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AMERICAN SOCIALIST

MAY LEAFLET The War Program In Four Pages Rush In Your ORDERS NOW!

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May Day, 1917

This year's International May Day dawns upon a world in agony. This is the third May Day since the opening of the world war. It sees more nations and greater armies engaged in this great, international fratricidal strife than its two predecessors. Yet the outlook on this May Day, 1917, is brighter than on labor's international holiday in 1916 and 1915. Our hopes seem nearer realization. We had hoped that the lessons of the war would drive the great masses of humanity nearer to Socialism. We had hoped that the horrors and sufferings of war would force the peoples of all nations to realize that their only hope for peace rests in Socialism. We had hoped that the workers of all nations, organized industrially and politically, would see more clearly than ever, that their interests demand the building of a stronger and more united International Socialist movement. While the war still rages over many lands, even while the most important neutral nation, the United States, has been forced into the bloody maelstrom by its master class, our hopes take shape and seem on the point of being realized. One year ago few would have predicted the quick, successful and almost bloodless revolution in Russia that dethroned the House of Romanoff and makes certain the establishment of a republic in place of the tyrannical government of the czars. As May Day approaches in this country an increasing number of exiles, who had taken refuge in the United States, are returning to Russia, at the request and with the aid of the new government, to help build for the future. On this International May Day, 1917, the workers of America, can proclaim with great joy, "All hail the workers of Russia and the new Russian Republic, forerunner of the United States of Europe". The Russian workers have learned the lessons of the war and the end of war will find Russia nearer Socialism than ever before.

DURING the past few days the eyes of the world, more than ever before, have been turned toward Germany and Austro-Hungary. It is the continued and unending struggle of the workers of the Central Empires that has forced this attention. Their immediate struggle is for bread, but their biggest demand is for more liberty, more freedom. Their demands may yet take shape in a revolution that will overthrow the Hohenzollerns and Hapsburgs, even as the Romanoffs were overthrown, and establish a government of the people in place of Kaiserism and Junkerism. On this International May Day, 1917, the workers of the world can well proclaim, with increasing enthusiasm, their fraternal greetings to the toiling masses of the Central Empires struggling toward the light of human freedom. The lessons of the war are being brought home, with untold sorrow and suffering to the workers of Germany and Austro-Hungary, and the end of war will find the peoples of these nations nearer Socialism than ever before.

IN THE other warring countries, in England, in France, in Italy, in Portugal, the demands of labor are being heard, louder than ever. In Great Britain we see H. G. Wells, the author, holding out the hope of a republic. He suggests "that the time is now ripe and it would be a thing agreeable to our friends and allies, the republican democracies of France, Russia, the United States and Portugal, to give some clear expression to the great volume of republican feeling that always has existed in the British community". Every indication in these black hours gives hope that these nations are all treading the straight road that leads to Socialism and the realization of our high ideals.

THE LATEST reports from Europe declare that cries for a republic and a revolution are disturbing the sittings of the Riksdag in Stockholm, Sweden. This in spite of the fact that the governments of the Scandinavian countries have been doing everything possible to placate the Socialists of those lands. The ruling class of Denmark, Sweden and Norway no doubt has its eye on the Socialist majority in Finland, just across the Baltic Sea.

HERE in the United States, the national government has declared war on the national government of Germany. The people of the United States didn't want this war, they are not in favor of it now. In the language of the street—they hate it. Whether that hate will rouse the indifferent, care-free, individualistic American people to an intelligent protest against the conditions that forced this war, remains to be seen. The trend of events in Europe assures us that it will.

INTERNATIONAL May Day, 1917, should therefore have as great a meaning for the workers of the United States, as it has for the workers of Europe. Let the more enlightened of American toilers dedicate this day this year, more than ever before, to spreading a knowledge of the great benefits of international working class solidarity, the great truths of Socialism, the great hope of the workers of all nations united by the bonds of international brotherhood; living and toiling and striving for a newer and better civilization in a world at peace.

America At War

By JOSEPH E. COHEN IN WHAT manner will America conduct her war for democracy? In what way will America set an example to the rest of the world? Up to the present time Germany is in the lead. Not as a military power, that is really its weakness. It is being beaten back; it can be conquered, or, what is the same thing for the ruling class there, held to a peace without victory. In every other respect Germany has won. It has Prussianized the world. It has substituted conscription for voluntary service in England; it has reduced the splendid French spirit of resistance against tyranny to the most abject submission to authority. Russia alone has thrown off the later Prussian yoke. And she has done so because her people threw off the yoke of their governing class. Will America, too, be Prussianized? Will America likewise submit to the Prussian oligarchy? There is, first of all right now, the problem of conscription. Are Americans to be militaristic slaves or free men? War has come, despite the fact that the President has said in his next to last message to congress that "the people of this country do not want war." War was declared against the will of the people. Shall a handful of men in Washington, unmindful of what the nation wants, now force them to do service in a war they are opposed to with every fibre in their makeup? It might be just as well if the gentlemen in Washington went a bit to slow in provoking recruiting riots. It will do anything but help to make the war popular. Next to that is the matter of press censorship and espionage. It must be admitted that it takes a very firm and thorough faith in free institutions to take the stand in favor of an untrammelled press, considering what the press has been doing. Only the other day, so we were told, a submarine was sighted off Long Island and "heavy firing" was heard off Cape Cod. We take this means of announcing in advance, and thereby scooping the daily press, that their reporters (sitting at the office typewriters) are about to discover that Boston has been besieged, New York reduced to ashes, Philadelphia laid waste, while Baltimore is only a memory and our National capital no more than a myth. The number of German plots thus far unearthed makes it quite plain that the Germans among us are a most assiduous and energetic element, since each resident has no less than half a dozen plots to his share—if the papers may be believed. Such an industrious class in the population must be won to our side at all costs, and no better use could be made of the \$7,000,000,000 war loan than to buy up the ability of the Germans in our midst. That war news should be censored by Washington is problematical. Censorship is a dangerous weapon, especially in a republic. But there certainly is a danger in requiring each paper to carry, at the top of its domestic war news, the simple legend: "Made in our own office. All rights reserved."

Nor can we see that very much will be accomplished by setting the whole nation to spy-catching. It may be taken for granted that there are some German spies among us. What they are doing, only our own secret service men can tell. How the spies get word to the kaiser we are at a loss to say; how they get instructions from the fatherland is a mystery. Undoubtedly they have a means of communication. It must be some rarer form of frightfulness in vogue among Nietzschean "free spirits". Those who are interested in the lark of spy-baiting are cordially referred to that exquisite sketch by Anatole France entitled "Tranquillite". (Anatole is a French author, not German.) What remains, then? The very thing that happens in every war. That is, the absolute surrender of authority into the hands of the public plunderers. This, of course, is an old story. General Laurens complained bitterly of those who masqueraded as patriots in our Revolution in order to prey upon the colonists seeking liberty. President Lincoln drew a scathing comparison between the masses who serve the nation unselfishly and those with ulterior motives—some of whom he had to remove from high office when their knavery smelled too strongly. In the Spanish-American war the embalmers and other capitalist atrocities caused more deaths among our troops than actual engagements with the enemy. The gentlemen who are the political descendants of the wartime scavengers of the past are eager, in city, in state and in nation to do their worst for their country. And they will do it. They are putting to the front every reactionary measure; they have thrown our free institutions to the mercy of our dearest enemies. They are doing for America what the kaiser has done for Germany. They belong to the same royal family as the kaiser. They are the kaiser's best friends. They are the Prussian horde.

