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The Iowa Socialist.

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TOO MANY SOCIALIST PAPERS

If we are Socialists, why do we not combine on one or two good papers and not waste our efforts on so many small, inferior ones?

This sounds pretty well. But is the argument based on Socialist philosophy? Are journalism and literature to become departments of industry under Socialism? Certainly not! These are not means of exploitation. Socialism will allow to the individual the fullest and freest expression of himself. Then the Socialist movement must allow it now.

Full and frank discussion OF PRINCIPLES is the only safe course in the Socialist movement. Let the individual speak, write and print his thought. Only thus may we all grow into a great unity of purpose.

Do not discourage the verdant Socialist journalist. His soul is on fire and he must speak out. The cold public will not respond, and it is probable that he must pay his own printing bills at great sacrifice to himself. But speak he must, and if the burden is too heavy he will rest a while later, or share the burden with someone else, and so at last a Socialist journal is founded.

There is something pathetic in Comrade Wentworth's statement in the closing number of The Socialist Spirit to the effect that he could not bring himself to use the capitalistic methods to extend his circulation. Even the Socialists work at times with capitalist minds. There are many among us who think that a Socialist paper has not the right to live unless it is backed by some able capitalist promoter. We do not object to such a paper. A number of such are needed and we will have them. But right now we wish to enter our protest against the opposition to the little, struggling periodical, born of the fervor of some heroic soul, which makes its bow now and then in the Socialist movement.

Not all of us are orators, but we will speak. Not all of us are literary artists, but we will write.

"There is not room enough," says one.

We reply: WE WILL MAKE ROOM AS WE GO. F. G. S.

A special dispatch from Washington to the Haverhill Gazette reads:

The Republican National Committee, through its chairman, Senator Hanna, yesterday took up the question of preventing the further spread of Socialism, with a Massachusetts manufacturer, who came on here for the purpose of explaining the features of a plan which has been devised by certain well known men of character and standing in a community which last year elected a Socialist mayor and has for some time been the center of Socialist activity.

The scheme is said to be an educational movement against Socialism; not an ante-election program, but a continual bombardment of its doctrines and teachings from one year's end to another, thus preventing it from being purely a political idea, sprung within a few weeks of an election.

Hanna takes kindly to the program. Moody, whose home city of Haverhill has been one of the strongholds of Socialism for several years, is said to approve it and has volunteered to talk about it with Postmaster General Payne, with whom he is associated in the cabinet. Payne is vice-chairman of the republican national committee.

The fact is that the growth of the Socialist movement in Massachusetts and other enlightened communities has rather alarmed the republican leaders, who are anxious to head it off.

Senator Spooner, of Wisconsin, sanctions the plan. In Milwaukee alone the Socialists cast 15,000 votes at the last election, and every one knows that in Massachusetts the increase last year was something like 200 per cent, in some measure, probably, due to the coal strike and attendant evils.

As a general principle, however, the Socialist vote has gained rapidly all over the country. Locally its opponents have apparently been unable to combat it, and it is now proposed to undertake the task under the auspices of the republican national committee.

The gentlemen who are fathering the plan are not cranks. They are men of repute, and if their names were given they would be instantly recognized as leading business men and republicans of their respective cities.

They propose to have a certain number of well-informed gentlemen who have made a study of Socialism, and who claim to be able to expose its fallacies and unsound doctrines, travel about the country, and in public speeches, printed literature and other equally effective means meet the arguments of the other side.

This will require the expenditure of some money—perhaps \$50,000 to begin with. The plan is to get the movement under way at once, so that its benefits will be felt in a substantial way in the presidential election next year, and continue the educational campaign from then on.

Friends of the idea say that free silver was knocked out in 1896 by educational methods, and that there is no reason why similar means employed against Socialism will not be equally effective in 1904.

The gentlemen now in Washington on

this matter argue that Socialism is nothing but confiscation, pure and simple, and they say this fact, if properly used, together with other material they have in hand, will be sure to sound the death knell of the Socialist party in America.

It is strange that the "fallacies and unsound doctrines" of Socialism should grow in "enlightened communities." Wonder where all these "well-informed gentlemen who have made a deep study of Socialism and who claim to be able to expose its fallacies" are to be found.

The Socialists have been looking for them for 10, these many years. They have challenged them to meet the Socialists in debate, but nary an acceptance of the challenge. Just how "well informed" these gentlemen are may be inferred from their comparison of the Socialist movement with the free silver agitation of 1896, and their fond delusion that the former may be as easily "knocked out" as the latter. Methinks it will require more than \$50,000 worth of "dope" to do the trick. Millions were required in '96 and Bryan still holds the bottle in the ring corner and says the ten seconds are not up. A campaign of education based on the argument that Socialism is nothing but confiscation pure and simple! Well, well! It is possible that before this course of education is finished a majority of the pupils will learn the very apparent fact that over 80 per cent of the products of 90 per cent of the population is being confiscated by 10 per cent of the population under the present system of capitalism and they may conclude it is time for the 90 per cent to do the "confiscation" act on the 10 per cent.

It is possible that so far from sounding the death knell of the Socialist party this action of the republican national committee will sound the death knell of the republican party. There is a legend of the Scottish coast of the Abbot of Aberbrothok who placed a buoy and a bell on a dangerous reef, known as the Inchcape Rock, to warn the passing mariner, and of a gay skipper, Sir Ralph the Rover, who, in a spirit of deviltry, cut the bell from the buoy and sunk it in the sea with the remark, as Southey puts it in his poem:

"The next who comes to the Rock
Won't bless the Abbot of Aberbrothok."

