

Wilson Plays An Old Game

THIS IS LEAFLET NO. 7.
By ALLAN L. BENSON
Our Candidate For President.

AS THE "workingman's friend", Mr. Wilson is something of a sight.

A friend worth having would not have signed, as Mr. Wilson did on June 3, of this year, a bill containing a clause authorizing the President, in time of war, arbitrarily to draft into the federal army all American citizens between the ages of 18 and 45 years.

A friend worth having would not have induced Congress to increase, by 25 per cent, the wages of 400,000 railway employees yet made no move to increase the wages of anybody else.

MR. WILSON has been caught playing politics. We Socialists rejoice that he helped 400,000 workingmen to get more wages. But if Congress has the power to increase the wages of a quarter of the men employed on railways, why has not Congress equal power to increase the wages of all those employed upon railways and why has not Mr. Wilson urged it to use its power?

Congress has equal power to increase the wages of all those whose products enter into interstate traffic. Almost everybody's products are carried from state to state and are therefore as properly the subject of federal legislation as are railway wages.

Why did the President stop with 400,000 well organized men who were about to strike at a time when it would have embarrassed his campaign for re-election?

Why did he help get a 25 per cent wage increase for the trainmen who were well organized and turn his back upon the million railway workers who were not organized?

THE TRACKMEN have appetites that are equal, at least, to the appetites of conductors and engineers. The wives and children of the trackmen also have need of food, clothing and decent housing conditions. The trackmen are poorly paid—and unorganized. Did Mr. Wilson turn his back upon them because they are unorganized?

Why did he turn his back upon all other workers in the United States, except the highly organized group of 400,000 trainmen who were in a position to embarrass his campaign.

IN CAMPAIGNING in New England a few days ago, I spoke in cotton mill cities in which the average wage of tens of thousands of men is about \$7 a week for a ten-hour day.

These poor men could stand a raise in wages of about 400 per cent and still be receiving none too much. A wage increase of 400 per cent would yield them monthly wages of only about \$125, which is less than a railway engineer receives.

Yet Mr. Wilson helped get for the highly organized railway engineers, who were about to strike, a wage increase of 25 per cent while he did absolutely nothing for the \$7 a week cotton mill operatives of New England, or anybody else.

THE SIMPLE truth is that Mr. Wilson is the same kind of a "workingman's friend" that Mr. Roosevelt was—and is.

Mr. Roosevelt, in 1902, "settled" the anthracite coal strike upon terms that were said to be highly advantageous to the coal miners and to the people in general.

On the strength of the political capital thus made, Mr. Roosevelt kept himself in office another term during which he posed as the "workingman's friend", and would have been in office yet if the Steel Trust could have put him there.

But the settlement that Mr. Roosevelt brought about did not prevent the coal miners from continuing to live in the same cabins in which they formerly lived and ending each week flat broke. They are still living in the same cabins, and I have seen those cabins within thirty days. They are miserable shacks. The little wage increase that Mr. Roosevelt brought about was quickly swallowed up in increased cost of living. But the public, from that day to this, has been compelled to pay enormous prices for anthracite coal.

Mr. Wilson has no more "settled" the matter, even of the wages of the 400,000 organized railway trainmen, than Mr. Roosevelt settled the coal miners' wage troubles.

In the first place, it is by no means certain that the railway trainmen will ever receive the 25 per cent wage-increase that the Adamson law appears to give them. The law does not go into effect until January 1, 1917, and before it can go into effect, it will have to run the gauntlet of the United States Supreme Court.

Furthermore, Congress is not yet thru with this railway matter. When Congress reassembles, next December, AFTER ELECTION, the railway workers will not be treated so gingerly. Mr. Wilson himself has suggested a compulsory arbitration law for railway workers. It seems certain that Congress will pass such a law. Compulsory arbitration, of the sort that capitalist government provides, will about sound the death knell of the usefulness of railway labor organizations.

The simple truth is that Mr. Wilson has been caught playing politics to attract the labor vote. It is a very old game.

MR. WILSON'S real attitude toward labor is revealed by the fact that while helping 400,000 railway workers, he has ignored all other workers.

Mr. Wilson, like Mr. Hughes, is the servant of the capitalist class. The capitalist class wanted a draft law which to enforce Americans to fight such wars as the capitalists may choose to enter. Mr. Wilson, on June 3, signed such a draft law. He dare not admit that he has signed it, nor dare Mr. Hughes criticize him for having signed it. They are both silent because the interests they are serving require silence as to the draft law from each of them.

Also, note from the official figures at the bottom of this page the enormous military appropriations that Mr. Wilson, and both parties in Congress have saddled upon the country. They are the greatest ever made by any nation in time of peace. See how much greater they are than the appropriations, in 1913, of any nation now at war. Germany's appropriation for the year before the war looks small in comparison.

A tremendous vote for the Socialist ticket this fall is the only thing that will bring about the repeal of the draft law and stop the headlong rush of this country toward militarism and war.

MILITARISM has wrecked Europe. Unless the American people speak this fall, it will wreck the United States.

The Socialist party is the only organization thru which the American people can speak against militarism, because it is the only political party that opposes our great military appropriations.

ALSO, the Presidential candidate of the Socialist Party is the only presidential candidate who has even so much as uttered the words "draft law"—and I am shouting them at the top of my voice, while neither Mr. Wilson nor Mr. Hughes can be induced to admit that there is such a thing in this country as a draft law.

Help swing the red lantern before the approaching horror of militarism!
Vote the Socialist ticket on November 7 next if it is the last thing you ever do.

ARMY AND NAVY APPROPRIATIONS OF THE CHIEF BELLIGERENT NATIONS FOR THE YEAR PRECEDING THE WAR.

	Army	Navy	Total
Great Britain	\$224,300,000	\$237,530,459	\$461,830,459
Germany	183,090,000	112,091,125	295,181,125
France	191,431,530	90,164,625	281,596,155
Russia	317,800,000	117,508,657	435,308,657
Austro-Hungary	82,300,000	42,000,000	124,300,000
Italy	82,928,000	49,550,147	132,478,147
Japan	49,000,000	48,105,152	97,105,152

THE WILSON MILITARY APPROPRIATIONS FOR 1917

United States	\$349,092,123	\$313,384,389	\$662,476,512
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*This includes \$25,747,550 for fortifications, \$20,000,000 for a nitrate plant, \$34,523,000 for deficiency and \$1,225,043 for the Military academy.

AMERICAN SOCIALIST

VOL. III. No. 14.

CHICAGO, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1916

TRADE UNION COUNCIL CHICAGO, ILL. 304

The Final Pull For Victory!

Ten Thousand Dollars Needed At Once To Land Strong Group Of Socialists In Congress

FROM SEVEN to ten Socialists in the United States Congress.

Is there anything within the range of possibility that would have a more telling, lasting effect for the good of the Cause, and would it not be a crowning victory for the Campaign?

CALM, careful study of the field shows that just such a triumph is possible. There are at least ten districts in which our forces are within the reach of victory.—districts where the vote in previous years, the organization of the party, the candidates and the whole situation are all peculiarly favorable.

IN VIEW of all these facts, the National Executive Committee, the National Secretary and the Campaign Manager, at the last meeting just held, decided to concentrate our forces for the last supreme effort during the remaining weeks of the campaign, upon these ten congressional districts, where the possibilities of victory are greatest. These districts and the Socialist candidates are as follows:—

- (1)—12th New York—Meyer London to be re-elected.
- (2)—20th New York—Morris Hillquit.
- (3)—5th Indiana—Eugene V. Debs.
- (4)—3rd Oklahoma—H. M. Shelton.
- (5)—4th Oklahoma—Allen C. Adams.
- (6)—6th Oklahoma—O. M. Morris.
- (7)—7th Oklahoma—H. H. Stallard.
- (8)—4th Wisconsin—Victor L. Berger.
- (9)—5th Wisconsin—W. R. Gaylord.
- (10)—State of Nevada which elects a United States Senator—A. Grant Miller.
- (11)—Minneapolis where an important municipal election is on with good prospects of electing Thomas H. Van Lear as Mayor.

