

THE SOCIALIST PARTY

OFFICIAL BULLETIN

Issued Monthly by the National Committee at the National Headquarters, 180 Washington Street, Chicago

Volume VI

CHICAGO, DECEMBER, 1909

Number 4

National Secretary's Financial Report for the Month of December, 1909

National Headquarters, Socialist Party, Chicago, Ill., Dec. 31, 1909.	
RECEIPTS.	
National Dues from State Committees:	
Alabama	6.00
Arkansas	20.00
Arizona	30.00
California	100.00
Colorado	25.00
Connecticut	27.50
Florida	12.50
Idaho	22.25
Illinois	200.00
Indiana	41.75
Iowa	25.00
Kansas	50.00
Louisiana	15.00
Maine	16.00
Maryland	25.00
Massachusetts	124.75
Michigan	80.19
Minnesota	126.25
Missouri	60.00
Montana	16.10
Nebraska	20.00
New Hampshire	17.85
New Mexico	5.00
New York	250.00
North Dakota	3.00
Ohio	102.00
Oklahoma	200.00
Oregon	100.00
Pennsylvania	164.90
Rhode Island	30.00
South Dakota	15.25
Tennessee	5.00
Texas	42.05
Utah	40.00
Vermont	6.75
Washington	72.70
West Virginia	5.00
Wisconsin	74.50
Wyoming	44.48
	\$2,252.94
Unorganized States—	
Georgia	5.00
North Carolina	11.00
	20.00
Members at Large	7.55
Total Dues	\$2,280.49
Supplies	101.25
Literature	328.96
Buttons	59.52
Campaign Fund	1.75
Russian and Mexican Refugees	
Fund	36.25
Minnesota Primary Law	22.00
Swedish Strikers' Fund	461.29
Daily Socialist Subs.	48.00

New York Call Subs.	4.00
Total Receipts	\$3,343.51
EXPENDITURES.	
Exchange	4.15
Express and Freight	72.22
General Expenses	6.62
Postage	148.85
Telegrams and Phone	6.85
Wages—	
J. Mahlon Barnes	\$125.00
J. C. Chase	80.00
D. Fleming	72.00
M. Hudson	66.00
M. Fishery	54.00
E. Koop	32.00
R. McGovern	60.00
H. Vaupel	6.00
	497.00
Speakers—	
Jas. H. Brower	\$15.00
John Collins	221.50
Jas. Connolly	200.00
Geo. H. Goebel	100.00
Lena Morrow Lewis	100.00
A. Litman	100.00
Anna A. Maley	71.78
Fred H. Merrick	72.42
Dan A. White	135.25
John M. Work	107.50
C. J. Wright	20.00
	1,146.45
Printing and Supplies	253.05
Printing Bulletin	121.30
Literature	229.72
Rent (December)	104.00
W. J. Bell (Refund)	5.98
Russian and Mexican Relief Fund	36.25
Swedish Strikers' Fund	460.29
National Executive Committee Meeting—	
Victor L. Berger	\$21.40
A. H. Floaten	76.20
Robert Hunter	78.00
John Spargo	78.00
A. M. Simons	7.50
	261.10
Reserve Mileage Fund	228.05
Total Expenditures	\$3,586.89
SUMMARY.	
Balance on hand December 1	\$ 318.80
Receipts for month	3,343.51
	\$3,662.31
Expenditures for month	3,586.89
	\$ 75.42
Balance Jan. 1, 1910	\$ 73.42
Reserve Mileage Fund, \$2,110.30.	
Fraternally submitted,	
J. MAHLON BARNES,	
National Secretary.	

Nominees for National Officers Accepting and Declining

December 10th the time expired for acceptances and declinations for candidates for National officers. The complete list of qualified nominees are as follows:

FOR NAT'L EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Accepted.
W. J. Bell, Tyler, Tex.; Victor L. Berger, Milwaukee, Wis.; B. Berlyn, Chicago, Ill.; Otto F. Branstetter, Oklahoma City, Okla.; James H. Brower, Joliet, Ill.; James F. Carey, Boston, Mass.; E. E. Carr, Chicago, Ill.; Stanley J. Clark, Huntington, Ark.; John M. Collins, Chicago, Ill.; Louis Duchez, East Palestine, O.; Adolph F. Germer, Belleville, Ill.; Geo. H. Goebel, Newark, N. J.; Morris Hillquit, New York, N. Y.; Robert Hunter, Noroton Heights, Conn.; Morris Kaplan, Duluth, Minn.; Lena Morrow Lewis, San Francisco, Cal.; James H. Maurer, Reading, Pa.; Wm. M. Devitt, San Francisco, Cal.; Thomas J. Morgan, Chicago, Ill.; Sumner W. Rose, Biloxi, Miss.; A. M. Simons, Chicago, Ill.; John W. Slayton, McKeesport, Pa.; J. E. Snyder, Girard, Kan.; John Spargo, Yonkers, N. Y.; F. G. Strickland, Anderson, Ind.; Carl D. Thompson, Milwaukee, Wis.; John M. Work, Des Moines, Ia.

Declined.

J. O. Bentall, Chicago, Ill.; Geo. D. Brewer, Girard, Kans.; John C. Chase, Chicago, Ill.; Eugene V. Debs, Terre Haute, Ind.; A. H. Floaten, Denver, Colo.; Winfield R. Gaylord, Milwaukee, Wis.; Ben Hanford, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Frank J. Hayes, Springfield, Ill.; Thos. Hickey, Tyler, Tex.; Mother Jones, Chicago, Ill.; Chas. H. Kerr, Chicago, Ill.; Algernon Lee, New York, N. Y.; Mita Tupper Maynard, Denver, Colo.; Walter Thomas Mills, Milwaukee, Wis.; Charles H. Moyer, Denver, Colo.; John M. O'Neill, Denver, Colo.; May Wood-Simons, Chicago, Ill.; A. M. Sturton, New Castle, Pa.; J. G. Phelps-Stokes, Stamford, Conn.; Luella Twining, Chicago, Ill.; Jos. Wanhope, New York, N. Y.; Fred D. Warren, Girard, Kan.; J. A. Wayland, Girard, Kan.; Franklin H. Wentworth, Salem, Mass.; Dan A. White, Brockton, Mass.; Gaylord Wilshire, New York.

Not Heard From.

H. H. Caldwell, Dayton, O.; James Connolly, New York, N. Y.; Max Hayes, Cleveland, O.; Wm. D. Hayward, Denver, Colo.; Gertrude B. Hunt, Norwood Park, Ill.; Arthur M. Lewis, Chicago, Ill.; Guy E. Miller, Hotchkiss, Colo.; Thos. A. Sladden, Portland, Ore.; Seymour Stedman, Chicago, Ill.; Ernest Untermaun, Clearwater, Idaho.

FOR NATIONAL SECRETARY.

Accepted.
J. Mahlon Barnes, Chicago, Ill.
Declined.
Otto F. Branstetter, Oklahoma City, Okla.; John C. Chase, Chicago, Ill.; J. O. Bentall, Chicago, Ill.

International Circular

"Socialist Party.

"Buenos Ayres, Argentine, Nov. 19, 1909.

"To the Executive Committee, Socialist Party.

"The government of this republic has declared military law throughout the nation on account of the death of the chief of police, M. Ramon Falcon, killed by a bomb last Sunday.

"This Chief of Police Falcon is the same man who on the first of May of the present year massacred the working people and thereby provoked a general strike, in which the Socialist party played a very important role.

"This military law has caused a great damage to our Socialist and labor organizations. The Socialist press has been forbidden to appear. Our daily, La Vanguardia, has been suppressed. The anarchist paper, La Protesta, has been forcibly entered and its presses destroyed. The headquarters of the Socialists have been closed and are under police supervision. Many of our militants have been put in prison, and the editors of our dailies have gone yesterday to Los Saute.

"These facts are sufficient to demonstrate the political state of this country. Without constitutional guarantee of our liberty and rights we are at the mercy of the government and the secret police.

"We pray you to protest through your journals against these barbarous punishments of Russianized Argentina, which express themselves by the unjustified arrest and deprivations.

"We ask your moral and material aid for our prisoners—more than six hundred—and their families and our journal, La Vanguardia, wounded unto death by this blow of the government over the pretext of punishing terrorism. We await your assistance and your solidarity.

"Yours fraternally,
(Signed) MARIO BRAVO,
"General Secretary, S. P."

PROPOSED NATIONAL PARTY REFERENDUM.

Evansville, Ind., Nov. 25.
Mr. J. Mahlon Barnes, National Secretary Socialist Party, Chicago, Ill.
Dear Comrade—Herewith is submitted to you resolution and call for National Referendum by Local Evansville, Socialist Party, of Indiana.

Be it resolved by Local Evansville, Socialist party of Indiana, assembled in regular business meeting, November 23d, that we hereby call for a National Referendum to strike out of the National Constitution Section 2 of Article 10, to do away with the proposed party congresses, as the work and importance of such congresses do not justify the expenditure of \$8,000.00 or \$9,000.00 from the National Treasury. This money can be spent to far greater advantage to the party by sending out National Organizers and Lecturers.

(Signed)
OTTO KUNATH, Chairman.
EDWARD MEEMAN, Sec'y pro tem.

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Victor L. Berger	344 Sixth st., Milwaukee, Wis.
A. H. Floaten	223 W. Fourteenth av., Denver, Colo.
Morris Hillquit	320 Broadway, New York, N. Y.
Robert Hunter	Highland Farm, Noroton Heights, Conn.
A. M. Simons	180 Washington st., Chicago, Ill.
John Spargo	355 Walnut st., Yonkers, N. Y.
John M. Work	c/o Nat'l Office, 180 Washt'n st., Chicago, Ill.

WOMAN'S NATIONAL COMMITTEE

Winnie Branstetter, Secretary	Care of Ida Hayman, Indiana Bldg., Oklahoma City, Okla.
May Wood-Simons	180 Washington Street, Chicago, Ill.
Antoinette Konikow	Care of Baylan, 1,107, New York, N. Y.
Theresa Malkiel	49 Cornell Avenue, Yonkers, N. Y.
Meta L. Stern	410 154th Street, New York, N. Y.

