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THE GREAT APPEAR GREAT TO US ONLY BECAUSE WE ARE ON OUR KNEES — LET US ARISE.

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The Socialist Land Plank

Never in the history of the South since ante-bellum times has the state convention of a political party attracted such world-wide interest as that of the convention of the Socialist party of Texas held in Waco on November 11 and 12th.

From London and Manchester, England, Montreal, Canada, Boston, Mass., Meriden, Conn., and Cincinnati, O., and Chicago and St. Louis came letters of inquiry for weeks before the convention, as to what would be the stand of the second political party of Texas on the question of "Land."

Those who asked for information as to our attitude realized full well that this convention was not a Rhode Island or Nevada convention, but was a convention that represented the second political party in the state that was the largest in area in the nation, and had come from fifth to second place and held that place twice in successive gubernatorial years because of its attitude toward land tenure.

The Middleton Guardian and North Manchester Chronicle of Middleton, England, the largest weekly paper published in the British Empire; the Land Values, one of the oldest and most responsible land reform paper published in the British Isles; the Joseph Fels Fund Bulletin of Cincinnati, O.; the Chicago Public, the St. Louis Mirror, the Kansas City Star have all in their editorial and news columns called attention to the position which the Socialist party of Texas will take in the question of Land.

The Rebel is glad to say that the Land Plank, after a protracted discussion that lasted two days and two nights among the members of the Platform Committee resulted in the most wide-sweeping demand for the freedom of the land that has ever been produced by a political party anywhere.

This plank of the Texas Socialist platform of the campaign of 1916 reads:

"The scientific grading and classifying of all lands; all lands necessary for the support a family exempted from taxation and all lands privately held in excess of that amount be taxed at its full rental value, all to the end that occupancy and use be made necessary to a valid title to land."

This land plank, to the mind of The Rebel, would produce the following results if enacted into law:

First, the true value of all land exclusive of improvements thereon will be ascertained by grading and classification, so that the amount of the rental tax may be automatically determined. It means that the man who raises the rafters upon which to place the roof tree, and who digs a well, erects a fence, and makes two blades of grass grow where one grew before shall not be taxed one cent upon these improvements or upon the products of his labor, but on the contrary the man who holds land out of use adjacent to him shall bear the burdens of taxation.

This will mean that the 117,000,000 acres of tilablle land in Texas that is now held out of use for speculative purposes will be thrown on the market for the reason that the owners of this iddle land cannot hold it unless they make it productive, while the man who is making his land productive will have the burden of taxation lifted from his shoulders.

The Rebel expects that now the ground for a land revolution has been broken in Texas our comrades in Oklahoma will follow suit at their state convention which will be held at Oklahoma City on the 28th, 29th and 30th of next month and take as progressive stand as have the comrades of Texas.

The full rental value tax on all land held by private persons above the needs of a family must be adopted into law and will go a long way towards solving the ills that we suffer from at the present time.

BIRDS OF A FEATHER.

Governor James E. Ferguson, who solved the bonus question to his own satisfaction by abolishing tenantry on his plantations in Bell and Bosque counties by the simple method of turning his renters into field hands and thus making their last condition worse than the first has brought to Bell county the Mexican "corn king," Senor Zeferino Dominguez.

The Senor, like the governor, doesn't believe in the bonus or third and fourth systems. He wants and has had the the direct, brutal field-hand method of farm exploitation. Full 40,000 acres of corn he has had his peons plant in the halcyon days of the Diaz regime, but alas for the Senor, the peons rebelled and he, as Baron Coleridge put it:

Went as all true patriots should.
He left his country
For His country's good.

And now he has come to Bell county to take charge of the plantation of the governor and raise "100 bushels of corn per acre" for the governor.

Methinks that if there reside in Mexico 500 satisfied peons who love the lash of erstwhile hacienda owners, the Senor will get in touch with them and they will work from dawn until midnight all to the profit of the governor and his famous peon driver.

But alas for the run of men, all farmers can not secure a Dominguez. All canont have the most up-to-date machinery, nor can they hire field hands by the hundreds from whose hides they take surplus value. But then again it may be as well that this is so because if from all corn land there could be produced 100 bushels then corn would drop to 10 cents a bushel and even the Ferguson-Dominguez field hands could not buy it.

The Reb would respectfuly suggest to the governor that he ship back Dominguez to his erstwhile peons because they will take care of him and we do not need peon drivers in Bell or Bosque counties.

FERGUSON THRASHED.

The editor of this great religious weekly visited Temple, Bell county, Texas, last week when the county pro-anti campaign was at its high. We spoke in the City Park on Industrial Democracy and pointed out that neither pros nor antis had an economic solution for the economic ills that beset the people today. As long as four-fifths of the tillable land of Texas is locked up and has never felt the touch of a plow in its virgin soil, we as a matter of course go gunning after bigger things.

Wherefore after slamming both anti and pro we put our hands in our pockets and said: "Sic 'em Tige!" May the Dem. politicians bite one another until they all have hydrophobia, and if this fervent wish is not acced to, may they fight like Kilkenny cats until there is nothing left but their tails.

Governor Ferguson interfered in his home county fight and was soundly thrashed for his pains. Next week we shall prove this was due to the fact that the tenants of Bell county repudiated him because they found that his land plank was fake.

ADIOS, S. & D.

There is a hoary old tradition extant in the polit class rooms of the State university to the effect that the price of a commodity is determined by the law of supply and demand. If the cobwebby-brained professors of the dismal science would drop their musty tomes and come out to the open light of day and gaze at the actual facts of life they would realize that there is no sich animile as supply and demand.

For instance, Attorney General Looney announced this week that he will investigate the sudden rise of price in oil and gasoline. Did old S. & D. exist, oil and gasoline would go down in price in Texas for many reasons, the chief one being that the Prducers Oil Co. brought in a 17,000-barrell gusher at Humble recently and some of the other wells are flowing more than 18,000 barrells a day, while W. H. Bailey, independent producer points out that the independents are at the mercy of the pipeline companies and the law of supply and demand plays very little part in the price of toil.

He further adds: "The price of gasoline has gone up 9 cents a gallon since the state legislature adjourned, before that time it was 7 and 10 cents a gallon and it is now 19 cents."

All of which goes to show that when the trusts are in the saddle supply and demand go where the woodbine twineth.

Decapitating Blacklisted Worker.

By B. H. GIBSON

Avenging justice found its victim in the hanging of C. A. Myers a penniless workingman at Fort Worth, Wednesday, November 10, Governor Ferguson having refused to commute the death sentence although more than 5000 signatures had been sent him from Tarrant county alone asking for clemency, and as a result one of the circulators of the petition, Jas. Scoma, a shoemaker at 313 Main st. was arrested by the county attorney's office and his finger prints taken.

Myers was hastened to the gallows immediately after 11:00 a. m. by Sheriff Mann, whose anxiety for the blood of a worker would not permit him to wait until sundown, the legal time allowed before it was necessary to commit the inhuman murder so condignly delegated to him by the body of organized ignorance in charge of state affairs.

The ghastly scene of the atrocious hanging, the body spurting warm blood from the severed neck like a bursted water pipe upon several of the bystanders, while it dropped eight feet to the cement floor, even sickened the stomachs of some of the ghouls who had assembled to satisfy their morbid curiosity, and shuddering many hastened away from the sickening scene, and out upon the street where the atmosphere was free from its contagion.

Many women in the city have been nervously affected from this frightful blood atonement demanded by the Democratic party of Texas THAT HAD PULLED THE TEETH FROM THE ANTI BLACKLIST LAW AND THIS FORCED THE GUN INTO MYER'S HANDS. One woman was not able to stay in her home alone, but walked the streets and waited until her husband returned with her.

Myers, while standing on the platform of the gallows, reaffirmed his former statement that he had done the right thing in killing Montague and asked if there were any of his enemies present who were sore at him to raise their hands. Looking around on all sides of him, he said, "I see none." "I forgive my enemies with this crucifix I have in my hand." And then he kissed it. He then thanked his attorneys and friends for what had done for him and said: "I can see five or six of my enemies right now. I wish my friends better luck than I have had, and my enemies the same thing the other way." This delusion of seeing five or six of his enemies around him confirmed the expert testimony of Dr. R. O. Braswell, formerly on the state medical board, that Myers was a paroniac and should be restrained in an asylum and not hung. But the testimony of railway corporation doctors, R. B. Sellers and Jack H. McLean, coupled with the other mediocre practitioners W. C. Lackey, J. M. Jeter, Wm. Trimble, C. O. Harper, J. D. Mitchell, J.A. Withers, Alden Coffey and Lyman A. Barber was too acceptably convincing to a fixed pro-hanging jury to give Myers the consideration that a man would have received in a social standing more nearly to that of his peers. Unfortunately Myers had not enough money to buy a postage stamp and his attorneys had to furnish him with one in order for him to mail a letter to his wife in Little Rock.

He was in such an emaciated condition that after his confinement in jail he gained about seventy pounds, and one man remarked that considering the food served to prisoners in jails that he must have been some hungry man before he lost his mind and shot Montague.

Although not so tragic but as pitiable was the shamed face of Judge Swayne who with a weak heart affirmed that the majesty of the law had been vindicated.