Whatever complete success attends American arms abroad, if our own Prussian horde ride in the saddle America will lose. To beat the kaiser on the other side of the water, the Prussian horde on this side of the water must be beaten. If "the world is to be made a safe place for democracy," democracy must be safe first of all in America. No greater duty falls upon Americans now than to safeguard democracy at home.

Our Course Of Action

THE SOCIALIST Party emphatically rejects the proposal that in time of war the workers should suspend their struggle for better conditions. On the contrary, the acute situation created by war calls for an even more vigorous prosecution of the class struggle, and we recommend to the workers and pledge ourselves to the following course of action: 1. Continuous, active, and public opposition to the war, thru demonstrations, mass petitions, and all other means within our power. 2. Unyielding opposition to all proposed legislation for military or industrial conscription. Should such conscription be forced upon the people, we pledge ourselves to continuous movements in opposition to conscription. We pledge ourselves to fight with all our strength against any attempt to raise money for the payment of war expenses by taxing the necessities of life or issuing bonds, which will put the burden upon future generations. We demand that the capitalist class which is responsible for the war pay its cost. Let those who kindle the fire furnish the fuel. 3. Vigorous resistance to all reactionary measures, such as censorship of press and mails, restriction of the rights of free speech, assemblage, and organization, or compulsory arbitration and limitation of the right of strike. 4. Consistent propaganda against military training and militaristic teaching in the public schools. 5. Extension of the campaign of education among the workers to organize them into strong, class-conscious, and closely unified political and industrial organizations, to enable them by concerted and harmonious mass action to shorten this war and to establish lasting peace. 6. Wide-spread educational propaganda to enlighten the masses as to the true relation between capitalism and war, and to rouse and organize them for action, not only against present war evils, but for the prevention of future wars and for the destruction of the causes of war. 7. To protect the masses of the American people from the pressing danger of starvation which the war in Europe has brought upon them, and which the entry of the United States has already accentuated, we demand— (a) The restriction of food exports so long as the present shortage continues, the fixing of maximum prices, and whatever measures may be necessary to prevent the food speculators from holding back the supplies now in their hands; (b) The socialization and democratic management of the great industries concerned with the production, transportation, storage, and the marketing of food and other necessities of life; land and other natural resources which is now held out of use for monopolistic or speculative profit. These measures are presented as means of protecting the workers against the evil results of the present war. The danger of recurrence of war will exist as long as the capitalist system of industry remains in existence. The end of wars will come with the establishment of socialized industry and industrial democracy throughout the world. The Socialist Party calls upon all the workers to join it in its struggle to reach this goal and thus bring into the world a new society in which peace, fraternity, and human brotherhood will be the dominant ideals.

Recommendations

- 1. We recommend that our elected representatives in Congress, in the State Legislatures, and in local bodies, vote against all proposed appropriations or loans for military, naval, and other war purposes. 2. We recommend that the National Executive Committee extend and improve the propaganda among women, because they as house wives and as mothers are now particularly ready to accept our message. 3. We recommend that the National Executive Committee initiate an organized movement of Socialists, organized workers, and other anti-war forces for concerted action along the lines of this program.

Expose Frame-up To Hang Tom Mooney; Labor Awake!

Never did an unfair prosecution of labor leaders get a quicker exposure than in the collapse of the frame-up against Tom Mooney and his fellow victims in San Francisco. Never did a terribly wrongful conviction get swifter condemnation. The proof of perjury to convict Mooney has been made public to add to all the other known misdeeds that were done in determination of the enemies of labor to lynch him—to lynch him in the name of the law. And yet remember that Tom Mooney is still in the shadow of the gallows! Remember that the same death have not yet loosened his hold. The conspiracy to "get him" and to put him out of the way for good has collapsed so far as proof of it and public knowledge of it is concerned. But the San Francisco combination to crush labor does not care for proof, in the newspapers any more than in the courts, if only it can get its victims. Those prosecuting officials and moneyed interests that are in that combination will frame up any new story that they need, or coerce and bully any witnesses who obstruct their purposes. Can they still do this and "get away with it"? Are they strong enough to do, in the light of publicity, what they were doing when they were able to suppress the facts? Tells Of Frame-Up. The man, F. E. Riegel, has told of the perjury by which the false case against Mooney was framed. He has shown the letters tempting him also to commit perjury to bolster up the prosecution's case. Police officers and others have told the public how they were prevented from investigating and finding out the real facts in the bomb explosion of "Preparedness Day". Mooney's innocence and that of his fellow labor leaders have been unanswerably established in fact. But what about the legal processes that have already been so perverted and misused? The men who used the law to kill Tom Mooney should be prosecuted, as doubtless they will be. Labor (not only on the Pacific Coast but throughout the nation) is aroused to prove that now and henceforth it shall be a

dangerous thing to try to "discredit the labor movement" by trumped-up, false prosecutions of labor leaders. Labor Sounds Right Note. The labor mass meetings for Mooney in Chicago and New York and other cities have sounded the right note in demanding a United States government investigation into this whole bomb affair and into the conspiracy against the labor men. The federal government can lawfully do this, since it was charged by the prosecutors of Mooney that the bomb explosion was only part of a general conspiracy to kill the chief officers of the nation and state. Now let impartial investigation disclose the real conspirators and the real conspiracy! Let labor get this whole business "exposed to the sun and the air," so that, not only the innocent men now facing the gallows shall be set free, but THE HABIT which vindictive employers have of dragging labor leaders into false prosecutions and false convictions shall be stopped definitely and for all time. Rush in your orders for the four-page leaflet containing the Socialist Party Manifesto and War Program adopted at St. Louis, Mo. Price: \$1.50 per 1,000. Send all orders to National Office, Socialist Party, 803 W. Madison St., Chicago, Ill. If the conscription law passes Congress every lover of liberty should hang crepe in his window in mourning for the passing of his love. Among the fruits of a "war for democracy": muzzled press, prostituted pulpits, cowardly legislators, war prices of food, and conscription! We use to say: "Workers of the world unite, you have nothing to lose but your chains, you have a world to gain." To be patriotic, we should change it to: "Workers of America unite, you have nothing but your lives to lose, you have conscription to gain."

Warning To Americans

A standing military force with an overgrown Executive will not long be safe companions to liberty. The means of defense against foreign danger have always been the instruments of tyranny at home. Among the Romans it was a standing maxim to excite war whenever a revolt was apprehended. Throughout all Europe, the armies kept up under the pretext of defending, have enslaved the people. It is perhaps questionable whether the best concerted system of absolute power in Europe could maintain itself in a situation where no alarms of external danger could tame the people to the domestic yoke — JAMES MADISON, third president of the United States.

KIRKPATRICK AGAIN MAYOR OF GRANITE CITY, ILLINOIS.

Marshall E. Kirkpatrick, former Socialist mayor of Granite City, Ill., was re-elected at the spring elections by a majority of 451 votes, defeating the candidate of the independent party. The mayoralty vote was: Kirkpatrick, 1,968; independent candidate, 1,911. Kirkpatrick was mayor of Granite City from 1911 to 1915. He was defeated for re-election in 1915 by a combination of the old political parties. This time he won out by a clear majority.