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BOOKS FOR STUDY COURSE

(Recommended by the National Executive Committee.)

THEORY—	
Socialism in Theory and Practice.—Hillquit	\$1.50
Social Revolution.—Kautsky	.50
Economic Foundations of Society.—Loria	1.25
THE DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIALISM—	
Socialism, Utopian and Scientific.—Engels	.50
ECONOMICS—	
The People's Marx.—Deville	1.00
Socialism.—Spargo	1.50
SPECIAL PROBLEMS OF SOCIALISM—	
Woman.—Bebel	1.00
The American Farmer.—Simons	.50
The City for the People.—Parsons	1.50
Collectivism and Industrial Evolution.—Vandervelde	.50
TACTICS AND METHODS—	
Socialists at Work.—Hunter	1.50
Constructive Socialism.—Thompson	.15
HISTORY—	
History of Socialism.—Kirkup	2.25
History of Socialism in the United States.—Hillquit	1.50

\$15.15

COMPLETE SET \$11.00, DELIVERED FREE.

Correspondence of the National Executive Committee During Month of December

National Headquarters,
Socialist Party,
Chicago, Ill., Dec. 2, 1909.

To the National Executive Committee.
Dear Comrades—I herewith report the action taken upon the motion submitted under date of November 22d, providing for a meeting of the National Executive Committee at National Headquarters, Saturday, December 11, 1909.

Voting in the affirmative: Comrades Berger, Floaten, Hillquit, Hunter, Simons and Spargo. Comrade Work voted in the negative, with the following comment: "I vote no on the motion to hold a meeting of the Executive Committee. Unless something special should arise, I do not know of any reason why the present committee should hold another meeting."

The motion is therefore adopted, and the meeting of the National Executive Committee will be called to order at National Headquarters, Chicago, Ill., at 10 a. m., Saturday, December 11th.

Fraternally submitted.
J. MAHLON BARNES,
National Secretary.

Chicago, Ill., Dec. 30, 1909.

To the National Executive Committee.
Dear Comrades—I herewith transmit for your consideration correspondence dealing with Texas affairs and based upon a decision by your body rendered in recent session. Also a copy of resolutions by the Committee of Socialist Local Spokane and endorsed by the State Executive Committee of Washington.

Fraternally submitted.
J. MAHLON BARNES,
National Secretary.

EXTRACTS FROM NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES.

"Letter of Richie Alexander, which was published in the Bulletin September 18th, also one ordering dues stamps and saying that he had been regularly elected state secretary of Texas. Other letters bearing on the same subject.

"MOTION.—That the National Secretary stands instructed to notify the complainants of the provision of the constitution that as soon as a complaint signed by one-third of the de facto membership at the time of the controversy reaches this office the Executive Board will investigate the matter and take it up under the provisions of the constitution.
"Grand Saline, Texas, Dec. 23, 1909.
"J. Mahlon Barnes, National Sec. S. P., Chicago.

"Dear Comrade—We have yours of the 18th with enclosures, advising that the National Executive Committee has decided that they will take the Texas situation in charge under and in conformity with Section 9, Art. 12, of the National Constitution, whenever they receive a petition from Texas signed by one-third or more of the members that were in good standing when the party trouble arose in this state.

"The anti-machine faction has been aware of this constitutional remedy from the beginning, but there has heretofore existed insurmountable obstacles in the way of complying therewith, which still persist, in a measure; although we are quite certain that 90 per cent of the Socialists who were in good standing when the trouble began last December would now sign such a petition, if they could be reached with a request to do so.

"Our failure to file a petition in accordance with the terms of the National Constitution governing state controversies, has been due to the fact that Bell has at all times kept the names and addresses of local secretaries in Texas a secret from the party membership, thus precluding the possibility of communicating with either local secretaries or individual members.

"It is certainly within the contemplation of Sec. 9, Art. 12, of the National Constitution that complainants should be supplied with information that it will be necessary for them to have before they can comply therewith. Therefore I ask the national organization for the following information, the supply of which will not constitute a recognition of any faction to any degree whatsoever: How many members did Bell pay dues on for the months of November and December, 1908, respectively? If detailed reports were made by Bell for November and December, 1908, how many members did they represent to be in good standing, in each Texas local, for these months, respectively? Also a complete list of the individuals, together with their addresses, who comprised the Socialist Party of Texas, on November 30th, on December 31st, 1908, respectively, if you have same on record?

"After receiving this data we can get 90 per cent of the de facto membership upon the requisite petition easier than 33 per cent under present handicaps.

"Our local here at Grand Saline will furnish 200 bona fide signatures that can be secured within 48 hours. We should succeed in securing the requisite number of signatures, whether you deem it consistent to supply any or all of the requested data or not; but it will take considerable time and unnecessary labor if this desired information is withheld.

"We feel that we have asked herein for nothing more than every Socialist in Texas is entitled to and what can be properly supplied all applicants concerned.

"If, however, for any reason, you prefer for the National Executive Committee to pass upon the foregoing request, in toto, or on any part thereof, before taking action, kindly transmit this communication to them, along with any statement you may make to that effect."

Fraternally yours,
(Signed) RICHEY ALEXANDER,
Acting State Secretary, Socialist Party of Texas.

Chicago, Ill., Dec. 30, 1909.
"Richey Alexander, Grand Saline, Texas.
Dear Comrade—Have your favor of the 23d reference action of the National Executive Committee and suggestion made by it as to taking advantage of Section 9 of Article XII of the National Constitution relating to the issues raised by your previous communications.

"Replying to your direct question for information, I would state that during the month of November, 1908, the remittances for dues from the Texas state office paid for a membership of 1,520, and for December of the same year for a membership of 2,014. However, the average membership for the year of 1908 was 1,537.

"Detailed reports as to the number of locals, or the membership of locals, or the number of members in good standing either in the locals or in the state for the period mentioned were not supplied by State Secretary Bell, and we do not have from Texas, or any other state, a complete list of the individual party members.

"We have received from time to time a list of the names and addresses of local secretaries, but according to a rule of the National Executive Committee, such a list may not be released from this office under any circumstances except by the consent of the state organization in question or its recognized representatives.

"For the information of the National Executive Committee I shall transmit to them the essentials of your letter and a copy of this reply."

Fraternally yours,
(Signed) J. MAHLON BARNES,
National Secretary.

RESOLUTIONS BY COMMITTEE OF SOCIALIST LOCAL SPOKANE.

"WHEREAS, The ruling class by means of the municipal and county government have arbitrarily and unlawfully suppressed free speech, free press and free assembly in the city of Spokane, Wash.; and

"WHEREAS, Many members of the Socialist Party and labor organizations for attempting to exercise the common rights of citizenship are being railroaded to prison on trumped up charges of criminal conspiracy, under sentence of three to six months of hard labor; and

"WHEREAS, A new and dangerous precedent is being established that threatens to strangle and destroy the labor movement of America and crush the Socialist movement under the iron heel of despotism; therefore be it

"RESOLVED, That Local Spokane of the Socialist Party of Washington, through its committee, does hereby petition the State Secretary to call at once a meeting of the State Executive Committee for the purpose of petitioning the National Executive Committee to issue a general call for funds and to employ the best legal talent obtainable to defend our comrades who are being jailed for their fidelity to the working classes."

(Committee action is necessary, as open action would render all members participating liable to arrest for criminal conspiracy.)
To the above Comrade Bostrom, State Secretary of Washington, subscribes the following:

"To this I can add the endorsement of the State Executive Committee. Furthermore, I can add the endorsement of every individual Socialist in the state, feeling certain that the work before us is of national scope and requiring the united efforts of the whole Socialist and labor movement of this country, irrespective of minor differences. I am not certain that the idea to throw money into the maws of hungry lawyers is the best method, but I am certain that no mistake is so great as that of inaction.

"Hoping that this appeal leads to action, which perhaps should have been taken long ago, I am yours for working class solidarity and active revolution.

(Signed) FRANS BOSTROM,
State Secretary Treasurer.

To National Committee

Chicago, Ill., Dec. 15, 1909.

To the National Committee.
Comrades—In compliance with the National Committee Motion No. 9, adopted November 7, 1909, you are requested to place in nomination a city and date, relating to the time and place of holding the party congress for the year 1910.

The nomination blank supplied herewith must be returned to the National Office on or before January 6, 1910.

Fraternally submitted.
J. MAHLON BARNES,
National Secretary.

Minutes of the National Executive Committee SOCIALIST PARTY

Sessions, December 11-12-13, 1909

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION,

DECEMBER 11th.

Meeting was called to order by National Secretary Barnes at 10:45. Comrades Berger, Hunter, Simons and Spargo present. Comrade John Spargo elected chairman. Comrade Mabel H. Hudson elected secretary.

A telegram was received from Comrade Floaten stating that his train was delayed about five hours.

The National Secretary made the following general report on organization and agitation: "Under the sub-head 'B'—Organized States, and 'C'—Unorganized States, I direct your attention to three separate letters sent out during the month of October. All the states are covered by these letters, and they comprise three groups, as follows: Those showing increased dues over last year, those showing a decrease, and those remaining stationary in the matter of payments. These letters, in general, also cover caption 'D'—On Finances. The first six months of this year showed an increase in dues of \$914.66 over the phenomenal increase of last year, and this compared favorably with the increase shown during each of the seven preceding years, except presidential campaign years. The summer months, July, August and September, showed a tremendous slump in the dues account as compared with last year, in fact, we lost entirely the lead gained in the first six months and \$67.34 over. The past two months show the same tendency even more so. The receipts for eleven months in 1908 were \$23,454.19, and for 1909, \$22,873.82, a net loss of \$580.37. True, this is not a large sum as compared to total dues receipts for last year, which amounted to \$25,534.01. The average monthly dues account is \$2,121.83. The average monthly loss has been \$48.36. But large or small, it shows a loss of membership covering a considerable period of time, amounting to 1,055 members in the eleven months, making the membership number at present 40,596 instead of 41,751 on January 1, 1909.

