

AMERICAN SOCIALIST

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"Preparedness" and Poverty.

By EUGENE V. DEBS.

THE industrial condition of the toiling masses in this country is set forth clearly and shockingly in the report of the United States Commission on Industrial Relations. The facts and figures here presented and supported by incontrovertible proof tell the tragic story of labor's poverty-stricken and wretched condition under the prevailing industrial system. One-third of all the workers in the land are the victims of chronic poverty and one-fifth of the whole number are in a state of continuous unemployment, and to protect this beneficent system and perpetuate this delectable condition, a program of "preparedness" has been formulated by the ruling class which appeals in clarion tones to the patriotic fervor of every poverty-stricken toiler in the land.

The zeal and ardor and burning "patriotism" of the barons of industry, the pirates and buccaners of the high seas of labor, is of course readily understood, but how any workingman or any sympathizer with the working class can fall for this plutocratic conspiracy to establish a military dictatorship, and thereby buttress the industrial system which robs, pauperizes and brutalizes the great mass of honest toilers, is not so easy to account for.

CAPITALIST "preparedness" means the security of this nation's robbers against the same class of robbers of other nations. To the workingclass it means that the class that robs and impoverishes them is in danger and that it is their "patriotic" duty to fight and die like mad beasts, to perpetuate the plutocratic misrule of their thieving, plundering masters and their own poverty, servility and degradation.

Danger to the ruling class is a thing to rejoice over and take advantage of, and not to worry over and prepare against. The ruling class owns the nation, controls the government, and waxes fat on the spoils wrung from the workingclass. Let the ruling class fight their own wars and defend their own booty. The workers they have despoiled owe them no allegiance or protection and the workers themselves have nothing to protect but their poverty and nothing to lose but their chains.

Plutocracy, patriotism, preparedness, poverty and pauperism are interlinked in the military program of Wall Street, and if the workers are not totally blind they will steer clear of that devil's snare and launch a scheme of preparedness of their own for the day coming when they will have to fight for their lives, if they are not to be completely crushed beneath the iron hoof of a military autocracy.

THE FOOL PHILOSOPHER

By LINCOLN PHIFER

Mr. Wilson, you are a philosopher. You say mightily pretty things. Nevertheless, you are a fool. You are still a sophomore in the school of economics—a wise fool.

You want to spend a half billion dollars and don't want to borrow money. That's rot. Your superiors, the plutocrats, will very soon put a crimp in that scheme.

You hope to stop war while keeping up the private control of industry, the thing that promotes war—that is foolishness. You will find it out in time.

You want Uncle Sam to begin a merchant marine, and then surrender it to private interests. Why should he not monopolize transportation?

But in your message to congress and thru congress to the American people you said two mouthfuls. You probably said more than you meant to say.

"THOSE WHO GIVE THEM EMPLOYMENT—THOSE FOR WHOSE BENEFIT AND PROTECTION THEY WOULD IN FACT ENLIST." You said that, Mr. Wilson, referring to capitalists.

The first statement above is too silly for a school boy to be graded "m" on. The masters of the bread do not furnish anyone employment. They even now are keeping two million men out of employment.

But your second statement is true. I hope every American worker will read and reread it. I hope they will remember that it comes from you, Mr. Wilson. It is authoritative.

"For whose benefit and protection they would enlist." That gives the plot away. Preparedness is for the benefit and protection of the capitalists. It is for nothing else.

You said it, Mr. Wilson. It should defeat the administration plot for the overthrow of free institutions through the establishment of a military despotism.

YOU ARE A FIGUREHEAD, MR. WILSON

YOU ASKED Mr. Rockefeller to arbitrate with his slaves, and he ignored your request. The plutocrat snubbed you. You asked the governor of Utah to give a worker, sentenced to be shot without a fair trial, another hearing, and he ignored you. The standpat politician was greater than you. You were told that shipping of munitions of war to Europe would bring America into war, and you said you could not prevent it. The international armament trust was greater than you are.

Now, that the army contracts have made Morgan and his set of treacherous criminals many millions of dollars, you are coolly told by them that their action has so angered Europe that a war threatens, and you at once demand preparation that will, before we are thru with it, cost the American people ten billion dollars. You are a dough man, Mr. Wilson.

You are as bad as Buchanan, a Democratic president who preceded you. Buchanan said he had no power to prevent the slave states from seceding from the union. Buchanan's action cost the lives of a million men and the expenditure of billions of treasure.

You, Mr. Wilson, are falling into the hands of traitors and exploiters. You are preparing the way for a military plutocracy.

Are you a coward or are you criminal, Mr. Wilson? We cannot believe that a student of history like you is merely ignorant.

Democrats Join Republicans in Betrayal of Nation to Militarism

the Democracy to meet the legislative needs of an industrial nation.

The whole burden of the message is military preparedness—more guns, more dreadnaughts, more soldiers. But not all the dreadnaughts, not all the guns, not all the prospective millions of uniformed soldiers that under the administration's plan would be added to our national armament could compensate the United States for that loss of strength and that deep wound which will be caused by the attempt to divide the people into "loyal" and "disloyal".

THE DECLARATION on the Filipino is characteristic. The solemn statement is made that it is our duty to keep our promises to the helpless and to those dependent upon us. After this announcement we discover that no hope of emancipation is held out to the Filipino.

Nor is there in the message a new idea on taxation. The accumulated fortunes which have been shown to be such a source of danger and corruption are not threatened by taxation, so far as one can gather from this statement. The inheritance tax idea has been spurned.

Altogether it seems that the stock of new ideas of the Democracy has been exhausted, and that the party expects to thrive on intensifying national prejudices and on following the well-known method of the governments of Europe, in keeping the eyes of the people directed toward distant and imaginary enemies so that they shall not see the real enemies of the people—the industrial magnates and exploiters.

MANY STANDARD BEARERS ARE NOMINATED BY MEMBERSHIP.

When this issue of The American Socialist went to press, Executive Secretary Walter Lanfersiek and four employees of the Socialist Party national office were busy tabulating the nominations for presidential and vice presidential candidates for 1916, and for national executive committee and executive secretary.

Unmask Big Business

By J. L. ENGBAHL.

SOCIALISTS in the Chicago city council have unmasked some more of the underhand methods by which big business seeks to control those in public office. This unmasking process has probably never before been as successful as in this case.

John C. Kennedy, the Socialist alderman from the twenty-seventh ward, is chairman of the sub-committee of the council committee on schools, which forced an investigation of the qualifications of the mayor's appointments to the board of education, before these appointments were endorsed by the city council.

