

Star Chamber Government

Sparks' Plans Well Laid—"Committee of Twenty" Still in Secret Session—No Publicity

Carson City, Nev., Jan. 21. The special legislature has come to be a hoax. Nobody is doing anything except the "Committee of Twenty," the star chamber government over the fate of labor, in the name of the "sovereign people."

There never was such a dastardly crime concocted in the name of democratic institutions as this piece of autocratic bossism by which the appearance of state legislation is being used to get authority to shoot working men down like dogs. The legislature does nothing but meet and adjourn. The governor will give them nothing to do but the one Goldfield measure, and the state constitution makes an extra session wholly dependent upon what the governor lays before it.

Through a political trick the Goldfield matter was thrown immediately into the hands of a special committee. It was loudly heralded that this committee would be non-political because it was composed of five from each political party in both houses. This gave the republicans, or the Sparks men, an advantage from the first. The republicans have always been in a minority in this legislature, but they are supporting Sparks as against the Federation.

The scheme was a shrewd one. Twenty of the ablest men were immediately taken out of both houses. The scheme was sprung as a surprise on the legislature, and the members voted for it without realizing what they were doing. All discussion was thus cut off and taken out of the power of the houses till a cut and dried measure should have been precipitated upon them. The committee has from the first never considered any measure but that the state was to be policed to protect it from the dangerous Western Federation thugs. No one in that committee has ever dared to consider that the very idea of policing the state at all is an insult to all decent citizenship. When a measure is finally passed by a majority of this committee, it is safe to say that all the republicans will vote for it who were on the committee. The measure will doubtless go through the senate without a break. There will then be just the five democrats from the house that any opposition may be looked for from and it is no more than to be expected but what some of them will vote for a measure they have counseled upon so long. All the republicans in the assembly will vote for the committee bill, no matter what it recommends. So it can be seen how well Sparks has fixed his plan to have a police bill pass.

The Public Need Not Apply. If the industrial affairs had been discussed in the houses, the public could have had access to the deliberations, but as it is, everything is done in absolute secret, and the public kept in

ignorance till the thing is sprung. Speaker Skaggs says the bill will be bitterly fought on the floor and he will take the floor against it. He says the assembly has never yet been lined up on the question and is counting the votes carefully that can be depended on to oppose the governor.

Skaggs is on the belligerent attitude now continually. All the papers are united in bitterly hammering and ridiculing anyone known to favor the Federation side. These are only three so far, Speaker Skaggs and Fitzpatrick and O'Brien, who refrained from voting when the measure endorsing the governor was railroaded through the assembly. The papers have accused these men of anarchy and wanting the state to be left at the mercy of thugs.

Skaggs on the War Path. The speaker was so grossly misrepresented that he made a scene in the house Monday morning. He denounced the papers that had said he had asserted that the troubles in Goldfield were caused by the thugs brought in by the Western Federation of Miners, whereas he had said the thugs brought in by the Mine Owners Association. He asked to have this correction placed on the journal of the house, and the request was passed unanimously. He said the entire press of Nevada was subsidized in the interest of the lawless Mine Owners' Association. The house broke into cheers here, which was at least an encouraging sign.

He referred to the Cripple Creek outrages, said this assembly was asked here to herd working men, and gave a most scathing denunciation of the mine owners. He said he would stand by the working men whether it was his grave or his resurrection. He cared not for his political future.

Order Governor to Submit Documents. Mr. O'Brien moved that the governor be requested to submit all documentary evidence on the Goldfield matter to the assembly. It was carried unanimously but the governor has made no move to comply.

The "Committee of Twenty" has re-delegated its powers to a still more exclusive autocracy of five.

From the Nevada Workman. The fertile mind of the editor of the Nevada Workman thus memorializes the commencing of the legislature:

"The legislature of the state of Nevada has convened in extraordinary session at Carson City, and is now engaged in the noble task of clearing up the wreck caused by the collision of Governor Sparks with the constitution of the United States. That wreck has involved many schemes and more reputations. It has revealed the governor as the creature of the mine owners; the mine owners as the creatures of their own impossible aspirations, and Nevada as the scene of an historic farce."

Ida Crouch-Hazlett.

STRIKE ON GOLDFIELD RAILROADS

Goldfield, Nev., Jan. 21.—Owing to a reduction in wages from \$4 to \$3 a day for section men, about 150 of this class of labor left their work yesterday morning on both the Tonopah and Goldfield and the Las Vegas and Tonopah railroads.

The managements of both systems, which reduced the wage simultaneously by agreement, say that they will bring men from other points after giving their old employees a fair chance to return to work.

Several of the section hands are affiliated with I. W. W., which organization is under the ban of both railroads, as well as by the commercial organization of the state. It is not likely that the regular trainmen will take any action on the strike.

Both of the Brock and Clark roads agreed upon the reduction, upon the ground that they could not stand the expenses after cutting their freight and passenger tariffs. The new rate became effective yesterday morning, and the men promptly quit work. Although there are a few still on duty, practically only the carpenters and machinists are reporting. Several pump

men have quit their work, but the railroads declare they have others to take their places.

A committee of six section men met Mr. Hedden at the Goldfield depot yesterday afternoon and discussed the situation with him, but there was no agreement reached, and probably will be none.

"So far as the Tonopah & Goldfield railroad is concerned," said Mr. Hedden, general manager, at Tonopah last night, "we did not feel obliged to pay the old scale in view of our reductions. We have cut freight rates fully 30 per cent within the last seven months, and passenger rates 40 per cent within the last year and a half."

The Salt Lake line pays \$1.44 for ten hours; the Las Vegas & Tonopah \$2 for ten hours, south of Beatty the Tonopah & Tidewater and the Santa Fe line \$1.50 for ten hours, and the Nevada-California line \$2 for ten hours.

On the Las Vegas & Tonopah line the striking section men declare that about twenty-three quit work at the round house in Goldfield, including

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Rebuke From Big Stick

Work of Mine Owners Too Coarse Even for the Strenuous One—Sparks Called Down

Commissioners Say Federal Troops Were Called Out to Reduce Wages of Miners

Goldfield, Nev., Jan. 22. The findings of Roosevelt's labor commission and the consequent letter of the strenuous president to Governor Sparks have not been calculated to fill the breasts of the Nevada plutocrats with that calm and lofty assurance which the possession of the gold which the miners dig is commonly supposed to bestow.