The repulsiveness of this premeditated hanging, a deliberate violation of the sixth commandment, will be sure to awaken the consciousness of the young men of Texas and already have the humane societies at Dallas signified through the press that they will agitate to stop capital punishment. One shuddering witness to the tragedy, Attorney Wallace Malone, after seeing the bodiless grey head of Myers dangling in the air said: "I intend to devote the rest of my life to the driving of the public hangman out of civilized society."

As Texas gallows are built for the penniless, if we do not wish to furnish more necks to the hangman's noose, it will behoove all workers to advocate Socialism, that more far-reaching theory of justice which will remove the cause of crime and thereby by prevention, do what the Democratic party has failed to accomplish. Already ten progressive states, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, Tennessee, Kansas, South Dakota, Oregon, Rhode Island, Washington, and Wisconsin have abolished the death penaly for crime.

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Editorial Note.

Meyers had shot and killed one A. W. Montague, foreman of the T. & P. freight yards at Fort Worth. Montague had not only discharged him but had said that he would see to it that no other railroad would employ him. Meyers was, in fact, unable to find employment anywhere. The railroad-owned Democratic administration had made the anti-blacklist law of non-effect, Meyers had taken the law in his own hands. He committed murder, it is true, but what drove him to the deed?

ANSWER:

First, Workingmen (like Meyers himself) have foolishly voted the tickets of the masters.

Second, the masters use the power thus delegated to them by the workers to declare blacklist laws null and void and to tear off the heads of any worker who seeks personally to enforce the blacklist law.

A groan of horror went up from the crowded convention at Waco last week when it was shown that between sixty and one hundred thousand people in Texas alone were suffering from pellagra due to underfeeding. For this have the Honk renters voted for 50 years and the pity of it is that they never knew.

CHLOROFORM 'EM.

The Rebel has experienced a severe pain in the spine by reading a special to the Houston Pest stating that State Commissioner of Agriculture Davis, a Farmers Union politicial, spoke before the citizens of League on the advisability of securing good seed.

Why in sheol didn't he speak of the advisability of securing good land. Even a Farmers Union official ought to know that the best seed in the world today planted in the Mississippi delta or the valley of the Nile is as worthless as sawdust to the landless man. Conservatively speaking, three-fourths of the tillers of the soil of the South are landless.

The Davis kind of piffle would turn the stomach of an ostrich. We would suggest to him that if he had seed to dispose of free of cost that would produce ten bales or 300 bushels to the acre, and if then he had a guarantee from God Almighty that the seasons would always be right, and no plagues, insects or drouths would come upon the people, that still they would be in misery, and precisely for the reason Faker Raddord pointed ut: Under present conditions it takes the most active, energetic renter 60 years to secure a home.

You better look out, Davis, when Meitzen is elected governor he will see to it that you will go back to manufacturing hot tomales instead of hot air. Davis and all of the 'farm experts" ought to at once be chloroformed in the interest of the public good.

NOT GUILTY.

The Rebel wishes to deny a vicious slander that has been circulated by certain atheist Democratic politicians (and God knows nine-tenths of that tribe are monkey worshipers) to the effect that we have helped finance sundry broken-down preachers to debate with Socialists and to publish some anti-Socialist papers and books all to the end that these preachers make the cause of orthodox religion look ridiculous and will glorify the Socialist party by the unmerciful trimming we hand them both on the platform and in our papers.

The Rebel will make affidavit that he has never paid one cent to start a little anti-Socialist sheet in Johnson county called the "Grouchstick" or something like that, or in any way assisted William S. Veatch of Oklahoma or even the Unfirm Foundation at Austin. The landlord and courthouse square politicians of Texas and Oklahoma are putting up all the money, and, so far as I know they alone.

OKLAHOMA CONVENTION.

H. M. Sinclair, the efficient state secretary of Oklahoma, sends The Rebel an advance notice of the annual state convention of the Socialist party of Oklahoma which will meet in Oklahoma City on December 28, 29, and 30 for the purpose of lining up all the forces for the 1916 campaign. We hope our comrades of the mistletoe state will have as big and harmonious convention as the comrades of the Lone Star state have just finished.

Both states, according to the Industrial Relations report which appears in another column, are cursed by landlordism to such an extent that the very life of the nation is threatened. In Texas we have dug the grave for landlordism and all that remains to do is to bury the beast. Our Oklahoma brothers will do the same and The Rebel extends to them its heartiest wishes for a successful convention.

Mr. R. Bedicek, of Austin, Tex., one of the most efficient newspaper correspondents of Texas, has written a series of articles in the Chronicle and Dallas News in opposition to the idea of military training, in which he points out that it is wrong not only from an ethical, but a physical and pedagogic standpoint. There is a sad lack of newspaper men of the Bedicek type in the South today.

Ask for the Report.

It will be news to The Rebel readers that the famous government Smithsonian Institute has become an annex to the Democratic national committee. We have the proof at hand. One of our subscribers, after reading a copy of "Lies Nailed" wrote to the Smithsonian Institute, Washington, D. C., asking for a copy of the annual report of that institution forthe year 1912, in which the position is taken under United States government seal in a book issued by the Institute and from the United States printing office, that many of the Old Testament stories are myths and that man came directly from the monkey tribe, that consequently there never was any Adam or Eve, and the conclusion of all is that the Old Testament was a colossal joke.

After The Rebel's book department had published this official statement of the government officials of the Democratic party in W. S. Noble's book, "Lies Nailed", our subscriber, Mr. H. J. Parker, of Santa Anna, Texas, wrote to the Smithsonian Institute respectfully requesting a copy of the book. This communication was turned over to Mr. Thomas J. Pence, who is "assistant to the chairman" of the Democratic national committee, Hon. W. F. McCombs, President Wilson's right-hand man.

On the stationery of the Democratic National Committee, which sets forth the fact that Cato Sells, of Cleburne, is Texas member, Mr. Pence writes, informing Mr. Parker that the Smithsonian Institute has never issued such a publication.

The Rebel is positive that there is such a publication, in fact it is on our desk in front of us as we write, and we would suggest to all our readers who wish to know that the Democratic party has officially gone on record in the capitol of the nation saying that the Old Testament contains many myths and that man has come directly from the primates (monkeys), that they write directly to the Smithsonian Institute, Washington, D. C., and demand a copy of this government document, specifying that you want the "1912 Report of the Smithsonian Institute." If they try to switch you off to the Democratic national committee, tell them in no uncertain terms that you will have nothing to do with the Democratic national committee. Remember you want the public document the United States officials have sent out at public expense that in positive terms takes the position of materialist philosophers while at the same time denouncing the Bible.

For further information on the subject send 15 cents to the Rebel office for a copy of "Lies Nailed."

SCIENTIFIC BIRTH CONTROL.

In September, October and November issues of The Physical Culture Magazine appeared a series of articles on Birth Control, written by Havelock Ellis is perhaps the greatest living authority on the subject of sex. He is one of the most profound thinkers of modern times and his studies in the psychology of sex are the standard classics in this line of research. What Havelock Ellis has to say on birth control is said from the standpoint of a scientific thinker, not from the standpoint of the proponent of any theory. Read this series of articles, especially ye peons of Texas and Oklahoma that are raising large families of slaves for slave-drivers.

Austin, Tex., Nov. 13.— Members of the Texas legislature will have to wash their own shirts in the future. Either that or pay their own laundry bills. H. B. Terrell, state comptroller, backed by Attorney General Gregory, has served notice that in the future he will refuse to issue warrants for such items as laundry, tips and other personal expenses.

The "Blind Goddess" in Ring-ruled Texas.

By George Patullo.

Being a powerful argument against the lawyer-politician rings of Texas and for the court reform planks in the new Socialist state platform.

(Conclusion.)

What they related so astonished J. Brutus that he was moved to skepticism. "You say you've never spoken a dozen words to her in your life and yet she sends you a letter like this?"

"That's about the size of it, Mr. Spivy, sir."

"Humph!"

"And you needn't humph like that either," broke in Sally Jo, sitting up very straight, "because it's the truth. She's just one of these fool women, and Mr. Jim has been too polite — yes, you have — you're far too goodnatured, Mr. Jim. I've told you that a hundred times. But that's no reason why—"

"I'm sorry, ma'am," said Spivy hastily. "I didn't mean to question your husband's story, I assure you, but it did strike me as —er—exceptional."

"It may be exceptional," rejoined Allen with some acerbity, "but it's the truth. Miz Sparger always happens to be near the gate somehow or other when I drive by, and she speaks to me — every time. But I don't ever stop. I did once to help her with a load of wood that was too heavy for any woman to pack, Mr. Spivy, and I've been sorry for that ever since, because it made talk on account of somebody seeing me."

His wife give a vigorous nod and murmured: "I done told you were too polite."

"But where's the trouble? What is it all about? Why did you come to me?"

"Well," was the reluctant answer, "it's just this way. Sally Jo suspicions Miz Sparger might do something kind of foolish again and maybe get me into a jackpot. You know how that is, Mr. Spivy, you being a lawyer. And she wanted that I should show you this letter and leave you to keep it so that in case any trouble come I could get clear. Do you see what I mean? I said: 'Let's give it to Joe Bassett then,' but she's afraid of talk. Joe might tell some of the neighbors and—"

"He's the biggest ol' gossip in the county," put in Mrs. Allen.

The lawyer fingered a pencil doubtfully. "I don't quite see what there is for me to do. What do you want done with this letter?"