One of the candidates, Charles French, editor of The Musical Leader, had written Ald. Kennedy that he was in favor of permitting the teachers to organize. This seems to have forced big business into action. Its methods are best exposed in a second letter to Ald. Kennedy, written by French, reading as follows:

"Having expressed myself in reply to questions as opposed to the Loeb rule (which outlaws all organizations of labor) in the board of education, I would like to explain that this was not done without some thought and deliberation. Dudley Taylor, a gentleman I had never previously met, asked over the phone for an appointment. He told me he represented, as attorney, the Illinois Manufacturers' Association, which was greatly interested in the Loeb rule and incidentally for Mr. Jacob Loeb, as president. I told him I did not have any but the most general knowledge of the rule. He invited me to meet Mr. Loeb and Mr. Krutgen at lunch the following day and I agreed. Mr. Loeb was not able to be present and Mr. Rothman was there instead. I was given a courteous explanation of many matters regarding the Loeb rule, the Teachers' Federation, etc.

But on the Loeb rule expressed no opinion except that I thought any rule reducing the salaries of the teachers—gave me the salaries of the teachers—as wrong. Mr. Rothman spoke of salaries I paid stenographers and said that the teachers' salaries in comparison were too high for time—9 to 3:15 daily and no Saturday work. Mr. Rothman gave me the board of education's proceedings so that I might know what was done on the board.

It was also informed that the Illinois Manufacturers' Association was a very strong body, had very considerable power with the city council and that those in agreement with it would be assisted, while those against it would be fought.

Business Against Teachers. "This letter uncovers something we all know," said Ald. Kennedy, after reading this letter to the city council. "But we now have it in black and white—that the Illinois Manufacturers' Association is back of this fight against the teachers. They want to cut down the wages of the teachers to that of cheap stenographers. Mr. Rothman let the cat out of the bag when he talked to French.

"Are you going to line up with the Illinois Manufacturers' Association, or are you going to line up with organized labor for better working conditions and wages?" was the way Kennedy put it up to the city council.

The avalanche having thus been loosened by the Socialist alderman, the non-Socialist alderman, allied to the attack on the Manufacturers' Association, one alderman indicting it as fighting progress in Chicago and Illinois at every turn of the road.

William E. Rodriguez, Socialist alderman from the fifteenth ward, told of the long and successful fight of the Teachers' Federation against the interests of special privilege. He denounced the effort being made to preclude the issue by arousing religious prejudice.

"Some people," said Rodriguez, "are trying to maintain that the teachers' federation is an organization of Catholics whose object is to have nothing but Catholic teachers in the schools. This question of the Catholic church has been brought in by the same man mentioned in the letter of Mr. French. The statements that have been made are not true.

"As an instance the teachers worked for a passage of a free text book bill. A number of Catholic priests went off Springfield to fight this bill. Nevertheless, the federation representatives fought the effort to oppose such a bill."

OUR COMING WAR

By JOSEPH E. COHEN

IT IS TIME for some one to do for America what Bernhardi did for Germany—that is, tell us of "Our Coming War."

Enough books have been written on the war in Europe. There has been a basketful of articles—some of them good ones—on the same subject. So far as the writers can tell us, we know (or should know) all about modern military and naval strategy.

And there have been plenty of suggestions offered us along the line of preparedness. What remains is to shape these up into a plea that we make ready for the war that is already coming.

Oklahoma Socialists have won an victory—this time in the courts. Reversing the district court of McLain County, the state supreme court has held that Mark Reader, Socialist, was regularly elected sheriff of McLain county in the elections last November.

Two important national unions of textile workers in England have consolidated and put an end to jurisdictional contentions. It is announced that after the war quite a number of trade unions will amalgamate.

And it is a great scheme. It is worthy of a philosopher—if it were not so foolish. It will catch many. But WHERE DOES THE AMERICAN WORKER COME IN, MR. WILSON? How is he to be protected? Is there anything he owns in the nation that he is justified in defending?

The daily labor paper printed by the trade unions of Paris has suspended publication. The hard times resulting from the war is the principal reason given, although some internal differences respecting the attitude taken by the unions in relation to the conflict were contributing causes.

The American Association for Labor Legislation will hold its ninth annual convention in Washington, Dec. 23-29. The sessions will be devoted to the consideration of the La Follette seaman's law, health insurance for wage-earners, industrial hygiene in relation to dangerous trades, child labor, protection for female wage-earners and similar questions.

The New Jersey Federation of Labor has begun agitation against the proposed State constabulary bill, which the big manufacturers hope will bring the notorious Cossacks to that State as professional strikebreakers. All the power of organized labor is being lined up for a fight against the bill when it is introduced at the opening of the legislative session in January. The bill was up in the last Legislature, but was defeated by hard fighting. What the result will be the coming session with "preparedness" setting the politicians crazy is hard to predict.

So imminent was trouble with Japan supposed to be that our prophets of a little while ago are not without honor save in their own country. They should be the last ones to predict another war.

Yet there must be an enemy in view if the people at large are to be aroused over the national danger. We cannot be expected to go in for an outrageous increase in naval and military expenditure for the mere sake of spending our money. We are not a nation easily scared—especially by old politicians, who are always frightened at something or

other, who seem to be in a perpetual frenzy of fear.

THEN WHOM are we to fight? If not Japan—and the limelight is shifted to Europe at this moment—what nation will come out of this war ready to have a go at us?

First of all, why have we been left alone this long while? Why has the jealousy of the nations toward each other (happened on only in war time) been nothing more for us than the customary friendly competition of trade? Why have we been permitted to strip Spain of its Antilles, annex Hawaii and establish ourselves in Asia? And why, in the many assaults upon Mexico (none so dangerous to Europe as when, for example, Presidents Taft and Sherman, both on the border) have the European governments beamed upon us?

Having selected the particular country which is to war upon us, what follows? The very simple matter of foretelling what shape that conflict will take. That is what Bernhardi did for Germany, and national pride compels us to assert that someone can do this for America.

What a simple matter it is, to be sure! That we shall invade Europe, we do not imagine even our most blinded jingoists would require. We invaded the Philippines—and we know what a price we paid. When it comes to going abroad for war, it is quite sure our jingo friends would rather see America first.

HAVING DECIDED to stay at home and wait for the enemy, where all the resources are at our elbows, simplifies matters still more. As the aggressor our enemy must outnumber us in every way, being required to do the assaulting, to bring supplies over a great distance, and, after demolishing our sea and coast defense, to then actually overrun us.

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1915.

NEWS OF THE WEEK

Here is all the week's news worth while boiled down for workers who are fighting for Socialism they do not have time to read the daily capitalist papers.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 6.

King Greece declares allies cannot persuade Greece to enter war.

Great Britain declares it will not permit Henry Ford, or members of his peace party, to land in England.

Germany buys \$100,000,000 worth of copper, cotton, wool, lard and other products in this country to restore nation at end of war.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7.

St. Louis sends 1916 convention of the Democrats which will assemble June 12.

American oil steamer sunk by submarine in Mediterranean. The steamer was carrying oil to have been on American ship Petrolite in Mediterranean.

Theodore Roosevelt, aided by Republicans, in attack on President Wilson's message to Congress.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8.

Reports from Constantinople say Germany is getting ready to send army of 500,000 to India. Bulgaria moves to crush allies.

United States demands indemnity for American lives lost on Ancona sunk by Austrian submarine.

