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# THE REBEL

T. A. HICKEY, Editor and Owner

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THIS IS NO. 38

The great appeal great to us only because we are on our knees—LET US ARISE.

HALLETTSVILLE, TEXAS, MARCH 23, 1912. Issued Weekly

## The Wholesale Murder at San Antonio.

Last Monday one of the great passenger engines on the Sunset Route, the Southern Pacific, exploded after being taken out of the roundhouse, and twenty-six people were blown to pieces. To the observing man the explosion was but an echo of the explosion that wrecked the Los Angeles Times, where five less people met their death on the first of October, 1910.

Fundamentally the cause was the same—the struggle between capital and labor. In the San Antonio case organized labor is NOT responsible. Organized capital is without a doubt the criminal.

A lot of shallow stuff has been written by the muzzled press on the subject. Let us get down to the fundamental facts that are already admitted by both sides in the conflict.

Last October the machinists, boiler makers, tin and sheet iron workers, blacksmiths and car repairers, employed on the Harriman lines, banded themselves together and demanded of Julius Kruttschnitt, the executive officer in charge of the Harriman lines, that their wages be increased to correspond with the increased cost of living that his fellow buccaneers in Wall Street had forced upon these wage earners.

A big conference was held in San Francisco. Mr. Julius K. met the representatives of the federated crafts and contemptuously refused to accede to their exceedingly reasonable demands. For self-protection the men could do nothing else but strike, and thus for months a bitter war has raged between the dictator of the Harriman lines and his ex-employees.

It was a silent war. No blood was shed. The men pitted their skill, their only property, against the vast millions and political power Kruttschnitt controlled. The men felt confident that banded together as one, they could win better conditions while Mr. K. believed that the workers would be whipped through the usual methods that the railroad pirates have employed from the days of Daniel Drew, Jim Fisk and Jay Gould.

These methods are simple to those: They draw upon the reserve army of unemployed now three million strong; they call upon their Federal courts for injunctions; they command their private detectives and agents provocateur to march to the front and thus use their power to starve the workers into submission. But alas for the Honorable Julius, a change has come over the spirit of the dream of the labor movement. Instead of whipping one regiment of toilers organized in one craft, he has to whip five, and these five have proven too much for him as the San Antonio wholesale murder shows

The off-scourings of the slums that his labor agents brought into the shops were unable to handle the ponderous, yet delicate, equipment. All over Texas traffic on the Harriman lines has been paralyzed. Shippers are months behind orders, merchants are demoralized and passengers are exasperated to the extreme limit of endurance because of the trains' delay. In the nature of things, something had to happen on a big scale and the tragedy of last Monday morning was as certain to happen as the earth would revolve on its axis.

This event was hastened by the criminal conduct of the Railroad Commission of Texas, appointed by Colquitt, a lickspittle of Wall Street. What could a sane man expect? Two weeks ago the Rebel pointed out the fact that one of the three railroad commissioners, Allison Mayfield, was taken in a private car on a champagne duck hunting trip by the railroads and the second commissioner, John L. Wortham, was taken on another private car and wined and dined by the officials of the Harriman, H. & T. C. Railroad, on a fake inspection trip along the line.

That I speak understandingly and with authority, I present this official document handed to me for publication by the press committee of the local advisory board of the strikers at Ennis, Texas:

*H. & T. C. INSPECTED!*

What constitutes an inspection of a railroad by a state railroad commissioner? If riding over a road in the private car of the general manager accompanied by the general superintendent is a proper and correct inspection of a road then the H. & T. C. railway has been inspected.

If a thief wanted to rob a bank would he notify the president of that bank what day he was going to rob his bank? If an officer of the law wanted to catch a thief would he send him word what day to expect him? That is what the state railway commissioners did.

The news that the commissioners were going to inspect the H. & T. C. was published in the daily press ten days before the trip was made. When it was made it was in the private car of the general manager of the H. & T. C. This train did not stop over 15 minutes in Ennis; a division point; only two shippers of Ennis had been notified to meet the train and one of those men sells to the H. & T. C. about $1500 worth of goods per month.

*as it has done, in brutal wealth of one end of society, and degrading involuntary poverty among tens of millions at the other end of society.*

It declares mankind has not risen and cannot rise above the level of the brute feasts in the jungle. It challenges the teachings of Christianity and the promises of all the great democratic philosophers that have ever lived. It challenges the written history of human evolution. It challenges the record of human history written in human blood and tears.

It is hard to deal patiently with educated men who in this late day expound the capitalist philosophy of life as the best attainable by humanity.

It is not a pity that a man with his intellectual endowment should

Commissioner Wortham was asked to walk down town, but declined to do so, saying that he did not have time. Mr. Wortham's attention was called to then fact that train No. 5 due to arrive at 5:45 was five hours late and had been consolidated with No. 1. His attention was also called to the fact that train No 85 on the Ft. Worth branch due to leave at 6:45 was standing on a side-track this in violation of the law not allowing trains to wait over thirty minutes for connections. Mr. Wortham claimed to have been informed that trains Nos. 5 and 1, were only one train. No. 1 was only 20 minutes late. The day Mr Wortham was in Dallas train No. 5 arrived five hours and fifty-five minutes late. That is some of the "normal conditions" he found.

Mr. Wortham stated that the road had 17 new engines from the U. P. Only five or six of these engines have showed up here and they were not in much better condition than the engines they already had.

In a conversation with the manager of the Plano Grain & Oil mill he told Mr. Wortham that service on the H. & T. C. was in wretched condition and that he trusted that the railway commissioners would take some action to force the officials of the road to put the road in condition so that the shipping public could know what to depend upon.

The inspectors' train was blocked at Bremond on account of congested condition of the yards; again delayed one hour at Hempstead because all tracks were full; a freight train extra No 322 was forced to run head-on the inspector's train to Waller for passing.

The contractor putting up buildings at College Station was forced to shut down after waiting thirty days for the H. & T. C. to deliver brick the railway company had received at Ferris, a distance of only 146 miles.

As might be expected the organs of the interests have been particularly vicious in their handling of this great news story. The editor of the Ft. Worth Record edited into the news story when first flashed from San Antonio, the statement that the people feared that it was a repetition of the McNamara's work. The stupid Dallas News editorially took the same position. The News said last Wednesday morning:

"With the recollection of the Los Angeles crime still fresh in mind, it was natural and inevitable that the first news of the San Antonio tragedy should arouse the suspicion that it, too, had been caused by striking employees of the company. That suspicion may yet be verified, but as for ourselves we cling to the contrary belief until facts are adduced to beware us of it."

The muzzle-skate that wrote that will certainly be "bereaved." Why should the blowing up of a boiler handled by scabs be the "natural and inevitable" outcome of the blowing up of the Los Angeles Times? Did not the common fellow who wrote that know that on the H. & T. C. Railroad since this strike has started three other engines have blown up, something that was unknown in the history of railroading in Texas in a hundred times that period? Does he not know that every man knows that has ever been around a machine shop, that the explosion was due simply and solely to the fact that the engines were overhauled by unskilled, drunken strike-breakers?

This is the second time that the Rebel has been compelled to slap the face of the Dallas News during this strike because of their crooked editorial treatment of this awful situation. It is fortunate that in the State of Texas alone sixteen thousand paid in advance subscribers of the Rebel, reaching a constituency of sixty thousand thinking people, are able to read the truth about this great strike.

* * * *

Now that this wholesale murder has been placed at the doors of Kruttschnitt and his pals on the Railroad Commission, the question arises, what shall be done in this emergency? The Rebel would suggest that organized labor on the trade union field call mass meetings everywhere possible, that the strikers in Houston call a mass meeting in the auditorium and demand that Colquitt instantly fire the Railroad Commission for corruption, that has resulted in treachery to the people and thereby made this wholesale murder possible. DO THIS AND DO IT NOW.

As a further safeguard let every citizen of the State of Texas boycott the H. & T. C., the Southern Pacific and all other Harriman connections so far as possible. Only last night riding on the train from Ennis to Dallas, the women were trembling, fearing that the engine in front would blow up. Every engineer, fireman, and head brakeman in Texas is working under a terrible nervous tension, not knowing when he will be blasted into eternity. Let be known that this strike must stop and stop now. That these public corporations must treat with their employees and thus settle this strike, that has produced this awful holocaust at San Antonio!