"Except in this particular of dues the finances of the organization, such as agitation funds, sale of supplies, literature, buttons, etc., meet the average of previous off or non-political years. While in the matter of agitation and in the collection of funds for what might be called international or special purpose intimately related with the real class struggle, we have exceeded all records within a given period. The Political Refugee Defence League which has assisted Russian and Mexican refugees and secured a large part of its funds by reason of publicity secured through this office, also received a total of \$318.26 gathered by this office and turned directly into their treasury.

"About half of the state organizations have met their obligations in the appropriation for the Minnesota primary law contest, making a total of \$162.28, while our liability on this account, according to a National Committee motion and the best information at hand at that time, was not to exceed \$333.00. Several of the states have been under considerable expense on account of their own primary laws.

"To the end of November \$305.35 has been sent to Pablo Iglesias at Madrid for the relief of the Spanish prisoners.

"Relating to the Swedish general strike fund in the matter of support given within a limited period for any purpose, all records have been exceeded. In the Moyer - Haywood - Pettibone kidnapping case a total of \$15,956.15 was collected and turned over, but the collections covered parts of three fiscal years. \$4,141.79 of this was collected during a period of ten months in the year 1906. While the collection for the Swedish strikers, authorized by a National Committee motion less than three months ago, and including a draft forwarded this day to Stockholm, Sweden, the remittances amount to a total of \$6,051.06.

"I draw but one lesson from the above presentation of facts and figures, and that is that the comrades of the party are as much in earnest as ever, if not more so; that there is a broader, deeper sentiment for internationalism than ever before; that they are disposed to make as great, if not greater, sacrifices than ever, but it must be in behalf and in support of an active, progressive contest where the opposing forces meet upon a real issue.

"As stated at the outset, the circular letters relating to the states give a general view of the situation. I would suggest that some time during the session each state be made the basis of a general and informal discussion.

"I attach herewith a statement of the liabilities of the National Office to the close of business yesterday, (December 10) as follows:

Bowman Automatic Addressing Co.	\$ 4.27
Brotherhood Publishing Co.	2.40
Central Printing and Engraving Co.	150.00
Cons. Press Clipping Co.	20.04
Chicago Telephone Co.	10.42
Daily Spravednost	40.50
A. B. Dick & Co.	35.39
Equity Series	5.00

M. Fry Co.	19.60
G. T. Fraenkel	30.50
Funk & Wagnalls Co.	50.00
John F. Jordan	11.25
La Parola Printing Co.	15.04
Milwaukee Soc. Dem. Pub. Co.	1.50
P. H. Murray & Co.	29.50
P. F. Pettibone & Co.	31.41
Rebuilt Typewriter Co.	5.35
Chas. Scribners Sons	15.00
Willshire Book Co.	77.37

\$554.95

"In the absence of some of the organizers reports the exact figures cannot be given, but the total liabilities on that account will not exceed six hundred dollars.

Cash Balance	\$1944.12
Reserve Mileage Fund to the end of November	1882.25"

Comrade John C. Chase reported on trade union and general agitation, with statement of location of speakers from May to December, and submitted letters, bearing on the work done by the trade union organizers.

Comrade White was granted the floor and made report on his trade union work, as follows:

"Comrades: I entered this work without prior knowledge of the work to be taken up. When I entered it I was in a position of doubt as to whether it was advisable, wondering what kind of a reception it would be accorded. From the first to the last I was more than gratified on this point. Among the molders there are few Socialists, but many sympathizers. I was surprised at times at the density of the ignorance as to the meaning of Socialism, but found that they were willing to come and listen. During the summer months owing to the hot weather unless the meetings were called or special meetings arranged they were small. A number of special meetings were called. At Holyoke, where there were no Socialists among the molders, a special meeting was called. A fine was levied on every member not present without a reasonable excuse. There were over one hundred present and I sold all the literature I had with me. The next day I sold a number of books. This happened in several instances where they had called meetings. The plan contemplated some assistance from party locals by way of in between dates, and a number of such meetings fell down lacking local arrangements. Anyhow, in mid-summer I was ill and returned home, writing Comrade Barnes as to my opinion on the best means of reaching the unions; stated that the comrade doing the work should be permitted to go among the members and arrange his own meetings; that if one was able to move among the men one was to talk to he would be able to find out their feelings as to Socialism. At Providence I visited the shops and sold four or five dollars worth of literature. If one could meet and talk with the men one could break down their prejudices. I believe the organizer should be permitted to arrange his own dates the best he can. From my view point the work has been successful and it was pleasing to me and I feel that it ought to go on. Among other things that pleased me was the fact that the party members were tickled with the fact that such work had been taken up. At the Massachusetts General Committee meeting Comrade Rower made a motion that a committee of three be appointed to agitate and assist in the work among the trade unions. The work has been satisfactory and results have been particularly good considering the limited time we have been at work, and if the problem of finances could be solved it would be fine. Found the molders nearly all at work. Work had picked up. For two years they had suffered from non employment, but there is an active demand for molders now. I anticipated that there would be opposition from the officials, but none manifested itself. The business agents were very considerate. They thought I might aid them in their organization as well as our own work. Eighty per cent of the molders are organized."

Comrade Collins was granted the floor and reported on his trade union work, as follows:

"When I started out on this work I got discouraged at the first two or three meetings. Went to one at Aurora and found some of the local men hostile to unions. But that was about the only place I had such trouble. As I went along I found it growing better and better and I had no trouble in getting the floor at the unions. There was only one organization in my whole trip through the different states that limited my time and that was in New York City. The Machinists of New York had seceded from the regular organization. When the letter arrived from the National Office to that lodge there was almost a stand up fight. One man said that if I was not allowed the floor he would leave the lodge. He was not a Socialist, but wanted fair play. I got the floor and spoke for twenty minutes. That was the only one in that part of the country that did this. Time permitting, I always hunted up the Socialist members and got them

to get me in touch with the machinists. I always send a postal card about three days ahead of my arrival. Have had very little trouble with the unions. Had splendid success all through the territory where I went. At Cincinnati on my way home I had a specially arranged mass meeting. Had to wait four days for the mass meeting, but in the meantime visited the different unions. I find that the postal card is very effective. Each speaker should send them ahead. I find that some Socialist members had actually quit the unions. Have found that true in a number of places. They take no active part in the unions. If we could possibly get the local Socialists together in the different unions it would be better, than any of us speaking to them. To make head way in the unions we must get the Socialist members to take an active part. I am heartily in favor of the communication to the unions coming from the National Office so that we will not come in under false colors. I do not want to visit organizations to talk on Socialism without them knowing that I am a Socialist. About fifty members were present on an average at the meetings. There was no opposition from the national officials of the unions apparent."

Comrade Spargo introduced the question of the referendum about to be submitted reference raise of wages for national organizers.

MOTION.—That a statement regarding the committee's reasons for recommending a raise be drawn up by the chairman and submitted during the afternoon session. Adopted.

Comrade Floaten arrived at 12:30.

Representatives of the Polish Socialist Section were granted the floor. Comrade S. M. Sokolowski reported regarding their organization, asking assistance for an organizer and also for some statement as to the rights of party members in other states.

MOTION.—That the request of the comrades be granted and that assistance be given for a period of two months, beginning with the month of February, at two dollars a day upon the usual conditions with the National Office. Adopted.

Adjourned at one o'clock to meet at 2.30 p. m.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION. DECEMBER 11th.

Meeting called to order by National Secretary Barnes at 2:45. Comrade Simons elected chairman.

Discussion on trade union agitation resumed.

MOTION.—That Comrades Hunter, Berger and Simons act as a sub-committee to pass upon the manuscript of the proposed trade union booklet, and that it shall be published in the form they agree upon under the title "Political Power of Labor." Adopted.

Comrade Chase reported on the work and expenses of trade union organizers as follows: That John Collins had been out 146 days, speaking on 60 days to machinists unions. Dan A. White was out 49 days, 45 of which were in the molders unions. The average expense per day was \$6.62. The average receipts from donations and collections being \$2.19 per day, leaving a deficit of \$4.43 per day. It should be remembered that the only income from union meetings was from the sale of literature. On the ordinary routing of speakers for straight Socialist meetings the average deficit is \$2.25 per day. This means that it costs on the present basis about double the average amount to get organizers into the trade unions; but we have reason to believe that this work will become more nearly self-sustaining as it is enlarged upon and that later return dates to unions upon their own solicitation can be made upon agreeable terms."

STATEMENT BY THE COMMITTEE.

The committee heard excellent reports from Comrades White and Collins on their agitation tours among the unions. In the unions there has been some opposition to Socialism, but in all cases our men have been given a hearing, and enthusiastic reports by letter have reached the office showing a great increase of interest in Socialism. Both Comrades White and Collins are of the opinion that we have never undertaken any form of agitation which has been so fruitful of results. Hundreds of men in the union movement were under entirely wrong impressions regarding the position and principles of the Socialist party. When they heard the position of socialism stated they were glad to buy books and pamphlets to learn more of the movement. Local Socialists send reports showing the benefit that has come to the local movement through the union agitation, and in a number of instances have said that it has done more to interest the actual working class than any other form of organized propaganda. The National office has also received a number of letters from non-party union officials urging that Brothers White and Collins be given a return date as their visits did immense good in arousing enthusiasm for both the union and the socialist movement.

MOTION.—In view of the fact that the trade union agitation undertaken by the

National Executive Committee as an experiment has proven itself to be about the best propaganda work we have yet done, that in no other way can we so easily enlist the sympathies and aid of the actual working class, be it

RESOLVED, that next year we select other trade unionists who are able speakers and socialists to undertake similar tours among the various unions.

Work of that kind among the miners is now needed, and in other unions it would undoubtedly bring beneficial results to the movement. Therefore, it is decided by the National Executive Committee to select six class socialist trade unionists to undertake this special propaganda during the next year, part of their time being given to general propaganda for the locals, and part of their time exclusively to trade union propaganda.