Henry Ford's peace party on ocean split over demand to force Russia to withdraw from the war. Documents showing some negotiations are not opposed to peace negotiations.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9.

Hopewell, Va., war boom city nearly burns to ground. Twenty thousand homeless while DuPont explosive plants are closed.

Peace declarations of Asquith and Bethmann-Hollweg raise new hope for end of war.

Secretary of War, Garrison, urges compulsory service to 1916 convention of the Democrats which will assemble June 12.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10.

Allies' campaign in Serbia seems to be at an end. Anglo-French forces reported to be retreating on Salonika.

Kaiser Wilhelm personally recalls Capt. Roy-Ed and von Pape, but peril of diplomatic break with Austria still looms big.

Continued reports from Switzerland that demonstration for peace in Germany.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11.

University cadets in this country being solicited by Canada to join British forces in Europe. Claimed violation of neutrality.

United States to send note of protest to France against searching of American vessels at high seas.

Allies retire on Salonika, Greece, and prepare to make new drive in Balkans. Henry Ford's peace mission does not cause enthusiasm in Holland.

Yuan Shi-kai, president of Chinese republic, accepts throne offered by cabinet of state. Revolution threatens new monarchy.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12.

United States' note to Austria calls attack on steamship Ancona barbarous and wanton slaughter of innocents.

Wall Street doesn't know what to make of part of Pres. Wilson's message dealing with railroad situation.

SOCIALISM AND PEACE

We find Socialism again raising itself above the bloody tumult in Europe as the only great peace power.

Perhaps the most historic scene of the war was that enacted in the German Reichstag on Dec. 9, when the spokesman of the German government, Dr. von Bethmann-Hollweg, replied to the interpellation of Dr. Scheidemann, the Socialist representative, which was as follows:

"Is the imperial chancellor ready to give information as to the conditions under which he would be willing to enter into peace negotiations?"

In introducing this interpellation of the Socialists, reflecting the Socialist desire for an immediate institution of peace negotiations, Scheidemann declared that if the war went on any longer the United States would be the only power which could be called the victor; Europe would commit suicide if more blood was spilled. The people want peace, he added, and surely there must be some way out of the terrible business.

This session of the Reichstag appeared to American newspapers so important that a three column report was cabled to this country from Berlin by the Associated Press, giving lengthy extracts of the speeches by Scheidemann, Bethmann-Hollweg and others. The situation in the German Reichstag is repeated in Premier Asquith's speech in the British parliament. No definite peace terms were announced by either nation but it is felt that a work of peace is gradually taking form.

We find Karl Liebknecht, fighting capitalism and militarism as vigorously as ever, at this session of the Reichstag. He is mentioned in connection with Bethmann-Hollweg's statement that, "Thanks to the foresighted policy of King Ferdinand (Bulgaria), a firm bridge has been constructed between the indissolubly allied Kaiser powers, the Balkans and the near East. After the conclusion of peace this bridge will not resound with the tread of marching battalions, but will serve for works of peace and culture."

Amid the vigorous applause which is reported to have followed this remark, Liebknecht interjected, "and of the Deutsche Bank", which it is said occasioned a great commotion. Liebknecht's point was that German capitalism would use this bridge over the Balkans and the near East to the Orient.

That the Socialists in the German Reichstag would offer their interpellation had been announced in the party organ, Vorwaerts. It was reported that a more detailed and searching inquiry as to the government's attitude respecting peace was being made in a caucus of the Socialist Reichstag fraction by a vote of 58 to 43. It was also reported that Liebknecht had sent 10 interpellations to the Reichstag, of which three were censured. It was declared that Liebknecht wanted to know, whether the government is prepared to enter immediately into peace negotiations, whether the government will lay before the nation the history of the entry into Luxemburg and Belgium, whether the government will abandon secret diplomacy in favor of lasting control by the public, and whether it will check economic distress among the great masses of the population and seriously begin in the course of the present session of the Reichstag a reorganization of its internal policy.

The German Socialist daily, Vorwaerts, is conducting a campaign against the strict press censorship, which refuses to allow a discussion of peace in the newspapers.

"It is necessary at this time," says the Vorwaerts, "to discuss the possibilities of peace, because if peace comes suddenly a storm may arise for which only the diplomats and statesmen can be blamed. Public opinion will not tolerate peace without knowledge."

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This session of the Reichstag appeared to American newspapers so important that a three column report was cabled to this country from Berlin by the Associated Press, giving lengthy extracts of the speeches by Scheidemann, Bethmann-Hollweg and others. The situation in the German Reichstag is repeated in Premier Asquith's speech in the British parliament. No definite peace terms were announced by either nation but it is felt that a work of peace is gradually taking form.

We find Karl Liebknecht, fighting capitalism and militarism as vigorously as ever, at this session of the Reichstag. He is mentioned in connection with Bethmann-Hollweg's statement that, "Thanks to the foresighted policy of King Ferdinand (Bulgaria), a firm bridge has been constructed between the indissolubly allied Kaiser powers, the Balkans and the near East. After the conclusion of peace this bridge will not resound with the tread of marching battalions, but will serve for works of peace and culture."

Amid the vigorous applause which is reported to have followed this remark, Liebknecht interjected, "and of the Deutsche Bank", which it is said occasioned a great commotion. Liebknecht's point was that German capitalism would use this bridge over the Balkans and the near East to the Orient.

That the Socialists in the German Reichstag would offer their interpellation had been announced in the party organ, Vorwaerts. It was reported that a more detailed and searching inquiry as to the government's attitude respecting peace was being made in a caucus of the Socialist Reichstag fraction by a vote of 58 to 43. It was also reported that Liebknecht had sent 10 interpellations to the Reichstag, of which three were censured. It was declared that Liebknecht wanted to know, whether the government is prepared to enter immediately into peace negotiations, whether the government will lay before the nation the history of the entry into Luxemburg and Belgium, whether the government will abandon secret diplomacy in favor of lasting control by the public, and whether it will check economic distress among the great masses of the population and seriously begin in the course of the present session of the Reichstag a reorganization of its internal policy.

The German Socialist daily, Vorwaerts, is conducting a campaign against the strict press censorship, which refuses to allow a discussion of peace in the newspapers.

"It is necessary at this time," says the Vorwaerts, "to discuss the possibilities of peace, because if peace comes suddenly a storm may arise for which only the diplomats and statesmen can be blamed. Public opinion will not tolerate peace without knowledge."

In the meantime American Socialists find more interest in the anti-war and anti-militarist efforts of our comrade, Meyer London, in the United States congress, where he has just taken his seat and entered upon his arduous duties.

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Extract from President Wilson's Message to Congress, Dec. 7th.

"I, for one, do not doubt the patriotic devotion either of our young men or of those who give them employment—those for whose benefit and protection they would in fact enlist!"

WORKINGMEN, ENLIST, TO KILL AND BE KILLED FOR THE BENEFIT OF YOUR EMPLOYERS.