Here Sally Jo's stock of patience gave out and she took command of the situation.

"Mr. Jim there can't tell a thing straight to save his mortal soul," she declared. "This mixup is all along of him being too polite. I don't pay. The plain truth is that Cora Sparger is running after my husband, and he wants to find out what to do about it!"

"Well? How can I tell you? You can't very well get out an injunction to restrain her. At least I never saw it done."

"You're on the wrong track," the farmer said disgustedly. "That'd be right foolish. Imagine a grown man asking a judge for to keep a li'l' bit of a woman from pestering him. Why, it makes me mad to think about it."

"Then," inquired Spivy in desperation, "what do you want?" The wife explained: "Mr. Jim wants that you should put that letter in some strongbox, or maybe leave it with the judge, so if any trouble comes of this we can prove he was innocent."

"But this letter wouldn't prove anything, unless—"

"Yes, it would too. And there's another thing. Dink Sparger is awful jealous-hearted, and he hates Mr. Jim like poison. He hates him because he keeps things up better and we have more than what they do. And lately he seems to hate him worse'n before. Now, me and Mr. Jim figured that he might suspicion about his wife carrying on his way, because Joe Bassett done told us he'd made threats and—"

"Ah," exclaimed the lawyer with satisfaction, beginning to feel solid ground under him, "that's more like it. Now I see what you're driving at. You want the man Sparger bound over to keep the peace?"

The farmer answered in huge scorn: "Bound over nothin'. I just want the judge to get the rights of this."

"Well, maybe we can fix it up. I'll just show this letter to Judge Hardin and leave it with him, in case."

"That's it. That's just what we want. That'll do fine."

Highly elated over the success of their mission, the couple took leave of the lawyer. When they had gone, Spivy skimmed through the letter again, laughed, and went in to talk to his partner.

"Were you fixing to see Judge Hardin tomorrow about continuing that assault case, Cicero? Good. Then do me a favor — hand him this for me and tell him why, will you? It sure is a peculiar tangle. Listen and I'll tell you about it."

These interviews took place on the twentieth day of June.

On July sixth Doc Drake was tried for bootlegging. Spivy defended him, but despite his best efforts the negro was found guilty and sentenced to five years' imprisonment. As he was crossing from the courthouse after the trial the lawyer met Don Allen in the square, holding Annielee by the hand.

"Hello, there! Been breaking any more hearts lately?"

The farmer looked rather sheepish.

"How's the missus?" continued J. Brutus.

"She's fine, I reckon. Sally Jo done left this morning to visit her mother in Arkansas and aims to be gone a month. That's why we're in town."

"And how are you, Annielee?" The lawyer playfully twiddled one of the child's curls.

"She's finer every day. That's my housekeeper, Mr. Spivy," said Allen, brightening. "The way she does look after me when Ma's gone is a caution."

At that moment Doc Drake passed them, handcuffed to the sheriff. He called back: "So long, Mr. Spivy. They done got me, but it ain't your fault. You sho' did all you could."

"Behave yourself in there, Doc", cautioned his counsel, "and maybe I can get you out pretty soon."

The negro laughed recklessly.

"I'll git out all right. I just got to even up with that Eli nigger for swearing to them lies in co't about me. He'll have to come clean, Mr. Spivy, I'm a-telling you."

"Come on," ordered the sheriff.

They went toward the jail, leaving the lawyer and Allen staring after them.

"There's a bad nigger," said J. Brutus. "He's mean."

"He sure looks it," assented the farmer.

On the evening of July tenth Allen's deaf and dumb child arrived at the Otterbeins' farmhouse on the run and collapsed in the kitchen. Apparently she was prostrated with fright. She whimpered and cowered in a chair with her hands over her eyes.

What had happened? There was no means of ascertaining from Annielee. She could not speak or hear, she could not read or write. And terror seemed to have paralyzed her wits. She did nothing but moan and utter uncouth sounds of grief.

The Otterbeins held a family conference, which ended in the eldest son hitching a horse to a buggy and driving the child home. But when they neared the Allen gate she showed such overpowering fear that he was impressed and pulled up. Nor could he pacify her by sign talk intended to reassure. Therefore he left her in the buggy and went alone to investigate.

The house was deserted. The mules were nosing about the yard, but he could find no trace of Don, and nobody answered his halloos. So back he drove with the deaf and dumb girl, who calmed when they had left her home fields behind. And she spent the night there, frequently giving way to fits of violent trembling, and snuggling up against Mrs. Otterbein in bed.

Her protectors appealed to the sheriff next morning and a wire was sent to Mrs. Allen at her mother's home in Arkansas, which drew a quick reply tthat Don was not with her. On top of this came a second telegram from the now distracted mother, announcing that she would leave for Binger on the midnight express; and was little Annielee quite well?

They could not find Allen. The entire countryside was soon searching for him in the way such searches are usually conducted: everybody asked everybody else: "Seen anything of Don Allen lately? He's lit out and his wife's most crazy."

Her arrival failed to throw any light on his disappearance and she was as much mystifyed as any of them. Then somebody remarked that Mrs. Sparger was also absent from home, and tongues started wagging. The queries changed form. "Did you hear about Don Allen skipping out with Dink Sparger's wife? Yes, it's a fact. No wonder they cain't find him."

A solicitous friend retailed the gossip to Mrs. Allen. At first she laughed scornfully, but when the other persisted with feline malice in accepting the rumors seriously the wife gave way to the strain of uncertainty and harrowing conjecture that had kept her sleepless for a week.

"Get out," she commanded, throwing wide the door. "Get out of here and never come into my house again as long as you live. Don run off with a woman! Huh!"

As to Sparger, he evaded questions concerning Cora's whereabouts and vouchsafed no information even to his friends. When cornered by a gimled-eyed lady he answered vaguely that she was "visiting somewheres." However, one of her cronies received a letter from Mrs. Sparger, dated at Mineral Wells, in which she stated that she was eating three full meals and enjoying life as never before, and did not propose to return home for several weeks. That put the quietus on some of the talk; obviously the gossips had been baying a blind trail. But why had Sparger been so secretive atnd mysterious?

Meeting him in the square on First Monday, Cicero Boone stopped.

"Come upstairs," said he. "I want to talk to you." And when they were alone in the office: "Why didn't you do like I told you to do?"

"What you you mean? I ain't done nothing, Mr. Boone."

A threat lurked in the lawyer's scrutiny as he retorted: "So you're trying to put one across on me too, are you? Better not, Sparger."

"I tell you," the farmer reiterated weakly, "I ain't done anything."

Boone surveyed him a minute in silence; marked the bloodshot eyes, the unshaved cheeks, the furtive, harassed air of the man.

"Better brace up, Dink," he warned, "or somebody's bound to guess it."

To this Sparger made no reply, but cast longing glances at the door.

"Here," said Boone, "before you go, sign this. It's for professional services."

"Five hundred dollars!" exclaimed the farmer in quick protest. "Five hundred dollars for one li'l' talk? Why, it ain't fair, Mr. Boone. It's—I just haven't got so much money. I—"

"I know you haven't," replied the lawyer tranquility. "That's why I drew up a note. You own some property."

They looked into each other's eyes for a moment and then Sparger wrote his name with shaking hand on the line Boon indicated.

"Now," Cicero continued, placing the note in his wallet, "you're about due for trouble. If you'd done like I told you, Sparger, you'd have come clear easy. But this way is different. It's bound to be found out. These things always atre, somehow. It just looks like God won't let 'em stay hid. So you'd best tell me about it and we'll get all fixed and ready."

"But there's nothing to tell you, Mr. Boone. I ain't done anything," asseverated Sparger.

"All right," said Cicero, pointing to the door. "Get out."

He did not leave the office until about seven that night and dropped in for the mail from the East on his way home. As he was coming out Dr. Buchanan hailed him. The doctor's horse was in a lather, his buggy-top white with dust.

"Say, Cicero," he called excitedly, "get in. Have you seen the sheriff anywhere?"

With a strange misgiving quickening his pulse, the lawyer climbed in.

"What's up now, Doc?"

"Why, a miracle," babbled Buchanan, plying the whip. "A miracle's happened. What do you think, Boone? They done telephoned for me about two o'clock to go out to the Allen farm, and little Annilee was in a sort of faint. All at once she came to, and she can talk!"

"Talk!"

"Yes, sir—talk. And she's got all her senses back too. She told her Ma and me that Dink Sparger came over to their place and killed her father right before her eyes. She tried to get between 'em, and he shot over her head. And that's all she remembers, for when she saw him lying on the ground she ran as hard as she could to the neighbors.' I wonder where he hid the body? There goes Thurber now. Hi, Sheriff! Wait a minute. Giddop, Jude."

Placed under arrest, Sparger at first stoutly denied any knowledge of the crime. Close questioning developed symptons of weakening, however, and after a conference with his attorney he confessed. What had he done with the body? Sunk it with heavy stones tied to the feet, in Cottonwood Branch. Once started, Sparger seemed anxious to talk of the shooting, and would have grown garrulous had not Boone checked him.

A dozen volunteers dragged Cottonwood, a small creek dividing the two farms, and succeeded in raising the body from the mire. Allen had been killed by a bullet in the breast.

The prisoner was not obliged to spend a single night behind the bars. Three hours after his preliminary hearing he was released from jail on bond in the sum of two thousand furnished by members of a lodge to which he belonged.

