

SOCIALIST WORLD

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A CALL TO ACTION

By Alfred Baker Lewis

The Socialist Party is the only political party working for the complete ending of capitalism.

Capitalism is a hateful thing.

It causes workers who want to work to be thrown out of a job although the consumers want the very things those workers can produce. This happens because under capitalism the workers get only a part of the value of what they produce, and so their wages cannot buy back all that is produced, and there comes a period of overproduction and hard times. These periods of hard times have occurred repeatedly under capitalism, and will continue to occur if we don't end capitalism.

Capitalism causes wars. Wars are due to commercial and industrial rivalry between the capitalist class of different nations, coupled with the greed for profits of the big armament makers.

During the war Socialists were jailed for telling the people this truth. Yet after the war was over, President Wilson himself, in a speech at St. Louis on September 5, 1920, said that the war was a commercial and industrial war.

We still have capitalism. Like causes will produce like results. So just as sure as that the sun will rise to-morrow we will have another war, and you or your sons will be forced to fight the British over the oil of Mexico, or fight the Japs for the "right" to exploit China — unless we end capitalism.

Capitalism kills babies and little children by the thousand. Studies by government experts have shown that the death rate among children of poor people, because of bad housing, insufficient food, and because their mothers have to work to help

support the family, is more than twice as high as among the children of those who are rich. This is due to extremes of poverty that we can end just as soon as we end capitalism and give the workers the full value of what they produce.

The capitalist class try to get your support by lies and hypocrisy.

When the anthracite miners asked for a 20% increase in pay, the operators said it would add \$2.00 to the price of coal. That was a lie. The labor cost per ton of coal averages only \$4.00, and if every penny of the increase was passed on to the consumers it would only have added 80 cents to the cost.

When the capitalist class were trying to get us into the war, they told us that Germany was militaristic, and had for years been preparing a huge army to conquer other nations. That was a lie. The Statesman's Year Book shows that France had a larger standing army before the war than Germany.

When the capitalist class was reducing the workers' wages in 1921 and 1922, they said it was because they could not afford to pay high wages. That was a lie. The figures published by the New York "Times" show that dividend and interest payments were larger in 1921 than 1920.

This system — capitalism — which causes and will cause unemployment and hard times, which causes and will cause wars, which kills and will kill little children by poverty, and which is bolstered up by lies and hypocrisy, the Socialist Party aims to end.

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THE SOCIALIST WORLD

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by the
SOCIALIST PARTY OF AMERICA
OTTO F. BRANSTETTER Bus. Mgr.

The Local with a strong, united membership could not be shattered by war time persecution.

It could not be destroyed by factional quarrels.

It was the small local that found itself defenseless and victimized by the hate and bigotry of the war.

It was the inactive, uninformed Local that fell victim to misrepresentation and was destroyed by dissension.

The state that was well organized was able to defend the Socialist Party as a legal political party and to triumph over the tremendous forces that tried to destroy it.

It held its ground against all the reactionaries of the nation. It withstood the attacks of the Department of Justice, the detective agencies and the under-cover spies hidden among its own members.

The well organized state appears in the returns of the last national election. It had a Socialist ticket on the ballot and it increased its vote from fifty to three hundred percent over the highest it had ever had before.

The blank spaces in the 1920 election returns represent the states in which no Socialist could cast a ballot for the candidates of his choice. The states without a Socialist Party organization—the states without the machinery necessary to a campaign.

Every Socialist must be allowed to vote for his candidates in 1924. He will not be able to do so unless the destroyed machinery is restored. He will not be able to so vote unless every state is again on the list of the organized.

The 1920 vote should have been double the number counted. Since then the Socialist sentiment has greatly increased. We must have no states blank in the 1924 election returns.

(Continued from page 1)

Help in this aim by joining the Socialist Party. If you saw some monster killing little children while a man with a gun sat by and smoked his pipe or played pinochle, what would you think of that man? Yet capitalism is killing little children by the unnecessary poverty it causes; and you are that man unless you get into the struggle against capitalism, and do so in an organized way.

You know that if capitalism continues you or your children and the young lads you see about you are going to be made to fight again in some commercial war by lies about the nation they are made to fight, while profiteers coin millions out of their blood. Will your self respect let you sit by and do nothing to carry on the struggle against capitalism in an organized way when you know this?

When you know that capitalism has caused and will again cause unemployment and hard times, when you know that capitalism has killed and will continue to kill little children by unnecessary poverty, when you know that capitalism has caused and will again cause wars, and when you know that the Socialist Party is opposed to the capitalist system, you are a traitor to your own conscience, a traitor to the working class, and a Judas Iscariot to all humanity if you don't give all the energy, all the time, and all the money that you can possibly spare to helping the Socialist Party.

You cannot carry on the struggle to end capitalism and abolish exploitation, poverty, unemployment, and war without an organization. The Socialist Party is that organization. Get into the struggle against this hateful system. Join the Socialist Party and get others to join. Subscribe for the Socialist papers and get others to do the same. Distribute Socialist leaflets. Sell Socialist pamphlets. Above all, join the Socialist Party and be active. And don't wait; do it *now*.

NOTICE!

NEW HEADQUARTERS.

On October first
THE NATIONAL OFFICE

will move from

2418 W. Madison St.

to

2653 Washington Blvd.

THE STORY OF THE BRITISH LABOR PARTY

By Morris Hillquit

Until the end of the last century, the workers of Great Britain had no political organization of their own. They believed that their trade unions were all-sufficient in their fight for better working conditions. They did not perceive that their everyday lives, at home and in the shops, were powerfully influenced by politics. They failed to realize that liberal labor laws could mean better wages, shorter hours, greater protection of life and health in connection with their daily labor, healthier home surroundings, provision against destitution in old age, in periods of unemployment, in cases of industrial accidents and sickness, and better facilities for the education of their children, while laws hostile to labor could put heavy obstacles in struggles of the workers for human existence and reduce them to a state of helpless subjugation to the employing classes. It did not occur to them that a hostile government with the aid of the military and police force and, above all, the courts, could destroy the usefulness and efficiency of the very trade unions upon whom they relied for their struggles.

They ignored the fact that the vital social policies of the government are fashioned by the men in the legislative, judiciary and executive bodies and are determined by the views, sympathies, interests and class ties of these men; that they could elect these men themselves; that an independent party of labor could break into the political game, exert a direct influence on the government and eventually run it.

They were handicapped by the superstitious belief in the "two-party" system of politics. For generations Tories and Whigs, Conservatives and Liberals, had alternated in the control of the British government. The British workers had always voted for the one or the other, just as the workers of America always voted the Republican or the Democratic tickets. When labor issues became more acute, the workers rallied to candidates professing friendship for them, and these were mostly found in the ranks of the Liberal Party, just as the workers here are in the habit of locating their "friends" in the Democratic Party. Towards the end of the last century, the Liberal Party made it a regular practise to name on its ticket a few men from the ranks of organized labor as candidates for the House of Commons. These were known as Liberal-Labor Representatives. They had no consistent political labor program; they were not accountable to definite labor constituencies; they were controlled

by the policies of the Liberal Party, and were on the whole quite ineffective for the cause of labor, just as our own "Union-card" members in Congress and in the various state legislatures of necessity have proved to be.

