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The Iowa Socialist.

Published Every Saturday by The Iowa Socialist Publishing Co. E. HOLZ and A. A. TUNNICLIFFE, Editors and Managers. Office: Cor. Sixth and Iowa Sts. Dubuque, Iowa.

Vol. 1 No. 30 Entered October 3, 1902, at Dubuque, Iowa, as second-class matter, under Act of Congress of March 3, 1879. Dubuque, Iowa, Saturday, April 25, 1903. No subscription taken for less than six months. All subscriptions payable in advance. 50 Cents per Year. In clubs of four, \$2.00.

The Dubuque Times denies that labor receives only one-fifth of the value of its product and says:

In 1890, as reported by the census, the manufacturers of the United States produced goods to the value of \$18,000,000,000, which cost them over \$11,000,000,000. The wage cost reported under the head of wages paid was only about one-sixth the reported value of the product, but the other items reported, cost of materials and miscellaneous expenses, also in the end represent mainly wage cost. Thus Iowa produced flouring and grist mill products to the value of \$13,823,083 and the millers expended for wages \$596,479, or less than 4 per cent of the value of the product. It will not do to conclude that the remainder represents profit and waste. It represents materials, \$11,272,217, miscellaneous expenses, \$304,256, and interest, depreciation and profit. The items of cost, apart from those the Socialists propose to eliminate, profit, interest and preventable waste, represent twelve-thirteenths of the value of the product. That is to say labor upon the farm, or upon the railroad, or in the factory or office, or elsewhere, now gets about twelve-thirteenths and not merely one-sixth of the value of the product of the flouring mills and it gets about five-sixths of the products of our manufacturing industries generally speaking for the United States and counting all employed in production or exchange as wage earners.

It is a common impression that statistics are unreliable. This is not the fault of those who gather the statistics—"figures don't lie"—but is due to the juggling of them by those to whom they present unpleasant truths. The Times claims that in producing \$13,000,000,000 of manufactured products the manufacturers were put to an expense of \$11,000,000,000. Granting this, the manufacturers—who constitute perhaps 20 per cent of the population made as much in profits as the other 80 per cent made in wages. The Times claims the \$11,000,000,000 of expense "in the end represent mainly wage cost;" that there has been a duplication of value of products in the census reports. This is true and the director of the census admits as much. But he shows just how much this amounts to.

In General Table 3 on page 61, Vol. VII, Part 1, Manufacturing Industries, 12th Census, the value of the "partially manufactured materials," that is, material for which wages have been previously paid, or, in the language of the director of the census, the "finished product of a factory which becomes the raw material of another factory," is given as \$4,633,804,967. Now, the wages paid in producing this "partially manufactured material" are included in the total of \$2,322,333,877 wages—about one-sixth of the total value of product, \$13,004,400,143, and they cannot be claimed as not being included in the report. The only other items of expense given which includes wages not reported is freight and fuel. The freight bill of the manufacturers amounted to \$106,180,757. How much of this amount was paid to railroad employes is not stated, but assuming the same ratio as in the manufacturing industries—one-fifth—about \$20,000,000 should be added to the \$2,322,333,877 of wages.

The fuel bill amounted to \$205,320,632, and again allowing one-fifth of this as paid out in wages to the miner and woodchopper, about \$40,000,000 should be added to the wage account, making a total in round numbers of \$2,380,000,000 paid in wages instead of \$11,000,000,000 as the Times claims.

The miscellaneous expenses, such as rent, taxes, interest, etc., foot up \$1,027,755,778 and how this is "mainly wage cost" is hard to understand.

The aggregate cost of all materials used, including besides raw material, fuel, rent of power and heat, mill supplies and freight is \$7,345,413,651. With the exception of the wages paid for the "partially manufactured materials," the fuel and freight as noted above, we fail to see where this vast sum is "mainly wage cost." Deducting from this amount the \$20,000,000 paid in wages to those who handled the freight, and the \$40,000,000 paid in wages to those who handled the fuel and wages paid for the "partially manufactured materials," the balance represents the profits of those who own the raw material—the owners of the land, forest, mine, etc. The Times seems to ignore what Marx calls "use value" in raw material and assumes that this use value

of, say, the pine tree or vein of coal, accrues as wages to the laborer who cuts down the tree or digs the coal.

We thus find that two sets of capitalists—the owners of the raw material and the manufacturers—divided between themselves some ten or eleven billion dollars, less considerable waste, while 5,308,406 wage workers received a paltry \$2,800,000,000. We still maintain that the wage worker receives only about one-fifth of his product. How much of the four-fifths is wasted because of the insane competitive system is immaterial to the Socialist. The fact that the workers are robbed of four-fifths of the result of their labor is sufficient condemnation of capitalism.

