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The Iowa Socialist

Vol. 2 No. 88

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Dubuque, Iowa, June 4, 1904

This paper is not sent on credit. If you receive it, the subscription has been paid.

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A Half Day's Pay

John M. Work

We are called upon to contribute a half day's pay to the Socialist cause some time during the month of June. The only objection I have to this is that it does not call for a full day's pay instead of a half day. A week's pay would be still better.

The Socialist party is a rank and file party. The rank and file is the supreme authority, and the rank and file furnishes the money to carry out its orders.

The time will come when we will have so many dues paying members that it will not be necessary to raise special funds. It is probable that by the end of the present campaign the national organization will have reached that point.

But, that point has not been reached yet. The opportunities for effective propaganda presented by the presidential campaign cry aloud for money with which to take advantage of them. Such a magnificent opportunity to place a dollar or two where it will count for the advancement of the cause has never before been given to us. If every member of the party in the United States will make the sacrifice of a half day's pay, the co-operative commonwealth will fairly heave in sight.

It should be remembered that one-third of this money goes to the national organization, one-third to the state organization, and the other third to the local.

This division of the fund means the immediate stimulation of the work all along the line. It means a general advance upon the enemy. It means a continuous bombardment of the capitalist breastworks throughout the campaign.

The amount is within the reach of all.

Let's make it unanimous.

Weekly Report to National Committee

Chicago, Ill., May 25.

LECTURERS AND ORGANIZERS.

Geo. E. Bigelow closes tour May 25; John W. Brown closes tour May 26; Geo. H. Goebel in Colorado; Robert Saltiel in Pennsylvania; M. W. Wilkins in West Virginia.

NATIONAL COMMITTEEMAN ELECTED.

M. H. O'Neil has been elected national committeeman for New Hampshire, to succeed S. F. Claf- lin, resigned.

DEMANDS FOR NATIONAL REFEREN- DUMS.

Additional demands for national party referendums upon [1] the platform adopted by the national convention, [2] the revised constitution in sections, and [3] each resolution adopted by the convention, have been received from Local Muscatine, Iowa. Demand covering Nos. 1 and 2 and for the submission of the state and municipal program, in sections, has also been received from Local Lewiston, Mont. Local Hagerstown, Md., reported demand covering No. 2.

This completes the number of demands sufficient for a referendum upon the platform and constitution in sections. The platform and trade union resolution will be sent out immediately. The constitution will be submitted as soon as printed forms are ready.

NATIONAL COMMITTEE REFERENDUMS.

Votes upon national committee referendum 6, motion 13, have been received from Richardson,

Continued on Fourth Page.



If Socialists were in Power

JOHN SPARGO



If Socialists were in power:—

The trusts to which every man, woman and child in the country is paying tribute today would become trusts of all the people, for all, instead of being composed, as now, of a few extortioners living upon tribute drawn from the many. We should all be "in the trusts" because we should own them.

The street railway monopolies, representing \$1,000,000,000 in stocks, which now exploit the public, would become public monopolies. Just as we own the streets, so we should own the street railways.

The great railroad monopolies also would become public monopolies. The leading railroads have a capital of something like \$2,000,000,000, and they employ almost a million men, most of whom are overworked and underpaid. The public is robbed by them to an enormous extent and they are the chief strength of the other great trusts. Socialists in power would make the railroads social property. These evils would then disappear.

The telegraph and telephone services would be publicly owned and managed for the good of all, instead of the profit of a few as at present. The telegraph combines represent a capital of \$200,000,000 and the chief telephone combines a capital of \$50,000,000. They charge excessive tolls and the workers employed by them are overworked and poorly paid. Socialists in power would make them the property of the federal government (the latter being truly representative of all the people instead of a few vested interests as now), or the various states could run their own lines on a uniform system; tolls would be reduced to a minimum, the services improved, and the workers employed would receive better treatment all round.

The outrages perpetrated by the express companies would cease. Today five great companies with a capital of \$300,000,000 have the people of this nation at their mercy. Alone of the great nations the United States is without a parcels-postage system. Socialists would institute such a system, and so put an end to the plunder of the public by a gang of rascally extortioners. Parcels could be carried for seventy-five per cent less than now, and much more efficiently.

The coal trust would be put out of business, and the coal industry placed upon a national basis. Coal barons could no longer arbitrarily raise prices and reduce wages as at present. Now they have the people by the throat because they control the government. Then the positions would be reversed, because the people would control the government.

You are "a practical man," you say, and you want "to be practical." Well, so do we all. But are you "practical?" Let us see.

If the people through representative government can have and manage a navy—feeding and clothing the men, and can build ships, don't you think they could own and manage railroads, or mines? If they can run a great national postal system, couldn't they, think you, run the telegraphs or a parcel express system?

If they can organize the labor of soldiers, policemen, marines, etc., couldn't they organize the labor of actual producers like miners, railway employes, etc.?

Answer as a "practical" man!

Now you pay upon almost everything you eat, drink, wear, or use in any manner, tribute to some corporation.

One-tenth almost of the average city worker's income goes in car-fare, from which corporations reap millions of dollars.

Every kind and form of fuel is controlled by trusts to whom you pay tribute. Whether you use coal, oil, gas, gasoline, coke, wood, or charcoal, it is the same.

On every article of clothing there is a tribute to some trust, or to a number of them.

On almost all articles of food you must pay this tribute. To name only a few things controlled by trusts:—beef, pork, sugar, salt, cereal foods, wheat, biscuits, tea and coffee.

If you use tobacco, or beer, or whiskey, you must pay tribute; you must pay it even on your medicine when you are ill.

All these things touch you, personally, and your vote may be used either to continue these crying evils or to abolish them. Don't you think, as a "practical man," that the course for you is quite clear? Would a "practical man" vote to continue evils from which he himself suffered?