APPROPRIATIONS had already been made from the national funds to several of these districts. It was decided to add to the appropriations already made and to make them where they had not already been made so that each of the nine districts first mentioned should have a total of \$1,000 each, and the Minneapolis district should have a total of \$500.

This means a total appropriation of nearly \$10,000 to these ten districts alone. But we believe that if we can strengthen the hands of our comrades on the battle-line in these districts to this extent it will give them every chance of victory.

PROGRESS—AND POVERTY!

A twelve per cent advance in average wages for all workers in manufacturing industry took place between the years 1909 and 1914, according to figures recently made public by the U. S. Census Bureau. In 1909 the 6,516,046 wage earners engaged in manufacturing received \$3,427,038,000 in wages—an average wage of \$519 per annum. In 1914 the 7,056,337 wage earners so engaged received \$4,079,332,000 in wages—an average of \$580 per annum.

This was an advance of 12 per cent in wages in five years. Of course, the various investigations made in this country have all tended to show that no family can live in anything approaching decency on less than \$700 a year, but perhaps a number of these workers didn't have to support families.

Still, the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics has just pointed out in its latest bulletin on retail prices, that the increase in food prices from 1909 to 1914 was FIFTEEN per cent.

For these seven-odd million workers, at least, facing a 15 per cent increase in food prices with a 12 per cent increase in wages, there seems no other conclusion than that they are worse off in 1914 than they were in 1909!

This is known as "the progress and prosperity of our country!"—PEARSON'S MAGAZINE.

"On To Washington!"

The American Socialist will issue a special "Congressional Campaign Edition" next week in the big effort to speed a group of Socialist congressmen "On To Washington".

This issue will be dated Saturday, Oct. 21, and will contain some of the best Socialist propaganda that has been put out in this or any other campaign.

There will be a summary of the records of Victor L. Berger and Meyer London in congress; the voters will be told what Socialists can do in congress; they will be told about the big drives for victory that are now being made all over the land.

This special campaign edition will sell at the usual price for bundle orders: \$5 per 1,000; \$2.50 for 500; 50 cents per 100. Send all orders to The American Socialist, 803 W. Madison St., Chicago.

Inaction is a sort of reaction.

History is one class struggle after another.

Socialism will injure none, but it will insure comfort and plenty for all.

Life is the greatest thing in the world, but life without means for living is worse than hell.

The reformer would regulate humanity. The revolutionist would free it.

Democrats have raised the question, "Why vote for Wilson?" Well, why?

Wage slaves are worked to death to make it easy for the slaves of pleasure.

The story of capitalism has no moral; but it has a tremendous immoral.

So many workers vote the old party ticket that the feeling is growing that after all monkeys didn't evolve for.

The workers of Europe were led to believe that the interests of the kings and their subjects were identical, and look at them.

It is easier to stop war than it is to care for those wounded in war. It is easier to end poverty than it is to try to patch up the evils that come of poverty.

Mr. Justice Hughes has evidently thought so much about the "sacred right of contract" that he worships the holy principle of arbitration along with the great white cow, the tariff.

After the recent furry over wild speculation when stocks went so low they could not be quoted, Wall Street promised to be "conservative." It is now engaging in the wildest orgie of speculation in its history.

Mr. Wilson intimates that he has done everything in the world for "business" and wonders why it doesn't do business. The reason is that it is not grateful for what it has received but for what it hopes to receive in the future.

We are solemnly told by the assembled bankers that the arming of the country is not enough. It must prepare to end the conflict between the classes—presumably by arming one class and disarming the other.

How would it do for Uncle Sam to solve the print paper problem by making paper himself from the public forest surplussage, instead of selling the woods for almost nothing to private interests?

The Committee therefore, acting as it believed the rank and file of the membership would want them to act, voted to make these appropriations.

We know you want the victories. Are you willing to pay your part of the cost?

SO FAR this campaign has shown a surplus. If the comrades will respond to this call, even as generously as they have so far in the campaign, we can give this \$1,000 to each of these critical districts, seize the biggest chance we have to land a group of Socialists in Congress and finish the campaign without a dollar of debt.

THIS is the last call.

We ask every local once more, and for the last time in this campaign, to take the matter up and make a final contribution to the national campaign fund at once.

We need ten thousand dollars for this final pull.

Help the Party land a group of Socialist Representatives in Congress.

Help the Party finish the campaign without a debt.

We must close the books within five days after the campaign is over.

There are hundreds of locals of the Socialist Party that have not made a cent of contribution to the National Fund. There are thousands of individuals who have not.

Will you let the opportunity go by? Will you fail us in your duty now?

THOSE locals or individuals who have collected money on the punch-cards, the dime-banks, subscription lists, or otherwise, should at once close up their lists and send in the money. Those who have none of these devices should make contributions direct.

Use the blank at the bottom of this page and address: The Campaign Department, Socialist Party, 803 W. Madison Street, Chicago.

Signed:—

- Victor L. Berger.
- Morris Hillquit.
- Anna Agnes Maley.
- John Spargo.
- John M. Work.
- National Executive Committee.
- Adolph Germer.
- National Executive Secretary.
- Carl D. Thompson.
- Campaign Manager.

Hughes And Eight Hours

By WILLIS ANDREWS.

The eight-hour work day has been agitated in America for the past thirty years. The subject has been discussed from every angle imaginable. The highest medical authorities have approved an eight-hour work day as desirable from a physiological point of view. Others renowned in fields of social activity have declared long hours of labor as the deadliest foe to the mental, moral and aesthetic development of mankind. And it is the overworked, fatigued body that lends itself most readily to the cup that cheers—and drunkenness.

Now all this is common knowledge to every enlightened person in the United States. But in the face of this fact Mr. Hughes seems to consider the eight hour proposition as some dangerous innovation suddenly foisted upon an unsuspecting public. But in assuming this attitude he unwittingly betrays a woeful lack of knowledge that manifestly unfits him for the exalted position of president of the United States.

The justness of an eight-hour work day is so palpably self-evident that any suggestion to arbitrate the matter is sheer folly.

The other question involved as to whether workmen should receive ten hours' pay for eight hours' work, is easily answered. Unless it can be shown that workers toiling ten hours daily are receiving more than sufficient to properly house, clothe and feed their families and provide ample educational advantages for their children, then arbitration of the matter of wages is also out of the question and unworthy of any consideration.

The producers of the wealth of the world have too long been satisfied with cheap food, shoddy clothing and hovels for homes. But labor is awakening from its slumber of centuries. How wide its eyes are open will be determined by the number of ballots cast for Allan L. Benson, the socialist candidate for president.

USING ITS OWN LANGUAGE.

What is the navy? It is a machine. What does it make? Capitalistic markets.

In view of these facts, it is interesting to note what the promoters of the navy say about it and the thing it makes in the literature it sends out to increase its membership.

IN CIVIL LIFE.