The following comrades were suggested: Van Horn of the Miners; Wheeler of the Carpenters; Brower of the Carpenters; Killingbeck of the Metal Polishers; Bower of the Cigar Makers; Feely of the Teamsters.

MOTION.—That the National Secretary conduct a correspondence and see what men can be gotten in the various unions on one of two basis. First, men who can be regular organizers and tour the entire country, and men who can take local assignments, such as officials of unions, and submit the names to the committee. Adopted.

Comrade Kaplan, National Committee member of Minnesota, spoke in opposition on the question of raising the organizers' wages.

STATEMENT BY THE COMMITTEE

The National Executive Committee directs the attention of the comrades to the reasons which led the Committee, in July last, to advise the National Committee that the wages of our national organizers should be increased to four dollars per day.

The National Committee agreed to the increase of salary. To the surprise of this Committee there was immediately initiated a referendum to undo the action of the National Committee and to restore the old rate of three dollars per day.

The members of the party are, we believe, entitled to know that, in our opinion, the carrying of this referendum would cripple the most important work which the party has undertaken in many years.

Feeling the force of the widespread criticism that our National organizers have not successfully reached the organized workers of the country, the National Executive Committee undertook to send special organizers into the trades unions. This work, so far as tried thus far, has proven to be more productive of good results than any other form of propaganda.

For this work we have felt it necessary to secure the services of the most capable and energetic comrades actively engaged in trades union work. But, in order to obtain the services of such comrades, we find it absolutely necessary to pay wages equal, or near equal to the recognized trades union rate of wages. Further—quite apart from the fact that such men cannot be otherwise enlisted in the work—we believe that the Socialist Party should, as a matter of principle, scorn to pay low wages to its servants.

The wage of three dollars per day was fixed several years ago. Within that period wages in this country have been generally increased. Why, we ask, should the Socialist Party lag behind?

During the same period the cost of living has increased out of all proportion to the advance of wages. A man who today receives the same wages as he received five years ago has lost ground. He is in a much worse position than before. We cannot ignore this fact.

Now, comrades, we ask you to consider carefully the seriousness of this question. As a result of long and careful study we have developed a system of propaganda among the organized workers of the country. It is our belief that this will prove to be the most fruitful work we have ever undertaken. If you insist upon a return to the old rate of wages, you will wreck that work by restricting us in our choice of organizers to those least fitted for the work.

The following letter was received from Comrade Hillquit:

New York, Dec. 10, 1909.
National Executive Committee,
Socialist Party.

Dear Comrades:—
I find to my great regret, that it will be impossible for me to attend the meeting of our Committee. I have been asked by the striking shirtwaist makers of this city to act as one of their arbitrators in the negotiations with their employers to bring about an adjustment of their grievances, and the matter seems to me of such importance that I could not and would not decline to act upon any ground. The Arbitration Committee will probably organize today, and will continue in session until the entire controversy is finally settled.

From the circular inquiries recently addressed by Comrade Barnes to the nominees for the office of member of the National Executive Committee, I infer that Comrade Barnes believes it necessary to accompany the names of candidates on the printed ballots with a statement of their respective "trade, occupation or profession." I therefore move that the official ballots be printed without such statement.

As I understand it, Comrade Barnes' authority for the proposed statement of "trade, occupation or profession" of the candidates for the National Executive Committee, rests upon a resolution to that effect adopted some time ago by the National Committee. I contend that that resolution never had any validity, inasmuch as the National Committee neither calls nor conducts the election of the members of the National Executive Committee. The National Executive Committee is nominated and elected by the party membership in referendum, in such manner as the constitution of the party provides, and no Committee of the Party has the right or power to modify or add to the provisions of the constitution on that point. The recent amendment on that subject adopted by the membership provides in detail for the form of the ballot and the manner of its printing, and contains no provision calling for a statement of the "trade, occupation or profession" of the candidates.

I should not have raised this point if I had thought the resolution of the National Committee in question useful or proper, but I believe it is only a symptom of the deplorable and entirely unjustifiable recent tendency within our Party to create classes and distinctions among our members, and, as such, it should not be encouraged but checked. Within the Socialist Party we do not meet on economic grounds, and have no separate or antagonistic interests to each other. The only "trade, occupation or profession" which all Socialists have as members of the Socialist Party is and should be the promotion of the cause of Socialism.

Fraternalty yours,
(Signed) Morris Hillquit.

After discussion, upon a vote being taken, the motion was defeated.

The question of fraternal delegates from Europe to American labor conventions was discussed.

MOTION.—That the National Secretary be instructed to write to the affiliated parties in Europe to ascertain in advance if there are any socialists being sent as fraternal delegates to the American labor organizations and see if it is possible to arrange for them propaganda tours in this country. Adopted.

MOTION.—That the National Secretary be authorized to correspond with Comrade Kautsky, Comrade Legien and Comrade Geo. N. Barnes relative to a tour in this country. Adopted.

Comrade Hunter suggests that we should have some code of legislation regarding liability laws. Upon this subject, Comrade Brower was granted the floor.

MOTION.—That a committee of five members of the party be appointed by the Executive Committee for the purpose of gathering material on labor legislation, on injunctions, court decisions and other questions affecting labor in this country and abroad and that this committee be prepared to furnish information to Socialists and trade unionists who may wish to know the action advisable to take upon such a question. Adopted.

MOTION.—That Comrade Hunter be requested to organize such a committee. Adopted.

Adjourned at six o'clock until 10 a. m. Sunday.

SUNDAY MORNING SESSION.

DECEMBER 12th.

Meeting called to order by Comrade Barnes at 10:30. Comrade Floaten elected chairman.

The attitude of members towards the trade unions was discussed at length together with the party declarations on this subject.

The National Executive Committee of the Finnish organization was holding a meeting at the same time and the two committees met in joint session on matters of common interest. Comrade Victor Watia, national translator brought forward the question of naturalization, and explained that four Finnish comrades at Clifford, Wis., had recently been denied citizenship papers by Judge Reed after all manner of ridiculous questions had been asked. Such questions were asked no other applicant. Comrade Watia also read the correspondence with the Party State office of Wisconsin relating to the subject.

MOTION.—That the National Secretary be instructed to consult a competent lawyer to take up the case of these four Finns in Wisconsin in regard to naturalization. Adopted.

MOTION.—That a committee of two draw up a statement on the subject to be sent out to the entire Socialist press. Adopted.

MOTION.—That we enter strong protest and send it to Taft, Knox and the Attorney General on this subject. Adopted.

MOTION.—That the committee be made up of Comrades Hillquit and Spargo. Adopted.

Comrade Barnes read the headings of Miscellaneous subjects to be considered.

Adjourned at one o'clock to meet at 2:30.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON SESSION.

Meeting called to order by Comrade Barnes at 2:20. Comrade Hunter elected chairman.

The National Secretary presented miscellaneous subjects as follows:

Program for the next National Congress to be held in 1910.
Study Course in Socialism.

Request from several sources for the publication in leaflet form of an article by Comrade Hunter on "Catholicism vs. Socialism."

Comrade Hunter suggests that the National Secretary write to persons who have asked for publication of this leaflet and say that it is the opinion of this committee that it would be better to have some Catholic write this leaflet and refer them to the one by Comrade P. J. Cooney of Bridgeport, Conn.

Correspondence from and reference to Henry L. Drake in controversy with Comrade Sill, State Secretary of Florida.

Letter of Richey Alexander which was published in the Bulletin September 18th, also one ordering dues stamps and saying that he had been regularly elected state secretary of Texas. Other letters bearing on the same subject.

MOTION.—That the National Secretary stands instructed to notify the complainants of the provision of the constitution, that as soon as a complaint signed by one-third of the de facto membership at the time of the controversy reaches this office the Executive Board will investigate the matter and take it up under the provisions of the constitution. Adopted.

A number of letters from the so-called Provisional State Committee of Oregon; other communications from locals on the same subject. Reply of Comrade Sladden to some statements sent out.

From Frank Midney and Walter B. Dillon requesting appointments as national organizers, and from S. M. Reynolds reference a speaking tour over the Red Special route.

No action taken owing to limited opportunity for engagements and the length of the present list of available speakers.

Suggestions of A. D. Marble of Oklahoma City, Okla., for small leaflets.

From U. Solomon for Local New York, that a pamphlet be gotten out on the recent court decisions against labor organizations and pointing out that Louis B. Boudin is specially qualified for this work.

MOTION.—That we request Comrade Boudin to prepare a short, popular leaflet on judicial decisions concerning organized labor. Adopted.

J. B. Gay, Columbus, Tex., suggesting a national circulating library.

MOTION.—That Comrade Gay be notified that the National Executive Committee considers the plan impracticable at this time. Adopted.

From O. Lund, Spokane, Wash., with suggestion for a lecture Bureau and re-introduction of the subject of Chautauqua speakers by Comrade Work.

MOTION.—That Comrade Barnes be authorized to make arrangements for the sending of Socialist lecturers to the various chautauquas, if possible upon terms advantageous to the party. Adopted.

Resolution of protest addressed to the National Executive Committee by Local Madera, Calif., reference the raising of wages of national organizers.

Resolution by Local Kewanee, Ill., reference the incarceration of Preston and Smith of Goldfield, Nev., and asking that the Socialist press make this an issue.

MOTION.—That the matter be referred to the Socialist press. Adopted.

Letters from Local Gilroy, Calif., protesting against the action of the State Central Committee in revoking the charter of Local San Diego.

Decided, that this subject was covered by reply to the Texas comrades.

Letter from Comrade Franklin H. Wentworth reference the National Office handling the correspondence of the Woman's committee.

MOTION.—That Comrade Wentworth and the members of the Woman's National Committee, be informed that this committee is not in a position to depose the duly elected secretary of that committee nor to assume the duties of that office. The committee, however, is entirely willing, if it is the unanimous decision of the Woman's Committee, that motions for the Woman's Committee and matters pertaining thereto shall be sent out through the National Office as in the case with the National Committee. Adopted.

Letter from O. Wagener, Manager of the New York Call, reference the recent donation by the German comrades to that publication.