Afterward Sir Ralph returned to the coast with a ship laden with merchandise, was caught in a storm and driven upon the Inchcape Rock and went down with his craft.

But even in his dying fear
One dreadful sound could the Rover hear,
A sound as if with the Inchcape bell
The fiends below were ringing his knell.

For years it has been the studied policy of the capitalist press to avoid all mention of Socialism. This policy is to

be replaced by a campaign of "education." This will result to the republican party as did the sinking of the bell to Sir Ralph the Rover. The waves of thought that this proposed campaign of education will set in motion will not sound the death knell of Socialism, but of capitalism.

Patronize our advertisers.

Frederick G. Strickland at Stout Auditorium next Tuesday evening, March 24.

The Iowa Socialist in clubs of four or more for twenty-five cents per year. Four postal subscription cards good for one year each for \$1.00. They are handy. Order a bunch.

Can there be any sane reason why men should work two hours per day for themselves and then work eight hours to pay for the privilege of being allowed to work the two?

Trust yourself. The Socialist would teach every man to have confidence in himself. Men have too often been misled by depending on others—blind leaders of the blind.



FREDERICK G. STRICKLAND

Will speak on "Ecclesiastical Criticism of Socialism" at Stout Auditorium on Tuesday evening, March 24. Admission free. Everybody cordially invited.

W. H. Ferber, late candidate for state insurance commissioner of Wisconsin on the democratic ticket, in a letter to the Milwaukee Sentinel on the political situation says:

"That the old democratic party will soon cease to be a factor in our national body politic, will not be denied by anyone who has made a scientific study of social economics. It does not follow that this old party founded by Jefferson will soon pass out of existence because the republicans and Socialists say so; or because they hope and pray for its downfall; but because it has outlived its usefulness to the people of this nation."

"I am not in favor of murder, but give us the labor union with all its murders, its brutality and all its lawlessness rather than a continuation of the evils under which the workmen of today are compelled to labor."

The above statement was made by Prof. John H. Gray, of the chair of political economy in Northwestern University before a Sunday school class in Evanston, Ill. Better be careful, professor. The first thing you know you will have to give up your nicely padded chair for the soap box of the street corner Socialist agitator.

The Comrade for March is a notable issue in every sense of the word. The cartoons by Ryan Walker and the many other illustrations are excellent. Among the chief literary features are Jack London's "How I Became a Socialist," which is written in the noted novelists' best style; the "London Residence of Karl Marx," and "Socialist" and "Social Democrat, the Story of the Names We Bear," both by Editor Spargo. Photographs which have never before been published in any country of the houses where Marx lived and wrote "Capital" and other works and where he died are given, as well as two portraits of Robert Owen "The First Socialist" which have never before been published, and one of Bronterre O'Brien "The First Social Democrat." Lady Florence Dixie, Lucinda B. Chandler, M. J. Konikow, Frank B. Stuhlman, Peter E. Burrows and Prof. Edward H. Griggs are among the other contributors. The Comrade, 11 Cooper square, N. Y.



Algernon—Socialism may be all right in theory, but it will never work in practice.
Cholly—Why of course it wouldn't. This "dividing up" would be all right for a while, but we men of brains and ability would soon be at the front again.

SOCIALISM

An Encyclical

Another step toward that goal, which ere our race begun,
Was Kismet in that Consciousness which marches with the sun.
Another triumph of that Will which ere the path was trod,
Drew effect in human heart—the cause, we place with God.

When first evolved in ages gone, the trace of psychic life
Appeared a gift by far too frail to rid the world of strife.
For evil is, and ever was, and evermore must be
Till man shall truly know his God—and knowing, shall be free.
And yet, as with the stars which trace their spiral course
Obedient, though unconscious, to the great mysterious Force:
So with mankind it is—the orbit's upward range
Is charted in the human mind; though lights may fade and change.
For deep beneath the physis form, unseen of mortal eyes
There dwells the Breath of God in man—the Spirit never dies:
And living must redeem the clay—through all eternity
The Spirit seeks to find itself.—Liberty, Equality, Fraternity.

Liberty! In diviner sense—and not in name alone.
A liberty which shall crown the man, with reason for a throne;
A liberty which shall free mankind from evils which disgrace;
And render fit to dwell with God the errant human race.
Equality! In the gifts of God—equality in the toil—
Equality in the wage he grants for tilling of the soil—
Equality in the social life; and time to train the mind,
Though myriad be the seekers, there are but few can find.
Fraternity! Of humanity, and not that of the hour,
Which, leonine, is but fraternal when it cannot devour.
Fraternity of intellect; of love; of joy; of pain,
As through that which we call our life we seek the higher plane.
Community of interest—a stoppage of that waste
Which causes men to fear sometimes the world was made in haste:
That somewhere in creation a mistake was made in plan,
But 'tis not so! the great mistake is not of God, but man.

The Future must redeem the Past, the Present seems but drear
Compared with that which faith can see since science conquered fear.
The future which shall give to Love abiding place and trust
On earth as 'tis in heaven—as even did the Christ.