"Swing for it!" echoed Red Randall on the square that night, in huge disgust. "Of course he won't swing for it. You know what he has done it for, don't you? And a man's got a right to protect his own home, ain't he? Well!"

The whole county talked about nothing else for a fortnight, and then promptly dropped it for the work of a busy season. That is our way. In August the war shook them out of their rut and the Sparger case was completely forgotten. However, when it came up for trial in Ringer, interest revived and the courtroom was jammed. Rumor had it that some sort of evidence would be of the spiciest; and Cicero Boone, counsel for the defendant, could always be relied on for forensic fireworks.

No report of the proceeding ever appeared, because the local newspapers were wary of stirring up trouble. Danger lurks in published accounts of murder trials and divorce cases.

Briefly, the prosecution brought out that Don Allen was working near his house on the afternoon of July tenth when his neighbor approached across a field, carrying a .25-.35 rifle. Little Annilee drying dishes in the kitchen, espied him; saw her father ask Mr. Sparger something and the latter answer. Then Mr. Sparger raised the rifle and her father stood perfectly still, just looking at him. No, he did not try to run, nor did he try to defend hmself — just stood and stared at Mr. Sparger. She guessed that he wanted to kill her father and so she ran between them with her arms out wide, but Mr. Sparger shot over her head when she got close to him, and her father fell.

What happened after that the child could not well remember, except that she felt to see whether her father's heart was beating, and cried over him. Then Mr. Sparger lifted her up; he was shaking very hard atnd breathed very loud; and she ran all the way to Miz Otterbeins house.

Following her, witnesses were put on the stand to prove that bad blood existed between the slayer and his victim for a couple of years; that Sparger was jealous of Allen's success, and had frequently applied abusive epithets to his name. And there the state rested.

It came the turn of the defense. The prisoner admitted the killing, but made the plea that he had taken Allen's life to protect his wife. Allen had tried to alienate her affections; he had shown Cora uncalled-for attentions, such as helping her with the firewood—the jury looked profoundly impressed when Sparger recited this episode.

Sparger also advanced the usual formula that he shot in self-defense; he had gone simply to warn Allen to keep away from Cora, and he had detected him making a movement with his right hand. Why had he not admitted the crime and surrendered to the sheriff, as would any man who had been driven to the last extremity in shielding his wife? Because he wanted passionately to keep Cora's name out of it. In this hope he had hidden the body, instead of openly avowing the deed.

To cap his story, the defense played his trump card. Cicero Boone rose in his place, waited patiently until perfect quiet reigned, and read to the court Mrs. Sparger's letter to Allen, which J. Brutus Spivy had entrusted to him for deposit with the justice of the peace. His rendering of the affectionate passages was dramatic and scathing, and when he had finished he passed the letter to the jury for inspection.

It routed the prosecution, horse, foot and artillery. Dumbfounded, dazed, the county attorney conferred hastily with Mrs. Allen, whom the reading had reduced to tears. In vain did she take the stand to assert that nothing in her husband's behavior had warranted Mrs. Sparger's letter, that she knew of its receipt and had been with Don when he took it to the office of Boone & Spivy for safekeeping. Even the testimony of J. Brutus, who had voluntatrily gone into the box to corroborate her story, failed to shake the jury's firm conviction that Don Allen and Sparger's wife had been too friendly.

After that the trial moved swiftly to a close. The county attorney summed up in a lame, half-hearted argument—the argument of one sensible of certain defeat, and proportionately discouraged.

And Cicero Boone started in for the defense. He brushed a Napoleonic forelook from his brow; he gazed slowly about him; waited until every sound hushed; then in a rich, throbbing bass that vibrated in their hearts, he pleaded with the jury to safeguard that sacred American institution, the home. He ranted, he bellowed, he banged the table with his fist until it cracked across the top; he besought them in a tearful, pulsating whisper; he wept.

Amid the demonstration that followed his peroration, an admirer said hoarsely: "Never saw Cicero in better form." The lawyer sat down with an air of mingled exhaustion and triumph.

It took the jury just an hour and forty minutes to reach a verdict. At the end of that time they filed into court and the foreman announced: "Not guilty." Applause burst out, quickly stilled that the spectators might hear the rider generously added, expressing sympathy for the deluded wife and the dead man.

Sparger shook hands with everybody, lighted a cigar thrust upon him, and walked out of the courtroom—free. Happening to turn his head he jubilantly responded to congratulations, he found Cicero Boone at his shoulder, regarding him with a somber smile.

"You did a fine job today, Cicero," conceded his partner, entering the office where Boone was figuring otn a piece of paper how much he could charge Sparger.

"I think I did get to them, J. B.," was the complacent response, and he sat back as though wishful to talk about it. Then, apparently stifling the desire to expand, he went on with his figuring.

Spivy passed through to his own sanctum, where he sat for a long time in the gathering shadows, doing nothing, as motionless as his desk. At last he roused to say: "I wonder if Dink's heard about it yet?"

"Heard about what?"

"Why, his wife. She done lit out this morning with a tea peddler who's been working this county, Cicero. Sid Semple told me he saw 'em in Denison and the peddler bought two tickets for St. Louis."

"Lit out? She has?" cried Boone, exploding into laughter. "Well, I'll be dogged. Ain't this a queer world, though, J. B?"

His partner agreed that it was, and fell silent again. After a while he remarked casually: "And the sheriff just told me he'd got a wire to be on the lookout for Doc Drake. He's out. Doc was working with a road gang and bust one of the guards over the head with a shovel."

"Huh-huh," said Cicero, once more engrossed in his sums. "I guess he'll drift back this way sooner or later, don't you reckon?"

Another long silence, while the light faded and the languorous hush of a southern night came on the town like a benediction. Cicero Boone muttered impatiently, pushed back his chair and lit the gas. As he resumed his seat J. Brutus strolled in and took up a position facing him.

"Cicero," he began slowly, with an air apologetic, yet determined, "I don't like the way things are going in this office."

"That so? What don't suit you?"

"Oh, a lot of things," replied Spivy, gathering force. "The trick you played me about that letter, for one. That ain't the way to do a partner. I'm not any too squeamish, Cicero, and the nearest I ever got to religion was once when I heard Helen Keller say the Lord's prayer, but—well, I reckon your ways and mine are some different. And maybe we'd better travel separate."

"Suit yourself," snapped his partner, eyeing him balefully. "That satisfies me."

J. Brutus went back to his desk, where he remained drawing up dissolution papers until Boone went home. Then he stepped into his partner's office to turn off the gas, which Cicero had forgotten.

The fitful light played on the picture of Justice and her bandaged eyes. To Spivy, overwrought and depressed, the noble figure of the goddess seemed to be groping.

"Blind, hey?" he jeered, with his hand upraised to the gas bracket. "I reckon so—blinder'n a bat."

He went to his room above the First State Bank and to bed. About eleven o'clock the telephone woke him. It was Boone, who said brusquely that he would not be at the office in the morning, as he was starting out with Sparger to his farm before daylight in order to get some matters straightened.

"All right," said J. B. sleepily. "Take care of yourself, Cicero."

An hour after dawn Joe Bassett, driving a load of cotton toward Ringer, came upon a horse standing patiently in the road and an empty buggy. In the ditch lay the body of a man, his face riddled with shot. It was Sparger.

In a fever of fright and conjecture the farmer drove to notify the sheriff. And just outside the town limits he overtook Cicero Boone, staggering through the rust, one hand clasped to the side of his head. Blood seeped through his fingers and down his wrist; he was weeping like a child.

The sheriff was not at home, having been summoned by an anxious tenant farmer to round up a negro who had been prowling with a shotgun all the previous day beside the Postoak road; so Bassett spent the forenoon spreading the news. Soon after dinner the sheriff drove in. Doc Drake, hanacled, was on the seat beside him.

"Done caught him in the Bottom," Thurber announced. "He was boiling coffee and I seen the fire. Sure, I know all about that. Joe, and I've sent to fetch the body to town. What's that? He shot Cicero, too? Blowed his ear off? Plumb off? Well, I swan. That sure is too bad. Yes, sir, I'm right sorry to hear that. But Doc says it was all a mistake. He was only laying to get that nigger Eli."

The negro was locked in jail, reiterating over and over again his bitter regret for the unfortunate error. He passionately assured his keeper that he would not have harmed a hair of Mr. Sparger's head for all the world.

But paltry quibbling like that wouldn't go with us. At midnight a mob of two hundred men and boys appeared at the jail and demanded the surrender of Doc Drake. The guard readily turned him over to them, and he was hanged from a telephone post in the public square as a warning that human life is sacred. For we are a justice-loving people.

FROM MRS. MAYFIELD.

Port Arthur, Tex., Nov. 18, 1915.
To The Rebel:—

The Rangel-Cline Defense Committee elected by the Socialist Party Local San Antonio, has been released. A committee was elected to audit my books and an itemized report of receipts and expenses will be published in "Regeneracion."

A new Cline Defense Committee is now being organized in San Antonio. I am not connected with this last committee but am sincerely interested in its success and urge all workers to give it their loyal support.

Yours in the Class Struggle,
Vera Mayfield.

BROTHER— ACCIDENTALLY discovered root cures tobacco habit and indigestion. Gladly send particulars. T. S. Stokes, Mohawk, Florida.