For many years men like Keir Hardie, the clear-headed and forward-looking Scotch miner and other Socialists urged upon the British workers to form a new and independent political party of Labor. They were decried as visionaries by the conservative leaders of organized labor, who were honestly convinced that the thing "could not be done."

But finally the ice was broken. A series of intense industrial struggles in which the powers of government were openly and consistently arrayed on the side of the employers and against labor resulted in a heightened political interest in the ranks of the workers. In 1899 the British Trade Union Congress passed a resolution calling for a conference of trade-unions, socialist parties, co-operative societies and other labor organizations to devise ways and means for securing a better representation of the interests of labor in the House of Commons.

In the following year the conference was held in London and a permanent "Labor Representative Committee" was formed. It was not until five years later that the organization adopted the name of Labor Party.

The beginnings of the new party were very modest indeed. The organizations which joined in its founding in 1900 represented a total membership of less than 400,000. In that year the new party polled a total of about 63,000 votes in 15 constituencies and returned two members to the House of Commons. But these meager results did not discourage the pioneers of the movement. They continued the work of political organization and education among the workers with unabated faith and increased zeal year after year, and year by year the new party grew in width, depth and strength.

The membership of the organizations affiliated with the Labor Party was doubled in the first two years of its existence, it passed the million mark in 1907, jumped to 1,500,000 in 1911, grew to 2,000,000 in 1915, 3,000,000 in 1918 and closed with around 4,000,000 in 1921.

The electoral successes of the party during that time kept pace with the growth of membership as the following table will show:—

General Election of	Labor Vote	Labor Candidates	Members returned
1900	62,698	15	2
1906	323,195	50	29
Jan. 1910	505,690	78	40
Dec. 1910	370,802	56	42
1918	2,244,945	361	57

In 1922 the British Labor Party polled in round number 4,250,000 votes (a full third of the total vote cast) and returned 142 members to the House of Commons. Two additional Labor members have since been elected in bye-elections.

The British Labor Party to-day has a larger representation in Parliament than the two wings of the Liberal Party combined. It is numerically the second strongest party in the country and is the recognized and official party of the opposition. If the present government falls, as it may almost any time, the Labor Party will be called upon to form a new government. If the government survives till the next election, the Labor Party will in all likelihood receive a plurality, if not a clear majority, of all votes and take over the government permanently.

The great British Empire governed by labor! Imagine what that will mean for labor, for Britain and for the whole world.

For strange as it may sound, the Labor Party is not a class party. The vast bulk of its members and voters come from the working class, and its activities are frankly directed in support of the producing classes and in determined opposition to the classes thriving on profit and privilege, but its supreme and ever-present aim is to do away with all class privileges and class distinctions, and to run the government for the true and equal benefit of the whole people.

The last electoral platform of the party announced in unmistakable terms that the party is resolved "to change as speedily as possible by constructive measures the social and economic system which confers unfair privileges on the few and undeserved hardship on the many and to bring about a more equitable distribution of the wealth produced by the common efforts of the workers by hand and brain."

The Labor Party of Great Britain is the party of social progress and political idealism. That is why the best elements of the country are rallying to its support. Not the leaders of labor unions and organizations of farmers, but men and women prominent in all walks of intellectual and artistic pursuit sit in the councils of the party and on its benches in the House of Commons.

The Labor Party of Great Britain is vastly more

than a mere political party. It is a great educational and progressive force, the greatest in the country. By its constant contact with the millions of organized workers in the affiliated trade unions; through the educational activities of the affiliated Socialist parties; through 2500 divisional and local groups and numerous women's organizations it carries on an unceasing campaign of political and social enlightenment. It has enlisted the best minds of the country to study all important social problems affecting the nation and the world, and the results of such studies are communicated to the people through the labor press, numerous leaflets and pamphlets and in public meetings regularly held throughout the country.

British labor is politically emancipated. It has ceased to follow the parties of their masters; it has ceased to knock at the backdoors of legislative bodies, to lobby and to beg. It has risen to political dignity. It has asserted its political strength. While yet in the minority, it has forced such radical labor legislation as old-age pensions and unemployment insurance and the full legal recognition of the rights of trade unions and the immunity of their treasuries. The Labor Party moreover has educated its members in the art of true statesmanship and political leadership. When the hour will strike for the British workers to assume the responsibilities of government, they will be ready for it.

This is the story of the political achievements of the British workers. Its lesson is inspiring, its moral is simple. It loudly cries to American Labor: "Go thou and do likewise!" — The American workers are not inferior to their British brothers in natural intellect, in courage or perseverance — what our comrades on the other side of the ocean have accomplished is not beyond our reach. There is no reason why the American workers should continue to be the football of the disgusting game of old-party politicians, ever cajoled and despised, deceived and betrayed, impotent and humiliated; there is no reason why they should continue the futile policy of supporting the parties of the master classes and reaping the reward of their political weakness in hostile governments, hostile laws and hostile courts.

With the crying needs for political relief in this country and with the example and ready methods of England back of us we can form a powerful Labor Party in this country to-day; we can challenge the supremacy of the old parties in a few years.

Let us go and do it.

OUR RAILROADS

By Joseph E. Cohen

How long before America's railroads belong to the American people?

It is only a question of time! To many, possibly to most, it seems that the time is here. For it is becoming clearer right along that, if the railroads are to serve the people, they will have to belong to the people.

Whether in war or peace, it is becoming more evident. In war the railroads had to be taken over by the government in order to get service. In peace the government established the Interstate Commerce Commission to regulate the administration, and it passed the Esch-Cummins Act to keep the roads from going into bankruptcy.

Why not save the roads by letting the nation own them, and the railroad men run them for the benefit of all?

From the very beginning, the nation has had to forcibly feed the railroads to keep their head above water, especially watered stock.

To keep the feet of the roads on dry land, the Federal Government alone, between 1862 and 1871, made them a present of 26,000,000 acres. Altogether the land given the roads in those years totals 155,000,000 acres. In addition there was some \$700,000,000 in cash turned over to them. Some generosity!

Estimate the land to be worth \$100 an acre, and if the railroads wish to return to the nation what was given to them, the nation should be given the roads without further cost.

Watch the railroad magnates show what fair-minded patriots they are!

Have the railroads been serving the people? Notice this: "In every period of industrial expansion and business prosperity since 1907, especially during the heavy seasonal demands of the fall months, railroad facilities have proved inadequate." These are the words of Prof. Sharfman, who has the figures to bear out these facts. Thus, "March 31, 1917, the net car shortage reached the enormous total of 144,797." Some incapacity!

Then came America's entry into the war. The government had to take over the roads to stop the growing inefficiency.

As against the 300 billion ton miles transported by the roads in their heaviest year

(1913), the government moved 398.2 in 1917 403.1 in 1918 and 363 billions in 1919.

That was a contrast! All this in spite of the officials of the roads committing the most brazen sabotage against the government at war (how is that for treason?). For these officials acting for the selfish interests of the owners were afraid that should the government control beat private management, the demand would go up for permanent public ownership.

Aside from inefficient service, what have the railroads been doing?