There is only one party in this campaign which will ATTEMPT to abolish them—

THE SOCIALIST PARTY.

The National Campaign Fund---Special Notice to All!

During the third week of June, 1904, Socialists in all parts of the United States are expected to donate one half day's pay to the National Campaign Fund. This amount will be divided so as to give one-third to the local, one-third to the state, and one-third to the national organization.

If this call receives response from all Socialists the sum realized will be sufficient to start off the national campaign in splendid shape.

Subscription lists have been sent out by the national secretary to all the state secretaries in the organized states. These lists will be numbered and countersigned by each state secretary and forwarded to each local secretary. The national secretary has a record of the lists sent to state secretaries and the latter will keep record of the lists forwarded to the local secretaries. Locals in unorganized states receive lists direct from the national secretary.

All lists must be accounted for to the National Headquarters not later than August 1, 1904. Secretaries, therefore, should prepare to fill and return lists promptly so that this amount raised through this medium can be received and put to use immediately. As the local, state and national organizations all get the benefit from this plan, it is to everybody's interest to push it along.

Socialists residing in states where no state or local organizations exist can be supplied with contribution lists upon direct application to the national secretary, 269 Dearborn St., Chicago, Ill.

The following list of state secretaries in organized states is given for the benefit of Socialists residing where there are no locals in these states. These Socialists can secure lists by writing direct to the secretaries whose addresses appear herewith. Contributions received from such Socialists will be divided equally between the state and national organizations.

- | | |
|--|---|
| Alabama, F. X. Waldhorst, 1016 S. 23d St., Birmingham. | Missouri, T. E. Palmer, Rookery Bldg., Kansas City. |
| Arkansas, E. W. Perrin, 304 Scott St., Little Rock. | Montana, Wm. H. Pierce, 708 S. Main St., Butte. |
| Arizona, Albert Ryan, Jerome. | Nebraska, J. P. Roe, 519 N. 16th St., Omaha. |
| California, E. B. Helfenstein, 822 W. 2d St., Los Angeles. | New Hampshire, Louis Arnstein, 18 Watson St., Dover. |
| Colorado, J. W. Martin, 420 Charles Bldg., Denver. | New Jersey, W. B. Killingbeck, 270 Main St., Orange. |
| Connecticut, W. E. White, 220 Exchange St., New Haven. | New York, Henry L. Slobodin, 64 E. 4th St., New York. |
| Florida, Wm. C. Green, Orlando. | North Dakota, T. R. C. Crowell, Fargo. |
| Illinois, Jas. S. Smlth, 42 River St., Chicago. | Ohio, Edward Gardner, 318 Chappell St., Dayton. |
| Indiana, Wm. Bowlen, 134 E. Washington St., Indianapolis. | Oklahoma, D. S. Landis, Stillwater. |
| Idaho, L. E. Workman, Boise. | Oregon, A. H. Axelson, 1070 Union Ave. N., Portland. |
| Iowa, J. J. Jacobsen, 1129 12th St., Des Moines. | Pennsylvania, F. H. Slick, 1305 Arch St., Philadelphia. |
| Kansas, Thos. E. Will, Sedgwick Bldg., Wichita. | South Dakota, Samuel Lovett, Aberdeen. |
| Kentucky, Walter Lanfersiek, 506 Washington Ave., Newport. | Texas, E. B. Latham, Box 126, Gainesville. |
| Louisiana, P. A. Molyneux, 372 Walnut St., New Orleans. | Vermont, John Anderson, 106 Sumner St., Barre. |
| Maine, W. E. Pelsey, Lewiston. | Washington, E. E. Martin, 1016 Stewart St., Seattle. |
| Massachusetts, Fred E. Irish, 699 Washington St. Boston. | West Virginia, Ward B. Jeffers, McMechen. |
| Michigan, J. A. C. Menton, 1323 S. Seginaw St., Flint. | Wisconsin, Miss E. H. Thomas, 344 6th St., Milwaukee. |
| Minnesota, J. E. Nash, 45 S. 4th St., Minneapolis. | |

Remember, the half day's pay during the third week in June is to be given to the great Socialist Campaign of 1904. Fraternally, WILLIAM MAILLY, National Secretary, 269 Dearborn St., Chicago.

Zephyrs From Olympus

Capital is not a personal, it is a social power.—Karl Marx.

Have good will

To all that lives, letting unkindness die
And greed and wrath; so that your lives
be made

Like soft airs passing by.

—Light of Asia.

If you would not be known to do anything, never do it. A man may play the fool in the drifts of a desert, but every grain of sand shall seem to see.—Emerson.

I swear the earth shall surely be complete
to him or her who shall be complete.
The earth remains jagged and broken only
to him or her who remains jagged
and broken. —Whitman.

Only organization can oppose such evils as the wholesale adulteration of food; and woman, the house-servant, belongs to the lowest grade of unorganized labor.—Charlotte Perkins Stetson.

You should be careful not to pass any judgment upon your neighbor, and you shall enjoy the time when everybody around you will mind their own business, and if such be your desire you must first mind your own business and not wait for others to take the lead.—Dr. Hanish.

The remedy for shortages of democracy is more democracy. Liberty needs new liberties more than new markets. Government of the people, by the people and for the people is only half the truth. The other half is industry of, by and for the people; this means industrial democracy or Socialism.—Henry D. Lloyd.

That labor is the underlying basis of exchangeable value is now assumed, I believe, by most Political Economists; that it is the source of all that is generally termed "Wealth" is obvious. It therefore needs no detailed argument to prove that if a class lives without labor, if it obtains wealth without working for it—it must be appropriating the labor of others, and the wealth that rightfully belongs to them.—Carpenter.