The fact that only a part of the letter has been made public is suggestive. The president plainly states that he has formed his conclusions from the report of the labor commission, and what is embodied therein is what they hinted to the committee from the miners' union and which is indicated by Roosevelt. He says:

"I have just received the report of these three gentlemen (Murray, Smith and Neill) which sets forth in the most emphatic language their belief after a careful investigation on the ground, that there was no warrant whatever for calling on the president for troops, and that the troops should not be left indefinite in Goldfield. The report further states that there was no insurrection against the power of the state at the time the troops were called for; that nobody supposed that there was such an insurrection, and that none of the conditions described in the statutes as warranting interference by the federal government existed and that the effort was and is plainly an effort by the state of Nevada to secure the performance by the United States of the ordinary police duties which should be performed, as a matter of course, by Nevada herself."

The report further says: "There is absolutely no question if the state of Nevada and the county of Esmeralda exercise the powers at their disposal, they can maintain satisfactory order in Goldfield; that so far the authorities have done nothing but rely upon federal aid."

The labor commission seems to have penetrated the schemes of the mine owners, as is shown by what the president further says:

"Inasmuch as we were by this time satisfied that the mine operators had not in any particular established a case justifying either the bringing or retention of the troops, we did not deem it necessary to take any extensive evidence on the other side."

Hands it to Mine Owners. The commissioners say in their report:

"The actions of the mine operators warrant the belief that they had determined on a reduction of wages and the refusal of employment to members of the Western Federation of Miners, but that they feared to take this course of action unless they had the protection of the federal troops, and that they accordingly laid a plan to secure such troops and then put their program into effect."

The president continually quotes the report in his letter, and says emphatically that Nevada must provide ways and means to attend to her own affairs, and that he federal authorities refuse to be further implicated in the attempt of the Mine Owners' Association to smash the Western Federation of Miners.

The findings of the commission recognize a class struggle and disturbed industrial conditions. The call for troops was confined purely to the councils of the Mine Owners' Association. No authorities were consulted, and the first the public knew of the matter was a dispatch in the papers saying that the troops were on the way. In fact the report plainly shows that the commission felt that a bunco game had been worked by the mine owners on the government.

The mine owners had attempted to impress on the commission the violent character of the union men by showing them where an abortive attempt had

been made to blow up some power poles. As the job was so clumsy on the face of it, and as a miner would hardly have taken a hundred sticks of dynamite to blow up one little pole, and then have failed and left the powder strewn all over the ground, the commissioners reported that there was a reasonable doubt as to the genuineness of the attempt.

Roast on Mine Owners.

The entire report is a roast on the mine owners and said that they had summoned the troops, not for what had happened but for what they were afraid would happen when they commenced to do their dirty work. They commenced to carry out their program when the troops arrived—to reduce wages and to break up the union, which, as the report said, was contrary to the statute of Nevada.

Before the commission Sparks refused to convene the legislature or to organize the militia. A conference with the civil authorities brought out that while they desired the presence of the troops, they would take no responsibility to keep them there, and were perfectly able to maintain order if they wanted to.

Injunction Hearing. The injunction suit of the mine owners against the Goldfield union still drags along in the federal court. The evidence is all in. Judge Bryan has completed his plea for the mine owners and Attorney Tilden is now talking for the Federation.

Bryant pleaded for three sorts of relief, (1) an ordinary injunction with special stress on the picketing, (2) for special court watchers or deputies with their acts enforced by the court, and (3) to enjoin the meetings of the union because they were a common nuisance. The attorney cited in his plea the proclamations of three governors against the Federation—of Idaho, Colorado and Nevada. The same attacks were made with which we have become so familiar at Boise. There was a whimpering complaint because the union had adopted the socialist platform, and the socialist declarations adopted were read as a cause for dissolution. The great grievance was that the union insisted on political action, and extracts were read from the Miners' Magazine.

One would think that these stupid antediluvian thinkers would catch on after a while that wherever they read these extracts they strike a nobler note for a higher civilization, and produce just the opposite effect from that intended. It was quoted as a special grievance that this union taught the abolition of master and slave, and that it was always causing strikes. It never seems to dawn upon the benighted intellects of this phrasemongers that the owners might occasionally cause a strike, or that men have a right to quit work if the terms don't suit them.

Could Not Secure Contracts.

Complaint was made because contracts could not be secured from the union, and that it was affiliated with the Industrial Workers of the World, an organization that controlled all crafts.

A recital of the present difficulty was given, and the report of Roosevelt's commission read. Bryant seems to be giving most of his argument from the miners' side. He declared the statute on blacklisting unconstitutional and seemed to think that that ought to settle it no matter if it was a law. Orchard's affidavit was quoted as part of the evidence against the union. It was considered as a great grievance because the Goldfield union taught the doctrine of the class struggle. The mine owners were especially aggrieved because they could not have one moment of industrial peace. Capitalism must surely be shaking when

Nevada State Police Bill

Duties and Powers of Czar Sparks' Cossacks Defined—Workers How About It?

"The mountain has labored and brought forth a mouse."

Carson City, Nev., Jan. 24. The labors of the "Committee of Twenty" are over. They have been the tools of Sparks and the Goldfield plutocrats from the first. They have framed a police bill for Nevada. The assembly has sat very day sucking its thumbs till the measure was put before them which they were servilely to assent to. Only three men have shown any disposition to resent the crack of the official lash. Skaggs, Fitzpatrick and O'Brien and they have done so in a weak, blushing and stammering way that has shown that the principles of 'pure democracy' and abstract 'right' are helplessly and pitifully impotent when it comes to dealing with the wrongs and injustices of the working class.

All the Reno and Carson City papers and every paper in the state outside of the Nevada Workman have joined in one grand unison chorus of insulting, maligning and jeering these three men, and raising all the coyote yelps for a police measure as a foregone conclusion.

There is not a single sheet in the state, not one independent mouth that is not completely subsidized by the mine owners, and yet when Speaker Skaggs said this, every little barking whelp of an editor piped out "You're a liar."