They have always been in dirty politics. At the start, bribery, fraud and corruption of the fellest kind acted as midwives to deliver the sprawling monster. The whole story of the rise, promotion and ascendancy of the railroad systems is an unbroken record of prostituting the public concern for private plunder.

More recently the roads have been at the head of the open-shop attempt to destroy the unions and drive labor back to conditions of servitude, while picking the passengers, shippers and manufacturers' pockets for outrageous rates.

Naturally, under the guarantee of the Esch-Cummins Act, the earnings of the roads have increased enormously—as against the bankruptcy which they were facing previously, due to their tremendous inefficiency.

The roads will not serve the people, until the people own the roads. The Esch-Cummins diner and the Interstate Commerce Commission Pullman car cannot cushion the rough going. To get through service the nation must take over the roads.

Then the control of the coal supply by the roads would be lifted, and coal would be easier to get and cheaper. Especially if the nation owned the mines.

The roads would be electrified, run as part of a giant power system, cutting out the awful waste of moving coal for steam (at least one-fourth of the coal carried is to run the roads), and the awful waste of duplication of roadbeds and systems. By organizing the lines into one complete order, rates would be lowered and service improved. Especially if the men who do the work participated in the administration.

That is how it should be.

The only ones who should fight public ownership and workers administration are the few who own the roads and reap the gain. The rest of the nation should be for it.

For everybody else would benefit by the centralization and extension of the lines, the

including of the parcel and express service and improving the mail facilities. Farmer, manufacturer and merchant would be able to sell cheaper. Most of all, the railroad men and the workers would be the better off.

Why not make them OUR RAILROADS once and for all?

From The Archives Of Local Hardtown

By Ben Blumenberg

Local Hardtown of the Socialist Party was dead. Now that is not just the proper way to begin a story, according to the correspondence schools which guarantee to teach the mechanics of story writing in one's spare time. But this is not a story. The local's disintegration into innocuous desuetude was a phenomenon that could only be explained in terms of social pathology, as the sweet young thing who shuffles the case cards in the welfare department of the settlement house, would say. Neither is this an obituary. An obit does not conform to the rules laid down for imaginative writing, unless it is known, beyond a doubt, that the one who inspires the verbal bouquets is truly and honestly dead. (See Chap. Z. P. 411. "Story Writing made Easy"). There's the rub. Was the local really dead? Sam Smathers, and there isn't a better Socialist anywhere as he has freely, frankly and frequently informed me, said it was. Now, Sam is a pretty careful fellow in some things. I remember when I was filling a financial position of trust and honor—that of local secretary—and I'll take my oath on the stack of leaflets which I got to distribute two election ago, and which are now on the pantry shelf, even if they are somewhat yellow in color, that I never campaigned for the office. During that time Sam made it a point of honor to never be more than three months in arrears for dues. You see the Post Office was being run at a loss and Sam was of the opinion that the deficit could be made up if the stamp department were better patronized. So we sent out stacks of delinquency notices. Besides, he seemed to think that it would reflect on his foresight if he should be up-to-date when the social revolution arrived and on every side, as he said, the rumblings of the "catastrophic cataclism" could be heard. Well, Sam said the local is dead, and he ought to know, because there isn't a better posted fellow on the payroll of the present non-partisan reform administration in this city.

However, it must be said that Sam was not opinionated. Just to prove the statement, it has only

to be recorded that, whereas, he used to orate and speechify against immediate demands, he is now loud in his praise of the municipal garbage plant as a step in the right direction.

Four months ago, Louie Schellenberger blew into town. That in itself was not such an important event—not nearly as important as when he blew out of the city during the period when the sisterhood of nations was having a family misunderstanding. Louie wearied of the many visits of the A. P. L. The visits were paid on the theory that he had a hand in starting trouble between the then Imperial Government of Germany and the then free United States of America. Well, Louie who had always raised his deep fog horn against war, was for many years wet nurse of the Socialist local, and—well, anyone who answered to the moniker of Schellenberger at the time when the "Huns" were ready to scrape their hoofs on our front porches—Gentlemen, have you reached a verdict? Officer, away to the hoosgow with the prisoner. Shoot him if he tries to escape. Sap him for cowardice, if he doesn't. Yes, "Schellie" blew, a copy of "Human, All Too Human," on one pocket, several sandwiches in the other. But I digress: not an unknown trait in other good writers.

The war went on. So did Louie. The war ended—Louie returned to Hardtown, absolved, in a negative sort of a way, from having caused the schism between Christian nations. Thereafter, he used to hear the call of the road at regular intervals, returning with a coat of tan to make up for his slightly depleted wardrobe. If his wanderlust left him a bit seedier sartorially, he always returned richer in the experience of those things concerning life, events and movements. So, Louie, as in times past, just dropped in to see how the local was getting along. Fortunately, the attendance was good. At least, it was 25 per cent better than it was at the last meeting when nine members—exclusive of the janitor—who was there to collect the rent, if possible) were present. There was not much business

to be transacted that evening, as the referendum manufacturers and the constitutional cobblers had been long since converted to the all-power-to-the-militant-minority and since that time had created several militant minorities for the purpose of emphasizing the necessity of a united front. After we voted, as usual, to pay some bills just as soon as the treasury permitted it, (the janitor was not present) we came to the post mortem or good and welfare part of the program. The Chairman announced that, "We are glad to have Comrade Schellenberger with us this evening. We will enjoy hearing of his experiences in other parts of the country."

"Well", said the wanderer, during the few days that I have been in town, I looked up some of those who formerly were members of the Party. I found out, or at least was told, that the Party is dead in Hardtown. Some of those I met, (and here the speaker started to grin, and, nodding his head slowly, broke into a long chuckle, while the members looked at each other and then at him with puzzled air). "Some of those I met say I don't care if Charley Chaplin forgets to wear his shoes in his next film, I've been provided with laughs for many a day."

"Some of those, if not all, left the Socialist Party via the Moscow route. There's Nat Denny. Remember his 'Russia has sounded the death-knell of capitalism. The United States is next. In ninety days the blood-red emblem of the proletariat will be waving from the public buildings.' Well, I've noticed a change at least around one of the public buildings, the city hall, where Nat has elevated himself to the position of office boy of the non-partisan machine. It's a long jump from Moscow to getting in with the old political hacks.

"Than I ran across Miss Hazie. Remember, she awakened one day to find that wars were unethical and unchristian, after which she joined several peace societies and the Socialist Party, giving up some of the time she formerly devoted to the occult and single tax. She also became converted to the dictatorship of the proletariat and her knowledge of everything pertaining to the modern labor movement, convinced her that the Socialist Party was in error in not swallowing the edicts, ukases, theses and pronunciamentos issued almost hourly from Moscow. Not only did she know the Party was in error, but her vocabulary of "yellow", "Noskes," "Scheidemanns", "reformers" and "bourgeois betrayers", was as complete as that of anyone who joined the Party say, three months before the split.

