

ENLIST FOR THE WAR AGAINST THE JINGOES

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AMERICAN SOCIALIST

JINGOES FACE RETREAT. Meyer London, our representative in Washington, is doing his best to fight the jingoes. Help him by distributing the special two-page edition. The jingoes are retreating. Make it a stamped.

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Wilson Policy Plunging Nation Towards War With Germany

By LUCIEN SAINT. (Special from our Washington Correspondent.) WASHINGTON.—War, or at least a technical state of war, will follow a break in diplomatic relations between the United States and Germany. This is the unpleasant truth, and the people must face it. This is the truth as it is known to President Wilson and his close advisers. For obvious reasons it is impossible for them to say this in public, but it is the fact. If a German submarine should sink an unarmed merchantman and if a single American life should be lost, Wilson will break off diplomatic relations between the United States and Germany. Thereupon, according to belief in the Capital, Germany will declare war upon the United States. She

will do so because as a first class power, it would be incompatible with her dignity to sit silent when we were sending her Ambassador back home. It should be noted, however, that the German ambassador says that he never said that Germany would declare war in this event. By the time this despatch is printed, the unbelievable may have occurred, and the reigning powers of the 100,000,000 peace-loving people of the United States may be at sword's points with the people of the Empire of Germany. And it will all be the fruit of outworn ideas of national honor and non-popular governments. The American people do not want to go to war with Germany even if Germany does violate a code of international law. If a Cincinnati German violates national, state, or municipal law, no one goes

to war with him—no one goes out with a gun to kill him. He is dealt with as a civilian, in the civil courts, by civil processes. This, at least, is the theory of the civil law, but it is not the theory of international law, which, as Socialist Representative Meyer London declared in the House, is a "survival of monarchical traditions". If the President breaks off diplomatic relations, and if Germany, in reply, declares war, and if the United States, in reply, declares war on Germany, it is up to the working people of the United States to protest with all the vigor of their organized strength against this barbarism. The diplomats can not stop war, even if they wanted to. Congress can not stop war. Nor can the press, or the pulpit. But the workers can stop the onrush of war IF THEY WILL ACT IN THE RIGHT MANNER.

LONDON DEMANDS U. S. AVERT WAR

WASHINGTON.—The text of Socialist Representative Meyer London's joint resolution in the House bearing on the international situation, constituting a declaration by Congress of the policy and intentions of the people of the United States towards the belligerent nations, is as follows: "Whereas, the President of the United States has called upon Congress to uphold him in his view of the rights of Americans traveling in armed merchantmen carrying the flag of belligerent nations; and, "Whereas, the belligerent nations, in their struggle to survive the contest, have disregarded the vital interests of neutrals in comparison with which the claim of the rights to travel in armed merchantmen sinks into insignificance; and, "Whereas, the prevailing apprehension among

the people of the United States that an attempt may be made to enforce American rights and claims by means of war makes it imperative that a definite and unequivocal declaration of the policy and intentions of the United States toward belligerents be made by Congress; therefore be it "Resolved, by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled, That Congress solemnly declares its unalterable opposition to war as a means of enforcing the claim that Americans may travel in the armed merchantmen of belligerents; and be it further "RESOLVED, THAT CONGRESS SOLEMNLY DECLARES THAT, EXCEPT WHEN REPELLING AN ENEMY INVADING THE TERRITORY OF THE UNITED STATES, THERE CAN BE NO JUSTIFICATION FOR A RESORT TO ARMS."

Shaw And Simons Again Clash In Spirited Debate; One Praises Capitalists, The Other Flays Exploiters

SECOND STATEMENT.

By LESLIE M. SHAW.

PERMIT ME to express my appreciation of the kindly way in which The American Socialist treats my reasons for not being a Socialist. It seems to me, however, that Mr. Simons drops into two or three errors that I would like to correct. Mr. Simons says I defend the "capitalistic system". Pardon me, there is no such thing as a "capitalistic system". The issue, as I understand it, is not between capitalism and socialism, but between individualism and collectivism. Mr. Simons also falls into errors equally unfortunate. He charges that I take the position that "autocracy is to be preferred to democracy". In an early paragraph I say: "You good people appear to start with the assumption that because the existing system fails to prevent many conditions admittedly regrettable therefore the system must be wrong". I am the last one in the world to prefer autocracy to democracy—but neither is in the least degree involved in this issue. Many regrettable conditions exist, but it is my contention that no system will be devoid of regrettable conditions, and I am convinced that what is proposed would be sure to entail far more regrettable conditions than now confront us. Your treatment of my article gives evidence that you intend to be fair. Let me illustrate. You have had a desire to better man's condition. So have I. Perhaps we can agree if we can discover the point at which our divergence begins. It is evident, I think, that we place different estimates on the importance of capital.

DEBATE ROUSES INTEREST.

EDITOR'S NOTE.—Considerable interest was roused by the opening statements in the debate between Leslie M. Shaw, secretary of the United States treasury in Roosevelt's cabinet, and A. M. Simons, the noted Socialist author, which appeared in the Jan. 8th issue of The American Socialist. After studying Simons' reply, Shaw prepared his second statement, which was in turn read and replied to by Simons. We herewith present Shaw's second statement and Simons' second reply.

for there is no one to tax except capitalists, great or small. I do not take the position that the men who furnish nothing but labor are entitled to no consideration. There must be, my friends, a common ground of mutual interest. The men who furnish the money must be induced to establish industries by some hope of reward other than current interest rates if they succeed and ruin if they fail, and labor must have before it the possibility of bettering and ever bettering its condition.

I once rode with Senator Elkins over his West Virginia Railroad and listened to his story of its construction. He had had many obstacles and the obstacles he had overcome. I remember his saying to me when he had reached a certain point in the history of the enterprise: "Perhaps you know how a man feels when he has invested every dollar he has in a business and he has induced his friends to invest their money, and when utter failure seems inevitable?" When he had finished I did not wonder he had refused consent for his daughter to marry a foreign prince except on terms of absolute divorce between us. Those matters were ever founded on greater courage or greater achievement than the Elkins fortune. I said to him then: "It is all right, Senator Elkins; you can have your magnificent estate here in the mountains and another in the city. When you have had your share of the money, give me the choice of the dishes from above gold service plates, with gold spoons and gold forks, and when I return the courtesy I will give you common fare from plain dishes, for there is that much difference between us. Those matters less resources would have remained in the West Virginia Mountains untouched for fifty thousand years before any one of Shaw's initiative or Shaw's energy would have gone after them."

SENATOR Elkins robbed no one of an opportunity to open up territory elsewhere—and there is lots of it yet. He took no man's money. On the contrary, he developed several counties and made them suitable for habitation and rendered possible their present population of 200,000 people, dwelling in happy homes, finding ready employment, and enjoying some measure of prosperity.

And yet Mr. Simons says that I accept the socialist position that capitalists "give no return for their income". Permit me more illustration. Certain of my business associates have under consideration a water power right in a certain Southern state. It is a magnificent power and has a capacity of developing 60,000 H.P. It might have been developed ere this had there been a demand for the power when created; but it has remained untouched from the beginning of time, and will so remain ever worthless and useless until capital waves its wand. It will require an outlay of \$8,000,000 before a wheel is turned. At least 90 per cent of this will go, directly or indirectly, to labor. Two hundred thousand barrels of cement represents labor and nothing else except a little profit. The same can be said of machinery made from iron worth one dollar per ton in the ore bed, and I have had ten cents per ton in the ground. Transportation is largely labor. No number of unemployed men can do it, and Congress never has been and never will be, foolish enough to raise the

needed money by increased taxation, or to invest money already taken from the people to produce a thing for which there is no demand and no market. But recently some men with great capital have been experimenting and now report success in taking nitrogen from the air. This requires great power. Suppose my friends, who do not possess a fraction of the amount needed, secure the money from those who are willing to take long shots and run great risks, develop the power, put in the machinery, extract the nitrogen and sell to farmers with which to increase their crops of corn and cotton, will Socialists take the position that capital so used is a curse and that capitalists who thus use their money "give no return for their income"?

THE WORLD does not contain a limited amount of wealth, but limitless wealth. He who gets some does not deprive his neighbor of opportunity, tho he may, by preempting a great industry, render it impractical for others to compete. This is one of the admitted facts of life, and is inherent in individualism. But it is better that an industry be monopolized even than that it never be developed.

Much has been said against the International Harvester Company. For instance—and I grant it would be idle for anyone to enter the field in competition. But the patents on all agricultural implements have expired and Mr. Simons, or any of his friends, can make an exact duplicate of any of the standard products of the International Harvester Company (they would have to give it a name, that is all) but after they had made it they would find it impossible to sell, for before they could establish a reputation they would be in bankruptcy.