RICHEY D. ALEXANDER
LAWYER
Civil and Criminal Practice in all State and Federal Courts.
Grand Saline, Texas.

THE POWER OF EMINENT DOMAIN.

By John M. Work.

In previous articles I have shown that the general welfare clause in the constitution of the United States affords the legal power to introduce Socialism without a constitutional amendment, and that there were effective methods of extracting the stinger from the supreme court of the United States so that it will be unable to nullify the laws for the introduction of Socialism.

When we elect a Socialist administration we will be up against the concrete duty and privilege of taking over the exploiting industries and making them collective property.

In doing this, no matter whether we confiscate the exploiting industries or compensate the owners for them, the power of eminent domain affords a legal and orderly method of taking over the property.

This power of eminent domain has been used for many years. It is now used frequently. It is used in order to take over private property and make it public property for various purposes. It is also used in order to take over private property and make it the property of public service corporations, such as railroads.

When the public desires to take over private property for public purposes, if it is not able to arrive at an agreement with the owner in regard to the price, it brings condemnation proceedings and makes the owner a party to the action. The jury examines and appraises the property and assesses the amount to be paid to the owner. In some states, this is done by commissioners, or arbitrators, instead of a jury. The property is then condemned, taken over and made public property. The appraised value is paid. If the amount is large, the money is usually raised by issuing bonds.

It will readily be seen that this power of eminent domain affords a complete method of taking over the exploiting industries and making them collective property.

And it can be used no matter whether we confiscate or compensate. As to whether we will confiscate or compensate depends on the state of public opinion at that time. Those who appraise the property will undoubtedly be guided by public opinion on the subject. If public opinion is in favor of paying the full value for the property, they will appraise it at its full value. If on the other hand, public opinion is in favor of confiscating property, they will appraise it at a nominal sum. In either case, the power of eminent domain provides an orderly and legal method of making the transfer.

Furthermore, it can be done in either way without going to the trouble of amending the express prohibitions of the constitution.

As previously pointed out, the general welfare clause enables congress to do anything which is for the general welfare, except as prevented by the express commands and prohibitions of the remainder of the constitution. There are two express prohibitions which affect the taking over of the industries.

The constitution provides that private property shall not be taken for public use without just compensation. The power of eminent domain enables us to carry out this provision, no matter whether we compensate or confiscate. If we pay full value for the industries, it is evident that this will be just compensation at least from the point of view of the recipients. If it is decided that the owners do not have any money properly belonging to them invested in the industries, a nominal sum will be just compensation. This will conform to that provision.

The constitution also provides that no person shall be deprived of property without due process of law. The power of eminent domain also enables us to carry out this provision, no matter whether we confiscate or compensate, for the regular legal condemnation proceedings will be due process of law.

If it should be decided to compensate the owners of the industries, we also have at hand a very practicable method of making the payments without issuing bonds or paying interest.

It will be an easy matter to develop the Postal Savings Banks into regular banks with drawing as well as savings accounts. As you know, at the present time the privately owned banks have both drawing and savings accounts. They pay interest on the savings accounts. They do not pay interest on the drawing accounts. We can simply follow their custom and thus have the advantage of a precedent which the capitalists themselves have made.

To illustrate, suppose we should buy an industry from a capitalist for a million dollars. We could simply issue to him a pass book in the Postal Bank, with a million dollars entered in it to his credit, without interest. If it should be necessary we could make a regulation which would only permit him to check out a certain proportion of it during any month or year. Probably this would not be necessary, however, for he would hardly want to check it all out for fear of its being lost or stolen. The Postal Bank would provide a place for it. Consequently he would be likely to only check it out as he wanted to spend it. And when he spent the money would come right back into the public.

There are also other methods of raising money which will work.

We could abolish all private banks—as we shall no doubt do in any event — causing all deposits to be made in the Postal Bank, use the deposits in the Postal Bank to pay for the industries.

We could issue paper money and pay it to the owners of the industries. We could issue bonds, sell them, and pay the money over to the owners of the industries.

We could issue bonds direct to the owners of industries, without going to the trouble of selling them but let the owners of industries do the worrying about selling them.

We could boost up the income tax to the point where it would bring in enough money to pay for the industries.

We could place such a high tax on the inheritances that the big fortunes would be brought into the public treasury upon the death of their owners. Andrew Carnegie, in his book, "The Gospel of Wealth" says, "The growing disposition to tax more and more heavily large estates left at death is a cheering indication of a salutary change in public opinion." * * * "It is desirable that nations should go much further in this direction."

We could levy a ground tax which would bring in ample funds. We may have occasion to use some of these methods for various purposes.

But, as for the distinct purpose of paying for the industries, in case we do pay for them, I think the Postal Bank pass book plan, outlined above, is far and away the most easy and practicable method.

THE REBEL IN LONDON.

The Texas League for the Taxation of Land Values.

San Antonio, Tex., Nov. 15, 1915.

Mr. T. A Hickey,
Hallettsville, Texas.

My Dear Hickey:—

The November issue of Land Values, London, has just reached me. It contains a copy of your announcement of the Texas Socialist proposition on Land. I want to again congratulate you on this splendid statement. The republishing of your article by so many able papers confirms my own judgment. If you do not get a copy of this issue of Land Values, let me know and I shall be glad to have a copy sent you.

I like the spirit of your article this week on the "President and Preparedness." This stand of Wilson on preparedness is my first real disappointment with the man when I consider all the pressure that he has withstood. If a few determined men in the House can stave off immediate action, the country will come to its senses and defeat the militarist's program. Clyde H. Tavenner, of Illinois, deserves encouragement. He is unqualifiedly for government manufacture of munitions of war. Just now it is good to pick out a few heroic figures and pat them on the back, regardless of whether we agree with them in all their efforts. With best wishes I remain,

Sincerely Yours,
Wm. A. Black,
Secretary.

SPECIAL PREMIUM.

The Rebel recently had the good fortune to find a few remaining copies of THURMAN-HAMILTON DEBATE, one of the best stenographic reports of a Socialist debate ever printed. Of course it is all the more valuable because Rev. Hamilton later became a Socialist.

Every agitator in the South that has not one of these books will want one. So to be fair to all concerned, we will send one of these souvenirs of the Texas movement FREE to each person who will send the Rebel as many as EIGHT forty-week subs, or will buy eight sub cards.

THE AMERICAN CIRCUS.

(Old things that are good beat new things that are bad a darn sight, so we have concluded to reprint an "old thing" which was written by W. S. Morgan, associate editor of the Rip-Saw, the Socialist newspaper many years ago. It follows):

"You Fillipinos don't know what you are missing by not wanting to become citizens of this grand country of ours. There isn't anything like it under the sun. You ought to send a delegation over to see us—the land of the free—land of fine churches and 180,000 licensed saloons; Bibles, forts and guns, houses of prostitution; millionaires and paupers; theologians and thieves; libertines and liars; politicians and poverty; Christians and chain gangs; schools and scalawags; trusts and tramps; money and misery; homes and hunger; virtue and vice; a land where you can get a good Bible for 15 cents and a bad drink of whiskey for 5 cents; where we have a man in Congress with three wives and a lot in the penitentiary for having two wives; where some men make sausage out of their wives, and some want to eat them raw; where we make bologna out of dogs, canned beef out of horses and sick cows, and corpses out of the people who eat it; where we put a man in jail for not having the means of support and on the rock pile for asking for a job of work; where we license bawdy houses and fine men for preaching Christ on the street corners; where we can a Congress of 400 men who make laws and a supreme court of nine men who set them aside; where good whiskey makes bad men and bad men make good whisky; where newspapers are paid for suppressing the truth and made rich for teaching a lie; where professors draw their convictions from the same place they do their salaries; where preachers are paid $25,000 a year to dodge the devil and tickle the ears of the wealthy; where business consists of getting hold of property in any way that won't land you in the penitentiary, where trust 'hold up' and poverty 'holds down;' where men vote for what they don't want; for fear they will not get what they want by voting for it. Where theives can vote and women can't; where a girl who goes wrong is made an outcast and her male partner flourishes as a gentleman; where women wear false hair and men 'dock' their horses' tails; where the political wire-puller has displaced the patriotic statesman; where men vote for a thing one day and cuss it 364 days; where we have prayers on the floor of our National Capitol and whiskey in the cellar; where we spend $500 to bury a statesman who is rich and $10.00 to put away a working man who is poor; where to be virtuous is to be lonesome and to be honest is to be a crank; where we sit on the safety-valve of energy and pull wide open the throttle of conscience; where gold is substance—the one thing sought for; where we pay $15,000 for a dog and 15 cents a dozen to a poor woman for making shirts; where we teach the 'untutored' Indian eternal life from the Bible and kill him off with bad whiskey; where we put a man in jail for stealing a loaf of bread and in Congress for stealing a railroad; where the checkbook talks, sin walks in broad daylight, justice is asleep, crime runs amuck, corruption permeates our whole social and political fabric, and the devil laughs from every street corner. Come to us, Fillies. We've got the greatest aggregation of good things and bad things, hot things and cold things, all sizes, varieties and colors, ever exibited under one tent."

Moral: Vote this insane system out of existence that the Democratic and Republican parties stand for and vote for a sane system that the Socialist party stands for.

In Sommervell.