Twice have measures come up in the assembly to have Governor Sparks bring before that body what he has to present on the Goldfield controversy. He has paid no attention to them whatever. His call, made to every individual member, declared that the purpose of the extra session was to adjust matters at Goldfield. Now when ever a motion is made to bring up that matter before the assembly, some hiring sycophant gets up and says the legislature is not an arbitration board to adjust disputed questions between employer and employee, but that an arbitration bill will be presented which will undoubtedly go through.

Switched the Entire Purpose.

These stupid legislators have been hypnotized by the emissaries of Sparks and the mine owners into thinking that all this legislature is for the special purpose of arranging some form of force for strengthening the governors' hands in case of trouble. The suggestion on the whole bunch has been entirely aside from the Goldfield matter. Every time anything is proposed some one pops up and says there is a committee appointed by unanimous consent to attend to that.

To queries as to whether there is to be any discussion and hearing of the facts before the assembly, assurances were given by some one that ample opportunity for all such hearing would be provided. Yet when such a motion was made today it was voted down

overwhelmingly, only nine having the courage to vote for it. The excuse was made that everything had been thoroughly gone over by the committee, that they had invited all who wished to appear before them, and that there was no need in consuming any more time when the committee had already taken so much valuable time.

It has been gag rule from the start, the entire purpose for calling the legislature on account of the Goldfield crisis has been sidetracked, the governor got them together on that pretext, then pushed it aside by saying they had no jurisdiction, and concentrated the energies of the body to putting his constabulary bill through without any chance to discuss the occasion for it.

Passes Like a Meteor; Every Mouth Shut.

The bill went through the senate today without any discussion, every member voting aye, and was sent to the house as Senate Bill No. 4 where it passed the first and second readings and will come up for final passage Monday morning. The bill is entitled "AN ACT, to provide for the creation, organization and maintenance of the Nevada State Police, prescribing the powers and duties of the officers and members thereof in maintaining peace, order and quiet in the state of Nevada, fixing their compensation, providing certain penalties and other matters relating thereto, making an appropriation therefor, and repealing all acts or parts of acts in conflict therewith."

Provisions of Constabulary Bill. The "Nevada State Police" is to consist of a Superintendent of Police, to be appointed by the governor, one Inspector, four Sergeants, twenty-five subordinate police officers, and two hundred and fifty reserves. The superintendent of police shall, subject to the approval of the governor, appoint all officers and members of the "Nevada State Police" and may remove any such officer or member without notice. He shall be the ranking officer in the field, subject only to the governor, and shall be removed by the governor at any time without previous notice. He has the rank of captain.

Duties and Powers.

Now here come the duties and powers of the "Nevada State Police": It shall be the duty of each member, and he shall have the power to make arrest with or without warrant of any or all persons charged with crime, or to arrest and detain all persons suspected of commission of any offense; to suppress all riots, routs, affrays or disturbances of any kind, and to arrest any and all persons engaged or abetting therein, and for this purpose shall have the power to command the assistance of all peace officers and all

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SCAB SUES THE PHONE COMPANY

The Rocky Mountain Bell Telephone Company is getting into sore straits these days of injunction supremacy. In Butte 12 such linemen were laid off at the time they are most needed and after the country has been raked from Atlantic to Pacific to secure the degraded specimens who are traitors to their class and have dictatorial laws enacted to protect them.

Scab Dubery has commenced suit against the scab phone company for one year's wages claiming that the company has violated their agreement in not employing him longer. The scab is getting about what is coming to him and is being taught a lesson that the workers are fast learning, and that is that corporations have no use for any worker when profits can no longer be ground out of them.

The receipts of the Telephone company are falling off regardless of all the assistance they can get from the courts. The silent boycott, the secret committees of the unions are getting in their work. The boycott is effective in spite of all and the treasury of the corporation feels it. The Telephone company recently

abolished the half rates on night messages and did this in the face of a falling market. The people who stood by the government-by-injunction and assisted them in fighting the unions are getting soaked about the same as the scabs were.

Another Land Grabber Gets Twenty-four Hours in Jail.

Andrew McMillan of Dawson county indicted for illegally fencing 2,800 acres of public land, appeared in the federal court Tuesday morning and entered a plea of guilty. Judge Dietrich sentenced McMillan to serve 24 hours in the county jail and to pay a fine of \$400. In passing sentence the court remarked that this was the first case of the kind to come before him since he has been on the bench.

Now, Joey Shannon, don't you wisa you had swiped a few thousand acres of land instead of a scab!

Harry Orchard is considering the advisability of announcing himself as a candidate for governor of the state of Idaho on the republican ticket. Orchard hopes to capture the vote of every member of the Ananias-club.

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In an article headed, "No Trial by Jury," in which government by injunctions is condemned, the Billings Enquirer has the following to say:

"There are only two remedies open to the working men—the proper use of the ballot or an appeal to force. The sure and sensible method is the use of the ballot. Let no working man vote in the election of 1908 for any candidate who is not openly pledged against government by INJUNCTION.

And this paper, from a hope and desire for democratic victory, could wish for nothing better than the nomination by the republican party of Wm. H. Taft for president.

It would mean democratic victory. William Jennings Bryan has openly declared his opposition to government by INJUNCTION."

Every democratic paper in the state of Montana, with the exception of the Billings Enquirer, has shown great pleasure at the sentence imposed by Judge Hunt upon the union men of Butte and Anaconda who had the manhood to show their contempt for a one-man-made-law. The Anaconda Standard shrieked with glee as the doors of the jail closed upon these union men. Nearly every issue for a week or more after they were sentenced contained crude jokes at their expense. The Helena Independent extolled the virtues of the court dictator who pronounced this tyrannical decree and other democratic papers endorsed his action.

Oh no, Mr. Enquirer, the democratic craft cannot sail into office on the anti-injunction tide. It will take more than nine months for the union men of Montana to forget the exultation of the democratic press when their leaders were felled by the injunction club.

The Montana News, Socialist, has reason for its howl in comparing the sentences of the telephone men found guilty of violating an injunction and the penalties imposed upon rich men for illegally fencing of thousands upon thousands of acres of government land. The labor men got three months in jail with fines; the rich rascal got off with only a nominal fine and from twelve to twenty-four hours in jail. The union men got about what they deserved, and the land grabbers should have been fined and imprisoned in proportion. It is just such occurrences which rasp public feeling and propagate socialism.—Forsythe Times.