Mr. Simons can make just as good flour as Pillsbury's Best and not sell it. No one will take chances on unknown flour except at a ruinous low price. While Secretary of the Treasury I had occasion to investigate the flour business at Minneapolis, and I sent experienced bank examiners to go over their books. They found profit that the millers were making less than five cents per barrel net profit. That was admittedly a bad year. They usually try to make ten cents per barrel. It is not the fault of capital that Mr. Simons cannot start a competing mill and produce flour that is unknown and sell it against flour that is known. A great deal of existing criticism is aimed against conditions that result inevitably from years of established trade and honest dealing.

THERE IS one utterance in Mr. Simons' argument to which I take grave exception. He says that the Senators whose names I gave "burglarized the public domain, its lands and minerals, water powers and natural resources, kept some of the plunder themselves, and turned the rest over to the corporations whose creatures they were". That is an awful indictment, and if I did not know it to be false I would be humiliated beyond measure. As it is, I am not even offended, for I know the charge is made because of false teaching and false conceptions.

Some of the public domain was given as a subsidy to railroads, but when given it was absolutely worthless to the people—and but for the railroads would have remained absolutely worthless. When Lewis and Clark began their famous expedition no man in the United States, not even themselves, believed it would be ever possible to cross the Rocky Mountains with a wagon even. But for wise statesmanship and a liberal policy what might be called the Rocky Mountain Empire, which furnishes homes for some millions of people and almost limitless wealth, would have remained as worthless as it was before capital, encouraged by the government, entered that domain.

I have intimately known a great number of public men and I have learned from acquaintance that those who have been successful in securing office compare quite favorably with those who have tried and failed. Generally speaking, he who thinks a

SECOND REPLY.

By A. M. SIMONS.

FOR AN argument to be intelligent it is necessary that the blows should fall upon common points and not be wasted on the empty air. Otherwise no truth will be forged into shape. Mr. Shaw is talking about the necessity of capital, or that portion of the social wealth which is used as a means for the production of further wealth. All Socialists agree upon this necessity. But with this he confuses the necessity of capitalists to own this wealth. Here the Socialist dissents.

All of us can share in this capacity of ownership, and in its rewards thru a democratical managed government. There will then be no need for capitalists. No intelligence is needed to be a capitalist. Infants, insane persons, wards of the court, stockholders whose property is managed by receivers, the children of Marshall Field and his grandchildren,—all are capitalists, all enjoying the power to extort wealth from the community thru ownership. None of these have anything to do with the management of industry. Socialists would have the state, democratically controlled, perform this function of ownership.

MR. SHAW is talking of something else than the capitalist's function, as any high school student of the most orthodox and elementary political economy could tell him, when he discusses the management of coal mines and flour mills. This work of management is only occasionally done by the owners of the property. It need never be so done. Hired managers can do the work equally well, and would do it equally well for a state. His illustrations seem always to prove the reverse of the lesson he would draw from them. The signatures of much less than 10,000 propertyless men, signed to a note, have been found to be much better security than that of the average board of directors. A few moments study of the co-operative banks of Europe will satisfy him of this fact. But let's try another illustration, much closer to facts. Suppose that a state had never parted with the title to the 25,000,000 tons of coal. Suppose it would proceed to use its credit to develop the mines and sell the coal to the community at the labor cost of production. Then the society that had furnished the capital would keep the "profits" if such a thing existed. To paraphrase Mr. Shaw "that coal, like all coal, like all natural resources, will be absolutely worthless until touched by the hand of"—Labor, not capital. Suppose Mr. Shaw asks his friend Senator Elkins to try touching the coal in his mines with a million dollar stock certificate and see how much coal will be dug. Why did the senator not try this when he forced a strike and sent a machine gun up and down the railroad to fire into the camps of sleeping miners? Why did he hire thugs, buy local elections, drive women and children into the streets, violate the law to throttle freedom of speech, press and assembly in the mining districts, if capital is the essential thing in digging coal? These matters are of public record. They are undisputed. The Senator had the vantage ground of the position he had secured in the highest legislative body of the land from which to refute them had there been any refutation possible.

HOW DID Senator Elkins "develop

man becomes dishonest as soon as he gets into office simply discloses the kind of an officer he would be if he were selected. I do not know Mr. Simons very well, but I am inclined to believe that if he were selected to any high office, his attitude would be that of the average good and honest man. He would say to himself, as ninety-nine per cent of all public men have said, "I have tried to be pretty decent, and now that the people have elevated me to a position of trust I will be a better man than ever. I will make good". No, my friends, men do not become dishonest simply because they are trusted. On the contrary, many a dishonest and unreliable man becomes a prince when trusted. I read in the papers this morning of a man at Detroit, who had served three terms in the penitentiary, building a home and holding a position of trust—and all because Henry Ford has trusted him.

VERY TRULY yours, LESLIE M. SHAW.

DEBS IN OKLAHOMA.

The editor of The American Socialist has just received a message from Eugene V. Debs, in Oklahoma, reading as follows: "Great meeting here (Purcell) last night in a circus tent; packed and overflowing. They poured in from all directions. The attempt of the corrupt legislature to disfranchise the Socialists has set the state on fire. Look for developments in Oklahoma."

several counties?"

He secured possession of a natural resource which he never placed in the ground and stood between the natural resource and the people who had the skill and the strength to take it out and make it useful. These people, the miners, could not live unless they could get to that natural resource. If they turned in any other direction, they found capitalists but not the same opportunities for work. Senator Elkins then permitted these miners to produce wealth and keep enough to maintain an existence unfit for human animals (this too is a matter of absolute record) while he took from them all the remainder of their product. Then he could afford to make his own terms when buying foreign princes for his daughters.

The water power illustration falls equally flat. In Australia, Switzerland, on the Canadian side of Niagara Falls, and in many other places, the people did not wait for "capital to wave its wand" before utilizing the force of falling water. Organized society hitched turbines to this force and distributed the resulting power at a price that was usually less than half that charged by private capitalists.

What under the sun does the private capitalist, either in the mines of West Virginia or in the southern state where the waterfall Mr. Shaw instances is located, give in return for their increased respect to stand in the way of progress?

The same reasoning applies to the extraction of nitrogen from the air. Government chemists discovered this process. A government plant could do the work without the risk, the speculation, the extortion or the theft of the other features that distinguish private from public operation of industry.

IF THE Pillsbury's are making only five cents a barrel on their flour then they furnish another splendid example of the failure of individual capitalism. I have spent days in co-operatives in England (and there are similar ones in a dozen other countries) where bread was made from wheat to loaf and the bread sold for half what the bread trust and the milling trust got out of us in America. And the bread was the best in the world, judged by any standard, and cost less. Moreover, these industries were built up and managed by workmen who had little more apiece to start with than Mr. Shaw's 10,000 unemployed.

Mr. Shaw objects to my charge that certain public officials "burglarized the public domain, its lands and minerals, water powers and natural resources, kept some of the plunder themselves, and turned the rest over to the corporations whose creatures they were".

With that queer inversion of ideas which is so common to those who defend our present topsy-turvy system Mr. Shaw will have it that it was the railroads that made the western land valuable. It seems to me that it was the labor of those who raised crops to ship out and who produced other goods to ship and paid the freight on these goods that made the railroads valuable.

I HAVE a distinct remembrance of passing on a railroad for hours thru land that has no value, even tho it has excellent railroad facilities. I also remember seeing large quantities of advertising material issued by railroads to attract settlers to the land adjoining these roads, from which I judged that such settlers were considered a source of value to railroad stockholders.

in a system that places a premium on

the unsocial acts we call crimes. Neither do Socialists look upon all rich men as dishonest scoundrels. We know that human beings are all very, very much alike. We do not denounce, nor even blame the capitalist. Most of us would be capitalists if we could and would pay the price, as Mr. Shaw said before. Some of us think that the high, and other things of more value than riches in present society. But we make no virtue of this position. We want only to create a society in which all human beings will have a chance to develop the best that is in them.

SOMETHING more than trust is needed to make a man honest and reliable. He must have an opportunity to live honestly. Otherwise he dies or becomes "dishonest and unreliable." This opportunity Socialists would furnish all Capitalism denies this today. A Henry Ford furnishes it to a few and we are surprised at the apparent miracles that result. Why should we wait for a Ford? Why not travel in our own car, co-operatively built and owned?

An even stronger test of human nature is private by the example of the "poor but honest" senators he instances. That so large a percentage of the members of that body refused to profit personally from the actions which turned the patrimony of a people over to a few, enabling these to become multi-millionaires, while the mass were doomed into poverty shows a marvelous sense of loyalty to a bad system and to the interests of a ruling class. Socialists do not denounce, nor pass any moral judgment upon those who so served a preposterous system, even tho, as Theobald Veblen has pointed out, it is difficult to find words to describe their actions that do not carry a moral imputation. We do wish to end a system that puts such temptations before senators and convicts alike. We wish to open opportunity to all by preventing the monopoly of the things of which opportunities are made.

PERMIT ME to disagree with the statement that "there is lots of territory to open up elsewhere". I know something about how the territory of this nation has been opened. May I set a little of my personal experience against that of Mr. Shaw from which he has quoted so freely and so interestingly?