To the Socialists of Somervell county:

You are hereby called to meet in a mass meeting at Glen Rose on Saturday Nov. 27th at 2 p. m. The object of this meeting is to raise funds for a schoolhouse campaign

Now comrades, if you want a good speaker at your schoolhouse one or more dates get busy and raise sufficient funds. We can easily organize a local in every precinct and put out a county ticket by January 1st.

J. A. Ward, Co. Sec'y.
Glen Rose.

STATEMENA OF HERNANDEZ FUND.

Rockdale, Tex., Nov. 28, 1915.

As I have never made a complete report as to the manner in which I have conducted the Hernandez case and also a list of contributors to same I ask the Rebel to give this space:

First, in company with E. R. Meitzen I went to San Antonio and made a personal investigation of the case. We came to the conclusion that Hernandez was a victim of a bunch of Federal and city office holders who in order to hold their jobs must show some tangible results and for this cause the "terrible" Hernandez was arrested. We at once sent out sent out a call for help and the following responded:

Emma G. Kelsey $1.25, Juan C. Albert 60c, "A Comrade" at Seymour 30c, a comrade in West Texas whose name has been lost $1, Secty Socialist local at Lott, $2.65; A. S. Casey, $50c; Seguin L. L. of A., $1.50; M. D. La Garza, $5; Whitsett local L. L. of A., $5; Devine local, $2; Fentress local, L. L. of A., $24; San Antonio local S. P., $2; collection S. P. Convention, $17.50; private contribution at S. P. Convention, $5; W. N. Haynie $5; "Just a Wagon Maker," $5; C. M. Denny, $2.10; F. M. Meger, 25c, miners at Rockdale, 95c, B. F. Ezzell, 25c. Miscellaneous (whose names have been misplaced), $3.00. Total amount received, $85.10.

My expenses to date are: W. D. Simpson, attorney-at-law, who was first employed in case, $2.25; expenses to San Antonio and return including three days hotel expenses and return fare for Hernandez passage to Rockdale, $17.10; Cash to Hernandez wife, $7.25; Hernandez passage and return to Waco convention and his expenses while there, $5.75; postage, $1.50.

While at San Antonio, I employed Clarence Nugent, who agreed to employ assistant counsel to aid him in the defense of Hernandez, he stating that he was compelled to be in San Antonio on a civil case and the assistant counsel would help him for nothing) for the sum of $100.00 to be paid as follows: $25 cash, which was paid by Mrs. Hernandez from funds received by her and not herein reported; the next payment of $25 be made in 18 days, the balance not to be paid until morning of trial. I have a signed agreement to this effect. I have since paid Nugent the $25.00 and also $5.25 on the last, the latter because of immediate need of funds, the contract being duly receipted for the same. This makes the total amount paid out by me $65.10, leaving in my hands the sum of $20.

The deficit is therefore on lawyers fee, guaranteed by me $24.25 and in addition to the same I believe I will need additional counsel, also money to secure the attendance of witnesses, as well as many unforseen incidentals which only those who had anything on this fund do so at once. Don't send your money elsewhere, but direct to me. An accounting will be made semi-monthly.

Yours for Justice.
W. S. Noble, Mgr.,
Hernandez Defense,
Rockdale, Tex.

A CURSE TO THE SOUTH.

Absentee landlordism is really about the greatest curse to the South today — and I speak as an absentee landlord, on a small scale, myself. The old farm on which I grew up and which belonged to my great grandfather, grandfather, and father before me I naturally dislike to sell, and yet I realize that I am holding back the progress of the community by not selling; I am preventing a good owner from getting hold of the place and taking the sort of interest that only an owner will take in schools, roads, churches, social life, moral conditions and everything else that affects the welfare of a neighborhood. It is true that I do feel that I owe a duty to the people of the community, and in obedience to this feeling I have made it a point to get white renters and I have sold a part of the tract to a white man. But it is stil true that as an absentee landlord I am keeping that neighborhood from building up as it otherwise would, and I ought to have to pay an extra tax for community purposes to atone for my attitude. This question of absentee landlordism has got to be faced in the South and I am willing to bear my part of the extra tax that will sooner or later be voted on absentee owners. —Clarence Poe in Progressive Farmer.

OKLAHOMA LAND.

Air: "Turkey in the Straw."

(Written for The Rebel by J. T. Cumbie.)

Come take a look at Oklahoma Land
The State controlled by the Williams, Band
Where democrats rule with an iron hand
And rob the workers in this fair young land
And as you look you sure will see
As rotten a bunch as there can be
Got together on earth or h—ll beneath,
Led on by "Our Bob" their big King Chief
The grafting clan the democrat band
Now in control of Oklahoma Land.
Come workers all if you'd gain your rights
You must put this democrat bunch to flight.

They have talked so much of a "people's rule"
And honest Voters by this have been fooled
Their votes have kept this goulish clan
In full control of Oklahoma Land
But the workers they are now awake
And no more of their scheming lies will take
But with Socialist ballots in their hand
Will oust the Donks from Oklahoma Land.
Hear the Old Donk bray as he slinks away
And the Socialist party comes to stay
With justice to all the working band
All the wealth produced by their own hand.

What a happy day with the Donks away
And the Working class they have full sway
With no dirty clan like the democrat band
Making laws to rob the honest working man
Come workers all and fall in line,
From work shop, mill, from farm and mine,
And cast a ballot for the Socialist Band
And you'll get your rights in Oklahoma Land
In that happy day greed will pass away
When the Socialist party has come to stay
And the grafter, the banker and land lord man
Must work if he stays in Oklahoma Land.

Would you like to see the Workers free,
All o'er the land from sea to sea,
With no power left, in democrat hands,
To rob the working people in Oklahoma Land?
Then unite today, vote this system away,
That breeds more robbers from day to day.
Vote to give all workers the wealth they make,
And drive the Democrat Donkey out of Oklahoma State.
Then "peace on earth good will to men,"
When robbers are driven from their den.
No more they'll pollute this nation grand,
Nor rob the people in Oklahoma Land.

Lindsay, Okla.

Lingan in Second.

District Organizer Lingan will attack the plutes in Shelby county under direction of J. R. Lemons, of Center, Tex., on Monday, Nov. 29.

Comrades of Panola, Rusk and Harrison counties take notice: Lingan will be with you next. If you are not in touch with others in your respective counties write direct to me.

Yours for All,
Jno. B. Yarbrough.
Sec. S. P. Second Cong Dist.

SOUTHERN SELECT BEER.

Alcohol less than four per cent.
The very essence of nature itself.
Pure wholsome and palatable and a beverage which mildly stimulates the entire system.
The beer that builds you up step by step with no reaction
Contents twelve ounces.
Delivered anywhere in the state.

BREWED AND BOTTLED BY
Houston Ice & Brewing Assn.
Houston, Texas

No orders solicited and no shipments made in violation of Texas laws.

REPORT OF NOMINATIONS.

For State Secretary and National Committeemen, November, 1915.

STATE SECRETARY.

Arch. Lingan by Sycamoret, Ezzell.

W. T. Webb by Eastland, Mc-Adams, Salt Gap Koerth Hickory Springs, Blue Grove, S. H. Lamesa, H s, Providence S. H., Woodvale, Corsicana. — *Accepted.*

Mrs. E. W. Carlton by De ton, ort Worth, Wellington, Electra, Mr. and Mrs. Nels Johnson, Dooley — *Accepted.*

T. E. Foster by Lufkin, Marshel, Hallettsville, Frys Gap, Groveton, Pennington, Palestine, Pine Grove, W W Woods and N P Yarbrough (M at L) — *Accepted.*

S. J. Clark by Brand S H

W. S. Noble by Hamlin and S L Beckmon.

Dora Merts by Hooks.

W. D. McElhaney by Colorado.

J. B. Lewis by J H Marshal.

W. B. Lauderdale by Wayland.

NATIONAL COMMITTEEMAN

W. J. Bell by Ringgold, Sand Flat, McAdams, Big Rock, Hallettsville — *Declined.*

W. T. Flowers by S L Beckom.

S. J. Clark by Advance.

Lee Rhodes by Blue Mound.

W. S. Noble by Bowie, Little Cypress, Willow Springs, J A Wood.

T. A. Hickey by Forest, Sycamore, Pike S H, Lott, Electra, Mr and Mrs Nels Johnson, Hamlin, Hartburg, El Paso, J H Marablet, Forest, Harlingen —*Declined.*

Arch. Lingan by Mixon, Marshall, W W Woods and N P Yarbrough.

Carl Rosson by Frys Gap, Groveton, Pennington, Palestine. Woodvale, Dooley — *Accepted.*

S. J. Brownson by Fort Worth.

P. D. Phillips by Bullard, Waco.

E. O. Meitzen by Ezzell, Glencove.

John A. Currie by Killeen.

J. B. Triplett by Nooks.

J. A. Freeland by Murchison.

J. L. Hicks by Brashear.

Dotra Merts by San Antonio.

A. C. Meitzen by Max R Wilde.

NOTE.

Two comrades received the required five or more nominations, but under the constitution could not be considered as entitled to nomination. They are Nat. B. Hunt of Fort Worth, for national committeeman atnd Reddin Andrews, of Tyler, for state secretary, neither of whom had been in "CONSECUTIVE good standing for TWO YEARS immediately prior to nomination" as the state constitution provides. However, both are now again in good standing.

T. A. Hickey,
State Sec., Hallettsville, Tex.

CHARLIE CLINE.