Our inequality materializes our upper class, vulgarizes our middle class, brutalizes our lower class. We owe our uncivilizedness to our inequality. Culture seeks to do away with the classes; to make the best that has been thought and known in the world current everywhere; to make all men live in an atmosphere of sweetness and light, where they may use ideas freely—nourished and not bound by them. This the social idea; and the men of culture are the apostles of equality.—Matthew Arnold.

A full-formed Horse will, in any market, bring from twenty to as high as two hundred Friedrichs d'or: such is his worth to the world. A full-formed Man is not only worth nothing to the world, but the world could afford him a round sum would he simply engage to go and hang himself. Nevertheless, which of the two was the more cunningly devised article, even as an Engine? Good Heavens! A white European Man, standing on his two Legs, with his two five-fingered Hands at his shackle-bones, and miraculous Head on his shoulders, is worth, I should say, from fifty to a hundred Horses!—Carlyle.

The Iowa Socialist

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National Socialist Ticket

For President, EUGENE V. DEBS.

For Vice President, BENJAMIN HANFORD.

A COMPETENCY

In a distant city where, through the growth of the population and the improvements made by the citizens, added to the natural beauty of the place, the price of real estate has taken the elevator to about the tenth floor; in consequence of which all the adjacent farms have been platted and these lots put upon the market in most seductive ways. One thing is certain, if you want a lot you must pay the fancy price; but in the matter of how and when you pay it, you are given a wide latitude.

One advertiser gives this interesting bit of information in addition to points on prices and payments: "You may own a home and not miss the money you pay for it. The possession of one of our contracts will teach you the habit of economy without which no man can gain a competency."

There you are! Those of us who would buy a home will be taught "the habit of economy," and no extra charge for this lesson.

And once this "habit of economy" is formed we stand a chance of "gaining a competency."

What do you suppose is meant by this word "competency" as used in this way? When a man succeeds in gaining a competency, he "gets out from under" and out the backs of the other workers; he ceases to do any useful productive labor, he lives either off rent, interest or profit.

We all know that a "competency" must be "invested" or it will soon melt away; it must be turned into a source of revenue.

If it is invested in houses the revenue will be called rent; but a vacant house was never known to yield any rent, so the houses must be kept occupied, and the tenants who have not a "competency" pay tribute to the man who has.

If the competency is loaned—usually on mortgage security—the tribute is paid in the form of interest; the mortgagor has a home to mortgage in his extremity, but it is plain to be seen that he is not the happy possessor of a "competency."

If this "competency" should be invested in some manufacturing industry, then the revenue would be called profit, and it would come from the unpaid labor of the workers in that industry. These underpaid laborers have not a "competency" or they would each be "going into business" for himself.

In this way it is easy to see that the value of a "competency" depends on the number of people

who do not possess one; that is, a competency, in itself and by itself, is absolutely useless; until in some way it is brought into relation with the workers of the world, it is unable to produce anything.

When the workers finally get tired of "dividing up" their wealth with the man with a "competency" our "incentive" to "form habits of economy," to deny ourselves pleasures and comforts with the hope of building up a "competency" that we may live in idleness on what others produce, will be taken from us.

Also when this time comes, to "gain a competency," that is, to live in idleness off the useful members of society, will not be held up as a praiseworthy thing to do. In fact, it will have become an impossibility and individual members of society will be rated according to their degree of usefulness to the social body and not in proportion to the degree of their idleness.

Again, when this time comes, values that accrue to land as a result of the growth and worth of the social body will be social values, and no individual will be allowed to build for himself a "competency" from these land values created by the social body.

The individual member of society will then stand wholly upon his own merit; all false values and standards of value will be wiped off the earth and we can at last go forth unafraid, each producing according to the ability within him and no one taking any "anxious thought for the morrow" for there will be no more idlers for anyone to support, and each one will be competent without a "competency" to provide for himself.

THE CAMPAIGN FUND

Although the national convention has recommended that every member of the party contribute a half day's pay toward a campaign fund, that need not hinder anyone from donating a whole day's or a whole week's pay if they can afford it. Remember that Morgan, Rockefeller, et al are not contributing to our campaign fund, but on the contrary will donate millions to the old parties. Let us take advantage of this. Let us make these vast sums count for us as well. How can we do it? This is a presidential year. This in itself arouses a political interest that is more or less dormant during the so-called "off years." In addition to this natural interest the large campaign funds of the old parties will be used to stir up the voters by means of speeches, literature, parades, etc. As a consequence the average voter is in a more teachable mood. He is more willing to listen to and read anything of a political nature than he is in the off years. We all know how hard it is to get the average voter interested in politics—especially working class politics—at any time except just before elections. The old parties are preparing the ground. Let us prepare to plant the seed. We have never had such an opportunity as the present. In 1900 the organization had been but newly formed and was comparatively weak. We shall not have another such opportunity until 1908. Let us rise to the occasion. Let us remember when we make our contribution to the national campaign fund during the third week in June that for every dollar we contribute the corporations and trusts will contribute thousands to the old parties. Let us not forget that if we take advantage of the interest in politics which these millions of the enemy will arouse, one dollar will go farther in the spreading of the propaganda this year than perhaps five or ten will next year or the year after.

Let us have a rousing campaign

this year—not merely that we may have a large vote in November—but because in this year of all years we can make Jones help "pay the freight." In the conduct of its politics as well as of its business capitalism is preparing the way for its own destruction. Give 'er a boost!