For at least two centuries my ancestors have been pioneers. They have fought their way over the mountains and prairie soil. They began on the shore of the Atlantic. They have been driven step by step half way across the continent by those who steadily appropriated natural resources and worked other persons instead of the land they have been opening up. The world calls poor. When I had worn out my boyhood digging stumps, piling stones, and clearing an opening in the forest and my time came to "move on", there was no frontier left. Mr. Shaw's senators had turned the vacant lands of the West over to the railroads and Uncle Sam was no longer rich enough to give me a farm. The same thing that has taken place geographically with land has taken place industrially with the factory and mercantile establishments. The frontier of little competitive business where each person could hew out a niche within which he could exist has passed away and hundreds of thousands of workers serve a single industrial magnate who has obtained possession of some, vantage point in our social organization.

So I am joining with the millions of workers in every line of industry for the purpose of securing control of the government, just as the capitalists got control of it, and using it, just as they used it, to gain possession of the resources of this nation, not for the benefit of a few but for the use and benefit of all. We are going to oust the capitalist by assuming his functions collectively. Remember that his function is only that of ownership. The work of management will be done by trained workers just as it is now in most cases.

The indications are that there will be a lively time among the "patriots" in congress before the present session is over. Already the compliments of the day have been exchanged and if it keeps on as it is being, I think that Pat's description of the wake will fit the situation: "There was only one whole nose left in the party after it was over and that one belonged to the tay kilt."

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MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22. Forty guests poisoned at banquet of Methodist ministers at St. James church.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23. St. Louis votes to segregate negroes. La Provence, French liner, torpedoed in Mediterranean; 900 die.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1. French trap Brandenburgers. Kaisers erect troops in fort. Donatist army of 200 men.

THURSDAY, MARCH 2. Troops of Felix Diaz reported to have won first engagement at San Francisco. 230 killed.

FRIDAY, MARCH 3. Germans reported to be gaining ground before Verdun. French military agreement.

SATURDAY, MARCH 4. Chicago nominates for president. Declares no candidate for presidency will have instructed majority at republican convention.

SUNDAY, MARCH 5. Moeris, German raider, runs British blockade. Returns safely to Wilhelmshaven.

PEACE "WITH HONOR"

By EUGENE V. DEBS.

OF ALL the phrases inspired as weak and silly apologies for war the one that heads this article is the most fraudulent and hypocritical and for this reason the hack politician's prime favorite.

There is not a pharisee of high or low degree in the whole bourgeois aggregation of patriots who has the courage and honesty to tell the truth and to announce boldly and unequivocally that he stands for war.

These gentlemen are uniformly for war because they thrive in war, and to conceal their guilt they prate about "patriotism" and "love of country" and declare that they are opposed to war and stand for peace but that it must be peace "with honor."

Peace with honor, forsooth! What irony to speak of honor in the same breath with exploitation; with the shameless robbery and degradation of the toiling millions!

BUT THEY are compelled to come out in the open in spite of themselves and back up their program of "Peace with Honor" with hundreds of millions of appropriations for warships, submarines, torpedo boats, destroyers etc., etc., to prove their devotion to peace and their high sense of honor.

THE MAN or nation with a true sense of honor does not parade it or advertise it as a condition of recognition. Isaiah, Amos, Marcus Aurelius, Jesus Christ, Karl Marx and Abraham Lincoln had no need to issue warning that their "honor" must be recognized and respected.

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Expose The Hypocrites

By LINCOLN PHIFER.

Preparedness is not against invasion. It is against the capitalist system. It is against the bourgeoisie who are the real enemies of the people.

Preparedness is not even exclusively to enable American capitalists to go back on their party and take the bugle sound of invasion was to scare them into it.

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Angered at the repeated, misrepresentations of the Milwaukee labor and political movement around the country, based on falsehoods spread by capitalist interests, the Milwaukee Federated Trades Council has unanimously approved a letter setting forth in detail the labor accomplishments under the Socialist administration of Mayor Emil Seidel, and ordered it sent to the San Francisco Labor Council as the official expression of Milwaukee's trade unionism.

Many Locals Planning New Lecture Courses For Fall and Winter

Reports of a most encouraging nature on both the S.K.W. and the Maley-Goebel lecture courses continue to pour in. Special report blanks are being sent out to all locals just as soon as their last lecture is over.

ARKANSAS—Freda Hogan, the state secretary, writes that she is willing to co-operate in every way to help secure as many dates on the G-M course as possible.

WAUCHULA, FLA.—Comrade A. C. Clavel reports: "We are enchanted with the Maley-Goebel lecture course."

GLADSTONE, MICH.—Comrade Olaf N. Carlson writes: "Anna M. Maley made quite a hit here Sunday. It was a great success and all are well pleased."

MEMPHIS, TENN.—"Anna A. Maley lecture last night a great success. Collection \$23.55; literature \$6.30; new members, 7; attendance, 180," reports Comrade G. J. Braun.

ASHEVILLE, N. C.—Comrade Goebel's lecture was a number of times, but the latest was the best. We hope it will not be the last," writes J. L. Fitts.

NASHVILLE, TENN.—"The Maley lecture was a great success. Had a good crowd. Literature sales very good. All are well pleased. Hope Comrade Maley's lecture will be an equal success," writes Comrade L. D. Wilson.

STATE LINE, IND.—Comrade A. N. Lakin writes: "On the whole Comrade H. Scott Bennett's meeting was a success, and as result all see more clearly the need of political action in their political party, embodying this action."

OMAHA, NEB.—Reports: "We enjoyed all the three lectures very much. We did not see an equal success," writes Comrade L. D. Wilson.

DENVER, COLO.—J. F. Critchfield writes: "Had a very successful Kirkpatrick meeting, sold all the literature."

MOLINE, ILL.—Comrade Seidel did himself honor this time also, as a clear, plain and logical speaker and everyone I have spoken to told me "that was fine." He is a man who does not mince things and that is what we want. Comrade Seidel will always be a welcome man to the party," reports Comrade C. A. Gustafson.

ROCKFORD, ILL.—Comrade Arvid Gustafson writes: "In point of attendance the Walker meeting was the best of the three. We had the Socialist Sunday School there about 250 strong and they certainly understood and appreciated Comrade Walker's lecture. Not only did the young folks like the lecture but the older folks showed their appreciation. All the books were sold and if we had had twice as many they would have been sold. I think that Comrade Walker's lecture is the very thing we need in the Socialist movement as it lends a little variety to the way Socialism may be taught. We want him to come to Rockford again."

Such preparation—the only legal preparation—would make them powerless. They don't want it. When you ask it, like the hypocrites they are, they will throw over the whole program. They want a people unarmed before their army.

So let us begin a flank movement. Let us prove what the militia system is by making its friends discuss it and the Dick measure.

Due Stamp Dater. EVERY Local Secretary should have a Due Stamp Canceller. We furnish a dater with the necessary rubber dates for 60 cents.

MALEY-GOEBEL DATES. Kalamazoo, Mich., March 1-2. Rockford, Ill., March 1-2. St. Paul, Minn., March 1-2.

W. SCOTT, 2-10 So. Dearborn St., Chicago, Ill. Enclosed find \$1.00 for which send me Robt. G. Ingersoll's 44 Complete Lectures, prepaid.

London Gagged In Congress

By LUCIEN SAINT.

WASHINGTON.—Rep. M. B. Madden, of Illinois, Republican, objected to some remarks on international law which Socialist Representative Meyer London was making the other day, and the Speaker backed up Madden, and London was temporarily silenced.

London's speech was to have been a condemnation and exposure of international law bunk. "We have this peculiar situation," he declared, "we have democracy so far as the geographical limits of the country are concerned, and we have the survival of monarchical traditions in our relations with other countries."

At this point Humphrey of Washington interrupted with the suggestion that London ought not to talk about anything except the subject of the bill then under consideration. "I know you have been talking about a tariff on chestnuts during the discussion of the Post Office bill," retorted the Socialist.

MANN TALKS ABOUT "COURTESY." "Gentlemen who proceed by unanimous consent ought to preserve some semblance of courtesy," declared Rep. Mann reprovingly.

Another Congressman offered to give London 30 minutes time when the Agricultural bill should come up. London wanted to proceed at once, "I object," cried Madden.

But the chair ruled against London. "I make the point of no quorum," said London, fighting to the last ditch. The chair counted, and a quorum being present, London had to sit down.

CHARGE SOCIALIST HURT WASHINGTON. George Washington, dead 100 years, has been libeled. This great crime is charged against Paul R. Haffer, a young Socialist of Tacoma, Wash., and it was committed in a letter written to and published by the Tacoma Tribune, a non-Socialist publication. The trial of no case is court is described by The Tribune as follows:

The case of Paul R. Haffer, the young Tacoma Socialist against whom the charge of libeling George Washington was recently brought, was held for the superior court for trial by Justice Frank H. Graham. The defense was not allowed to present any evidence in justification of the statements made by Haffer in his letter to The Tribune.

Haffer appeared in court with a tall stack of books, prepared to quote authorities in support of his statements contained in a letter recently published in The Tribune Letter Box, that the nation's soldier-hero and first president exploited slaves, used profane language and drank to excess.