The Times is a republican paper and says that "the union men got about what they deserved." The Times evidently believed in one-man rule, government by injunction, court dictatorship and abolition of jury trials. A modern platform for the republican party headed by Baggy Taft.

NOT YET ARISEN.

The genius of socialism has not yet arisen. So deep has the primal struggle for existence, supplemented by the fanaticism of greed and exploitation, driven its shafts into the very marrow of mankind, that now with millions of theoretical socialists, there has not yet arisen one with the zeal, the courage and the self-denial, to place himself unreservedly at the service of the cause.

There is not a socialist leader in the world but immediately he finds himself of service to his party, insists on adopting capitalistic standards of living, with all their fantastic vagaries in drink, food, dress, domicile and every other form of display; but without of all socialist officials without exception, are as fully consumed with the fires of egotistic ambition, have the same pride of place, greed of power and insolence, in office, as the most

"dyed in the wool" despot ever dared to have.

Therefore I say, the genius of socialism has not arisen. The party has yet to produce those who are ready to forsake all, deny all and sacrifice all, accepting merely a bare existence for the privilege to serve. Far from being prepared for living in brotherhood on equal terms with the lowly, the seventy-five and one hundred dollar per month socialist officials must wear creased trousers and suits of the latest design, take fifty-cent and a dollar lunches at expensive restaurants, live in steam-heated apartments under as great conditions of display as their salaries will permit, and in every way ape and pattern after the customs and mental attitudes, both in and out of their offices, in which the capitalist system has set the pace.

The real genius of socialism will be the man, who if paid one hundred dollars per month, will live in meager quarters, fire his own stove with the cheapest fuel, grind his own cereals and nuts by hand, eschew all forms of stimulants, narcotics and fancy foods, wear clothing of the simplest and plainest varieties, without the display of white linen, instituted by idle priests and feudal sluggards; sleep not more than five hours out of the twenty-four, and devote all the rest of his time together with more than nine-tenths of his income, to the furtherance of the cause that is near to his heart.

Not until socialism is able to inspire zeal like this, carrying with it complete self-abnegation as regards privilege, emolument and place can we expect the movement to take on a practical rather than a theoretical phase.

So completely is socialism still in the "talking" stage of its existence, so entirely to be found within the covers of books and so wholly are its leaders wrapped up in their own ambitions, in their struggle against one another for place, that for example; the local central committee, as well as the board of management of the Chicago Daily Socialist, have been described, on account of their egotistic wrangling with charges and counter charges, as a "junglefest", in which tigers, wolves and jackals, try to score against one another, in the possession of their pelts. Great material out of which to organize the co-operative commonwealth of the ideals of brotherly love!

The Genius of Socialism Has Not Yet Arisen.

The above is from the advance proof sheet for January To-Morrow Magazine.

There is, we are sorry to say, some truth in it; but such a sweeping statement is an insult to many comrades, whom we personally know and prove that the writer of it has never come in contact with the real socialist movement.

Like the man who sees one bad woman and declares that all women are bad, he sees but the scum of the social revolution and declares there is no virtue in it. The bad are always more conspicuous than the good.

We know socialist leaders who are not "consumed with the fires of egotistic ambition." We know men, and women too, who have placed themselves unreservedly at the service of the cause. We know men who have put all their earnings for years into the socialist movement. We know men in the movement who never in their lives wore a pair of creased trousers, who have not had a fifty-cent lunch, or a fifty-cent meal in two years, who do not use stimulants, narcotics, or fancy foods and don't know what white linen feels like. And this is being written at one o'clock A. M.

Let us quote from a letter received a short time ago from a comrade who is doing some organizing work in one of our Rocky Mountain states. He says:

"Dear Comrade—I am writing this by a camp fire down in willows by the river. There is only one hotel in this town and the fellow who runs it thinks he has a cinch on the people and charges \$1.00 for a bed. Well I have camped out too long to let any hotel keeper work me for a dollar on a mild night like this, so here I am with my back against a big cottonwood tree and cheerful fire in front."

Is it "adopting capitalistic standards of living" when a fellow sleeps out by a camp fire in January to save a dollar for the cause? We know another socialist speaker who travelled twelve hours in a coal car to make a date and had to take a bath before he was fit to go on the soap box. Perhaps he might be accused of "aping the customs of capitalism" because he took the bath.

But what does an anarchist know about the socialist movement anyway? What is To-Morrow Magazine with its "Simplified Politics" doing in the way of constructive work for the future? If Mr. Hurt and Mr. Sercombe will quit their theorizing, join the party and get into the movement, they will find more than one with the zeal, the courage and the self-denial, they will learn that there is a great deal of socialism without the covers of books, and they will have more respect for the ones who are pushing it along.

Organization.

By Lena Morrow Lewis.

For years the keynote of the Socialist movement was agitation. This period called for the man of keen analysis who has shown up the causes that make for poverty and misery; the logician who has pointed out the inevitable passing away of our present capitalist system, and the orator with his impassioned appeals for the overthrow of established wrongs and injustices.

The work of the agitator calls for the righting of the wrongs, it calls for a conscious working with the laws of social evolution and the discovery of the methods by which to secure the best results with the least expenditure of intellectual and material force.

This in short means organization. Organization is the logical and legitimate outgrowth of agitation, and just to the extent that agitation is followed up by organization is it of any permanent value. Every local, large or small, is a living witness to the work of the agitator.

The organization feature of our work is but little understood as yet. That it is something distinct from the agitation side and yet interrelated to it is a most important fact and no fully appreciated.

The Socialist Party organization has a two-fold purpose.

First: To serve as an active and intelligent factor in conjunction with the blind economic forces that make for the downfall of capitalism.

Second: It is the crude beginnings of what will eventually become the splendid machine by which society shall conduct its affairs under the Socialist regime.

The agitation part of our movement developed a certain type of workers. It was and is of necessity the work of individual men and women. The discovery of economics and philosophical truths is the work of individual minds and the spread of the same is largely the work of individuals.