A magnificent life-size portrait of Eugene V. Debs, the presidential candidate of the Socialist party, graces the cover of The Comrade for June. The portrait is the work of Comrade F. A. Dahme and the many admirers of the Socialist standard bearer will be delighted with it. The issue also contains a full page half tone picture of Ben Hanford. Perhaps the most interesting article in the June Comrade is the one by Debs, entitled, "Stray Leaves from the Note Book of a Labor Agitator." A comprehensive list of the utterances of the whole Socialist press regarding the Chicago convention will undoubtedly prove extremely valuable to every Socialist. Highly instructive will be found an article on the great Hungarian railway strike and another one on the new labor cabinet of Australia. The issue has a goodly sprinkling of cartoons Price, 10 cents a copy. The Comrade, 11 Cooper Square, New York.

Governor Peabody, of Colorado, is a delegate-at-large to the national republican convention. While in Denver recently John Mitchell said he was a republican and for Roosevelt but that he repudiated Peabody. How unkind of the Colorado state convention to elect a man, who has been REPUDIATED by John Mitchell, as delegate-at-large to a national convention. Verily, repudiation by a pure-and-simple-no-politics-in-the-union labor leader has in it about as much of terror to the capitalist politician as there is danger to an elephant's life in the effort of a grasshopper trying to kick his ears full of goose feathers.

Hearst is beginning to see that his chances for the presidential nomination are waning and is now ready to support the nominee of the St. Louis convention whoever he may be, Cleveland not excepted. If, after this admission, there are any union workingmen in this country who still believe in the sincerity of Hearst's protestations of friendship for union labor—if they still refuse to take a tumble—may a brick house fall on them.

A strange peculiarity of some Socialists is a suspicion that any comrade who differs with them as to tactics is in the employ of the capitalists for the purpose of emasculating the movement. To suspect a comrade of insincerity or treason on no other ground than difference of opinion is unworthy of anyone calling himself Socialist, and uncomradely to say the least.

The railroad managers contemplate laying off 75,000 men by the 10th of June. Of course this will not inconvenience the men. They will simply take those other jobs which Mark Hanna said were lying around looking for them.

The most valuable concession that any ruling class has ever made to the working class is the right of suffrage. Unfortunately the working class doesn't always know a good thing when it gets it.

As the ice trust comes upon the stage the coal trust makes its exit to the low music of chinking dollars and rustling greenbacks.

It might be well to remind those people who believe that Socialism "is all right, but too far away" that revolutions some times move with startling rapidity. The report of

the firing on Ft. Sumpter in '61 came as a shock to the majority of the people of this country. As a rule it is generally another case of "Didn't know it was loaded."

Call for Convention

To the Party Membership, Socialist Party of Iowa—Dear Comrades: The state convention of the Socialist party of Iowa will be held in Reform Hall, corner First Avenue South and Church street, Marshalltown, July 4, at 9 a. m., and you are urgently requested to assist in making this as representative and memorable a gathering as possible.

OBJECT.

The adoption of a state platform and the nomination of the following officers:

1. Two Presidential Electors at Large
2. One Presidential Elector for each Congressional District.
3. Secretary of State.
4. Auditor of State.
5. Treasurer of State.
6. Attorney General.
7. Judge of Supreme Court.
8. Clerk of Supreme Court.
9. Reporter of Supreme Court.
10. Railroad Commissioner.

And such other business as may properly come before the convention.

REPRESENTATION.

Each local of the state organization in good standing is entitled to as many delegates as it has members in good standing the delegates in actual attendance being entitled to cast the full vote of the local they represent.

Members at large in good standing are entitled to all the privileges accorded delegates representing locals.

CREDENTIALS.

Credentials in duplicate are sent to all secretaries, the originals to be presented delegates and the duplicates to be forwarded to the state secretary not later than July 1. Delegates, as well as members at large, are requested to also present their membership due books to the committee on-credentials. Fraternalty yours, J. J. JACOBSEN, Secretary.

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SPECIAL OFFER

Ten illustrated propaganda pamphlets by Herron, Vail, Hyndman, Hanford Spargo, Blatchford and other able writers for 35 cents. They are regularly sold at 5 cents and are cheap at that. With every order we will send free The Comrade, an illustrated Socialist monthly, for three months. Please mention this paper when ordering. COMRADE CO-OPERATIVE CO., 11 Cooper Square, N. Y.



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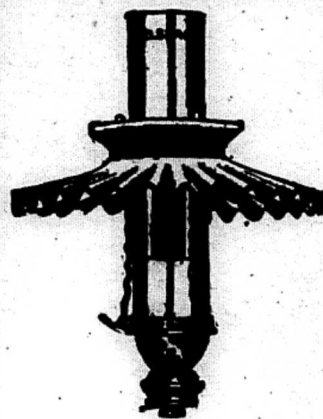
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Report of National Secretary

Comrades: In submitting this report as national secretary of the Socialist party, I shall confine myself to those questions which I have come to consider as essential to the development and progress of the party organization, believing that in the settlement of these questions is bound up the future of the movement in whose interests this convention has been assembled.

The industrial and political situation, presenting new phases from day to day, will continue to give birth to problems which will demand the earnest attention of all Socialists, and our ability to meet these problems and successfully dispose of them will depend more than all else upon the strength and compactness of the organization representing the Socialist movement of this country. More than ever Socialists must realize that before they can expect to be thought capable of administering and directing the affairs of this or any other nation, they must first prove their fitness for the task by displaying the ability to administer and direct the affairs of a political organization representing the interests of the working class, and it is to this task that I believe their best efforts and most conscientious endeavor should be applied for some time to come. In short, the government of the Socialist party organization must be the means of fitting its members for the larger duties and greater responsibility that the future holds for them.

I desire to emphasize, therefore, the necessity of our members giving increased attention to the methods of transacting the party business in their respective local, state and national organizations. They must acquaint themselves thoroughly with all the executive and administrative details, such as conducting business meetings and correspondence, keeping accounts, making reports, and other duties involved in the general government of the party. They should post themselves as far as possible upon the detail of party activity in every field and they should elect as their officials and representatives only those comrades whose fitness especially qualifies them for these positions. More important still, they must continue to develop the spirit of self-confidence, of dependence upon themselves, of faith in their ability through their own foresight and wisdom to settle all the problems and overcome all the difficulties which lie between here and the co-operative commonwealth.