Your reasoning and juggling with the census statistics are too specious, Mr. Editor. It may do for the man whose mental vision is obscured by the bulky proportions of the full dinner pail, but it will not stand the searchlight of Socialist philosophy.

The New York American says that labor should have at least one representative in congress. The suggestion is valuable not so much because of the advice it contains, but rather because of the admission that labor has no representation there. A lot of fool workmen still hug the delusion that their interests are looked after by the lackeys of capital whom their votes send to congress. A Socialist couldn't pound the fact into their heads in a thousand years that they have no representation in congress, but if a capitalist sheet admits this fact it becomes gospel truth.

How do you like lugging around that knapsack full of "riot bullets?" Didn't know that under the law recently passed you could be sworn in as a regular to shoot down your brothers on strike? Wonder what the lobby of the American Federation of Labor at Washington was doing while this law was being railroaded through by "our" representatives?

James Wood, an organizer for the Cigarmakers International Union, was shot at Palatka, Florida, because he persisted in his efforts at organizing the cigarmakers of that state after having been warned to desist. Agents of the cigar trust are accused of the crime. All the anarchists are not in the ranks of the working class.

It is claimed by a railroad lobbyist at Madison, Wis., that during the last sixteen years no bill has passed the Wisconsin legislature without the consent of the railroads. Yes, this is a government of, by and for the people.

Of all the amusing things of this ridiculous political system of ours the most hilariously funny is the jackass who is a "republican in national politics, but a democrat on local issues," or vice versa.

To uphold a system which supplies the incentive for and places a premium upon all the crimes on the calendar is a greater crime than to commit the crimes themselves. Are you guilty?

If Socialism isn't a good thing for the workers why are the shirkers opposed to it? Surely you are not foolish enough to believe that they are really solicitous about your welfare?

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.

A class struggle is a struggle for the survival of the parasite. Socialism purposes abolishing parasitism and with it the class struggle.

A hotel for pet dogs has been opened in London, and a Berlin woman has bequeathed her property to a cat. Whose dog are you?

In union there is strength. Workers unite at the ballot box. If you fail there all your other efforts at union are in vain.

Crank make the world revolve. Have you ever been called a crank because you are a Socialist?

Are you still hustling for subscribers for The Iowa Socialist?

War is hell, and competition is war.

Hear Prof. Geo. R. Kirkpatrick at Odd Fellows Hall tonight.

There are but three ways of making a living. By working; by stealing; by begging.

Capital is the wealth you create but don't get. The capitalist is the man who gets it.

Wilshire's Magazine and the Iowa Socialist one year for 75 cents. It's a bargain. Grab it!

The capitalist claims four-fifths of our product as "wages of superintendence." Let's hire a new superintendent.

As to whether Socialism is confiscation or restitution depends upon whether you are the robber of the robbed.

Mrs. Luella R. Kraybill is the state organizer for Kansas and is continually in the field organizing and lecturing.

It is only under Socialism that machines will really become "labor-savers." At present the laborer gets but little benefit from them.

Investment in human labor returns dividends of 80 per cent. Do you wonder that we have multimillionaires by the dozen and paupers by the millions.

Making profit and stealing are merely two different ways of reaching the same end—getting something for nothing. Custom has legalized the one while it has outlawed the other.

The Omaha World-Herald says: "The Morgans and Rockefellers are plowing the furrows and the Socialists are sowing the seed." The harvest will be the cooperative commonwealth.

"Poverty is no disgrace," is an old maxim and like most of those served up for the delectation of the common herd, is as untrue as it is old. It is not only a disgrace to our civilization but an outrage to common sense. There is absolutely no necessity for poverty.

It is all very well to say that Socialism is the next step in industrial evolution and is consequently inevitable, but nevertheless it is well to remember that evolution is not merely a blind aimless force, and that intelligent direction will do much to hasten that next step.

President Gompers says President Parry has taken leave of his reason. Sammy, Sammy, how could you? Just at this time when "harmony between capital and labor," like a white-winged dove of peace hovers over the battle-scarred industrial arena. And it's a sad blow, too, for poor Mark Hanna.