PREPARE AGAINST THIS ALLIED FOE



This is the foe that we need preparedness against.

sands of men to be added to our burdens this year, and wish us not to think of the years that are to come. Not so the President. He is honest enough to say that this vast program—a considerably bigger one than that adopted by Germany in 1913, which astounded and alarmed the world—is nothing but "the first essential step" and that it seems to him sufficient for the present.

There is food for thought in those words. It is the first step that costs. What the administration deems sufficient for this year will not appear to adequately the year after. Nothing is easier than to get started on this track. Nothing is harder than to stop.

Add a round ninety-three millions to our preparedness budget this year, and twelve months later we must add still more millions that increase our budget. Bring our regular army up from 108,000 to 146,000 now, and very soon it will be equally necessary to bring it up from 146,000 to 180,000, and then to 250,000, and so on, as we accept the false theory that preparation for war is insurance against war.

But, in fact, while the president sees no particular danger of war, he has a very definite object in view in his increase of the nation's fighting strength. And that object is not of defense.

It is not at Sandy Hook or the Golden Gate that our giant navy is to be used. It is not to repel European or Asiatic conqueror that our huge army is to be trained. Latin-America is as the Call pointed out several weeks ago, the thing for which we must be prepared to fight.

The United States, Mr. Wilson tells us, has "set America aside as a whole"—that is, the whole of North and South America—"for the uses of independent nations and political freedom of the Americas; we have dictated internal policies to the free republics of Cuba; we have landed soldiers in Mexico; in Haiti, in Nicaragua; we have bullied Venezuela with the threat of armed intervention. This is our way of protecting our weaker sisters from themselves."

The whole question of the relations between the United States and Latin-America, which is the kernel of President Wilson's new policies, must be discussed at greater length than is possible today. Under all the pretty phrases about "spiritual partnership" and "mutual service" lies the hope of cornering the trade of the Western Hemisphere for the capitalists of the United States. That calls for a careful analysis.

Preparation for war abroad always and everywhere involves a strengthening of arbitrary power at home. The United States is not going to be an exception to this rule. We have the prospect very clearly hinted already.

The President declares that "the gravest threats against our own national peace and safety have been uttered within our own borders. Incredible as it would have seemed a little while ago, citizens of the United States have "poured the venom of disloyalty into the very arteries of our national life, have sought to bring the authority of the government into contempt, to destroy our industries, to debase our politics to the uses of foreign intrigue, have formed plots to destroy property, have entered into conspiracies against the neutrality of the government, have sought to pry into its confidential transactions," and he concludes:

The ugly and incredible thing has actually come to pass. We are without adequate federal laws to deal with it. I urge you to enact such laws at the earliest possible moment. Such creatures of passion, disloyalty and anarchy must be crushed out. They are not many, but they are infinitely malignant, and the head of our

With Meyer London in Congress Face Gravest Problems

By MEYER LONDON

On the second day of the session of the sixty-fourth congress I feel an irresistible impulse to convey to the comrades in the Socialist movement my deep gratitude for the opportunity to serve as a member of the National Legislature at the time when the gravest problems that have ever confronted this country will be presented for solution.

Ten years ago we Socialists predicted with confidence that the social problem would be paramount in 1920 and that all parties would be compelled by pressure of the Socialist movement to deal with the labor problem as the immediate problem. Our expectations and predictions have been fulfilled to a great extent long before 1920.

In spite of all attempts to create new and extraneous issues, this congress will be unable to escape the question of grappling with the question of social legislation.

While I listened to the President's message with great care, I fear I was more interested in the beautiful language in which the message was couched than in its substance. I intend to discuss the message some time in the future.

My first impression is that the "national preparedness" plan is calculated to keep the mind of the country on remote and improbable difficulties so as to divert it from questions calling for immediate answer. The average mind is inclined to leave international problems to a group of wise men assumed to be endowed with supreme intelligence. An average mind is at the same time ready to set aside every other question while international problems are offered for discussion.

To be preparing against some distant possible enemy takes one's mind away from enemies whom we have here and now. To lay special emphasis upon the existence of a small group of criminals and talk about their treasons as if they were a great factor in the life of the country helps divert attention from men who have always betrayed the best ideals of the republic.

As Socialists, we cannot admit more than one allegiance. We have no sympathy with those who would utilize opportunities they enjoy here to promote the selfish interests of other governments or other countries.

But we would put under the same ban those who, in the name of patriotism and in the name of Americanism claim that the interests of the great masses of American people are identical with the interests of their exploiters.

LONDON ON 3 COMMITTEES. By LUCIEN SAINT.

Washington, D. C.—The Socialist party will be represented during the 64th Congress by three important committees of the House: Labor, Mines and Mining, and Expenditures in the Labor Department.

Thanks to the energy and aggressiveness of Representative Meyer London of New York, the sole Socialist member of those three important committees of the House, the working class will be looked after and pressed on these committees.

For a time it appeared as if London would be frozen out of any committee assignment by a combination of the old parties, but he has had the good fortune to receive an unusually advantageous position.

The Labor committee holds hearings and reports on all the purely labor bills—the children's labor bill, the convict labor bill, and others. The Mines and Mining committee looks after legislation affecting the mining industry and would consider a bill for the socialization of the mines of the United States. The committee on Expenditures in the Labor Department has to do particularly with the appropriations for immigration.

The Socialist party, therefore, starts with the new congress in a very favorable position, though it can not be repeated too often that membership on a committee under the machine-rule system prevalent in Congress gives little power to the individual.

HOLD MAJORITY RESPONSIBLE. Washington, D. C.—Rep. Meyer London becomes a member of the House Committee of Labor by virtue of a special amendment to the rules, agreed upon by the House, increasing the membership of that committee by one for his benefit.

This action was taken after London had made it clear that not only the million Socialists, but millions of other people who are interested in his career in Congress, would hold the majority responsible for any attempt to withhold from him proper recognition.

The attitude taken by Rep. London in establishing, from the outset, the independent position of the Socialist party in this Congress, is made evident by the following letter, which he sent to Democratic members of the Ways and Means Committee:

Letter to Democrats. In view of the fact that I am the only Socialist member of the Sixty-fourth Congress, I would ask you to aid me in obtaining an assignment to the Committee on Immigration and the Committee on Labor.

I have devoted almost my entire life to the promotion of the interests of labor and of the immigrant. The Twelfth New York district is intensely interested in the immigration problem. As a Socialist, all questions affecting labor are of the deepest concern to me and to the party which I represent.

If an assignment to these two committees I will be able to continue in Congress the work I have until now been doing outside of Congress. In all fairness I should not be denied that opportunity.

The million Socialists who because of the absence of proportional representation will have only one representative, instead of thirty-one, in this

THE Evolution of Banking

BY ROBERT H. HOWE

Do you know that "money" and "currency" are not synonymous terms?

Have you been looking for a book explaining the influence of financial matters on your life?

THE EVOLUTION OF BANKING was written by a Socialist, and explains the money system, banks, credits, etc., from the Socialist viewpoint.