FIVE ALDERMEN ELECTED TO ROCKFORD, ILL., COUNCIL.

Five Socialists were elected to the Rockford, Ill., city council at the spring elections. Oscar Ogren failed of election as mayor by a vote of 4,664 to 6,691. The vote last fall for Benson was only 1,298. "The increase from two to five in the city council was made in the face of a deliberate attempt by gerrymandering and redistricting the ward lines as well as the method of representation, put us off the map," writes Frank H. Hall. "We made large gains for our aldermanic candidates in entirely new sections of the city".

ELECT ALL BUT ONE ALDERMAN AT BUCKNER, ILLINOIS.

Buckner, Ill., Socialists elected their entire city ticket at the spring elections with the exception of one alderman who lost by only a few votes. C. O. Harper was elected mayor. All of the officials elected are union men.

Rush in your orders for the four-page leaflet containing the Socialist Party Manifesto and War Program adopted at St. Louis, Mo. Price: \$1.50 per 1,000. Send all orders to National Office, Socialist Party, 803 W. Madison St., Chicago, Ill.

We heard Scott Nearing in one of his inspirational addresses the other day. His loudest applause was occasioned by the statement that "a majority of the people of America would not vote for war to-morrow".

From an advertisement of stock in a packing company: "Friends of the packing houses predict much larger earnings in event of war, which would bring a pronounced demand from our government for canned goods".

Miss Alma Heintz, 23 years old, committed suicide in a fit of despondency brought on by the refusal of her fiance, Leon Adams, of Chicago, to go thru with his application for a marriage license thru fear of being called a "slacker" by the tin soldiers who infested the City Hall corridors.

Seven billion dollars! Think of it! We cannot. Seventy dollars for each man, woman and child in this country. That means over three hundred dollars for each family, APPROXIMATELY HALF OF THE AVERAGE ANNUAL WAGE OF WAGE EARNERS' FAMILIES IN THIS COUNTRY.

We sometimes wonder, if we are to have military training as a sequence to the war—whether the war was not caused, in part, because some people wanted military training. It sure is a good time to slip it in, anyhow, while the public is coaxed into believing that "America is arming against militarism".

Sometimes a military training advocate spills the beans. An army officer, speaking in favor of military training in the schools said: "We want military training so that a boy will be taught to look his superior in the face when he is given an order and then go and carry out the order WITHOUT QUESTIONING". Very well put, officer!

It is declared that the minority in the Swedish Socialist Party, which insists that they represent fully 40 per cent of the members of the party, have issued a manifesto for the formation of a new Socialist People's Party. It is signed by 15 of the representatives in the Riksdag and others. The manifesto calls for an independent congress to meet at Stockholm, May 12-14.

It's funny how circumstances alter cases. At the beginning of the European conflict Americans loudly applauded the few German martyrs who dared to speak out against the war and at the same time bewailed tearfully the breakdown of the Socialist movement across the water. Today those same Americans hang in effigy anyone who utters a protest against the war and brand all Socialists as traitors.

Act Quickly

COMRADES:—The Manifesto and War Program, adopted at the recent National Convention and published in the last issue of The American Socialist, has been printed as a four page leaflet. A copy should be placed in every home in the United States. Not a city, town, hamlet or cross-road should be overlooked. The job can be properly done only with your assistance.

We must act quickly in the emergency and cannot afford to wait for the regular orders to come in. The country must be flooded with this leaflet and we are asking you to help make it possible.

The Special Convention consumed all our available finances. We must now appeal to you to send in whatever you can afford. If you belong to a union, bring the matter up at the meeting and have a donation made. If the By-laws prohibit making a donation, have a collection taken up. Explain to the members that the money will be used to carry on the fight against Militarism. Remind the members of your union, that many of the strikes for better wages and conditions and shorter hours were defeated by the use of soldiers.

The munition crowd is spending millions to foist a military machine on this country to be used against the workers in their struggles for better conditions. We have rightfully looked upon militarism as a curse in other countries and we dare not relax in our opposition to it here.

We must have at least \$20,000 for this purpose in the next six weeks. Money is necessary to carry on War. Money is also necessary to carry on a War against War. The greater our financial resources, the more effectively can we carry on our battle against building a Prussian Militarism in the United States.

We are depending on you doing your part. We are prepared to do ours. Collect from your fellow-workers, neighbors and whatever organizations you belong to, and make all remittances payable to National Office, Socialist Party, 803 West Madison St., Chicago, Illinois.

The net operating income of the railways of the United States for January, 1917, was greater than January, 1916, by \$30 per mile, or 10.6 per cent. And still the railroad barons cry poverty.

Under The System

Statisticians point out that from ages 40 to 45 years, more than 74 per cent of all business men meet reverses which result in loss of their entire accumulation. At 50 only one in 5,000 men is able to recover his financial footing and independence.

Sixty-nine out of every eighty-five people who reach the age of sixty years are dependent. Out of four million people in the United States aged sixty-five or over, more than three millions are dependent on relatives or on the community.

This is the situation as we find it here in the United States under the capitalistic system. If there is any fighting for humanity to be done—let us start in right now to do it here at home.

Conscription of the incomes of the profiteers would put an end to the war in 48 hours.

Skinning Us

An era of continued and intensive skinning of the people of the United States at the hands of the money barons must be expected. Do not be deceived. With the president and congress in its grip, big business admits it has nothing to fear. Listen to one of the organs of the plutocracy as it speaks for its class:

"There are those who fear that government orders will have to be filled at a sacrifice of all profit. Such fears are groundless. It may be that purveyors of supplies of various kinds may be asked to trim their profits to a prescribed limit, but there need be no fear that these profits will be trimmed to a point amounting to practical confiscation, and no limit will be set on the profits that may be made on domestic business aside from government orders. We are entering on an era of increased industrial prosperity and owners of sound securities may not only expect to continue receiving their dividends regularly, but to see a general upward trend of market prices".

Note those few words, "No limit will be set on the profits that may be made on domestic business aside from government orders".

That means that the prices on the things the people buy to keep alive can be pushed sky high. There is going to be a limit to the robbery of the government, in the spending of those \$7,000,000,000. There is going to be no limit to the holdup of the people. Will the people stand for it?

NEARING IS OUT, BUT

The forces of reaction are rejoicing over their recent victory over the labor and radical organizations in Toledo, O., when the Trustees of the University, by vote of 4 to 3 decided against-reemploying Scott Nearing as Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences for the coming term. Their jubilee will be short lived, however, if the students at the university have their way. Already monster petitions are being circulated against the President of the University, Dr. Stowe, and had he appeared on the campus the day following the action of the board the students say that they would have run him off the grounds. He was denounced by his face as being unfit for his position, by Miss Leach, one of the instructors in the Teachers' College, and the students are backing her up. An effort will be made to force the board to reverse itself, and a leaflet which purports to show the slimy trail of the Commerce Club in directing affairs of the "free" university is in the course of preparation.

The death of 6,000 children under 5 years old in Philadelphia every year can be traced, in most cases, to insanitary homes.

New Party Platform Changes In Character And Style

THE St. Louis Emergency Convention took a wide departure in both in style and character, in building a party platform to take the place of the 1916 document, which was declared to be contradictory and useless.