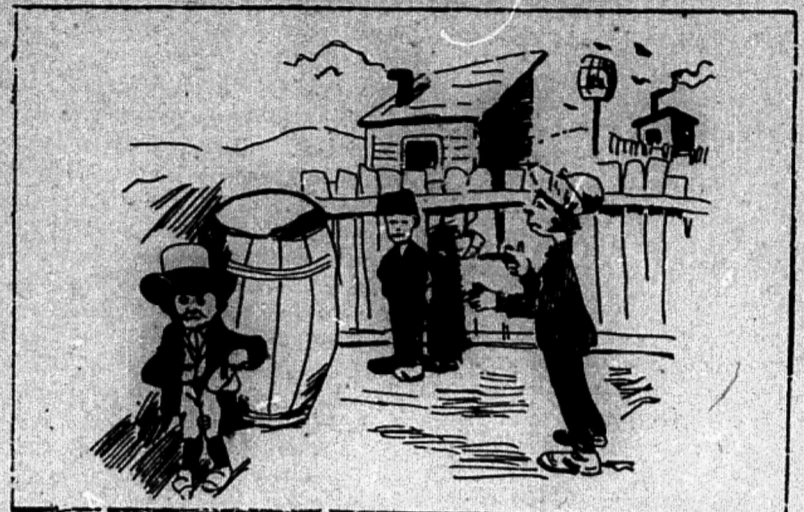
In his famous New Orleans speech President Parry, of the National Manufacturers Association, said: "Organized labor and the Socialist party differ in one essential respect. The former seeks to bring about Socialism by forcible methods, and the latter seeks the same end through the ballot box." No wonder President Gompers, of the American Federation of Labor says Parry is crazy.

It is said the emperor of Germany has suddenly taken a favorable attitude toward Socialism as advocated by Millerand and Jaures of France. The Socialist movement of Germany is as compact and solid as a stone wall—without split or faction. No doubt the kaiser would like to disrupt this splendid organization. Will he attempt to launch a Socialist party of his own? His "Kaiser party" died "a-borning" and something must be done to stop the landslide of Socialist votes which is sure to occur at the June election.

In a statement in reference to the five students of Chicago University who shipped to Buffalo last week as "strike breakers," President Harper of the University says that institution has no power or desire to control the attitude of its students and professors toward any particular subject; that the university, as such, takes no side on any question, political or religious, or indeed, of any kind; individuals of the university, professors and students, are left absolutely free to think and do as they see fit.

Poor John Rockefeller! Did you buy a gold brick?

Another Fatal Objection to Socialism



"Socialism will take the children away from the refining (?) influences of the home, etc."

The "Lay" of Clancy

You may talk about your heroes, and your famous men galore
Who wrest the crimson'd laurel from Death's own open door;
Your Roosevelt and his Riders, who shot to kill—or miss;
Your Hobson and his sailors, who sank to swim—and kiss;
Your hosts of naval heroes who scoured the Southern Sea;
Your Shafter catch the devil; and Funston catch the flea.
Your War Department heroes (the crew unlov'd of Ted)
Who shoot their way to glory with wads of paper lead.
Your heroes of the "water cure," who pumped Manila Bay
Inside a Filipino in true heroic way.
All these have saved the country a thousand times or so,
But war is not forever, our fashions come and go—
So oft we've heard who saved the day where foreign bullets ping,
That now our muse shall change her "graft," and sweetly we will sing
Of Clancy, P. J. Clancy, who didn't want to roam
So says he stayed to save the day for us poor folks at home.

Who saved the Grand Old Party? Who kept it in the box?
Who made our prized Prosperity the thing of joy it is?
Who saved the glorious dinner-pail from odium of defeat,
And made the "hot air easy" for all us folks to eat?
Who fused the Grand Old Factions to vote the Grand Old Way
When Socialism threaten'd on that eventful day?
Who claim'd the right to lead the men to size the sucker's rolls?
'Twas Clancy, 'twas Clancy, 'twas Clancy at the polls!

'Twas just a bye-election—not a "fight for fair," 'tis true;
But then, 'tis said, San Juan itself was just a skirmish, too.
Ballots raised so thick and fast 'tis said that Clancy caught
A ringer squealing for de goods before he cashed his vote!
Eight hundred votes were needed—four hundred votes were there,
But Clancy lierd 'em up again—eight hundred votes there were!
We've stung the man behind the gun—but the man who "copped de knocks"
Was Clancy, 'twas Clancy, 'twas Clancy at the box!

The Socialists orated, they showed the people where
To dump their John T. Hancocks and rid the world of care—
They showed the people what they are, and what they ought to be
And offered cent. per cent. for work, with education free!
But Clancy breathed Free Breweries—his issue couldn't lose—
He said his party when it won would take the tax off booze!
He saved the day at \$1 per vote, repeaters five for four,
Did Clancy, your Clancy, cute Clancy at the door!

