitted to sit with the rulers. In other words, they pledge themselves to support the program of capitalism, with its courts and organized power against the working class. European workmen would be ashamed of such a program. But American workmen will learn.

REPLY TO GOMPERS ATTACK ON EUGENE V. DEBS.
 (By A. M. Simons)
 Certain definite charges were made by Samuel Gompers against Eugene V. Debs, presidential candidate of the socialist party. These charges were published in the American Federationist for September. No proof accompanied them. None ever will be presented, for the charges are absolutely false. The only thing which they prove is the character of Gompers.

Two principal allegations are made in this attack upon Debs.
 Mr. Gompers says: "He (Debs) organized the American Railway Union and became its president in rivalry to the organization whose official he still was. He worked and plotted for the destruction of the organization of which he was a responsible official."

The truth is that when E. V. Debs decided to form the A. R. U. he went before the convention of the B. of L. F. and after explaining his plans to them tendered his resignation as secretary-treasurer and editor of the official organ, which positions he had held for thirteen years. During this time there had never been a candidate or a vote cast against him. The convention unanimously refused to accept his resignation, although its members thoroughly understood that he was about to undertake the organization of the A. R. U. On the contrary, they unanimously re-elected him. But he felt that he should not hold the office and again tendered his resignation, insisting upon its acceptance. When the convention saw that he was determined to resign, it voted unanimously to give him \$2,000 with which to take a vacation. A check for that amount was handed to him, but he refused to accept it and the check remains uncashed to this day.

Furthermore, within the last year a special official invitation to renew his membership has been extended by the B. of L. F. Finally he now has in his possession an official invitation from the governing body of that organization asking him to become the official guest of the B. of L. F. at its next grand lodge meeting. The men who have extended this invitation do not agree with him politically, and would not do these things did they consider him a traitor to their organization.
 Mr. Gompers says of the A. R. U. strike of 1894: "When a large number of men in the American Railway Union responded to Mr. Debs' call to strike, and many became blacklisted and victimized, he advocated and finally secured the abandonment of the American Railway Union, and thus left his men high and dry without the slightest organized protection."

Had this statement been made by an official of the Citizens' Alliance it might be possible to plead ignorance as an excuse. It is but a variation of the frequent charge of the enemies of organized labor that strikes are called by union officials. But Mr. Gompers cannot plead ignorance. He was in an official position during that strike and played a part which he will not care to have recalled. Therefore he will not dare to deny that when he penned that statement he knew that Debs opposed that strike to the very last, and that it was finally decided upon by a unanimous vote of the governing body of the organization. Far from deserting the men Debs stayed and fought with them even while a president elected by the political party for which Mr. Gompers is now asking the support of organized labor sent federal troops to shoot down the strikers. Mr. Gompers was at the head of a great labor organization at that time. Let him explain what assistance he gave in this hour of desperate need, when Eugene V. Debs stood fighting for the men who had trusted him until he was imprisoned and his organization disrupted and destroyed. Today thousands of those old A. R. U. men are fighting and working for the success of the socialist party. Their action speaks louder than words as to whether Debs betrayed them in their hour of need.
 Mr. Gompers makes another charge. He says:
 "When Mr. Debs was secretary of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and editor of its official magazine, that organization held one of its conventions in Cincinnati. He had given the order for the convention printing to a concern which had a contest on with the Cincinnati Typographical union. A committee of Cincinnati union printers called upon

Mr. Debs to ask him to use the influence of his position to urge the printing company to come to an amicable agreement with the union, or, failing in that, to give the convention printing to a union house. Did Mr. Debs comply with that request? Not a bit of it. He insulted the committee and told them he wanted nothing to do with them or their union."

This statement is a plain malicious lie. No such incident ever took place. No such committee ever came to Debs. No printing was given out by him to any non-union house. Let Mr. Gompers either produce some member of that committee or stand convicted of cowardly malicious lying.

Here are some facts concerning the actions of E. V. Debs in relation to the Typographical union while he was editing the Journal of the B. of L. F. In order to secure the label he re-organized the Typographical union of When he took editorial charge that Journal did not bear the union label. Terre Haute that had fallen into decay, and by so doing placed upon the Journal the first union label ever placed upon any organ of any of the railway brotherhoods. From the time he took charge of the publications of the B. of L. F., not a single piece of printing of that organization was ever put out that did not bear the union label.

Not only did he reorganize the Typographical union of Terre Haute, but he has either organized originally, or reorganized every union now existing in Terre Haute, and for years he was invariably placed in charge of every strike called in that city no matter what unions might be involved.

It would be easy to extend indefinitely the story of the services rendered by E. V. Debs to the cause of organized labor. Hundreds of testimonials might be presented which have been tendered him by various organizations testifying to the success of his efforts in organizing the very unions which are now paying Mr. Gompers' salary. He has been given medals, special endorsements and votes of approval almost without number by local and national bodies besides for his services in these directions.

It is not for E. V. Debs to justify his career as a unionist. It is for Mr. Gompers to prove his charges or stand convicted as a wilful falsifier and traducer of one whose whole life has been devoted to the cause of labor.
 Sept. 19, 1908.

BIG SEATTLE RALLY.
 The two most remarkable political meetings ever held in one night in the state of Washington were held by the Socialist party candidate at Seattle in Dreamland rink, and at Everett, Wash., in the largest auditorium there on the night of September 15, 1908. At Seattle 3,000 were admitted to the building and 2,000 were outside eager to get in; reserved seats sold like sweet apples to Indians at 50 cents and \$1 each, while general admission was 25cents.

Our peerless presidential candidate arrived promptly on time and was greeted with cheers from 3,000 intelligent heads and true hearts, while the Red Special band played the Marseillaise, and twenty-five little boys and girls standing upon the platform with red flags waving and singing Marseillaise brought the feeling of realization of the industrial emancipation of the working class, through the revolt of the wage slaves, and there standing amidst the tiny ones was Comrade Eugene V. Debs, the embodiment of a working class revolting statesman, a man of the people, and as the children marched away, the great audience saw Mr. Debs tenderly kiss the cheek of a tiny maid of five years, then proceeded with words of wisdom to elevate the working people to the consciousness of their class interests, political and economic. His words fell on the ears of his audience to be remembered and reflected upon; his logic was unanswerable and the dictates of his great conscience forced him to arraign present social and political evils in a manner to be comprehended by all. His candor was a stimulus, while his zeal gave evidence of his great faith and love for the working class.