1. Job uncertain, steady and healthy employment, with good pay.
2. Promotion quick advancement uncertain—sure for deserving men.
3. No unfairness or partiality frequently shown.
4. Pay small and limited while learning a trade.
5. Same old, monotonous grind every day.
6. Stuffy, gloomy, uninteresting working place.
7. When sick, pay goes on; doctor's bill starts you for living expenses.
8. If disabled or injured, you receive little or no pay.
9. If you die, your family get only what you have saved from your small wages.
10. Little clear money; nearly all your pay goes for living expenses.
11. Old age, sickness, accident, retirement, your job goes to a younger and more active man.
12. Steady and healthy employment, with good pay.
13. Promotion quick advancement uncertain—sure for deserving men.
14. No unfairness or partiality frequently shown.
15. Pay good, with chance to learn a useful trade.
16. Travel education, knowledge, change of scene.
17. Fresh air, sun, sea, clean, healthy, athletic life.
18. When sick, pay goes on; doctor and hospital bills free.
19. If you die, six months pay goes to you have saved from a liberal pension.
20. Your pay is clear money; no expense of outlay except for clothing.
21. After thirty years' service, retirement on three-fourths pay, plus \$15.75 for merit advancement.

It is merely saying, in other words, that it makes conditions good for those who run the machine in order that they may make them bad for others. That is the best it can say for itself. Why should a worker fall for its patter?

Honor the tramp. Your job may depend on the fact that he doesn't seek a job.

Four Socialist street speakers were again arrested at New Brunswick, N. J., during the past week, and fined \$20 and sentenced to seven days in jail. The town is thoroely corporatized. The cases will be appealed.

It actually seems that there is a survival of Christianity in Holland. About 1000 priests and workers investigated by them have signed a manifesto declaring themselves ready to fight the army, if need be, in order to prevent the nation becoming engaged in war.

When the graft is eliminated from railroading the profits show big. This is proved by the fact that the receiver for the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railway Co. reports profits for July amounting to \$1,222,905.95 out of receipts totalling ten million dollars. Not so bad. And this after the railroads claim they cannot afford to put the eight hour day into effect. Let the nation own the railroads. Then the millions in graft and profits, that result under the present system of private ownership, could be used to establish not only an eight hour day but a six hour day.

The Final Pull For Victory

TO THE CAMPAIGN DEPARTMENT, SOCIALIST PARTY, 803 WEST MADISON STREET, CHICAGO.

Comrades: Enclosed find \$..... my contribution to help land a strong group of Socialists in Congress, pile up the 2,000,000 votes and finish the campaign without a debt.

Name

Address

State

President Wilson And The Eight-Hour Day

By Joseph E. Cohen. The papers tell us that President Wilson is to make his stand on the eight-hour day a reason for his reelection.

Mr. Hughes has spoken often and much upon this question and possibly he has convinced some Republicans that one can be for the eight-hour day and against what Wilson did at the same time.

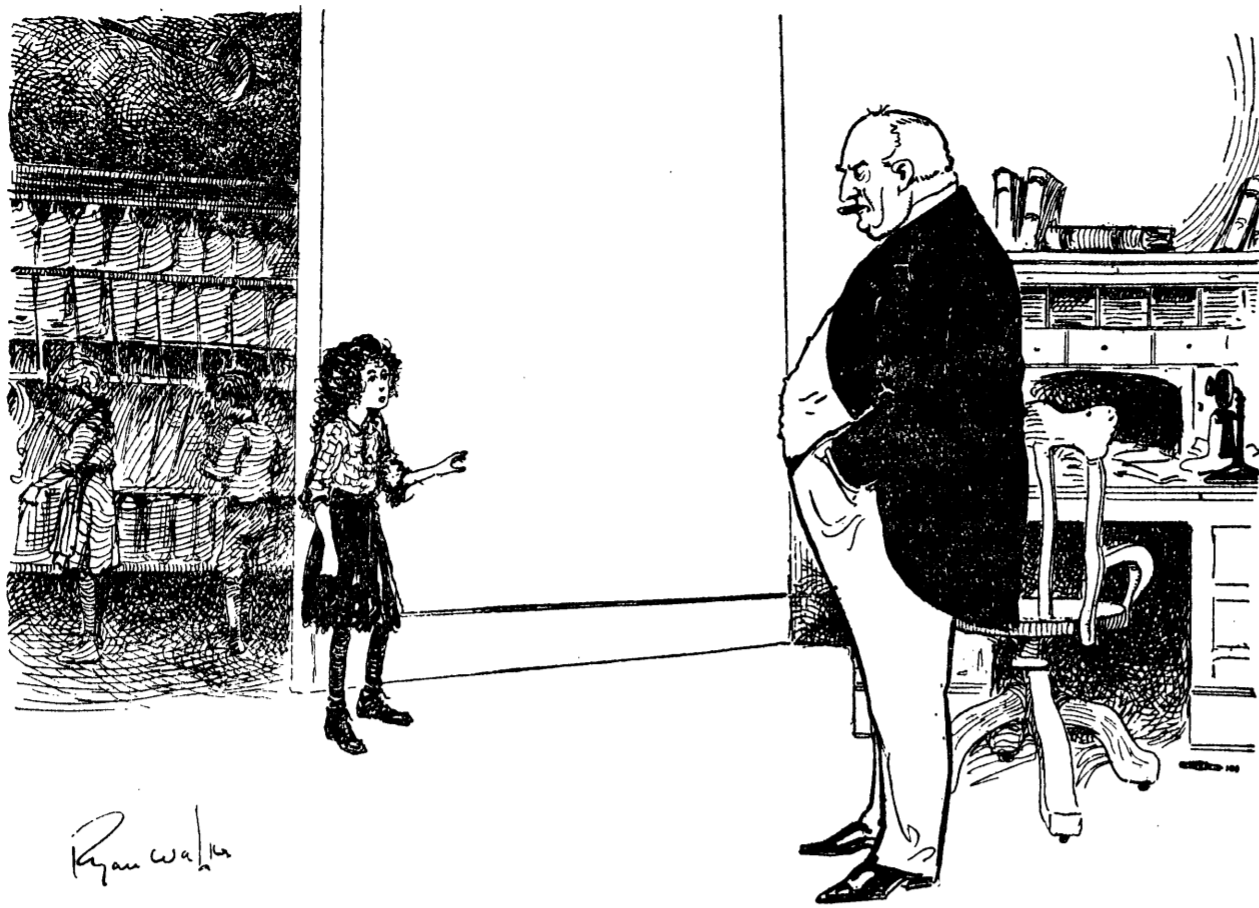
Where labor is weak, members of trades unions are deprived of their rights of free speech and free press, they are put behind bars on trumped up charges, they are kidnapped and railroaded from their homes, they are threatened with terms of imprisonment and even charged with murder although it is known to their prosecutors that they are entirely innocent.

And when labor asks those in high places for a redress of grievances, they are either insulted, as happened with President Roosevelt, when he branded Moyer, Haywood and Debs as "undesirable citizens," or the impotency of the President is shown, as happened when John D. Rockefeller, Jr. ignored Mr. Wilson's request that there be arbitration of the Colorado difficulties.

Same Mr. Wilson who congratulates the railroad workers when they are strong enough to take the eight-hour day is the man who could not lift a finger for the defenseless woman and babes who fell in the massacre at Ludlow.

Kernel Of The Situation. And here we have the kernel of the actual situation.

President Wilson did not give the railroad workers the eight-hour day. It may be the railroad men are justified in preferring the warm feeling the President has shown to them rather than the city reception Mr. Hughes is according them. If the leaders of the railway unions are so easily influenced by conditions of temperance, that is their affair. But they will get the eight-hour day only because they are strong enough to take it.



"Say Boss, I aint no anarchist or I. W. W., but wuz you ever a Kiddie once and wanted to play like other kids?"

sidetracked them, and only compelled them to make their fight at a less strategic time. For there is no time like that of a political campaign.

All Labor Has Lost. Then there is another point. No one supposes that the passage of the eight-hour law paves the way for the general legal establishment of the shorter workday. If that were the case the Democratic party should have done the whole thing while it was doing the little thing.

Only Strength Wins. Is there then any reason for the voting workman to prefer Wilson to Hughes? Not upon the question of the eight-hour day!