The courtroom of Justice Graham was crowded with spectators, some attracted merely by the unusual nature of the case, but many being socialist friends of the defendant and some in sympathy with the action taken by Colonel Albert E. Joab in bringing the action to defend the memory of "the father of his country."

"Deputy Prosecutor Selden, who was assisted by Colonel Joab, introduced only such evidence as necessary to prove the publication of the alleged libelous article by Haffer, Representatives of The Tribune testified that the article had passed thru uncorrected in line with The Tribune's policy of allowing the widest latitude in communications to the Letter Box. A reporter told of conversations with Haffer in which he admitted inferentially the authorship of the letter.

"Attorney Pendleton, before offering testimony in defense, moved to dismiss the charge on the ground that the state had not shown any party of interest who might bring an action of libel against George Washington. He went back into the court records of England of 100 years ago to find a case in which a charge of libeling a deceased person, whose nobility had been dismissed upon similar grounds. No case which would furnish a precedent has been found in the annals of American jurisprudence.

"Attorney Pendleton's appeal to the common law was unavailing and his motion was overruled by Justice Graham, who held that the charge was properly laid under the Washington state statute. The authorities quoted by the defense held that libel upon a deceased person cannot lie in the absence of a child, parent, spouse or heir as the party of interest."

Haffer is being held on \$1,000 bail while awaiting trial in the Superior Court, which may take place the last of the month. This will be an interesting case to follow, showing the extent to which the law of le majeste may be applied in this country.

Something of a sensation has been caused in France—not the slightest inkling of which has been cabled to this country—by the examination and arrest of a number of political personages who are members of Par-

liament, upon the charge that they were implicated in the assassination of Jean Jaures, the famous Socialist leader, who was shot in Paris a few days before the war began. Details are lacking but it is now pretty generally believed that there was a widespread conspiracy in existence to suddenly precipitate a reactionary revolution to overthrow the republic and re-establish a monarchy. Jaures was the most feared democrat in France, and it was necessary to put him out of the way before the plot could prove successful. It is claimed in some quarters that the monarchists hope to crown a king during the present war or immediately upon its conclusion.

In the Province of Schlesien, Germany, the first Socialist has been elected to the Legislature. He will represent the city of Breslau.

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A SOCIALIST LIBRARY is something every Live Socialist wants. We publish the works of Marx and the other great Socialists. We have a new, less than plan by which any Socialist Local or branch can get a library in return for a few hours work introducing the International Socialist Review, the Fighting Magazine of the working class. A complete copy and illustrated book catalogue, free. Charles H. Kerr & Co., 347 E. Ohio St., Chicago.

Read The Colonizer about Lynch law and negro peonage, twins of the big plantation system. Send a dime. C. D. RIVERS, Summerville, Georgia.

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FOR PURE HONEY C. Stinson, Beekoper HOLLY, COLO.

WINNING THE CITIES

By J. L. ENGBAHL.

AN article published in The American Socialist just one year ago, Walter Thomas Mills declared:

"We want to impress upon the voters of Milwaukee the fact that an antiquated city charter, the lack of home rule, a heavy indebtedness and a series of obsolete laws allow little freedom of action for any city administration."

"No far-reaching reforms can be accomplished by an administration so lame as the real governing power in municipal affairs is vested in the state legislature. The electors of Milwaukee should remember that in the Wisconsin legislature the Socialists alone have not violated platform promises in regard to a bill granting home rule for cities. We shall favor a bill providing for a new charter."

When the Socialist administration went into power six years ago, it was found that the city government was enmeshed in a network of state and national laws, court decrees, etc., etc., that barred every progressive step. The Milwaukee Socialists are setting out to break their way thru this entanglement in order to win a permanent and lasting victory.

Battling In Chicago. In Chicago, Socialist candidates for aldermen have been nominated in all of the 35 wards. The struggle centers, however, in three wards, the ninth, fifteenth and twenty-seventh. In the ninth, which sent Seymour Stedman to the state legislature in 1912, Charles V. Johnson, carpenter in the Pullman carshops, is the Socialist candidate, with Oliver C. Wilson, who headed the button workers' strike at Muscatine, Iowa, several years ago, as campaign manager.

The most terrific campaign, however, will be waged in the fifteenth ward, where William E. Rodriguez is up for re-election, after one year in the city council, having been elected to fill an unexpired term of a deceased republican alderman.

It was Ald. Rodriguez that let loose the resolution in the city council that barred the so-called "split-salary scandal," which turned the recent primary campaign topsy turvy and played havoc among the old party politicians. Ald. Rodriguez charged that Mrs. Page Waller Eaton, superintendent of social surveys at a salary of \$3,000 a year, had been compelled to contribute one-third of her salary to Mrs. Louise Osborne Rowe, her superior, as commissioner of public welfare. Mrs. Eaton charged that she had been forced to come across under orders from "Maizie" wife of Mayor Thompson, the money to go to the support of the mayor's sister-in-law. Mrs. Eaton had been a political lieutenant of Mayor Thompson, but after becoming disgusted

with his administration had carried her troubles to Seymour Stedman, a lawyer, former member of the state legislature.

Stench Rivals Stockyards Odor. Immediately Ald. Rodriguez brought the matter to the attention of the city council, two investigations were started and the stench that enveloped the city hall for several days, as a practices of old party politicians, outrivalled the celebrated odors arising from the far-famed Chicago stockyards. Mayor Thompson's only defense, aside from a general denial, was that the Socialists had lined up with his political enemies and were "playing politics." Mayor William Hale Thompson, now popularly known as "Big Bill the Boob" charged especially that Edward J. Brundage, head of the so-called "neutral" republican ward committeemen, was back of the exposure. This charge brought forth from Brundage a tribute to the Socialist Party as follows: "Anyone who knows the reputation of Seymour Stedman and Ald. Rodriguez will perceive that Sherlock Thompson is somewhat deficient in his powers of ratiocination. His statement that it 'looks like Brundage' can hardly be reconciled with the facts in the case, but facts do not seem to bother our mayor."

Can't Feed Socialists Bunk. "I don't know Ald. Rodriguez, and I scarcely know Mr. Stedman—I believe I met him only once long ago. But anyone who knows their standing in the community and in the Socialist Party, A PARTY WHICH IT IS EXTREMELY DIFFICULT TO FEED ANY POLITICAL BUNK TO, knows that no politician could influence them to make such charges as these. IT'S SILLY TO SUPPOSE IT."

In the meantime, however, the Thompson republican machine, allied with the democratic machine headed by Sullivan, the gas boss of Chicago, is out to beat the Socialists in the Fifteenth Ward. John C. Kennedy was last year elected alderman from the twenty-seventh ward to serve for two years. The campaign in this ward this year is to send Emil Kuhne to the city council as the second alderman from this ward. With the re-election of Rodriguez and the election of Johnson and Kuhne, the Chicago Socialists will double their representation in the city council and pave the way for additional achievements in the fall elections.

The cry of "On to the city hall" being raised by the Socialists, Milwaukee and a hundred other cities spells the doom of the capitalist system in the very near future.

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The cry of "On to the city hall" being raised by the Socialists, Milwaukee and a hundred other cities spells the doom of the capitalist system in the very near future.

A co-operative Socialist wholesale house or agency to supply our stores and locals is contemplated. If interested let us hear from you. Committee wholesale, Socialist Exchange, 2659 Fullerton Ave., Chicago.

EVERY Local Secretary should have a Due Stamp Canceller. We furnish a dater with the necessary rubber dates for 60 cents.

If you want a check on dues payments, the only method is by dating the stamp when it is pasted on the card. The dater just fits the stamp—Socialist Party, 803 W. Madison St., Chicago.

SPECIAL TO AMERICAN SOCIALIST READERS. COL. ROBT. G. INGERSOLL'S FORTY-FOUR LECTURES COMPLETE—CLOTH BOUND. A standard volume, worth \$2.00, which I offer to American Socialist readers for only \$1.00. The lectures are on the history of the world, the history of the United States, the history of the Socialist movement, etc.

EXECUTIVE DEPT.

WALTER LANFERSIEK, Secretary

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:
 JAMES H. MAURER, 1355 N. 11th St., Reading, Pa.
 ADOLPH GEMER, Mount Olive, Ill.
 GEORGE H. GOEBEL, 14 Bridge St., Milwaukee, Wis.
 EMIL SEIDEL, 1154 Twentieth St., New-ark, N. J.
 ARTHUR LE SUEUR, Fort Scott, Kans.

Address all communications to The Socialist Party, 803 West Madison St., Chicago. Address all mail to executives and not to individuals. Make remittances payable to the Socialist Party.

Water for publication in the official columns of the American Socialist must be in file in the National Office by the Monday preceding the date of issue.

OFFICIAL BUSINESS.

Proposed National Referendum.
 By Local Richmond, Edmonds, Wash.
 "That Karl Liebknecht be made an honorary member of the Socialist Party of the United States."
 Comment.
 It is on account of his stand as an Internationalist that we wish to do this referendum. It is on account of his stand as an Internationalist that we wish to do this referendum.