The Seattle meeting closed at 10:30 p. m. and the Red Special was soon on its way to Everett, where at 1:15 a. m. this tireless worker was addressing an audience of 1,700 working men and women. Here too, the audience appeared as a great assembly of conscious students fully realizing what the socialist movement meant to them, and bent on their political and industrial liberation. Grand and magnificent as they were, profound was the general verdict of the close of each meeting, while all comrades looked with satisfaction and pride upon the magnificent health and strength of the movement that is challenging the attention of the wisest and purest men and women of the world.

Thus closed the two greatest political meetings ever held in one night in the state of Washington.
EDWIN J. BROWN.
 Seattle, Wash.

IDAHO

SOCIALIST COUNTY TICKET.
 State senator—William E. Stache.
 Representatives—D. C. Hudson, D. H. Pifer, Frank E. Gibson.
 Sheriff—James Doyle.
 Treasurer—Scott T. Scott.
 Assessor—Charles Bloom.
 Probate Judge—Peter O. Swanson.
 Superintendent of public instruction—John Simola.
 Prosecuting attorney—B. R. Creedon.
 Coroner—George L. Cloud.
 Surveyor—A. P. Reinhardt.
 Commissioners—First district, O. E. Anderson; Second district, E. J. Langlois; Third district, George M. Turner.

The nominations for justices of the peace and constables were left to the county central committee.

The report of the committee on platform and resolutions appointed at the convention was as follows:
 "The Socialist party of Shoshone county in convention assembled reaffirms its adherence to the principles of international socialism and declares its aim to be the organization of all the working classes into a political party for the purpose of conquering the powers of government and administering the same for the benefit of the working classes only.

"Political parties are but the expression of economic class interests. All political parties other than the socialist party are financed, directed and controlled by the representatives of the different groups of the ruling class. In Shoshone county the powers of the Federal Mining & Smelting & Trading company are controlling the republican party and the would-be independent small mine owners are controlling the democratic party so as to force concessions through the judiciary and legislation by a political victory.

"The wage workers are used by both parties as a cat's paw to further the political as well as industrial class interests.

"The Socialist party now calls upon the wage workers to unite politically for the betterment of the workers' conditions as their own economic class interests demand.
 "By forcing the wage workers to submit to discriminating examinations before allowing them to toil for their means of existence, thereby removing the free chance of competition, the brand of industrial servitude appears. Let the workers redeem themselves by voting for the control of the sources that give them the means of life.

"The Socialist party of Shoshone county demands the abolition of the contract system, the direct employment by the company of all labor used, the establishment of a labor bureau for the purpose of investigating, inspecting and reporting upon the conditions of labor, free legal advice, the assessing of all privately owned industry upon its actual selling value in the open market, the abolition of the deputy and blacklisting systems that are used to force the wage workers under the control of the corporations, the publication and sending of a full itemized account of all the revenues and expenditures of the county to every voter, the initiative, referendum and imperative mandate to be put into operation in all county affairs.

"If the people of Shoshone county are not willing to vote for direct government, then they must submit to the grafting, deputy and spy systems of capitalistic representative government.

Delegates Walked to Wallace.
 The convention was called to order in Odd Fellows' hall at 3 o'clock by William E. Stache, and without digression broke right into business. The convention was well attended by delegates from almost every precinct in the county, many of whom had been forced to walk to Wallace from the outlying districts in order to be present. At the opening the attendance was rather poor, but the delegates continued to arrive in tens and threes all through the proceedings, until the meeting had gradually swollen to very considerable size.
 The proceedings were quiet orderly and business like from start to finish. Nothing in the nature of a squabble arose at any time and all delegates seemed to bow without question to the ruling of the chair. Many minor discussions arose in which almost the whole convention participated and all of these were characterized by the best of good humor and good fellowship.

D. H. Pifer and Joe Hutchinson were selected temporary chairman and temporary secretary respectively.
 The following committee on credentials was nominated by the convention at large: George L. Cloud, William E. Stache and Charles Hultner.
 On the appointment of these a recess of 15 minutes was taken in order that their report might be submitted to the convention. This report was as follows, but it is to be noted that this does not include a large number of delegates who arrived at a later period and after the report had been submitted:

D. C. Hudson, George L. Cloud, D. H. Pifer, F. J. Helm, H. Benjertorf, William E. Stache, Frank Gibson, O. E. Anderson, Charles Stanley, Charles Hultner, John Simola, Arthur P. Reinhardt, Peter Swanson, William L. Gibson, D. Needham, Gus Reisinger, Joseph Werner, Joe Hutchinson, George Turner, E. A. Bassett and Myron Topfiffe.

On the conclusion of this report the following committees were appointed by the chair:
 On order of business—P. O. Swanson, D. C. Hudson and O. E. Anderson.
 On platform and resolutions—George Turner, William E. Stache and Charles Hultner.
 On referendum—George L. Cloud and Arthur P. Reinhardt.
 On press—D. H. Pifer.

William E. Stache read his report as secretary of the county central committee. This report was to the effect that the membership of the body had practically quadrupled throughout the county in the last two years, in spite of the fact that the local at Government gulch had passed out of existence through the inability of the members thereof to gain employment and the local at Burke through the non-attendance of its members. The report was adopted.
 P. O. Swanson, the only delegate at the convention who had attended the state convention at Lewistown July 4 last, submitted his report. Mr. Swanson state that everything was harmonious as possible at Lewistown, the members had shown great enthusiasm and he believed that the best possible ticket had been nominated. This report was adopted unanimously.

Nominated by Referendum.
 The nominating of the different candidates for the county offices was, of course, by the referendum system, and the choice of the people was in almost every case by the referendum. The two exceptions were in the case of D. C. Coates, who had

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 AND LEXINGTON BELLE SOUR MASH
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T. J. Lewis in Idaho.