* * * *

**LET THE NATION OWN THE RAILROADS IS THE LESSON READ IN THE FLASH OF THE EXPLOSION AT SAN ANTONIO.**

*STATE OWNERSHIP VERSUS SOCIALISM.*

*By Pendragon*

"For thirty years New Zealand, that country of many Socialistic experiments, has operated state life insurance. A recent exhibit of its business is far from satisfactory.

"The state life insurance business has increased les than $700,00 and the number of policies 4,738, although civil servants employees are compelled to take the state's insurance and the agents receive the same commissions as those of private concerns. For the year 1911, the ratio of expenses to premiums was 20.3 per cent and to total income 12.7, which is greater than in many private companies. Its bonuses are outclassed by several competitors, its lapse rate is abnormally high and it is not getting its share of new business.

"These statements are made by the New York Independent, a high-grade journal inclined to Socialism.

"Yet of all forms of Socialistic endeavor, insurance is the most attractive, for the state can offer attractions of security and permanence which no private concern can furnish.

"The state's insurance department lacks the saving quality of profit in its service which is the mainspring of business success and skill. Take the hope of gain out of an endeavor and its human agencies will fail to develop their highest efficiency. That is the great truth, or the infirmity of mankind, which makes Socialism a mere dream of attainment impossible of accomplishment until human nature is changed.—Fort Worth Record.

Assuming that what the Record quotes from the Independent is substantially true, it has no more to do with Socialism than it has with democracy, or with republicanism.

Because the state insurance scheme of New Zealand is not Socialistic. It is, on the other hand, essentially capitalistic. It is a case of state ownership and operation of an industry, the state itself being controlled by capitalists, and guided by a capitalistic philosophy.

Under Socialism the state will be no competing privately-owned insurance companies. Hence there will be no powerful private interest with a motive to secretly persuading state insurance department employes to betray the obligation they owe to the people. Insurance will be sold at cost, and the state will sell it all. With the whole credit of the state behind the policies, there will not be any failures to pay claims.

*Under Socialism the state insurance department would be democratically managed, by the people and not by a ring of professional politicians whose primary financial obligation is to the managers of competing privately-owned insurance company.*

That precisely is the key to the comparative failure of the state insurance department in New Zealand, which is a failure as a capitalistic concern, as England or the United States.

If the Record, undertaking to inform its readers correctly concerning the themes which it discusses, knows those facts regarding New Zealand, then it deliberately attempted to deceive its readers.

We prefer to believe the Record did not know the difference between state ownership and Socialism. It *ought* to know the difference, but we are used to finding out, that beand is ignorance among old-party politicians and newspapers, so that it no longer surprises us, even when we meet it in the person of a man who enjoys a wide repute as a scholar and an intelligent publicist.

The Record's assumption that the hope of private profit is the strongest factor in obtaining human efficiency is a pitiful confession of the savagery of capitalistic philosophy. How completely it ignores all the nobler aspirations and impulses of humanity *It is small wonder that such philosophy of life should have worked out,*

*Discuss the Pro-Anti.*

Last May, the editor of the Rebel came into Dallas to fill a ten days' lecture engagement. In one of his spare moments he dropped into the sanctum of his old friend, Hugh Fitzgerald, the managing editor of the Dallas Times Herald. With the first thought of a trained newspaper man for news, he whirled around in his swivel chair, grasped my hand and said:

"Tom, you are just in from the road, tell me how the people from the forks of the creek, where you have just come from, feel on the prohibition question!"

As it was only about eight weeks 22, our readers can see the reason for the question. I replied:

"Hugh, don't ask me any fool questions like that, because the issue of prohibition is purely a Standard oil fake that pro and anti politicians have dragged before the people for the purpose of blinding them. They draw a red herring across the political path, they throw sand in the people's eyes, and if you go down to the fundamentals, if you will look behind the scenes, you will find the pro and anti capitalists locked in one another's arms. In short, Adolphus Busch and Hugh Dobbs, Jr., are the up-to-date Heavenly Twins."

"Oh, dad gast you, Tom!" said Fitz, "I want some news, and you won't give it to me; at least give me your personal opinion at length about this pro-and-anti mess!"

Thereupon I pulled my chair up close to Hugh and told him a story At its close, he said to me, "That is so good I wish you would tell it to Jake Wolters." I told him that I had never had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Wolters. He said: "I will fix that for you in a moment." He telephoned the anti headquarters in the Oriental Hotel with the result that five minutes later, I successfully passed Senator Wilson of Lee County, the cerebus at the door of Jake's private office on the second floor of the Oriental Hotel.

After introductions, said Jake: "Tell me this wonderful story that has tickled Hugh Fitzger all so much." Whereupon I related this tale, etched from an important period in the history of "Irish people:

"In 1840 a brilliant young priest, from the mountains of Connemara—out on the wild west coast of Ireland, where the Atlantic surf beats a dismal refrain on the bleak rocks of my Sire Land—conceived the idea that the trouble with the Irish was due to the 'pothcen,' as ex- call whiskey in God's country.

"He possessed all of the wonderful eloquence of the Gael, he tempestuous as the ocean on whose sands he was rocked to sleep by his old mother. He did not seek to destroy liquor by legislative enactment. Instead he took blank ribbon, signed a pledge, and went from one end of the little green isle to the other beseeching the people to sign the pledge and help him in his fight. His propaganda was tremendously successful so far as securing converts to his cause goes. For a hundred days in Dublin I met many old men who had taken the pledge from Father Mathew, and had scrupulously lived up to it.

"After six years of this continuous agitation for temperance, Ireland was the most sober nation on the earth. Nine out of ten of the whiskey distilleries went into bankruptcy, most of the breweries collapsed and only the famous Guinness' brewery withstood successfully the storm raised by the priest from the mountains of Connemara.

"Then came '47, a year that will never be forgotten as long as an Irishman walks on the surface of old mother earth. It was the famine year; a blight had come upon the potato crop like the boll weevil would come upon the cotton in Texas. In that dread year Ireland lost two million people by death from starvation and emigration in the coffin ship.

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(Continued to Page 2.)

*HICKEY AND JAKE WOLTERS.*

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(Continued to Page 2.)

*TIME FERRER MURDER.*

A shudder has gone round the world at the news that the supreme court of Madrid, Spain, has reversed the judgment of the Barcelona council of war and has in effect declared that Francesco Ferrer was an innocent man. For a country to take a man's life and afterward try his case is cause for any one to shudder. Moreover, it is believed that the horror of the Ferrer case has caused the Spanish king no little

think himself forced, for material wealth to lend his brilliant pen to the defense of a system which his intellect condemns as barbaric, his heart condemns as savagely cruel and unworthy of enlightened humanity!

tle uneasiness of mind and conscience. A murder is no less a murder because it was secured by clerical influence. In particular the court has now decided that Ferrer was not concerned in the Barcelona disturbances; that none of the 2,000 prosecutions that arose out of the riots be traced in any way to Ferrer, and that he neither participated in nor inspired them. And the court therefore ordered his confiscated property turned over to his heirs. A blot rests on Spain for this horror. The sum of Prof. Ferrer's offending and the cause of his official murder was that he was advancing the cause of education in a nation, the ignorance of whose people was an asset of the clerical control of government and all the

## HICKEY AND WOLTERS.

(Continued from Page 1.)
corded that 25 per cent of the people were wiped out in one year and never a shot was fired and they never heard the rolling of a military drum.

"Now Mr. Wolters, in that same year, twenty million pounds worth of other food stuffs were shipped out of our stricken country. Twenty million pounds equals, roughly $100,000,000, and that is equal to about $200,000,000 now. And yet the men who toiled in the fields from break of day until the Angelus rang, died of starvation, side by side with the wife and mother, the 'Colleens' and 'gossoons' "

Wolter bent forward in his chair listening interestedly.

"Well," he said, "What is the moral of this story?"

I replied: "Just this: Ireland was never so sober, she was never so hungry."

Mr. Wolters was impressed with such a remarkable argument that was unique in this that although that they had poured out oceans of ink and used up forests of lead pencils in the pro and anti discussion, this gigantic fact had never been mentioned by either pro or anti.

As Wolters continued to sit silent, I felt it was up to me to press the point, whereupon I said: "Why don't you use this, Mr. Wolters?" Quick as a flash the big anti leader replied:

"The fact of the matter is, Mr. Hickey, both sides in this campaign are conducting it upon a very superficial basis." I arose, shook hands with the Honorable Jacob Wolters, and thus ended the interview.

