

"The children of the working people have always been poor because the world has never been just."--Debs

Old Parties Begin Congressional Contest
THE capitalist parties are preparing for the congressional campaign. They are mending their fences and getting ready to hoodwink the people again. Is it not time for the Socialists to begin a systematic campaign to educate the people to our principles?

Founded 1895 by J. A. WATLAND
FIFTY CENTS A YEAR
This is Number 943 Expiration Number 43
Appeal to Reason
Fred D. Warren
Entered at Girard, Kansas, postoffice as second class mail matter
Girard, Kansas, U. S. A., December 27, 1913

Unemployment Problem Becoming Acute
NOW that unemployment has become a serious issue it is up to the Socialists of America to point out to the people the cause and remedy for this inevitable evil of capitalism.

"Comrade" Larry.

LARRY was eleven years old—a splendid age for thinking. And Larry had begun to think, too. There had been so many things happen in his short life to make him think.

THE CER trust seems to be working a shell game.
Wise is he who knows what to do first and does it.
PROBABLY the war department is advertising for soldiers "to see the world"—beyond.

How They Did It

Thirteen years ago a number of comrades undertook the task of sending the APPEAL five subscriptions a week. For 676 weeks these loyal, tireless workers have never missed a week.

George R. Smith, Pensacola, Fla.—This is the way. Each week I bought five sub cards. Most of these cards I sell; some I give away or use to buy books with.

Comrade X Answers.

Many comrades have written to the APPEAL asking for explanations of the offer of Comrade X and other information relating thereto.

IF the worker gets things and does not pay for them, they conspire to ruin his credit. If the master gets a living without paying for it, he gets credit for being a financier.

I Am the Child.

I come helpless into the world, and find a bonded debt of more than twenty dollars saddled on me without my knowledge or consent.

UNCLE SAM last year paid \$4,982,000 for rental for wood cars that were postal clerk killers. This is \$3,400 a car. The entire cost of the wooden car is \$6,000.

No Raise Required.

Government ownership today is state capitalism rather than Socialism. But when American railroads are making millions on watered stocks and asking privilege of raising rates in order that they may mulct the people still more.

THE case for increased railroad rates seems to be that stock speculators have loaded the roads with so much water the workers who manage them can't pay the enormous dividends demanded on the fictitious values without a raise in rates and fear they are going to lose their jobs.

If Socialism doesn't sweep this country like a cyclone in 1915 it will be because those now in power see a great light, shut their eyes, make a face, and swallow about half the Socialist's working program.

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Red Card Division Appeal Army
APPEAL TO REASON, Girard, Kansas.
In order that the Socialist movement shall be benefitted by a donation of \$50,000 from Comrade X, I hereby join the Red Card Division of the Appeal Army and pledge myself to send, beginning with the second week in January, 1914, five subscriptions to the Appeal every week for a period of fifty consecutive weeks.
The Appeal is to send me two paid sub cards free of charge every week, the same to be paid for by Comrade X.
NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____
DATE _____

THE CRAB OF THE BROWNIES.

BY MARGARET HANCOCK BROWNING.
The children were playing in the meadow.
The young birds were chirping in the nest;
The young fawns were playing with the shadows.

The Geography Class.

BY CAROLINE A. LOWE.
The teacher turned to the geography class.
"Open your books to the map of the world," she said, "and tell us the leading industries in each of the large countries, and the condition of the workers employed there. Join, you may say about China."

Who's Who in Socialist America

You only have a few days left in which to secure a copy of the most valuable book the APPEAL has ever printed for use of the army of the revolution.
The title of this remarkable book, which cannot be purchased with money, is "Who's Who in Socialist America."

Reaching the Young.

BY J. A. HOOVER, JR.
Director of Young People's Department
Socialist Party.
THROUGH the length and breadth of the land are hundreds of thousands of youthful workers just entering manhood and womanhood. It is these young people who will comprise the electorate of the future and in whose hands lies the destinies of our nation.

The Little Child.