Bonnars FerryOct. 1
OpenOct. 2
LewistownOct. 2
OrofinoOct. 4
Nez Perce	.....Oct. 5

H. A. Barton.

Shoshone	.....Sept. 25
Rupert	.....Sept. 26
Heyburn	.....Sept. 27
Albion	.....Sept. 28
Oakley	.....Sept. 29
Burley	.....Sept. 30
Buhl	.....Oct. 1
Twin Falls	.....Oct. 2
Hansen	.....Oct. 3
Scherrer	.....Oct. 4
American Falls	.....Oct. 5
Pocatello	.....Oct. 6
Open	.....Oct. 7-8
Fairview	.....Oct. 9
Open	.....Oct. 10-11-12
Pocatello	.....Oct. 13
St. Anthony	.....Oct. 14
Idaho Falls	.....Oct. 15
Market Lake	.....Oct. 16
Butte, Mont.	.....Oct. 17
Wallace, Idaho	.....Oct. 18
Burke	.....Oct. 19
Lane	.....Oct. 20
Harrison	.....Oct. 21
Palouse	.....Oct. 22
Lewistown	.....Oct. 23
Orofino	.....Oct. 24
Stites	.....Oct. 26
Tahoe	.....Oct. 27
Kamiah	.....Oct. 28
Nez Perce	.....Oct. 29
Moscow	.....Oct. 30
Spokane, Wash.	.....Oct. 31
Spirit Lake	.....Nov. 1
Coeur d'Alene	.....Nov. 2

R. W. SIMPKINS, Secretary.

"SOMETHING RIGHT AWAY."

The voter who refrains from voting the socialist ticket because he wants to get something "right away" is acting at cross-purposes with his immediate interests. If he really wants to get something at once, the surest way to get it from a non-socialist or anti-socialist party is to vote the socialist ticket. For the bigger the socialist vote the reader will republican and democratic legislators and judges be to grant some of the things that the socialist party demands. You won't get the whole socialist program from their hands, but you will get something. And the smaller the socialist vote the more dilatory they will be to appease your wrongs. A big socialist vote this fall will insure you of getting some concessions from the old-party rulers, and the bigger the vote the greater the concessions they will make to you. They are experienced at the game of getting and holding office, and they will flunk to you as they have heretofore flunked to the barons of finance if you unitedly prove by your ballots that something has got to be done for you "right away" or you will do something for yourself.
ROLLA MYER.
 Eugene, Ore.

Middleton	.....Sept. 28
Parma	.....Sept. 29
Meridian	.....Sept. 30
Boise	.....Oct. 1
Mountain Home	.....Oct. 2
Glenns Ferry	.....Oct. 3
Hailey	.....Oct. 4
Belleuve	.....Oct. 5
Shonshone	.....Oct. 6
Rupert	.....Oct. 7
Hansen	.....Sept. 8
Twin Falls	.....Oct. 9
Burl	.....Oct. 10
Acequia	.....Oct. 11
American Falls	.....Oct. 12
Pocatello	.....Oct. 13
Idaho Falls	.....Oct. 14
Butte, Mont.	.....Oct. 15
Sand Point	.....Oct. 16
Bonnars Ferry	.....Oct. 17
Rathdrum	.....Oct. 18
Coeur d'Alene	.....Oct. 19
Spokane, Wash.	.....Oct. 20
Moscow	.....Oct. 21
Lewistown	.....Oct. 22
Orofino	.....Oct. 23
Nez Perce	.....Oct. 24
Kamiah	.....Oct. 25
Kooskia	.....Oct. 26
Stites	.....Oct. 27
Tahoe	.....Oct. 28
Clearwater	.....Oct. 29
Open	.....Oct. 30
Grangeville	.....Oct. 31

Five half-yearly Sub Cards for One Dollar.

Poet's Corner

THE COMING DAWN.

Oh, the night was dark, and the clouds hung low,
There was not a rift in the gloom,
That enshrouded the slave, as we too
well know,
As he patiently waited his doom.
It had been his portion for ages past,
His life was a living Hell,
But the patient slave has awakened at last.
The result? "Let the future tell."
He had the one right to slave and toil,
From dawn until close of day,
And see the rich share the ill-gotten
spoil
So long as their power held sway.
"No voice in the Law"—just the right
to live,
To suffer and work—and obey,
The laws that wealth and might ever
give,
To slaves who dare not say "nay!"
Oh, the night was dark and the clouds
hung low,
But look! Far away there's a beam,
'Tis a tiny ray of a light that I know
Will in time—like the sunshine
gleam.
"No longer live in the midnight gloom,
No longer suffer life's pains,
No longer suffer, or haste your doom,
For you've nothing to lose but your
chains."
"Unite in a great and generous cause,
Fling to plutocrats back the lie,
Refuse to obey all unjust laws,
Unite—and do or die!"
Like leeches who live on human blood,
Have the parties in power grown
might,
Cared little, done nothing for common
good,
Their graft and misrule made right.
They've sucked life's blood from our
feeble frames
Like vampires inhaled our breath,
Until labor and worth are but empty
names,
And our only release seems—Death!
But the glorious dawn has broken at
last,
Gone is the night with its pains,
The time when we kneel to injustice
is past,
For we've nothing to lose but our
chains"
Chains that Republicans choose with
care,
And Democrats forge with a will,
For all of us wage slaves everywhere
At the nod from "Injunction Bill,"
No matter which one at Washington
reigns,
Taft and Bryan are in the same
nest,
They will rivet tighter and tighter the
chains
On the wage slaves—sorely op-
pressed.
Strike at Graft and Wealth and Greed,
At such right as at present reigns,
Vote from these to be ever freed
And unite—and break your chains.
WM. HANSON.
Lewistown, Mont.