The mental status of the leading thinkers in every country determines the general character of its agitation. Great minds set the pace for economic and philosophical concepts.

Organization, however, is not the work of great men. It is in this respect that organization differs radically from agitation. Whenever a movement rallies around a personality, it invariably perishes when that personality is removed. The most successful and only valuable organization work is where the organizers and officials have been able to sink completely out of sight their own individuality and ever keep uppermost the work and the details of the movement. The man who inspires people to work solely for the good of the organization and not because of their admiration for or devotion to him is the real and only efficient organizer. Organization is routine work, the building of a machine of which the individual members are the parts. The larger the number of people working harmoniously the better it is. One can only become a part of this great machine through the acquiring of a knowledge of its details and finding the place where he can work to the best advantage.

We have thousands of people who can explain the law of wages, or the secret of capitalist exploitation, or the materialistic basis of ethics, but who know absolutely nothing concerning the details or modus operandi of the organization. Our methods of doing business are practically unknown to many of the rank and file of our dues-paying members. And because of this we waste our energies and dissipate our forces. Not more than 25 per cent of the locals responded to the call for funds for the organization work. We have 40,000 members and yet of the 1,300 copies of the national convention report of 1904 only 300 were sold. Of the 1,900 copies of the report of the international secretary read at the international congress at Stuttgart in August of last year only about 500 have been sold. This latter report will by virtue of the circumstances and the occasion under which it was presented become in time an historic document, and for this reason as well as for the sake of the information contained therein should be in greater demand than it is.

These and many other instances might be cited as an evidence of the indifference of the membership regarding reports and the routine and detail work of the organization.

Party members should familiarize themselves with the names of their state and national committeemen, keep watch on the actions of these various bodies, they should read carefully the weekly bulletins and various reports and know what is going on in their own state as well as throughout the nation.

This may not be as interesting as reading Dietzen or La Fargue, but it is very important. The strength and intelligence of the rank and file on matters of organization will determine largely the power and efficiency of our movement. Daily Socialist.

Nevada State Police Bill

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other citizens. It is made the duty of all officers or jailers having charge or custody of any jail or place of detention to receive all persons arrested by any member of the "Nevada State Police, and to detain them in custody until ordered to be released by said "Nevada State Police." A penalty is placed upon all officers, jailers or similar persons who shall refuse to receive and detain such prisoners. Whenever the governor shall declare martial law within any county, or declare any county in a state of insurrection the "Nevada State Police, shall have full and absolute power. No officer or member after entering such employment shall be permitted to resign therefrom except with the consent and approval of the governor. If any person shall intercept, molest or insult by abusive words or behavior any member of the "Nevada State Police" while in the discharge of his duties he shall be immediately arrested; \$150,000 is appropriated to carry this act into effect.

Most Extreme Cossack Measure.

The measure is the worst thing of its kind ever attempted under the American government. No official in Russia with his Cossack hordes could have greater power over the personal acts and liberties of the citizens of the state of Nevada. Every act and every person connected with this "police" is subject to the approval of the governor, either in time of peace or under the declaration of martial law. This willing tool who has done everything that the mine owners wanted, is made the sole arbiter of every act that a miner does.

This act sets aside the constitution and every law in the state of Nevada in regard to personal liberty, and is in direct conflict with the national constitution. Persons said to be even suspected by these legalized thugs of the mine owners can be held in custody indefinitely without trial. The measure is so framed as to overrule and compel the sheriffs to submit to these irresponsible Cossacks. The right of habeas corpus is set aside, and even the right of free speech brazenly assailed by these would-be subverters of all the principles of a free government.

Members of the Federation say it will result in driving the Federation out of Nevada. The Nevada Workmen has refused to take thirty subscriptions within the last few days with the expectation that it will be driven out of Goldfield.

The measure is an ideal one from the standpoint of the employer, and if allowed to stand by the supreme court will probably be followed rapidly by other states.

But what could the working class expect? They did not have one single man in the legislature.

Ida Crouch-Hazlett.

"SLAVES TO THE CITY."

Reply to the Butte Evening News. Under the above heading the Butte Evening News, in its issue of Jan. 6, discusses editorially the unemployed problems of our great cities.

The editorial says: "New York has 100,000 idle men, who have no place to sleep and nothing to eat. It has had that many for nearly six months, according to statistics of the metropolis."

As a solution to this problem it urges that the cities' unemployed should distribute themselves over the untilled lands of the country and thus find the living that is denied them in the city, seeing that "they must live by artificial means if they live at all and the food must be brought to them from the country." The course for them to pursue when through the lack of employment they are unable to buy the products of the country so necessary to their existence, is to settle upon the vacant lands and there produce what they need. If they would cast thus intelligently the unemployed problem would soon disappear and all would be well. So reasons the editorial. The fallacy of such reasoning is plain when we consider the complete transformation effected in agriculture during the last 75 years or so. The self-sufficing farming community characteristic of the early stages of agriculture in this country, wherein each farmer raised what he needed and assisted in all common tasks, has long disappeared before the march of industrial development. Agriculture in common with all forms of industrial activity has become specialized. The modern farmer creates a special kind of wealth not for his own direct use but to exchange it upon the world's market for the things that he needs. He is thus a part of the great mechanism of the world wide industrial system and his entire existence depends upon that relation. His present position is one of interdependence in an absolute sense.

It is clear then that as a specialized producer of agricultural products for the world's market, he is clearly in competition with everyone who is engaged in that kind of work. The more there is in the business as with every

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Reference—Every County Official in Kootenai County, and every bank or business man in Coeur d'Alene and Rathdrum, Idaho.

thing else, the greater the quantity of agriculture products thrown upon the market, the lower prices will be and the greater the chances of a glut.

That he is part of the competitive system even the farmer does not seem to understand, for even he advises the surplus population of the cities to distribute themselves upon the land. "What would be thought," says A. M. Simons, "of the sanity of the merchants of the country if they should continually seek to convince other capitalists that the proper thing to do is to start more shops? But farmers see nothing incongruous in continually declaring that if the poor of the cities would go farming, poverty would be abolished."

He does not even have a glimmering notion of the fact that the farmer does not now produce for direct use but for the market, and that as a producer for the market he feels the effect of competition.