No Book can hold the human race enchanted with its art,
Though part may hold the past so dear—remember, 'tis but part!
Eternal Truth is buried not in written word or creed—
It ever springs to newer life in noble thought and deed!
No Cross, nor Crescent, bounds the Way—ought God is all in all!
The prophets still repeat the Truth—oh, hearken to their call
Until the world shall glow with life, with grandest social health—
And lose its Self in gaining more—the Human Commonwealth.

—Robert Bielby, Dubuque, Iowa.

Don't forget Frederick G. Strickland at Stout Auditorium next Tuesday evening. Bring your friends. Ladies invited.

The following are Prof. Kirkpatrick's dates for remainder of March and April: Boone, March, 23-28; Sac City, March 30-April 2; Lake City, 3-4; Sigourney, 6-11; Clinton, 12-18; Ryan, 20-22; Dubuque, 23-25.

Comrade F. H. Boni, of Sioux City, reports the branch of that city as voting against the proposition of the Des Moines branch, that the delegates to the state convention consist of the entire membership of the party.

Two hundred button cutters employed by the Iroquois Pearl Button works, of Dubuque, went on strike last week. The average wage of the men, according to their statement, is \$7.00 per week. It is said the button factory was established here on condition of a certain bonus being paid the company by the Retailers Association, and the company to employ a certain number of men at fair wages. Is \$7.00 per week fair wages for an American workingman with a family?

A sample is an invitation to subscribe.

Comrade W. A. Jacobs says the branches are awakening to the necessity and importance of subscriptions to the organizing fund. Davenport local has appointed a committee to solicit for same.

In Bath, Maine, at the recent municipal election the republicans and democrats combined against the Socialists. The election results proved the wisdom of this course on the part of the old parties. The Socialists polled 37 per cent. of the total vote, more than double their vote of last September.

Comrade John E. Shank, of Sioux City, writes of Prof. Kirkpatrick, who delivered six lectures in that city and who will speak in Dubuque April 23-24-25. "He is one of the best who ever spoke for our cause. I have heard Debs and I think he is just as good as Comrade Debs. Kirkpatrick is full of force, energy, fire, wit and eloquence. To hear him is inspiring; to know him is to love him." He deserves the esteem and patronage of all Socialists. I know Dubuque will do him good and he will turn that old town upside down if he gets a chance."

Ohio Socialist Notes

The municipal elections in Ohio are progressing nicely and present indications point to a general increase in the vote.

The state committee is voting on time and place of holding the state convention for 1903.

Locals Cincinnati, Dayton, Toledo and Cleveland have engaged paid organizers who are devoting all their time to the work of organization and propaganda within their respective districts.

Father Thos. J. Hagerty will in the future speak under the auspices of the Central Lecture Bureau and all applications for engagements should be addressed to W. G. Critchlow.

J. W. Slayton will tour Ohio under the auspices of the carpenters unions and the Socialist locals.

A short tour in the cities having municipal tickets in the field is being arranged for Harry C. Thompson by the state secretary.

Several new locals are in process of formation in the state and it is expected that the organization will grow at a rapid rate during the spring and summer months.

Father McGrady speaks at Kokomo, Ind., March 19; Terre Haute, March 22; Mt. Vernon, March 23; Evansville, March 24; Jacksonville, Ill., March 25; Chicago, March 26; South Chicago, March 27; Williamston, Mich., March 28; Conneaut, Ohio, March 29; Buffalo, N. Y., March 30; Waterbury, Conn., March 31; New Haven, April 1; Hartford, April 2; Bridgeport, April 3; Lawrence, Mass., April 4; Chelsea, April 7; Somerville, April 8; Worcester, April 9, and Newton April 10.

A continuous circuit of dates for summer agitation is being arranged in Ohio for the summer season and it is expected that an open air speaker will be sent over this circuit every two weeks during the entire summer season.

Convention Call

IOWA STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR. To all state craft organizations, city central bodies, local trades unions and Federal labor unions in Iowa, Greeting:

In compliance with the constitution of the Iowa State Federation of Labor, notice is hereby given that the eleventh annual convention of the Iowa State Federation of Labor will be held in the city of Davenport, Iowa, beginning at 10 o'clock Tuesday morning, May 12, 1903.

The state federation is composed of representatives from state craft organizations, city central bodies and local unions organized under the trade union system, on the following basis:

From local unions, one delegate for each 100 members or majority fraction thereof, from state organizations, city centrals, building trades councils, allied printing trades councils and metal trades councils, three delegates-at-large.

Where a city central organization is affiliated with the State Federation of Labor all local unions connected with said city central organization are also affiliated with the State Federation of Labor and entitled to delegates to the convention.

Credentials in duplicate are forwarded with this call to all local unions and other representative labor organizations in the state. The original credential must be given to the delegate-elect, who must be a member in good standing in his craft; the duplicate credential must be forwarded to Secretary J. H. Strief at Sioux City, Iowa.

The committee on credentials will meet on May 11, and they will report immediately after the opening of the convention.

During the past year many new locals have been organized in every city of the state. The demand for organizers has exceeded the supply, and the records show 720 local unions in the state, with a membership of 45,000. The Iowa State Federation of Labor cordially invites all locals not yet affiliated to send representatives to Davenport, and join without further delay.

It is suggested to all trades or crafts interested that they take advantage of the convention meeting and send delegates instructed to form such state organizations, so as to reap the benefits of more thorough State-wide organization.

Davenport has ample hotel accommodations, the prices are moderate, and no pains will be spared by the local members to make the delegates welcome.