Cloth, 200 pages, including eight pictures.

Price 50 cents, prepaid. SOCIALIST PARTY, 803 West Madison St., Chicago

IF YOU READ NEWSPAPERS THEN YOU MUST READ Fakes in Journalism

By Max Sherover

THIS BOOK SHOWS HOW NEWSPAPERS LIE AND FAKE and DISTORT THE NEWS YOU READ. Fakes in Journalism CONTAINS 96 PAGES of sizzling hot facts that will be a revelation to you.

This book has gone thru two editions with a circulation approximating 50,000. It is written in a simple breezy style and is illustrated.

Price, per copy, 25c, postpaid. 3 copies, 50 c, postpaid. 8 copies, \$1.00, postpaid.

Send orders to Socialist Party, 803 W. Madison St., Chicago, Ill.

The trade unionists, Socialists and organized farmers of Denmark will hold a special congress soon to determine what position the country should take regarding the war and peace.

The workers of Denmark are better organized, proportionately, than those of any other country in Europe. The Socialist party is also the largest political fraction in Denmark; it

EXECUTIVE DEPT.

WALTER LANFERSIEK, Secretary
National Executive Committee
JAMES H. MAURER, 1355 N. 11th St.,
Chicago, Ill.

OFFICIAL BUSINESS.

Proposed National Referendum.
By Local Oswego, Kans.
WHEREAS it is necessary for the National
Socialist Party to have a National Office and
one, and believing that said office should
be centrally located and away from large
cities, remote from high taxes and moral
standards:

REFERENDUM "A", 1916.

That the Socialist Labor Party of the
United States be invited to elect a committee
of five members to meet in joint
convention with a committee of five members
to be elected by the National Committee of
the Socialist Party of America.

REFERENDUM "B", 1916.

That the National Committee be authorized
to invite the National Committee of the
Socialist Party of America to meet in joint
convention with a committee of five members
to be elected by the National Committee of
the Socialist Party of America.

REFERENDUM "C", 1916.

That the National Committee be authorized
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REFERENDUM "D", 1916.

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REFERENDUM "E", 1916.

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REFERENDUM "F", 1916.

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Socialist Party of America to meet in joint
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the Socialist Party of America.

REFERENDUM "G", 1916.

That the National Committee be authorized
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REFERENDUM "H", 1916.

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REFERENDUM "I", 1916.

That the National Committee be authorized
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REFERENDUM "J", 1916.

That the National Committee be authorized
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Financial Report for November

RECEIPTS.
NATIONAL DUES.
September. October. November.
Alabama \$14.00 \$12.00 \$10.00

Table with columns for State, Receipts, and Balance. Includes states like Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, etc.

EXPENDITURES.

Table with columns for Category, Amount, and Balance. Includes categories like Literature, Printing, Postage, etc.

REPORT ON NATIONAL COMMITTEE

MOTION NO. 31.
That the author of "An Organization
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REPORT ON NATIONAL COMMITTEE

MOTION NO. 32.
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Letters from "American Socialist" Readers

RULES FOR THIS DEPARTMENT.
The National Committee of the Socialist
Party in providing for an Open Forum
in The American Socialist reads:

Monthly Campaign Stamp \$3.71
American Socialist Advertising 102.53
National Dues 3,287.15
Supplies for Locals (Sales) 138.76
Literature (Sales) 1,178.38

RUSSELL AND PREPAREDNESS.

Reports of nomination
returns show Charles Edward Russell
the lead as Nominee of the
Socialist Party for President. After
his Philadelphia speech, which
identifies him as one of the most
rabid of jingoes, his acceptance
is, of course, unthinkable, even if
there is no move made to expel him
from the party.

PLEDGES.

Lehane of Ireland told
us a short while ago, that our friends
the Militarist-Socialists broke no
pledges because they gave none on
abstaining from war. Hence "we
should not criticize them." Comrade
Le Sueur introduces the same fact
again, which defense I won't mention
in view of the fact, that, as a sailor,
I know just how many ships it would
take to transport even a small army
and its belongings across several
thousand miles of water; and this in
the case of the British fleet, which
is afloat in the Atlantic.

NOTES FROM THE LECTURE FIELD

Worcester, Mass.—Comrade Aron
writes that the Seidel-Kirkpatrick-
Walker lecture course was a great
educational success. "We all agree,"
he says, "that it has done the most
for the good of the Socialist Party
done well. Financially the indications
are that we will not lose much, if any,
which is saying a good deal considering
the fact that we paid \$46 for the
hall."

NOTES FROM THE LECTURE FIELD

Schenectady, N. Y.—The comrades
were greatly pleased with Comrade
Walker's lecture course. Seidel
writes: "After taking this opportunity
to let you know how we appreciate
your making it possible for us to secure
Ryan Walker for a lecture. Why,
he is great! He held the attention
of all young and old, and drove the
message home with such force that
the audience home to the ushers after
the meeting for applications to join
the Socialist movement. And literature
it sold itself!"

NOTES FROM THE LECTURE FIELD

Vernon, N. Y.—Comrade Stuhlman
writes very enthusiastically of the
Seidel-Kirkpatrick-Walker lectures.
He says: "The intense earnestness of
the men drives home to the mind of
the hearers that Socialism is the hope
of the world."

NOTES FROM THE LECTURE FIELD

Traverse City, Mich.—Comrade
Seidel has come and gone and behind
him he has left people thinking as
they never thought before. The educational
success will far surpass any
thing that has ever taken place here,"
writes Comrade Cox.

NOTES FROM THE LECTURE FIELD

Jamestown, N. Y.—The comrades
were so enthusiastic over the Henry
Dubbs lecture by Comrade Walker
that they want him to come again as
soon as possible.

NOTES FROM THE LECTURE FIELD

Ambridge, Pa.—Comrade Walker
writes that the boys handled the
meetings splendidly and packed the
hall to the door. The meeting was
well advertised and splendidly managed,
and as a result it was a great
success.

NOTES FROM THE LECTURE FIELD

Revising the Party—From Greensburg,
Pa., the comrades write that
Seidel and Kirkpatrick are revising
the party membership. "You are going
to revise the membership and diametrically
opposite the position of the
Socialist Party of America, and
Whereas, Chas. Edward Russell is
now a candidate for the nomination
for President of the Socialist Party,
and

NOTES FROM THE LECTURE FIELD

Whereas, The statement favoring
preparedness made at Philadelphia,
Nov. 29, is not in accord with the
National Organization, therefore be
it

NOTES FROM THE LECTURE FIELD

Resolved, that the public statement
made by Chas. Edward Russell be
published in The American Socialist,
and be it further

Clubs of Four or More, 40 Weeks, 25 Cents.

Resolved, further, that a copy of
these Resolutions be published in The
American Socialist. George Seale,
Chairman, Emma Henry, Secretary.

LIKES AUTO PLAN.