How Would You Like To Have—?

By LUELLA TWINING. HOW WOULD you like to have an automobile? And a cozy bungalow in your own name?

You Earn \$2,000 a Year. Government Statistics show that you earn \$2,000 a year. Two thousand dollars a year would make all these things possible.

"Thou Shalt Not Kill" By WILLIS ANDREWS. The war in Europe seems to be shaking the very foundations of religion. It was once considered a perilous undertaking to carry the Christian religion to the heathen of dark Africa.

Demand Product Of Your Labor.

The Republican Party stands for continuing this robbery. The Democratic Party stands for continuing this robbery.

Wake Up! Amid the darkness of the present, Socialism offers the only hope. Socialism alone can break the chains of the working class.

Close students of history well understand that the religious systems of every age and clime have always been made to conserve the economic interests of the prevailing ruling class.

Co-operation Means Life; Competition Means Death.

Capitalist prosperity: Aviation prices and submarine wages. Wilson and Hughes—O, but what's the use.

Don't be narrow enough to be a blind fanatic nor broad enough to be a milk-and-water opportunist.

During the Spanish-American war the tobacco trust cut the weight of a five cent sack of tobacco by one ounce—thus "paying" the government war tax.

The percentage of farm renters is increasing by leaps and bounds in the agricultural states. Landlordism is spreading like the deadly Uvas.

The following sentence from a comrade who sends a 50c contribution is in itself a powerful argument for socialism: "My regret is that I am not financially able to do much more but I am a widow, 73 years of age, who like thousands of others are making a desperate struggle for existence, and whose only hope for the future is in Socialism."

Keep This In Mind.

Here are the recommendations of the United States Industrial Relations Commission: Public Ownership. Government ownership of telegraphs.

That woman suffrage be adopted. Limitation of Power of Courts. Prohibition of courts from declaring laws unconstitutional.

During the Spanish-American war the tobacco trust cut the weight of a five cent sack of tobacco by one ounce—thus "paying" the government war tax.

The Pittman Bill is ostensibly a donation of seven million acres of government lands in Nevada to the University of Nevada for the purpose of education but that is only the sugar coat.

The state is composed mostly of long open, arid valleys divided by high mountain ranges. Along the foot of the mountains are springs and short creeks that lose themselves in the desert valleys and sometimes water holes formed by artesian pressure occur in the desert floor itself.

AMERICAN SOCIALIST

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EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

National Executive Committee: VICTOR L. BERGER, 880 First Street, Milwaukee, Wis.

Secretary of the Union Land & Cattle Co.

largest cattle company in the state. The Republicans and Democrats have evidently an understanding by which this control will be maintained.

The second summer conference of the Intercollegiate Socialist Society held its sessions at Sherwood Springs, near Baltimore, last week, with more than 100 Socialists, Single Taxers, economists and sociologists, and a sprinkling of clergymen and millionaires in attendance.

The French Socialist paper, L'Union des Travailleurs, printed at Charleroi, Pa., has suspended publication. It circulated extensively among glassworkers and miners who came from the old country, but the rising generation are reading English and dropping French literature, and along came the high cost of paper and put on the finish.

Comrade Ross of Great Falls, Montana, did some real missionary work among the stone-cutters in his shop. He got up the following poster: "DARKEST AMERICA."

"The Society for carrying the truths of social democracy to the benighted heathen of this our fair land of the U. S. A. respectfully solicits your help in a monetary way to the extent of at least four bits.

FREE FORD AUTO TO AGENTS. Here's an opportunity to earn big money—\$40 to \$120 a week. Buy a Ford car and sell it on time and obtain a Ford Automobile free besides. A straightforward no-pressure business proposition.

YOU CAN HAVE. This is a valuable offer of best quality... BECOME A PHYSICIAN. MEDICINE, SURGERY, BACTERIOLOGY, PUBLIC HEALTH, CHEMISTRY AND ALLIED SCIENCES offer the greatest opportunity to ambitious men and women.

Now IS The Time TO ADVERTISE SOCIALISM. Election is Only Four Weeks Away. ARE YOU DOING YOUR BIT? Order CAMPAIGN NOVELTIES while they still do some good. CAMPAIGN BUTTONS. SOCIALIST TAPE MEASURE. Artistic Celluloid Buttons containing the pictures of Benson and Kirkpatrick.

ILLINOIS CO-OPERATORS MEET. The state convention of the co-operative societies of Illinois, recently held at the Miners' Labor Temple in Staunton, was the largest ever held.

Organization Department. After the campaign The American Socialist will carry an Organization Department for the discussion of organization problems.

Standard Oil Childs restaurant efficiency expert observed that the average restaurant patron is in the habit of using a given number of spoonfuls of sugar with his coffee or tea, regardless of the size of the spoon.

Fresh Country Eggs — \$1 Per Dozen — How Do You Like It?

By FREDERICK MONROE. WASHINGTON. — "FRESH COUNTRY EGGS ONE DOLLAR A DOZEN."

That is the sign that dealers in the Nation's Capital say will be on display within a few weeks, if the price of eggs keeps on rising. This prediction is based on the rapid rise in prices during recent weeks. Eggs are now selling in the capital city at 48 cents a dozen, as compared with 34 cents a dozen this time last year.

Strangely enough, however, the farmers around Washington are not getting the big prices. Some suggestions have been made that storage interests which bought eggs from the farmers for 12 and 15 cents a dozen in the summer, have secured a "corner" on the supply, and are now engaged in the gentle game of muling the public.

Everywhere The Same. The egg situation, however, is merely typical of conditions all over the country. The fact is that the cost of living is rising at such a rate that there is practically no hope of making the wage scale overtake it. The most recent bulletin of the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics on the retail prices of 26 articles of food which form the principal articles consumed on workingmen's tables, shows that between June 15, 1912, five years ago, and June 15, 1916, the average prices of all food increased fourteen per cent!

In the past year, from June 15, 1915, to June 15, 1916, the increase in average food prices amounted to eleven per cent. Flour, corn meal, prunes and coffee, were the only articles out of the 26 which were lower in price on June 15, 1916, than on the same date one year earlier, and of these corn meal and coffee were only very slightly lower. All meats advanced in the year. The advance ranged from seven per cent for Bacon, to sixteen per cent for hams. Other articles which made marked advances during this period were Beans, 27 per cent; sugar, 26 per cent; onions, 35 per cent, and potatoes, 68 per cent.

Wilson And Hughes Silent. Strangely enough, neither Mr. Wilson or Mr. Hughes is saying a thing about this terrific increase in the cost of food commodities. The campaign textbooks of both the Democratic and Republican parties are strangely silent on this subject.

Mr. Wilson's campaign manager boasts about enormous increases in exports; Mr. Hughes' manager retorts that the exports are caused by the European War. And neither one says anything about why a country whose cost of living is increasing at the rate of eleven per cent a year wants to send away a large portion of the commodities it produces.

"Prosperity is with us," shout the Democratic campaign managers. "Prosperity is only temporary," retort the Hughes boomers. "What good is prosperity if the price level rises faster than the wage level?" asks the Socialist.

Reports to the U. S. Labor Bureau of Statistics on Retail Coal Prices, from approximately 250 coal dealers in 44 of the principal cities of the United States show an increase of three per cent in the price of Pennsylvania Anthracite White Ash Steam Coal from January 15 to July 15, 1916—a period of six months—a most unusual condition as summer prices are consistently lower than winter prices. The changes in the price of chestnut coal were approximately the same. The price of bituminous coal was three per cent higher on July 15, 1916, over the same date a year ago.