MOTION.—That in view of the fact that the German comrades are so liberal in support of our press, the National Secretary stands instructed to send our thanks to the party in Germany. Adopted.

RESOLVED, that the National Executive Committee calls the attention of the party comrades to the fact that they can best show their appreciation of the splendid generosity of our comrades in Germany by themselves rallying to the

financial support of our struggling party press. Adopted.

Letter from Alexander Rosen of New York City, reference bureau of industrial disputes.

Letter from Winnie Branstetter asking construction of Section 2 of Article 2 of the national constitution, as to library committee appointed by the town councils.

MOTION.—That it be construed to mean such positions as referred to by Comrade Branstetter.

Letter of Comrade Ringler, State Secretary of Pa., reference the construction to be placed on Section 8 of Article 12, National Constitution.

MOTION.—That it be the sense of this committee that Sec. 8 of Art. XII, of the national constitution can only be construed to mean that the local is the unit of the party organization. Where branches of locals are formed these are entirely subject to the authority of the local itself, under the state constitution. Adopted.

Comrade Berger submitted a report on his European trip.

MOTION.—That Comrade Berger's report be accepted and spread upon the minutes. Adopted.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY TO THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL BUREAU.

To the National Committee of the Socialist Party of America.

Greetings: The annual meeting of the International Bureau was held in the People's Palace, 17 Joseph-Stevens street, 6th to 8th November, 1909.

The Board set three days. Saturday was taken up by the business of Socialist Journalism, on Sunday the eleventh meeting of the International Socialist Bureau proper took place and Monday was devoted to the parliamentary commission.

The report of the third conference of Socialist Journalists contained a list of leading Socialist newspapers with the addresses of writers in the various countries who are willing to contribute articles on special subjects. And the first observation I made was that the list from America was meagre indeed. It contained only three names. Camille Huysman, the International Secretary, explained that these were all the names which has been sent to him from America at the time when the bulletin went to press, but that he had received some more names later.

The representatives of the Humanite, comrades Landvieux and Morizet, wanted the meeting to decide as to the kind of advertising which Socialist papers the world over could accept and what they should reject. After some discussion it was decided to leave the discussion of this point to the future.

On Sunday morning the Board considered the time and the order of business for the International Congress which is to meet in Copenhagen in 1910. The Danish comrades proposed a week in September, because they said that at that time it would be easiest to find proper hotel accommodations in Copenhagen. However, this date was opposed by the Germans and the English because party and trades unions congresses are to be held about that time in both England and Germany. So finally the last days of August and the first days of September were agreed upon unanimously.

A long discussion took place on account of the "order of the day" for the next International Congress.

The co-operative movement is making rapid strides in most of the European countries and some of the delegates wanted the relation of the Co-operative movement to the Socialist movement put upon the order of business. Others contended that the agrarian question should be added.

The Polish delegate, Comrade Diamont, wanted the abolition of capital punishment for political offenses discussed at the congress. Keir Hardie and Quelch proposed a discussion of the eight-hour day, while the Swedish comrade suggested that the question of immediate help, financial aid, to nations where the working class is on a great fight or general strike, should be made an order of the day.

The Bureau finally decided that the next International Congress should be invited to instruct the Bureau to prepare an exhaustive report on the agrarian question for discussion in 1913. Vaillant of France, Molkenbuhr of Germany, Branting of Sweden, Adler of Austria, and your delegate all took the view that the agrarian question differs so much in the various countries that it would be better first to study it in all its phases before the International Bureau took it up.

So at last the order of business was fixed as proposed by the National Executive Committee of the Socialist Party of America, namely, first, the relation between the parties and the co-operatives; second, the international results of labor legislation, with the addition that the question of helping Socialist parties in need, should also be taken up.

The question of the abolition of capital punishment for political offenses was declined because the Socialist congress had gone on record against all capital punishment and this was considered sufficient.

On Sunday afternoon resolutions of sympathy to the Spanish workers in their martyrdom, with the Swedish ironworkers, who were still carrying on the general

strike—without much financial support from anywhere except from Germany and Austria—and a protest against the violent expulsion of a Socialist comrade from Roumania, were disposed of without discussion.

Comrade Fabrier, who represented Spain, declared that if sufficient financial aid were to be had, the movement in Spain would succeed in winning at least constitutional freedom for that country.

The Bureau then went into executive session in order to take up the difficulty in Holland. A section of the Holland Social-Democracy, the Nieuwe Tyde crowd, had split off on a question of tactics and had formed a new party. The Socialist movement in Holland is weak, the party as a whole having only about six thousand members. The secessionists did not ask for any representation in the Bureau, but they demanded to be recognized as a Socialist party and representation in the International Congress.

Singer of Germany moved that this should be granted. And this was seconded by Vaillant of France.

However, Adler of Austria moved a substitute motion which recommended the parties to patch up their differences, and should they fail, it would be left to the International Congress whether the new party should have representation or not. The motion of Adler was adopted by sixteen to eleven votes. And thus the new party will not be represented at the congress unless it is given representation by the congress itself.

Then the motion of your delegate came up to grant the Socialist party of America both of the two seats in the International Bureau. The chairman of the session, Comrade Vandervelde, was inclined to declare the motion out of order. He claimed that the Bureau had no jurisdiction in this respect and that the matter must be decided by the next International Congress, or more correctly by the American delegates at that congress.

However, your delegate took the floor. He explained in a few words that the Socialist Labor Party had gone downward continually since the year 1898; that it now legally and practically had ceased as a party, and that it had only a nominal paper existence.

Your delegate stated that the Socialist party had 42,000 members and cast 450,000 votes, while the membership of the so-called Socialist Labor party could not be determined. However, at national referendum, they only cast about three or four hundred votes and their vote in the last presidential election was less than thirteen thousand. Your delegate moreover pointed out that under these conditions the Socialist Labor party could at best be considered a propaganda club. And that as long as we had over ninety-seven per cent of the total Socialist vote cast, and even a larger percentage of the membership, it was ridiculously unjust and unjustly ridiculous to grant the S. L. P. the same representation as we have, that is, one man each on the Bureau.

Whereupon the representative of the S. L. P., a man by the name of Kretlow, who lives in Berlin, Germany, (and whom nobody seemed to know, and least of all the German delegates) began to recite a long story that the Socialist party of America is made up of ex-preachers, lawyers, business men and Bourgeois only; that it was not a workingmen's party and that all the workingmen were in the S. L. P.

I did not answer any of these so-called arguments, because it was plainly to be seen from the faces of those present that he made exactly the same impression on them as on me.

Only when Mr. Kretlow claimed that we were fusing everywhere with the Republicans and Democrats, I interrupted with the words, "That is a lie."

And by that time the patience of the chairman and of the Bureau seemed to be exhausted. Mr. Kretlow was told to sit down and the Bureau went on with its other business, with the decision that the matter of the election of the two secretaries for America should be left entirely to the American delegation in Copenhagen.

Comrade Labrada of Mexico then made a statement concerning the way in which the Mexican government there is oppressing the people and particularly labor. He also called attention to the fact that a Mexican refugee in Los Angeles was in danger of being extradicated to Diaz. Upon motion of your delegate the matter of the Mexican refugee was referred to Comrade John C. Chase, President of the Political Refugee Defense League of America, and furthermore the International Bureau was instructed to frame resolutions asking the Socialist members of the various parliaments to call the attention of their respective legislative bodies to the atrocious government in Mexico whenever there is a chance for this.

On Monday the parliamentary commission met and there was an interesting discussion on old age pensions, and insurance against sickness, invalidity and non-employment.

There were present at the meeting among others Singer and Molkenbuhr from Germany, Adler from Austria, Troelstra and Van Koll from Holland, Keir Hardie and Quelch from England, Rubintovich from Russia, Vandervelde and Anseele from Belgium, Guesde and Vaillant from France.

Jaures and Bebel were absent, the first on account of business and the other on account of illness.

The work of the Socialist Bureau struck me as being rather cumbersome and tedious on account of the three different languages, French, German and English, that are continually spoken there. The parliamentary rules under which it is conducted also strike an American or Englishman rather queerly. However, the International Bureau undoubtedly has a great mission to fulfill. And the earnestness and the caliber of the men who composed it, is a guarantee that the Bureau will fulfill it.

Respectfully submitted, Victor L. Berger.

Letter from Otto Kunath, Evansville, Ind., with protest against the nature and form of motion No. 6 (National Committee) and suggestions for revision of the same.

MOTION, That the following reply of the National Secretary be approved. Adopted. "Your suggested amendment would come properly as a National Committee motion if submitted by a member of that committee, and such member might also submit your comment."

Letter from the 21st Ward Branch, Chicago, expressing surprise and regret that the Communist Manifesto was omitted from the list of books recommended by the National Executive Committee for the Study Course in Socialism.

Letters from the South Slovenic and Croatian organizations asking financial assistance for organizers.

MOTION, That our financial conditions at this time does not permit of any assistance to the Croatian and Slovenic comrades. Adopted.

Letter from State Secretary Killingbeck of New Jersey, asking financial assistance to maintain a state organizer.

MOTION, That the financial conditions of the party will not permit that we grant the request at this time. Adopted.

Letter from State Secretary Sherwin of Arizona, asking financial assistance towards paying the salary of Comrade Korgold while working in that state.

MOTION, That the financial conditions of the party will not permit that we grant the request at this time. Adopted.

From State Secretary Dietz and National Committeeman Triay of Louisiana, asking assistance to the extent of \$20 per month.

MOTION, That the financial conditions of the party will not permit that we grant the request at this time. Adopted.

Letter from Otto F. Branstetter, State Secretary of Oklahoma, asking financial assistance to maintain state organizers, and letter from Ida Hayman, ex-State Secretary of Oklahoma, reference new constitution and the abolition of state dues.

MOTION, We recognize the strength of the claims advanced by the Oklahoma comrades for assistance. At the present time, however, the utmost that our financial conditions permit us to do for the movement in that state is to promise to pay \$2.00 per day for a period of three months towards the maintenance of an organizer who will be acceptable to the comrades there. Adopted.