There was a difference of opinion on the platform committee which resulted in both a majority and minority report on the declaration of principles, an agreement being reached on the statement of immediate demands. The minority report was written and presented by Delegate J. Mahlon Barnes, of Pennsylvania. In presenting his report Barnes said: "We assume to be the political party of the working class. We never have heard of, and that is so because we have never talked to them in their language, and we have never met them where they lived."

"Furthermore, the workers have never cared when or where we have held our conventions, or that we intended to expropriate the expropriators; that we are committed to the international movement; that, as yet to them, undefined class struggle or an historic mission, etc., etc."

"What they want to know, and know first of all, is what do we propose for today, and by united action can we make life's burdens lighter for tomorrow? We must meet and join them in the daily class struggle and then they will understand and join forces in the final battle between the classes."

The Barnes minority preamble carried by a vote of 78 to 40. The platform as finally adopted was as follows:

THE majority of the workers in America, whether rendering service by hand or brain, are victims of poverty, or near poverty; are insecure in their employment and ever live in fear of want.

This is the fact because they are underpaid. The wages or salaries they receive are only a small part of the wealth or value they produce and such wages or salaries are insufficient to maintain a decent standard of life.

Greatest Modern Crime.

Poverty of the masses, in a land of abundance like America, is the greatest of all modern crimes.

The wage worker is not free, because he can work only by the consent of the owners of jobs.

The owners who do not work and the workers who do not own the industries, each naturally seek to protect and advance their own interests. Both seek to maintain the share they now get and secure more for themselves by taking something from the other. The clash of these interests creates the class struggle.

Because of this class struggle the workers organize in labor unions, co-

life and all the opportunities and resources of the world will be equal and free to all.

This magnificent goal represents the supreme ideal of the human race. As such it is the highest interest of every human being to join in the struggle of the working class and help fight to a finish the battle which will free all men and women and lift them to a position infinitely higher and better than can ever be possible so long as the system of capitalism endures.

While our ultimate goal is the complete collective ownership of the natural resources and industries for the common good of all, we pledge our elected representatives to support every measure of immediate advantage to the working class, and among such measures we enumerate the following:

IMMEDIATE PROGRAM.

The following are measures which we believe of immediate practical importance and for which we wage an especially energetic campaign:

Political Demands.

Complete adult suffrage by the elimination of all sex, residential and educational qualifications, by the abolition of all registration fees, poll taxes, or other impediments to voting. Enfranchisement of those who have declared their intention to become citizens and have resided in this country one year.

Democratic control of the Government through a constitutional amendment providing for the initiative, referendum and recall.

Effective voting and proportional representation on all representative bodies.

The abolition of the powers of the courts to make and unmake laws because of alleged unconstitutionality or other grounds.

Rigid maintenance of the right of free press, speech and assemblage in peace and in war.

Resistance to compulsory military training and to the conscription of life and labor.

Economic Demands.

National ownership and democratic control of the railroads, telegraphs and telephones, steamship lines, and all other social means of transportation, communication, storage, and distribution.

Nationalization of banking and of socially beneficial kinds of insurance. Direct loans to municipalities and states at cost.

Further Demands.

The following measures do not exhaust by any means the ways by which the workers can be helped to freedom. They are compiled as suggestive of further activity to that end.

Abolition of the Senate and the veto power of the President.

Direct election of the President and Vice-President.

Immediate curbing of the power of the courts to issue injunctions.

Direct election of all judges of the United States courts for short terms.

Free administration of law and the creation of public defenders.

Industrial Demands.

Complete abolition of child labor.

A legal minimum wage based on the ascertained cost of a decent standard of life.

Full protection for migratory and unemployed workers from oppression. Abolition of private employment, detective and strike breaking agencies, and the extension of the Federal Employment Bureau.

A shorter work day in keeping with increased industrial productivity.

An uninterrupted rest period of one and a half days in each week.

Freedom of industrial and political activities of the workers.

General Demands.

Taxation to be raised from graduated taxes on incomes and inheritances and from site values.

Adequate higher educational facilities for the entire youth of the nation, and such contribution to family resources as will enable the youth to remain in contact with such facilities until they are fully equipped for their economic and social careers.

Government support, by loans and other methods, to farmers and workers' co-operative organizations.

The retention and extension of the public domain and the conservation and full development of natural resources by the nation.

Pensions for mothers, for invalidity, and old age.

DELEGATES THANKFUL.

On behalf of the national executive committee, Delegate John Spargo, Vermont, offered two resolutions, one to the management of the Planters Hotel, and the other to Local St. Louis, Socialist Party, expressing to both deep appreciation of their attention and courtesy extended to the comrades during the convention.

The convention by a vote of 51 to 41 refused to reconsider its action on the non-partisan league.

America is learning. Many people who still shy at a socialist are convinced that the fundamental cause of this, as of all wars, is capitalism. Do a little personal interviewing and investigating and you will be gratified to see how well known this fact has become. This is proof that the size of our 1916 vote is not an adequate measure of the result of Socialist education.

According to the Socialiste Belge delegates of German and Belgian labor unions met recently at Brussels, Belgium. In a statement the Belgian delegates, after the conference, declared, "They have recognized they have common interests to defend. The German artisan has undertaken the defense of the Belgian artisan."

Forty belligerent women pacifists routed the Berkeley, Cal., board of education and prevented that body from passing a resolution which, the women declared between hisses and catcalls, would have encouraged enlistment in the army and navy.

Socialists At Work

NOTE.—What are the Socialists doing in your city county or state? The editor of this column wants to know. Send in the news of your activities. This plea is made especially to local secretaries, state secretaries and other officials of the party. Send all communications to the Editor, "Socialists At Work," Column, 808 W. Madison St., Chicago, Ill.

EAST MOLINE AND SILVIS, ILL., GIVE SOCIALIST VICTORIES.

By EDGAR OWENS.

I am sending the election returns for the elections held in East Moline, and Silvis, Illinois.

East Moline: L. F. Haemer, Socialist candidate for Mayor, ran second with 511 votes. East Moline is a manufacturing city and the large Root & Vandervoort Munitions Plant is located here. Mr. Vandervoort is chairman of the National Industrial Defence Council whose business it is to see that plenty of munitions are manufactured during the unpleasantness with Germany.

But at Silvis, the Socialists came into their own, electing three out of the four candidates. Silvis is the seat of the largest railroad shops on the Rock Island System. Nearly all the men living at Silvis are employed at the Railroad shops. The campaign was clean-cut and the Comrades are elated over the results. Fred O. Hartline, Socialist, is elected President of the village board with 288 votes against R. O. Watkins, Peoples Ticket, who received 222 votes. The other Socialists elected are George Sleeth, 293 votes; J. P. Johnson, 247 votes. Bob Harvey, Socialist, and Jim Shannon, Peoples Ticket, polled 245 apiece and in the draw Harvey failed to connect.

There are three Peoples Ticket Trustees holding over so the Socialists lack one of having control. However, this little matter will be remedied next year.

WAR MEASURES URGED BEFORE MINNESOTA LEGISLATURE.

Immediate seizure of all railroads and mines, the confiscation of all incomes in excess of \$10,000 and the enactment of a law making speculation in food supplies an act of treason, were urged as war measures in a memorial to Congress presented in the Minnesota Legislature by Representative A. O. Devold, Socialist, of Minneapolis. The resolution was referred to the committee on military affairs, after several representatives sought recognition from the Speaker to serve notice of debate.