It is strange that anyone should fall into such error. The whole tendency of the entire industrial world is to escape competition. What other reason is there for trades unions than to offset its disastrous effects in the labor world? What other reason is there for the trusts than to eliminate it in industry in order to save profits?

Increase competition among farmers by throwing the cities' unemployed upon the land and the vast increase in agricultural products would be so great that the lowness of the price received would not give the farmer a livelihood.

The conditions of those who are already upon the land is very far from being satisfactory as government statistics prove. Agricultural concentration has increased at such a ratio, that it is almost out of the question for the

small farmer to realize anything beyond a bare living from his work.

It is a known fact that on the large farms where the most improved machinery is used, wheat can be produced at the cost of three cents a bushel. What can the little farmer do in competition with them. He has competition enough from this source alone without inviting more from the city.

As time rolls on the condition of the small farmer becomes more precarious. No class of workers are more exploited than he. He has practically nothing to say as to what price he shall accept for his produce, or what price he shall give for his machinery and other things needed in the cultivation of his land. He works hard and long, his life is monotonous, he has all the hardships of life and very little of the pleasures. Prof. C. S. Walker, an authority upon agricultural economics, tells us that "the small farmer receives less for his exertions than the factory hand or the hired man on his farm."

To add to the number of farmers by drawing from the unemployed of the cities, would, as we have seen, by increasing competition, only make matters worse.

It will not solve the unemployed problem under the capitalist system, it cannot be solved, because it is necessary to the very existence of capitalism. If there were no competition among laborers for jobs, if there existed more jobs than men, the laborer would be the Dictator and not the capitalists.

The capitalist realizes the value of an unemployed army to himself as an employer of labor. From a business

(Continued on Page 4.)

OLD MOTHERS.
I love old mothers—mothers with white hair,
And kindly eyes, and lips grown softly sweet
With murmured blessings over sleeping babes,
There is something in their quiet grace
That speaks the calm of Sabbath afternoons;
A knowledge in their deep unfaltering eyes
That far outreaches all philosophy.
Time, with caressing touch, about them weaves
The silver-threaded fairy shawl of age,
While all the echoes of forgotten songs
Seem joined to lend a sweetness to their speech.
Old mothers! as they pass with slow-timed step,
Their trembling hands cling gently to youth's strength;
Sweet mothers!—as they pass, one sees again
Old garden walks, old roses and old loves.
—Charles S. Ross in the Century.

IDAHO NOTES

State Headquarters Socialist Party.
Emmett, Idaho, Jan. 5.
Comrades:—Comrade John M. Work, of Des Moines, Iowa, is expected in Idaho for about six weeks, commencing near March 1st.
The National office is paying his wages but we are expected to furnish him entertainment and something additional, if possible, toward his expenses.
Should you be at a point reached by him or other speakers, kindly co-operate to the fullest extent to advertise the meetings and make them a success.
We need the names and addresses of all comrades in the state, so we can arrange to use Comrade Work and other speakers during this campaign with economy and best results for organization.
We expect all comrades to make up as complete a list as they can at once and send it in. Don't delay!!!
Write me how frequent you care to arrange for a speaker at your town during this campaign.
Tours and dates will be arranged as best we can and advertising sent when convenient, but get notices in local papers where possible without too much expense.
Let us all pull for Success in the 'Spread of the Red.'
THOS. J. COONROD,

To Locals, Comrades and Friends:
The state organization of the party appeals to you at this time for the necessary funds to pay its just obligations and equip the state headquarters with the supplies needed for the coming campaign.
The state organization is indebted to Comrade E. B. Ault for his expenses as delegate to the last National convention. This bill is nearly four years old and the party is in honor bound to pay it. As Comrade Ault is a wage worker and dependent upon his weekly wages for a living, and he paid out his hard earned money doing the business of the party, we have been delinquent in our duty to him.
The party also owes for printing done during the last state campaign. Printers must live. These obligations entered into by your state officers are legitimate claims against us. (Party.)
These bills should be paid at once.
The State Secretary also needs a typewriter. The one now in use is a borrowed machine and the owner is anxious for its return, and besides it is a cheap machine and not capable of doing some kinds of work required. The new constitution should be printed at once, but no funds are available.
We feel that you will gladly respond to our urgent needs if but once you are acquainted with them.
The year 1908 opens auspiciously for the Propaganda of Socialism and the growth of the party organization. Nationally we are in the grasp of a financial panic which the capitalists dare not explain. Locally the complete break-down of the prosecution of the Federation cases gives the Socialists prestige which they never had before.
The locals over the state are beginning to wake up, applications for new charters and membership-at-large are coming in, and if we meet all our obligations and equip our state office with all necessities promptly we will be prepared to conduct the most aggressive campaign in the history in the party organization in Idaho.
We feel that most of us have contributed to the defense of the Federation officials, and many other funds, and have all done more or less individual Propaganda. These are all good in their time and Now we believe you will assist in building up the Party Organization in Idaho. Let each contribute what he can. Let each do his duty and we will prove a factor in the "BATTLE OF THE BALLOTS" next November.
Send all contributions to State Secretary-Treasurer, Emmett, Idaho.
JAMES W. WALKER,
Chm. State Ex. Com.
ALVIN W. JUDD,
State Organizer.
THOS. J. COONROD,
State Sec'y-Treasurer.

International
In Switzerland the socialist gains are coming along same as in other countries. In Berne they won another district in municipal government affairs and the standing is now: Socialists 31, Independents 32, and Conservatives 17. In Canton Tessin they also made gains in the recent election.
Sweden is surely succumbing to socialism. Two more seats in parliament have just been won by the socialist party. One in Stockholm, where all the parties combined against the socialists, and the other in the district of Goetoberg, where there was a three-cornered contest. There are now 18 socialists in the parliament of Sweden.

The new socialist party of the province of Alberta, Canada, which is being organized by the trade unionists, has decided to contest four seats in the forthcoming parliamentary election at Calgary, Edmonton, MacLeod, and Medicine Hat. Three other points are under consideration. Keep your eyes on those "Canucks."
In the municipal elections just held in Norway the socialists did very well indeed. In Christiania the new city council will be composed of 27 socialists against 57 of the other parties, and the socialist vote increased 25 per cent. In Bergen, 24 socialists were elected to 53 of the other parties. In twelve smaller towns 103 socialists were elected. The women are reported to have voted mostly with anti-socialist parties, which is explained by the fact that only limited woman suffrage prevails, the large majority of the women having the right to vote, being owners of property.