The railroads have granted a conditional rate of one and one-third fare from all points in Iowa, on the certificate plan. On the presentation of 100 or more certificates showing a purchase of tickets at a fare exceeding 50 cents, the holders

of certificates will be entitled to a return rate of one-third fare. Delegates must not forget to call for a certificate when purchasing tickets. Failure to procure a certificate will invalidate any claim for reduction in fare.

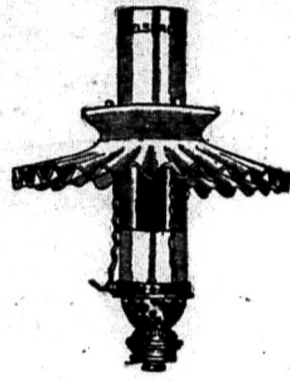
Resolutions and proposed amendments to the constitution should be furnished the delegates by their locals as an aid to quick and easy dispatch of business.

Further information will be cheerfully given by the president, secretary or any member of the executive committee. Fraternally yours,

ARTHUR E. HOLDER, Pres. J. H. STRIEF, Secretary.

Secretaries of Iowa branches will confer a favor by sending to this office all news in regard to the movement in their respective localities.

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THE IOWA SOCIALIST, SIXTH AND 70WA STREETS, DUBUQUE, IOWA

X RAYS

By JOHN M. WORK

Congress has adjourned.

Did that fine "friend of labor" for whom you voted last fall break down his health by working too hard in the interest of labor during the session?

How hard these poor fellows worked for the benefit of the workingman! Every senator and congressman was a "friend of labor." How do I know they were? Why, didn't they say they were? And, didn't you believe them and vote for them on the strength of it? I say, every senator and congressman was a "friend of labor." They introduced the anti-injunction bill and the safety appliance bill and the eight hour bill early in the session. They were all agreed that these bills ought to pass.

Are there any thistles out your way? If so, take a good look at them and see if you find any figs growing on them. Idiotic, isn't it? But, not any more so than your voting for your enemies. Do you not know perfectly well that the republican and democratic parties stand for the continuation of capitalism, and that they must therefore work for the interests of the capitalists? Do you not know that the campaign funds of the republican and democratic parties come wholly from capitalistic sources?

Henry Loomis Nelson says in an article in the Century Magazine: "They (the senators of the United States) call the offices their offices, not the country's offices." At the present time they are not at all mistaken in calling them so.

The employers who really exercise a managerial office in their own business are as badly overworked by the capitalist system as the employees. Thousands of them stay down town until late at night, working, planning and scheming to get ahead or to keep the sheriff from the door.

Giant Trusts

By Rev. R. H. Shaftoe

My name is Trusts. I'm big and stout, and though I'm often talked about, it makes me laugh most every day. To hear what people have to say, I squeeze them here, and pinch them there. I drive them almost to despair; yet all their scolding does no harm; there's nothing causes me alarm.

In congress too, I'm often said that some one soon will get my head. But well I know, that I control both house and senate, as a whole. They talk against me, but you see they always legislate for me.

But should there ever come a day, when people watch, as well as pray, when votes are cast with purpose true, when deeds are many, words are few,

around all they please. If they only knew it, they too will be infinitely benefited by Socialism, but they cannot be expected to see it, because they think they are doing things up brown as it is and that any change would be disastrous to them.

Socialism impracticable? Look at the hundreds of thousands of men, women and children who subsisted on charity during the winter just passed and then ask yourself if the present system is practicable.

When Morgan and Rockefeller and Armour and a few more multimillionaires get all of the wealth in their hands they will combine with each other. Then where will you be? In the soup? Guess again. You will be in a rare position to lay your hand upon all their capital and make it public property.

It is a sad fact that the irony of fate causes a man of advanced views to be lauded after he is dead by men whom he would have scorned when living.

The employers who really exercise a managerial office in their own business are as badly overworked by the capitalist system as the employees. Thousands of them stay down town until late at night, working, planning and scheming to get ahead or to keep the sheriff from the door.

Read our great offer on page three of this issue. The International Socialist Review, regular price \$1.00, a standard cloth bound book worth 50 cents, and The Iowa Socialist, one year, all for \$1.00. P. C. Murray, the lawyer in the office building, makes a specialty of drawing wills and settling estates. I repair all kinds of stoves. George Sheldon, 661 18th street, Dubuque. The Iowa Socialist in clubs of four or more for twenty-five cents per year.

The Social Evil

By the Observer

"Is there a hell bad enough for men that will allure innocent young girls from their homes and force them into a life of shame for \$100 a head?" Such was the question put by Archbishop Keane to an immense throng which filled every seat in St. Raphael's spacious cathedral on a recent Sunday afternoon. The eloquent prelate denounced in scathing terms those engaged in the soul-destroying traffic. According to Mrs. Lucy Charlton, the purity evangelist, there are over 300,000 fallen women in the United States. The same lady is authority for the statement that 1,000,000 little children and 5,000,000 women are employed in the mills, mines and shops of this country. What a proud record for the greatest of republics and "the most Christian nation on earth." Think of it! Five million women and one million children doing the work that men ought to do—competing with their fathers, their brothers, and frequently their husbands, receiving in the vast majority of cases but a bare pittance for their labor and incidentally dragging down the wages of men! In the sweatshops alone of this country there are upwards of 200,000 women employed, a large number of whom do not receive more than \$1.00 per week! Now is it possible for any woman to feed and clothe herself on \$1.00 per week? The wonder is not that some women have gone astray, but that a far greater number have not fallen into the pit dug for their unwary feet.