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Of all articles that I have written in The Rebel, there are few that cut deeper than this one. The superficial mind will not grasp the immense economic truth that is contained in this story taken from a page of Irish history. Condensed in the fewest posible words, it reveals one great truth:

It is not the amount of liquor that the workers, who are the majority of every nation, consume, that determines their standard of living. The Italian Lazzaroni are as temperate as dogs; they live like dogs. The Hindoos never taste alcohol in any form and the vast majority of them know nothing of any other drug, and yet they exist on four cents a day. The peon in Mexico passes through life and scarce seven days in the year has he the means to purchase his pulque or mescal.

And thus do we see it is not the amount of liquor that people consume that determines their economic status. *On the contrary I believe that it can be scientifically demonstrated that if the workers as a whole could demand champagne, they would receive champagne wages.*. Whereas, on the other hand, if they are satisfied with ice water, they will get ice water.

In that prohibition campaign of last year, the most tragically funny thing was to see white men, renters, with their bellies distended with cistern water, in dozens of counties of North Texas who had not taken a drink of liquor in a year, who had not gambled or whored, men who had led a stainless life, become wildly excited on the question of whether Oscar B. Colquitt was off the water wagon or Cone Johnson was on top of it. And this, at the moment, when their wives in the first stages of pregnancy were pulling a cotton sack down the row and the little tots were by their sides in the fields and the school houses were away in the distance.

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Truly, the Commercial Secretaries of Texas were right when they said: "Texas Needs Great Men."

The great men who will shape the destiny of our state that has lived under six flags will be the men who have the capacity to dig down to the bed rock of economic truth and proclaim and prove this fact to the multitude:

That under capitalism labor is a commodity, bought and sold, as are all other commodities, and that because of this fact the more expensive is the commodity—labor—the more wine, whiskey, champagne, pianos, carpets, fine houses and good foods it demands, the more wages it will receive and the higher the workers will step up the ladder of civilization until they will demand all they will produce.

Then we shall have the Socialist Republic.

And that is the reason Jake Wolters and Dr. Rankin both servators of the interests conducted the pro, anti campaign on a *"very superficial plane."*

## WHAT THE PEOPLE CAN DO FOR THEMSELVES.

*While municipal ownership does not spell Socialism by any means, the following from the Hallettsville New Era shows what the people can do for themselves. It points to the further fact that what they can do for themselves they can do on a far larger scale, with the industries of the nations*

While the subject is up, the New Era thinks it not amiss to give a few facts, historical and otherwise with respect to Hallettsville's water and light plant. If it were a private concern in the business merely for the money that it could make out of it, we would pass it up without further waste of words. But a publicly owned institution, such as it is, in which every man, woman and child in Hallettsville has an undivided interest and shares equally in its many benefits,something ought to be said as to how it came about and its present status, financial and other wise.

In the first place, it may be said that Hallettsville is the first town in Texas, if not in the South, so far as we know, with a population under 500 that was progresive enough to establish a city owned water and light system. In the latter 80's a number of what was then known as the younger business element, had agitated for such a system. They were considerably ahead of their times, in one respect at least, when they advanced what was then a most radical idea, namely, that the municipality could furnish lights and fire protection far cheaper and more satisfactorily than could a private company. In the face of the fact that nearly every city in the United States then had private ownership of this utility, time has shown that these young men knew what they were talking about, even though they were then strongly opposed by the older,, conservative element of the town.

What finally gave the progressives a convincing argument came in the form of the worst fire Hallettsville ever had. The city council happened to be composed of the right sort of men and so the rest was easy.

The first official step is recorded on May 5, 1890 when Alderman Townsend, an active supporter of the plan, moved that the city issue bonds for "a limited system of water-works, not to cost more than $20,000." The motion did not pass then because the full board of council men was not present. However, it was adopted later and on October 8, 1890, they awarded a contract for the erection of a city-owned water plant to Guido Yaeger of Rich Hill, Mo. The cost of the plant amounted to $15,950 and bonds to that amount were issued. Shortly after, another bond issue was authorized for $3,000 for the purpose of installing a light system, making the total amount of bonds issued, $18,950.

The entire plant was finally completed in the fall of 1891, M. S. Townsend being mayor at the time.

So much for the historical side. After a talk with our practical and up-to-date city treasurer, G. A. Young, we now can take a practical and up-to-date view at Hallettsville's water and light system.

As to present financial status, Mr. Young states that there is already accumulated in the sinking fund as a result of the water and light tax of 25c, the sum of $9,500 to pay off the $18,950 bond issue. The city fathers of that date made one mistake with respect to the bonds, which was that they can not be paid earlier than 25 years nor later than 40 years, with the high interest rate of 6 per cent. At present it is easy to sell 40-year bonds with a five year option at 3 1-2 cents. However, subsequent city fathers invested this sinking fund and so lost but little with respect to interest.

The 25 years will be up in five years and with the present rate of increase the sinking fund will be large enough to pay off two-thirds of the bonded indebtedness and in about 15 years every bond will be paid off. The plant has no other incumbrance, and is worth twice as much as it was in the beginning, and is the pride of every person that calls Hallettsville "home," including our city fathers who efficiently watch over its welfare as they would over that of a favorite child.

Taxes are lower than in most towns and cities.

Mr. Young states that since he has been treasurer, the past twelve years, the annual net profit over and above running expenses, salaries, repairs, etc., has been $1,000 a year. Every cent of this $12,000 has been spent in improving the plant in the way of better engines, dynamos and pumps and extension of lights and water mains. This annual profit however, is gradually increasing and soon promises to be at least $1500.

In short, where a private company as you see in Yoakum and other cities would have limited and hampered the service in order to turn the dividends into their pockets, the city-owned plant has been conducted, not for profit, but for the common good.

Comes now the most important question: that of rates. Some years ago, the council decided to place the water and light rates on a similar basis as those of the city of Cuero, which has the cheapest rates of any city in Texas due to the fact that it has water power. However, Hallettsville has the advantage over Cuero in one important respect. Where the Cuero city council must pay the private company a large sum ($50 to $75) each month for street lights and fire plugs and a limited number at that, Hallettsville has these facilities free and in a very large quantity. We have repeatedly heard traveling men say that it is the best lighted and watered town of anywhere near its size in the state.

• • •

The moral of the entire business is that private utilities and industries are never run in the interest of the public but solely for the interests of the private persons that own them and that publicly owned utilities whether they be schools, light or water plants, postoffices or any thing else the public must have in order to live in comfort, or to live at all, must be owned by the people themselves

## IGNORAMUSES, OR LIARS.

(*By Pendragon.*)

During the past fortnight the reactionary "democratic" daily newspapers of Texas have been printing editorials dealing with a "straw vote" for president, which they say was taken by the Appeal to Reason. They say the vote stood: Debs, 55,928; John McNamara, 54, 726; Samuel Gompers, 48,225; Theodore Roosevelt, 41,-384; William H. Taft, 426.

Having stated the foregoing "facts", these Bourbon editors warn their readers that if they follow off after Roosevelt he will lead them into socialism.

Now, either of the editors who printed that story are ignoramuses or liars. They can take their choice.

If they did not know, on the face of it, the utter falsity of that story, then they are too grossly ignorant of socialism and of the American socialist movement, to discuss it at all.

If they did know, and still gave space to the story, then they deliberately attempted to mislead their readers.

Because the Appeal took no such "straw vote", and if it had taken one neither Gompers, nor Roosevelt, nor McNamara nor Taft would have got any mention whatever.

It is not necessary to print a denial for socialists; they all understand. But The Rebel reaches thousands who are not yet members of the socialist party, and wants them to know the truth.

The donk editors had a double purpose in printing that fake: first, they wanted to knock Roosevelt among the "conservatives," by making them think Teddy is a socialist; second, they wanted to knock the socialist movement among the same "conservatives" by making them think McNamara the dynamiter is a socialist.

Roosevelt, "the political Dr. Cook" as Tom Hickey immortally describes him, is no part of a socialist. He is a thrawback—a save man of the stone age, born out of his time. He has no more morals than a tomcat.

As for John McNamara, he was when convicted a member of a Catholic anti-socialist society. Socialists went to his relief when they believed him to have been unjustly accused, and likely to be railroaded to prison without a fair trial—and they did it because he was a workingman, who was prosecuted by the big thieves of the steel trust for fighting the battles of workingmen.