And now the fight is over, the public press is full
Of Clancy, P. J. Clancy—the man who has the pull.
Dewey got a mansion—and Miles gets all he's worth—
But Clancy, Hero Clancy—why, he can have the earth!
Was it office that he wanted, he could have it sure enough—
But Clancy isn't built that way—he's only "out for stuff!"
So save your acclamation, and count your gain your loss
Every time that Clancy makes you ring in the "+ + +."

—Robert Bielby.

The following cable from Berlin explains itself: "As election draws nearer, the local anarchists, of which there are considerable numbers here, are becoming feverishly active. They have already prepared an election manifesto are ready to issue an anarchist daily paper, and have secret meetings and conferences every night. Their efforts are, strangely enough, not directed against the government, but against the Socialists, whom they consider their worst enemies. They try to prove to the people that nothing can ever be gained by voting for any of the existing parties and point out that the Socialists in the reichstag have never accomplished anything and that the petition of the people signed by more than three million voters as a protest against an increased tariff had no effect on the legislative bodies. The government has taken no steps to restrict anarchistic agitation, as it is hoped that it will diminish the number of votes cast for Socialist candidates. The kaiser recently laughingly remarked to a personal friend that at the present time he had no more useful friends than the anarchists."

"Wage workers have rights," screams a scarehead in Boyce's Weekly, "National Manufacturers Association recognizes some of them." The right conceded to wage workers by the manufacturers association is that of organization, but they deny the right of labor to boycott and strike. These have been organized labor's principal weapons hitherto. Organized capital disarms organized labor but permits it to continue organizing.

How kind! But wage workers have another right, the exercise of which does not require the sanction of the manufacturers' association. It is the right of suffrage. Wage workers, exercise this right in your own interest and you may laugh to scorn the concessions of your paternal (?) masters.

Help the Daily Globe Fund—Send for a copy of the Globe Fair Journal just published by the Globe conference of New York, which organization is raising money for the establishment of a daily Socialist newspaper. A fair just held for that purpose has added about \$10,000 to the fund. The journal contains a great many excellent articles and is finely illustrated. It will be sent post-paid to any address on receipt of 15 cents; two copies for 25 cents; ten copies for \$1. Send orders to the Comrade Publishing Co., 11 Cooper Square, New York, which is acting as agent for the Globe conference.

Local 301 Retail Clerks International Protective Association will give a smoker for the entertainment of their friends at Eichhorn's Hall, Thursday evening, April 30.

Capitalism offers the worker a full dinner pail—occasionally. Under Socialism—the workers will eat their dinners at tables like men, not out of nose-bags like horses.

The motto of the Socialist party of Ireland is: "The great appear great to us only because we are on our knees; let us rise."

The Socialist Platform

By Charles Oliver Jones

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."

As the political arena is the battleground of a progressive people, then it shall be a storm of ballots that will conquer the powers of government and overcome the selfish minority, the capitalist class, which now controls it in the interest of capitalism. There are some who fight shy of that which would attain its end through CONQUERING the powers of government. They would have the word conquer left out and this is their objection to the political action of the Socialist party. There is no doubt that the convention which adopted the national platform knew what it was about. The Socialist party is expressive of political action for the purpose of conquering in order to forever end the strife between wealth producers and parasites. There are certain people who call themselves altruists who are waiting for capitalism to die of euthanasia. They expect it to go to sleep and never wake up, and then the brotherhood of man will be ushered in without an effort.

They cannot stand for a majority conquering a minority. They would accept no relief from the present system, which is productive of misery, want and crime, as long as there is yet one member of society in opposition to the change. Socialism to this brand of sentimentalists must come of an election by acclamation or not at all.

They revel in the idea that it is noble to "turn the other cheek" and encourage persecution of the downtrodden by having them swatted another that would be a complete knockout. Robbed of their labor power, and but little of that left in their enfeebled bodies, they would have the working class bend and obligingly tighten the patches on their trousers (kept in power by the ignorant majority) might kick them clean off the earth.

The ballot is the modern weapon of attack. Majority rule, through its medium, is a test of the strength of two opposing forces as though arrayed for battle. The ancient method of conquering the powers of government was to rush forward and attempt to annihilate one or the other or both of the contestants with destructive weapons dangerous to both life and limb. Could either of the contestants engaged in these methods of ancient warfare have wisely foreseen the result of the battle there would have been no loss of life. The battle at the ballot box is merely the wise method of finding out which is the stronger, and an expression of the intellectual advance of the race. An election expresses the majority as being the greater power, though not necessarily possessed of greater intelligence.