Political revolution will soon spread through out Asia. Under the name of the Asiatic Humanitarian Brotherhood the revolutionists of Asia have undertaken to combine their efforts in a re-organization of the Far East. For some months past students from China, Korea, India, Siam and the Philippines have been attending the Kiayo Koen, or Friday Socialist lectures, which were held by the Socialists Toshihiko Sakai and K. Yamakawa, in Tokyo, and out of these meetings came the organization for mutual co-operation in revolutionizing Asia. At present there will be head offices in Tokio, China, Bombay, Korea, Philippines, Anam and America. Communications to the society of America will be received and forwarded by Kiechi Kaneko, 619 East 55th street, Chicago, Ill.

Chile, South America, has joined the International Socialist Party, and for the first time we learn, by way of Brussels, where the International Socialist headquarter are located, that the Chileans have quite a powerful movement. The party started in 1887, controls four daily papers and 17 others, and has a membership of 30,000 organized into 92 local bodies. There are three socialists in Parliament and 119 in local municipal governments. The initiative and referendum is in operation in local bodies. When one stops to consider that the population of Chile is about the same as Ohio's we are forced to admit that those South Americans have got us beat a mile, and then some.

The Rev. R. J. Campbell, of the London Temple, who, by long odds, is the most popular preacher in Great Britain, is throwing the idle, parasitical nobility into hysterics by his bold utterances. He says: "The Christianity of today is not the same as the Christianity of the first century, and is not the religion of Jesus." That religion, he asserts "was in its inception and essence as social gospel." To the question, "Where do you think you would find John the Baptist were he alive today?" he replied: "You would find him addressing a labor demonstration in Hyde Park or heading a popular movement for social emancipation. It is our business to realize the Kingdom of God on earth, and nothing else, to preach universal brotherhood, and to sweep away those existing conditions which throw a pall over the lives of the larger proportion of our people." Rev. Campbell will stand for parliament at Cardiff as a Labor-Socialist candidate and there is little doubt of his election.

The Best Governed City.
"The socialists have for years been in control in the city council of Berlin," writes William E. Curtis in the Chicago Record-Herald, "and it may not be a coincidence only that experts in municipal problems are almost unanimous in the opinion that the city government of Berlin comes nearer to the ideal than that of any other great city in the world."

A Wonderful Growth.
"Socialism," says Professor John Graham Brooks, "is spreading in all countries with a rapidity that cannot be kept track of with statistics."

National News
Wisconsin Notes.
The referendum vote on the Milwaukee city ticket has closed. For mayor the Milwaukee comrades have chosen Alderman Emil Seidel, who has made such a fine record in the city council. For treasurer they have selected Chas. B. Whitnall, who has voiced the socialist view of things on the Park Commission. For comptroller they nominated Charles V. Schmidt. The Milwaukee Social-emoerats will now go through the formality of nominating this ticket at the primaries. Being prepared to "plump their vote"—as the capitalist papers express it—on this ticket chosen by referendum, the Social-Democrats are in no danger of having tricks played upon them at the primaries by the old parties. Otherwise the primaries might be very dangerous for us, under the present law.
The Milwaukee comrades have also chosen by referendum sixteen delegates to the approaching charter convention. According to the law, the Social-Democrats are entitled to 16 out of 49 delegates. The Socialists will thus be in a position to make a good show at this very important convention.
The campaign will be opened in Milwaukee tonight by a speech from Alderman Seidel at Liedertafel Hall. Everybody admits that the chances of the socialists carrying Milwaukee next April are very strong. The old parties are in alarm. They want to unite to beat us out. But to compel republicans and democrats to join in a sort of capitalistic fusion party would in itself be a triumph for the Social-Democrats.

National Committee motions No. 21 and 25 of the year 1907, deal with the question of a special assessment to pay the railroad fare of delegates to the National convention.
One 35 cent assessment is levied upon each member of the party, the same to be paid during the months of February and March. The stamps are to be sold to the state secretaries on credit. The state organization is to return all stamps not used, and to pay for all stamps not returned.
Final returns of unused stamps and cash should be made not later than April 15th. However, earlier remittances, as funds are gathered, will be appreciated.
The method of distributing the stamps will be as follows: Taking the national apportionment of the average of dues paid during the year 1907, stamps equal to twice the number of members shown in your state by said apportionment will be shipped to you on or before February 1st.
Your attention is directed to the National Executive Committee motion by Comrade Hillquit, which appeared in the middle column, first page, of the December issue of the Socialist Party Official Bulletin, to secure data regarding the membership.
The motion provides "The state committee to return to the National Secretary either the individual question lists and answers, or a tabulated summary of the answers secured (preferably the former.)
I entertain the opinion that the best purpose would be served if the state and national office each had a file of the individual question blanks. If this meets with your approval, and you will undertake to supply duplicates, I will provide a sufficient number of individual question blanks for that purpose. Kindly advise me on this point at your earliest convenience.
Fraternally yours,
J. MAHLON BARNES,
National Secretary.

"The Socialist Theater" is a new monthly magazine of socialism and dramatic art. The principal feature is the publication of socialist plays and the encouragement of their presentation by Social Stage Societies. Julius Hopp, 126 W. 23d St., New York City, is the publisher. \$1 per year, single copies 10 cents.

Italian comrades and all others interested in the organization of Italian workers are requested to send their addresses to the National office. The establishment of an Italian Socialist paper in Chicago is contemplated.

Notes.
Socialists are not "ahead of the times." It's an other fellow who is "behind the times."
That the producers of wealth may receive the wealth they produce is the goal toward which the socialist is pointing.
Society should own the things which are social necessities.
You can end "grafting" quickly enough by simply sending capitalism to the scrap heap.
Tools of production should belong to those who use them.

A position in a labor organization makes a man very popular in old party politics, and especially when he opposes Socialism.