BY C. L. PHIPPS.
The child has never had a chance. It is under the care of slaves. It matters not whether that care be of working class parents, dependent on others for the job or the market, or whether it be of servants hired by the rich to minister to the child, still it is brought up and educated by slaves. This means a bias, a miseducation, wrought into the very fiber of its being. If it is of the exploited class, it has scant chance for education; it does not get to see the world; it knows nothing of the great and good things of literature and art.

The Appeal Army

The Army of Action and Achievement.
A list of those sending the largest clubs of 40-week clubs for the week:
Socialist Local, Milton, Pa. 200
Socialist Local, Black Lick, Pa. 40
Arthur Katzmarck, Green Ridge, Ill. 28
W. J. O'Boyle, Bloomville, Pa. 28
Henry H. North, Milwaukee, Wis. 22
H. O. Connell, Kansas City, Kan. 20
C. W. Bassett, Alameda, Cal. 20
E. H. Halliday, Jr., Erie, Pa. 17
P. S. Jones, Franklin, Pa. 17

Little Stories of Real People

BY G. BOE MONTGOMERY.
TIMOTHY CARTWRIGHT died in the city jail this morning from starvation. And thereby hangs a tale of a man's greed, avarice and indifference.
Twelve years ago Cartwright was a master bricklayer. An efficient, self-contained, thorough workman. But in the interval of twelve years an eternity of vicissitudes had changed Cartwright.

Deafness

Perfect hearing is now being restored in every case of deafness or defective hearing from causes such as Catarrhal Deafness, Rubeola, Mumps, Measles, Thickened Drums, Roaring and Hissing Sounds, Perforated Eardrums, etc. We usually cure persons with Drums, Discharge from Ears, etc.
WILSON EAR DRUM CO., Incorporated
331 West Southern Bldg. LOUISVILLE, KY.

Eugene V. Debs' Message to the Little Children

THE SOCIALIST PARTY is the only party that has the children at heart; the only party that takes them into its confidence; the only party that has a message for them in any year.

In my travels about the country I have met thousands of little children and their fresh and eager faces have always given me joy and their merry voices have filled me with delight and made me stronger for my work.

These children are not yet old enough to join the Socialist party and have an active part in its great work, but they are old enough to understand why their parents belong to it, why they are proud of their card of membership, and of the red button they wear, to show that they are Socialists and that as Socialists they are working hand in hand with thousands and thousands of others to change things so that this world may be a better, kinder and sweeter world for us all to live in.

Now let me talk directly as I may to the more than thirty millions of children and young folks in our country who are less than eighteen years of age. I fancy I can see them spread out in all directions, far as the eye can reach, and farther and farther still to the very shores of the seas and lakes and gulfs that bound our western continent.

What a wonderful audience I am about to address! Not a grown person in it. Only children. Millions of them and all eager to hear the message that Socialism has to offer to the child-world.

My dear little children, I am sure you will understand me when I say that in speaking to you of Socialism I feel very near to all of you and I know you will believe me when I tell you that I would, if I could, make you all happy and keep you sweet and loving toward each other all your lives.

Memories of Childhood Are Sweetest

It does not seem long since I myself was a child such as you are now and I have tried hard to keep my heart young and to feel that in spite of the battles of life, which come to us all, some of the sweetness and innocence of childhood clings to us still to the end of our days.

Most of you are the children of the poor, some of the well-to-do, and a few of the rich, but all of you are the children of the same Father and all of you are sisters and brothers in the same great family of humankind.

If any of you feel that you are better than others because you wear better clothes or live in better houses or go in what you think is "better society," it is because your young minds and hearts have been tainted by wrong example and wrong education. It is this wicked feeling that corrupts the conscience and hardens the heart and begets the envy and hate of our fellow-beings, instead of their love and good will.

When that best friend the children ever had on earth said, "Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me; for of such is the kingdom of heaven," he meant ALL children, poor and rich, but especially the poor. He loved and pitied them because of their poverty and suffering.