The time is coming—and it is not far off—when intelligent readers will refuse to believe anything they see in these Bourbon daily papers, that lie viciously, maliciously, stupidly, about everything that involves the struggle of the world's workers to better their condition.

If you want the truth, read the only papers in Texas that are free to tell it—the socialist papers.

## A GOOD IDEA.

A "Rebel Scout" is what Jacob Vibrock, of Hallettsville, calls himself Although nearing his seventieth year, he spend his spare time traveling over Lavaca, Fayette and other South Texas counies, soliciting subs, selling and giving away literature and otherwise energetically agitating for the cause.

He is now busy getting old party signers to the following petition, which is so timely and so necessary that we advise every Reb who can, to do the same for his congressman: Mr Geo. F. Burgess, M. C., Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir: We, the undersigned citizens of your district hereby petition and request you to vote and work against any attempt to increase the newspaper postal rates. We ask this realizing that a free press and a people's press can not live where it must pay exorbitant rates in order to circulate through the mails. Even if the rate were only slightly increased, we are unalterably opposed thereto as we consider such slight advance an entering wedge, the final end of which is the destruction of a low-priced press—and a low-priced press is the people's press. We want the second class matter rate of one cent per pound, now so long established, to stand.

## A THOUGHT ON GOVERNMENT.

A stenographer, Mr. J. C. Richardson, while taking dictation from me, very wisely said:

"Our government is the only government that has ever been organized that has the power to readjust itself to the marvelous changes that have been brought around in the last hundred years through our economic development"

I take it that he means that the machinery is already arranged to change peacefully from the competitive to the co-operative order of society without armed revolution. What do you think about this thought?

## LETTERS FROM THE DEVIL.

A book of 40 pages written by *W. S. Morgan*, author of "A Toast to Capitalism" and "The American Circus." It contains letters addressed to the following:

*The Farmers.*
*The Church Members.*
*The Editors of Great Dailies.*
*The Lawyers.*
*The Politicians.*
*Candidates of the Old Parties.*
*The Preachers.*
*The Professional Politicians.*
*To Capitalism.*
*The Democrats.*
*The Republicans.*
*The Political Fools.*
*The Common Plugs.*
*The Wage Earners.*

Don't fail to get this; it is rich. Mailed postpaid to any address for 10 cents each; $1 per dozen. While "yo're a gittin' " this book inclose 10 cents more and receive 50 copies of Morgan's latest leaflet: "A Toast to Capitalism." Address W. S. Morgan, Springfield, Mo.

## WAR TO THE DEATH ON FREE SPEECH.

(*By J. Edward Morgan.*)

"Whom the gods would destroy they first make mad."

The master brutes of California are mad and are riding swift-footed to hell. Deeper and deeper are digging the ditch into which they will eventually hurl themselves, beaten and damned and shorn of their power to curse the earth.

The fight for free speech in San Diego has demonstrated that the masters of the bread intend to stop Socialist and Industrial Union agitation at any cost.

The city and county jails are filled to suffocation with hundreds of Socialists and Industrial Unionists, who have dared Big Business Criminals to drive them from the street corner dedicated to free speech by 20 years agitation.

The show of solidarity by all workers of San Diego in the great parade led by a union band playing the Marseillaise and surrounding the jail drove the master class to frenzy. Thirty-eight indictments followed, by grand jury, charging "Criminal Conspiracy". These were the first to go to jail for the right of free speech. Among the number indicted are the Rev. Geo. Woodby, the noted colored lecturer and writer on Socialism, of national prominence; Kasper Bauer, well known pioneer agitator of old Socialist Labor Party, actively now speaking and writing for the Socialist party; Jack Whyte and Robert Gosden of the I. W. W.

For more than a month the free speech fight has raged with every phase of police brutailty known to the American "Cossacks," "Manhandling," "Third Degree" atrocities and slow starvation has made San Diego the Siberia of America and the stench of the Pacific Coast.

With the added brutalities, the cry went ever up—"Fill the jails and the stockades." The jails are filled. Hundreds to be confined in the stockades now building, by scab labor, as union carpenters turned down the dirty job.

Jails in other counties have been filled by men arrested and beaten in San Diego for exercising the constitutional right of freedom of speech.

Something drastic had to be done to break the solid front of these martyrs to liberty. The street meetings outside the restricted district were attended by thousands. Public opinion was slowly coming our way Its pressure was beating the enemy into the dirt. The city was being covered with literature telling our side of the stry. Hundreds were coming from all points to assist in the fight. Victory was in sight—the authorities changed their tactics. They determined to win out by sheer brute force While the usual Sunday morning meeting was in progress before the city jail the fire department was called out and the hose turned upon the crowd and the speaker, Mrs. Wightman, a noted evangelist who was addressing the great audience. The hose was turned full in her face—she was drenched with icy cold water—and finally forced from the stand from the deluge poured upon her

For a full hour hundreds packed themselves around Mrs. Wightman in a solid mass as she stood upon the speaker's stand, bending their bodies to the terrific torrent that was poured upon them.

They held their ground until swept from their feet by the irrestible flood.

Enraged at the show of solidarity of the great throng, they pulled up the hose to within a few feet of the speaker's stand and held the torrent full in the face of the lady and drove her by brute force before them.

By this time thousands had gathered from all directions. Maddened to frenzy by their failure to terrify the I. W. W. and Socialists and their sympathizers they turned the hose wantonly upon the crowd. Up and down to right and left—hither and yon—tugging at the hose and driving the people before them, while they surged in ever increasing numbers upon them—the police—from other directions

As fast as they drove the crowd away with the torrent of water they closed up from behind by the hundreds, mocking, reviling, and crying that the world would learn of the infamy of the San Diego public servants.

So infuriated did the police become at their failure to subdue and scatter the throng that they lost their heads utterly. An old grey haired man was knocked down by the direct force of the stream from the hose and came near being trampled in the mud by the police maniacs A mother was deluged with a babe in her arms; a young lady was singled out for the special vengeance of the brutes because she was selling Socialisst literature.For fully five minutes the hose was played upon her. For daring the hose and selling literature she was given eight months in the detention home.

Little Ruth Wightman, daughter of Mrs. Wightman, the evangelist, was swept from a chair, where she stood, under the "Protection" (?) of "Old Glory." An awe struck American "Patriot" wrapped himself in the flag to test it's efficiency against police outrage, but he was knocked down, kicked and jailed, then fined thirty dollars for insulting the national emblem.

I cannot write it! I am too much aroused by the horror of it all to put it on paper. I have just rushed to my room to get to my typewriter to tell the story to the labor press of the world.

For hours I mingled my body and voice with the great throng. I tried to shout the meaning of it all to the wondering, bewildered thousands who gathered and were drenched by the maddened police fools.

Old and young, friend and foe, and even babies and cripples were swept down by the deluge. Onlookers were drenched while in standing in their doorways. Many pictures were taken by I. W. W. and Socialist photographers.

Comrades of America! We are marked for extermination on the Pacifice Coast! The daily press is crying for the militia to line us all up against a stone wall to be shot like dogs. "Horsewhip them into the bay" and such threats are openly made by the thugs of Big Business. We have many cases in the courts; we will sue the city on many counts;we need money immediately. Come to our assistance at once, wherever possible Red blooded men and women everywhere, will you look toward San Diego, the battleground where Socialists and Industrialists are threatened with extermination? We cannot turn back—we must go forward toward whatever awaits at the hands of these brutes.

With money to make the fight, we can whip them now, for they have gone beyond all reason in their desperate efforts to drive us from the city and from the state. Help us with your dollars—lend hand—lend a han.d

LATER—Police raided street meeting Sunday night with drawn clubs Men and women were knocked down and left with bleeding heads unconscious on the pavement All who tried to rescue the women beaten down by the police were beaten insensible and late arrrested.

STILL LATER — Union man and Socialist kidnapped by police thrown into auto, whisked many miles from city and beaten up; threatened with death if he returned. I have been held for hours by the thugs and threatened with indictment because of my work in raising funds for the defense of Moyer, Haywood and Pettibone. Any charge to keep me locked up where they hope to torture me into servility. We are all on the job. comrades who are not locked up.

We must have immediate assistance. This is the greatest fight Socialists have ever encountered in the U. S. All California threatened with a similar war of extermination of the rebels.

Send all monies to

Kasper Bauer, Treas.
Free Speech League, 335 Union Building, San Diego, Cal.

