





GOOD NEWS FOR YOU

# "The American Appeal" and "The New Leader" Have Combined One Party - One Paper - One Purpose

**Y**OU will have in the combination of "The American Appeal" and "The New Leader" (effective next week) what you've long since wanted,—One Strong, National Socialist and Labor Newspaper.

This significant combination means:

- 1—An immediate expansion of news and editorial service to our readers the country over.
- 2—A National spokesman for constructive radicalism.
- 3—A Clearing House for news about workers on the farms and workers in the cities.
- 4—A stabilizing of financing by eliminating waste and duplication.
- 5—An impetus for the Socialist press and movement everywhere.

**T**HE decision of the National Office of the Socialist Party to combine "The American Appeal" and "The New Leader" marks an important forward step in the progress of the Socialist and Labor Press of America.

In line with modern and proved publication tactics we concentrate our energies on the weekly production of a paper that is bound to set new standards in labor journalism. We meet the combination of the capitalist press with one of our own. We carry on the fight with renewed determination and vigor because we have found the way to unity in our own press.

**WE WANT YOU WITH US IN THIS FIGHT.** We talk your language. We have the same ends in view,—A New Order of Society based on cooperative effort for the benefit of the producers of the nation's wealth.

**F**ROM the next issue on, there will be presented every week a picture of the American scene AS A WHOLE and as observed through the workers' eyes. No other publication or group of publications can give you such exclusive stories and inside information concerning matters of vital importance to you and yours as can this new paper of yours.

For months The National Office has received letters from all parts of the country urging this move.

Now the plans are completed, the combination is effected, everything is ready for a new drive, provided,—

## PROVIDED WE HAVE YOUR HELP

No publication venture, however well-planned, can succeed without loyal reader support. We count on you for that support.

## For Readers of "The American Appeal" the Combined Paper Offers a Continuation of—

"THE VOICE OF DEBS"—MURRAY KING'S Informative News Letters on Mid-Western and Western Happenings—HARRY W. LAIDLER'S Authoritative Articles in Socialist Tactics and History—

And These NEW Features—

ADAM COALDIGGER'S Famed and Lively Comment on the Passing Scene.  
 NORMAN THOMAS' Keen Analysis of Men and Women on Topics of the Day.  
 A Column a Week from the Pens of McALISTER COLEMAN and S. A. DeWITT.  
 SPECIAL LABOR FEATURE STORIES by Such Experts as Louis Stanley, Art Shields, Benjamin Stolberg and others.  
 SPECIAL ARTICLES by Morris Hillquit, Harriot Stanton Blatch, Upton Sinclair, Victor Berger, Stuart Chase and Other Leaders of Radical Thought.  
 NEWS of LABOR LIBERAL and SOCIALIST ACTIVITIES to be Found in no Other Paper.

FROM THEODORE DEBS:

To The Readers of the American Appeal:

The combination of our two papers is a move that would have had gone, heartiest approval. His spirit will live in the new paper. I call on all loyal friends of the old Appeal to help in this new and promising enterprise.

Fraternally,

—Theodore Debs

## Here Is Our Special Offer to Appeal Readers

If you RENEW your subscription to The Leader-Appeal BEFORE JANUARY FIRST you will receive the new paper for one year for only \$1.00

The regular subscription price of The Leader-Appeal, a six page full-sized newspaper, is \$2.00 a year. By taking advantage of this \$1.00 offer at once you whose subscriptions have expired and you whose subs are about to expire can save money and make certain that you will not miss an issue of the

NEW NATIONAL LABOR AND SOCIALIST WEEKLY,

# THE LEADER-APPEAL

USE THIS BLANK TODAY

We Are Proud to Announce That The Leader-Appeal Will Publish in a Near Issue a Labor Story

by THEODORE DREISER

We Have Exclusive Rights for the Newspaper Publication of this Gripping Tale by America's Foremost Novelist. Be Sure Not to Miss An Instalment.

## RENEW NOW.

The Leader-Appeal  
 7 East 15th St.,  
 New York City:

Enclosed is \$1 for which you will renew my subscription and send me our new paper, The Leader-Appeal

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# Tax and Wage Crisis Turned Reading Socialist

## Victory Shows Socialists Can Win Cities by Championing Critical Needs of the People

### Editor's Note

The following article by the new Socialist mayor-elect of Reading, Pa., was written for the New York World to answer to a request from that newspaper asking him to explain the reasons for the victory and what it means to Reading and the rest of the country.

But also take fullest advantage of the mistakes, injustices and outrages of old party local government.