The 1916
campaign promises to be more productive
of results than any of our
previous assaults on the capitalist
system; the time is ripe for the Socialist
party to exert every particle of
its strength in a supreme effort to
rouse the working class of our nation.
To accomplish this undertaking, and
incidentally pile up a huge Socialist
vote at the next general election, a
plan and systematic campaign must
necessarily be carried on.

LIKES AUTO PLAN.

I know of no better way to propagate
the Socialist doctrine in every
nook and corner of the United States
than by the automobile plan as proposed
by Comrade Lanfersiek recently.
The adoption of this plan appears
to be the most consistent method of
campaigning. It would be far superior
to another Red Special for many
reasons, especially from an economic
standpoint. The automobile campaign
would not leave us financially empty
handed; the time is ripe in charge
of these cars would very likely make
the thing a source of revenue; a Red
Special could never pay for itself.

LIKES AUTO PLAN.

This is a decidedly progressive
move. It would give us the means to
carry the message of Socialism into
every nook and corner of the nation;
North, East, South and West.
It would attract more attention,
cover more territory, allow our speakers
to reach many thousands of voters
who would never hear of the Red
Special.

LIKES AUTO PLAN.

May to November everything
would be favorable to us so far as
automobile is concerned. At this
season the roads all over the country
are in the best of condition; a
circumstance worth considering. They
could move when necessary and stop
when convenient without considering or
convening a railway company.

LIKES AUTO PLAN.

This proposition has already been
specifically explained by Comrade
Lanfersiek in a recent issue of The
American Socialist. It is an idea that
has the interest of every
socialist who cares to see the party
do something worth while in 1916.

LIKES AUTO PLAN.

Let us do something that will bring
results from all quarters; let us do
it now. It is imperative that vigorous
action be taken next year. This
is the chance we should not let this
thing to the limit.—RED CARD.

LIKES AUTO PLAN.

"Old clothing, money, bedding, etc.—
anything will do and be appreciated,"
is the appeal that comes from the
copper strikers in Arizona. There
are about 2,500 men, women and children
in need of clothing. Many babies,
some unborn, must be cared for. Send
aid bundles to Mrs. C. C. Skidmore,
Women's Relief Committee, Box 414,
Metcalf, Ariz.

A BOMB FOR YOUR VEST POCKET

Facts From The Mouths Of The
Masters, Wrung From Them By The
Common People, is a new book,
Compiled By Fred D. Warren, With
A Foreword By Frank P. Walsh,
Chairman Of The Commission.
The Biggest Little Book You Ever
Read. Know The Big, Vital, Burning
Facts About The System That Enslaves
You And Degraded The Masters.
All Of It. Every Vital Point Is
Covered In This Little Book.
Sixty-Four Pages. Handsomely
Bound, Built For Service, Your
Service. It Is Ready When You
Want It. And You Want It Now. It
Sells For 25 Cents. Get Your
Quarter Sent To THE PEOPLE'S
COLLEGE, Fort Scott, Kansas. Will
Bring This Argument Clincher To
You By Return Mail.

TOBACCO

Old and Mellow. The very finest quality. To
let you sample this fine tobacco you will
send \$1.00. 4 lbs. for \$1.00. \$1.20 West
of the Rocky Mountains. Write for
pamphlet and price on 120 lbs. State whether
for smoking or chewing. Payment Accepted.
Kentucky Tobacco Co., Dept. 31, Louisville, Ky.

YOUR WAGES INSURED.

COMRADES' CO-OPERATIVE INDEMNITY
EXCHANGE.
Pays sick, accident and death benefits.
Pay 60 weeks, beginning with first week.
SAVINGS GIVEN TO SOCIALIST
PARTY.
For agency and particulars, write JOSEPH
SCHROLL & CO., Reliance Bldg., Kansas
City, Mo.

DIVISION FORM OF GOVERNMENT.

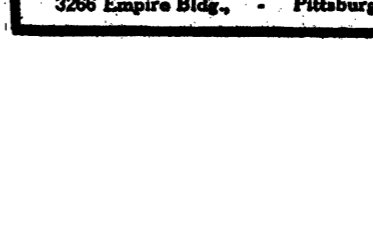
Discovered The next game (wages) is
the evolution of society. Society must either
advance or decline. All kinds of Socialism
are Utopian. Have no names, no
according to nature. Can show Wage Rent
working. Send 26c for year book, 1915,
introducing issue of system. Chas. E. Johnson,
Waupun, Wis.

SOCIALIST CALENDARS.

are emblems of
loyalty, they declare for Peace and Socialism,
are Utopian. Have no names, no
according to nature. Can show Wage Rent
working. Send 26c for year book, 1915,
introducing issue of system. Chas. E. Johnson,
Waupun, Wis.



ENGINE POWER
COSTS LESS NOW
I'll send you an engine to earn its own cost while you pay for it.
Easy to start; no cranking; easy to understand and manage;
and easy to pay for on any suitable, reasonable terms of payment.
Write for a year book, 1915, introducing issue of system. Chas. E. Johnson,
Waupun, Wis.



WITTE ENGINES
Gasoline, Kerosene and Gas
SEE THESE LOW PRICES: 2 H.P. \$24.95; 3 H.P. \$29.95; 4 H.P. \$34.95; 5 H.P. \$39.95; 6 H.P. \$44.95; 8 H.P. \$54.95; 10 H.P. \$64.95; 12 H.P. \$74.95; 15 H.P. \$84.95; 20 H.P. \$104.95; 25 H.P. \$124.95; 30 H.P. \$144.95; 40 H.P. \$184.95; 50 H.P. \$224.95; 60 H.P. \$264.95; 75 H.P. \$324.95; 100 H.P. \$424.95.
Workshop Free. My book, "How to Judge Engines," will show you how to select the engine that is best for your needs. Write for a year book, 1915, introducing issue of system. Chas. E. Johnson, Waupun, Wis.

WORKMEN'S SICK AND DEATH BENEFIT FUND

OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Table Showing Status of the Society at the End of Years stated, in 5 Year Periods

Table with columns: At End of Year, NUMBER OF MEMBERS (Men, Woman), Amount at Death, Amount at Organization, Amount Saved in Cash Reserve.

For further information, Workmen's Sick & Death Benefit Fund, Entrance on 7th St.,
New York, N. Y., 1, THIRD AVE., NEW YORK.

no but hoping to kill the motion by the

IRISH: "I agree with Comrade Bell, for
once at least. There are too many rules
restricting effective action by this committee.
The members who contribute nothing but
silence have the same opportunity to record
themselves as the rest of us and if they do
not see fit to exercise their rights it is no
reason why the committee should itself up
in a web of inaction which Comrade
Dewarsh has cunningly spun for us."

IRISH: "I agree with Comrade Bell, for

NEBRASKA: Peter Mehre, 508 Blvd. Ave.,
Omaha has been elected National Committee-
man for the coming year. J. Porter has
been re-elected State Secretary.