He Loved the Children of the Lowly

He, himself, had been born in a manger and when he was grown up he said sorrowfully that "he had not where to lay his head." He did not despise little children because they were poor and neglected and shabbily dressed but he loved them all the more; and as he looked down upon them his heart melted with compassion and the tears of tenderness filled his eyes; and then he became grave and his fair brow grew dark with wrath as he thought of those who sat in rich church pews and piously thanked the Lord that they were not as other people. He denounced them as hypocrites for pretending to be religious while they robbed the poor and turned the little children into the street to suffer hunger and fall into evil ways.

Nearly twenty centuries have passed since the suffering poor heard with gladness the message of the Lowly Nazarene and since he was moved to tears by the sight of the little children of the street, but the world has not yet learned the meaning of his tender touching words, "Suffer little children, and forbid them not to come unto me, for of such is the kingdom of heaven." If he were to walk the streets of New York or Chicago, or Lawrence, Massachusetts, or any of the cities where the mills and sweatshops are filled with child slaves—as he once walked the streets of Jerusalem—he would grow sick at heart as he saw the little ones he so loved, pale and wan and worn, harnessed to monstrous machines and slowly put to death to swell the profits of the greedy mill owners who sit in the rich pews of the synagogue, as did the pharisees he scourged without mercy twenty centuries ago.

The children of the working people have always been poor because the world has never been just. For ages and ages those who have builded the houses, cultivated the fields, raised

the crops, spun the wool, woven the cloth, supplied the food we eat and the clothes we wear, and furnished the homes we live in, have been the poor and despised, while those who have profited by their labor and consumed the good things they produced, have been the rich and respectable.

That has always been the way, the wicked way of the world, down to our time.

Jesus himself was a carpenter's son and suffered the poverty of his class and when he grew up it was not the rich and respectable, but the poor and despised who loved him, and opened their arms to receive him, and heard gladly his tender and comforting ministrations. He was one of them in poverty and suffering and in all his loving and self-denying life he never forgot them. Had he deserted the poor from whom he sprang, had he gone over to the rich as their preacher, or their judge, or their lawyer, or their teacher or scribe—as so many of his pretended followers have done and are still doing—he never would have been crucified, nor would the world today know that he had ever lived.

Crucified Because He Championed the Poor

It was because, and only because, Jesus loved the poor and served the poor and rebuked the rich who robbed them, and threatened to array the poor against their rich despoilers, that he was condemned to die and that the cruel nails were driven into his hands and feet on the cross at Calvary.

Jesus taught that the earth and the air and the sea and sky and all the beauty and fulness thereof were for all the children of men; that they should all equally enjoy the riches of nature and dwell together in peace, bear one another's burdens and love one another, and that is what Socialism teaches and why the rich thieves who have laid hold of the earth and its bounties would crucify the Socialists as those other robbers of the poor crucified Jesus two thousand years ago.

Now let us see what message the Socialist party has for the children and why all children should be Socialists and help to speed the day when the brotherhood of Socialism shall prevail throughout the earth.

But first let me say that the Socialist party has reason to know that the children have great influence when they become interested in a given work and set their hearts on doing that work. The Socialist party knows better than to ignore the children as if they were china dolls or stuffed teddy bears, as all other parties do, for it knows by what they have already done that when once they get fairly started they will make the air hum like swarms of bees with the glad tidings of Socialism.

The little boys and girls who have already become Socialists are among the busiest workers for our party and they love so well to work for Socialism that it is play to them and fills their heart with joy. They wear the red button and they know why it is red and what its meaning is; they tack up bills and distribute dodgers advertising our meetings; they sell tickets, take up collections, act as ushers, provide the soap-box for the corner speaker, carry chairs for the women so they may sit in comfort after their day's work, go around among the neighbors and remind them of the meeting and not to forget to attend, sell Socialist books, papers and pamphlets, and do a score of other things which are just as useful in their way as the speech of the orator that wins the applause of the people.

Parents Converted to Socialism by Children

I know of boys and girls too young to belong to the party who yet have converted their fathers and mothers to Socialism. Now what do you think of that? Don't you think those children have a right to feel proud? And their parents too? Those little comrades are wide awake. They have caught the spirit of the future and are sure to make their mark in the world.