Of the writing of books, the making of speeches, and the editing and publishing of papers, there is no end, but there is an appreciable lack of application to the executive branches of our party work. However important the literary and other educational features of the movement may be, yet these factors will continue to be more or less barren of results so long as the party organization is not properly equipped to take full advantage of them. Heretofore (and this was perhaps unavoidable in the early stages of the movement) the greatest amount of energy has been expended upon the dissemination of literature and the holding of public meetings, regardless of the methods employed or of any direct purpose to which the results accruing therefrom were to be applied. There was competition instead of co-operation, and a consequent waste of energy, money and enthusiasm. As one result, there is now in this country a tremendous amount of Socialist sentiment of which we cannot take advantage because our organization is not yet in a position to do so. From this time forward we should try to adjust the mechanism of the party to secure the best results with the least expenditure of effort and money, so that the gathering forces of Socialist thought and sentiment can find concrete expression at the ballot box.

Perhaps no other task to which a Socialist can apply himself offers less of individual glory or immediate reward than that of faithful participation in and unremitting devotion to the details of party organization, but this very fact makes it all the more necessary that the task should be undertaken. It is easy and convenient to let things run themselves, but sooner or later the party members pay the penalty for their indifference or carelessness by becoming involved in disagreeable situations which create discouragement and disgust, but which could have been well avoided in the first place. The lecturer or writer will always flourish and receive his proper meed of public reward and admiration. For this reason these positions will naturally be the most coveted and the persons holding them will continue to have a greater personal influence through their association directly and indirectly with the general membership.

For example, during the past year the number of applications for commissions as national organizers and lecturers has far exceeded the actual number within the ability of the national headquarters to employ at a given time. The comrades filing

these applications were in many instances new and inexperienced, but filled with a creditable enthusiasm to be of service to the movement. Several others were from comrades of more experience, but displaying a singular lack of comprehension of the scope and character of the party work. A majority of the applicants desired to be placed at work at once, and some were so insistent that they would brook no delay and appeared aggrieved when their wishes could not be gratified.

It did not seem to occur to these comrades that, however worthy their motives and ambitions might be, it was quite impossible for the national headquarters to utilize all the available material placed at its disposal. Nor did they seem to realize that there were other ways through which they could perform valuable service to the movement—ways relatively as important as those sought for, although offering fewer inducements to the enthusiast, but requiring qualities of the highest possible value to the cause of Socialism.

The comrade, however, who assumes the burden of executive and organizing detail must be prepared to accept responsibilities which are comparatively unknown to the worker in other fields. Such a comrade must be possessed of patience with himself and others. He must exercise caution, fortitude and courage. He must be impersonal and impartial. He must be prepared to accept the will of those for and with whom he works, even at the temporary sacrifice of his own opinions. And, above all, he must expect to be misunderstood and misrepresented by those to whom his services are devoted.

All of this will be difficult and disagreeable and other lines of work will offer greater attractions, but none will bring the immediate and permanent benefit to the Socialist movement faster than this one will. This fact in itself will be the most satisfying and satisfactory reward that can come to any Socialist. If the course indicated has not been followed more generally in the past it is not because the will to serve the movement has been lacking, but because the relative importance of this special phase of the party work has not been recognized. It only requires such recognition to call into action the latent executive ability which now lies dormant in the membership everywhere and upon the development and exercise of which the future success of our movement greatly depends.

This subject has also another phase which should not be overlooked. If the Socialist party differs from other political organizations, it is in this: that the membership and not a few leaders control and direct the movement. It is this very difference which constitutes its chief strength and must make it unconquerable and triumphant in the future. The organization must be democratic in the true sense of the word or lose its identity as one representing the working class movement to democratize the world. It follows, therefore, that only in the encouragement and development of self-government within the organization can the spirit and practice of democracy be maintained and the movement held to its true course. Embodying as it does the vital principles which make for the liberation of mankind from all forms of industrial and political despotism, the Socialist party must announce, through its own actions, democracy as a fact limited only by those restrictions which capitalist conditions impose upon it.

But we should understand that a democratic movement does not imply unrestricted individualism, as some comrades seem to believe. True democracy involves co-operation, and upon our ability to co-operate successfully everything depends. And co-operation in turn involves adaptation to one another; the ability to accept the will of the majority, wherever and whenever expressed, as our individual will, until such time as our individual will can be expressed by the majority. And this again in turn involves faith in the movement as an organized force, the exercise of charity toward each other and of the prevalence of the spirit of comradeship throughout the movement.

Nowhere perhaps in the capitalist world will it be more difficult to organize a Socialist movement upon purely democratic lines than in this country, where the spirit of individualism has been distorted out of its true proportions until the simplest rules of organization are condemned even by some Socialists as "bureaucratic." These have yet to learn that the purest and highest individualism is that which can subserve itself when occasion requires to the social will and social good. The real bureaucracy to fear is that which would make a few people the ungoverned and ungovernable authorities and dictators of the movement. There need be no fear of any kind of a bureaucracy so long as

the party machinery remains in the hands and under the control of an alert and enlightenment membership.

When these self-evident propositions become more generally recognized and accepted by Socialists everywhere, there will be fewer locals disbanded after a short and precarious existence, and lapses in membership will become less frequent. It is an encouraging sign that the number of comrades giving their attention to this subject is increasing, and with a still greater consideration we can confidently expect a stronger and more effective organization with which to conduct a struggle with the rapidly combining forces of the capitalist enemy.