Number Of Strikes Increase. Wholesale prices of commodities in the United States average considerably higher in 1915 than in the preceding year, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Everywhere the worker turns, prices are mounting with great rapidity. In this so-called period of "prosperity" more strikes have taken place than at any previous time in the history of the country. The reason for this condition is that the price level is rising more rapidly than the wage level. A dollar today will buy eleven per cent less of food than it would a year ago. Unless wages have risen eleven per cent in the same period the worker is worse off than he goes to buy food than he was a year ago. And even the worker who has gained an eleven per cent increase

of wages is no better off than he was a year ago.

The truth is that capitalist "prosperity" is just as bad for the worker as capitalist "hard times." During "hard times" vast numbers of workers are thrown out of jobs and reduced to begging, stealing or starving. The competition of the unemployed tends to reduce the wage level, and following this reduction comes a reduction in the price level. The price level, however, usually falls more slowly than the wage level. Thus the workers face a condition of low prices, but lower wages. When "prosperity" and good times come, more workers are employed, and the opportunities to sell goods being better, the prices advance. The workers are forced to strike to try to keep their wage level up to the price level. Thus the workers face a condition of high wages, but higher prices. It's a case of "heads I win and tails you lose."

This condition is bound to continue so long as the productive industrial machinery and the raw material upon which it feeds is in the hands of private capitalist owners. Capitalists have no incentive to operate the machinery they own unless they get a profit from its operation. And if war-torn Europe bids higher for the things American workmen produce, the capitalist owners of the tools and machinery of production will prefer to sell to the highest bidder. Thus the American workmen, having produced the commodities, are forced to bid against the war needs of the peoples abroad. This is as true of food commodities as it is of manufactured products. The American farmers, competing against each other in the production of food products, must sell for what they can get. Railroad, warehouse, grain elevator, packinghouse and a horde of other hungry capitalist middlemen intervene between them and their market. High prices to the city workers for food, and low prices to the farmers for their produce, is the rule. And what the farmer gets for his produce must go largely to the land owner, or the banker in rent or interest on borrowed money. Farm tenancy and mortgaged lands are ever on the increase. This is true while hundreds of thousands of fertile acres are held out of use by land speculators.

Socialism To End Exploitation.

Socialism proposes to end the exploitation of both farmer and city worker. It proposes that the people, thru their government, shall own the principal means of production and distribution; that the workers shall employ themselves and produce at cost the articles needed, receiving in return the full produce of their labor; that land shall be freed by taxation of speculative holdings and the nationalization of such land as may be necessary.

Neither Mr. Wilson or Mr. Hughes has any remedy for present industrial conditions. Neither of them knows how to increase the "real wages" of either city worker or farm worker. Neither of them pretends to know what to do about the high cost of living. Neither of them pretends that he will change the existing economic system of production and distribution. Both of them believe the wage system to be right and that it should be continued. Neither of them thinks that there is much the matter with America. Each believes that the only essential thing is to elect HIM and HIS party to power in order that all shall be as merry as a wedding bell.

Workers Know Something Is Wrong.

But the workers of the country know that much is wrong with the country. They know that two per cent of the people of the country own sixty per cent of its wealth. They know that it is becoming harder and harder, in spite of "prosperity" to make both ends meet. They know that Federal Reserve Acts and Rural Credit Acts, and Underwood tariff acts have had no effect on the price of food on the dinner table, or the price clothes, or rent, or coal,—except to boost them upward.

The opportunity is at hand to repudiate the parties that think everything is all right, and to endorse the party that KNOWS that things are not all right—and knows what is wrong—and what to do about it. It is up to the American people.

Several more seats in the City Council have been captured by the Socialists of Zurich, Switzerland, and they are now close to controlling a majority, having 60 in a total of 125.

The Appeal to Reason has increased its subscription rate from 50 cents to \$1 per year. The high cost of paper did it, and that same problem is raising the deuce with many other labor and Socialist papers that always have a hard struggle under normal conditions to keep afloat.

Socialist party officials in Germany have decided, after considering the matter for some time, "to call no national convention for this fall. The minority, or anti-war faction, were largely in favor of such a gathering, but the majority believed that the breach would be widened on account of the prevailing unsettled conditions.

The fatheaded Mayor of Troy, N. Y., issued an order practically suppressing free speech on the public streets. Socialists filed notice that they were not opposed to fair regulation, but would refuse to be Russified. They threatened to test the Mayorality proclamation in the courts, whereupon his highness backed down.

Gustav Eckstein, one of the best known Socialists of Germany, died a few days ago at Zurich, Switzerland. He has been a sufferer from tuberculosis for a number of years. His sister is Therese Schlesinger, one of the editors of the Neue Zeit, and both were very popular among the younger members of the Socialist movement in the Teutonic countries.

Jack Carley, one of the well-known trade union and Socialist spokesmen of Ireland, has arrived in this country and is living temporarily in Buffalo, where he has been doing some public speaking for the party. He was well acquainted and worked with James Connolly, who commanded the rebels in the recent Dublin uprising and was executed, as well as other men of note.

There has not been hitherto anything like an organized Socialist movement in Brazil. What Labor organization exists is largely of a Syndicalist character, preparations for the general strike being much more discussed than political action. The new Socialist Party, which has recently been started, will devote itself to the task of reaching the mass of the workers, and a considerable amount of propaganda and educational work will have to be done before a solid Socialist organization can be built up.

After a lecture at Los Angeles, George R. Kirkpatrick, Socialist candidate for Vice-President and author of "War: What For?" was asked if he would follow the flag. He said he would follow it anywhere, at any time, for any war, on one condition, and that if 500 leading bankers would man the first-line trenches for 30 days ahead of him, "That would be sufficient protection for men," smilingly concluded Kirkpatrick. And he will have to wait a long, long time before he can enlist for the war to enjoy such protection.

A foul-mouthed anti-Socialist speaker in Brooklyn, N. Y., named Russell G. Dunn, was arrested and placed under bond of \$100 to keep the peace for six months for declaring that every woman who reads Karl Marx is a free lover and prostitute. A number of women who heard Dunn testified at the trial. When asked by the court in what volume or when and where Marx advocated free love the whole couldn't answer. He probably heard the malodorous "escaped Jew" Goldstein's inuendoes and believed them.

The New York Call, the well-known Socialist daily, has started an evening paper, and it seems to be selling like hotcakes, an average of 20,000 a day for the first week having been attained. The Call is the only paper printed in the English language that has given labor a fair shake, and in the garment workers' strike, the railway employes', eight-hour struggle and the street car men's strike that paper has done a tremendous amount of good in placing the claims of the toilers before the public. Much of the Call's space has been devoted to exposing the lies and riddling the so-called arguments of other English dailies, which are self-appointed guardians of "the public."

In a debate in the New South Wales Legislature recently, a reactionary party politician, sided the Labor party for engaging in socialistic undertakings, declaring that private enterprise is being ruined, the State experiments are failures, the country is going to the dogs, etc. A Laborite, in reply, showed that private grafters are having their bony fingers wrested from the throats of the people, that prices are being held down to reasonable bounds, that those who perform the work are getting decent treatment, and with all that the States' Auditor-General shows that the socialist institutions are a success. The figures were produced and they established the fact that the total income from State works for the past year amounted to over \$58,000,000, and after interest and sinking funds were provided for a surplus of \$1,387,000 remained in the treasury.

The New Zealand Labor party has been formally and permanently launched by a combination composed of the National Federation of Labor, the Socialist party and the Labor Representation Committee. Representation in the party will be based upon the membership of the constituent bodies and a per capita tax must be paid into the party treasury. The socialization of the means of production, distribution and exchange is the final aim of the party. The immediate demands include: Increased taxation on unearned increments and monopoly for the purpose of removing the present burdens on family incomes; increased taxation of unimproved land values; increased graduated income tax with a corresponding reduction of indirect taxation. There is also a plank for free, secular and compulsory education from the kindergarten to the university, with uniform school books, printed by the government and supplied free of cost. Union labor must receive preference and work must be guaranteed to unemployed. State shipping and State insurance are other planks favored.