CASCADE COUNTY CONVENTION

In response to the call of the county central committee the socialists met in mass convention in the Labor hall of Great Falls on the 26th of September at 8 o'clock p. m. Organizer Dickenson called the convention to order and upon motion he was made temporary chairman. J. W. Daly being nominated temporary secretary.
The committee on credentials reported and upon motion it was accepted. It was then moved and seconded that the temporary chairman and secretary be made permanent. A motion was then made that the secretary read the report of the committee on platform and resolutions, which read as follows:
We, the Socialist party of Cascade county, Montana, do hereby pledge ourselves to support the constitution and principles of the International Socialists and the Socialist party of the United States and the state of Montana. Labor produces all wealth, and believing that all wealth should belong to the producer, we do hereby pledge our candidates, if elected, to legislate to the best of their ability, in the interest of the producer.
OSCAR ANDERSON,
W. J. PATTERSON,
WM. N. PALSGROVE,
G. W. McDERMOTT,
Committee.
The following ticket was nominated:
District judge—J. M. Rector.
County commissioner—Oscar Anderson.
Sheriff—O. H. Winterround.
Clerk of court—Joe Daley.
Representatives—E. W. Peck, H. P. Jorgenson, M. J. Morris, Oscar English, Jacob Suajnen.
Clerk and recorder—H. P. Neville.
Assessor—H. O. Phillip.
County attorney—John C. Tierney.
Auditor—Wm. Palsgrove.
Treasurer—Frank P. Servass.
Public administrator—James Brady.
Coroner—Wm. Anderson.
Superintendent of schools—Ida McDermott.
Constables—Great Falls, Edwin Gilles, Sam Betten; Belt, W. S. Baker. Justices of the peace—Great Falls, Joe Hagarty, John Lancaster; Stockett, Mike Gessler; Monarch, L. J. Frey; Belt, Alfred Widlampe.
County central committee—Ida A. Dickenson, Oscar Anderson, G. W. McDermott.
A motion was made and carried that the county central committee be vested with power of authority to fill all vacancies. A motion was made and carried that the said committee be also authorized to act as an organizing body. To appoint members from each local to act with them in recognizing Cascade county for its term of office. Fraternally,
J. W. DALEY, Sec'y.

National

Comrade Ben Hanford, candidate for vice president, has again been prostrated by illness at his sister's home in Brooklyn, but is now recuperating.

Party platforms in English, per 1,000, \$1.50. Platforms in foreign languages—Bohemian, Croatian, Finnish, French, German, Hungarian, Italian, Jewish, Lettish, Norwegian, Danish, Polish, Slovak and Swedish, per 1,000, postpaid, \$2.

A movement is on foot to start a Polish socialist paper in Milwaukee. Such a paper is a real necessity, since we have a large Polish population, and the Polish priests and newspapers are waging a constant and unscrupulous war against the socialists.

William English Walling and his wife, formerly Anna Strunsky, have decided to fill a number of lecturing engagements. Their study of the Socialist movement in Europe and its various phases will furnish the subjects.

The Nome Industrial Worker, the semi-weekly that backed an independent labor candidate for congress who came within a few votes of election, has hoisted the banner of Debs and Hanford. Laborites of Nome have formed a big socialist party local.

Machinists' District Council No. 15, comprising all the lodges in and about New York, denounced Gompers' attempt to deliver the labor vote to Bryan and endorsed the candidacy of Debs. The locals are taking similar action.

Comrades of Price county, Wisconsin, have adopted a new method of propaganda. They have inserted the socialist platform as advertising matter in the leading paper of their county. Thus our platform reaches readers who would not look at a socialist paper. This method of agitation, although somewhat expensive, is certainly effective.

The Red Special was due to arrive at Butte, Mont., Thursday, the 24th, at 7:40 p. m., but arrived there after midnight. An immense audience of miners was disappointed, yet a great throng greeted the belated train. The railroad companies report washouts to have been the cause. The same has not yet been verified. The regular schedule has been caught up and the socialist special left Deadwood, S. D., on schedule time, 12:10 p. m., Saturday, September 19.

During the week just closed the Red Special has been greeted by enormous audiences in 56 cities and towns. The reports from every night stop are to the effect that the socialist presidential meeting has been and will be the feature meeting of the presidential campaign.

By reason of the contributions received and from loans promised or secured by the authority of the national executive committee, the finances for the eastern trip of the Red Special as far as Boston, which will be reached October 5, is assured, and the contract for the same is to be signed today.

The committee elected by the organization that met at 105 Prince street, Newark, N. J., to take steps toward aiding the Pouden defense committee of New York is actively engaged in gathering names for the Pouden petition.

The members of the committee declare that Pouden was simply a political refugee and is not subject to the criminal law.

The petition to the president is accompanied by a statement which sets forth that not a single one of the depositions transmitted by the Russian authorities is supported by an affidavit. The acts charged to Pouden were committed in the district of Riga during the revolution there.

National Organizer M. W. Wilkins reports as follows: "It is remarkable how large a number of miners in the coal fields of Illinois are saying: 'I am through with the old parties; Debs and Hanford get my vote this time.' An intelligent miner said to me: 'Up to now I have been a republican, but this year I vote for socialism, and 80 per cent of the voters in this town will do the same.' Pike county, Illinois is the banner democratic county of the state. A prominent democratic lawyer whom I have known many years said: 'I advertised far and wide to get a good meeting for Col. J. Hamilton Lewis, and could only get out 50 voters.' My afternoon speech there on August 29 was made to 300 farmers and many ladies. A wealthy old farmer of that county who has been a greenbacker and populist 30 years, said to me: 'If Pike county is an index, Debs and Hanford will get a tremendous big vote in November.'"

International

SOCIALISTS FOR PEACE

The proceedings of the social-democratic congress at Nuremberg, Germany, September 13, began with a proposal by Chairman Singer that the budget question should be discussed after the parliamentary report and that Herr Bebel should develop the views of the radical section on the subject, while two speakers should represent the other or revisionist side, one for Baden and the other for Bavaria. This was agreed to.

Before the business of the day was entered upon, Harry Quelch, an English delegate, representing the British Social Democratic federation, praised the energy he had observed while traveling through Germany, with which German trade unions were working in the interests of the proletariat. He said his English colleagues were one with the Germans in securing the maintenance of peace.

They were also at one with them in opposing efforts made to disturb it. At the same time he complained that in England also war was decided upon over the heads of the people, who were kept in ignorance of the weaving of the political threads. There would be no war, Delegate Quelch said, on the part of the English bourgeoisie, but in all nations there were groups that were interested in having war. His organization had tried to prevent the Boer war, but had failed. They had also protested against the visit of the British fleet to Cronstadt and to King Edward going to Reval to press the bloody hands of the czar. This meeting the federation regarded as directed against Germany.

The veteran reichstag member, Herr Singer, was elected chairman of the convention. The 210 delegates represent 587,336 party members, an increase of 54,870 during the year.