THE NATIONAL CONSTITUTION.

The present condition of the party organization is generally satisfactory, when the stage of its progress is considered. The form of organization is as yet practically new, and difficulties have been presented as a consequence which, with a revision of the constitution and the development of the organization, should gradually disappear. The present constitution was a hastily prepared document, and it was natural that it should be faulty in construction, although basically correct.

My ideas upon the character that the organization should take have been expressed elsewhere as follows: "The Socialist party must be more than a mere political machine; it must be so managed and controlled that the highest degree of democracy consistent with efficiency as the directing force of Socialist activity must be attained. More and more we must provide for a decentralization of authority and the concentration of the forces of agitation and education. The national headquarters should be the nerve center of Socialist activity, the clearing house through which the different state organizations can be kept in close touch and sympathy with each other, thus ensuring an objective point at which the organized Socialist forces can converge and act unitedly.

The chief problem before us, then, as an organized body, is how to combine democracy in management, efficiency in action and economy in labor and expense, so that the best and most permanent results can be obtained.

The existing political system requires that state autonomy must necessarily continue to be the basis of organization, but its boundaries and limitations must be more definitely prescribed. There has been a tendency toward exclusiveness, to place the interests of a single state organization above those of the party at large, a tendency as injurious as the other extreme, concentrating authority over the membership in a central committee. One carries state autonomy to the extreme and makes toward anarchy; the other denies democracy to the extreme and makes toward absolutism. Both are dangerous and can only result in dry rot. Our national organization must be fluid enough to invite or encourage neither, one nor the other.

Under the present constitution there is danger from both. The national officials may become aware, through the position they hold, that the officials of a state organization are, unknown to the membership, either neglecting their duties or perverting their powers, to the injury of the party in that state or the entire country, and yet the national officers are powerless to act. Provision should be made for action in such cases, although such action should not be arbitrary or authoritative, but merely along the lines of suggestion, information or investigation, leaving final action to the membership of the state itself.

On the other hand, there is no constitutional preventive against representatives or members of one state organization interfering with or usurping the duties or rights of other state organizations and their members, or the duties and rights of the national organization in organized states and territories. The activities of state officials should be confined to their own states where their responsibility lies, except when agreement is specifically made either with other state organizations or the national organization, as the case may be.

There should also be constitutional regulations to protect the national party against the violation of the principles and platform of the Socialist party in any organized state or territory.

The qualifications for membership in the party should be made as uniform as possible in all states so that all members may enjoy equal privileges. A system of recognition of transference of membership from one state to another should also be adopted.

In order to avoid the recurrence of having state organizations formed where geographical or other conditions are unfavorable to their effective or permanent existence, the membership in any unorganized state or territory should reach a certain number before the movement for a state organization can be initiated. Eagerness to establish state organizations before conditions were ripe for them has resulted disastrously in several places through failure on the part of these organizations to properly maintain themselves when thrown upon their own resources. The national

office can usually take better care of locals in unorganized states and territories until conditions make a state or territorial organization necessary and justifiable.

THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE.

The present form of the national committee elected from the various state organizations is objectionable and should be abolished. The principal objection lies in its fostering of factional divisions in the party. The national committee is supposed to represent the entire party and to act upon matters affecting all the states, while at the same time its individual members are only responsible for their action to the respective state organizations which elect them, so that the party has absolutely no jurisdiction or control over any or all of them. Experience has also already shown that it is impossible to devise a basis of representation upon the committee which will permit of equal representation from all the states. The size of the committee makes the method of transacting business cumbersome, exhausting and expensive.

As a substitute for this I would suggest that there be a national executive committee, to consist of seven or nine members selected by referendum of the party at large, regardless of section, with each and all members subject to recall. This would give the entire party membership the choice of its administrative body and ensure representation to the locals in unorganized states and territories which have now no voice in the councils of the party, although contributing financially to its support. The national secretary should be under the direct supervision of the national executive committee, but elected by referendum of the membership. The acts of the committee upon all matters referred to it could be published regularly in a bulletin issued for that purpose and furnished to every party member.

Concluded Next Week.

P. C. Murray, the lawyer in the office, makes a specialty of drawing wills and settling estates.

Clubbing Offer

The Iowa Socialist for one year and any of the following papers for one year or 60 cents: *Wishire's Magazine*, *Coming Nation*, *Chicago Socialist*, *The Vanguard*; or the Iowa Socialist for one year and *The Comrade* for six months or 60 cents.

The Iowa Socialist in bundles at fifty cents per hundred. Express prepaid.

LOCAL MEETINGS

Des Moines Local No. 6 meets second and fourth Sunday afternoons of each month at 3:00 o'clock in Yeoman Hall.

Davenport local meets every first and third Friday in the month at Turner hall. Visitors always welcome. B. W. Wilson, Sec., 821 East 14th street.

Dubuque Local meets every Tuesday evening at 8:00 o'clock at Socials Headquarters, 6th and Iowa streets.

Sioux City Local meets every Thursday at 7:30 p. m. in Trades and Labor Assembly Hall, fifth floor Opera House Block.

Directory of Secretaries

Wm. Maily, National Secretary, Boylston Building, 269 Dearborn St., Chicago.
J. J. Jacobsen, State Secretary, 1129 12th street, Des Moines, Iowa.