WISCONSIN LEGISLATORS TURN DOWN SOCIALIST TAX LAWS.

"The community, having created the value of the land, is entitled to the proceeds of the rental value, and these can only be obtained by imposing a tax or the unearned increment and by exempting personal property and improvements," said Socialist State Senator Louis A. Arnold, Wisconsin, in arguing military program on taxation. All three of the measures were indefinitely postponed.

SOCIALISTS ELECT MAYOR AND OTHERS AT FRONTENAC, KANS.

Socialists elected John Schildknecht, mayor; Wayne Neet, city treasurer, and Joe Botter, member of the city council. He was elected by a majority of 38 over the present mayor.

ELECT MAYOR IN KANSAS.

Hillsboro, Kans., has elected Dr. H. Brunig, Socialist, for mayor. He was sent to the city council last week. The council made him mayor later when the mayor resigned. Now he is elected to the office by the people.

THE CALL OF THE WILD

By JACK LONDON. Copyright By Jack London.

(Continued from last week.)

The blood-longing became stronger than ever before. He was a killer, a thing that preyed, living on the things that lived, unaided, alone, by virtue of his own strength and prowess, surviving triumphantly in a hostile environment where only the strong survived. Because of all this he became possessed of a great pride in his kind, which he communicated itself like a contagion to his physical being. It advertised itself in all his movements, was apparent in the play of every muscle, spoke plainly as speech in the way he carried himself, and made his glorious furry coat if anything more glorious. But for the stray brown on his muzzle and above his eyes, and for the splash on white hair that ran midmost down his chest, he might well have been mistaken for a gigantic wolf, larger than the largest of the breed. From his St. Bernard father he had inherited size and weight, but it was his shepherd mother who had given shape to that size and weight. His muzzle was the long wolf muzzle, save that it was larger than the muzzle of any wolf; and his head, somewhat broader, was the wolf head on a massive scale.

His running was wolf cunning, and wild cunning; his intelligence, shepherd intelligence and St. Bernard intelligence; and all this, plus an experience gained in the fastest of schools, made him as formidable a creature as any that roamed the wild. A carnivorous animal, living on a straight meat diet, he was in full flower, at the high tide of his life, overspilling with vigor and virility. When Thornton passed a caressing hand along his back, a snapping and crackling followed the hand, each hair discharging its pent magnetism at the contact. Every part, brain and body, nerve tissue and fibre, was keyed to the most exquisite pitch; and between all the parts there was a perfect equilibrium or adjustment. To sights and sounds and events which required action, he responded with lightning-like rapidity. Quickly as a husky dog could leap to defend from attack or to attack, he could leap twice as quickly. He saw the movement, or heard sound, and responded in less time than another dog required to compass the mere seeing or hearing. He perceived and deter-

mined and responded in the same instant. In point of fact the three actions of perceiving, determining, and responding were sequential; but so infinitesimal were the intervals of time between them that they appeared simultaneous. His muscles were surcharged with vitality, and snapped into play sharply, like steel springs. Life streamed thru him in splendid flood, glad and rampant, until it seemed that it would burst him asunder in sheer ecstasy and pour forth generously over the world.

"Never was there such a dog," said John Thornton one day, as the partners watched Buck marching out of camp.

"When he was made, the mould was broke," said Pete.

"Py jingo! I tink so mineself," Hans affirmed.

They saw him marching out of camp, but they did not see the instant and terrible transformation which took place as soon as he was within the secrecy of the forest. He no longer marched. At once he became a thing of the wild, stealing along softly, cat-footed, a passing shadow that appeared and disappeared among the shadows. He knew how to take advantage of every cover, to crawl on his belly like a snake, and like a snake to leap and strike. He could take a partridge from its nest, kill a rabbit as it slept, and snap in mid air the little chipmunks fleeing a second too late for the trees. Fish, in open pools, were not too quick for him; nor were beaver, mending their dams, too wary. He killed to eat, not from wantonness; but he preferred to eat what he killed himself. So a lurking humor ran thru his deeds, and it was his delight to steal upon the squirrels, and, when he all but had them, to let them go, chattering in mortal fear to the tree-tops.

As the fall of the year came on, the moose appeared in greater abundance, moving slowly down to meet the winter in the lower and less rigorous valleys. Buck had already dragged down a stray part-grown calf; but he wished strongly for larger and more formidable quarry, and he came upon it one day on the divide at the head of the creek. A band of twenty moose had crossed over from the land of streams and timber, and chief among them was a great bull. He was in a savage temper, and standing over six feet from the ground, was as formidable an antagonist as even Buck could desire. Back and forth the bull tossed his great palmed antlers, branching to fourteen points and embracing seven feet within the tips. His small eyes burned with a vicious and bitter light, while he roared with fury at sight of Buck.

From the bull's side, just forward of the flank, protruded a feathered arrow-head, which accounted for his savageness. Guided by that instinct which came from the old hunting days of the primordial world, Buck proceeded to cut the bull out from the herd. It was no slight task. He would bark and dance about in front of the bull, just out of reach of the great antlers and of the terrible splay hoofs which

To The Socialists Of The Belligerent Countries

MANIFESTO ADOPTED BY NATIONAL EMERGENCY CONVENTION IN ST. LOUIS, APRIL 14, 1917.

COMRADES:—Now that the people of the United States have been forced by their ruling class into this world cataclysm, as you have heretofore been by your own rulers, we, the Socialists of the United States, feel it our right and duty to address you on this most momentous subject.

We wish to say at the outset that the workers of this country have no enmity towards the workers of Germany, and that we, the Socialists of the United States, feel that the great affliction now shared in common by the workers of the United States and Germany should, and we hope that it will, strengthen that consciousness of a common brotherhood between them which will ultimately bring about peace between these two countries and a general world peace with it.

We also wish to convey to you our firm determination and we pledge ourselves to do our duty and make the sacrifice which may be necessary in order to force our masters to conclude a speedy peace. And we hope and expect that whatever may have been the policies which some of you may have followed in the past, you will henceforth adopt vigorous measures to force your masters to the same course of action.

We, therefore, call upon you to join hands with us, so that all of us may use all the means at our disposal in a common effort to bring about a general peace which will be just and lasting, without indemnities and without any forcible annexations of territory by any of the belligerents, whether avowed or sought to be hidden by some less offensive term that may be invented for the purpose; so that no nation may be deprived of any part of its liberty or made in any way dependent politically or economically upon any other nation; and that no change of territory shall take place without the consent of its inhabitants freely and unmistakably expressed.

Down with War! Down with misery and hunger and mass murder! must be the war cry of the proletariat. Long live peace! Long live the brotherhood of nations and the solidarity of the international proletariat!

could have stamped his life out with a single blow. Unable to turn back on the fanged danger and go on, the bull would be driven into paroxysms of rage. At such moments he charged Buck, who retreated craftily, luring him on by a simulated inability to escape. But when he was thus separated from his fellows, two or three of the younger bulls would charge back upon Buck and enable the wounded bull to rejoin the herd.