They have sentenced you again,
Charlie Cline;
This to make rebellion vain,
Charlie Cline;
But the winds of wrath whirl on,
And the storm-clouds dark the dawn,
And their reign is all but gone,
Charlie Cline.

For the fight at Merryville,
Charlie Cline,
Kirby thirsts for vengeance still,
Charlie Cline;
Thru his million acre pen,
Prowl the Sabcats now and then;
And his slaves shall yet be men,
Charlie Cline.

But they hunt not only you,
Charlie Cline;
It is Freedom's death they brew,
Charlie Cline.
But the South begins to rise,
And her chains to hate, despise;
Lo. the war-light's in her eyes,
Charlie Cline!

Covington Hall.

WANTED— Socialist doctor in fine Socialist commun ity. Address B. R. Hudgeons (Socialist justice) R No 5, Hallettsville, Texas.

Industrial Relations Report

ELEVENTH INSTALLMENT.

Second Section of Report of Basil M. Manly, Director of Research and Investigation, containing findings of fact and recommendations of the Staff. Report in full accepted and ordered printed by resolution of Commission. Adopted by Commissioners Frank P. Walsh, John B. Lennon, James O'Connell and Austin B. Garretson.—*Continued.*

Strong Organizations the Cure.

"Experience shows that the evils complained of rapidly disappear in labor organizations as soon as the organization prevails over the opposition of the employers and establishes its right to organize. Strong unions mean decent wages, and decent wages raise wage earners to a plane of thought and action where all their acts and mental processes must no longer be directed toward a desperate struggle for the very right of themselves and families to live.

"Organized labor fully dealizes how unfortuna'e it is that labor in its struggle for evistence has occasionally been driven to consider its immediate advantage at the expense of the true economic principles that must govern in the long run. All the energies of organized labor's representatives have been exerted to minimize or eliminate any tendency toward limitation of output or jurisdictional disputes, but, at the same time, organized labor insists that these tendencies where they exist are the logical and inevitable outgrowth of evils in industry that can be removed only by trade union action by the wage earners. We could cite evidence at great length to show that the tendencies complained of so far as they exist at all have grown out of the hard necessities with which labor has been confronted. It is enough here to quote briefly from the testimony of the distinguished economist, Professor Jacob H. Hollander of Johns Hopkins University, given before this Commission in New York City on January 20, 1915. Professor Hollander in discussing the limitation of output said:

We lose sight of the fact that trade unions and unionists are not soldiering in the matter, but they are animated by a very high degree of fraternity in the matter, that they are willing to adopt the same principle if it is a matter of piece work instead of time work, that the endeavor of society should be to bring back industrial conditions from that unwholesome mess into which they have slumped, from this abnormal disproportionate allotment of workers to particular fields in excess of the requirements in those fields. We must without deviating one iota from the proposition which you have stated that it is socially unsound that workmen should do less than they properly could — society should seek to bring about conditions where they will do what they can without involving displacement and unemployment on the part of their fellow workmen.

"We hold that the report of Mr. Manly contains no statement that is unworthy of credence and that will not bear careful investigation. The conclusions and recommendations are warranted by the statement of facts and the accumulated evidence in the hands of the Commission.

The Evidence.

"All evidence accumulated, whether by special investigators or at public hearings, will be submitted to Congress, and we trust the people of our country will demand that it be published in full, particularly the following, which are well worth the most careful study by all persons interested in human uplift. The reports cited below have been prepared by competent investigators and were submitted to the Commission after careful investigation and verification by Director Basil M. Manly and by members of the Commission, and are the latest information upon the various subjects covered by them.

Evidence taken at all public hearings.
Causes of Industrial Unrest, by Mr. W. J. Lauck.
Violence in Labor Disputes, by Mr. Luke Grant.
Structural Iron Workers by Mr. Luke Grant.
Sickness Prevention and Insurance by Dr. B. S. Warren.
Mediation, Arbitration and Investigation, by Prof. Geo. E. Barnett.
Condition of Labor in Principal Industries, by Mr. Edgar Sydenstricker.
Efficiency Systems in Industry, by Prof. Robert F. Hoxie, Mr. John P. Frey, and Mr. Robert G. Valentine.
Industrial Education, by Com. John B. Lennon.
Labor Complaints and Claims, by Mr. F. A Speek.
Trade Union Law, by Mr. J. W. Bryan.
Colorado Situation, by Mr. Geo. P. West.
The Telephone and Telegraph Industry, by Mr. Christopher T. Chenery.
Labor Conditions in Porto Rico, by Mr. Christopher T. Chenery.
Labor Conditions in the Black Hills, by Mr. William P. Harvey.
Labor Conditions in Los Angeles, by Mr. William P. Harvey.
Preliminary Report on the Land Question, by Mr. Charles W. Holman.
Agricultural Labor and Tenancy, by Mr. John L. Coulter.
Unemployment, by Mr. William M. Leiserson.
Extent and Growth of Labor Organizations, by Mr. Lee Wolman.
Injunctions in Labor Disputes, by Mr. Edwin E. Witte.
The Infedior Courts and Police of Paterson, N. J., by Mr. Redmond S. Brennan and Mr. Patrick F. Gill.
Chinese Exclusion, by Mr. Edward A. Fitzpatrick."

Extent of Unrest.

"The principal duty imposed, under the law creating the Commission, was to seek to ascertain the causes of industrial unrest and offer such recommendations as we believe might alleviate that unrest. There can be no question but that unrest exists, in some instances, to an alarming extent. Thousands and tens of thousands of our people feel that they are deprived, under existing conditions in industry, of an opportunity to secure for themselves and their families a standard of living commensurate with the best ideals of manhood, womanhood and chilhood. They resent the fact that the existing system of the distribution of wealth which creates at one end of our industrial scale a few multimillionaires and at the other end thousands and tens of thousands of men, women and children who are at all times in a situation where they are uncertain as to where their next meal will come from. Hungry, poorly clothed and without the opportunities that a fully rounded life requires, they become filled with a sullen resentment that bodes no good for the future of our Republic.

"We have found men and women who are inclined to ascribe this condition to the fact that the Government exercises no power of mandatory character to prevent strikes and lockouts. Many have been the propositions submitted to us for compulsory arbitration or, at least, compulsory investigation with power to recommend a settlement. Some have proposed an elaborate machinery to be set up by the general Government, and of a similar character by the States, providing for concilation, mediation, arbitration and investigation, all of which, while without definite compulsory features, establish a legal machinery that must of necessity exercise an influence in that direction.

"The plan for the creation of an arbitration board, National and State, proposes to assign to a commission of three members the administration of all labor laws of either State or Nation, giving to them powers far in excess of those exercised by the President of the United States, or the Governor of any State. This we believe to be Bureaucracy run mad, and a subversion of Democracy dangerous to the civil and social liberty of all citizens. We hold that all power should be in the final analysis be with the people, and we, therefore, dissent from any such plan."

New Governmental Machinery Unwise.

"The activities of such a Commission supplemented by the proposed advisory committees of employers and labor representatives would be so balanced as to prevent substantial progress, and tend to perpetuate present conditions. Such a plan conceives of labor and capital as static forces and of the relations between them as always to remain unchanging.

"We believe that the work now being done by the Department of Labor in industry generally, and by the Board of Mediation and Conciliation, dealing with interstate public utilities, is better than any that could be expected of any additional board that has been suggested to this Commission. We believe that the Department of Labor, with further experience and larger appropriations, will develop a high state of efficiency in adjusting labor disputes that are capable of being adjusted by any other than the parties directly interested, and will adequately carry on the work provided by the law creating the Department of Labor, to wit:

Section 1. Thepurpose of the Department of Labor shall be to foster, promote and develop the welfare of the wage earners in the United States, to improve their working conditions and to advance their opportunities for profitable employment.

Section 8. The Secretary of Labor shall have power to act as mediator and to appoint commissioners of conciliation in labor disputes whenever in his judgment the interests of industrial peace require it to be done.

"We favor the extension of the Newlands Act to cover all employees of interstate commerce, such as the railroad telegraphers, the shop and track men employed by railroads, the employees of express companies, of the Pullman Company, of commercial telegraph and telephone companies, and other public utilities performing interstate service that in the interest of the Nation, must be continuous.

"The evidence submitted to this Commission is substantially to the effect that where trade union organization exists among the workers, there, at the same time, exists the least amount of industrial unrest of a character that is dangerous to the peace and welfare of our Nation. It is true that the union men and women are not satisfied with their conditions; they are not, however, despondent as to the possibility of securing better conditions; they know what the unions have accomplished, and they have an abiding faith that their further desires can be attained.

"Instead of any elaborate machinery for the prevention of strikes or lockouts we are convinced, from the testimony gathered by this Commission, that the most effectual course that can be pursued to bring about general contentment among our people, based upon a humane standard of living, is the promotion of labor organization. The most casual investigator will soon discover that in those lines of industry where organization of labor is the strongest, there is the least danger of industrial revolt that would endanger the fundamental principles of our government and the maintenance of a nation with respect to law and order. Where organization is lacking, dangerous discontent is found on every hand; low wages and long hours prevail; exploitation in every direction is practised; the people become sullen, have no regard for law or government and are, in reality, a latent volcano, as dangerous to society as volcanoes of nature to the landscape surrounding them."

The One True Remedy.