Women's Clubs
Pure Marriages.
Socialism does not deal directly with marriage, but indirectly it will do much to promote purer and happier relations in this direction. Ministers are just now discussing the increase of the "divorce evil," but it does not seem to occur to them that this has its real origin in the capitalist system, which has put marriage, with everything else, on the commercial basis. The hard conditions of existence drive thousands of women to enter the marriage state with almost the first man who offers himself regardless of love, with the result that before long the mistake is discovered and relief is sought in divorce. Not until woman is economically free will this "problem" be solved. Socialism instead of abolishing marriage will make the real love marriage possible for all.

Mrs. Annie Cobden-Sanderson, the woman suffragist who is receiving considerable attention from the daily newspapers, is a socialist and treasurer of the Independent Labor Party of London. Mrs. Sanderson lectured in New York last week on the subject, "Socialism and Women," and created a splendid impression.

The agitation conducted by the women socialists was the main reason for the success of the boycott on a large department store in Berlin, which was conducted on behalf of the porters' union, and mention of which was made in this paper two weeks ago. Vorwaerts reported the boycott. The socialist women distributed leaflets and went right into the store itself and agitated. Several were arrested, but the store proprietors were compelled to give in and a great victory was secured.

Further Endorsement.
The Granges of New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Ohio, and Indiana have very recently passed resolutions favoring woman suffrage.

The National Grange, in session at Hartford, lately passed a woman suffrage resolution.

The American Single Tax Conference, held in New York City, adopted a resolution in favor of a sixteenth amendment enfranchising women.
Rev. Elizabeth Schauss, of Toledo, Ohio, was a fraternal delegate from the N. A. W. S. A. to the National Spiritualist Association which met in Washington in October. Mrs. Schauss presented the following resolution which was adopted without a single dissenting voice:
"To the Senate and House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States:—
Whereas, Taxation without representation is tyranny, and
Whereas, Women pay, in every state in this republic, a rapidly increasing amount of taxes, therefore,
Resolved, That justice demands that their present political disability be removed and that they be enfranchised upon the same terms as the men in the states in which they live; and
Resolved, That the undersigned, on behalf of the National Spiritualistic Association in annual convention assembled at Washington, D. C., October 1907, respectfully ask for the prompt passage by your Honorable body of a Sixteenth Amendment to the Federal Constitution, to be submitted to the legislatures of the several states for ratification, prohibiting the disfranchisement of the United States citizens on account of sex; and,
Resolved, That the secretary of this meeting is requested to forward a copy of this resolution to the president."

Strike on Goldfield Railroads
(Continued from Page 1.)

pump men, while all along the line others quit work in small numbers. They say that the pumpmen have been reduced from \$125 to \$90 a month; section bosses from \$135 to \$100 a month and section men from \$4 to \$3 a day.

C. O. Whitmore, general counsel of the Las Vegas & Tonopah line, who is in the city investigating the trouble, received the message last night from Las Vegas, which, he says, expresses his views:
"Your wire date regarding alleged strike of section foremen and laborers. There is no strike. One foreman and a few laborers have quit account dissatisfaction with new scale wages which went into effect on second district today. Foreman reduced from \$135 to \$100 per month, laborers from \$4 to \$3 per day, eight hours' work. Roadmaster now on second district reports majority of men working. New scale of wages is very good, as we furnish free accommodations, lodge and fuel; also free rate on shipments of groceries and supplies. New scale applies to men employed between Betty and Goldfield.
F. M. GRACE."

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A SLAVE TO CAPITALISM.

The Independent Farmer Is Behind the Procession.
The farmer does not live as well as the average mechanic. He works longer hours, and his wife works still longer. He does not have as good a house, is not accessible to any amusements or recreation. The farmer works twelve to fifteen hours a day and his wife works eighteen. The mechanic works eight or ten at most, and the wife of the mechanic dresses better, has more leisure, more neighbors, attends more theaters, entertainments and socials than the farmer's wife. The children of the mechanic have better opportunities to develop, to see and learn, than the children of the farmer, whose isolation leaves them undeveloped as to the meaning of the great world they live in.
The "independent farmer" has not kept up with the procession. He is a slave to capitalism. The capitalist class puts the price on everything he raises and puts the price on everything he buys. He is given a mean living for fifteen hours' work for himself and whole family. The mechanic by organization gets as good or a better living for not over ten hours' work.
The tenant farmer or the hired farm hand does not get as good a living as the common laborer of the cities, except in the matter of food alone. Great is the independent farmer! I would not own a farm as a gift and take his long hours and isolation for the sake of having a perpetual "job" of work. I would prefer the dependence of the wage earner to such "independence."
Will the farmers not wake up to see the great bunko game that is being played upon them by the capitalist class? The farmers feed themselves and feed the whole world besides, and what do they get? Why, they get food and a little shoddy clothing! Socialism will give them everything that the world produces for not over six or eight hours average work per day. Their isolation and lack of association with their kind have prevented them from organizing as have the city workers. But they can join the socialist party and thus work together against the common foe—capitalism. The ownership of a farm means only a mean living for the farmer. The city worker gets that without the ownership and with less labor. Their interests are identical. Will the farmer see it?—William C. Green in the Organizer.

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Fergus County Hardware Co.
CLUB SALOON
G. R. Hamilton, Prop.
Dealer in
WINES, LIQUORS & CIGARS
Union made goods a specialty
KENDALL, MONT.
Rebuke From Big Stick.
(Continued from Page 1.)

the employers complain because they can no longer control their slaves. Bryant said the Association had spent \$25,000 for guards, and that the present difficulty had cost them \$50,000. They were spending \$250 a day now for guards. If things continued, they would be driven out of the mining business.

Red Flag the Symbol of Anarchy.
The worst grievance of all, however, was because the red flag, "the symbol of anarchy" was carried through the streets; and the witless attorney had the brazen and ignorant effrontery to say it stood for the doctrine for which Spies and his colleagues were hanged.
He ended by praying for industrial peace, peace, peace when there is no peace.
Ida Crouch-Hazlett.

Is This Civilization?
We boast that "we lead the civilization of the world", and we keep a gaunt goblin army of 3,000,000 children making their forced march on the factory floor, an army that outwatches the sun by day and the stars by night, thus grinding in our mills the bones of our little ones to make good the boast. Is this civilization?—Edwin Markham.