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To the above we append the following personal note from Comrade Morgan, dated March 19:

Dear Hickey: For God's sake get busy in Texas Tom and get us some funds here. They unloaded rifles at city jail today. They are threatening civil war. I leave tonight for Los Angeles to raise money. It will take men of iron and lots of coin to go through, and we must go through even if we go to hell.

Yours for whatever is on the way.

J. Ed. Morgan.

## DEBS IN LEAD.

A nation-wide poll of sentiment for presidential candidates which was taken by the Newspaper Enterprise Association, and which was made public yesterday, discloses some interesting information about the growth of Socialist sentiment in the United States.

In five states Eugene V. Debs runs way ahead of the Democratic candidate. These states are Indiana, Nebraska, Utah, California and Washington.

In Indiana, Nebraska and Utah, Debs in addition beats all Republican candidates except Roosevelt.

## *STATE MOVEMENT.*

*(E. A. Green, State Secretary.)*

J. C. Harrot, of Josserand has been nominated for congress in the 7th district. Who's next?

Agitate, demand justice, fight for liberty plant that cotton patch, start something, DO IT NOW.

The comrades of El Paso are engaged in a fight in the courts of that town for free speech. They also announce that they will organize a Mexican branch there soon

Secretaries in making reports please be sure to state how many stamps are wanted for lady members. Otherwise all stamps will be charged for at male prices.

This is March 30, Forty-four hundred due stamps have already been paid for and mailed out of this office this month. Fifty-two new charters since March 1st.

James B. Goode, the revolutionary rooter who is causing Democratic hair to curl around Corsicana has taken steps to organize the Sixth congressional district and to get out a candidate for congress therein.

Rev. W. M. Higgins is waking in Young county. All locals wanting their names on the regular lecture list and who will arrange a meeting for any speaker routed through their territory will please notify us at once, so we may get you on our list.

I never belonged to an organization of that kind, but I imagine a local without lady members is like a revival without religion, liable to go dead at any time. Get the ladies in the local and watch business pick up. Dues for women are now only five cents per month.

Seven hundred and fifty new dues paying members have entered the ranks in Texas since the month began. Verily, I say unto you, the Democratic party will make her last successful fight for the robbery of the working class of this great state in the year of our Lord 1912.

On March 16th, in a mass meeting at Lufkin the 13th senatorial district was organized. John Hunt of Homer was elected chairman, Jno. B. Yarbrough of Lufkin, secretary. A referendum will immediately be conducted for the nomination of a candidate for the state senate.

This from Currie after his raid into the Brownsville country: "Glad I made the trip, it was a success from every point, organized at McAllen, Donna, Rivera, Kingsville, Sinton, and Portland. Lectured in the college building at Portland with the principal and several students in attendance. I am starting on the eastern tour full of hope and enthusiasm."

W. W. Landrum 904 Josephine St. Ft. Worth, who has recently been elected secretary of Tarrant county, issues a call to the Socialists of that county to meet at the Red Man's Hall, Ft. Worth, March 30th and 31st, for the purpose of taking steps to get out a ticket. Good, Its high time the comrades in most of the centers of population in Texas were beginning to do something for the movement locally. Take a hunch from John Conne rat Houston and get to work.

Comrades, the Appeal to Reason, the paper that has made more Socialists and done more for our movement and the laboring class in general than all other publications combined is in a desperate fight for life with the dirty minions of capitalism. Furthermore the Appeal has for many months past been getting out a special Texas edition and paying $10 each week into our state treasury and will continue to do so as long as the list remains above 25,000. So flood the Appeal office with solid sympathy in the form of subs. The Socialist sending the Appeal the most subs and sub cards during the month of April (speakers not included) will be presented with a cloth-bound copy of "War—What For?" from this office.

*With the Speakers.*

Reddin Andrews at Big Sandy, March 23; Marshall, 24, 25, 26 and 27; Gladewater, 28, 29 and 30.

J. C. Thompson, direction of Mrs. DeWitt Owen, Sec., Henderhon county, 21 to 26.

Comrades in Delta, Hunt, Collin, Cook, Denton and adjoining counties will please advise this office if they can use Thompson. Write right now.

C. L. Kirkpatrick is available at points along the Texas Central from Cisco to Walnut Springs, also in Somerville and adjacent territory. State how many days you can use him.

P. G. Zimmerman will enter Texas shortly from New Mexico in which state he has been campaigning the past several months with phenomenal success, and will be available for dates anywhere in

## *THE SCHOOLBOARD ELECTION IN DALLAS.*

*(By Nat L. Hardy.)*

The Dallas Socialists nominated a full school board ticket at a mass meeting, Wednesday night March 13th. The candidates are Geo. ton Edwards, a graduate of Harvard University, and a teacher of many years experience in the Dallas public schools. Mr. Edwards has been prominent in the labor movement in Dallas for a number of years. V. C. Westfall, sec, Machinists Union; J. J. Casey, member of the Carpenters Union; R. H. Campbell, president of the Central Labor Council, and local organizer of American Federation of Labor; Z Giddings an old-timer in the Dallas Socialist movement; Mrs. E. L. McNutt; Miss Louise Crowley; both nurses of many years experience.

The campaign is being conducted on a platform of seven vital issues to the schools, briefly the platform is: 1st. Free text books; 2nd. A public school survey; 3rd. Healthful lunches sold in penny portions; 4th Free kindergartens; 5th. Smaller classes and better pay for teachers in ward dschools; 6th. Medical inspection; 7th. Extension of the use of the public school buildings for social purposes.

The main work of the campaign has been distributing cards containing a list of the nominees and their platform. The campaign committee is publishing a series of advertisements in the Dallas Dispatch which has over 20,000 circulation in the city, with extensive argument for the different planks of the platform and the general principles of Socialism.

The opposition is what is known as the merit system league, and their platform is merely a weak echo of the ocialist platform. The Socialists will undoubtedly poll a large vote and perhaps elect the entire ticket.

## *ANOTHER THOUGHT.*

I got this one on a railroad train, running from Ennis to Dallas. A drummer leaned across the seat and said to me: "I have been in Rockdale recently and met that six-foot giant who is secretary of your party organization. He had a few minutes spare time and, to my astonishment, threw open his books and showed me how the whole machinery of your party is moving in Texas. He explained to me by facts and figures that the movement going in geometrical ratio— 700, 800, 900, 1000 members a month, without any sign of stoppage, and money coming in for due stamps sold from the men and women all on record. I have been thinking about this for four days, and the result of my thought is this: If this thing continues at this ratio for two years, what is going to happen in Austin?"

I leaned over to the traveling man and quietly said: "Sir, this will happen: Governor Colquitt, Joe Bailey, General Davidson, Cone Johnson, and all the other democratic leaders will be politically buried, and the winds of politics will blow fresh and pure from the Red River to the gulf."

"I hope you are right," he said, as he dropped back in his seat and meditatively chewed a cigar.

West Texas. Phil is a fighter of rare ability and never fails to make good. This will probably be your last chance to secure him as he contemplates returning to New Mexico soon to take charge of a paper that will be published in the interest of th cause in that state.

We are endeavoring to route all speakers in Texas who are willing to be routed from this office. When you want a speaker write us and we will do the rest.

We will state that the only way we have of keeping tab on speakers is by a report from the comrades where the work is done. And we hereby ask and insist that immediately after a speaker visits you that you sit down and send this office a full and complete report of his work, give us both his weak and strong points and give us your private opinion freely. We want to grade our speakers and shall use only those who make good on the firing line. In other words we have no pets and will not have any. Its not ourselves, but YOU we are trying to please. Any speaker sent out by this office MUST make good. We have no objection to your using speakers not routed by this office if you care to do so, but don't after engaging them, send complaints concerning them to us. We have troubles enough of our own.

Blanks for making reports on speakers will hereafter be mailed to all those accepting dates.

## *SOUTHERN SOCIALIST NOTES.*

Local Gand Saline. (Texas) has made a motion for national referendum to the effect that it be irrevocably fixed that the national convention be held at Oklahoma City and asks all locals favoring it to send their seconds to the national secretary.

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The New Century an excellent Socialist weekly, published at McAlester Okla., says: "It is a lamentable fact that the ministry as such has no clearly defined attitude on interest or usury." The Rebel would sugest that the preachers take the landlords' collar off and read the Bible awhile.