The Socialists are as yet in the minority, still they stand for majority rule. Their slogan, "Agitate, educate, organize," is directly in line with evolution. They therefore as a minority aim to educate, assisted by the evolution in educational methods, until they are the intelligent majority. Possessed of the powers of government and the intelligent majority, they assume that the few scattering remnants of the present ignorant majority will have sense enough to know they are CONQUERED, and that the modern election is but a change of weapons where the sword and repeating rifle have been replaced by the more intelligent weapon, the ballot, but used for the same purpose, CONQUERING the powers of government. No defeated incumbent administration would think of rebelling when their defeat was attained by an overwhelming majority at the polls. Their defeat is accepted as being just as positive as though they were left weltering in their gore, and a rebellion against the will of the majority of the people would mean—if they did not think they were conquered—that they would be if they were to resort to the foolish methods of ancient warfare.

Therefore the Socialist party aims to conquer the powers of government for the purpose of transforming the present system of private ownership of the means of production and distribution into the

collective ownership by the entire people. It is alleged that the government of the United States is a democracy, a government of, by and for the people, where the power of government is vested in the whole people. This is, however, a fallacy, as the government is but that of a plutocratic republic, a representative form of government where the people have their power vested in representatives who represent the capitalist class and is consequently a government of, by and for the capitalists. Once the working class, through the medium of the Socialist party, is in possession of the powers of government, it can use the power in the interest of the whole people. This interest can only be subserved impartially by transforming the present system of private ownership in the means of production and distribution into collective ownership by the entire people.

The machinery of production, the land, water and transportation in all its branches, railroads, telegraph, express, finance, manufactures, mines and agriculture and every other species of collective necessity is owned, controlled and run in the interest of private individuals and not for the benefit of the whole people. It therefore becomes necessary that the ownership be transferred to that of the whole people. So long as the people allow and make legal the robbery of themselves, through the medium of rent, interest and profit, there is a premium placed upon the private ownership of the earth, and those who own the greatest portion, by virtue of ownership, are also possessed of the powers of government or the means to corrupt it to subserve their interests. The ownership of the means of production and distribution, or the earth, by the few makes trespassers of the many, and just so long as the majority uphold as right the private ownership of the means of life and the right to tax them for the privilege of remaining on the earth, just that long will they force themselves to pay tribute. Because of the private ownership of the means of production and distribution the propertyless working class must work for wages. Wages are fixed today as a result of the ever-increasing army of the unemployed, according to the needs of the hungriest seeker for the means to live. The competition between the unemployed and the workers forces wages lower and lower, to the profit of the capitalist class and detriment of the working class.

By virtue of ownership of the means of life, aided by the modern methods of production by machinery constantly increasing the army of the unemployed, the owning class can dictate the terms upon which labor may work. It fixes the hours of labor and the wages to be paid. The laborers must accept or cease to live. Any rebellion is met immediately by the power of government through the judiciary or armed forces controlled by the capitalist class and used to hold the workers in subjection. The Socialist party therefore desires the collective ownership of all the means of production and distribution in order that the workers and wealth producers (the entire people) may obtain the full product of their labor. He who works for wages does not receive what he earns. That which he earns is the full product of his labor. The difference between that which he receives as wages and what he earns, is the profit of the capitalist class and for this the capitalist class gives no equivalent. It is estimated that the working class receives on an average of but one-fifth of the product of their labor, the other four-fifths passes into the hands of the capitalist class and is transformed into the individual property holdings as capital, wealth, etc. The great fortunes and accumulations of wealth represented in the concentration of wealth as shown in the trusts, combines and monopolies is the accrued unpaid increment of labor for which no equivalent or return has been given to the workers, in some cases for centuries.

The wealth of the world has been social in its production. No individual could produce it or even a fraction as represented by the holdings of some of the multimillionaires. Inasmuch as no

individual could produce the wealth which is held under personal proprietorship, and as all wealth is social production, it follows that all that which is collectively produced should be collectively owned, in order that the present forced division of the products of the worker should be ended. The collective ownership of all means of production and distribution would therefore insure to every worker his social share, which would be five-fifths instead of one-fifth as at present. Socialism thus aims to stop the dividing up which the workers are forced to undergo under the present competitive system, and do away with wage slavery. When the entire people collectively own all the means of production and distribution, then we will have a government of, by, and for the people, and we will have achieved the inalienable right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

An Open Letter to the N. E. L.