IRISH: "I agree with Comrade Bell, for

The University of Minnesota has
taken its stand on the side of such
other reactionary universities as
the state institutions of Pennsylvania and
Colorado. It has refused permission
to the students to listen to Socialist
lectures on the campus. John Spargo
was to have spoken on the campus
under the auspices of the Goebel-Maley
University chapter of the Intercollegiate
Socialist Society, but the reactionary
university authorities were afraid of
"Socialist propaganda" and closed the
university buildings to the Socialist
lecturer. President Vincent received
his bringing up at Rockefeller's Standard
Oil institution, the University of
Chicago. Wonder if this had anything
to do with it?

IRISH: "I agree with Comrade Bell, for

Socialists were elected recently
at Bridgeport, Conn., as follows:
school board, S. J. Jones and M.
Applegarth; justices of the peace,
Frank LeWilliams and James Briggs;
constable, William Britton.

IRISH: "I agree with Comrade Bell, for

The Jingoes want war. We do not.
We want peace. We want to live. We
want to spend the winter making War
against War, and converts to Socialism
at the same time. It's a good,
profitable business as well. Write Dr.
E. E. Sonnanstine, Girard, Kan., for
particulars. Start the 1916 campaign
now.

MAKE EVERY SOCIALIST VOTER AN AMERICAN SOCIALIST READER

HELP MEYER LONDON. Our greatest duty now is to tell the workers of the United States about the achievements of our comrade, Meyer London, in congress in their behalf. It is going to be a great story. The weekly installments of this great story will appear regularly in The American Socialist. This inducement alone ought to make tens of thousands of workers subscribe to The American Socialist. That is all you have to tell a worker who is not now reading your paper. Tell them that they can read all about Meyer London and his work in congress in The American Socialist. The distribution of copies of THE MEYER LONDON EDITION, Dec. 4, has already brought in many new subs.

ROLL OF HONOR

LOCAL ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PA. comes in with an order for 30 sub cards. They are putting Pittsburgh on the map. We have undertaken to make every enrolled Socialist a reader of our party organ, writes EDWARD WOLFE, New Rochelle, N. Y., as he orders 14 sub cards for this purpose. How about it, local secretaries? Christmas greetings and a club of four subs come from I. G. CLARK, Tomball, Texas. Same to you, Comrade. O. S. BUCHANAN, Detroit, Mich., sends in a list of eight and gets one of our souvenir pennants. Remember, a list of 16 gets our beautiful knife, treated by all hostlers. J. SPITZ, Cleveland, Ohio, also sends in a list of eight and gets the souvenir pennant. JESSE T. BRILLHART, Omaha, Neb., rushes in with this message: "I have a list of 20 to help close the ranks for the West clash between labor and capital." C. B. CUNDIFF, Jr., New Haven, Conn., also helps strengthen the ranks with a list of 16. AUGUST HEDIN, Roseau, Minn., comes in with a list of 20 sub cards for the knife and pennant. Never heard of Roseau, Minn., have you? Just watch Comrade Hedon put it on the map. ELLIS VELLER, Linton, Ind., is going to get real busy. He sends in \$10 for 40 sub cards. The comrades are on the job at Linton. Hats off to Comrade WALTER GIBSON, Arcadia, Ind. He sends in one sub regularly every week. We want other hostlers to pledge themselves to send in a sub each week. AUGUST PANSCHAR, Indianapolis, Ind., sends in a club of four that was secured at the George Kirshenrath meeting there. He promises to get an even bigger bunch at the Walker meeting. Are you sending the Socialist Party Campaign Book and Ryan Walker's great cartoon book, "The New Adventures of Henry Dubb" as Christmas presents to your friends, together with a sub to The American Socialist? The Campaign Book is free with a year's sub to The American Socialist at 50 cents. The cartoon book is free with a six months' sub at 25 cents. This is an inexpensive way to see that all your friends get an appropriate Xmas gift. "The idea of a special number of the paper to combat militarism is a splendid one, and should have the active support of the comrades everywhere," writes I. H. McGuffee, Missoula, Mont., as he ordered 1,000 copies of the MEYER LONDON EDITION. "Congratulations to our MEYER LONDON EDITION," writes John H. McGuffee, Missoula, Mont. "It was a dandy, Sunday morning distribution of 1,000 copies. We have heard good reports from them!"

EDUCATION AND ORGANIZATION.

It doesn't trouble the conscience of the democrats in the least to use the money of the government to start their campaign for 1916. We have just received some of the printed matter being sent out from the Organization Bureau, National Democratic League of Clubs, at Washington, D. C., under official frank. This league is trying to organize 1,000,000 democrats. It is making a special effort to reach young men, the first voters. It is trying to organize a democratic club for every postoffice in the nation. There is only one way to meet this campaign. And that is to organize a Socialist local for every postoffice in the United States. We do not have access to the national treasury to help us accomplish this. Socialists do not succeed in abusing the franking privileges of congressmen. But Socialists will take advantage of the franking privilege of our congressman, Meyer London, to send out millions of copies of his speeches, which will prove real education for the American working class. As the workers become increasingly intelligent, new locals will spring up and old ones will increase their membership. Let education and organization go hand in hand for the campaign of 1916.

John R. Lawson was invited to join Henry Ford's peace expedition to Europe. Lawson had such wide and varied experience in the war, waged upon the Colorado miners by King Rockefeller, that Ford doubtless concluded that his assistance as a strategist would be of great value.

A. F. of L. Convention

By ADOLPH GERMER.

WELL, the Thirty-fifth Annual Convention of the A. F. of L. is now a matter of history. The yearly jurisdictional squabbles, which in fact are only a scramble for a meal ticket, are in the main no nearer settled than before the convention. To begin with, one and one-half week was fiddled away sight-seeing and being entertained, all of which, of course, was very interesting and highly pleasing. Every point of interest, in and around Frisco, every spot to attract the eye, and every note to attune the ear, was the pleasure of the delegation. Delegates, who had attended conventions for years confessed that never before has a city been so profuse in an endeavor to satisfy the tastes of a convention.

Machinery Begins to Grind. About the middle of the second week the machinery began to grind. The Sheet Metal Workers and the Carpenters pulled each other wool because one was getting a piece of pie which the other claimed "properly belongs to him". The Carpenters and the Structural Iron Workers also had a row over the same question. The Teamsters and Bakery Workers exchanged compliments over controversies out of the claim for pie. The Teamsters insisted that those driving bakery wagons and delivering baked goods should pay for their meal tickets, and so the merry game went on as in previous years. Matters of vast and general importance were shelved until a session was allowed to adjourn and then gavelled thru.

Gompers Fights Referendum. For example, a resolution was introduced providing for a referendum on the question of whether or not the officers of the A. F. of L. should be elected directly by the rank and file, as is done by the Illinois, Arizona and other State Federations. It was reported out just previous to an adjournment. In the very brief discussion, President Gompers consumed the most of forty minutes with an attack on J. Mahlon Barnes, a delegate from the Cigar Makers (Gompers') organization. Gompers turned the gavel over to Eighth Vice-President Greener. Gompers, as usual, closed the debate, a large number of delegates asked for a roll call, but an eye and no vote was taken and the resolution declared defeated.