On Thursday the congress continued the discussion as to whether socialist members of legislative bodies should or should not vote on the government budget. The discussion was stormy, speakers from the north and south alternately declaring that they had no intention of withdrawing from their respective positions.

The veteran leader, August Bebel, is in very poor health, and the effort of his speech on Wednesday has almost prostrated him.

Among other things discussed by the delegates was the May day celebration. Fifteen different resolutions over this question were proposed, but as yet none has been adopted. All of the delegates are united upon the necessity of continuing the May day agitation and consequently the discussion is only upon the ways in which workingmen who may be disciplined by the bosses for refusing to work on May day shall be supported by the party and the unions. The general idea is that the benefits should be paid by a commission representing both the economic and political organizations.

AUSTRALIA.

In Australia the different state organizations of the socialists has taken place.

The general organization, which is called the Socialist Federation of Australia, adopted a declaration of principles, the most important of which are:

No member of the S. F. of A. shall support or be a member of any organization the existence of which is considered by decision of the annual conference of the S. F. of A. to be detrimental to the interests of the socialist movement, and that members of the federation shall not retain membership in the labor party or any other non-socialist political party.

Organizations in each state shall be affiliated with the state socialist party on the following basis: In each center to be known as groups, the groups in turn to combine in district divisions, such to be connected directly with the state party.

The conditions of membership shall be the same in each state.

SOCIALISTS AT THE ESPERANTO CONGRESS.

As the International Esperanto congress was held at Dresden under the official sanction of the king of Saxony, the name "Rug'uloj," which includes all those who recognize allegiance to the red flag, was not permitted on the official program. They appeared as Interesuloj pri la Socia Demando (those interested in the social question), and their meetings, as well as those of the Liberpensuloj (advocates of free thinking), had to be held in an "unofficial" building. In spite of this, the four meetings were fairly well attended, and it was decided to found an International Socialist Esperanto society, a committee being appointed to draw up rules, etc. A letter of greeting, written in Esperanto and German, was sent to Comrade Bebel.

The Liberpensuloj approved the rules drawn up by the committee appointed last year, and the Socio de Libera Penso was formally inaugurated.

Women's Clubs

PROGRESS OF EQUAL SUFFRAGE

(By Alice Stone Blackwell)
It is sometimes said that while the movement for women's education and property rights has advanced rapidly, the movement for suffrage has made little or no progress. On this point, let the "hard facts" speak for themselves.

Seventy years ago women could not vote anywhere, except to a very limited extent in Sweden and a few other places in the Old World.

In 1828, Kentucky gave school suffrage to widows with children of school age. In 1850, Ontario gave it to women both married and single. In 1861, Kansas gave it to all women. In 1867, New South Wales gave women municipal suffrage. In 1869 England gave municipal suffrage to single women and widows. Victoria gave it to women both married and single, and Wyoming gave full suffrage to all women.

In 1871, West Australia gave municipal suffrage to women. School suffrage was granted in 1875 by Michigan and Minnesota, in 1876 by Colorado, in 1877 by New Zealand, in 1878 by New Hampshire and Oregon, in 1879 by Massachusetts, in 1880 by New York and Vermont. In 1880, South Australia gave municipal suffrage to women.

In 1881, municipal suffrage was extended to the single women and widows of Scotland. Nebraska gave women school suffrage in 1882. Municipal suffrage was given by Ontario and Tasmania in 1884, and by New Zealand and New Brunswick in 1886.

In 1887 municipal suffrage was granted in Kansas, Nova Scotia and Manitoba, and school suffrage in North and South Dakota, Montana, Arizona and New Jersey. In the same year Montana gave tax-paying women the right to vote upon all questions submitted to the taxpayers.

In 1888 England gave women county suffrage, and British Columbia and the Northwest Territory gave them municipal suffrage. In 1889 county suffrage was given to the women of Scotland, and municipal suffrage to single women and widows in the Province of Quebec. In 1891 school suffrage was granted in Illinois.

In 1893 school suffrage was granted in Connecticut, and full suffrage in Colorado and New Zealand. In 1894 school suffrage was granted in Ohio, bond suffrage in Iowa, and parish and district suffrage in England to women both married and single. In 1895 full suffrage was granted in South Australia to women both married and single. In 1896 full suffrage was granted in Utah and Idaho.

In 1895 the women of Ireland were given the right to vote for all offices except members of parliament; Minnesota gave women the right to vote for library trustees; Delaware gave school suffrage to tax-paying women; France gave women engaged in commerce the right to vote for judges of the tribunals of commerce, and Louisiana gave tax-paying women the right to vote upon all questions submitted to the tax-payers. In 1906 Wisconsin gave women school suffrage, and West Australia granted full parliamentary suffrage to women, both married and single.

In 1901 New York gave tax-paying women in all towns and villages of the state the right to vote on questions of local taxation, Norway gave municipal suffrage, and the Kansas legislature voted down almost unanimously, and "amid a ripple of amusement," a proposal to repeal municipal suffrage.

In 1902 full national suffrage was granted to all women of federated Australia, and state suffrage to the women of New South Wales.

In 1903 bond suffrage was granted to the women of Kansas. Tasmania gave women full suffrage in 1902, and Queensland in 1905.

In 1906 Finland gave women full national suffrage, and made them eligible to all offices, from members of parliament down.

In 1906 two courts of appeal in Italy (those of Florence and Ancona) confirmed the decision of the lower court to prevent women from voting. The decision of the highest court has not yet been rendered (Oct. 1906.)

Years ago, when equal suffrage was much more unpopular than it is now, somebody asked Bishop Gilbert Haven if it were true that he had been speaking at a suffrage meeting.

"Yes," answered the bishop, "I don't want to fall in at the rear of this reform; I mean to march with the procession!"

There can be no doubt as to which way the procession is moving.

WOMEN WANT FULL SUFFRAGE IN TRADESTON.

In the Tradeston district of Glasgow, Scotland, a vote has been taken of all the women who now have municipal suffrage as to whether they would like to have parliamentary suffrage too. The vote resulted: Yes 1,462; no, 76; neutral, 443. Women have had municipal suffrage in Scotland since 1881, in England since 1889

THE MAJESTIC BUFFET

Herman Schnick, Prop.