Dubuque is immoral enough, yet there are places worse than Dubuque. In Des Moines recently the police raided one of the wine rooms in that city. The proprietor was arrested. Among several female witnesses who testified in the case was one who admitted she was a woman of the underworld; that she had been frequently arrested by the police and that she had pleaded guilty to being a disorderly person upon trial in police court. Here is what she says, as reported in the Des Moines News:

"But," said she, drawing a deep sigh, and expressing facially the wretched frame of mind at which she had arrived, "I am going to tell the truth about this case. It may be charged in reply that my reputation is that of a fallen woman. It will, perhaps, be claimed that I have drunk whiskey and made a wretch of myself. It is all true, Judge," addressing the court with a face sternly set and lips compressed, as though it cost her an effort, "but God knows if I did not submit to do as I have I would have no place to sleep and nothing to eat. I have not a dollar, no, not a cent. I can not go into respectable society or seek employment in good families, because I have placed myself beyond the pale. No good woman and no self-respecting man wants to come in polluting touch with me. The police hound me here and there. The saloon habitués debauch me with whiskey and vile wines. But I am going to give the court the truth in this case, let it hit whom it may. I, with other women, have frequented the saloon kept by this man. We have prostituted ourselves in the place and have consorted with men as much worse than we were morally as I am worse than a pure woman. They used to keep a lounge in

the back room. I have paid the proprietors twenty-five cents for the use of this cot many, many times. I have drunk whiskey in the place until my brain reeled, and in the delirium of debauchery I was only the physical semblance, the base counterfeit of a woman. Oh, God, I am weary and heartsick of a life that takes hold upon hell and finds relief only in the grewsome oblivion of the grave."

She sank back in her chair and as the terrible thoughts of her past and present pulsed through her swirling brain, she burst into sobs. A strange hush fell upon the crowd in the court room. Justice Duncan turned away with a suspicious gesture with his handkerchief toward his eyes. Two or three hardened rouders who had looked without a touch of sympathy upon the seamy side of life, arose and tiptoed out of the room. The attorneys and reporters, calloused by frequent contact with the miseries of the world, sat mute spectators of a scene that struck a vibrant chord in their scarred natures.

Yet it is only recently that it was stated in the columns of The Iowa Socialist that some of the Des Moines business men were roundly scoring the city administration because more money was not collected from the above class of women!

If it were possible to ascertain the early history of this poor woman, it would doubtless be found that she went to Des Moines from one of the small towns close to that city in search of employment, fell into the hands of some human ghoul who robbed her of the most priceless jewel that woman can possess and then deserted her. Her virtue gone, every door was closed against her and she drifted into a life of shame. Society forced her to seek employment away from home, and when she had sinned society refused to condone the offense. Yet it is of such as she that Christ said: "Let him who is without sin among you cast the first stone." But what became of the author of her ruin? If he was wealthy society forgave him and received him with open arms.

Under Socialism this woman would not be compelled to seek employment away from home. She would not need to ask employment of anyone. She would be entitled to employment by reason of the fact that she was a human being. Her labor would entitle her to an equal share of the wealth created by the commonwealth. She would possess the same privileges as man—political and industrial, and surely woman could be trusted to use the ballot to prevent the degradation of her sex.

So long as men, women and children are compelled to bid against each other for employment, so long will there be crime, misery and want. Do away with competition and you do away with the social evil. Strange that a man possessing the intelligence and ability of Archbishop Keane can see the misery with which the world is filled, know that it is the result of the brutal competitive system under which we live, and yet uphold that system.

belief still hovers away, even if it has lost power to other channels of public opinion.

But the real question is: Is Socialism anti-Christian? To make it clear, it is necessary to distinguish between Socialism as a future state of society and Socialism as a movement toward that state of society. It is also necessary to distinguish between the ideals of Christianity and the practice of the church. Like all other social institutions it is dependent on the owners of the earth for its support. When the struggle between the workers and the capitalists comes to a crisis it will without doubt be with the masters. Some form of union among the churches, both Protestant and Catholic, in defense of capitalism will take place. The world's workers will find the forces of organized religion arrayed against them. But, outside of this organized array, what is the relation of Socialism to real religion as sincerely professed by individuals? The tactics which the Socialist movement must follow are of necessity opposed to the Christian teachings, for the Socialist movement is carried on WITHIN the confines of a social system which makes the PRACTICE of the Christian ideals IMPOSSIBLE.

But the victory of the Socialist movement would replace this system by one in which it would be possible for people to live according to Christian precepts. Socialism as a movement is anti-Christian, but Socialism as a future state of society would for the first time make it possible to put the ethics of Christianity into practice. Socialism and Christianity conflict as to methods, but the establishment of Socialism would insure the moral result which real Christianity seeks to accomplish, by giving it a material basis, the mainspring of all moral progress. Christianity exhorts the individual to rise superior to his surroundings by sheer moral force. Socialists assert, with the sanction of science, that the environment forms the character and determines the nature of individuals and that the change in the social environment which Socialism advocates will physically, mentally and morally elevate the whole race. The "Christian Socialists," even though ardent and sincere, carry into their agitation work the methods of the church. They point to Jesus as a Socialist and appeal to the unreliable sentimental idealism of individuals rather than the material interests of the working class upon which the movement is based. It was IMPOSSIBLE for Jesus to be a Socialist, because industrial, social and political evolution only now makes Socialism possible. It being impossible in his age to perfect the environment of the race, he devoted himself to fighting the effects of that environment. He was simply a reformer. It is for this reason that after so many hundreds of years of preaching his precepts have had so little practical effect and are not practiced by those who preach them. Those who oppose Socialism on account of their belief in Christianity should remember that it is absolutely certain that capitalism and every church which supports it is ANTI-CHRISTIAN and that only under Socialism will even an application of Christian ethics be possible. And also the pulpit, which defends the present social system with its consequences of suffering, poverty, vice, crime and war. The charge that Socialism is against the teachings of Jesus is a preposterous piece of impudence and false witness.