Adjourned at 6:30 to meet at 9:30 Monday Morning.

MONDAY MORNING SESSION DECEMBER 13th.

Meeting called to order by National Secretary Barnes at ten o'clock. Comrade Berger elected chairman.

Comrade Barnes brought to the attention of the committee the comment of Comrade Dobbs on National Committee motion No. 9.

MOTION, Taking note of the comment of Comrade Dobbs regarding the power of the National Secretary in submitting a formal motion, the point is well taken, but the purpose of the motion is disclosed to be simply a question for instructions as to a matter of administration provided for by the national constitution. Adopted.

Letter from the Lettish national organization asking assistance for organizers.

MOTION, That we pay \$2.00 a day for an organizer for a period of two months. Adopted.

Letter from Comrade Hunter with enclosure reference criticism of organizers as national organizers. It was disclosed, however, that the persons mentioned were not national organizers.

MOTION, That in the Bulletin wherever the list of National Organizers is given that a sentence follows that says: "These are all the persons who are working under the national organization and the only ones entitled to the use of the name." Adopted.

The following letter was received from Comrade Work:

En route, Dec. 6, 1909. To the National Executive Committee: I am unable to attend the meeting on account of having dates to fill. I wish to put before the committee the following motions, which I sent in two weeks ago, to be submitted to you by mail, but the National Secretary mistook them for National Committee motions:

1. I move that the call for nominations for delegates to the International Congress of 1910 be issued January 1, 1910.

2. I move that the number of delegates be reckoned upon the membership for the year 1909.

3. I move that the constitution be construed to mean one delegate for each full five thousand members, not for major fractions thereof.

4. I move that the election be conducted in the same manner as the election of National Executive Committee.

5. I move that the next highest in the election be the alternates.

6. I move that, in addition to the regularly elected delegates, credentials as delegate be issued to any party member desiring them, but the National Office to assume no financial responsibility for such delegates.

The delegates should be elected at the earliest possible moment, so that they will have time to prepare for so long an absence. Electing them in the manner indicated will insure that they will all be elected with one ballot. The question about granting credentials to additional delegates will undoubtedly arise, and it may as well be settled now.

I also wish to inject another idea into the meeting. I am opposed to issuing any more special calls for funds previous to our National Congress. After the Congress, it will probably be necessary to raise a campaign fund, but until that time the comrades should be given a rest from national appeals for funds. They need a chance to raise funds for local purposes and for the support of the Socialist press. I am aware that there will be a temptation to call for funds to help pay the deficit on delegates' mileage. But, in my opinion, it will be much better to lay all field workers off for a short time immediately after the Congress, and pay the mileage deficit out of the dues. The delegates, if they have notice in advance, can arrange to wait for part of their mileage. Our summer propaganda is our least effective propaganda anyhow. By laying off the field workers after the Congress, it will only take a few weeks for the dues to pay the deficit.

Another thing. Please do not get the idea that the party is in a bad way, just because a few croakers have been saying so. The real question is, what is the matter with the croakers, not what is the matter with the party. I suppose they are afflicted with indigestion. Of course, we want to apply every better method that can be found. But nine-tenths of the criticisms are entirely false. The genuine Socialist vote doubled in 1908. Our organization has almost doubled in two years. We are just as uncompromising as we have always been. We are making as rapid progress as the Socialist parties of other countries. In my field work to the party I have never seen a more magnificent spirit among the comrades than that which pervails right now.

Fraternally yours, John M. Work.

MOTION, That the National Secretary call for nominations for delegates to the International Congress, call to be issued on the 15th of February; that the representation be based upon the exact reading of the constitution as it stands, and that Comrade Work's motion No. 6 is considered unconstitutional. Adopted.

Letter from Ola Norman, San Antonio, Texas, reference literature in the Norwegian language.

Letter from Sol Elstein, Chicago, reference Jewish literature.

Comrade Barnes took up the report on states, showing the increase and decrease of dues and general condition of each. After the report on Arizona the following action was taken:

MOTION, That this committee calls the attention of the State Committees of Arizona and New Mexico to the important opportunity for sound Socialist propaganda which the question of a constitution in each of the states affords the party, and that we recommend to the comrades in those states that they take the fullest possible advantage of this opportunity and to assist them, that we place organizers at their disposal for a total period of three months for both. Adopted.

MOTION, That the National Secretary be instructed to write to the Western Federation of Miners, calling attention to our action in the matter of constitutional agitation in Arizona and New Mexico, and urging the Federation, in view of the vast working class interests involved, to send a strong organizer into those states for the purpose of securing the proper protection of Labor's interests. Adopted.

Discussion continued on other states.

Comrade G. T. Fraenckel was granted the floor on the question of foreign speaking organizations.

MOTION, That Comrade Barnes be authorized to enter into communication with the various foreign nationalities of Chicago with a view to assisting them in their organizations. Adopted.

Communications from some locals in Missouri reference the conduct of the local and state organizations. Also an appeal from the protesting members of Local St. Louis. Letters from State Secretary Pauls and Comrade Hildebrandt, Secretary of Local St. Louis.

MOTION, Resolved that the appellants be informed, first, that we have no right to sell dues stamps to any other persons than the recognized state officers. Second,

that the National Executive Committee has no power to entertain any appeal from the action of a State Committee. The only appeal from the actions of a State Committee possible under our party law is an appeal to the membership in the state by referendum. The only manner in which the National Executive can act is as provided in Article XII, Sections 2 and 9, neither of which applies in this case. Adopted.

Comrade Berger spoke of the prospects

in the Milwaukee municipal campaign and asked assistance for same.

Comrade Simons read a letter from Comrade Theresa Malkiel.

MOTION, That we recommend the last Sunday in February for special women's propaganda. Adopted.

At 1:45 p. m. the committee adjourned. Attest: Mabel H. Hudson, Secretary.

Names and Addresses of State Secretaries

Alabama	Thos. Freeman	Leesburg.
Arizona	Harriet K. Shirwin	Globe.
Arkansas	Stanley J. Clark	Huntington.
California	H. C. Tuck	591 22d st., Oakland.
Colorado	A. H. Floaten	228 W. 14th av., Denver.
Connecticut	S. E. Beardsley	Corman & Connecticut avs., Shelton.
Florida	A. C. Sill	St. Petersburg.
Idaho	T. J. Coonrod	Emmett.
Illinois	J. O. Bentall	180 Washington st., Chicago.
Indiana	Wm. Sheffler	410 "H" st., N. E., Linton.
Iowa	W. C. Hills	Box 34, U. P. Station, Des Moines.
Kansas	Geo. F. Hibner	Girard.
Kentucky	W. Lantersek	506 Washington av., Newport.
Louisiana	W. F. Dietz	Lake Charles.
Maine	Norman W. Lermond	R. F. D. No. 1, Thomaston.
Maryland	H. C. Lewis	428 Lauraine av., Baltimore.
Massachusetts	James F. Carey	699 Washington st., Boston.
Michigan	G. H. Lockwood	218 N Burdick st., Kalamazoo.
Minnesota	J. E. Nash	723 Nicollet av., Minneapolis.
Missouri	R. R. Ristine	1928 Main st., Joplin.
Montana	M. M. Lourens	110 Granite st., Butte.
Nebraska	Clyde J. Wright	1729 "J" st., Lincoln.
Nevada	Jud Harris	Sparks.
New Hampshire	Chas. W. Green	Portsmouth.
New Jersey	W. B. Killingbeck	62 William st., Orange.
New Mexico	J. A. Chapman	Willard.
New York	U. Solomon	239 E. 84th st., New York City.
North Dakota	Arthur Bassett	Fargo.
Ohio	John G. Willert	718 West Superior av., Cleveland.
Oklahoma	O. F. Branstetter	Indiana Bldg., Oklahoma City.
Oregon	C. W. Barzee	68 E. 30th st., Portland.
Pennsylvania	Robert B. Ringler	628 Walnut st., Reading.
Rhode Island	Fred Hurst	1923 Westminster st., Olneyville.
South Dakota	C. O. White	Terry.
Tennessee	J. E. Voss	778 Eastern av., Jackson.
Texas	E. R. Meitzen	Hallettsville.
Utah	Jos. McLaughlan	286 22d st., Ogden.
Vermont	John M. Jewell	Proctorville.
Washington	Frans Bostrom	Box 491, Everett.
West Virginia	H. W. Houston	Parkersburg.
Wisconsin	E. H. Thomas	344 Sixth st., Milwaukee.
Wyoming	C. F. Heckenberg	Box 94, Kemmerer.