Secretaries of Iowa Locals

Atlantic, Chas. D. Beers.
Avery, F. J. West.
Beebeetown, J. O. McElroy.
Boone, John H. Cook, 1021 Meridian St.
Burlington, Wm. Strauss, 2007 Agency Av.
Centerville, D. E. Hayes, 121 N. 21st St.
Clarinda, T. F. Willis.
Clinton, A. R. Kolar, 511 2d St.
Correctionville, John Tangborn.
Council Bluffs, I. Goldberg, 208 W. Pierce St.
Cresco, W. A. Fisk.
Davenport, B. W. Wilson, 821 E. 14th St.
Deloit, Stanley Browne.
Des Moines, E. Ericson, 86 E. Grand Ave.
Dubuque, E. Holtz, 295 6th St.
Fairbank, L. J. Dietz.
Fredericksburg, A. R. Potter.
Grinnell, W. Fierbaugh.
Hamilton, Louis Paulding.
Hiteam, Wm. Truman.
Hocking, Thomas Love.
Lake City, Oakley Wood.
Lester, Joseph Brucken.
Little Rock, W. H. Attlesea.
Logan, A. D. Wilson.
Lost Creek, Lovel Talmage.
Madrid, C. J. Peelstrom.
Mapleton, Ezra DeWolf.
Marshalltown, W. J. Ford, 607 Frederick St.
Mason City, Leslie A. Tillitson, 119 Wes Miller St.
Missouri Valley, John T. Culavin P. O. Box 124.
Monroe, Henry Bewans.
Muscatine, J. W. Zetler, 115 W. 9th St.
Mystic, W. B. Bedinger.
Newton, W. J. Porter.
Ottumwa, Isaac H. West, 601 Richmond Ave. S.
Pisgah, Walter Cook.
Polk City, Nevin A. Lee, Box 4.
Rock Rapids, George Monlux.
Ryan, Chas. Hicketier.
Sac City, W. J. Martin, Box 476.
Shambaugh, W. A. Wolf.
Sheldon, E. W. Farnsworth.
Sigourney, Edward J. Rohrer.
Sioux City, Miss Carrie Yeager, 414 Pearl St.
Stratford, Fred Lundberg, R. F. D. No. 2.
Van Horns, Dr. C. Wirth.

Headquarters

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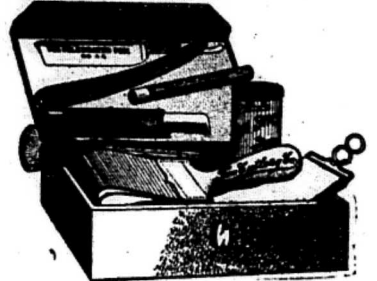
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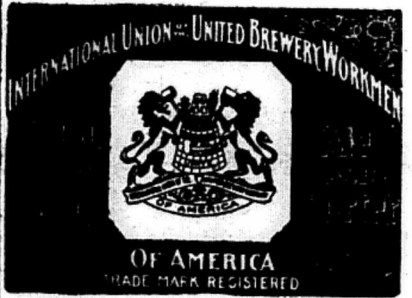
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National Headquarters Bulletin

NATIONAL ORGANIZING FUND.	
Total to noon, May 28	\$ 1 00
Previously reported	3260 96
Total	\$3261 96
CAMPAIGN FUND.	
Total to noon, May 28	\$ 4 25
Previously reported	50 78
Total	\$ 55 03

National Organizer Geo. H. Goebel enters Arizona early in June and after a month's work there will go through California to the Pacific coast.

National Organizer M. W. Wilkins will spend the next two months in West Virginia and Maryland, getting those states in shape for the national election.

Arrangements are being made for a southern trip for Harry M. McKee, under the direction of the national secretary. McKee covers South and North Carolina on the trip.

The circular letter from the national secretary to local secretaries relative to books for officials, Socialist plate matter, the national campaign fund and the printed report of the convention proceedings should receive prompt and careful attention.

Local secretaries everywhere should see that they receive from their state secretaries contribution lists for the half day's pay donation during the third week of June to the national campaign fund. Locals in unorganized states are supplied direct from the national headquarters.

Comrade George D. Herron's article, "The Social Opportunity," published in the April International Socialist Review, has been revised by the author and will be published in pamphlet form under the title "The Day of Judgment." Comrade Herron has donated the royalties to be derived from its sale to the national campaign fund. The price of the pamphlet is 10 cents and orders can be sent direct to William Maily, national secretary, 269 Dearborn street, Chicago, Ill.

Robert Saltiel, German organizer, completed his work in Pennsylvania May 22 and after filling ten dates in New York, entered Massachusetts, June 2, for about two weeks' engagement. At Wilkesbarre, Pa., where the movement has been inactive owing to fusion Saltiel organized a local of fifteen members, all of them entirely new material. At Bethlehem, a former stronghold of the S. L. P., thirty-two members owning a fine labor lyceum free from debt, joined the party in a body. Comrade Saltiel will return west through Rhode Island, New Jersey, Connecticut, Pennsylvania and Ohio.

The most complete and valuable report of the recent national convention is the one being gotten out by the national headquarters. The debates upon important questions are given in detail, and every act of the convention is presented so that a faithful record and vivid picture is given. Readers are thus able to see the convention as it was without exaggeration or discoloration. The report will be in book form, strong paper covers, clearly printed and good typographical appearance, containing also portraits of the presidential and vice-presidential candidates and other interesting matter. Price, paper covers, 50 cents; cloth bound, \$1. Order direct from William Maily, national secretary, 269 Dearborn street, Chicago, Ill.

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General Notes

Muscatine, Iowa, May 29.

Dear Comrade: Muscatine local met in regular session, Thursday evening, May 26. In compliance with the call for the state convention we elected Comrade Lee W. Lang as the delegate to represent the local and had it understood that any member in good standing should be issued a certificate the same as the regular delegate but he can only represent himself. Quite a lot of business was transacted, after which we listened to Comrade Lesley, visiting delegate to the national convention, who made a good talk, labeling it "The Aftermath of the Greatest Socialist Convention." He said that after he met comrades from all corners of these United States that it gave him a wonderful impression, something that he would never forget. He also warned the Socialist party that in case W. R. Hearst does not receive the democratic nomination that a whole lot of his followers will try to get into the Socialist party. He said we should be on the lookout, as we will have all kinds of people to contend with.