THE NATIONAL ECONOMIC LEAGUE,
18 Astor Place, New York.

Gentlemen: I desire to commend your good work in advancing the cause of Socialism. Thanks to your earnest and generous efforts during the past few months more people are now studying the question than ever before, and of a class which hitherto we have had difficulty in reaching. To help on your noble efforts allow me to call your attention to the following remarkable facts and figures, any elucidation of which, for or against, will only help to increase the number of Socialists. They refer to the greatest Socialist in the world, Comrade John D. Rockefeller, who is now with us in Los Angeles. The comrade took two weeks to reach here, during which valuable time \$2,000,000 were added to his possessions. This refers only to income, and does not refer to any increase in the general value of his numerous investments. In walking from his private car to a room in the Hotel Green, he occupied fifteen minutes. For that short walk he was repaid by an increase to his wealth of \$1,750. The first night of his stay, he slept soundly for just eight hours, and awoke \$54,750 richer for his repose. With the aid of his valet it took him exactly half an hour to dress. By the time he was ready for breakfast \$3,500 were given him for his trouble. The journey from his bedchamber to his chair in the hotel dining room occupied just five minutes, for which a kind providence paid him \$570. After breakfast three hours were spent on the golf links, for which enjoyment, thanks to the generosity of the American people, he received \$20,534. After luncheon, as he slowly lighted his cigar, \$100 were added to his bank account.

But the above gives only a small idea of the rapidity with which our comrade is growing "rich." It is only four years since his last visit to the Pacific coast.

At that time the San Francisco Call made the following estimate of his wealth and income. This I give below:

ROCKEFELLER FORTUNE 1899.	
Fortune.....	\$200,000,000.00
Annual income.....	12,000,000.00
Monthly income.....	1,000,000.00
Daily income.....	41,095.00
Hourly income.....	1,712.24
Income every minute.....	28.54
Income every second.....	.48

If we multiply the above amounts by four we shall not be very far wrong in our estimate of Comrade Rockefeller's present wealth and income. Let us then see what this would be.

ROCKEFELLER FORTUNE 1903.	
Present fortune.....	\$800,000,000.00
Annual income.....	48,000,000.00
Monthly income.....	4,000,000.00
Daily income.....	164,580.00
Hourly income.....	6,844.00
Income every minute.....	114.00
Income every second.....	1.92

To show what this phenomenal increase really means to the people of these "free United States," let us assume that the comrade lives twenty-four years longer, and returns to Los Angeles every four years his wealth increasing in the same proportion. This happening he would be worth as follows:

ROCKEFELLER FUTURE FORTUNE.	
In 1907.....	\$ 3,200,000,000
In 1911.....	12,800,000,000
In 1915.....	51,200,000,000
In 1919.....	204,800,000,000
In 1923.....	819,200,000,000
In 1927.....	3,276,800,000,000

What makes the above figures still more astounding is that the entire wealth of the United States is only \$100,000,000,000, which increases at the rate of less than \$3,000,000,000 each year.

In this country last year, half a dozen groups of capitalists, individual members of which form your league, controlled \$20,000,000,000, or one-fifth of the total national wealth. If the amount

under their control increases in the same proportion as Comrade Rockefeller's fortune, by 1906 they will own or control \$80,000,000,000; by 1910 \$320,000,000,000. As the total possessions of all states by that time will only be valued at \$130,000,000,000, your members will own the American people. I would, therefore, like to ask you three questions:

(1.) Are the members of the National Economic League actuated by philanthropic motives in "indirectly" advancing the cause of Socialism?

(2.) Are Comrades Bebel and Debs so very far wrong when they declare it to be a mathematical certainty that we shall see the end of the competitive system by 1908?

(3.) Do you think that we shall have Socialism in "our time?"

Your most obedient humble comrade,
JAMES TAYLOR VAN RENNELAER,
LOS ANGELES, Cal., March 20.

SOCIALIST PLATFORM

Adopted at Indianapolis, Ind., 1901.

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 monopolies, trusts and combines; no part of the revenue of such industries to be applied to the taxes of the capitalist class, but to be applied wholly to the increase of wages and shortening of the 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.

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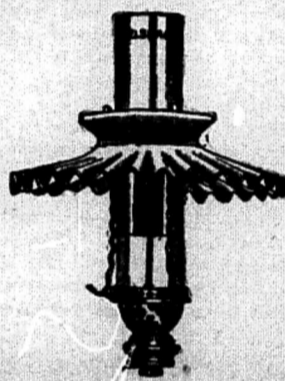
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and women.
7. The initiative and referendum, proportional representation and the right of recall of representatives by their constituents.