Socialist Papers on the Exchange List of the National Office

	Per Year.
DAILY—(ENGLISH).	
"Chicago Daily Socialist"	180-182 Washington St., Chicago, Ill. \$3.00
"New York Call"	442 Pearl St., New York City 3.00
"The Daily Register"	Lead, S. D. 5.00
"The Daily Tribune"	Manitowoc, Wis. 3.00
WEEKLY—(ENGLISH).	
"Cotton's Weekly"	Cowansville, Quebec, Canada .50
"The Lantern"	50 Van Buren St., Deadwood, S. D. 1.50
"The World"	523 17th St., Oakland, Cal. 1.00
"Common Sense"	649 E. Main St., Los Angeles, Cal. .50
"Christian Socialist"	5623 Drexel Blvd., Chicago, Ill. .50
"Appeal to Reason"	Girard, Kan. .50
"Farmers' Journal"	Ablene, Texas .25
"St. Louis Labor"	212 S. 4th St., St. Louis, Mo. 1.00
"Montana News"	Helena, Mont. .50
"Socialist Review"	Lock Box "B," West Hoboken, N. J. .50
"The Laborer"	401 Main St., Dallas, Tex. 1.00
"Toolers' Defense"	Cole Dale, Pa. 1.00
"The Socialist"	14 News Lane, Seattle, Wash. 1.00
"Social Democratic Herald"	344 6th St., Milwaukee, Wis. .50
"The Western Clarion"	Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada 1.00
"The Miners' Magazine"	605 Railroad Bldg., Denver, Colo. 1.00
"The Cleveland Citizen"	310 Champlain Av., N.W., Cleveland, O. .50
MONTHLY—(ENGLISH).	
"Wilshire's Magazine"	200 Williams St., New York City .35
"International Socialist Review"	118 E. Kinzie St., Chicago, Ill. 1.00
"The Comrade"	446 E. 7th St., Erie, Pa. .50
"The Harp"	749 Third Av., New York .50
"The Progressive Woman"	Girard, Kan. .50
"The New Era"	184 S. High St., Columbus, O. .25
"The Evolutionist"	180 Washington St., Chicago, Ill. .75
"The Progressive Journal of Education"	180 Washington St., Chicago, Ill. .75
"The Little Socialist"	15 Spruce St., New York City .50
"The Free Press" (Bi-weekly)	P. O. Drawer 622, New Castle, Pa. .50
DAILY—(FOREIGN).	
(Bohemian)—"Spravednost"	679 Loomis St., Chicago, Ill. 4.00
(Bohemian)—"Americké Delnické Listy"	4032 Broadway, Cleveland, O. 1.00
(German)—"Volks Zeitung"	15 Spruce St., New York City 6.00
(German)—"Tageblatt"	613 Callowhill St., Philadelphia, Pa. 3.00
(Jewish)—"Forward"	175 East Broadway, New York City 3.50
(Polish)—"Dziennik Ludowy"	359 Milwaukee Av., Chicago, Ill. 3.00
WEEKLY.	
(German)—"Neues Leben"	182 Washington St., Chicago, Ill. 1.50
(German)—"Arbeiter Zeitung"	212 S. Fourth St., St. Louis, Mo. 2.00
(German)—"Vorwaerts"	15 Spruce St., New York City 1.00
(German)—"Die Wahrheit"	244 Sixth St., Milwaukee, Wis. 1.50
(Polish)—"Robotnick"	416 6th St., New York City 3.00
(Slovak)—"Rovnost Ludu"	679 Loomis St., Chicago, Ill. 1.25
(Slavonic)—"Proletarec"	2146 Blue Island Av., Chicago, Ill. 1.50
(Danish)—"Revyen"	2639 West North Av., Chicago, Ill. 1.00
(Italian)—"La Parola Die Socialista"	874 Blue Island Av., Chicago, Ill. 1.00
(Jewish)—"Labor World"	739 W. 12th St., Chicago, Ill. 1.00
(Finnish)—"Raisvaaja"	392 Main St., Fitchburg, Mass. 2.50
(Finnish)—"Toveri"	Tenth and Duane St., Astoria, Ore. 2.00
(Finnish)—"Tyomies Pub. Co."	Hancock, Mich. 2.75
(French)—"L'Union Des Travailleurs"	Charleroi, Pa. 1.50
(Hungarian)—"Elore"	1528 Second Av., New York City 1.00
(Lettish)—"Strahneeks"	17 Oakdale St., Jamaica Plain, Mass. 2.00
(Lettish)—"Kova"	418 S. 2d St., Philadelphia, Pa. 2.00
(Norwegian)—"Gaa Paa"	415 Cedar Av., Minneapolis, Minn. .50
(Croatian)—"Radnicka Straza"	1800 S. Center Av., Chicago, Ill. 1.00
(Jewish)—"Diezakunft" (The Future)	141 Division St., New York City 1.00
(Russian)—"The Russian-American Worker"	
(Monthly)	208 McWhorter St., Newark, N. J. 1.00
(Swedish)—"Svenska Socialisten" (Semi-Monthly)	330 7th St., Rockford, Ill. .50

PROPOSED NATIONAL PARTY REFERENDUM.

Gilroy, Cal., Nov. 23, 1909.

Local Gilroy, Socialist Party of California, at its meeting Nov. 28, 1909, adopted unanimously the following motion and comment, submitted by Comrade J. Holler:

We propose the following, to be submitted to national referendum of the Socialist Party:

"RESOLVED, That the present National Constitution of the Socialist Party and all pending amendments thereto be and are hereby referred for revision to a special committee on constitution, consisting of ten members, to be appointed by the National Executive Committee, S. P., not later than 30 days after the adoption of this motion by referendum; this special committee to report not later than six months after its appointment to the N. E. C., which report is then to be submitted at once to the party for referendum.

"RESOLVED, That constitutional amendments proposed between now and three months after the adoption of this motion be referred to this special committee, and that at the expiration of these three months constitutional amendments shall be out of order until the referendum vote on the report of this special committee has been closed and the result reported by the National Secretary.

"RESOLVED, That the National Secretary be a member and the secretary of this special committee, but without a vote."

COMMENT.

"The attempts made to improve the National Party Constitution by initiative and referendum have not only proven unsuccessful, but have made matters worse and brought about confusion. To adopt the Tyler substitute and attempt to conduct all party affairs by initiative and referendum would, in our opinion, not only increase confusion, but throw the party into a chaotic condition.

It would give the National Secretary an immense power, with no personal supervision or authority over him. If the Secretary should delay or refuse to submit a referendum—perhaps one for his own recall—the Tyler proposition has no one to step in or oust the Secretary. There is no one to attend to the party's business if the Secretary should resign at once, or die, or run away with the party's funds; the amount of which is only known to him. There is no one to represent the party in court against such a Secretary.

A referendum decision is not carried out by itself, and if the Secretary refuses or neglects to do it, the Tyler plan has no one to take his place. The Tyler plan gives the Secretary full power to settle everything not contained in the constitution and referendums, simply "using his discretion" in such matters. To control the actions or neglects of a Secretary by referendum is manifestly impossible.

And to confer such autocratic powers on one person while professing to establish democratic rule for the rank and file!

If the Secretary happened to be an unusually honest, faithful and efficient person and the party could retain his services there might be no serious trouble during his term of office. But the Tyler plan itself makes it impossible to secure such a man.

"Feeling the weakness of their secretary proposition the Tyler comrades want to limit his term of office to one year and allow no one, not even the best and most capable, to be secretary for more than two years. As if in one or two years' time no serious damage could be done!

"A poor Socialist of ability could not take this position, because after one or two years of faithful service he would have to again hunt for a boss, now as a marked and black-listed man. Besides, a poor Socialist with the necessary exceptional qualifications has—in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred—a better paying position with some capitalist concern than this Tyler plan offers. Men of exceptional ability are well paid by capitalists.

"A professional, small business or farmer Socialist would not accept the position (even if "revolutionary" enough to pass examination) because at the end of one or two years he would have lost financially more than he received in salary from the party.

"Furthermore, every person having the proper qualifications for this position knows that it will take him at least six months to get somewhat acquainted with all his duties. For the sake of being allowed to serve the party another six months with some degree of satisfaction he would not want to risk his reputation, knowing that under the Tyler plan—no matter how honest and efficient his work may have been—he could not prove it, there being no person or committee to control his actions and to audit his accounts; knowing also how impossible it is to satisfy mistrusting people, of whom the Socialist Party has quite a few, or to convince the unthinking, who easily believe malicious insinuations spread by fanatics or spies, against which the Socialist Party is also not immune.

"There remain only the incapable and the designing, who would aspire to such national secretaryship! This fact alone is sufficient to reject the whole Tyler proposition.

"The referendum feature of the Tyler plan, however, shows the same thoughtlessness, superficiality and inability to reason as to cause and effect.

"While we consider the initiative and referendum as fundamental principles without which, under present conditions, democratic management is impossible, either in our party or the community, or the state, we would make a serious mistake if we failed to recognize the limitations of the referendum. While it seems to furnish the best guarantee for popular government, and while under cer-

tain conditions and limitations it will no doubt do this under Socialism, the fact of the referendum being advocated by capitalist papers and parties and being actually introduced more or less by present ruling powers should at least set us to serious thinking.

"No doubt the ruling powers feel confident of their ability to handle the masses in spite of the referendum, otherwise they certainly would not establish it. What, then, is the weak point in the referendum under present conditions?

"It is the dense ignorance of the masses on all important matters! This dense ignorance has always enabled the rulers to manage the masses under all forms of political government, and it will do it in the future, referendum or no referendum. As long as the rulers control the education of the young through the public schools and of the adults through the press, and with the press also control the publication and coloring (or suppression) of news, so long will the referendum be a farce, just as universal suffrage has turned out a farce. The referendum will lead to the acts of the rulers; the prestige of popular approval even more effective than any other system heretofore has done.

"The present craze for referendums is a great danger to the organized Socialist movement. Our last national constitution is only eleven months old and already have several amendments been made by referendum, with a number of other amendment propositions waiting for indorsements. Most of these referendum propositions contradict each other and confuse the whole situation. If this craze continues the referendum principle itself will become ridiculous. Remember, 'From the sublime to the ridiculous is only a step.'

"Local Muscatine, Iowa, in their present proposed referendum, say of the party membership: 'We know they blunder. We know they are not as well read as they should be. Quite often they handle party affairs in a bunglesome manner. But to us this is all the more reason why they should have more experience; for only through experience will they become able to direct the economic transformation, which they alone can direct, that will result in the realization of the co-operative commonwealth.'

"Why still more opportunity to blunder and to handle party affairs in a bunglesome manner by referendum should enable the members to 'become able to direct the economic transformation that will result in the realization of the Co-operative Commonwealth,' and that our party members 'alone can direct' this transformation—this indeed is difficult to comprehend. Neither is it easy to see how the Muscatine and other comrades can logically speak of 'hereditary office holding' in our party, and that our membership does not dictate the party policy when all officials can be recalled at any time and when the very fact of their being allowed to have such false and confused statements published to the whole party and submitted to national referendums shows the thoughtlessness of such statements.

"Blind force will never lead to intelligent action. The power to legislate—to make laws which others must obey—is a blind force if not led by competent judgment. To give one the power to legislate does not also give him competent judgment. What the referendum without competent judgment is capable of doing has been strikingly illustrated in the old republic of Switzerland, where, by the sovereign power of a free and sovereign people, capital punishment—legal murder—was established as the law of the land! Although the Swiss citizens have had considerable 'more experience' with the referendum since then, they have as yet become not as wise as the logic of our Muscatine comrades would demand.