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and in Ireland since 1898. The telegraphic dispatches reported that the "straw vote" lately taken by the London Daily Express on woman suffrage went against it. The English papers are now at hand with an analysis of the vote, by which it appears that the majority against it was made up of men. The women's vote was in favor by a majority of more than 17,000.

FERGUS COUNTY SOCIALIST CONVENTION

The socialists of Fergus county met in the court house at Lewistown September 19, and nominated the following ticket:

- Representatives—R. W. Jones Kendall; W. A. Stringley, Rogers.
- Sheriff—Joseph Heany, Lewistown.
- County commissioner—M. C. Pennot, Kendall.
- Clerk and recorder—John A. Roades, Lewistown.
- Clerk of court—J. W. Stoner, Lewistown.
- Assessor—J. W. Nelson, Windham.
- County treasurer—Bernard Neisigh, Lewistown.
- Superintendent of schools—Mrs. Palmer, Garnett.
- Coroner—William Braid, Kendall.
- Administrator—Ed Aiken, Forest Grove.

The meeting was called to order by R. W. Jones of Kendall. Jones was made chairman and J. W. Stoner secretary. Committees were elected as follows: On organization, Herman Schnick, Allan Carmichael, John A. Roades; credentials, Joe Haeney, Ben Fulmer, A. M. Dodson; platform and resolutions, Wm. Baird, A. B. James, Bernard Neisigh; ways and means and county organization, A. McCarty, J. O. McGinn, Joseph Mott.

Fergus County Socialist Platform

This convention heartily endorses the action of the national and state conventions and affirms its aim and intention to be the political and economic organization of the producing class for the purpose of collectively owning and operating all public utilities for the use and benefit of the public, and we affirm that all things privately utilized shall be privately owned; be it

Resolved, That the Fergus county socialist convention pronounce the present road law making \$2 per day legal pay for common labor, a scab road law, and detrimental to the best interests of the entire public; be it further

Resolved, That all socialists of Fergus county and the state of Montana are requested to use all lawful means in their power to have the present road law revised or amended to conform with the union scale of wages in the state of Montana; and that the road supervisors be empowered to hire and pay such scale for all common labor on all public roads; be it further

Resolved, That the towns and cities of this county be more thoroughly inspected by the health officers so that public and private premises be kept in a healthful condition; be it further

Resolved, That we condemn the present contract system on all public works and buildings and demand that the same shall be done by local labor, per day of eight hours, at the union scale of wages; be it

Resolved, That we demand that free text books be furnished all children in public schools; be it

Resolved, That free medical attendance be given all families in need without removing the patients to the poor house.

Ways and Means

Report of committee on ways and means:

We suggest that R. W. Jones, C. B. Jamme and L. H. Woody for the ensuing two years, and the central committee be empowered to devise ways and means of conducting the campaign until their successors are elected.

At the close of the formal work of the convention Comrade Jones gave an address on the "Duties of the Party"; J. W. Stoner on "The Possibilities of the Montana News"; Herman Schnick on "Points About the Campaign."

South America is falling under the spell of socialism in earnest. The socialist vote in Buenos Ayres was 7,576 as against 15,651 for the governmental candidate, and out of a total poll of 36,511. In Argentina the people are lining up in two camps, with the socialists on the one side and the ruling class on the other.

"Join the Party" Leaflets, 20 cents per 100.

"Machine Politics", \$7.50 per 100.
"Primary Principles" Leaflet, 20 cents per 100.

KEIR HARDIE ON POLITICAL ACTION

(Continued from Page 1.)

you. The issue of next election then would not be free trade or protection, would not be trusts versus the amendment of the trusts.

"With a labor party of the kind I have indicated, the fight next time would be labor versus wealth, and to that it is bound to come in the end."

"I hope and trust the day is not far distant when all over the world labor, organized in harmony and joining all round, shall sink all petty and minor differences, shall break down the growing war spirit with its increasing navies and its increasing armies, and unite the whole earth in a great federation of peace, working together for the economic emancipation of the entire human race. (Applause.)—Daily Call.

"WHAT HELP CAN ANY WORKINGMAN EXPECT FROM TAFT OR BRYAN?"

(By Allan L. Benson)

A 40-page booklet that will take votes away from Taft and Bryan and positively make votes for socialism. It is live, crisp and readable. Any workingman who can read it and then vote for Taft or Bryan must be dull-headed indeed. It is a distinctly campaign document and should be given an immense circulation before election. Single copy 10c, per dozen 50c, per hundred \$5, per thousand \$25.

Send us your order now.

"SOCIALIST CAMPAIGN BOOK"

(Compiled by Joseph Medill Patterson)

This document has been admitted, by those capable of judging, to better serve the purpose than those of the other parties. It is not only filled with good material for the comrade themselves, but is also most excellent to put into the hands of the unconverted. It contains articles by a dozen of the best socialist writers. Single copy 25c, per dozen \$1.50, per hundred \$10.

Order from J. Mahlon Barnes, Nat. Sec. Socialist Party, 180 Washington St., Chicago.

ONE MORE

Very few men outside of actual socialists really understand what socialism is. Somehow they all know or have a hazy idea that it means to divide up. We find many industrious, hard-working men who have by skimping and self-denial accumulated a little something for a rainy day. If we approach them with a social thought, "No, sir," is their answer, their jaws set and the lines of their faces tighten, then they will say, "I have worked hard for what I have got and I am going to keep it."

So fixed in their minds is the idea that socialism is going to take away the little they have and give it to someone else that it isn't possible to reason with them, or get their thoughts to run in any channel outside of their own immediate needs.

To put into their hands the finest thoughts expressed by great thinkers is worse than useless, for they will not read, but condemn in advance this thing which they know all about, or think they do.

It requires a good hard blow—a blow of the kind which touches the human chord of sympathy to awaken them to set them thinking. It doesn't matter how hard-headed or obstinate a man may be, a life of hard struggle may have choked back his better self, yet within him, lying dormant is the God given string of fellowship; we have but to touch it and then will he think.

I saw such a blow delivered this last week, and as the saying is, "It's an ill wind that blows no good."