"Another former member I met, was Reverend Naylor. Just how good he was in handling his line of salvation, deponent saith not, but I'll bet that he

stood high in the study of publicity stunts at the theological school. At any rate, he made some people think that the Rev. Naylor was the high priest and oracle of the Socialist Party of Hardtown. Never did oracle utter more piffle and label it Socialism, than did the reverend gentleman. He recently rediscovered the remedy for the ills of the workers: elect good men to office, regardless of the ticket on which they are running. He ran true to theological form, as he was and probably will always be, a hero worshiper. Finding that the workers were not particularly wild about the intellectual and heroic qualities of the the Reverend Naylor, he has left them to their fate.

"Oh, but I have been having a good time since I returned to Hardtown", said the speaker, as if to himself. "I have run across almost every kind of faddist and emotionalist, birth control advocates, pacifists, futurists and other specialists in the art of chopped-up poetry, jargonists flirting with psychoanalysis, feminists, over-night revolutionists, underground revolutionists and up-in-the air reformers, all who but a short time ago were seeking a hearing in the Socialist Party for their favorite fads and fancies. Well, I suppose all that was part of the growing pains that a democratic movement with lax discipline, has got to expect. It would seem with so many programs for the workers to choose from, that there wouldn't be a soap box for the Socialist Party to stand upon. Yet what do we find? Some of the far-sighted labor tacticians, as profound a bunch of philosophers as ever missed the headquarters' cuspidor at four paces, are outside of the labor movement, disappointed, disgruntled, disgusted. Some have, others will, sink into the mire of gutter politics. The faddist element will continue to seek new thrills. We no longer have to apologize for their presence in the movement. In both groups the powers-that-be will continue to secure some of its social scavengers, stool pigeons, perjurers and agents provocateur. Another chapter has been added to the story that is as old as the first stirrings of freedom felt by rebellious slaves.

"What do we find today? What of the Socialist party? The past few years have witnessed the rise of a large number of non-partisan and progressive voters' leagues, labor-political conferences and labor-political parties. The birth of these organizations did not cause us to dream that the dawn of the New Day was at hand. Not at all. But they have indicated that labor is finding itself politically, due in large measure to the consistent, persistent realist tactics of the Socialist party. The tendency is for the leaders and rank and file in the movements named to take a step only after the attitude, of

course, of the Socialist party has been considered. Manifestos and resolutions may be written, conventions and conferences held with the attendant flurry of publicity and expectation, but don't forget that until such time as a bone fide political party of labor is in the field, our organization will continue to be the rallying point for the politically class conscious workers. Resolutions, manifestos, edicts and ukases, no matter how well written, have not to date changed the course of evolution.

"Now maybe you think that I haven't been hitting on all sixes, seeing that you asked me to talk about the movement in other parts of the country", said the speaker, "but don't forget that the conditions I have sketched, conditions which in a large measure are the result of the world debauch started in 1914, are, in the main, the same the country over. Yes, there are exceptions. The exceptions are to be found in those localities where the Socialist party had an organization strong enough to withstand the assaults of the war-crazed dupes of Capital and later refused to be buffaloes and stamped by those who became intoxicated by phrases concocted in many instances, by agents provocateur

within and without the numerous professional "anti-red leagues". During and after the war, the Socialists carried on their work and elected members to office—in some localities. You know the reason. So do the disruptionists.

"Perhaps I will be forgiven if I touch upon something that is a bit nearer to my text. It is this. In towns where the party is carrying on, we are taken more seriously and get a more respectful hearing by those engaged in the day by day struggle, than ever. Speakers are listened to with more attention and the literature sales and collections are as good as when the party was larger in numbers. Here and there, former Jummy Higginses have tired of post mortems and are back in harness. The movement means more to them today than ever. What about Hardtown? We can leave the mourners' bench whenever we get ready to do so. Why not get ready to-night?"

And so, in the archives of Local Hardtown, said archives being located in the far corner of the top shelf of the pantry of the recording secretary, the most stirring chapter of the organization's history had its beginning four months ago.

REPORT OF ITALIAN FEDERATION TO THE NATIONAL CONVENTION

The Italian Socialist Federation rejoices to be counted a part of the rank and file of the only Socialist movement in America, the Socialist Party, and that this movement has happily passed the crisis resulting from the war hysteria and the consequent tendency of dissension which spread among its members. We know that the crisis has been a testing one, for we ourselves have gone through it, in view of the fact that the foreign speaking comrades were apt to be influenced by the turmoil in Europe which almost crippled the Socialist and Labor Movements throughout the world. However, we are glad to report that in spite of the dissensions which split and re-split and again re-split the Socialist movement in Italy, we have saved the integrity of our small organization which is a part of the Socialist Party.

Under the difficult circumstances, with which you are well familiar, we have not increased our membership in the past year, but we have held our own, and this we consider very significant. More than that, as far back as eighteen months, when the last remnant of those seeking a short cut to Socialism were still with us, our organs did not function normally, our treasury was depleted, and our official organ had accumulated a debt of more than \$3000.00. We felt then that we were getting

nowhere, while today, though fewer in number, we are glad to report that never have we felt as strong as now, our paper has cleared its deficit, the Federation's treasury is in better shape. We have already laid plans to transform our weekly paper into a bi-weekly. We have taken steps to put up our own building, in which to house our printing plant, so as to better hasten the launching of our daily.

Some of you American comrades feared that our status would be shaped by the latest developments in the Socialist movement in Italy, as has been the case with other foreign speaking groups in the Party. However, as a matter of fact, our members have shown themselves imbued with the real International conception of the Socialist movement. We were with the Socialist Party of America when it was not accepted by Moscow and when the S. P. of Italy was in the same position. We have remained with the S. P. of America even when the Socialist Party of Italy has changed its position several times, and this because we have been aware of the fact that we are living in America, where conditions are different from any other country, and where the only party which has proven itself to have a clear understanding of local conditions is the Socialist Party. In order to give you a clear idea

of the sound and level headed stand our Federation has taken on Party matters, I submit to you the program which we adopted at our last National Convention in January:

1. The economic and political aims of the Italian Socialist Federation are those of the Socialist Party of the United States; our tactics are those which were determined at the convention of the Socialist Party of the United States.

2. As for those problems and questions on which the party has not declared itself our organizers and propagandists shall abide by the following rules:

Russian Revolution. To support it as far as the Russian comrades are concerned, but to reserve to the Socialists of each country the equal right to determine their own policy in their own environment.

Communist Party. To consider its members neither our enemies nor our comrades but our brethren, who have in common with us the aim of overthrowing the bourgeois oligarchy, altho with different tactics from ours. To leave them alone in their propaganda work, and at the same time, request them to leave us alone in our work. If they attack us, and their attack calls for defense, we should always use persuasive but not offending methods. In all debates either of tactics or principles we should assume the stand of subduer and never that of the instigator of polemics, which are at first passionate, then insulting, and usually end in damaging both parties.

3. We must fight and unmask to the public Fascism, the Ku Klux Klan, the American Legion, and similar organizations which are in existence to perpetuate and strengthen the bourgeois supremacy, even tho they work under the cloak of patriotism.

4. As to Italian Socialists on the other side, we must declare that our chief concern is the Socialist movement of America, that Socialism in Italy must be taken care of by the Socialists who live in that country, that we cannot from America pass judgment on the situation in Italy, and the methods which are pursued by our comrades over there, and that it is therefore worthless to waste our energy on debates on matters which we cannot control nor ably judge. Whenever personal attacks are made in this country against comrades in Italy we should make it clear that we are not the defenders of those who are attacked while absent, but should such attacks aim at the destruction of our principles, then it is our duty to answer with energy.