Now the Socialist party is the only party in the world that wants to put an end once and forever to all kinds of child labor and to have it so that all children, white and black, without a single exception, shall be allowed to grow up in the free air, with plenty of time for mirth and play; that they shall all have decent homes to live in, comfortable beds to sleep in, plenty of good food to eat, plenty of good clothes to wear and when they reach the proper age shall go to school and college and continue their course until they have obtained a sound and practical education. Then they will have strong, healthy bodies, trained minds and skilled hands, and not only enter cheerfully upon the duties of life, but be certain of making it a success.

That is what the Socialist party has planned and proposes to put into operation. What do you think of it? Is it good and would you like to see it brought about? Yes? Then you have the Socialist spirit and you will certainly soon be wearing a red button and shouting aloud that you are a Socialist and proud of it.

If you listen to the old fogies who still be-

long to the parties their grandfathers did and who have not moved an inch from their grandfathers' graves, they will tell you that Socialists are foolish people and that what they propose never can be done. That is what the fogies of every age have always said. They are the "wise" people who do things in the same way that their dead grandparents did before them, who never change their minds, never accept a new idea, never grow, and who are always dead long before they are buried and forgotten the day after the funeral. Whatever you may be I beg of you not to be a fogie, nor to follow a fogie's solemn advice. His brain has ceased to work—if it ever did work. He is mentally stagnant and moss-covered and votes the same old ticket with no more idea of what he is voting for than a wooden Indian.

The Socialist party says there have got to be some changes and has set about making them, or at least getting ready to make them. It says that the world is big enough for all the people that are in it, with plenty of room to spare for groves and parks and playgrounds; that there is land enough to go around without crowding; that there are farms enough, or can be easily provided, to raise all we can eat, so that no child in all the world need to go hungry; that there is plenty of coal and iron, oil and gas, gold and silver and other minerals and metals, stored in the earth; that there are forests and mountains and water courses galore; that there are mills and mines and factories and ships and railways and telegraphs, and the power supplied free by nature to run them all; that there are millions of men and women ready to do all the work that may be required to build homes, raise crops, bake bread—and cake too—weave cloth, make clothes and everything else that is necessary for everybody, and have time enough besides to build schools and provide playgrounds for every last one of the children with plenty of toys thrown in to make this earth a children's paradise.

Now why should not just these things come to pass and why should not you children help us speed the day when they shall come to pass?

Nature Has Blessed Humanity

Everything you can possibly think of to make this earth sweet and beautiful and to make life a blessed joy for us all is within our reach. The raw materials are at our feet; the forces to fashion them into forms of beauty and use are at our finger-tips. We have but to put ourselves in harmony with nature and with one another to spread far and wide the gospel of life and love and once more hear "the sons of God shout for joy."

Socialists not only dream of the good day coming when the world shall know that men are brothers and that women are sisters to each other, but they are at work with all their hearts and all their heads and hands to make that dream come true. They have studied seriously the problem of right living and they feel deeply the wrongs which are put upon the suffering poor. They are the first in all the world's history to plan to put poverty out of the world. And that will mean the end of ignorance and selfishness and crime.

If you want to know what the plans of the Socialists are read their platform, attend their lectures and study their literature.

Socialism is the greatest thing in all the world today and the boys and girls of this generation who will be remembered in the next are those who are clear-eyed enough to see that Socialism is coming and are at the battle-front fighting bravely to overcome the prejudice against it and to pave the way for it so that it may come soon and in peace and order.

Many of us who have been long in service will not be here when the bells peal forth the joyous tidings that Socialism has triumphed and that the people are free, but the children that now are will live to see it and in the day of their rejoicing they will not forget those who toiled without recompense that they might live without dread of poverty or fear of want.

Victims of System Are Hanged

In February last four boys were hanged in Chicago. The oldest was twenty-one, the youngest barely out of his childhood. They had held up and robbed and murdered a poor truck farmer for the little money he had on his person. Not one of these boys ever had a decent home. They were born in poverty, reared in ignorance, and surrounded by vice and filth.