What It Is!

A chance for genius—Socialism.
The best health insurance—Socialism.
Better than life insurance—Socialism.
Unemployment insurance par excellence—Socialism.
Assurance of a home—Socialism.
The real preventative of war—Socialism.

Release!

By JOHN M. WORK.
THE SOULS of men and women are shackled by capitalism. I don't know how it is with you, but, as for myself, Socialism is not my goal. Perhaps, since you are aware that I am constantly working for Socialism and that I have been doing so for a score of years, you may think this a strange statement. Nevertheless, my goal is, and all these years it has been, away beyond Socialism. What I want is a higher race of human beings. I want to give people's souls a chance to unfold. I want to develop a race of supermen.

I SPEND years in working for Socialism because Socialism is the condition precedent to this farther aim. That is, Socialism is necessary in order that people's souls may have a chance to unfold. Socialism is necessary in order that a race of supermen may be developed. Take a searching look at that working man who lives near by. He has in her the making of a god. But how little like a god he is now! In the dim light of the morning he is off to his work. His work! A hundred conditions combine to make his work hateful to him. He does his task for the meager wage which he receives. He comes home late, tired, irritable. His home is a caricature. After supper, perhaps he smokes a stinking pipe until bedtime, or perhaps he whiles away the evening in the saloon.

There is nothing in his life to develop the god that is in him. Yet the god is there. It only needs a chance. AND his wife. Ah, his wife—what of her? She has in her the making of a goddess. Yet how little like a goddess she is now! Her drudgery begins even earlier than his, and it lasts longer. She carefully allots the meager wages to make them cover the bare necessities, and goes without everything she longs for. She works her life away. You can see it ebb day by day.

Yet the goddess is there. You never quite lose sight of it. It never ceases to look out from the deep depths of her eyes. All it needs is a chance. SOCIALISM will give it a chance. Socialism will release both of them from the dreadful drudgery and the appalling poverty. And the rest of the people along with them. Socialism will give the people's souls a chance to unfold. It will enable us to freely and joyfully develop a race of supermen.

Debs Flays Judge Anderson

Those four words spread across the eight column page of The Terre Haute (Ind.) Star, in letters three inches high, have furnished the latest sensational development in the bitter fight now on to elect Eugene V. Debs to congress in the Fifth Indiana District.

The subheads declare, "Debs Calls U. S. Judges Pampored Darlings of Rich—Repeats What Roosevelt Alleged to Have Called Judge Anderson." Here is the news story in full as it appeared in The Star:

Story In The Star. Repeating the statement which Debs claims Theodore Roosevelt made to Harry S. New some years ago in which the former president is alleged to have said: "Judge Anderson is a damn jackass and a crook," Gene Debs, Socialist candidate for congress from the Fifth district, created a sensation in a speech before voters and striking clay workers at Brazil, Ind., in the court house.

"Mind you, those are not my words," said Gene after the demonstration had ceased, "but the words of a former president after Judge Anderson had ruled against Roosevelt in the suit against the Indianapolis News and another paper." "It seems to me that when Mr. Roosevelt made the statement he was in the jurisdiction of the court. He was not in a garment workers' strike, a working man, he would have been sent to jail. I hold him and his court in contempt," declared Debs deliberately.

Talks Of The Federal Injunction. Debs discussed the injunction which Judge Anderson issued in the present clay workers' strike now in progress at Brazil.

"With a smile on his face Debs said: 'From the very beginning my heart has been with the clay workers and will be with them to the finish. 'I want their capitalist masters to know there is one candidate for office who has the manhood to declare war upon them. Did you ever hear of a governor ordering out a militia to shoot down the capitalist?' 'Do you ever hear of a judge issuing an injunction preventing capitalists from cutting down our wages to the starving point?'

Willing To Take Consequences. "This clay workers' strike was on but a little while when an injunction was issued. They didn't go to your local court because they knew you could get a whack at him. 'The federal judge is always the pampered darling of the capitalist. Before I get thru, if I am in contempt of court I am willing to take the consequences.' Debs contended that a federal judge was never appointed by the working

Parliamentary Procedure FOR Deliberative Assemblies

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Witness For Accused

By AGNES H. DOWNING.

What would you think of a man who saw a fellow being on trial for a crime and knowing him to be innocent said little about it; and knowing the punishment for the accused to be imprisonment at hard labor for life, would sit down at home and eat and sleep and make no effort, except perhaps to speak in casual conversation and tell that the accused person was innocent?

You say that man would be a traitor to the best there is in life—a sluggard to his duty—that for the peace of his soul he should neither eat nor sleep until he had put the information before the proper tribunal. He should be a witness for the accused.

And what if, instead of one man it were a very large group of people that were on trial? The duty would then become a thousand times more insistent. He would be base indeed who did not leave all consideration of self and give his evidence to the defense.

And now, my comrade, this applies to you and to me. Every day the wage workers, the poor, the unemployed, the unfortunate are accused of laziness, of incompetency, of shiftness and thriftlessness. The punishment for this is hard labor for life, hard labor with intermissions of enforced idleness when they must wander homeless and defenseless—the targets of insult and the victims of acute suffering.

You know that the best sociological and biological studies of the world give proof of the innocence of the accused. You believe that the program of Socialism would heal the ills—give peace for war, plenty for starvation, and health and development where you now see disease and stagnation.

Thinking this do you sit down at home and eat and sleep and make no effort except to speak in casual conversation and tell that the accused are innocent?

If we do we are helping the conviction of many. We must be vigilant indeed or we will be a thousand times more guilty than he who is false to the one accused.

And we must arouse at once for the trial is now on and the verdict will come in on the 7th day of next November. Our fellow citizens are the jury. Go straight to them with the evidence. You can not see all, hence send papers and leaflets. The lives of many hang in the balance. You must convince the jury. YOU BEAR WITNESS FOR THE ACCUSED.

Perhaps the rise in the price of print paper is preliminary to forcing a one cent letter postage for the benefit of the merchants.

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We want to make it 100,000 subs by election day.

That ought to be easy. Get subs at the Socialist meetings—hundreds are now being held every day.

We are going to keep our regular rates in force up to election day. They are as follows:

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REQUIRED BY CONGRESS.

Statement of the ownership, management, circulation, etc., required by the Act of Congress of August 24, 1912, of The American Socialist, published weekly, at Chicago, Ill., for October 1, 1916, State of Illinois, County of Cook.

Before me, a notary public, in and for the State and county aforesaid, personally appeared Adolph Germer, who having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the Business Manager of The American Socialist, and that the following is a true statement of the ownership, management, of the aforesaid publication, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, embodied in section 448, Postal Laws and Regulations, to wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business manager are: Publisher, Socialist Party, 803 W. Madison St., Chicago, Ill. Editor, J. L. Engdahl, 803 W. Madison St., Chicago, Ill. Managing Editor, J. L. Engdahl, 803 W. Madison St., Chicago, Ill. Business Manager, Adolph Germer, 803 W. Madison St., Chicago, Ill.

2. That the owners are: National Executive Committee: Morris Hillquit, 30 Church St., New York, N. Y. Victor L. Berger, Brisbane Hall, Milwaukee, Wis. Anna A. Maley, 140 E. 19th St., New York, N. Y. John Spartz, Old Bennington, Vt. John M. Work, 1277 Rosedale Avenue, Chicago, Ill.

3. That the known bondholders, mortgages, and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: None.

ADOLPH GERMER. Sworn to and subscribed before me this 29th day of Sept. 25, 1916.