5. As for the various Internationals, we Italian Socialists are with the Socialist Party as a matter of discipline, but our wish is that it may soon be a part of a re-organized International Socialist Movement, which will absorb all the existing Internation-

als now fighting each other.

6. *Religion.* It is out of our program. It is a private question. Except in cases of lectures and writings on education and science, we should never attack the myths but the capitalist system itself. If religious persons attack us, it is our duty to expose them and explain the reasons for their attack, never to forget that prejudice must be fought with only one weapon—education.

7. *Cooperativism.* To propagate it, support it, illustrate it, and promote it as far as possible as a weapon of working class defense of organization and practical education.

8. *Trade Unionism.* It is the duty of all Socialists to be members of the trade unions and to seek to control them wherever possible, or at least, to permeate them with our ideas so that they will become organizations along the lines of the class struggle.

9. *Prohibition.* To affirm the right of the individual to decide for himself how he should feed himself and at the same time to explain to the workers that the abuse of liquor retards their emancipation.

10. *Educational work,* such as lectures, debates, articles, never to insult. In 99 cases out of every 100 he who resorts to insult does so because he lacks good reasons and arguments. Insults do not prove anything; they only irritate.

11. Comrades who are able to speak, whenever invited by the Federation, should give their services. They should avail themselves of every opportunity to explain our principles to our enemies and those indifferent.

12. No branch has the right to invite any one to lecture who does not belong to the Party. Branches as such are only fractions of the Party, therefore they commit a displeasing act whenever they choose a speaker who is not a member of the party to speak in their name. Furthermore, since the branch of the party has to propagate the principles of the party, how can it serve this purpose if it engages for its lectures those who are not members of its party? Educational, scientific and literary lectures, may constitute exceptions, however the branch is responsible if the lecturer who does not belong to the party indulges in attacks against the party while speaking for that branch.

Rules for the Newspaper

5. Our official organ cannot, for any reason, propagate views against the principles or tactics which have been adopted by the Convention of the Socialist Party and the Federation.

(Continued on page 13)

Organization Department

By Bertha Hale White

The Letter -- Campaign

Every registered Socialist voter, every Socialist sympathizer and subscriber in all the large cities, as well as in many of the small towns in the country will receive personal invitations to join the party from National Chairman Eugene V. Debs and National Secretary Otto Branstetter during the month of September. In October the active local workers take hold of the campaign and extend an invitation to become enrolled members as well as enrolled voters. The letter campaign has been taken up with surprising enthusiasm. As we go to press we are notified that New York City, Pittsburgh and Cleveland are rushing the preparation of lists, while invitations have already been addressed to every name furnished from the following cities:

Detroit, Mich.	Huntingburg, Ind.	Missouri Locals
New Haven, Conn.	Holyoke, Colo.	Aurora, Ill.
Dayton, Ohio.	Daisytown, Pa.	Dumont, N. J.
York, Pa.	Prather, Calif.	Port Jervis, N. Y.
Schenectady, N. Y.	Weymouth and Braintree, Mass.	Wellington, Price and Helper,
Local Queens, N. Y.	Hampden, Conn.	Utah.
New London, Conn.	Pottsgrove, Sumneytown, Green	Garnett, Kansas.
Brooklyn, N. Y.	Lane, Pa.	Calera, Ala.
Bronx, N. Y.	Pottstown, Doyersford, Norris-	West Hoboken, N. J.
New Castle, Pa.	town, Pa.	Penn, Pa.
Pasadena, Calif.	Souderton, East Greenville, Pa.	Chattanooga, Tenn.
Juniata, Pa.	Pennsburg, Pa.	Hotchkiss, Colo.
Altoona, Pa.	Seattle, Wash.	Newton, Kansas.
Boston, Mass. and vicinity.	North Milwaukee, Wis.	Cudahy, Wis.
Piqua, Ohio.	Salt Lake City, Utah.	Horicon, Wis.
Yonkers, N. Y.	Frostburg, Md.	Montpelier, Ind.
Baltimore, Md.	Ogden, Utah.	So. Greensburg, Pa.
Cincinnati, Ohio.	Woodridge, N. Y.	Belvidere, Ill.
Oakland, Calif.	Poughkeepsie, N. Y.	Jeannette, Pa.
San Francisco, Calif.	Marion and Anderson, Ind.	Steelton, Pa.
Camden, N. J.	Kenosha, Wis.	Westmoreland City, Pa.
Philadelphia, Pa.	Lykens, Pa.	Milwaukee, Wis.
Erie, Pa.	Niagara Falls, N. Y.	Racine, Wis.
Indianapolis, Ind.	Canton, Ill.	Kenosha, Wis.
Springfield, Mass.	Evansville, Ind.	Chicago, Ill.
Cumberland, Md.	Meridian, Kuna, Boise, Ida.	New York, N. Y.
Elmira, N. Y.	Brush, Colo.	

NEW YORK MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN

New York has organized a central Membership Campaign Committee each member of which is chairman of a special committee. Members are urged to co-operate. Get in touch with your chairman at once if you have not already done so. The following are the members of the Central Committee:

Joshua Lieberman, General Chairman, 7 E. 15th St.
1 - 2nd A. D., Abraham Jacobson, 219 Madison St.
3 - 5 - 10th A. D., Evelyn West Hughan, 132 West 12th St.

4th A. D., Julius Green, 182 Broome St.,
6th A. D., Helen Schwimmer, 358 E. 8th St.
8th A. D., Ralph Hollenberg, 405 Broadway.
Upper West Side, Kay Hansen, 16 West 109th St.
12 - 14th A. D., David Heertje, 1220 Third Ave.
15 - 16th A. D., Robert Otto, 417 East 17th St.,
17th A. D., Henry Zitrin, 7 East 106th St.,
18 - 20th A. D., Isador Gurner, 150 Spring St.,
21st A. D., George Ollendorf, 311 W. 114th St.,
22 - 23rd A. D., Florence Greenstein, 603 Isham Place,

Bohemian, Charles Kubic, 511 East 70th St.,
Finnish, W. Newland, 2056 Fifth Avenue,
German, Joseph Mueller, 132 West 91st St.,
Italian, A. De Giusseppe, 7 East 15th St.,
Jewish, Harlem, M. Gaft, 109 East 104th St.,
Cloakmakers, H. Ingber, 243 East 105th St.

Lena Morrow Lewis is representing the National Organization in the New York City membership campaign. Volunteer workers will find her at the party headquarters, 7 East 15th Street.