### By J. Henry Stump (Socialist Mayor-Elect of Reading, Pennsylvania)

The Socialists were elected in Reading principally because the old-line politicians of this city made the grave mistake of doing something which brought right home to the individual citizen the vicious and dangerous policies which are being pursued in the financial management of almost all local governing bodies in America today.

Every city in the country of which I know anything is continually adding to its tax burden by increasing its bonded indebtedness. Interest

charges on this borrowed money make ever increasing taxes absolutely unavoidable. The voters of Reading, at the instance of the Socialists, have defeated almost all bond issues in this city in past elections. Knowing they could get no more bond issues sanctioned by the electorate, the city government attempted to increase the borrowing capacity allowed to the city commission without consent of the voters. They did this by increasing the assessments on city property.

Hits Home Owners  
The big manufacturers, however, would not permit their properties to be assessed on the same basis that the poor man's home was assessed. In Reading we have probably more home owners among the low wage industrial class than has any other

city of this size in the country. These small home owners, almost to a man, had their assessments increased and their taxes were made heavier although the mill rate was cut down. The well-to-do actually got a decrease in taxes, although their properties were valued a little higher in some cases.

We protested the matter in the courts, but could get no relief, despite the fact that the law calls for a full and equitable assessment. The public, usually heedless regarding public plunder, was revolted at this piece of business, because it came right home to every one of them. There was a sullen, underground revolt in the ranks of the old party organizations in the town and both their machines were made utterly useless.

### Pay as You Go Policy

On the other hand, in the last four months the Socialists were able to restore their organization, which had been able to elect James H. Maurer to the state legislature from this city on three different occasions. The Socialists contend it must be possible to devise some sort of scientific system of assessment which will be just and practical. The voters believed that we are the type of men that will be sincere and effective in trying to work out such a system. We are pledged to try to restore the finances of the city as far as possible to the pay-as-you-go policy, the policy to which we believe all cities must return in the near future of race bankruptcy in many cases.

### Reading's Low Wage

The labor movement in Reading this year made an expert survey of the average wages made in Reading and the cost of living here. We find that many other cities of this size have a lower cost of living, but we do not find any other city of the same size which has a lower average industrial wage.

### Some Homes Actually Lost

By this means we proved that the people of Reading could not stand any more taxes, or they would lose their homes. Some people did actually lose properties through the

## Americans, Will You Stand for This Treatment of Weaker Nation?

### A Tale of Successive Imperialistic Outrages

Simultaneous with fresh reports of the killing of Nicaraguan nationalists by U. S. marines comes the news of the appointment of an American financial director for Nicaragua.

This latest act of outrage should convince even the slow witted among American workers and farmers that the time has come to call a halt on the imperialist adventures of Wall Street and Washington in Latin America.

## Open Letter to Advocates of Preparedness by A Churchman

### E. Tallmadge Root (Somerville, Massachusetts)

Fellow Patriots,  
You hold that a foreign war is probable if not inevitable, and so near that the United States must prepare by equipment, military training and plans quickly to mobilize the entire resources of the nation.

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## SIZE AND SIGNIFICANCE OF THE NORWEGIAN LABOR PARTY VICTORY

The following is the International Socialist version of the recent Norwegian Labor Party national victory, as it appears in International Information, the press bulletin of the Labor and Socialist International, Zurich, Switzerland:

## Railroads After Scalp of Public Ownership Advocate

Wall street is once more out hunting the scalp of Commissioner Joseph B. Eastman of the I. C. C. The current number of the Railway Age usually considered the spokesman of the financial interests controlling the railroads, has a long editorial declaring in substance that Commissioner Eastman is "unfit" for his position because he believes in the public ownership of all public utilities, railroads included.

## GREAT WORK OF AMALGAMATED IN COOPERATIVE HOUSING

### By Pierre DeNio

One of the mile stones that mark the progress of the movement for a better world is now nearing completion here in New York City.

## Socialists Win Labor Insurance in Austria

### (I.F.T.U.) A new Austrian law regarding sickness, accident and invalidity insurance makes insurance compulsory for all manual workers and apprentices, except those employed in agriculture and forestry.

Under the law of 1927 sick benefits are paid not only to insured persons, but also to the noninsured wives of insured men and their dependent children, whether legitimate or illegitimate.

## HOW WORLD TRADE UNIONISM AND SOCIALISM COOPERATE

### The I. F. T. U. recently made enquiries from the national centers as to the relations between the political labor parties and the trade unions.

The full results of this enquiry were published in the official monthly magazine of the I. F. T. U., "The International Trade Union Movement" (September, 1927).