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St. Louis Labor of March 9th carries a big four column front page story, containing the cheerful information that the Missouri controversy is ended. Both factions have shaken hands. The ranks are united and complete harmony is established. If the N. E. C. had its way, they would have invaded the state and the usual dissention would have continued as a whole. The longer a sane Socialist looks at this N. E. C. fraud, the more he feels like taking a stuffed club and beating the shallow pated yaps who support it, to their political graveyard. The one black spot in Berger's brilliant record was placed upon him when he foolishly fell for the chief wiles of these insignificant bureaucrats.

and write well, but I stay with them Was raised an orphan and did not learn to write until my 21st year. When father and mother died we had a good home, but I never got a cent from that home which my mother went into the field and plowed for in the hope of preserving it for her children. The place was taken away from us children and sold by an unprincipaled guardian before we came of age. I tell you, comrade, I am going to fight the system that lets one set of men rob orphans and widows of their homes. I mean a HOME, not a lot of land to be all fenced up and posted. I mean just what I can work and make a living on. The Socialists are the only people that will guarantee every worker a home." Capitalism on the other hand, guarantees every man a good chance for a rented shack, coarse food, shoddy clothes, poor education and everything else that stunts body, mind and soul.

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Jas. T. Durrett, Searles, Ala., writes: "Enclosed you will find a clipping from the West Alabama Breeze, showing up the navy crazy Hobson of the Merrimac fame, the woman busser and fancier, misrepresentative from the sixth congressional district of Alabama, who deliberately acknowledges that the government is out of the hands of the people." The clipping is from the leading Democratic newspaper of Tucalousa county, Ala., and there is no lack of argument against that martial popinjay. It winds up with the following sensible comment: "An examination of the ecords and the speeches made by Mr. Hobson discloses that nearly all of them are speeches exploiting his military ideas, and we find running thrugh them many statements like the following: War is a visible certainty—it cannot be far off—actual war between us and Japan; within twenty months we will be at war with Japan—etc. This subject seems to be the burden of Mr. Hobson's life. Beware of such men as he and Roosevelt. They will plunge this nation into war. Let conservatism be your watchword."

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A colored renter from Kaufman writes: "I see much complaint about the colored renter underbidding the white renter I admit that many do this; but it is also true that many white renters do the same to one another and we should not be bitter against the poor devils who do this; it is the system that drives them into 'cutting one anothers throats." However the Renters Union will soon be a power in the land, and there will no doubt a similar organization for the colored people, which will put a stop to this "throat cutting" between renters, both white and black. And with the aid of a class-conscious ballot, they will further put a stop to the political power of the land monopolists and their tools of the Bailey, Johnson, Culberson, Colquitt ilk.

Col. G. W. Walston, of Oakwood, ("colonel" of the Leon county Rebs), writes that organization is looking up in his county. He is one of the original fighters there. In his letter he gives an interesting side-light on how this system makes Socialists: "I can't read

## *FLASHES FROM CORRESPONDENTS.*

They are going some at Ardmore, Okla. The Social Democrat of that town says: "Twenty per cent is not the highest, but 20 per cent is the average interest paid to the Ardmore banks by the proletarians, or hirelings, or tenants, or two-legged work animals of Carter county. This is based on the statements of several farmers and the confession of a banker of Ardmore."

• • •

This is an out of the way place and there has been no speaking on Socialism in this part of the country. So if any of you know of a speaker that could be induced to come in this part of the country, let me hear from you. For I know of many here who say they are Socialists, but have never heard one speak.

Your comrade,
Jim Windham.

Pontotoc. Texas.

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A Cresson (Hood co.) comrade writes: "The Santa Fe section foreman here has threatened to fire his men if they join our local and the men that work for him would me on starvation if they lost their jobs. So we have selected a man to canvass this town and get subscriptions for the Rebel. and fight damnable slavery of this sort in every way possible."

This comrade is a former Oklahoman. They are some fighters over there, themselves.

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County Secretary M. A. Anderson, writes: "We are Socialists and would like to organize a local but we made nothin' last year and are not able to pay the fifteen cents monthly dues.

"This is what a enton county comrade wrote me. in answer to my letter explaining how to organize and conduct a local. We find these conditions all over the country. The dues of the Socialist party will have to be decreased. The membership should pay not more than fiv cents per month. All meetings of committees should be abolished. The work of the national and state office should be reduced one man ought to attend to eithe rof them. After the party is kept pure by the locals."

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H. L. Cook, R2, Montague, Tex., writes: "Dear comrades of Montague county. As I have been elected county chairman, I want every class-conscious Socialist in Montague county to write me a card or letter giving suggestions as to how to proceed in our county campaign. Present this matter to your local if you have one and if none, then talk the matter over with those in your community that yon know to be Socialists. I am aware that to a great extent our county is unorganized, therefore we appeal to you to assist in getting everything in shape for a lively and prosperous campaign. Attend to this at once."

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Z. P. H. Winter, Munday, Tex., writes: "I see in last week's Rebel the names of some of my old friends in Seurty county, that used to fight Socialism. Boys, I knew you were too good to stand in the background.

"I have had a time in this county but am proud to say we are gaining ground fast. They said when I came here that if a man talked about the good things of the Socialist party he would soon have to leave, but I am in the gin business at this place and have ginned more cotton than any gin in Knox county and am the same old boy still, working and praying for victory of the working class. Find enclosed herewith a list of subs, am paying this bill myself. Wish I could send in a thousand names."

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*Section Boss Philosophy.*

A Frisco section boss who is a Socialist and has gotten all his "hands" into a Socialist local gets off the following for section hands in general: "Say, you fellows that work on the section for $1.50 per day if you don't think the railroad owns you like a horse then why did they lay you off the other day when it rained? A section hand is cheaper than a hors. When one hand dies another takes ris place and when a horse dies the b oss has to buy a new one and feed him and care for him whether he is sick or not.

A section hand earns $2480 per months and geet $480. Now if you lose your job you will go hungry, and another fellow will take your place and the profit takers will get the $2000 just the same. How do you like it?

"Would it not be nice just to stand at your door and let the horses saddle and harness theselves like the working men do?"

• • •

Victoria, Texas, Mar. 19, 1912.

Editor Rebel: Having read The Rebel quite extensively as members of local Victoria and believing as you set forth in the Rebel that centralized power in the Socialist party is determined to its usefulness and harmony of its membership, therefore be it

*Resolved,* by local Victoria in regular session that we heartily endorse the position taken by the editor of The Rebel in opposition to centralization of political power as advocated by a goodly number of the N. E. C. and we also commend our comrade in his heroic stand for decentralization which means true democracy and state autonomy Be is further,

*Resolved,* That in our humble opinion the N. E. C. is an expensive and unnecessary appendage to the Socialist party and the article creating it should be repealed.

M. L. Vawter, Sec.
D. Coleman, Chair.

["Decentralization" will be the issue in the coming national convention and the Texas delegation will lead in the fight. The Victoria rebels plainly have their ears to the ground.—Ed.]

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*Hardin County Convention*

The Socialists of Hardin county, (Tex.) the first week in convention for the purpose of adopting a county platform and nominating candiates for all the county offices, as follows: County judge W. J. Collins, Olive; county chairman, J. E Crisp, Batson; county Attorney, J. D. McMillan, Thicket; district clerk, P. D. Holland, Saratoga; county clerk, Jim Griffin, Olive; surveyor, Ode Gilchrease, Saratoga; school superintendent, Miss Martha Wiggins; sheriff, J. L. Flower, Olive; tax assessor, W. H. Neff, Kountze; tax collector, Louis Williams, Olive; treasurer, I. T. Watson, Sour Lake; commissioners, precinct No. 1, A. D. Oliver, ountze; No. 2, J. B. Warden, Nona; No. 3, Jim Hill, Honey Island; No. Babe Badgely.

The convention declared its allegations to the principles of international Socialism as expressed in national and state platforms. Some of the immediate demands called for the initiative, referendum and recall; for the abolition of the poll-tax qualification compulsory education with free text books and supplies, the repeal of the present road working law; for the election of twelve grand jurymen; and for the introduction of the Juvenile court system Other demands called for the establishment of a county hospital, the installation of a telephone system, for construction of public works by county officials and not by contract. To prevent discrimination, a demand was made that all taxes on real estate be published under oath.

DelOegates wer present from all parts of the county and much enthusiasm was manifested. It is confidently asserted that the Socialists will easily elect some of their men if not all of them.