LETTERS

Organization notes would be incomplete that did not give special mention to the work of those who live in the smaller communities, who have few, if any, to help, and yet are entering into the campaign with a zeal and enthusiasm that makes every delivery of mail a source of inspiration and delight. The National is unique in the roster of party offices. It does not have that contact with the workers that a local office has. It is located in Chicago, but does not belong to Chicago more than it does to Pasadena or New London. Through frequent meetings and discussions on party plans the local work is determined. Not so with the National Office. It is from that big bundle of letters that comes four times a day that the activities of the National organization are outlined and the results estimated. There was that dark period of the war when every letter meant a problem. It might hold

a story of persecution, an appeal for help, or — it might be a silly trick, an attempt to secure some written word that would involve the office in further persecution by the department of justice. Then—the long period of dissension. One dreaded to open letters in those days—letters that told of an orgy of destruction in which the work of many years, the fruit of sacrifice and devotion, had been wiped out in a storm of factional fury.

Such letters come no more to the National Office. Now and then a sentence is written—a few words explaining why a local had ceased to function or had stood still, just holding together until the strife had ended. Such references are incidental, however.

Almost without exception, our correspondents report they are facing forward, ready for the big task, the great work of rebuilding. There are no grandiloquent phrases; no heroic declarations. But you feel the earnestness in the pledge of new service to the great cause. You gain a new concept of fraternity and a feeling that you have clasped hands in new compacts, that the soldiers of the thin red line have reenlisted and new recruits are coming in—oh, it is a pleasant task to read the letters that come to the National Office!

It is to those who have stood faithfully on guard where the line of defense was least defended that we must give our most earnest appreciation. Lonely, unsupported, they have held the faith. Recently, we received some contributions from Comrade Garrison of Montpelier, Indiana. He apologized for not getting better results. And yet—we learn from another correspondent that Comrade Garrison has been ill and in a hospital a greater part of the time for two years. His local had lapsed; the work had to be done. So Comrade Garrison proceeded to do it.

There are others in Indiana. Every week there comes a carbon copy of a letter sent out by State Secretary Sheron to his locals and members at large. Think of conducting a weekly circularization with a typewriter, you secretaries who have mimeograph machines! And he is constantly extending his mailing list, sending in new names to the National Office. Every state has such members — Hamilton and Bushnell and others in Colorado — Lane and Cammans of Idaho—Burr and Locke and Silva of Utah — Graham of Montana — where can one stop in making such a list? It is endless, but the thought of these members should make every one of us measure our own service to learn whether or not we, with greater opportunities, with active assistance and co-operation, are not giving less than they.

Reports -- Brief but Significant

National Secretary Branstetter is making the Western tour with Eugene V. Debs. If you look for a report on the tour from him in this issue, you will be disappointed. Likewise, from Comrade Debs. Those who have been with him on tour and know how crowded every hour is, will not be surprised—there is no time for preparing press articles. Both Comrade Debs and Comrade Branstetter send envelopes of clippings to the National Office. The western papers are full of the Debs meetings, and doubtless the travelers think the National Office can prepare reports from clippings. But the National Office is just now the scene of feverish activity. The letter campaign of the Membership drive is under way and fifty thousand envelopes are waiting to be mailed. After each meeting, our National Secretary sends word to the National—evidently written on the run—and reading something like the following:

"Great meeting—Gene in fine form — Grand Opera House filled to capacity!"—Great Falls.

"Great meeting—hall too small."—Butte.

Ditto—Missoula.

"Capacity house here—small town but greatest ever."—Everett.

"Meeting at Tacoma great success—full house and hundreds turned away."—Tacoma.

Nothing but exclamation points for Seattle—see clippings on page 14.

Portland and Sacramento are merely repetitions.

From San Francisco: "Fine meeting here in City Auditorium. Eight thousand attendance. Wild enthusiasm. Visited Tom Mooney in San Quentin yesterday."

As this is written, the Los Angeles meeting is three days away, but it requires no prophet to predict that the report on the other meetings will serve for Los Angeles also.

From Los Angeles Debs will go to Utah. He will fill engagements at Ogden, on September 26th and Salt Lake City on the 27th. Pocatello, Idaho, on the 29th, and then on to Cheyenne, Pueblo and Denver. Arrangements for meetings in Omaha and Iowa cities will be made by National Organizer Elizabeth Goldstein. Comrade Debs will be home in Terre Haute for a brief rest on October 12th. Then to Lansing, Mich., Oct. 19.; Toledo, Oct. 21st.; Canton, Oct. 24th.

NEW YORK AND BROOKLYN

The Local Secretaries of New York, Bronx, and Brooklyn and the Negro Branch of Harlem, have just been notified that the request for Debs'

meetings before election has been granted. Four meetings will be held between October 26th and October 31st.

In St. Louis, the local members are busy arranging for the big meeting in that city which will be held early in November. Kansas City and St. Joseph, Mo., are on the program for meetings after the St. Louis engagement—also two or three meetings in Kansas.

Elizabeth Goldstein reports that the organization meetings held immediately following the Debs meetings in Montana have been gratifyingly successful. At Stockett, near Great Falls, Comrade Goldstein addressed a meeting of the miners union and a dozen men announced their readiness to become charter members of the new local. The union also voted a substantial donation to the organization fund. Emil Herman will include Stockett in his organization tour and will complete the organization work.

Following the meeting at Stockett, a local was formed at Great Falls, with 14 charter members. One member promised to bring five more members at the next meeting. Comrade Friedman was invited to come to Sand Coule, near Great Falls, where material for a strong local is waiting for an organizer. As her schedule would not permit her to accept the invitation, Comrade Friedman reported Sand Coule to District-Organizer Herman.

August Claessens closes his series of meetings in New York on October 2nd. From that date until October 21st he will tour Ohio, finishing the month in Michigan.

Esther Friedman, National Organizer, has completed arrangements for Debs meetings in Cheyenne on October 1st., Pueblo, October 3rd and Denver October 5th. In Denver, our friend the Enemy rushed into print with horrified protest — all the sacred palladia threatened — the institutions of government trembling upon their foundations. Ergo, the meeting is receiving unexcelled advertising and while assurance in this regard is quite needless, still the capitalist press is doing its mighty best to make the Denver meeting a success. It will be held in the City Auditorium.

Robert A. Hoffman, who has been with the National Office since July first, began an organization tour through Ohio at Piqua on September 20th.

James Lofthouse, National Organizer, reports fine prospects for reorganization work in Peoria

and nearby cities. His field work was to have begun the middle of September, but has been delayed through the sudden death of his wife. In his bereavement, Comrade Lofthouse has the sympathy of the many who know him through his service to the cause of Socialism.

Work Goes on in Pennsylvania

By Lilith M. Wilson

Following the tour of Comrade Esther Friedman in the western part of Pennsylvania, I began a four weeks' speaking and organizing trip to follow up the work done by her. The trip has taken me over the central and western portions of the state, and has enable me to observe the conditions at close range, and thereby judge as to the possibility of rebuilding the party to its former strength. One thing noticeable about most of the meetings was the attentiveness of those in the audiences, as well as the large number of persons in attendance.

Five splendid meetings were held in Pittsburgh, the sixth, at Braddock, failing at the last minute because the burgess refused to grant a permit for the meeting. To use his own words: "No, sir; no meetings until after the president's funeral." Under the circumstances we did not think it an opportune time to start a free speech fight.

Good meetings were held at Butler, where a few faithful comrades have carried on the work for years, and at New Kensington, Uniontown, York Run, Masontown, and out with the miners at the Coolspring barracks. These men and women, because of their faithfulness to their union, were the first to be ejected from the company houses when the strike began last year. They still live in their rude, humble homes, and are proud of their loyalty to their class.