There is a patience of the wild—dogged, tireless, persistent as life itself—that holds motionless for endless hours the spider in its web, the snake in its coils, the panther in its ambush; and this patience belongs peculiarly to life when it hunts its living food; and it belonged to Buck as he clung to the flank of the herd, retarding its march, irritating the young bulls, worrying the cows with the wounded bull mad with helpless rage. For half a day this continued. Buck multiplied himself, attacking from all sides, enveloping the herd in a whirlwind of menace, cutting out his

victim as fast as it could rejoin its mates, wearing out the patience of creatures preyed upon, which is a lesser patience than that of creatures preying.

As the day wore along and the sun dropped to its bed in the northwest (the darkness had come back and the fall nights were six hours long), the young bulls retraced their steps more and more reluctantly to the aid of their best leader. The downcoming winter was harrying them on to the lower levels, and it seemed they could never shake off this tireless creature that held them back. Besides, it was not the life of the herd, or of the young bulls, that was threatened. The life of only one member was demanded, which was a remoter interest than their lives, and in the end they were content to pay the toll.

(To Be Continued.)

James Platt, 10 years old, was shot thru the heart by Alvilda Cimley, age 9, while "playing soldier".

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Illustration of the Quickedge Knife and Shear Sharpener machine with a person using it. The machine is a hand-cranked device with a rotating grinding wheel and a slot for the knife blade. A person is shown holding the machine and a knife, demonstrating its use.

Rumblings From Germany

"What has happened in Russia is bound to happen and bound to happen within a short time, in Germany and Austria as well".

Hardly had these words been spoken by Morris Hillquit to the Emergency National Convention of the Socialist Party at St. Louis, Mo., last week, than very evident rumblings began to be heard in Germany.

It was the hunger cry that stirred the revolt to action in Russia. It will be the demand for bread that will raise the standards of revolution in Germany and Austria.

While the American jingo press is no doubt overzealous in magnifying the internal troubles of the Central Empires, some of the reports can be relied upon.

There is no doubt that there has been a serious strike in the metal, wood and transport industries and that the principal demand was that the German government confiscate all food-stuffs, redistribute them equally and revoke the order reducing the bread supply.

What is looked upon as a concession to the strikers is an order from the head of the department of munitions that two of the members of all municipal food supply committees in German towns shall be representatives of trade unions.

It is felt that there is considerable significance in the statement of the Vorwaerts, the Socialist daily at Berlin, that the strike was based not only on the food situation and the demand that internal reforms be no longer delayed but also on the deep longing of the people for peace.

In the midst of this popular upheaval Count von Reventlow, writing in the Berliner Tageszeitung, exclaims, "Without a German victory the German monarchy will soon cease to exist!"

Considerable mystery shrouds the peace negotiations reported to have been carried on between Russian and German Socialists. If any overtures have been made it seems that they have been rejected by the Russian provisional government.

Minister Stauning, of Denmark, also secretary of the Danish Socialist Party, who is supposed to have met the German peace missionaries, is quoted as saying:

"The German Socialists understand that a separate peace such as the financial world desires will be of no value. We do not wish to aid a separate peace between Russia and Germany because it would merely increase war's violence in other theaters".

In this crisis in Germany, it is announced that the Socialist minority group has formed a new party called the Independent Social Democratic Party of Germany, declaring it is fundamentally opposed to the existing governmental system, to the war policy of the government and the pro-Government policy of the existing Social Democratic Party.

This fact stands out paramount in all the news coming from Europe—that no government seems able to make any move without the aid or consent of the Socialists. We await the time when the full strength of the German Social Democracy will be arrayed against the government. In that hour the historic events that recently transpired in Russia will be repeated in Germany.

The action of the Socialist Party in special convention in St. Louis, proclaiming its unqualified opposition to war and militarism, will be hailed with acclaim by all true Socialists in this country.—THE ADVANCE, official organ of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America.

Organization Column.

NOTE.—We want the best brains in the Socialist movement to contribute ideas to this "Organization Column". We feel that the best organization ideas come from those who really do the work of organization, the rank and file of the membership who are always on the job. Let us hear from you. Send all communications to the Organization Column Editor, The American Socialist, 803 W. Madison St., Chicago, Ill.

Increasing The Dues

On the referendum ballot about to be voted upon by the party membership there is an amendment to the constitution increasing the national dues to ten cents per month.

This amendment should by all means be adopted.

At the present time, the dues are just about enough to pay the regular stated expenses, without leaving anything to work with.

Such expenses as rent, postage, printing and wages have to be paid all the time. Unless the income is in excess of the amount required for these purposes, it merely results in leaving the wheels oiled, without leaving anything with which to run the machine. That is about the fix we are in now.

Fight The Jingoos With Literature

These of the greatest anti-war books ever produced by the Socialist movement are the following:

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MODEL BOY IMPORTED PRUSSIAN IDEA COMPULSORY MILITARY SERVICE SUBMITTED BY CONGRESS



Recruits For Peace

By ADOLPH GERMER.

DO YOU want to see this country turned into an armed military camp? Do you want to see a military machine built up here that will make the Kaiser's look like a piker? Do you want to see billions of dollars spent to build up an institution to murder human beings by the wholesale? If not what are you doing to prevent such a condition from becoming a stern reality?

You are told thru the press and from the platform that the "highest duty you can perform is to serve your country". The ruling class of every other nation says the same thing. They always fail to tell you, however, that to serve your country might mean that you will be shot up and turned into cannon meat.

Food Prices Soaring.

What is the country that you are called upon to serve doing to serve you? In the midst of this halo of patriotism the prices of foodstuffs are soaring and soaring until they are almost entirely out of reach of the toiling millions. Every day when you go to the market, you are told of further increases in the prices of foodstuffs. When you are "greeted" with the rising price of the necessities of life, you will find fault with the merchant who is only the errand boy of the big business interests that coin millions out of these criminal conditions. These big commercial pirates are at a safe distance fixing the prices that the struggling corner grocer charges you. These gamblers and speculators, these commercial highlanders want war; first, because they grow rich out of war profits and, second, they succeed in fastening a large standing army and huge navy on this country to be used against the workers in the event they should revolt against the commercial plunderers. And now the great mass of workers refuse to be lured into the military meshes, compulsory service is the next step on the legislative checkerboard. What is to become of the lofty

traditional principles that have been the pride of this nation?

We are told that this war is forced upon us. The ruling class of every nation says the same thing. Not a ruler in all the belligerent countries will admit that he is the aggressor in the present world war. Each side says the other is the aggressor. Be that as it may, the fires kindled by the world conflagration have reduced the house of Romanoff to ruins. The house of Hohenzollern is trembling and destined to meet a like fate. The movement for a worldwide democracy will find its way into every land. The Capitalist system is ripping and cracking on all sides and out of the present world chaos a social order will be formed where work and worth go hand in hand; where production of wealth will be carried on to supply the needs of mankind and where commercial rivalry—the inevitable forerunner of war—will be no more.

Jails Are Yawning.

In the past we called upon you to act and thousands responded, while others accepted the situation with indifference. The powers that be are resorting to every method known to an ingenious mind to crush all opposition to conscription. We are told that the jails are yawning for those who are retaining their manhood and refuse to march to the music of the military-made man. The same threats were held out to the courageous men and women who defied the despotism of the Czar. Now we hail those immortal souls with joy. They are the pioneers of progress and their victory inspired the proletariat of the world to work on until the emancipation from the bondage of a wage system is achieved.