JOHN M. FEIGH. (My commission expires Feb. 4th, 1920.)

Ida Crouch-Hazlett is now campaigning for the Socialist Party in New York City where she has met with excellent results after her great work in the Southern states. She will also work for the Brooklyn and New Jersey organizations before this year's campaign is over.

Show Your Colors!

Wear the Campaign Button and get everybody else to wear it. THEY ARE VERY CHEAP. Buy Them By The Bushel.

You can sell them for a cent apiece and make 100 per cent. You can give them away and ADVERTISE YOUR CANDIDATES.

Portraits of the candidates Benson and Kirkpatrick in black with a bright red background and lettering in white—size 7/8 in. diameter.

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Henry Dubb Learns How To Inhale His Food



By RYAN WALKER.

IN THE WORLD OF LABOR.

By Max S. Hayes.

GOVERNOR Ferris, of Michigan, is being roundly denounced because he has paroled Edward P. Olkinghorn, strike-breaker, during the copper strike of 1913, who was convicted of second degree murder and sentenced to prison in 1914 for not less than seven years and not more than 12 years. Olkinghorn and three other thugs were found guilty of killing a striker. In sentencing them the court said: "I have tried to find something somewhere in mitigation of your act. If the jury had found your plea of self-defense true it would have been a travesty on justice." Olkinghorn was a Waddell thug and is said to have gone to New York to serve his plutocratic masters in the car strike. Ferris is a candidate for re-election and is classified as a "workingman's friend." His chief opponent is of the same stripe. The Copper Trust and other plutocrats can't lose.

SARCASTICALLY the railroaders are commenting on Hughes' claim that he is a "friend of labor" by pointing to his veto of the full-crew bill while Governor of New York, not to speak of his decision in the Danbury Hatters' case and his present knucks on the eight-hour bill thru Congress.

The railway men don't seem to grasp Hughes' logic as to what constitutes a real "friend of labor," that's all.

Hughes reasons that whosoever furnishes work for the workingman is the "workingman's friend," and the more work he piles on the greater the friend he is, wages and hours cutting no figure.

That is why he favors long hours of labor for the railroaders, hatters and others who occasionally display lazy streaks.

AUSTRALIAN labor organizations have been holding conferences for the purpose of more closely combining their forces so as to insure increased efficiency and mobility. Mergers and centralization are the orders of the day, as there will be many profound problems to meet after the war.

LOS ANGELES union laborites have burlesqued Harrison Gray Otis, premier of Pacific coast open shoppers, in a movie comedy. Otis is depicted as "General Who-tis, the Hero of the Battle of Calocan." Critics claim that the old guy is nearly as funny as Charlie Chaplin.

SAN FRANCISCO unions are discussing the feasibility of starting their own bank. They claim that past struggles and the present open shop fight prove that the funds deposited in banks by local unions are being used to give battle to organized labor.

A. B. GARRETSON, chief of the Brotherhood of Railway Conductors, declares that as a result of the railway magnates' opposition to the eight-hour movement the sentiment in favor of government ownership of railroads is crystallizing at a rapid rate. Here's hoping.

Your emancipation from want and dependence on others for a job is in your own hands in the form of a Socialist ballot.

The contractors made about a million clear in selling rotten stuff to feed the soldiers on the border. but they also gave a few hundred thousand and ardent patriots an eye opener that will make it harder for them to work

Meyer London Stirs Chicago And Milwaukee Audiences

In a flying trip to Chicago and Milwaukee last week, Meyer London, Socialist congressman, spoke to half a dozen mass meetings in the two cities, rousing his audiences to great enthusiasm. Here is what he said at one of the Chicago meetings:

SPEECH OF MEYER LONDON. (Mr. London had to wait about five minutes for the cheering to subside before he could begin his speech.)

I know that we Socialists are somewhat noisy. I can forgive you your noise, since you have shown that you can bring results. You know how to do things. The Socialist movement is primarily an educational movement. We have no reason to exist except as educator, teacher and guide of the great mass of the people. The great and fundamental difference between the past and the present civilization is the fact that knowledge has been democratized, that there are greater opportunities for men and women to understand things, to know things, to grasp things.

There were good men and willing men and wise men thousands of years ago. We have no lawmakers greater than the law-giver Moses. We have no prophets greater than the Christ, than Isaiah and Jeremiah and the teachers of the ages. Nor have we today men more self-sacrificing than were the men of ages long gone by.

Greater Opportunity To Know. The only distinction is that we know more today and that there is a larger number of men who have an opportunity to know. When the printing press was invented, the man whose mind gave birth to this wonderful product of human genius considered himself perhaps the benefactor of humanity. And the machine, the printing press, would have been an unmixing blessing if it had been used all the time in the support of truth, to teach people the truth. But the difficulty is that both the printed word and the spoken word do not always come either from the truthful pen or from truthful lips.

You take our great newspapers. The horrible stuff they fill their columns with, the detailed reports of the most scandalous performances of the escapades, the second-class vaudeville actors, the experiences of men in the divorce courts; the more sensational, the more unclean, the more putrid, the more demoralizing a thing is, the greater attention does it receive in the press. Criminologists who study the criminal law have shown again and again that our newspapers, in describing the details of crime, teach the criminal how to perpetrate crime. So the question is not how many big sheets of white paper are covered with black spots. The question is, how much truth is in the press, how much truth is in the book, how much truth do you hear from the lips of the public speakers?

Republicans Like Parrots. Those of you who have been at Republican or Democratic meetings, what have you learned at those meetings? For nine months I have tried in Congress to get one fresh, new, living word from a Republican. All I heard was the parrot-like repetition, "Protection, tariff; tariff, protection." Call attention to the presence of millions of children in the mines and factories, and the answer is, "Protection." You indicate the presence of millions in poverty, and the answer is "Protection."

And the amusing part of it is that the Democratic Party has stolen everything that there was which could possibly distinguish it from the Republican, so that the only difference today between Mr. Wilson as the President and the candidate of the Democratic Party and Mr. Hughes as the candidate of the Republican Party is the whiskers of Governor Hughes; that is about all the difference there is.

All Differences Have Disappeared. The Democrats have absorbed the distinction that separated them, tariff and protection. By the adoption of a Tariff Commission every vestige of the difference between the two organizations has disappeared.

Both of them today are for woman suffrage. A short time ago they were not, and the attempt of the Republican Party to steal the votes of the women, the attempt of Governor Hughes to proclaim himself today the champion of woman's rights, notwithstanding the fact that his party in convention adopted a plank even more conservative toward the question of women's rights than the Democrats, is one of those peculiar political performances which will be punished by an intelligent electorate.

Women are not going to become the instrument of one of the most reactionary forces in America like the Republican Party. The women cannot consistently logically or intelligently vote the Republican ticket, because the Republican Party stands for everything reactionary, for everything that ties us to the past, for everything that would keep back the wheels of progress.

Socialists Have Definite Mission. As Socialists we have a definite mission for the working class, for the working people. After all, is it not true that you want bigger wages and the employer wants bigger profits? Is it not true that you want cheaper rent and the landlord wants higher rent? Is it not true that you want to have strong unions and powerful organizations, and the employer wants you to have weak unions or no unions at all? Is it not true that you want to have intelligence, and solidarity and unity, and the employer would see you ignorant, divided and fighting one another? Isn't that true?

Is it not true that the employing class gets the Democratic and Republican politicians to keep your eyes upon the past, if possible, so that you shall not be able to see what they do with your pockets? Is it not true that your interests as men and women are unalterably opposed to the interests of those who are in control of the wealth of the country?