S. F. Rigby,
County Secretary.

## *TO MY CORRESPONDENTS.*

Comrades, I want you to be lenient with me. Please don't get mad if your letters are not answered. Don't think that I am discourteous. The only reason that I am not replying is that I am doing three men's work. I am making seven speeches a week in five different towns and writing fourteen columns for each and every issue of The Rebel E. R. Meitzen ships me each week by express about 150 exchanges and from 75 to 100 letters. I employ a stenographer and by working all night two nights in the week, I manage to keep up with my editorial work, but, naturally, my correspondence work is shot to pieces, so don't get mad if you are not replied to. I expect in my travels to meet most of you face to face

Your friend and comrade,
T. A. Hickey.

## *HICKEY'S TOUR.*

Oakwood, March 26.
Flint, Mach 27, 8 p. m.
Jacksonville, March 28.
Tona, March 29.
Cooper, March 30.
Gainesville, April 1.
St. Jo, April 3.
Henrietta, April 4.
Vernon, April 5.
Elmer, Ok., April 6.

Eggs from prize winning Barred Rocks, $1 for 15. Mrs. Hattie Young, Route 6, Troupe, Tex. a20

## *OUR REBS.*

This is number 38 and while the rebels have done a little better than last week, they will have to get busier in order to keep up that steady weekly gain when No. 40 comes. Then is when the "offs" will begin to pile up fast and that is when every Reb must get on the job, if he does not want the greatest newspaper in the South hampered in its usefulness.

The greatest campaign in the history of Texas and the South will be fought this fall and The Rebel must be in ship-shape for it. It has already done wonders, hampered as it has been. What can't it do if it had twice 20,000 readers?

*Subgetters This Week.*

T. M. Woodall, Smiley, 15; O. A. McMonony, Duncan, Okla., 6; J. E. Woods, Duncan, Okla., 6; E. J. Parson, Mineola, 4; D. J. Halley, Kemp, 5; E. W. Johnson, Scott, New Mex., 4; A. E. Satterwhite, Ranger, 5; Lee Gollehan, Gorman, 4; W. L. Myers, Williamsport, Pa., 4; A. H. Lowery, Royse, 4; W. B. Tomlinson, Blake, 4; A. A. Tannehill, Granger, 4; T. N. Wade, Reagan, 5; H. C. Johnson, Madison, 4; A. L. McClathery, Corsicana, 5; J. M. Sykes, Ellen, 7; W. T. Williams, Grand Falls, 6; R. Norton, Groesbeck, 4; Lonie Roemer, Lamberton, Minn., 4; J M. Dafft, Weldon, 4; Z. J. Ham, Nottawa, 4; H. C. Powers, Floydada, 5; J. W. Green, Voss, 4; G. L. Proctor, Copperas Cove, 4; W. L. Gaines, Bomarton, 4; A. B. Wagner, Lexington, 4.

*Press Fund*

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|---|---|
| Previously received | $217.75 |
| This week | 28.00 |
| Total | $245.75 |

More readers advance their subscription this week from three to five years. This counts big on the press fund. Remember the rates are $1 for three years; $1.50 for five years; $5.00 for life.

## *THE COMING BREAK-UP IN THE SOUTH.*

*(By Pendragon.)*

Says the Waco Times-Herald: "The war is over; sectional bitterness is allayed. Mr. Taft took a Confederate soldier and a Democrat and made him Chief Justice of the Supreme court. Nothing sectional can be charged to the Taft administration. Then why should not men who agree with that administration on economic subjects go to Mr. Taft's support? Judge Maxey, were he pressed for an expression, would, we believe, admit that he is with Woodrow Wilson.

"Try to disguise it as men may, the time has arrived for the breakup here in the South. There will be a contest for control of the party machinery, but that's only nominal, the issues are insistent and they must divide the sheep from the goats. This is not saying which are the sheep and which are the goats, but it is saying protectionists and free traders can not remain as members of the same o rganization. The race issue is gone, never to be revived, we trust. This allows for separation, and that process is now under way. If Rice Maxey is a Democrat, then the supporters of Woodrow Wilson in Texas are not Democrats, and there's no sense in trying to conceal it."

Yes, Brother Robinson, there is a political break-up coming in the outh—the same as it is coming in the East and the West.

But it won't be here in the South, here in theCMFWYPFP South, a mere unmasking of protective-tariff republicans who have heretofore operated inside of the democratic party.

It will be a revolt of the workers in both democratic and republican parties, under the flag of Socialism, against the combined forces of the exploiters who now control both the democratis nd republican parties.

Milwaukee, a city of over 400,000 inhabitants which has been under Socialist management for two years, affords a perfect illustration of what is coming. In that city the exploiters who have heretofore controlled both the remocratic and republican parties have now united in one so-called "non-partisan" party, and put up a thicket to oppose the Socialist ticket. The "non-partisans" admit that the sole issue is Socialism vs. anti-Socialism. The exploiters vs. the workers. Profit, rent and interest vs. full-value wages for the men and women whose labor produces all wealth. Graft vs. the square deal.

The break-up in the South will come on exactly those lines.

# NOTE AND COMMENT -- By "PENDRAGON"

## Submerging the Individual.

In a recent number of The Rebel Pendragon took for a text the statement by Editor George Robinson of the Waco Times-Herald that—

"The American people must go back to Thomas Jefferson or forward to Karl Marx; the existing order is illogical and therefore unendurable".

Pendragon told Editor Robinson this country is going forward, not back; forward to economical freedom as well as political freedom

Editor Robinson replied in his own papr, ascribing The Rebel's comment to Comrade Tom Hickey. Tom may take a fall out of him at his own pleasure, but this particular scrap belongs to Pendragon. My Waco contemporary wrote a column to show that the American people ought to go backward 100 years for their political philosophy. It was like a man arguing that a black cat ought to be white—a delightful piece of literary moonshine, but didn't get anywhere in particular. Only in the concluding paragraph did Editor Robinson say anything that a man could lay hands onto for argument. There he said:

"The Alpha and Omega of our political creed is the individual, whereas you would submerge the individual in the mass. Does not all history show that liberty is lost when the individual is submerged?"

Precisely. **Capitalism has submerged the individual.** It has submerged him under a depotism of corporate ownership and operation of all the machinery by which most of the necessaries of life are made and distributed. It has submerged the individual under governments composed of agents of the corporate monopolists. It has submerged the individual—millions of them—by making it impossible for him to engage in profit-taking business, in the old Jeffersonian way, on his own account. It has reduced him--millions of him--to the level of a bare-subsistence wage-earner in the employ of the corporate masters of the common wealth. So doing, as Editor Robinson truly declares, capitalism has caused the individual to lose his liberty. He can still vote, but he cannot be sure of a job by which to earn his bread and his family's bread. He is free to talk and vote and starve, but he is not free to command work, not even at starvation wages. He is free to sell himself and his family into bare-subsistence slavery on a tenant farm, provided he can induce one of the lords of the earth to give him a trial, but he is not free to command, and get, as his natural right, access to a piece of the land, our common inheritance, and there to take for himself the whole product of his labor.

**It is precisely because the individual has been submerged, Brother Robinson, that he has lost his liberty.**

**Socialism proposes to restore his liberty, and enlarge it, by taking the tools of wealth production from the corporate monopolists and making them public property.**

I suppose that when the people own and operate all the industries now monopolized by little gangs of incorporated private citizens, and when in consequence every man that wants to work can get work, and can get paid for his work the full value of what he creates, less his share of the cost of operation, the individual will be completely submerged. That is, when you enlarge a man's liberties, you sink him still deeper into slavery. When you take a poor devil that can't get any kind of a job, at any wages, and give him a social guarantee of work as long as he wants it, at wages three or four times as high as he has ever been able to earn under capitalism, you do him a frightful wrong. Sure!

The individual is submerged today, when he is lucky enough to have a job, by his necessity to create not only wealth enough to pay his own wages, but also to create an extra "profit" for his employer.

The fact that under the competitive system most employers didn't make any profit did not lighten the burden of the worker. If competition between employers for business was so keen that they cut the prices of products below the profit line, that didn't help the worker any. On the other hand, his wages had to be cut still lower, to save the employer from loss.

Under the reign of our vast industrial monopolies, which dominate nearly all American industries—manufacturing and transporting—the individual is submerged by his inability to get a job at his trade anywhere else except in the employ of the monopoly, which controls all or nearly all the work in that trade. So the worker takes what he must—usually just enough to keep him alive. **He works, so to speak, in a cellar with a rock roof. Above the roof lives the monopolist, chartered by the government to run the business and take the "profits". The worker creates the monopoly's wealth in the cellar and pulls the rope that hoists it up to the monopolist.**

Submerging the individual—well, I should say so!