In these times that try men's souls we must remain true to our cause. Everyone should make a special effort to win new recruits in this liberating movement. The ruling class is enlisting recruits for war, we must enlist recruits for peace. The Socialist Party is the organization thru which that aim will be realized. Enroll as a member today, and bring nearer the time when Capitalism and its evil accomplices will be banished from the earth.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S DEPT.

Organization — Education — Solidarity.

WILLIAM V. KRUSE - - - Director

To reach the nation's youth with the message of the Socialist movement through Young People's Socialist Leagues. Address all communications to: Socialist Party Young People's Dept., 803 W. Madison St., Chicago.

Making Young Socialists

By Harry D. Smith.

I. Officers And Their Duties. A Young People's Socialist club or circle can be made the nucleus of a literary, debating, social and athletic organization, with the Socialist background as the adhesive and magnetic feature. However, regardless of what may develop later, this nucleus must have a plan of organization, a complete set of officers and some method outlined for the conduct of its meetings and other activities.

The following list of officers and their duties may not be absolutely complete and may not suit all occasions and conditions; but such a set of officials has conducted Young People's Socialist Circles in the east. Chairman, chosen at every meeting from list of members, either by the leader or a reliable arrangements committee. Duties: To conduct the particular meeting in an efficient and levelheaded manner.

Critic, picked like the chairman. Duties: To closely observe and note down all important happenings, especially details of the literary program, and to present a constructive criticism thereof.

Organizer, elected for a term of three months. Should be a member of keen observation, sound judgment and some diplomacy. Duties: To be ever ready with plans for increasing the efficiency of the club and enlarging the membership. Also a member of the arrangements committee.

Arrangements committee, chosen for term of three months, composed of the organizer and two other capable members. Duties: To arrange for and plan all literary programs, entertainments and other events of the Circle.

Financial secretary, recording secretary, corresponding secretary and treasurer, elected for term of three

months. Duties: The same as those of similar officers in other organizations.

The time allotted for the meeting should not be over two hours. A business meeting of approximately three-quarters of an hour to an hour is long enough. Long drawn out business meetings are exceedingly tiresome to young people, and the shorter they are the better they like them. The so-called literary program can also consume an hour with ease. The program is always more interesting to the young folks than the business part of the meeting. Many novel features can be introduced here in order to avoid dull monotony.

In articles to follow, the director, the chairman and the critic will be discussed somewhat in detail, in order to show particularly the educational effect of such officers upon the membership if they are efficient and made to fit the conditions he met with in Brooklyn, N. Y., is well shown by the good work he did with the league there. It would be a good thing to talk over among yourselves any points with which you think you disagree.

THE YIPSEL SURVEY.

The leagues all over the country are doing their bit. There are so many reports of really fine activity received that it is impossible to print them all and do justice to them. The National Champs especially are drawing wide support and enthusiasm and the good done to the movement is already apparent.

NEW YORK STATE. Jamestown already preparing for its annual camp or beautiful Lake Chautauqua. One of their members was a delegate to the Party Convention at St. Louis.

Queens No. 1 is carrying on some fine anti-war work and admitted three of its members into the Party during the past month.

MASSACHUSETTS. Boston is living up to its rep. A dramatic reading by a prominent actor and stage director, and a benefit ball for the N. E. Leader has been held.

Lawrence has been carrying out some fine anti-war propaganda. One of our members

recently memorized the entire anti-war program of the Socialist Party and recited it before the History class under the title of "An Historic Document."

OHIO. Cleveland No. 1 reports that they have reached their low-water mark but are coming back strong. In the past month they had nine educational affairs, one entertainment, and one large dance at the Olive Academy.

Toledo reports a highly successful April Fool's Party debate, and revived interest in business meetings. An anti-conscription meeting recently held was attended by the Y. P. S. L.

GENERAL REPORTS.

Richmond, Ind., is increasing its membership at the rate of two a week and is organizing a baseball team.

Washington, D. C., announces a very successful party, that broke into the local press.

North Side, Pittsburgh, Pa., has a new headquarters for which it pays \$30 a month. They are planning a ball for the benefit of the Westinghouse victims, one of whom is a member of their own league.

New Britain, Conn., will entertain their neighbors from Hartford at a banquet on May first. Ansonia, Conn., is starting a repetition of the Moorey trial to bring home to the people the disreputable methods used in bringing about a conviction.

Elgin, Ill., organizes a new league with 18 charter members.

ANTI-WAR ACTION.

The Bronx, N. Y. Yipsels have taken an anti-war stand in harmony with the principles of the league, and other circles will no doubt find the report of their findings, printed below, of considerable interest.

Friday, March 9th, at a general meeting of the entire membership, the burning question: "What shall be the attitude of the league to militarism?" was discussed and the adoption of the following resolution resulted:

"WHEREAS, war is imminent in the present crisis, and

"WHEREAS, we, the Y. P. S. L. are at all times opposed to war and militarism in all its forms.

WE, the members of the Y. P. S. L. RESOLVE:

1. To co-operate with all other anti-militarist organizations.

2. To spread broadcast all propaganda opposing militarism and war, by open air meetings, by mass meetings, by distribution of literature, and offering all service possible.

Whose Country Is This?

By JOHN M. WORK.

One who says that he has no country is indulging in loose thinking, or at any rate in loose talking.

It is very true that most of this country is owned by the capitalists. It is true that they exploit the workers out of most of the value of their labor and keep the rest themselves. It is true that they use the country for their own financial benefit.

But who made the country what it is? Who built the buildings? Who has done the work in the industries? Who has made all the useful and beautiful things? Who has planted and harvested the crops?

There is but one answer. The workers, mental and manual, have done all this. They have made the country what it is.

Certainly they do not possess the country. It has been stolen from them by the capitalists.

But it is none the less theirs on that account. If a thief steals my watch, it is still mine. If it were not still mine, I would have no right at all to try to get it back.

If this country did not rightly belong to the working class, we would not have the slightest right to try to reclaim it from the robber barons of capitalism. If it were not our country, it would be up to us to let the capitalists do whatever they jolly well please with it, without let or hindrance from us. If it were not our country, we would be mere butters in when we try to reform the country or to get our principles established in any manner.

It is just because it emphatically is our country that we insist and shall keep on insisting that our principles shall be established in it. You see how utterly untenable is the statement that we have no country.

As a matter of fact, those who make this statement do not as a rule disagree with us very much. They simply fail to express themselves accurately. What they really mean is that they are internationalists. So are we all. But that does not mean that we have no country. We stand for a federated world. We work for it continuously. And at the same time we work for the restoration of our own country which the capitalists have stolen from us.

Prepare! For Draft Riots!

"National Defense" is the heading on an advertisement now being run in the jingo press by The Marlin Arms Corporation, New Haven, Conn.

This advertisement might more appropriately be headed, "In times of peace, prepare for the draft and food riots!"

It is called "Bulletin No. 1," indicating that more are to follow, and is addressed "To Local Military Organizations and POLICE DEPARTMENTS". Read it: "It is of the utmost importance that materials for instant use and defense, in case of sudden emergencies, should be at hand and entirely adequate to the requirements. Experience has shown that no one implement of defense or attack is more efficient than the Marlin-Colt Machine Gun, which has met every detail of the most exacting requirements, both in actual warfare or in case of riots or uprisings, and has been adopted by the United States and many foreign governments. Orders for these guns, together with all munitions required, can be filled by us immediately upon receipt of order."