NATIONAL COMMITTEE BUSINESS.

Comment on Pending Motion.
 On Motion No. 4, proposing that the call for nominations for a National Campaign meeting for 1916 be withdrawn:
 HEARNY voted in favor of withdrawing the call for nominations for a Campaign Committee as I believe it useless and expensive to have a Campaign Committee.

On Motion No. 5, that Motion No. 1 read.

"In the event of the National Convention for 1916 being abolished, the National Committee is the lawful stock of the party."
 Comment on Pending Motion.
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The Road To Power.

MANY thousands of Kautsky's great book, "The Road To Power," have been sold. The original price was 25c per copy. We bought a lot at a cheap price and can let you have them at 10 cents each. This is a classic and should be read by every Socialist. Order now—Socialist Party, 803 W. Madison St., Chicago.

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THE National Office publishes the best booklet of information on Naturalization. You need it to instruct that friend or relation who is about to undergo the examination. Price only 10 cents—Socialist Party, 803 W. Madison St., Chicago.

Meyer London's Speech In Franked Envelopes.

ARRANGEMENTS have been made to print Meyer London's first speech in Congress. If you want to send this speech to your friends, send \$2 to the National Office, Socialist Party, and one thousand will be sent you. These will come in franked government envelopes on which you need pay no postage, and which can be sent anywhere in the United States. Order immediately as the subject matter of the speech is of particular interest just now. In his speech Comrade London has proposed what is considered the best means of securing Peace, and at least a million copies of this document should be distributed.

TWO DOLLARS PER THOUSAND SOCIALIST PARTY, 803 W. MADISON ST., CHICAGO.

UNUSUAL OFFER

THE FIRST week in the year should see a beginning of the campaign of 1916. A number of speakers are out working, but with about 5,000 Locals in the party, it is evident that the great majority cannot have speakers, for one reason or another.

But all locals CAN SELL and distribute literature. We have made it possible for the Locals to secure some cheap literature recently. Thousands of copies of "The Bombshell", "The Lone Foe of War" and "The Gunmen of Industry" have been sent out and have been distributed. In fact so many have been sent out that our stock of these pamphlets is exhausted, and no more orders can be taken.

The Truth About Socialism at less than cost to this office. The new price will be 10 cents apiece In lots of 50 or more.

This book sells for 25c and thus the Local makes more than 100 per cent profit. You must pay the freight, but even so you will make more than 10c per copy. Send \$5 for fifty copies or \$10 for one hundred copies. Your Local can put some money in the treasury by a little work, and at the same time do some good propaganda work. SOCIALIST PARTY, 803 Madison St., Chicago, Ill.

Party Organization.

By IDA CROUCH-HAZLETT.

THERE appears to be a somewhat prevalent feeling in the party at present that the existing form of organization is inadequate, inefficient, and incapable of accomplishing the practical results that the socialist movement should be able to set before the public at this time. A recent correspondent in a socialist publication asserts that he almost dreads to take an application for party membership any more, as he knows, if admitted, the new member will in all probability soon become disgusted at the party squabbles over insignificant matters, the tiresome routine of immaterial details without accomplishing anything definite, and the lack of local progress.

THE ORDINARY cycle of local organizations in small, and many larger towns, and in the country, is as follows: A speaker comes along, stirs up considerable enthusiasm; from five to fifteen under the psychological suggestion of the moment are induced to sign the pledge, pay their dues, and elect the required quota of officers. For a few Sundays they meet, conduct thru the order of business cannot think of anything important to do, perhaps develop a personal disagreement of some sort, and the state secretary soon ceases to receive any report from that branch of the socialist party.

IN THE more backward states this is the condition to an exclusion of almost every local from active participation in party affairs; and the dismal and purposeless routine stultifies the movement in many places where we should expect more intelligent action. In the meantime there are hundreds and thousands of socialists scattered over each state, unattached, purposeless, except to make a few more similar unattached wanderers, who have a vague idea that "it's coming" sometime—like the millennium.

LOCALS CANNOT be successfully maintained by the old methods of weekly meetings, or economic study where there are none who have sufficient interest or ability to give the work their personal attention. The members meet, get tired of looking at each other, and hearing the same old thing, and quit going.

OKLAHOMA appears to be the only state that is showing a successful solution of the problem. The Oklahoma state organization never forgets that it is a POLITICAL PARTY, and that it must devise means of effectively manipulating its party machinery, and outwitting the tactics of the capitalist parties. To this end it is attacking every corner

of its territory with its "skeleton form" of organization—that is, a precinct committeeman in every precinct where there is not an organization to look after the political interests of the party.

IT seems to me there should be an intelligent attempt to get a roster of all socialists in every state, even where it is impossible to hold a working local together, after some such plan as that charted, dues, paying membership as large as possible. See that the most competent man or woman is made secretary-treasurer. A literature agent and an organizer should be elected if such material can be found. These three may constitute an executive committee that may transact all business of the party where regular meetings seem impossible. Special meetings may be called at any time, or business meetings held at rare intervals.

IF EVEN an executive committee seems hopeless the one officer, secretary-treasurer, may be chosen to handle general charges of all party business. He collects the dues as he can; when he receives referendums from the state office he watches his chance to get the vote of the membership, or mails the referendums to them—conducts a sort of mail-order business, and wears his hat as the party representative to attend to all matters connected with the legal phases of filing tickets, circulating petitions, and otherwise complying with the election law.

A special effort should be made to cure every known and hidden source his dues for the support of party work. This can be done much more easily when socialists, in a community where it is impossible to maintain an active organization, know that they will not be expected to attend meetings, and the prospective converts. The advantages of this plan are the following: First, we obtain dues from all who claim to be socialists, where they could not be prevailed on to enter an organization that lacks initiative, purpose, and enthusiasm; second, we have a means of communication between this country and the state office; third, we have some means for political representation of the working class; fourth, we have a basis on which, at some future time, a strong organization may be built.

OUR LOCAL movements, outside of a few centers, lack purpose and political direction. I have in mind one state with which I am pretty well acquainted. It has some thirty-five locals; only three hold regular meetings. The largest two locals are torn by the most trivial and foolish dissensions, and accomplish the minimum in a little propaganda work. The best and most business-like organization is a little local in a pioneer colony in the woods. So well has the work been done here that virtually the entire community is socialist.

State should have definite party programs—such as Oklahoma has—and perhaps I should add Connecticut. Restrictive election laws should be the first point of attack. These laws restrain practically sixty per cent of the white vote in the South, not to mention the negro vote. Every law is in direct violation of the constitution of the United States and would be declared unconstitutional if fought in the Supreme Court; as in the Oklahoma and Maryland cases. Campaigns, state, county and municipal, should be made on local issues immediately affecting working class interests. It was along these lines that the splendid work of the Information Bureau was most valuable.

We need businesslike workers who can go to different sections of the country and do the work that is required; and a training school at headquarters for just such workers would rapidly produce practical results.

Our Fashion Hints



1632—Ladies' Apron. Cut in 3 sizes: Small, Medium and Large. It requires 5 yards of 36-inch material for a Medium size. Price, 10 cents.
 1638—Ladies' Costume. Waist 1638 cut in 6 sizes: 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches; bust measure, 36 1/2 to 42 inches; skirt measure, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30 and 32 inches; it requires 7 1/2 yards of 44-inch material for the entire gown for a 36-inch size. This calls for TWO separate patterns, 10 cents FOR EACH pattern.
 1650—Girl's Dress, with or without Over Blouse. Cut in 12 and 14 years. It requires 3 1/2 yards of 44-inch material for a 10-year size for the dress with over blouse for over blouse. Price, 10 cents.
 1652—Girl's Dress. Cut in 4 sizes: 4, 6, 8 and 10 years. It requires 2 1/2 yards of 44-inch material for a 6-year size. Price, 10 cents.

CATALOGUE NOTICE
 Send 10 cents in silver or stamps for our up to date 1916 SPRING and SUMMER Catalogue containing designs for Ladies, Misses', and Children's Patterns, as well as the latest Embroidery Designs. Also CONCOISE AND COMPREHENSIVE ARTICLE ON DRESS-MAKING, giving valuable hints to the home dressmaker. Address Department, The American Socialist, 803 W. Madison St., Chicago.

Letters from "American Socialist" Readers

DISCUSSES PLATFORM.—In the Feb. 26th issue of The American Socialist a platform is proposed for National Referendum at the same time that the platform to be drafted by the National Executive Committee is referred to the membership. It is said to be the platform of the Canadian Socialists.

This same platform, with a few changes, was foisted upon, and adopted by the Socialist state convention of North Dakota. It remains to be seen if the membership of the state will stand for it. The changes made were in the interest of the Non-Partisan League of North Dakota, an organization with a program favorable to land owners. The Socialist party of North Dakota is at the present time dominated by this Non-Partisan League.