Three of us poor workers entered a certain office on a land contest matter. The official in attendance was gorgeous in his raiment as compared with us. We couldn't help but notice how sleek and well groomed he towered, a thing of beauty; while we, direct from our work, dirty, greasy and ill smelling from the sweat of our bodies, must of necessity be inferiors. Two of us were conscious proletarians, so this seeming indifference we fully understood, but of the third man these thoughts applied to him.

Twenty minutes work and a \$25 fee was the blow that stunned our hard-headed friend. He is not over it yet, but his thinker is working and for himself he is trying to solve how and why a thing like this can be. A poor man, the poorest of the poor, and the whole support of a large family, must work eleven days and then pass over the product of these eleven days of toil to another in exchange for thirty minutes of simple work with a pen. HARD ACRE.
Havre, Mont.

State Department

NOTICE!

To the Members of the Socialist Party.

Address all communications concerning the Montana News to Montana News, Box 908, Helena, Mont.

To subscribers:—Notice the date on address label of your paper and renew before expiration, as all subscriptions will be cancelled on date of expiration.

Comrade Chuning of Missoula sends for \$3 worth of stamps.

John Peters of Red Lodge sends in \$9 for three books of stamps, and one sub.

Secretary Roades of Lewistown sends \$3 for stamps. "Kirkpatrick fine," he says.

Comrade Alex R. Rhone of Plains sends in \$10 to tide the News over its present difficulties and says he will send more in a short time.

Comrade Silas Jackline of Glasgow writes that he wants a socialist local there, and has the names of five or six persons that will join. He asks for instructions. It will be encouraging to have a local at Glasgow once more.

All persons who have borrowed books from the Montana News office are requested herewith to return the same at once, unless they have been given special permission to retain the books for a definite period. Our library is being depleted by local socialists who carry off books and never return them. We need them for educational purposes.

Comrade Brunner of Havre writes of Harrack's meeting. "Last evening was the closing of a series of grand meetings held by Local Havre, with A. W. Harrack as speaker, which through his efforts have won for us the sanction of the people. And today we are freely extended the use of the city hall as an acknowledgment of our being a part of the people at Havre."

Comrade Brunner of Havre says the convention came off all right, and what is more he had not been a candidate for treasurer three hours before he was called aside and received a complete course in republican graft, and in due time was advised not to hesitate at taking even the smallest amount. The socialists are surely a disturbing element in the plans of graft.

From Havre: The socialist county convention for Choteau county which was held on the 19th was entirely successful. A full ticket was nominated, except county attorney. Comrade W. E. Ryan has been elected state delegate for Local Havre. He will be in Helena for the state committee meeting on the 28th. We have raised sufficient money to cover his expenses.

Mike Kileen, secretary of Local Kendall, sends in \$4 for due stamps. He writes of Kirkpatrick's meetings: "Comrade Kirkpatrick spoke here in Jones' opera house afternoon and evening. His remarks were the topic of conversation with the citizens of Kendall the next day. Both democrats and republicans say he is the best speaker they ever heard. We all take off our hats to Comrade Kirkpatrick and wish him as good success as he had here everywhere he goes."

Comrade Julius Meisenbach of Boyes, Mont., sends for 100 campaign envelopes, two watch fobs, "Red Special" 50 cents, membership at large 75 cents, two subs and \$1 for the linotype. He also asks for a list of job work done in the News office. His check is for \$4, and he says if there is any over to make the best use of it we can.

John Mariott of Jackson, Beaverhead county, sends in two subs. He wants to know if there is any likelihood of a good speaker straying round that part of the state. He writes, "There are only two or three avowed socialists here, but we would like to see some socialist seed scattered in this part of the country for we believe the ground is fertile. If one can come we will see that he has a hall to speak in, and that everybody in the county knows he will be here. We are also able to go down in our pockets to meet any reasonable expense." He sends in \$1 for campaign work.

Dear Comrade: T. J. Lewis arrived Sunday and has done some great street work here for the past three nights. This is fair week with carnival shows in the lower end of town, making it rather quiet on the streets up town. But Lewis is there on getting a crowd and holding them, too. His work is much appreciated here. Favorable comment is general and there is no doubt of good results. Collection Sunday night \$9.30, literature \$4; collection Monday night \$5.20, collection Tuesday \$6.05.

Fraternally,
FRED CHUNING.
Missoula, Sept. 25.

Chas. J. Jones of Fromberg sends \$1 for five six-months subscriptions. He says that Comrade Burgess was there and lectured on the street, after which a socialist local was organized. He says 90 per cent of the members are composed of men who never voted or even studied the socialist platform prior to the recent panic, but who are now convinced that only through socialism can such things be averted. "This local is composed of good, honest, conscientious men who are enthusiastic workers, and who believe that the hope of the world is socialism, and who realize that only through organization politically will they ever be able to accomplish anything."

Dear Comrade: Just got in here from Billings. Will have a meeting on the street tonight. Had the best meeting yet on the street in Billings yesterday afternoon. Good crowd and splendid attention. Sold 30 "Imprudent Marriages." Burgess will be in Friday tonight. We are planning for a van next year. Have got to get some better plan to reach the farmers and the "van" seems to be the best. Sorry Burgess and I could not have stayed together longer but the revenue would not warrant it.

Fraternally yours,
J. F. MABIE.
Red Lodge, Sept. 21.

Dear Comrades: Inclosed find an account of Comrade Burgess' meetings. He had very poor luck on account of the Red Lodge fair.

On Tuesday Comrade Dew drove to Red Lodge to the convention, taking with him from Bear Creek Comrade Burgess, who spoke there the night before, but owing to the fact that a number of the people had gone to the fair he didn't have the expected crowd. There was an evening session of the convention, and seeing a good many of the Belfry folks in to the fair, we made up our minds that we could do more good in Red Lodge than we could coming out of Belfry, so we stayed in Red Lodge and Comrade Burgess made a short talk on the street.

On Wednesday Comrade Wm. Dew drove to Belfry with Comrade Burgess, and Comrade Edwin S. Dew drove the speaker to Chance, where he held a small but enthusiastic meeting. Several of the young men stated their interest in the subject and bought literature after the meeting.

On Thursday Comrade Burgess was to speak in Bridger, but owing to the train being delayed he was unable to

get there until the next morning, and that was too late to hold a meeting, so he went on to Fromberg.