LEE W. LANG.

Sioux City, Iowa, May 30.

Dear Comrade: Local Sioux City is having very fine propaganda street meetings every Saturday evening. One of the best features of these meetings is the sale of literature and sub cards. We are going to add another feature in the form of chalk talks with blackboard, giving facts and figures. The new organization now has fourteen members, with an executive committee of five members and an organizer from every ward to confer with the committee. Comrade Harry McKee stopped over Sunday and delivered as fine a talk as I ever heard. The audience was small, mostly Socialists. It is to be regretted that it was so, as he justly deserved an opera house and a large audience, but local Sioux City has debts to meet and very little money to meet them with, and we want to catch up and get on a sound footing. Enclosed you will find membership blank in the new organization, the Socialist Educational League. The form might be of some use to comrades elsewhere. Each month is to be punched as members pay up, and we keep a duplicate card on file.

J. W. WILSON.

Davenport, Iowa, May 30.

Dear Comrade: Have just returned home from the debate given under the auspices of Local Davenport. Arrangements were made for a joint debate by a committee elected for that purpose and the debate was held at the People's Union Mission. The subject was: "Does the Welfare of the Human Race Require the Adoption of the Principles of Socialism." Charles Grilk of this city represented the negative side of the question, and the affirmative side was supported by Comrade Seymour Stedman, of Chicago. Each of the speakers was allowed forty minutes to present his argument and at the close each speaker was allowed ten minutes for rebuttal. Mr. Grilk is a lawyer and a well known republican, and while his argument was somewhat weak, will say that he defended capitalism as well as could be expected, as no man can put up a good "moral" reason why capitalism should exist. And as for Comrade Stedman, he is too well known as a speaker and debater and student of social economy to need any introduction what-

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ever. There was no vote taken as to the winning side. The debate was a grand success. Every chair in the hall was occupied. Rev. Nedd Lee donated the hall, and a collection was taken up for the benefit of the Peoples Union Mission, as there was no admission fee charged to hear the debate.

B. W. WILSON.

Iowa Notes

Duplicate credentials to the state convention have been received from Marshalltown and Muscatine locals.

Nominations for candidates for congress may be made at the state convention, providing the delegates from the various locals are so instructed.

The national, state and local campaign fund subscription lists have been forwarded to all locals and members at large. Treat them kindly and send for more.

Comrade McKee reports some very fine and profitable meetings. His dates so far as arranged are: Humboldt, June 6; Stratford, 7; Stanhope, 8; Ames, 9; Boone, 10; Polk City, 11; Des Moines, 12.

In order to ascertain the number of votes and delegates each local is entitled to, delinquent as well as current dues should be sent in during the month of June. To send the amounts with the delegates will cause confusion and delay the work of the convention.

J. J. JACOBSEN, Secretary.

Local Notes

Comrade C. J. Mathis who is at Parkersburg at present is hustling up subs for the I. S. at that place.

Business meeting of Local Dubuque next Tuesday. Election of delegates to the state convention and other matters of importance. Don't fail to attend.

The trade union resolution was discussed at the meeting of Local Dubuque last Tuesday evening. There was a good attendance and at times the discussion was very animated, almost rivaling that on the same subject at the Chicago convention.

Weekly Report to National Committee

Continued from First Page.

Cal.; Floaten, Colo.; White, Conn.; Berlyn, Ill.; Towner, Ky.; Walter, Mich.; Turner, Mo.; Ufert, N. J.; Hillquit, N. Y.; Thams, N. D.; Caldwell, O.; Kerrigan, Tex.; Arvidson, Vt.; Booker, Wash.; Pergler, Wis.

Turner, Missouri, voted against the national secretary's proposition and "nominated for members of the national quorum to act until

the proposed constitution is voted upon and the executive committee provided for in the new constitution is elected and qualified, their term of office not to exceed six months, Victor Berger, Barney Berlyn, A. M. Simons, Seymour Stedman, Ernest Unterman."

The national secretary replied to Comrade Turner that his motion was not in order, as it was not within the province of any national committeeman to move that certain individuals act as the quorum, that the national committee as a whole elect the members of the quorum after nominations have been properly made, if it is the wish of the national committee that such nominations be made at all.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

The following correspondence is herewith transmitted to the national committee for its further information:

To Wm. Maily, National Secretary, Socialist Party of America:

Dear Sir and Comrade: You are hereby notified that W. Harry Spears, room 36, 179 Washington street, Chicago, Ill., has been duly authorized to buy Socialist party due stamps from the national office for the state of Illinois until such time as you, on behalf of the national committee, may receive notice to the contrary from the Illinois state executive committee.

Signed by order of the state executive committee of Illinois Socialist party in session this 21st day of May, A. D., 1904.

J. H. BARD, Chairman.

W. HENRY SPEARS, Secretary.

Chicago, Ill., May 21, 1904.

Chicago, Ill., May 23, 1904.

W. Harry Spears, Chicago, Ill.

Dear Comrade: Replying to your communication of the 21st inst., I will say that, as national secretary, I am only empowered to recognize the regularly authorized and duly elected state secretary in any state as the executive of the state committee in that state. Until I receive proper credentials showing me that the present state secretary is no longer qualified to serve and another comrade has been duly selected by the state committee in his place to fill the position of state secretary, I can only recognize the present state secretary, Comrade James S. Smith, as the representative of the state committee of the Socialist party of Illinois and he is the only one to whom I shall deliver due stamps for the use of the party in that state. WILLIAM MAILLY, National Secretary.

David S. Cameron, carpenter. Terms very reasonable. 3130 Pine street.

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