The statement, if made, that Christianity is opposed to Socialism, is the severest indictment of Christianity ever enunciated. There is neither a Socialist church nor a Socialist dogma. Only confusion, worse confounded can result from the attempt to mix a material science with a metaphysical speculation. Socialism has no fight against the church as such; its fight is with world wide capitalism. Let the church adhere strictly to its emotional sphere and the Socialists devote their whole time to "economic knittin'" and there will be no trouble, but if the church gets in the way of this economic evolution with the loss of some of its tail feathers—well, "who pays the piper may call the tune"—it will be none of our funeral. C. Y. EDKINS.

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SOCIALIST PLATFORM

Adopted at Indianapolis, Ind., 1902.

The Socialist party in convention assembled, reaffirms its adherence to the principles of International Socialism, and declares its aim to be the organization of the working class, and those in sympathy with it, into a political party, with the object of conquering the powers of government and using them for the purpose of transforming the present system of private ownership of the means of production and distribution into collective ownership by the entire people.

Formerly the tools of production were simple and owned by individual workers. Today, the machine, which is an improved and more developed tool of production, is owned by the capitalists and not by the workers. The ownership enables the capitalists to control the product and keep the workers dependent upon them.

Private ownership of the means of production and distribution is responsible for the ever-increasing uncertainty of the livelihood and poverty and misery of the working class, and divides society into two hostile classes—the capitalists and wage workers. The once powerful middle class is rapidly disappearing in the mill of competition. The struggle is now between the capitalist class and the working class. The possession of the means of livelihood gives the capitalists the control of the government, the press, the pulpit and the schools, and enables them to reduce the workingmen to a state of intellectual, physical and social inferiority, political subservience and virtual slavery.

The economic interests of the capitalist class dominate our entire social system; the lives of the working class are recklessly sacrificed for profit, wars are fomented between nations, indiscriminate slaughter is encouraged and the destruction of whole races is sanctioned in order that the capitalists may extend their commercial dominion abroad and enhance their supremacy at home.

But the same economic causes which developed capitalism are leading to Socialism, which will abolish both the capitalist class and the class of wage workers. And the active force in bringing about this new and higher order of society is the working class. All other classes, despite their apparent or actual conflicts, are alike interested in the upholding of the system of private ownership of the instruments of wealth production. The democratic, republican, the bourgeois public ownership parties, and all other parties which do not stand for the complete overthrow of the capitalist system of production, are alike political representatives of the capitalist class.

The workers can most effectively act as a class in their struggle against the collective powers of capitalism, by constituting themselves into a political party, distinct from and opposed to all parties formed by the propertied classes. While we declare that the development of economic conditions tends to the overthrow of the capitalist system, we recognize that the time and manner of the transition to Socialism also depends upon the stage of development reached by the proletariat. We therefore, consider it of the utmost importance for the Socialist party to support all active efforts of the working class to better its condition and to elect Socialists to political offices in order to facilitate the attainment of this end. As such means we advocate:

1. The public ownership of all means of transportation and communication and all other public utilities, as well as of all industries controlled by trusts, and combines; no part of the revenue of such industries to be applied to the needs of the capitalist class, but to be applied wholly to the increase of wages and shortening hours of labor of the employes, and to the improvement of the service, and diminishing the rates to the consumers.
 2. The progressive reduction of the hours of labor and the increase of wages in order to decrease the share of the capitalist and increase the share of the worker in the product of labor.
 3. State or national insurance of working people in case of accidents, lack of employment, sickness and want in old age; the funds for this purpose to be collected from the revenue of the capitalist class, and to be administered under the control of the working class.
 4. The inauguration of a system of public industries, credit to be used for that purpose in order that the workers be secured the full product of their labor.
 5. The education of all children up to the age of 18 years, and state and municipal aid for books, clothing and food.
 6. Equal civil and political rights for men and women.
 7. The initiative and referendum, proportional representation and the right of recall of representatives by their constituents.
- But in advocating these measures in steps in the overthrow of capitalism and the establishment of the Co-operative Commonwealth, we warn the working class against the so-called public ownership movements as an attempt of the capitalist class to secure governmental control of public utilities for the purpose of obtaining greater security in the exploitation of other industries and not for the amelioration of the conditions of the working class.

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Christianity, the Church and Socialism

No Socialist could do otherwise than commend the wholesome advice of Comrade Strickland's "Religion and Socialism." While there is no humor contained therein, yet to one who has met the comrade there is an inseparable connection with what he says and that broad, good-natured smile which discovers a set of white prominent "Teddy Roosevelts." Every intelligent Socialist is aware that every social era has its superstructural phenomena, and a religion is not an exception to the rule. During all social changes the methods and forms of worship have adjusted themselves to meet the changes in scientific knowledge and economic relationship. At each and every period there was a gradation in religious worship which corresponds to gradations in social classes. Thus the most intellectual ecclesiastics become the highest paid wage laborers of capitalism, inasmuch as they are "next to" the highest grade of capitalist society's social classes.