If Comrade Dew had known that the train wasn't going to Bridger he would have driven down, but it was too late when it was discovered that the train wasn't going.

This will no doubt do a great deal of harm in Bridger, but it couldn't be helped. We must keep up the fight against all such things and avoid them whenever possible. Yours for the revolution.
EDWIN S. DEW.
Belfry, Sept. 18.

Dear Comrade: I am surprised and greatly disappointed to hear that the Montana News is in financial straits. It certainly is a live paper and I expected that the comrades in the adjacent territory, which it so well serves, would see to it that it was maintained. I shall continue to hope that they will do so and not lose so valuable a weapon at this most important period of our movement. Fraternal regards,
J. MAHLON BARNES,
National Secretary.

Helena, Mont., Sept. 25, 1908.
Mr. James D. Graham,
State Secretary Socialist Party,
Helena, Montana.

Dear Sir: Your communication of the 21st at hand, and I would say in reply to same that our arrangements at the present time preclude any possibility of debates of any kind. If possible to arrange such a debate, I will communicate with you at some future time. Yours very truly,
O. M. LANSTRUM,
Chairman Republican State Central Committee.

Dear Sir and Comrade: Comrade Harrack spoke on the street here Saturday evening, also Sunday afternoon. The Saturday evening crowd was immense, due in part to the attraction of the Havre City band which played on the socialist corner for an hour previous to the speaking. Sunday afternoon about seventy-five men listened attentively to the speaker. At both of these meetings calm interest was manifested, and it really looks as if the people are beginning to think. The street collection for the two meetings was \$9.25, and the sale of literature good. The collections helped out so we were able to pay Comrade Harrack with ease. I enclose his receipt for \$12. Can you send me some application cards. New members are coming in at almost every meeting and we are running short. Yours truly,
F. A. NYSTRUM.

New York, Sept. 18, 1908.

Dear Comrade: Your kind letter of the 9th inst. was received and I am glad to learn that you can make use of the leaflets. I am writing to the express agent at Clinton to forward the leaflets direct to you at Helena, express collect. If you can forward anything in return for these leaflets, we shall appreciate it. I am glad to learn that you like The Call so much, and I am happy to be able to tell you that the future of the paper is very promising. The advertising is beginning to come in at such a rate that we shall be forced to permanently increase the size of the paper, and this is going to be a problem, as we shall have to provide better printing facilities in order to do that. The Call is certainly going to be a great institution within a short time. Our main trouble just now is ready money, but we are hopeful of making both ends meet until we are out of the woods. The outlook is that we shall elect some people on the east side this year. A big campaign is planned and we will give the enemy the fight of its life. I am glad to learn that you are having a good campaign in Montana and hope that your expectations will be fully realized. Thanking you for your prompt reply to my letter, and with best wishes always, I am fraternally yours,
WILLIAM MAILLY.

A SOCIALIST FUNERAL.

In the terrible accident on the Northern Pacific road last week the son of Comrade Melinda Hudson of Dean was instantly killed. True to her ideals of a higher social life she sent for Mrs. Hazlett to conduct the funeral services according to the socialist ideas. Mrs. Hazlett left Saturday for Columbus. The young man, Lorne Stewart, was found among a pile of dead bodies. His uncle succeeded in getting the body in a very short time after the accident, and the funeral was held Sunday at Absarokee. It was an innovation, the first alone progressive lines in that section of the country.

Lorne A. Stewart was born December 20, 1888, in Hastings, Mich., and was killed by a head end collision on the Northern Pacific road near Billings, September 25, 1908. His family removed to Washington while he was yet very young. At the age of five he came with his parents to Montana, where he lived till he was 15. He then went to his uncle's home in Canada, where he has since lived most of the time. He has four brothers living, and two dead. He was engaged to a young woman, and at the

time of his death was on his way to Canada, where he expected to learn the photographer's trade and prepare himself a home. Most of his time previously had been spent in cattle and ranching. Mrs. Hazlett spoke in substance as follows:

"We are gathered here this afternoon to pay the last sad rites to our young friend so rudely snatched from life and his fond loved ones, in his manhood's prime. He was taken in the glow of life's glad morning, and while the joy of life's achievement was still before him. It was not given to him to know the thirst and the heat and the toil of the midday of life. He has gone while the bloom was on the rose, the dew on the lily, the lark in the sky, the song in the heart. If there could be a consolation to those who grieve for their nearest and dearest it would be in the knowledge that the young and ardent were not to know the blight of hopes withered, decayed and fallen on the lonely and desolate wastes of life under the bitter reign of injustice that man visits upon his fellow man. It is indeed almost a comfort to the heart to think that those who pass out of our lives and our love so early are not to have the bitterness of life's disappointments, the cruelty of friendships betrayed, our sweet trust and our confidence turned traitor, hatred and greed sear the heart because the law of gain has killed the law of brotherhood.

"This young man laid down the burden of life a victim to social wrongs. He was not snatched from life through divine will, but through the greed of man, through the rapacity of giant industries that prize profits more than human life. Our brother had a right to his life; he had a right to happiness and the world's opportunities. He was cut out of what the world had to give, because society permits a government and a social condition that murders human beings by the thousands in order that a few may lead lives of unrestrained luxury. But a death like this inflicts ineffable lessons on those that are left, and shapes the high resolve that we give our every effort, strength and influence to create a different social environment where life is sacred and justice protects every activity.

"Brother, rest thee. Thy work is done. Thy journey is ended. All nature rests, and in nature we rest. If life is good so also is death good, as it is a part of nature.

"To the mother, she who has been robbed through the blind greed of a soulless machine, our hearts turn with a sympathy that cannot approach that sacred grief. But those of us who have known the noble courage of her nature know how dear to her is the truth of nature, above all forms, customs and superstitions, and the hope that glimmers across this gloom for her is her wish and her work that there may be a future in this world where all may have equal opportunity, and where protection may be given to every life.

The beautiful selection on Death from Walt Whitman's "Calamus" was then read, and the discourse closed with the last stanza from Bryant's "Thanatopsis."

The occasion was one not to be forgotten by those assembled. Never before had they heard the socialist thought expressed at a funeral, and its vitality and naturalness sounded vastly different from the old platitudes.

Comrade Burgess has been appointed national organizer and assigned to the territory of Montana for the present.

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