At South Greensburg, where we have a Socialist burgess, the meeting was held in a residential section and the door steps and porches were lined in all directions to hear what we had to say.

At Punxsutawney and Philipsburg meetings were held at the latter place with but one lone comrade to depend on to make the preliminary arrangements. And so it was on across the state—good meetings with interested listeners, ready to buy literature and learn more about our program.

One of the most remarkable meetings of them all was at East Waterford, a little town of about 250 population, up in the Tuscarora mountains. It was eight years since I had been there and spoken to a little handful in the Methodist church. This time I had most of the adult population present,

gathered around the hotel porch where I spoke, who stood for an hour and a half in the semi-darkness, and took home with them many pamphlets and papers.

My whole experience this year shows that good results are obtainable wherever the comrades put forth sincere efforts to arrange meetings and properly advertise them, and I am firmly of the opinion that if the Socialists everywhere were actively pushing forward our propaganda by holding more meetings and distributing leaflets and other party literature, the membership would grow by leaps and bounds and our vote would reach new high levels.

Report of the Italian Federation to the National Convention

(Continued from page 9)

2. Whenever an article is published expressing divergent views on the program of the Party, the article must be signed and the editor must make it clear that we do not assume the responsibility for what the author says.

3. The struggle of a Party organ cannot be other than a struggle for ideals, therefore personal attacks must be eliminated. In case of legitimate defense the newspaper can be used for the offended party to prove the bad faith of the one who attacks, never to prolong such debates unless it is one on ideals and education.

4. Any correspondence or article by individuals or branches, which is offensive to one or more comrades must be submitted to the National Executive Committee, which shall decide whether or not to publish same.

5. In the propoganda work of criticism always to prefer to analyze the events in America rather than those of Italy, bringing to the knowledge of our readers the injustice of the system prevailing in the country in which we live, although we may have been born elsewhere.

I hope this will suffice to convince you of the good role our Federation intends to play for the common cause while remaining under the banner of the Socialist Party of America

Fraternally submitted,
Girolamo Valenti, Secretary.



CLIPPINGS



GENE!

5,000 NOISY ENTHUSIASTS
GREET DEBS

Noted Socialist Cheered and Applauded Repeatedly as Sharp Oratory Grips Throng

(From the Seattle Post Intelligencer, Sept. 10th.)

A variegated and noisy audience of five thousand persons greeted Eugene Victor Debs of the Socialist party at the Arena yesterday, and drank in his every word, from the moment he was ushered into the vast hall while a forty-piece band raced through the "Marsellaise" until he was bundled into a waiting automobile at the close of his speech.

The audience was made up principally of liberals, radicals, extremists and organized Socialists. Debs touched briefly the doctrines of all of them, from the pale pink to the violent red, pleading with them to become "class conscious" and unified, that they might accomplish "political revolution and economic freedom" through their voting power.

Assails War

The elderly Socialist leader, who until he swung into vigorous action appeared as a kindly and unobtrusive country grocer, thousands of whose kind abide in peace in his native Indiana, paid his vitriolic respects to war, capitalism, the established social order, "wage slavery", the department of justice and the old political parties. His talk sparkled with epigrams and witticisms, a coating of genial Hoosier

EUGENE V. DEBS
The WORLD WAR
Wrought HAVOC
With the German MARK
And with SOME Americans
Who BEFORE the war
Ranked FIRST
And AFTER it
RANK last.

War ACTIVITIES
And the STRANGELY
COMPLICATED settlements
ACCEPTED or advocated
STRIPPED the tawdriness
From the STRUTTERS
And EXPOSED
In the NUDE
FIGURES of COMMON clay.

BUT, HAPPILY,
The same ELEMENTS
UNCOVERED
BEAUTIFUL characters
Of whom the WORLD
Did not HEAR
Until DOLLAR interests
PERSECUTED
The CHAMPIONS
of HUMANITY.

STANDING
Among the VICTIMS
Of POLITICAL fury
Is a MAN
Whom MANY loved
BEFORE the war
And MILLIONS everywhere
LOVE since.
The SHAMELESS thrust
Of a DEAD arm
CASTS NO SHADOW
On the SUNSHINE
Which OVERFLOWS
ALL HIS LIFE.

He came DOWN the road
ALONE and BURDENED
With the MISERIES
Of the OPPRESSED,
BUT, now,
He is CARRIED
UP the road
By the MULTITUDES
Who SHIELD
In their HEARTS
The MAN
Whom RULERS
UNBLUSHINGLY
DEPRIVED of citizenship—
AMERICA denied
To an AMERICAN-BORN—
EUGENE V. DEBS.

It was NOT men
But MONEY-PERVERTED
tools
That PROSECUTED
And PERSECUTED
The ASPOSTLE
Of RIGHTEOUSNESS;
And while A DOLLAR

humor that coated philosophy, and delivered with a fire and spirit that left his auditors deeply impressed with his sincerity. He quoted frequently Ralph Waldo Emerson, Victor Hugo, Eugene Sue and others, closing his ninety-minute talk by reciting the poem of Robert Ingersoll, "I See a World at Peace."

A few of Debs' epigrams, which provoked applause, follow:

I was not for the war, but it happened that I was in it. I was conscripted; I'm still waiting for my bonus.

"Patriotic at Long Range"

No war ever yet has been declared by the people. Many were intensely patriotic at long range. The boys went out as heroes, and came back as hoboes.

War is the negation of civilization. If I had believed in shedding blood in war, I would have insisted on going into the trenches and shedding some.

The war didn't stop wars. Europe is on the brink of one more terrible. There will be no noncombatants in the next war; there will be none spared.

Capitalism evolved from feudalism, and has about outlived the mandate of history.

On the brow of useful service there has always been the sign of social inferiority. If Socialism was popular, it would be of no value to the people.

If I'd lead you out of the wilderness into the promised land, some politician would lead you back again. I can only arouse you; your

salvation must come through your own efforts.

There is nothing more magnificent that a thinker in overalls.

You wouldn't know today which political party was in power unless you read the newspapers.

Minus Citizenship

A discouraged Socialist would be a contradiction of terms. I would rather be a man without a country than a man without a character. I went to prison with my self-respect and came back without my citizenship.

DEBS MEETING AT CHEYENNE

(Wyoming Labor Journal, Sept. 14, 1923).

Eugene V. Debs will speak in Cheyenne, at Eagle's hall Monday, October first, at eight p. m.

Debs is making a tour of the west and Cheyenne is indeed fortunate in being one of the favored cities included in this tour. He needs no introduction, he always has a message and it always appeals to his hearers regardless of their condition in life. Not to have heard the Apostle of Freedom is to have missed one of the greatest opportunities that it is given us to enjoy.

SOCIALIST PARTY WILL HAVE TICKET GENERAL ELECTION

Eugene V. Debs, National Leader, to Come to Boise for Address—Organizers Now Actively in the Field.

(Boise, Capital News, Sept. 11, 1923).

The Socialist party will have a ticket in the field at the next general election in Idaho.