At the bottom of the scale the social student has nervous paroxysms witnessing the mental and physical gymnastics of a Holy Band, whose prototype, to a

degree at least, was the old fashioned Methodist revival.

Within the intervening points there are many good and honest priests and clergymen that the Socialist movement would do well not to make enemies of by wholesale and sweeping combat of the church. There is no hint, however, that we should resort to the methods of appealing to an unreliable, emotional sentimentalism, for nothing puts me into a fit of the "mully grubs" more speedily than the misnomer, as well as the misfortune, of the movement as "Christian Socialism." The church has in its missionary and revival work universally appealed to the emotions. The Socialist movement bases its appeal upon the material interests of a class. The science in economic determinism is obviously un-theological. It is un-Christian in the same sense that mathematics or astronomy is un-Christian—that is, it has no connection with Christianity. It is from this point of view that this science will receive the bombardment and the anathema of the organized church.

We have nothing to gain and something to lose by firing back. Religious

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March 23—Rockford, Ill. March 27—Lincoln, Neb.
March 24—Dubuque, Iowa. March 28-30—Denver, Colo.
JONES:
March 16-30—Aspen, Colo.
STRICKLAND AND JONES:
March 31-April 6—Aspen, Colo.

From the Field

Cincinnati is an industrial center with an aggressive and harmonious Socialist movement. Doctor Swing, the candidate for mayor, is as musical and happy as ever. Comrades Thompson, Vaupel, Ficks, Kendall and others are in the thick of the fight. The republicans own the town. The democrats are making a stand under the "Citizens Ticket." The disappearance of the democrats will place our ticket second on the ballot, unless the election board remake the law when they interpret it.

Across the river is Newport, the Socialist home of Comrade Charles Oliver Jones. Comrade Nagle, Townner and others are busy workers in a busy movement. The women are a most active factor in the local.

The comrades at Washington, Ind., had the meeting announced so thoroughly that the People's Theater was filled. Many listened to a Socialist lecture for the first time. Comrades Cook, Zinkam, Huddleston and others had worked hard for the success of the meeting.

Vincennes, Ind., is one of the oldest towns in the state and as conservative as it is old. The faithful work of such comrades as Aubrey and Schenker is beginning to tell. Mrs. Strickland, Duncan Strickland and the agitator will always have pleasant memories of their two days' visit in the Aubrey home.

Sullivan, Ind., is another staid old county-seat town. It was here that Comrade Geo. D. Herron once worked as a printer's boy. At last the old place is beginning to think some Socialist thoughts. It was a warm Saturday afternoon and all the farmers were in town. I mounted a store box from Comrade Kirkham's harness shop. The multitude gathered. The street fakirs suspended business for an hour.

Terre Haute, Ind., is famous in Socialist lore as the home of Comrade Eugene V. Debs. It is the seat of the Standard Publishing Co., publishers of the books of Father McGrady, Father Hagerty, Comrade Debs and others. Here is the home of "The Toiler." This is the state headquarters of Indiana and Comrade Oneal is now reinstated at his old post as secretary after his trip to Aspen, Colo., and back again. I had a pleasant chat with Comrade J. H. Hollingsworth, one of the original members of the "Social Crusade," and a happy visit at the home of Comrade Stephen M. Reynolds, the Walt Whitman of the Socialist movement. F. G. S.

Correspondence

At National Headquarters

Socialism has broken out in Minnesota. At the town election in Austin on March 10, the Socialist party elected its candidate for alderman-at-large, P. H. Zender, by a vote of 497 out of a total of 904. Socialists are also credited with defeating new charter which attempted to limit right to hold office to freeholders only. Let the "campaign of education" go on.

Comrade George E. Boomer will make a short tour of Idaho in the interest of organization, the national headquarters co-operating upon his expenses. Boomer has spoken in Kentucky, Chicago, Cincinnati, West Virginia, Omaha and Grand Island, Neb., since the national committee meeting and reports progress everywhere.

Comrade John W. Slayton, Socialist councilman and business agent of the Trades and Labor Assembly of New Castle, Pa., will make a three months' lecture tour of Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Wisconsin, Missouri and Virginia among the carpenters' unions under the direction of national headquarters. The tour opens at Pittsburg, April 1. Applications for dates are coming in rapidly.

Comrade John C. Chase fills dates in Louisiana as follows: March 20, Covington; March 21, Clinton; March 23, Lake Charles; March 24, New Orleans. He begins a two weeks' stay in Arkansas at Pine Bluff on March 26, and Little Rock, March 27. He will visit the various Arkansas locals and facilitate the formation of a state organization.

Comrade Costley, organizer of San Francisco local, writes national headquarters that "fusion here is dead and buried. We are building up rapidly again, and will soon have a mem-

bership of 400 in good standing, and expect to make it a thousand before next fall election." An organization boom is on all over California.

In view of Comrade Enrico Ferri's prospective visit to this country next fall, the national headquarters would like to hear from the various cities where French and Italian comrades are located, relative to the arrangements of meetings for Ferri. By this means the national officials will be able to estimate just what responsibility to assume for Comrade Ferri's tour. It should be easy to arrange for meetings in the larger cities. Address national secretary, Omaha, Neb., as soon as possible.