The first riots expected by the master class, that has brought on the present war, will be the protests against conscription. There will also be uprisings against the high and increasing cost of food. For all of which the robber class must be prepared. Watch the police department in your city and see just how many of those Marlin-Colt machine guns it buys. Then remember that it isn't your police department.

WHERE DOES IT COME FROM?

The New York Central Railroad reports that its profits for the past fiscal year amount to \$63,344,017 which is an increase of \$38,672,715 over what it was a year ago and constitutes a profit of 18.3 per cent on all capital stock outstanding, water and all included.

Rush in your orders for the four-page leaflet containing the Socialist Party Manifesto and War Program adopted at St. Louis, Mo. Price: \$1.50 per 1,000. Send all orders to National Office, Socialist Party, 803 W. Madison St., Chicago, Ill.

When peace comes in Europe it will be thru the Socialists who kept their heads, literally and figuratively, in time of trial. Likewise, American Socialists who do not desert their principles can hasten peace by their anti-belligerent activities here.

GRAND RAPIDS, MICH., HEADQUARTERS. B. F. Barndsen, of 79 Monroe Ave., Grand Rapids, Mich., writes that he is ready to take a reading room in the local Socialist office. It is located in the center of the city. He will also take subscriptions for The American Socialist. All local Socialists, and those visiting Grand Rapids, should make this their headquarters.

It was more than two months after Germany declared her submarine policy that congress voted the United States into war. Still we are told that in the face of a great crisis there would never be time to take a referendum of the people on a war declaration.

"Please enroll — name as a subscriber for one year," writes W. T. Busch, of Erie, Pa. "I am a native American and a farmer. Someone has sent me a copy of your paper of April 21, and I am glad to see that you Socialists are opposed to war. I am with you on that. I have firmly resolved to vote the Socialist ticket hereafter."

The latest is that J. Ogden Armour is to abstain from eating meat one day a week as a war-economy measure. With that financial precaution taken, and since the Rev. F. W. Gunsallus has offered his services to the Governor, what have we to fear from war or starvation?

"I wish I were able to send you a thousand times fifty cents," writes Comrade W. H. Grove, Fair Lakes, Wash., as he renews for a year. "But at present it is impossible," he says. "But I have started out on a plan of my own. The first of the year 1917 I made a solemn resolution to drop all capitalist papers. So instead of paying 10 or 15 cents per week for something that does not appeal to me, I drop the same amount in a tea cup and will hold it for campaign funds."

RUN OUT OF TOWN.

A. E. Welch writes from Waco, Texas. "I was mobbed last night and egged by the Home Guards, escorted to the train and virtually run out of town. My assailants numbered between 30 and 40. I had distributed the leaflets against war issued by the national office."

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AMERICAN SOCIALIST

Official Organ of the Socialist Party of the United States.

J. L. ENGDALH, Editor. Entered as second-class matter, July 21, 1914, at the post-office at Chicago, Ill., under the Act of March 3, 1879.

Published every Saturday by the Socialist Party National Office, 803 West Madison St., Chicago, Ill.

BUNDLE RATES.—Bundle Rates One Year to one address: 4 copies \$1.50; 8 copies \$3.00; 10 copies \$3.50; 25 copies \$8.00; 50 copies \$18.75; 100 copies \$35.00. Bundle Rates of Any Issue: 1,000, \$7.50; 500, \$3.75; 200, \$1.50; 100, 75 cents.

SATURDAY, APRIL 28, 1917.

The April Leaflet!

Our April leaflet is entitled "The High Cost Of Living". It was written by Scott Nearing.

This leaflet should be distributed by the hundreds of thousands. You can get these leaflets from the National Office, Socialist Party, 803 West Madison Street, Chicago, Ill., at 10 cents per 100; 75 cents per 1,000.

The cost of living is going up! Let the workers of the nation know the reason why!

"America First!" Demand In Production Of Food

By LUCIEN SAINT.

Washington.—"Produce more Food" cries the Federal Government, and the farmers and the bankers, their former enemies, are joining together to produce more food.

But where do the people come in? Are the people going to get more food? Are the great producers and distributors of finished foodstuffs co-operating with the Government to get food to the consumer at somewhere near cost?

It is easy to grow food. It is yet early in the season. It is possible to plant beans, corn, potatoes still to be harvested this year. This is easy and the Government is taking, quite naturally, the easiest route. But what about marketing the food? What about prices?

Rulers Cast Aside.

The government is asking the people to eat beans instead of meat and corn meal instead of potatoes. A certain king once asked his subjects to eat grass. The Russian czar could not get food to the people, though there was plenty of food in the storehouse. In both cases the people rebelled and cast aside their rulers.

Who stands between the farmer and the government and the eater of food today? Let us know his name that we may collar him and make him, too, become a patriot in this hour when patriotism is all the fashion if not the necessity.

Well, there are the packers. What are their profits? If the cattlemen raise more beef animals, it means more money for the packers. They profit no matter what happens. They have already stifled beef production by the small farmer because they have cut down the profit to the farmer to such a figure that it does not pay him to raise a few head on the side, and he must either raise hundreds or else raise none. The packers perpetuate and profit by the uneconomic system whereby an animal grown in Pennsylvania is shipped to Chicago to be killed, and then shipped back to Pennsylvania to be eaten. Then the packers sell the by-products back to the farmer in the shape of fertilizer, and make another profit.

Are the packers profitably coming across now?

Armour's Patriotism.

J. Ogden Armour made a stab at patriotism the other day when he said that there should be no more speculation in wheat. But when he made this statement his buyers through the United States bought up wheat for future holdings—and made money by the very kind of speculation which their master was denouncing in the press. You cannot beat it.

Yet the United States Government knows these facts. Will it act on them in the interest of the people?

Then there are the millers. The millers used to mix clay and dust in with their flour to give it weight and make money. Now the Government is asking them to grind the whole wheat berry into the flour, thus producing a flour more nutritious and healthful. Are the millers co-operating like patriots? Answer: they are not. They are squealing. They are misrepresenting. They are trying to hold on to their profits derived from the double product of wheat as now milled—four and bran. They say that if they grind the whole wheat to human consumption, the cattle will go hungry. Yet they are charging prices for their bran so high that the cattle will have to go hungry.

Who Is The Patriot? What is this? Who is the patriot? The socialist who is working for the good of all, or the miller and packer who is working for his own good.

Why is rice going up? It is the one crop of the year in which there is no shortage. There is plenty of rice. Yet already it has advanced a cent a pound, and before this is printed it will probably go higher. It may reach ten cents a pound. Rice is food for the poor. What is the Government going to do—sit idly by and see the poor starve while it feeds its soldiers and the people of Europe.

Let us have a little America first!

BUSINESS UNITES AGAINST PUBLIC UTILITY MEASURE.

Public utility lobbyists joined the railroad commission and the Merchants and Manufacturers' association, Milwaukee, to oppose the Kent bill, making it easier for Milwaukee to engage in public utility enterprises. The spectacle furnished by this trinity appearing in opposition to every measure to release the people from the grip of privately owned utilities is getting monotonous. This combination has been eminently successful in the present legislature. The Kent bill was introduced in the legislature by H. O. Kent, Socialist.