"Thoughtful Socialists want better evidence than has so far been produced for the efficacy of the referendum under present conditions before they will advise to try the referendum as the only method for deciding all questions and manage all actions of a militant party than must fight against the shrewdest, most powerful and most unscrupulous of all enemies—the capitalist class.

"This impossible proposition of Local Tyler, together with the other confusing amendments to the constitution, seem to us to furnish in themselves the strongest argument against any further extension of management by referendum. They also show the necessity for some arrangement that will make it impossible for well meaning comrades with 'a mission,' but with little experience, to keep the party constantly in turmoil by trying to force onto the membership by way of referendum their undigested schemes. That our present easy-going method of referendum calls can and will be used by fanatical and paid disruptionists to waste the party's funds and cripple the movement otherwise, is self evident.

"Comrades of the Socialist Party! We appeal to you to adopt our motion. Let ten of our most experienced Socialists gather the ideas and wishes of the whole membership, give them time to consider the matter intelligently, and we will get the best possible constitution for present circumstances. The party members also should have time to make known their ideas, but the Tyler plan cuts this off short. We would like an opportunity to give reasons why we think that local autonomy, co-operative action for mutual help in the contingencies of daily life, a national party paper free to all members, and similar matters, would bring new life into the party, and why the Cigar Makers' International Union may manage their union affairs successfully by referendum, but why the Socialist Party cannot successfully settle by referendum vote all matters of Socialist philosophy, Socialist principles, party tactics and organization. Much easier could the American Federation of Labor manage by referendum all affairs of the Cigar Mak-

ers' Union. The very thought shows the impossibility."

(Signed) J. HOLLER, Chairman of Meeting. (Signed) J. G. M'ALPINE, Secretary.

To All Comrades—Greeting: This is to inform you that a person styling himself "Millionaire Tramp" is not a member of the Socialist Party and his pretensions of being a Socialist is merely used as a pretext and cover to enable him to graft and leech upon the party membership and sympathizers.

(Signed) MORRIS KAPLAN, National Committeeman for Minnesota.

PROPOSED NATIONAL PARTY REFERENDUM.

Whereas, The Socialist Party of America would never have attained its present prominence without the invaluable work of the Socialist press, which is now entering upon the most trying time of its existence, and recognizing the absolute necessity of the press as an educational force in the emancipation of the working class; therefore be it Resolved, That the time is here when the Socialist party must protect and eventually own the party press in order to extend its usefulness.

First—That the National Committee shall organize a trust company for the purpose of holding property in trust now owned or that may hereafter be acquired by the Socialist Party.

Second—(Amend National Constitution so that dues stamps will sell to state organizations for 15c instead of 5c, additional 10c to be used for the purpose of creating a press fund to be used as hereinafter provided).

Third—(a) That any established Socialist publication or publishing house may apply to the National Committee for a loan bearing interest at 5 per cent per annum, to be secured by first mortgage lien.

(b) Or make a proposition to sell to the Socialist Party a controlling interest in the stock of such publication or publishing house.

Fourth—That when application for such loan or sale of stock is made, the National Executive Committee shall investigate and if they find the security good and sufficient and the publication or publishing house important and necessary to party success they shall order the National Secretary:

(a) To notify such applicant to mail a sample copy of their publication (the same to be no better than the average issue) to each member of the Socialist Party in good standing not already on their mailing list. One-half the cost of sample copies to be born by the National Organization (provided this clause shall not apply to book publishing houses).

(b) To send out a referendum to the party membership stating the amount asked for and security offered.

Fifth—If a majority of those voting vote in favor of such loan or of making such purchase of stock, the National Committee comply with the same; provided the security remains good and sufficient.

Sixth—That no purchase of stock shall be considered on any publication or publishing house which is in debt unless means to cover such indebtedness is provided in the transfer.

Seventh—That all net incomes derived from loans or dividends shall be paid into the press fund.

(Signed) LOCAL MONTROSE, COLORADO.

National Notes

C. W. Barsee, 309 Davis street, Portland, has assumed the office of State Secretary of Oregon for the unexpired term, vice Thos. A. Sladden, resigned.

Thirty-two locals in the state of Washington reported to State Secretary Bostrom for the month of October, 1,136 members, and 166 new members during the month.

The State Office of Massachusetts sold during the month of November 2,931 dues stamps and has averaged during this year more than 2,600 a month. This is about double the average of two years ago.

A volunteer committee to gather funds for the benefit of Comrade M. W. Wilkins, composed of the following comrades: Eugene V. Debs, Anna A. Maley, Geo. H. Goebel, Stanley J. Clark, Guy E. Miller, George R. Kirkpatrick, John W. Brown and M. M. Goebel, has sent out a circular letter asking for contributions. Comrade Wilkins served as National Organizer for about five years, but ended his work on election day of last year and has been incapacitated since that time.

The Homestake Mining Company of Lead, South Dakota, said to be owned by the Hearst estate, gave its employees, numbering about 3,000 men, a present on Thanksgiving Day in the form of a notice of a lock-out two hours before quitting time. The men had recently been thoroughly organized and the lockout affects the livelihood of at least 10,000 people.

Otto F. Branstetter, Indiana building, Oklahoma City, is filling the unexpired term of State Secretary in Oklahoma, vice Ida Hayman, resigned.

A state conference of the Socialists of Kansas was held at Girard December 14th and 15th.

Allegheny County, Pa.—Fred H. Merrick, Organizer, comes in with the report that the sale of dues stamps during November breaks all previous records in that county.

A new constitution has just been adopted by the comrades of the state of Connecticut, and it contains the following provisions:

"Members sick or out of work or otherwise disabled shall be exempt from dues, providing the Financial Secretary be notified each month."

"Family Dues.—In cases where both husband and wife are party members the dues of each shall be reduced one-half."

In the recent municipal election in Salem, Mass., Franklin H. Wentworth was elected a member of the City Council on the Socialist ticket. Comrade Lally was also elected by a majority of eight votes. His opponent is insisting upon a recount.

The United States government officials are supporting the colonization schemes of the plantation owners of Hawaii. As before noted in this column, the Japanese workers who became strikers were considered too high priced and Russian and Portuguese laborers have been imported.

By recent referendum Geo. F. Hibner, Girard, Kan., was elected State Secretary for the term beginning January 1, 1910.

The rearrest on December 10th of Ines Ruiz makes the fourth Mexican political prisoner now held in Bexar County jail, San Antonio, Texas. Ruiz has been twice freed by Texas judges, who declared that the patriot Mexican's offense against the Diaz government was purely political. After his first trial and release before Judge Maxey, the Mexican government's attorneys appealed to the United States Supreme Court, which reversed Maxey's decision on the ground that the judge had no right to pass upon the facts in the case of Ruiz's revolutionary acts.

As a result of the strike last spring of the Japanese plantation laborers of Hawaii, the plantation owners announced a campaign to stimulate immigration. In fact, they sent agents to the Azores, Mederia, Russia and elsewhere to secure laborers. They have secured quite a number in Russia and have declared their intention of importing about ten thousand more from that country.

The members of Local Milwaukee are now making nominations for the city and ward tickets. The nominations will be submitted to a referendum vote of the membership.

Judge Reed of Clifford, Wis., recently holding a session of court for the naturalization of citizens, took strong grounds against Socialists as such being naturalized. Among the applicants who appeared were three Finnish comrades, all well known to be industrious and who are highly respected by their neighbors.

The Socialist members of the Milwaukee School Board succeeded in having Comrade John Spargo of New York placed on the list of school lecturers for the winter term.

FINNISH ORGANIZATIONS. The Workers' College at Smithville, Miss., is now running its full capacity—about fifty men and women. The principal studies are economics, history (of Socialism and general), evolution, English and Finnish languages, arithmetic, practices in translating, book-keeping, etc.

There are three teachers, each one a master in his studies. Enthusiasm and good spirit prevails among the scholars. This institution is a most important factor in rebuilding the labor movement of this country, at least as far as the Finns are concerned.

Finnish party organs are increasing in their circulation, and as a result the capitalist papers of this country, printed in the Finnish language, are the ones that suffer. There are about four of them that have discontinued their publication within two years, and others are in dying condition, because of lack of support.

There are three tri-weeklies—one published in Astoria, Ore., just enlarged from semi-weekly, in the United States. The Tyomies (published in Hancock, Mich.) is proposed to establish as a daily in the near future, and is now buying a new "machine gun" and planning to put up its own electric power plant.

So-called Christmas publications, which the Finnish publishing houses regularly issue every year, are off of press and being shipped out to carry the Socialist message to every Finnish home for Christmas reading.

The Executive Committee of the National Finnish Organization will meet at the National Headquarters, 180 Washington street, on Sunday, the 12th, 10 a. m., for the purpose of discussing organizing methods, the present situation in Finland, and some routine work of the organization.

Members in voting on the new preferential system for the election of national officers must exercise great care in marking the ballot, else the ballot will be considered defective and not counted. The following instructions appear upon the ballot:

"Each member voting shall place the figure "1" in front of the name of his first choice, the figure "2" in front of the name of his second choice, the figure "3" in front of the name of his third choice, and so on, voting on each and every name. THIS BALLOT IS VOID AND MUST NOT BE COUNTED UNLESS EVERY NAME IS VOTED FOR, AND PROPERLY NUMBERED."

SWEDISH STRIKERS' FUND—DECEMBER.

Table with 2 columns: Name and Amount. Includes entries like 'Previously reported \$5,857.63', 'Carpenters' Union No. 1784, Chicago, 100.00', 'Chas. Gallagher, Ramsaytown, Pa., 15.00', etc.

\$6,318.91

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Individual membership ballots for National Party Referendums "E" and "F," 1909, were shipped to state secretaries and local secretaries in unorganized states in bulk for distribution and individually to members at large, on Wednesday, December 23d.

Membership individual ballots for the election of national officers and ballots for National Referendum "D," 1909, printed on the opposite of one sheet, were shipped from the National Office on Wednesday, December 15.

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attracts attention and brooks discussion.



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