In the "Comment" upon this platform, there crops out some astonishing statement: "We feel that the platform that will be drafted by the National Executive Committee will be one of reform measures similar to the one we had four years ago and will be a vote catching proposition rather than a clear statement of the program for the future."
 I do not say that our platform of four years ago can not be improved upon. But how can this proposed platform be a "clear statement of the real Socialist position," when it is non-committal? It is carefully worded to avoid general terms. It does not make any definite statement.

If our platform of four years ago was a vote catcher, this one is ten times more so. You can read anything you want to into this one. If this platform were adopted, all you would have to do would be to find out the desires of the prospective converts, then tell him, "that's what we Socialists want" and interpret the platform accordingly.

No, we must have a platform with definite statements, with definite demands.
 The "Comment" intimates that this Canadian importation is revolutionary. (Bah!) What has a revolutionary movement got to hide? Why has it need of indefinite, dubious, inoffensive general terms.

The revolutionary Socialist movement is not a hidden one. It can come right out in the open and declare to the world in definite, unambiguous terms what it wants.
 It is my opinion that this so-called platform was hatched in the womb of a sinister organization styled, "A Secret Organization of True Socialists."

There is such an organization in existence. But in the United States, until the workers are disfranchised, such an organization has no legitimate existence.—N. M. GREFFS-HELM, Wildrose, N. D.

CASE OF IMAGINATION.—The Executive Committee of Local Battle Creek, Mich., requested the National office to send a synopsis of Comrade Scott Bennett's lecture for use of local press. Following is the answer received:

"Sorry to inform you that we have no synopsis of Bennett's lecture but we think if you will give us something together from his throw-away cards and use a little imagination, you can get up a fairly good newspaper article."

How's that for directive ability, cooperation and publicity sense? I would be delighted to help you if you will write me just how much newspaper space was lost to us during Comrade Bennett's tour because of the crass stupidity displayed by our officials.
 Publicity given to this exceptionally able speaker would tend to give him return visits.
 One wonders whether the officials ever give that to efforts made by the "Jimmy Higgines" engaged in what is often a heart-breaking task of arranging a public meeting in the small towns.

To paraphrase Shaw, "It is wonderful what progress the Socialist Party makes in spite of some of its officials."
 We also note that Comrades Seidel and Goebel as members of the N. E. C. speak to enlighten themselves as lecturers. Also that the former was to travel from Ft. Bragg, Cal., to Chicago in order to attend meeting of N. E. C. He was then to resume work on Pacific Coast. Who pays the railroad fare?

It is noted that Comrade Walker was compelled to return from Pacific coast to New Jersey on account of illness. While it is to be regretted that we are compelled to lose the valuable services of this unique and able propagandist, could not his work be continued by an able Western comrade?

Some day we'll cease tactics and methods common to some labor unions, political parties and fraternal organization; we will then have funds for educational work. Until then, to again quote letter referred to: "use your imagination." B. BLUMENBERG, Local Battle Creek, Mich.

AN EXPLANATION.—The American Socialist Lecture Bureau in routing a speaker at once requests him to furnish the Bureau with a synopsis of his speech. Thus comrades Seidel, Kirkpatrick, Walker and Anna A. Maley have furnished the required briefs of their speeches to be furnished to locals for use in local papers. Some speakers, however, for reasons of their own, prefer not to furnish such synopsis, and this office cannot compel them to do so. In suggesting to Comrade Blumenberg that he use the data printed on the advertising cards and add a little imagination we acted on his own statement in a letter to us in which he informed us that he has something written up but would prefer something from his office.
 Comrade Blumenberg's letter certainly betrays good writing ability and he ought to have no difficulty in writing up a press notice, with the throw-away card as a basis.

In the case of Comrade Walker's illness, the very thing that Comrade Blumenberg says ought to have been done was done. Comrade Fred D.

Warren cancelled several important engagements in order to help the lecture course, but he could not complete the tour which would complete the tour which would complete the tour which would complete the tour.

WHAT SHALL WE DO ABOUT IT?—Every now and then some good hard-working comrade sets up a cry that the publication of so much controversial matter in The American Socialist practically kills the paper, otherwise excellent, for propaganda purposes. But just about as often I see others loudly demanding that the light of free discussion be thrown upon the party matters, and thanking their lucky stars that we have such a sheet to do this work. This must put our comrade Editor in a pretty quandary, for he surely cannot satisfy both of these viewpoints at the same time. What shall we do about it?

A newspaper is a machine, a means intended for the exercise of a definite function. No one would seriously demand that a single piece of machinery combine successfully the functions of a steam hammer and a telephone switchboard. Yet this is just what we are demanding of The American Socialist. We demand, first, that this, our party organ, act as a means of exchanging the ideas and opinions of our membership, a telephone switchboard to keep the party well connected up. But the paper ought to be a great steam hammer battering at the gates of capitalism, making new recruits and educating them into a firm and solid understanding of our principles. If we had a daily paper of 16 pages we might try to fulfil both these ends, but with experience with the most recent controversy means convince us that it is not possible to do this with The American Socialist in its present form.

We should have a pure and simple organization paper, a four or eight page monthly bulletin at a subscription price no less than that within the reach (voluntarily or compulsorily) of every member. This bulletin should include articles by our best organizers and educators, it should be devoted to the news of the organization and the bearing of the party on the issues of the day. It should cost ten or fifteen cents a year would cover the cost of such a publication and that it would serve the purposes of the movement far better than the space allotted it in The American Socialist.

On the other hand the party's paper need not demand of its contributors and editors that it should be a comrade ought to come out like a man and say, "I no longer believe in International Socialism. I put on the mask of preparedness and mean that this country be powerful enough to invade and let those poor wretched exploited masses go, and fight for their capitalist masters against their fellowman whom they have never

FAMILY NEWSPAPER.—A few parting words, at the age of almost 77, "a battle-scarred veteran in the ranks," of militant socialism; ever since "The Rump House" adjourned, "with its back turned on Democracy," just to repeat what I have so often urged upon the press, particularly upon the Appeal to Reason, that the most difficult things to do, is to get "the log-run" of readers to renew their "subs,"—always getting such replies as the following: "It's too much the same thing; I get tired of reading it and none of my family ever look at it." A constant diet of the or of any one article of food clogs and produces indigestion. The Papacy and her "protestant" bastards are wise enough to build their world-cursing institution on the plastic, receptive minds of children; while we tinker with the old and grand old-fashioned minds have set like plaster of Paris in moulds.

"Grand old, Socialist Horace Greeley built his great "Tribune" on my own ideal, filled with first-class matter for every member of every family, boom in the boom of chattel slavery. Out of it I read all of "The Tom's Cabin" to a farmer's family, evenings they all feasting on it, and all its other wealth of matter.
 Back in the Fifties and early Sixties, "The Dollar Newspaper" of Philadelphia, was a mighty family newspaper, having an immense circulation; and I contributed both prose and poetry to it! Only Greeley's "Tribune" did, or could "cut it out!" In both writing and in my many public addresses, I always was entertaining, and, at the same time, chucking in "the ideas of my theme!" Well, The American Socialist, if it would follow in Horace Greeley's wake, and become a powerful family newspaper, such as we have never had! Fraternal yours, on the main track.—E. D. NORTHRUP, Eliottville, N. J.

GOOD COMRADES AND PREPAREDNESS.—It is a mockery for one to claim he is a good comrade and at the same time advocate preparedness. It seems that those middleheads feel their weakness and therefore they beg not to be thrown out of the party and perhaps they want to entrench themselves so as to confuse a few more with their devilish ideas.

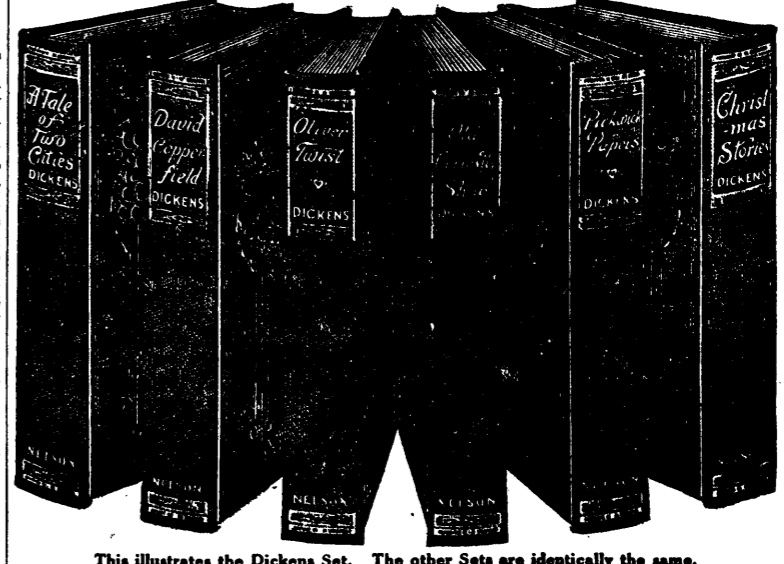
The very fear endowed in the hearts of the German comrades, "Don't split!" buried the Socialist Movement of Germany and now instead of fighting with their fellowmen upon the barricades for the Social Revolution, they are fighting against them and are tightening their chains of bondage instead of breaking them. Do we want a repetition of these black pages in the history of the Socialist Movement?