"We, therefore, urge as the great remedy for such unnecessary industrial unrest as we have found, more, and more, and still more, organization of labor and the employers in each industry as well. The education of the trade unions has been conducive to a higher and better citizenship. In recent years there have came to our assistance scores and hundreds and thousands of people outside the ranks of unionists — ministers, professors, journalists, professional men of all kinds—who have reached the conclusion that is herein stated, that the most efficient cure for such industrial unrest as should be cured, is union organization.

"We hold that efforts to stay the organization of labor or to restrict the right of employees to organize should not be tolerated, but that the opposite policy should prevail and the organization of the trade unions and of the employers' organizations should be promoted, not, however for the sole purpose of fighting each other, but for the commendable purpose of collective bargaining and establishing of industrial good will. Organizations of employers that have no object in view except to prevent labor having a voice in fixing the conditions of industry under which it is employed, have no excuse for existence, as they are a bar to social tranquility and a detriment to the economic progress of our country. The evidence before the Commission shows that organized labor has no desire, nor has it attempted, to control the business of the employer. It insists that it has a right to a voice, and a potent voice, determining the conditions under which it shall work. This attitude, we are sure, will be continued in spite of the opposition of any so-called employers' organizations. This country is no longer a field for slavery, and where men and women are compelled, in order that they may live, to work under conditions in determining which they have no voice, they are not far removed from a condition existing under feudalism or slavery.

"In emphasizing with all the force at our command the necessity of collective action by wage earners through strong organization, if the problem of industrial unrest is to be solved, we wish again to quote from testimony of Professor Hollander. He undertook to sum up for this Commission those conclusions regarding the solution of this problem that have been reached not only by himself, but by the great body of economists in this country and abroad. He said:

"The opinion of political economists in so far as I can voice it is that social unrest, which is manifest not only in this country but in every industrial country, is due to the existence not on the one hand pauperism or on the other economic inequality. By poverty I mean the existence of large areas of industrial society in receipt of income less than enough to maintain themselves and those dependent upon them in decent existence. We believe that is the consequence, not of any absolute dearth—that the world produces enough to go around, that is, therefore not a question of insufficient production, but of defects in distribution. • • • There is a view among economists that there is nothing in any current theory of wages that precludes the laborer from obtaining a sufficient wage, and that if he fails it must be in consequence of the fact that he enters into the wage contract on a plane of inequality. The wage contract, in short, is the result of a bargain between the employer and the employee, and if the employer is in superior competitive position by reason of combination and the laborer is unorganized, he is at a bargaining disadvantage which is certain to redound to his hurt.

I think political economists accordingly then are in agreement that trade unionism is essential as a means of bringing the workmen into industrial bargaining on a plane of equality.

• • • • •

You have asked specifically what the remedy (for poverty) is. It means a very decided revulsion of opinion as to trade unionism. The general attitude among employers of labor is often open and decided opposition to organized labor. Until society recognizes the unwisdom of that attitude and demands that the laborer must enter into his wage bargain on a plane of competive equality, society has not lifted its finger to remedy that evil."

The Public's Duty.

"We submit the report of Mr. Basil M. Manly as our report, asking for it the fullest possible consideration by the men and women of our country who are interested in the social and moral uplift of humanity.

"Labor must work out its own salvation. Wage workers can attain that degree of well-being to which they are entitled only by their own efforts. The general public can not be expected to do for them what they fail to do for themselves, nor would it be desirable that those rights and benefits to which they are entitled should be handed down to them by the Government or by organized society as grace from above. But the general public is vitally interested in the efforts of wage workers to win for themselves equal justice and such a degree of material well-being as will enable them to maintain themselves and their families in comfort, security and health. Society's interest in the triumph of labor's cause should not only from the love of justice and the human sympathy that animates every good citizen, but for a realization that industrial and social evils meacing large groups of the population can not continue without eventually bringing disaster to society as a whole. While inviting the aid of every good citizen, we, as representatives of organized labor, urge that this aid be directed not solely to seeking new legislation or new Governmental machinery designed as a cure-all, but to giving moral support to labor's own efforts, and insisting that trade unions be fostred and encouraged as the most effective agencies making for the wage workers' progress.

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IN THE "FREE STATE."

Wills Point, Tex., Oct. 25, 1915.
Editor The Rebel.—

As you well know the farming class of this state were tied hand and foot this year; but the half has not been told. I was in Canton, the county seat of the "Free State of Van Zandt" the other day and overheard a conversation which of course wasn't intended for me to hear between a merchant and a preacher, the latter the pastor of one of the wealthiest churches in Canton of which also the merchant was a member.

They were talking about farmers not paying their debts and the preacher asked; Why aren't they? The merchant said; "They are holding for better prices and believe me that trade with me next year will sign a contract to sell their cotton as soon as it reaches ten cents; makes no difference what the chances are for it to go higher."

And this spiritual adviser said: "I believe you are right, 10 cents is a good price for cotton."

So the fact about it is, they are going to tie us one knot tighter next year and have the endorsement of their sky pilots and the devil of it is Tom, some poor working rube will rare back on his dewclaws and yelp out: "Socialism will destroy the home," and when we quit swallowing dope from such sky-pilots they tell us we have quit the church and that Socialism will destroy religion.

Say Tom, can't you make it just a little hotter for such sky-pilots? Success to The Rebel in its good work.

Yours for advancement,
W. C. Rowden.

(The above is from a typical Free Stater who is aged only 22 has been in the fight for freedom since his tenth year.—Ed.)

STATE TICKET FOR 1916.

The referendum for selection of candidates for state offices who are to be legally nominated at the state convention in August 1916, has been completed. The nominees are as follows:

For Governor:
E. R. Meitzen, of Hallettsville.
Lieutenant Governor:
W. S. Noble, of Rockdale.
Attorney General:
Clarence Nugent, Stephenville.
Comptroller:
W. T. Flowers, of Wellington.
Land Commissioner:
G. A. Lambreth, of Ira
State Treasurer:
W. J. Bell, of Tyler.
Commissioner of Agriculture:
Jas. B. Goode, of Roby.
Railway Commissioner:
E. Bellinger, of San Antonio.
Superintendent of Schools:
J. A. Freeland.
Associate Justice Supreme Court:
B. H. Gibson.

The sale of Sub. cards for any paper is good; the sale of the Rebel sub. cards is better, for the reason that it carries the news of the State and, in addition, fights *our* battles in Texas all the time.

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Kentucky Bokay	3.50	5.00	9.00
Mononga Rye	3.50	5.00	9.00
Kentucky Cyclone	3.00	4.25	8.00
Belle of Jefferson	3.00	4.25	8.00
Craddock's Quartet	3.00	4.25	8.00
Tennessee Whiskey	3.00	4.25	8.00
Nelson County	2.50	3.65	7.00
W. H. Burch	2.50	3.65	7.00
Westmoreland	2.50	3.65	7.00
Moonshine	2.35	3.35	6.50
Craddock's Fine Old Corn	3.00	4.25	8.00
Good Old Yellow Corn	2.50	3.65	7.00
Corn Whiskey	2.25	3.35	6.50
Craddock's Malt Whiskey	3.00	4.25	8.00
Montreal Malt	4.00	5.50	10.00
Grain Alcohol	3.50	5.25	10.00
Old '81—Peer of all Whiskies	8.00	12.00	19.00
Old PioneerApple&PeachBrandy	4.00	5.50	10.00
Old Pioneer Apricot & Banana	4.00	5.50	10.00
Old Pioneer Rock and Rye and Peach and Honey	4.00	5.50	10.00
Good Apple and Peach Brandy	3.00	4.25	8.00
Good Apricot and Banana	3.00	4.25	8.00
GoodRock&Rye andPeach&Honey	2.50	3.65	7.00
Good Blackberry Wine&Cordial	2.50	3.65	7.00
Posthoorn—best Gin manufact	4.00	5.50	10.00
Best Holland Type Gin	3.00	4.25	8.00
Special Holland Type Gin	2.50	3.65	7.00
Good Holland Type Gin	2.25	3.35	6.50
Best Grade Calif. Sweet Wines Port, Sherry, Angelica, Catawba	2.50	3.65	7.00
Best Grade Imp. Port & Sherry	4.00	5.50	10.00

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Jersey Cream	4.50	6.25	11.00
Sunny Brook	4.50	6.25	11.00
Dripping Springs	4.50	6.25	11.00
OLD RIVER VALLEY	5.00	7.00	12.00
Sherley	5.00	7.00	12.00
Old Overholt Rye	5.00	7.00	12.00
Guckenheimer	5.00	7.00	12.00
Mum's Extra Rye	5.00	7.00	12.00
Old Ripy	5.00	7.00	12.00
Bond & Lillard	5.00	7.00	12.00
Joel B. Frazier	5.00	7.00	12.00
Green River	5.00	7.00	12.00
I. W. Harper	5.00	7.00	12.00
Old Jordan	6.00	8.50	15.00
Blue Ribbon	5.50	7.50	13.00
Old Forester	5.50	7.50	13.00
Hermitage	5.50	7.50	13.00
Old Crow	6.00	8.00	14.00
Gibson Rye	6.00	8.00	14.00
Four Roses	6.75	9.00	16.00

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Case of three dozen small $4.00
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($1.00 back for case and bottles.)
Cask of ten dozen small $11.50
($2.00 back for bottles.)

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