And it is also true that the working men—using that expression in the broadest possible meaning, including not only men who are engaged in physical and manual toil, but every man and woman who contributes useful service, who does useful work as a worker—is it not true that the great mass, the propertyless mass who have nothing to depend on except the result of their service, have a distinct, clear and plain duty, and that is to organize the forces of the propertyless class so that the rights of men shall be above the rights of property? And this is the mission of the Socialist movement. It is the right of men, of living men, throbbing with life, as against the right of property, accumulated labor, the result of past effort. It is men against property. It is the propertyless man against the propertied man. It is class against class. It is the present against the past. It is a tomorrow of hope against a past that is buried in the grave.

The working class seeks its emancipation thru its own efforts. After all, men and women, the Socialist movement has given us something worth living for. What is the life of the worker without an ideal? You go to your factory before sunrise. You eat your dinner when the bell rings. You return home when the bell rings again.

The Story Of "No. 675". In some of the big factories you are not known by name. Your name disappears. It is No. 675. No. 675 gets up to eat his dinner just to fill the stomach to be able to continue grinding away. And it is No. 675 that returns home when the bell rings, exhausted in mind and body and unable to grasp an idea. They call that the life of the worker. Is that the life of a free man?

Then when you pick up your cup of coffee you want your bit of sugar, and it is the sugar trust that determines how much sugar you shall have with your cup of coffee, because it fixed the price of sugar. And it is the meat trust that determines how much meat you shall have. And it is the clothing trust and the wool trust that determine how many suits of clothes you shall wear or whether you shall wear any. So that your entire life from the cradle to the grave is regulated by some force, by some power outside of yourselves.

Is This The Life Of Free Men? Is that a human existence? Is that the life of a free man? Is that what this republic was built for? Did the men who gave their lives during the Revolution dream of such a republic? Did the million men who, between 1861 and 1865, laid down their lives to cement this republic, did they lay down their lives so that slaves could work for some powerful corporation? Or did they lay down their lives and drench the soil with their sacred blood that you might be free men and free women under our constitution? (Applause.)

To this life of the worker, a prison during the day within the walls of the shop, a grave at night in the room of his tenement house, to the narrow prison of the worker's life today, we have brought the sunshine of an ideal. We have said to the workers, "Organize, unite, merge your hearts, your souls, your aspirations together, and, as the rays of the sun unite to give light to the world, so will you, by united hearts and united souls, a united, intelligent working class bring a new life and a new world. (Great applause.)"

If a job is worth having it is worth owning. Under Socialism you would own your job.

they will do it, if the madness of capitalism is not arrested by a big Socialist vote.

You never had an opportunity to do more for humanity and righteousness than you have in voting a Socialist ticket.

Are you back yet from your vacation, Mr. Worker? Ah, we see. You will take your's this winter, and walk the ties for amusement.

By the way, where are the trusts that the two old parties were trying to bust four years ago? And why are they not busting trusts this year?

A comrade at Wellsburg, S. D. orders Benson leaflets to be sent in bundles to thirty-five addresses in twenty towns in his state. An extensive campaign for one man, we say.

When you vote remember the expense for unnecessary preparedness that capitalism has already forced on America.

Wonder if the Wilsonites will remember the Maine. It doesn't pay for a servant of capitalism to fumble at the game.

Two millions reading the message of our candidate, Benson, every week, means a big Socialist vote in November. But it ought to be five millions.

A special to the New York Call from Vera Cruz, Mexico, says that at the recent municipal elections in that city the Federation of Labor elected its entire ticket. No details are given.

Wonder if the applause that greets the old party spellbinders does not sound like the old song of the grafters: "Cheer, cheer, the gang's all here, what the hell do we care, what the hell do we care?"

While the world is madly using the bullet the American should think about what he may or may not do with the ballot. Perhaps this is the last time he will be able to use it in behalf of peace.

You have your choice of Wilson or Hughes as the proper party to issue war bonds and plunge the nation into the madness of slaughter. One of the game again.

Now that there is no need of holding the soldiers on the border either to kill Villa again or to help break a railroad strike, why not discharge them down there and let them tramp their way home?

The Santa Fe railroad announces that it doesn't intend to obey the eight hour law. Why should the people obey the law that keeps them from seizing the road and calling it their own?

The actual nominations received in the contest between President John P. White for re-election and John F. Walker, (President of the Illinois State Federation of Labor, formerly President of the Illinois Mine Workers for many years), who is a candidate against him, was three hundred sixty-six (366) for White, and three hundred twenty-one (321) for Walker. The total number of nominations made by the local unions for them and other candidates, was something like eight hundred (800).

This means that Mr. Walker has received a larger percentage of the local nominations made than any man has ever received who was a candidate against the incumbent in that position since the inception of the Miners' Union. It means too, that President White as candidate for re-election, is the first man in the history of the United Mine Workers Organization, who failed to receive a majority of all nominations made.

THE PANAMA CANAL. Public Ownership Successfully Worked Out in the Canal Zone; by W. J. Donaldson, Seven Years a Foreman on The Panama Canal.

Fourteen years of marvelously successful business. During 1913 the Isthmian Canal Commission (United States) netted \$105,533.63 in the Subsistence Department on a business of \$7,500,000.

Mr. Donaldson's booklet is a strong, practical, convincing argument for Socialism, and a clincher for the opponents of Government Ownership and Operation. Price 10 cents and postage. Order thru Socialist Party, 803 W. Madison St., Chicago.

Send five cents for a sample copy of The New World, Lincoln Pifer's Paper-Magazine, Girard, Kansas. Debs says in the Rip Saw: "It is a live and ambitious publication, and will make a place for itself in the modern struggle for democracy and freedom. It is one of the most unique and original publications that come to our table."

OLD JIM ON SUFFRAGE.

Well there's something kinda' funny And I can't quite understand Why some folks are always yellin' 'Bout a free and equal land. Course I'm strictly patriotic, Marched with Sherman to the sea, But I'm certain from Missouri 'Bout this same equality.

Now I know a lot's women Like my friend the widow Brown. She owns stocks, and bonds, and farmlands, And some houses here in town. Why, she pays more coin in taxes Than a lot's men of note, And she handles her own business But the law won't let her vote.

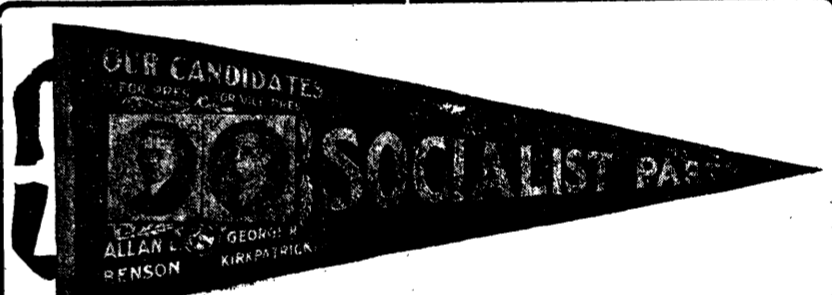
Then there's doctor M. L. Bowen, (The her right name's Minnie Lee) Why, when little Jim was siltin' And the doctors can't agree, We just called in doctor Minnie And I want you all to note Where they failed, she cured the youngster But the law won't let her vote.

When there's Missus Jack McCormick, Then her husband lost his fig. All the neighbors said those children All soon would have to start to beg. But she bucked right down to it, Never stoppin' night or day, And where Jack had been a failure Wife made the old farm pay.

She has sent the boys thru college; She has money in the bank; The old farm looks like a garden, And the woman is to thank. Now they ride out in an auto, But the thing that gets my goat Is that Jack gets all the suffrage For the law won't let her vote.

Now I've thought the whole thing over And to save me I can't see Where the average woman's weaker Than an average man may be. So I think that we had better Change some laws before we gloat For we can't be free as ever Till the women have a vote.

John R. Hand, Terre Haute, Ind.



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