I would feel very pessimistic if preparedness would cause a split in the Socialist Party. I believe it is only a false alarm by those who want to prepare against us, and if it will cause a split let us have it right now and once and for all we will know who is with us and who is against us.
 To come out and state that pre-

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paredness has nothing to do with the fundamental principles of Socialism is just as foolish as to assume that the army and navy are institutions that make for Socialism.
 Comrades, International Socialism has only one foe against whom to prepare and that is the Capitalists of all countries, and any one falling into the capitalist trap for preparedness is no longer a Socialist and has no business in the Socialist Party. One honest with himself and his fellowman who trusted him and shook hands with him as a comrade ought to come out like a man and say, "I no longer believe in International Socialism. I put on the mask of preparedness and mean that this country be powerful enough to invade and let those poor wretched exploited masses go, and fight for their capitalist masters against their fellowman whom they have never

known nor even seen. Go and fight to make your masters more powerful at home so that they can increase the misery of those remaining and abuse, insult and prostitute our women and children.
 We know only too well what is behind the curtain of preparedness. We can see the capitalist tiger behind your sneer, laugh and rejoice over your agitation. But we who stand by the class struggle will fight against your attempt to remain with us. Your place is with the capitalist gang. Go with them.
 From our party ranks must be heard a joint protest against preparedness and our motto sound aloud "Workers of the World Unite, you have nothing to lose but your chains, you have a world to gain."—S. SHERMAN, Kokomo, Indiana.

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WILL THE HENRY DUBBS EVER WAKE UP?



WELL, YES! IF THEY EVER READ

THE HENRY DUBB EDITION

OF THE

AMERICAN SOCIALIST

The Henry Dubb Edition will be the Feature Edition of The American Socialist during the 1916 campaign

The Henry Dubb Family will be portrayed and analyzed from every viewpoint by prominent writers the world over. And Ryan Walker, the "daddy" of these universal working class characters, will be there in all his glory. The Henry Dubb Edition will contain the very best productions from the pen of Ryan Walker. Then there will be prize letters to Henry, a contest to which all readers of The American Socialist will be eligible.

"ONE MILLION HENRY DUBBS MUST READ THE HENRY DUBB EDITION"

And it will be up to you to place that number into the hands of the Henrys. WATCH THIS SPACE FOR FURTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS



MAKE EVERY SOCIALIST VOTER AN AMERICAN SOCIALIST READER

CLEAR THE DECKS!
We are now clearing the decks for action—getting ready for the record breaking "Henry Dubb Edition" of The American Socialist. Study the announcement spread across the top of this page. Then get ready for action. This is where we surpass all past efforts.

This edition is going to open the eyes of the Dubbs and get them to subscribe for The American Socialist as never before. Get behind the edition, make it a big success, and then watch the circulation figures go up, up, up, and then up some more. We make another small gain this week—only 137. The "offs" total 1,642, while the "ons" are 1,779. That brings the total up to 42,485. LET 'ER CLIMB!

ROLL OF HONOR

Twenty-two more names go on our list for 10 weeks as a result of the work of Comrade William N. Parrel of Miami, Fla.
Don't forget our trial offer for the spring campaign. "Ten Weeks for Ten Cents in Clubs of Ten." There was a sub-blank in your paper last week.
We received a large number of these lists during the past week and feel that the comrades have just got started. **ARE WE RIGHT?** Comrade L. Niemela, of Wilkeson, Wash., rushes in with a list of 16 and gets one of our souvenir knives.
That list of 15 from Comrade Newton Miller, of Gas City, Ind., looks especially good.
Comrade Fredrick Thompson, of Crawford, Pa., comes in with an interesting list of 20 subs and gets both the souvenir knife and Socialist pennant.
Comrade F. G. Bauman, of Groveton, Pa., discovered that his sub was about to expire. So he hustled around and got a club of four to send in with his renewal. That's good, comrade.
Comrade John Diehl, of Julesburg, Colo., helps out considerably by sending in a list of 14.
Here's a paragraph from W. H. Lindsay, of Sedan, New Mexico, president of the Farmers' Society of Equity, of Union County, New Mexico, who sends in a club of four: "I tried to get a club of at least twice this size before our subs expired but failed to do so. A good desire of the voters in this locality are Socialists or Socialist sympathizers, yet it is impossible to get them to organize or to join the party. I think this is largely the case among the farmers elsewhere as well. How you anything to offer as a solution for this state of affairs? Won't some of the comrades in Oklahoma and elsewhere, who have been successful in organizing the farmers, write to our comrade in New Mexico and help him out."

The Carpenter And The Rich Man.

A FEW copies of this book left. This was a regular dollar book, but we will send you one or more copies at the price of 50 cents, postage paid.—Socialist Party, 803 W. Madison St., Chicago.

PLEA FROM PORTO RICO.

Eugene V. Debs has received a letter full of the sufferings of our comrades in Porto Rico, which we take great pleasure in publishing herewith. It is from Victor L. Candamo, of Arechibo, Porto Rico, and translated reads as follows:

"See that the National Socialist Press takes up our misfortunes, which are many and great, and interest yourself in our fate by raising your voice in our defense.

"It will be a glorious thing for you to be the first to protest and may your voice reach the furthest limits of the civilized world. Duty calls you, as well as the justice of our cause, in the midst of our black hours of suffering.

"Many farmers have been villainously assassinated by the police and other members of the government, innocent men, whose sole crime consisted of asking for an increase in wages, one dollar for eight hours of work. For many years they have earned from 40 to 55 cents for a twelve hour day, days full of hunger, grief and misery, veritable spectres of a living death. There is nothing more infamous or barbarous than the atrocities committed against these unfortunates, against which the universal conscience cries to heaven.

"Sugar today is quoted at \$4.50 per quintal (hundred-weight) in national money. And these infamous bosses deny a demand so just and so human, using the police to kill and maim the men who are asking for more bread, more education, more life.

"Rather than live like this and die of hunger, I would prefer to be like the draft animals of street or field. You may be sure of that.

"I am sending you a sample of my protest which I address to 'The Workers of America', with the view of having it translated and sent to our press, in order that the facts may be known by our Comrades. I beg you to do this.

"Please say to your noble brother Theodore, to whom I am sending another copy, that he may consider this letter to him, and that he interest himself in our misfortunes by placing the manifesto before the whole world.

"With these my sentiments and desires, I leave you until I hear from you again, and meanwhile I salute you with my whole heart and I am yours for the revolution.

"Victor L. Candamo."

"Some of the hardships, persecutions and suffering endured by our Porto Rican comrades in their struggles for better conditions have already been pictured in The American Socialist. We shall strive to keep our readers and the workers of America in general in touch with the situation in Porto Rico.

Two hundred and fifty workers have succeeded in establishing a co-operative store at Globe, Ariz. They already feel that they are cutting into the high cost of living.

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 narrated here and the changes 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.

Developing the Younger Cop.
Jim found that there were quite a number of folks too young to take their place within the ranks of the regular Y.P.S.L., but who had a deep interest in that organization, and who were just longing to become known as "Yipsels". They wanted to belong to a league, yet there was no room for them in the existing organizations.

Then was conceived the idea of a Junior Department. It was not begun as a regular body with constitutions, by-laws, and other forms of red tape. It came to him suddenly as he was taking a group of hale and hearty young boys to a neighboring May Day picnic. Here they were, glorying in each other's companionship, and having the time of their lives. Why not band them together into some sort of organization of their own, why not give them a place where they could learn the meaning of the socialist movement, and also get at the fundamentals of mutual relationships.

HE TALKED it over with Peggy that night, she had taken a group of girls to view a tuberculosis exhibition in a local museum that afternoon, and they agreed that it would be a good idea. They knew it was useless to attempt to keep them both in the same league, sex equality was all very well to talk about—when there were sex differences, but at this age boys were boys and played boys' games and had boys' interests. The same with the girls. But it would be fine to give them a start to find their own feet.

The Y.P.S.L. established a Junior Department with Boy and Girl divisions in it. Immediately an outlet was found for the activity for those of the "Newlyweds' Division" who still had considerable interest in the League. Mothering and fathering was right in their line, they thought. The boys were trained by the older "boys" along physical as well as mental lines. Camping, woodcraft, hiking, boxing, swimming, and all forms of co-operative sports found their place among the "Young Comrades" activities.

WHEN THE boys first entered the "Boys' Co-operative Club" they were called "Novices" and entitled to wear the Novice button. When after a certain time they could explain why they were in their organization, and knew the purpose of the Y.P.S.L., the Socialist Party, and the Labor Union, they entered the "Comrade" rank. When a "Comrade" had brought another boy up to that rank, and had read certain socialist

books, he attained the rank of "Firebrand". When he had fulfilled certain other conditions he was a "Torchbearer". Ability to make an original Socialist speech to a group of twenty-five people, and to answer questions in public, or when he had written a story, play, or essay of merit, he was entitled to the designation of "Soapboxer". Entrance into the Y.P.S.L. made him a "Yipsel", into the Party a "Red-Card Socialist", the highest rank attainable in the movement.