This information comes from party leaders in Idaho who are

COVERS our perspective
ITS minions
Shall **RULE** and **RUIN**,
WHO IS GREAT;
He who **LOWERS**
The **HIGHEST** office
In a **VAIN** endeavor
To **STRANGLE** truth,
Or **THE MAN**
WHO WAS MANACLED
(**AND IS FOULLY ROBBED**)
BECAUSE HE
UNSWERVINGLY
Made **TRUTH** his mission?

Not **RANK**, but his **HUMANITY**
Makes **EVERYBODY** anxious
To see and **HEAR**
EUGENE V. DEBS.
from Glengarry's Corner
Seattle Union Record

NEW LEAFLETS

Four page.—
"The Story of The British Labor Party."

By *Morris Hillquit.*

"Organized Labor's Need for Independent Political Action."

By *Arthur Greenwood, M.P.*

\$2.00
per thousand.
\$1.75
per thousand in lots of five thousand or more

Two page—
"Our Railroads" "What About Coal?"

By *Joseph E. Cohen*

"A Big Undertaking"

By *John M. Work*

"Yearning for Liberty"

By *Nearing and Debs.*

\$1.25
per thousand
\$1.00
per thousand in lots of five thousand or more.

actively engaged reviving their organization which was dormant at the last general election. Petitions are being prepared to be filed with the secretary of state which, under the law, will permit that political party to hold a convention, nominate a ticket and enunciate a platform.

The Socialist party, in furtherance of its campaign, is making arrangements to bring Eugene V. Debs to Boise to deliver an address on the issues before the people and the principles of the party. Debs has been the national leader of the organization for years.

The Socialist party claims about 10,000 voters in this state and the party leaders claim they will stand as a block at the next general election for the Socialist ticket.

TO ORGANIZE PARTY

Charles Cammans, organizer, has filed notice of intention with the secretary of state to form a Socialist party in Idaho and, in accordance with law, has submitted to the secretary of state the preamble of a petition being circulated for signatures. The matter was referred to the attorney general, who has not yet given his opinion.

The Socialist Party

Executive Secretary,

OTTO BRANSTETTER,

2653 WASHINGTON BLVD.

Chicago

National Executive Committee:

Eugene V. Debs, Terre Haute, Ind.

Morris Hillquit, 19 W. 44th St., New

York City.

Edmund T. Melms, 579 8th Ave., Mil-

waukee, Wis.

Birch Wilson, Box 685, Reading, Pa.

W. M. Brandt, 940 Chouteau Ave., St.

Louis, Mo.

Leo M. Harkins, 1325 Arch St., Phila-

delphia, Penna.

W. R. Snow, 1501 Warren Ave., Chicago

Illinois.

Official Business

Note New Address after Oct. 1: 2653 Washington Blvd.
Chicago, Ill.

To the National Executive Committee

Sept. 22, 1923

Dear Comrades:

I beg to report as follows:

ORGANIZATION FUND

The circularization for funds began on July 18th. Letters and contribution blanks were sent to all locals and members at large. Other favorable lists were circularized in the smaller cities. By agreement, this part of the campaign in some places, particularly New York and Philadelphia, was felt to the Membership Campaign Committees. With the exception of the Workmen's Circle in New York City, and—by an oversight—the Executive Board of the International and the Amalgamated, none of the sympathetic organizations or unions was circularized. In those places, so far as we are informed, that field is practically untouched.

It is difficult to make a report upon the results of the drive. The sentiment expressed by a heavy correspondence is, almost without exception, surprisingly good. The plans of your committee were enthusiastically endorsed. There are about two hundred membership committees—many of them not reported until the end of August. The plans of work and material for committees were ready on July 20th.

Committees and members alike promised their full cooperation. Letters continue to come in increasing numbers. From the small locals, the letters have remittances, small amounts but representing a large number of contributors. The larger places usually write they are preparing to take an active part in the campaign—but just now they are engaged in something else that is very important, and the organization fund will come along later. These delays are legitimate and the explanations are I believe quite sincere. To date, no considerable amount has come from any of the more important local organizations. Philadelphia heads the list and promises substantial remittances from now on.

MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN

Although it was specially urged that all lists to be used in the campaign must be in the National Office not later than the 10th, the greater number has been received within the past few days. Several came in today and are yet to be addressed. This made it impossible to complete the first mailing on the date scheduled, September 20th. We have mailed about 30,000 so far. The total will reach over 40,000 if no additional lists are received. Cleveland and Pittsburgh are not yet in, although they notified us lists were being prepared. We are making every effort to send out the second letter (from Comrade Debs) on the 30th. The total number of letters will be between eighty and a hundred thousand.

The plan met such entire approval that I felt it must be carried out at all costs. It is expensive—postage alone will reach \$2,000.00 and printing, material and extra help much more than that. Without additional organizers to send into the field, it was the only method we could employ. The result of the series of letters will depend upon the

locals. In every way possible we have urged the formation of visiting committees and personal solicitation of membership between September 20th and October 10th, the date on which the locals are to send out the third letter — an invitation to a get-together meeting. If the locals do not send the third letter, canvass for members and arrange the meetings, the result will be a disappointment. However, every local that has sent a list promised to carry out their part of the program.

LITERATURE

We have issued no new pamphlets since your meeting on July 1st. Two editions of 20,000 each have been printed of "Is Socialism Inevitable" and "Debs' Canton Speech." An order for 20,000 "Labor and the Next War" is now in the hands of the printer.

We have two new four-page leaflets: "The Story of the British Labor Party," by Morris Hillquit, and "Organized Labor's Need for Independent Political Action," by Arthur Greenwood, M. P. The following are new two-page leaflets: "What About Coal" and "Our Railroads", both by Joseph E. Cohen, "A Big Undertaking" by John M. Work, and "Liberty" by Nearing and Debs.

HEADQUARTERS

Our lease on the present headquarters expires September 30th. August 1st we were notified that the rent would be advanced 100% should we desire a renewal for another year. As that would mean \$250.00 per month, with additional rent for stock, we felt it would be necessary to find other quarters. In any event, the space we now have would be inadequate to the needs of campaign year.

It has been very difficult to find a place that would be suitable at a reasonable rental. Rooms in an office building could not be considered. After a two-weeks' search, we found a place at \$150.00 per month which seems to meet the requirements of our office. It is the second floor of a three story brick building at 2653 Washington Blvd. The space is divided into a clerical and a stock department and gives us more than double the room we now have, making it unnecessary to have outside storage space for extra stock.

In view of the letter-campaign, it is little short of disastrous to have to move at this time. However, it means better quarters in a more desirable locality at \$100.00 less per month than we would have paid here, without considering the extra room the campaign would have required and which, in this building, would have cost \$50.00 each for small offices. As there was no time to consult your committee, I signed a lease for the new headquarters and the National Office will be moved on October first.

DEBS' WESTERN TOUR

Judging by reports we have received, the tour promises to be even more successful than the earlier tour through the East. The receipts are excellent, houses are crowded, and the organization of strong party locals seems assured at nearly all points. Comrade Branstetter and Comrade Debs will be in Chicago on October 12th for a brief rest, and no doubt a report will be made to you during that time.

Fraternally submitted,

Bertha Hale White
Assistant Executive Secretary