Socialists at Barre, Vt., are increasing right along. In 1901 they polled 222 votes, in 1902, 246 votes, and at the spring election just held they polled 352 votes, while their opponents polled 952 votes. Republicans and democrats are already talking of uniting. Debs' lecture in Barre, recently, helped greatly.

Kansas senate last week killed the child labor bill, which provided that no child under 12 years of age should be employed in any factory, shop or mine. Children are cheap in Kansas.

The Omaha World-Herald, Bryan's leading daily in Nebraska, is troubled about the Socialist party. In a two column editorial the World-Herald admits that "the Socialist vote is now a factor to be reckoned with," and that the only solution for the democracy is in retaining Bryan's leadership. All of which is an admission that the democratic party will soon be as dead as Jefferson.

A charter has been granted to a local in Washington, D. C., which starts out with twenty-eight members.

The new platforms are ready, \$1.00 per thousand. Locals in organized states should order from state secretaries, and locals elsewhere, direct from this office.

The national headquarters will co-operate with the Nebraska state committee in promoting State Secretary Morgan's organizing tour of that state. Morgan will make a special effort to firmly establish the due stamp system.

The three Socialists in the Massachusetts legislature succeeded last week in securing reconsideration of their bill to give the Socialist party representation on the state ballot law commission and the local election boards. The previous refusal of the two dominant parties to give the Socialists just recognition, raised such a protest in many parts of the state that the old parties were forced to concede reconsideration. This victory was not gained without a fight, and Carey and MacCartney had to protest against the methods used in trying to defeat them. Carey threatened that if representation was denied them the

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Socialists would demand a recount on all occasions, and the consequent expense to the state and the additional work caused the election boards would not be desirable. Upon reconsideration the bill was re-committed to the committee on election laws.

Inquiries for information on organization were received at national headquarters the past week from states so far apart as Arizona, Florida, Nebraska, New Hampshire, Tennessee, Virginia, Wyoming, Massachusetts, Texas, West Virginia, Louisiana, Vermont and the Indian Territory.

You can see 200 Go-Carts on the floor at Althausers.

From Sioux City

SIoux CITY, IOWA, March 16. Our local here has just emerged from a great love feast and revival, and are preparing for great work during the spring and summer months. Prof. Geo. R. Kirkpatrick closed his series of lectures Friday night last before an overflow audience. Prof. Kirkpatrick is without question the greatest vote getter now doing work for the cause. I believe had he remained in Sioux City another week there is not a hall that would have held the people. The first lecture, delivered Sunday afternoon, was a mighty effort in behalf of the enslaved wage worker, and each succeeding lecture was just a little better until Friday night when he closed with "The Purposes of a Gatling Gun." This was a regular dynamite bomb in the enemy's camp and it snapped the chains off of many wage slaves. As Comrade Kirkpatrick is billed for many places through the state we want to tell the comrades in advance that they should advertise the meetings on the regular boom plan as surely Kirkpatrick is a giant and will do good work wherever he talks. Get ready for a regular love feast.

The local meeting Sunday afternoon was devoted entirely to answering questions propounded by seekers after the truth and the comrades acquitted themselves nobly. After the meeting some of the questioners signed the constitution and became members. Don't be afraid to answer questions.

During the week of the Kirkpatrick lectures a challenge was issued for the week to any one wishing to defend the old system in a debate. Of course, there were none who dared to tackle Prof. Kirkpatrick. However, I wish to say that the club still holds out a challenge to any defender of the robber game to come to any of our Sunday meetings and tackle our "scrubs."

Preparations are being made to commence the organization of the Eleventh congressional district during the summer. We have loaded the gatling and we serve notice on the old line politicians to get out of the way or get run over.

Members of the local labor unions are beginning to think. To think means to advance. To advance means to do something, and just so sure as they begin to do something that means an increase in the Socialist vote. Look out for Sioux City; we are coming.

Is it not strange why a man without a cent in his pocket, who has had only one thin slice of bologna in his stomach for a week and with seven different colored

patches on the seat of his pants, will lay awake nights wondering about what will be done with that poor helpless robber, John D. Rockefeller, under Socialism? "KRANK."

We advise our friends to see Althausers line of Go-Carts before buying elsewhere.

Another Boquet

GREENSBURG, IND., March 14.

Dear Editor and Comrade: Allow me to compliment those connected with The Iowa Socialist on the typographical cleanliness of the paper and its merited conduct deserves the support of all comrades who are able to do so.

C. Y. EDKINS.

Dinner Sets for \$2.98 at Althausers. Finest line of Go-Carts in the city at Althausers.

After Comrade Strickland

CLEVELAND, O., March 12.

Comrades: Enclosed please find 25 cents in stamps for subscription. I send this in solely to keep track of friend Strickland. I may have an infernal machine to send him for daring to come into Ohio without visiting Cleveland.

W. B. SLUSSER.

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As to Workingmen's Tickets

The unions in many cities are getting out what they call a workingmen's ticket, but are very careful to put democrats and republicans on the ticket so as to bridle and saddle the union man for the two old party politicians to ride to victory on. I will go with the unions as far as unionism goes, but no further. If the unions are not allowed to discuss politics, how can they be intelligent

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enough to dictate politics to their fellow workmen. If this is not a case of the "blind leading the blind," what is the right name for it? L. J. SMITH.

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