There was a somewhat similar system among the girls, and the youngsters really took it quite seriously. They all strove to attain the various ranks, and made good progress in their education. This was only an experiment, to be sure, yet it was adopted, with some modifications, by a number of other Leagues. As time went on, the boys and girls were banded together into a National League under the direction of the Y.P.S.L., while their "Local Guides" formed an educational order under the guidance of a "Chief Guide" with his office in the National Office of the Party. Here, too, a small seed, apparently sown at random, brought forth greater results than the sowers dared to dream of.

We have just received a set of four leaflets issued by the Socialist Party of Washington. The state is using 50,000 leaflets a month. They are printed four at a time and furnished to the locals at the rate of 1,200 for \$1, but in order to get them at this rate the locals must order the same number of each leaflet. By the time the fall campaign opens in earnest the Washington comrades hope to reach every house in the state. The titles and authors of the set of four leaflets just received are: "Why Elect Socialist School Directors?" by James M. Salter; "A Few Facts For Farmers", by Emil Herman; "You Workers", by Bruce Rogers, and "Good Men—and What They Stand For", by Katherine H. Hodgins.

Ohio school teachers recently won a victory in their campaign for organization of unions when the state supreme court declined to dismiss a Cleveland case involving the question of their legal right to affiliate with labor bodies. The suit was instituted nearly two years ago by a Cleveland taxpayer to compel Supt. J. M. H. Frederick to reinstate six teachers whom he had dismissed on order of the board of education after they had been active in organization of a grade teachers' club. New York school teachers are carrying on an active campaign of organization.

All but one Socialist paper in Belgium has suspended or been suppressed. The one remaining is Vooruit (Forward), which is issued in Ghent and is said to enjoy an unusual amount of freedom in printing news and propaganda for Socialism, although its size is restricted on account of the high price of paper and other supplies. Before the war the paper had a circulation of 20,000 daily, which has grown to 34,000.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S DEPT.

Organization - Education - Solidarity

WILLIAM F. KRUSE - - - Director

To reach the nation's youth, with the message of Socialism and to bring them into the organized Socialist movement through Young People's Socialist Leagues.

Address all communications to: Socialist Party Young People's Dept., 803 W. Madison St., Chicago.

Y. P. S. L. NOTES.

New Leagues organized at Konowa and at Wetunka, Oklahoma; also at Ansonia, Conn., Detroit, Mich. English branch reports some real live activity. At a mock-trial a man was arraigned for refusing to work under the conditions of the co-operative commonwealth.

An essay contest and a lecture on the subject "Socialism in Russia" was also held. A new feature that every league should go in for is the Henry Dubb Minstrel Show. A live line of matter prepared for \$5 by Comrade Richard of Girard, Kan., is now on sale by the National Office, and local parlors on late song hits can be worked in.

From right to twenty-four people can take part in the Minstrel and it is sure to make a big hit. Ask for "The Henry Dubb Minstrel Show," price 25c per copy.

The National Y. P. S. L. Lecture Tour is now closed and the few open dates left en route have been offered to the Socialist party locals in their vicinity. Advertising and write-ups will go forward this week, and the completed route will be published in the next issue of The American Socialist. The leagues lucky enough to be in on this big tour are beginning their preparations right now, and a great boost for the Y. P. S. L. work will result from this, our biggest effort of the year.

GOOD FICTION WANTED.

Many Socialist parents are worrying themselves sick, because their young hopefuls express a preference for the reading of "Diamond Dick" rather than the third volume of "The Jungle". We are looking for good fiction, or something to be gained by reading or writing, the thing to do (if fiction is demanded by the youngsters) is to substitute radical, worth-while, fiction for the trash usually dished out these days as best sellers.

If you know of any good radical or socialist fiction, make a list of it and send it to this department. If you have read thru the books yourself and are familiar with the plot, make a short synopsis of it as follows: THE JUNGLE (Upton Sinclair), expose of Packingtown conditions and powerful story of poor worker's life.

THE CHASM (George Cram Cook), clash of ideals between Russian autocrat and American rebel, in their battle for heart of a girl.

RAGGED-TROUSERED PHILANTHROPIST (Robt. Tresselt), story of life of a skilled mechanic, a painter, and his rubbing against the system. A soul-study of the "Jimmie Higgins" of our movement.

So a great many more should be listed, furthermore, they should be graded, so young folks and old in accordance to their effect on people of different ages and stages of development.

The story is one of the best forms of education, there is not a speaker on the road today but who recognizes and makes use of this fact continuously. Our fiction is far more interesting and absorbing than the mushy trash usually indulged in by the young, what we need now is an adequate list of our available material.

All teachers, students, and readers are urged to make up such lists and send them in without delay.

Notwithstanding all the efforts that have been made by the war party to kill the London Labor Leader, that paper increased its circulation 19,000 during the past year. The Labor Leader has been suppressed several times and its plant raided by police.

CORRECTION.

We find that a grievous error was made in our issue March 4th. The following statement was made:

Up to this writing nobody has charged that the food poisoner, Jean Crozes, is a Socialist, although it was announced that "socialist" literature, among other kinds, was found among his effects. Something must have gone wrong with the scandal-mongers of the press."

This gross untruth we hasten to correct, with profound regrets and apologies to "Our Sunday Visitor," a Roman Catholic weekly published at Huntington, Ind., which in its issue of Feb. 27th, informed its readers to this effect:

The findings of the police have established the fact that the guilty one was a Socialist of the same type as most of the anti-Catholic lecturers."

Persecutions of the Catholic Church is the most fruitful cause of Anarchy. This explains the prevalence of anarchism among Italians; the rapid growth of anarchy at present in Mexico."

Crozes, the soup-poisoner, was a reader of radical Socialist literature.

Our statement, above quoted, that "Something must have gone wrong with the scandal-mongers of the press" is thus shown to have been too hasty, and we repeat our apologies to the sheet in question.

Francis Marshall Elliott, one of the most beloved comrades in the Socialist movement, died recently at Los Angeles, Cal. Although a sufferer from tuberculosis for many years, Comrade Elliott never lost his enthusiasm for Socialism. We all mourn our loss.

The Socialists of St. Louis, Mo., were "prepared" when President Wilson visited that city recently to advocate "military preparedness". They distributed among the people attending the Coliseum mass meeting several thousand leaflets exposing the fallacy of the argument of "preparedness for peace".

"It is evident that if the functions of government are constantly enlarged, and the increasing costs are thrown upon large incomes, a transition to the Socialist state will be eventually accomplished, and we may be well on the way toward it before many people comprehend that a revolution is taking place". This is the prophetic statement appearing in the weekly report of the National City Bank, the largest bank in New York City, the pet of the Rockefeller and Morgan interests. They see the handwriting on the pages of time.

Indianapolis, Ind., Socialists who started to hit the town recently for a Debs lecture were arrested and fined \$6 each for putting advertising matter on poles. There is a city ordinance prohibiting the placing of advertising matter of any description on telephone, telegraph, electric light and trolley poles. The law, however, has never been enforced. The poles were plastered with advertising matter and no one had ever been prosecuted until the Socialists began to expurgate the same privilege that others enjoyed. At the time of the arrests and fine the picture of the city court judge was on the poles. Now the primary campaign is on and the poles are lined with large bills of old party candidates. But the Socialists must not have the same privilege of advertising as the old party officials.

Fred Warren Writes:

I HAVE just finished reading Phifer's "Coming Kingdom." This book was printed in 1908 by my associate, and I feel like offering him an apology for not having read it before. In the light of what is now happening throughout the world, this book is little short of a prophetic forecast of what has happened from the time it was printed to the present. Whether what Phifer says is yet to happen, I of course do not know to this time, and if he could, five years ago, he accurately predicted the course of political and industrial events. I guess he is entitled to a pretty careful reading by the Socialists now. Any way, take my word for it, you will not regret the investment in the book, and its careful reading may lead to a new viewpoint and bring hope and cheer to your heart. At best the outlook is gloomy—but here is a book that points out the good that is to come from the present chaos. You may not agree with Phifer, just as I did not agree with him five years ago, but the logic of events is forcing many of us to change our views as to how the next great change will be made.—FRED D. BREXEN, Girard, Kan.

The Coming Kingdom is a 300 page book, in 19 "books" and 30 chapters. The original price was \$1. It will be sent prepaid for half price, fifty cents, if ordered thru the NATIONAL OFFICE, SOCIALIST PARTY, 803 W. MADISON ST., CHICAGO, ILL.

WHAT CONGRESS OUGHT TO DO

Four page leaflet. We have 100,000 left and will clean them out at 50c per 1000, which will hardly pay more than express or parcel post charges.

... FIFTY CENTS PER THOUSAND ...

SOCIALIST PARTY

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