This is cultivating crime and reaping the harvest. We Socialists weep as we think of the cruel fate of those four poor, friendless boys who died on the gallows while they were still in their childhood because the world has not yet learned that there is greater profit in raising children than there is in raising hogs.

If those poor little lads had been born in Socialism instead of capitalism and had known the love of parents and the joy of home they would have grown up to honest manhood and

the terrible thought of murder never would have entered their young hearts.

The frightful stories of the little children in the mills at Lawrence and the cruel suffering they endured is still fresh in the public memory. When the poor and despairing mothers, the hearts wrung with agony and their eyes blind with tears, attempted to save their children from starvation by placing them in the keeping of sympathizing friends, they were beaten, insulted, and with babies at their breasts thrown into jail, bleeding and stunned, by the brutal police acting under orders from the far more brutal mill owners.

The world will never know the suffering and terror these poor working people—especially the women and children—had to endure for daring to ask the millionaire mill owners for a pittance more in return for their labor to keep the wolf of hunger from their gloomy hovels.

Here again, as in West Virginia, a few lordly aristocrats who are of no earthly use to themselves or to anyone, and whose sons and daughters are parasites if not perverts, privately own the great mills, rob the honest workers, and then have them murdered for protesting against starvation.

Socialism Will Give Children a Chance

When the Socialist party gets into power those mills at Lawrence and all others like them will be taken over by the people and operated for the good of all and then the workers will keep the wealth they produce for themselves, instead of turning it over to the greedy mill bosses; they will have decent homes to live in, food in plenty on their tables, and their children will go to school to be properly educated instead of to the mills to be ground into profits to gorge their idle owners.

In March last Mrs. L. F. Jellson of Salem, Ore., gave poison to each of her four little children, her own offspring, because they were starving and she was poor and had no way to get them bread. She then poisoned herself and all she asked in the note she left was that she and her darling children be buried together. This poor heart-broken soul was driven to destroy herself and her precious babes because the world as it now is would not allow them to live.

Think for just a moment of all the food there is in the world and all there might be and then tell me if Socialists are wrong and foolish and wicked for saying that the self-murder of this poor woman and the murder of her children is a terrible crime of which society is guilty and for which there is no excuse on earth or in heaven!

A recent investigation showed that in the city of St. Louis there are 16,000 young women who receive as wage earners less than \$8 per week and over 3,000 who receive from \$3 to \$4 per week.

It is easy to see from this why so many little girls and young women are forced to enter upon the path which leads to shame and sorrow and which seldom bears the impress of returning footsteps.

The Brave Little Boys of the Titanic

When the great Titanic met her fate fifty little bellboys went down with her to the bottom of the sea. They were ordered, according to the account, to their regular posts in the main cabin and warned by their captain not to get into the way of the escaping passengers. James Humphries, a quartermaster and eye witness, said, "throughout the first hour of confusion and terror these lads sat quietly on their benches. Not one of them attempted to enter a lifeboat. Not one of them was saved."

Can you read this without being moved to tears? Brave, noble little lads! I almost feel as if it had been a privilege to go down with these great little souls to their watery grave.

The little boys who perished here were poor boys, many of them without fathers and others obliged to support widowed mothers and little brothers and sisters younger than themselves.

What a lesson this touching, deeply pathetic incident teaches and what a world of meaning there is in the sad circumstances of their tragic death!

Had they not been poor children, little waifs, they would not have been locked in the cabin to perish like rats. They would not, in fact, have been there at all, and had it not been for the pride and pomp, the greed and luxury that paraded the upper deck, the Titanic never would have gone to the bottom of the sea.

And now, my children, I must come to a close. I have taken up much of your time, but I have only been able to trace in barest outline what the Socialist party is organized for, what it aims to do, and will do, and why the children, above all, should vie with each other in helping it to grow and speeding the happy day of its success.

When that day comes the rejoicing people will realize that the kingdom of heaven, so long prayed for, has been set up here on earth in the social brotherhood of all mankind.