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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Edited with biographical sketch by Alexander Harvey

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Prof. Geo. R. Kirkpatrick

Will deliver a series of three lectures at Odd Fellows Temple, Ninth and Locust Sts., on April 23-24-25, on the following topics:

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Correspondence

From Davenport

DAVENPORT, April 21, 1903.

To the editor: Labor news is a somewhat scarce article these days. Everyone is thinking of the coming Federation meeting. The local committee in charge of the preparations is now putting on the finishing touches. We have every reason to expect a large attendance.

On the evening of the 16th inst. the Socialists gave a dance which was a pronounced success, both socially and financially.

On Sunday the 26th Mrs. Wenonah Stevens Abbott, of California, president of the Womans National Socialist Union will speak for us, while on May 19 we will have the pleasure of hearing Father McGrady. We anticipate much good from these two meetings. Comrade Bates, of Chicago, is doing the "soap box act" in the Tri-Cities. He is making a special plea for the Chicago Socialist.

Secretary Jacobs is busy getting out subscription blanks for the campaign fund. It is earnestly hoped the comrades will make a special effort to increase the finances of our state organization. We now have some good speakers in the field and if we can only keep them going until election day the result will surprise us.

A. K. GIFFORD.

Comrade Gifford orders another bunch of sub postals and remarks that while there is no flattery in his makeup he wishes to say "The Iowa Socialist is

good and a credit to those managing it."—Ed.

From Des Moines

DES MOINES, April 20, 1903.

To the Editor: The Des Moines branch requires an initiation fee of 25 cents from applicants and applies the amount to a year's subscription to The Iowa Socialist. Go thou and do likewise, and then labor to increase the membership.

Comrade Jones and his moving pictures has been engaged for a date here during May or June.

Des Moines voted unanimously for Omaha for headquarters and for Des Moines for the state convention, and hope it will be held here on July 4th, so as to give a fair opportunity for a large attendance, the delegates being able to take advantage of reduced railroad rates. It is true, as Comrade "Krank" says, that the committee work is of some importance, and it would be entirely fair that a motion should prevail to appoint committees as nearly as possible so that each congressional district would have equal representation. The contention that the convention would be controlled by the delegates from the convention city, I fear is faulty. Even now, it appears, that the convention city has been placed at a disadvantage by intimating that they would control. Let us not forget that all acts of the state convention are subject to a referendum vote, and that it is very unlikely that any city should so attempt to hypnotize the delegate that would be sure to be rebuked by the referendum.

J. J. JACOBSEN.

Dr. Knopfnagel, Lecturer

Dear Comrades—I had the pleasure of hearing an eloquent as well as scientific lecture on Socialism recently at Rock Island, Ill., by Dr. Knopfnagel, of Canton, Ill.

The doctor is certainly a finished scholar in economics. He has the ability to convince some of the most skeptical. I was so well pleased with his ability to expound the vital question of the wealth producers that I inquired whether he had any open dates in the near future and he informed me that his dates were filled up to and including April 21. After that date he would be in position to go anywhere that the comrades desired. The doctor prefers open air meetings if weather is favorable. He delivers his addresses in either English or German, just as the comrades prefer. The terms are very reasonable. Should any of the comrades wish to engage the doctor and comrade for a lecture or course of lectures, address,

A. H. GEBHARDT,
549 College Ave., Davenport, Iowa.

Evolution of Government

It is conceded on every hand that all men must yield to the tide of industrial progress. The evolution of industry has been the marvel of the age. From individual enterprise the business interests of the nation have grown into the gigantic trust. But has it occurred to us, as loyal American citizens, that the form of democratic government of which we boast might need some re-adjustment to meet the new conditions? We admit that industry may change its very character, that the individual may be transformed into any other being, and yet with regard to government we hold to the traditions of our fathers and argue that when they bequeathed to us the constitution they gave us a full revelation, a perfect guide for all time, whatever might be future generations be the complete transformation of industrial and social life. We admit that it is not safe to be advocating the changing of landmarks that have guided many a weary traveler safely to his destiny.

The great landmarks of equality, "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness" must stand as long as we remain a republic. But the destiny, the ideal commonwealth, may be in a state of evolution as the years come and go and as the industrial and social conditions experience complete transformation. We do not need the demagogue to tell us what we must do under these inevitable changes; we need the fair-minded, brave and liberty-loving statesman, whose ear is ever ready to hear the faintest cry for justice, whose heart beats in unison with all his fellowmen and whose mind is broad enough to grasp the problems of his day and be the political prophet to guide his countrymen into the paths of commercial rectitude, industrial freedom and civic righteousness. Thus may we expect to become a people the God of nations has intended; thus may we develop a nation more glorious than any ever born, one capable of withstanding the disintegrating forces that have undermined the mightiest republics and empires of the earth.