Then "Sammy" resumed the chair and the writer asked why a roll call was not granted in accordance with the constitution. The answer was that the temporary chairman did not think a sufficient number had asked for it and when a protest was raised against the ruling the convention was declared adjourned. Another instance was the resolution in favor of industrial unionism. It was reported out just previous to an adjournment and met the same fate as the one just related. A still further instance was the anti-military resolution. Like the preceding resolutions, it was reported about adjourning time with Vice President James Duncanson presiding. It seemed as if a deliberate attempt was made to shut out debate entirely. Duncanson Can't See or Hear. Having introduced the resolution, I naturally wanted to say a few words in favor of it and while asking for the floor the report of the committee, which was against the resolution, was put to a vote and declared adopted. I protested the ruling and Chairman Duncanson explained that he did not see or hear me. Delegates and spectators expressed disapprobation and the ruling was reversed and a spirited discussion entered into. Among those opposing the resolution was Andrew Fureseth of the Seneca Union but who actually helped create sentiment for it. Here, then, it seemed as if we would carry the day. This the administration saw and "Sammy" again came to the rescue. He stated that he was a pacifist but believed in "preparedness" and military training in public schools. When he cracked the whip, the faithful fell in line like sheep in a flock and when the vote was taken the resolution was declared defeated. Again there were requests for a roll call and the session declared adjourned.

L. P. Straube of Chicago, who, during the newspaper strike in that city a few years ago, was one of the officials of the Stereotypers union, helped the pressmen in their fight. For this loyalty to his comrades he incurred the displeasure of the higher-ups in his union and the bitter hatred of the Publisher's Association. He was finally expelled from his union, because he would not bow to the whims and dictates of time serving officials. Straube is an honest, able and energetic worker in the cause of labor. He joined another union and was elected delegate to the Chicago Federation of Labor. But the wrath of the publishers and ultra-reactionary officials of the Stereotypers' had not diminished and a demand was made upon the Chicago Federation of Labor to unseat Straube. Straube Defended. The Chicago Federation knows his worth and defended Straube. John Fitzpatrick, President of the Chicago Federation of Labor, made an admirable fight in his behalf as did John H. Walker. But the machine had decreed that Straube must be banished and it was so declared. Again a roll call vote was asked. There was grave danger that the machine would be reversed and Gompers, with quivering voice, appealed to the delegates not to insist upon a roll call and expressed the belief that if a proper effort is made (whatever that means) in his opinion the matter could be adjusted. His advice was accepted and the next step in the Hippodrome was staged. It was over the Eight Hour Day. 8-Hour Resolution Up. The resolution dealing with the matter was held back until the very last of the last day's session, when nearly one-third of the delegates had left the city. Gompers made it "clear" that the fullest discussion would be permitted. It was clearly designed that those who favored the resolution for an Eight Hour Day by law, wherever it could be secured, should be the ones to get the question on the floor and the machine would fall in and whip the questionable ones in line. In this they went so far as to tell Thos. Van Lear, who introduced the resolution, that if he desired to speak, "now was his opportunity". This was to prevent him from availing himself of the rules and perhaps close the debate. When a number had spoken for the resolution, the lashing process began. One after another of the administration took a slam at the resolution. Finally Gompers joined in. When he concluded, the hands of the hour to get the floor but there was nothing doing. I saw Gompers examine a booklet issued by the National Executive Committee of the Socialist Party and pointing out certain passages to James Duncanson. This is the booklet that brought out his twenty-nine page editorial reprints in which he vomits all over himself. I made reference to this and expressed the hope that he would deal with the merits of the resolution rather than roam around the entire world in search of material to poison the minds of the delegates. While during the discussion on the referendum, J. Mahlon Barnes was the target for attack, special attention was here paid to me because my name is attached to the book. Not that I am complaining. Quite the contrary. I shall always be proud of the fact that I was instrumental, along with the other members of the National Executive Committee, in getting out this booklet and I wish every member of the American Federation of Labor would read it. That booklet has caused its just share of the discussion of the Eight Hour Day. A roll call vote was taken and the Eight Hour resolution was defeated, but by approximately one thousand less than last year. Powerful Machine Quaking. While every progressive measure was defeated and crushed beneath the Iron Heel of the administration, there was a marked growth in the strength of those who are in harmony with the will and desire of the rank and file. At several points the one powerful machine was quaking and it required the most clever engineering to survive. Every member of an affiliated union should carefully go over the proceedings of the Frisco convention and learn where his or her representative stood. There is no need in advising what should be done in the event the representatives were not in accord with those they represented. The duty suggests itself. Quite a number of visitors sat in the galleries. On several occasions they gave expression to their feelings and in each event the machine threatened to clear the hall of all except delegates. I spoke with a number of them. They were the rank and file. Could every one who is affiliated with the A. F. of L. attend the sessions and observe who is responsible for the snail pace we are traveling, it would be but a question of a very brief time until the conventions would assume a different complexion. I am not at all discouraged or disheartened. There is an awakening all along the line. It is slow, but it is sure. This awakening beacons a change for the better. We must continue to pour out the truth so the awakening giant will know how to speak and act when called upon. The watchword is "On to greater activity, the future must and will be ours."

THE STORY CORNER

NOTE.—In this column there is traced, from week to week, the development of a typical Young People's Socialist League. The successes and failures are mirrored here and the chances are that you will find some of your own here set forth. Each installment is practically complete in itself, but it is advisable to follow the story regularly.

FINAL PREPARATIONS.

AT LAST the day of all days had come. The Yipsels had been breaking their necks advertising the affair. Thousands of "pluggers" or "throw-aways" had been distributed, show cards had been posted wherever they would attract public attention, and all possible preparations had been made. They had put out a large Souvenir Program and had filled it with advertisements from various business associates, and called the workers' attention toward them. The comrades as were professional or business men helped along liberally. At one place, tho, they did experience some trouble. It was when they tackled such places as were members of the local Board of Education. They were told that they would first have to get the sanction of the Board office. They tried it. Everything was lovely until they happened to mention the name of their organization, "Young People's Socialist League!" No, sir, they could not get the support of the Board of Education. Trade for any such purpose, not if the returns could be measured in bushels of gold dollars!

THE YIPSELS were disappointed, but hardly surprised. As a counter stroke they printed an announcement of the action of the business men's association, and called the workers' attention to their enemies. It was very effective, many of the workers, when going to make their purchases, first inquired if the merchant was a member of the Board of Trade, and if he was, there was mighty little business done there. The merchants paid attention to their enemies. It was very effective, many of the workers, when going to make their purchases, first inquired if the merchant was a member of the Board of Trade, and if he was, there was mighty little business done there. The merchants paid attention to their enemies. It was very effective, many of the workers, when going to make their purchases, first inquired if the merchant was a member of the Board of Trade, and if he was, there was mighty little business done there. The merchants paid attention to their enemies. 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