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Ohio Notes

The official call for the Ohio state convention has been issued and all preparations are being made to have a large and enthusiastic meeting. It will convene at Columbus on May 30 at 10 a. m.

The tour of Father Hagerty for the central states will begin from Van Buren, Ark., on May 15. Comrades in Missouri, Iowa, Illinois, Michigan and Indiana desiring dates should apply promptly to W. G. Critchlow, Ohio state secretary.

Arrangements for the summer agitation tours in Ohio are being made more perfect in their details. This will be the most systematic attempt ever tried in this state and we feel from the results so far that it will be a decided success. If comrades in other states desire to secure the plans they can do so by enclosing stamped envelope.

The general results of the municipal elections are very satisfactory and the comrades are now working harder than ever to get everything shaped up for the fall campaign. The official count from Youngstown gives them from 135 to 220 votes instead of the amount reported formerly. This is a large increase and they feel much elated over the results. Cuyahoga Falls received forty-two votes in their first attempt with a ticket, which is good for the size of the town. Many comrades outside of the state fail to comprehend the terrible struggle that took place here this year. The state legislature, in special session adopted an entirely new set of code laws for the government of municipalities. These laws were a radical departure from the old system and they were made in such a manner as to give the municipal officers largely increased salaries and unusual powers of appointment. The mayor was granted an unusual amount of patronage to distribute among his faithful ones. On account of these new laws all city officers were elected this spring, thus making a new set entirely. Both parties made the greatest fight ever known in the history of the state. They held shop noon-day meetings, open air night meetings, ward meetings, made house to house canvass, and in fact adopted every method that is known to the Socialists for propaganda work. In spite of all this work we have not only held our own but in nearly every case have increased our vote and in many cases doubled and trebled it. Thus the comrades have great reason to feel proud of the results attained. The battle this fall will be a fight for governor and we will systematize our work to such an extent that we hope to have every county organized and the majority of them working with a ticket in the field. The fight in Ohio is on from now and we hope to show the plutes such a fight as will put them out of the business entirely in the near future. Ohio will bear watching.

Prof Robert E. Ely, secretary of the League of Political Education, after a close scrutiny of federal statistics, has placed the number of wage earners in the United States at 15,000,000. Investigations have demonstrated that \$400 per annum is the average annual wage and that two people depend upon each wage earner for a living. In other words, \$400 per annum must furnish the means by which three human beings shall live. Such a wage must gild the horizon of the workingman's life with the rosy hue of corpulent magnificence.—Miners' Magazine.

Noah was the first calamity howler and the men who laughed at him have helped to make the phosphate beds out of which fertilizers are now dug for the market.—Henry D. Lloyd.

Steal a horse and you go to jail. Rob a child of his childhood by making a wage slave of him, and you can go to congress—if you rob enough of him.—Coming Nation.

Montana Elections

State Headquarters Socialist Party.

HELENA, Mont., April 14, 1903.

The spring municipal election throughout this state has given large gains since last fall elections.

Anaconda Socialists carried the entire city, from mayor down.

Butte came up well with her vote, or lost by 400 short, out of a total vote of 9,500, and she managed to elect one alderman.

Red Lodge elected three aldermen out of five.

Missoula county had a great increase in her vote.

Flathead, Fergus, Cascade, Yellowstone and Gallatin have all made a good increase.

The boys in Butte say they will hang the hides of the old parties on the fence, sure, next election.

Just keep your eye peeled on Montana and you will be surprised at the way that we tally up in '04.

G. A. WILLET, State Secretary.

Have you bought a share of stock in The Iowa Socialist Publishing Co.?

Attention!

International Brotherhood of Stationary Firemen of Dubuque, Local Union No. 177, A. F. of L.

You are hereby notified to meet at Bohemian Hall, corner 14th and Elm streets, April 30, at 8 p. m. Important business. Closing of charter. Last call to all Firemen, Oilers and Helpers. Come and see us while charter is open.

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BRANCH MEETINGS

Des Moines—Branch No. 6 meets first and third Sunday afternoons of each month at 3:00 o'clock in Marks' Hall, 518 Walnut St.

Dubuque—Branch meets every Thursday evening at 8:00 o'clock at Socialist Headquarters, 6th and Main Sts.

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