That's just what ails us now. That's the cause of all the "social rest" about which learned capitalistic editors and college professors talk at such length and so vaguely.

**The individual means to get up out of the cellar in which capitalism has submerged him, and socialism is the ladder on which he will mount.**

**When he gets above ground, owner of his job, getting full value for his labor, he will demonstrate that the individual doesn't "lose his liberty" by gaining it.**

If Editor Robinson meant, however, that Socialism would submerge the kind of individuals who now rule the masses of the workers by taking toll of their labor and dictating the make-up of governments, then Pendragon will agree with him that this class of individuals will lose some of their liberty. **They will lose their liberty to enslave any other man, woman or child. They will lose their liberty to live in places built with money stolen from the labor product of workers whom they condem to live in shacks and tenements. They will lose their liberty to dictate the composition of governments. They will lose their liberty to withhold from any man free access to the tools of production. They will lose their liberty to breed sons to live in idleness and squander money filched by fathers from the labor product of workers. They will lose their liberty to drive 60,000 poor white girls every year into the ranks of prostitution, there to join the ghastly army of half a million that have gone before. They will lose their liberty to line up soldiers, with bayonetted rifles in hand, to tear babies from the breasts of free American white women, as they did recently at Lawrence. They will lose their liberty to appoint federal judges with the understanding that all laws passed to benefit the people as against the monopolists are to be declared "unconstitutional."**

**But even these monopolistic individuals will gain something better in exchange for these "liberties" which they will lose under socialism.** They will gain acquaintance with the simple life; with the splendid humanizing spirit of brotherhood, with the sweetness of bread that has been earned in the sweat of the brow; with such peace and security, founded upon the social guaranty against want for themselves or their descendants, as men have never known anywhere in the world. They will not be submerged. To the contrary they will share the general social guaranty against any man's being submerged. They will be brought back to the social level, as those whom they now rob and submerge will be brought up to a rational social level.

**There is enough new wealth produced each year in the United States, even with the present criminally wasteful use of our industrial machinery, to give each family more than $2500 a year. Under socialism, with the army of six or seven million non-producing middlemen enlisted in the ranks of productive labor, that average will undoubtedly amount to $4000 or $5000 a year for every family. And at that the average working day could be cut to five or six hours.**

That's a frightful prospect, isn't it—the prospect of seeing the individual "submerged" under an average income of $2500 to $5000 a year for each family!

How would you, Mr. Rebel, or you, Mrs. Rebel, like to be "submerged" that way? Horrible thought, isn't it.

The simple fact is, Editor Robinson knows which way this people are going and he knows they are not going back into the political graveyard of 1810 for their political policy of the year 1912. He knows they are going forward, as well as anybody.

**He knows the American people, if they don't speedily make public property of the properties now owned by private monopolies, are going to be peonized like the Mexicans within the next generation.** And he knows there is too much intelligence, too much fighting spirit in the American people to submit to be peonized.

He knows the lumber trust absolutely dominates the lumber trade of Texas. He knows that if any small lumber manufacturer sells a bill of lumber to a private individual in any town where there is a local lumber yard, the trust promptly gets that small manufacturer's hide and nails it on the wall.

He knows the Standard Oil trust absolutely dominates the oil trade of Texas, and that the harvester trust dominates the trade in farm machinery. He knows these things, and he knows these trusts are constantly tightenig their grip on the people of Texas, and he knows the attorney general of Texas has laid down on his job—won't prosecute any trust, even when proof of their guilt is laid before him.

Editor Robinson knows a lot more than he lets on to know.

**Meantime, I hope Rebel readers who are earning $40,000 to $50,000 a year will be careful not to get tainted with Socialism, because if they do they will be in danger of getting "submerged" to the $5000-a-year level and losing their liberty.**

## Those That Walk in Darkness.

Men and women who know what socialism is, what it means, what it will do for humanity when it is brought into full action, sometimes wonder why others, their neighbrs, don't see it too.

Some folks are born ahead of their times; most people are born belated. Give the majority time enough, and it will catch up. Remember, too, that most people still get their ideas from papers edited by old-party thinkers who draw pay from big capitalists. If these men did get a glimpse of modern thought, if they did begin to see, even faintly, the glory of socialism, they would shut their eyes tighter than ever. They have grown up in mental darkness, and the light hurts their eyes. They are "them that walk in darkness." Here's a sample of the dope they hand out to their readers. It is from State Topics, Houston. The editor says:

"State Topics cannot subscribe to any Socialist doctrines. Undoubtedly the believers in Socialism are sincere and many of them well-meaning, but the Socialists promise too much. It is not so much more laws we need as it is impartial enforcement of the laws already encumbering the statute books of both State and Nation. Every person knows that our laws are not fairly construed by the courts, but this cannot be remedied by overthrowing all forms of Government.

**"Bench and bar must, in order to preserve this Government, make up their mind that the people are aroused and demand a change in court procedure and in court methods. When they do fully appreciate the gravity of the situation they may be relied upon to bring about the remedy which lies entirely in their power.** The courts are a joke and are not entitled to any more respect than they themselves create. Inherently every citizen is in favor of law and order, but with such flagrant miscarriages of justice as are every day witnessed, it is not to be wondered that the masses have little respect for the judiciary. Like individuals, courts are judged by their actions and not by what they promise or profess.

"In one of the leading magazines a series of articles is being run which declare that "Big Business" is in absolute control of the courts of all classes, high and low. Whether these articles can be substantiated remains to be seen. At all events, the average individual firmly believes all that is alleged to be true. These articles will shake the confidence in our judiciary, and it will be useless for lawyers to attempt to refute the allegations. The lawyers must assist in sending only men of lofty character to our Legislature, and to congress, and to support no man for a judicial position who is not both honest and capable. Lawyers are to blame for evil conditions because laws are made by lawyers as well as construed by them, consequently, instead of seeking relief from Socialism, call upon the legal fraternity to assert their patriotism and purge their ranks of the thousands of shysters and snitches who have licenses to practice law, but are unworthy both as men and as lawyers."

In other words, you tenant farmers who are being robbed of the fruits of your toil, and you city workingmen who are being exploited to pay dividends on the watered stocks and bonds of corporations—you are to call on the "bench and bar" to rid their profession of the "shysters and snitches" and all will be well with the world.

Don't bother about child wage slavery, or the enforced prostitution of 500 thousand American women and girls, or the grinding poverty of millions of workers' wives and children, or the big grafts worked through trust control of government—just call on the **lawyers to reform!**

**Pendragon begs leave to amend that motion by adding to the lawyers and the judges the old-fogy editors. If we can get the concentrated** effort of this aggregation of economic genius focussed on reform—the workers will have an easier job recovering their stolen property from the big corporate thieves.

It may be worth trying. If it works, then call on the ticks to eradicate Texas fever, on the fleas to cure the mange, and on the hookworms to inspire their victims with new hope and energy.

Joking aside, it is the constant daily and weekly publication—and reading, presumably—of just such stupefying dope, on millions of pages and by millions of people, that makes the task of establishing Socialism so much longer and harder than it ought to be.

Men who write that kind of dope, and men who habitually read it, are walking in mental darkness. **The best neigborly service you can do them is to put their names on the Rebel's subscription list. The light may hurt the eyes at first, but they'll get used to it before long, and thank you.**

## The Texas Democratic Layout.

When statewide prohibition was submitted to Texas voters last year the antis won by about 6000 votes. Fifty thousand to sixty thousand republicans voted with the antis. A big majority of democratic votes were cast for prohibition.

Colonel Wolters, the anti leader, is now running for the senate—Bailey's seat. He doesn't want to face the pro issue again, inside the democratic primary, and without the help of the 50,000 or 60,000 republican votes that helped him defeat the pro amendment last year.

So he and his backers—the Bailey protective tariff crowd—are trying to sidetrack the pro issue in the senatorial race and make Baileyism the main issue. They are scheming to split the North Texas pros, so as to keep them from voting for Cone Johnson, the pro candidate for the senate. If the Bailey bunch think they can switch the North Texas pros from Johnson to Wolters, they will play it that way. If they think they can take those votes from Johnson but can't deliver them to Wolters, they will put a Bailey pro candidate in the race. Anything to split the pro vote and insure a plurality for Colonel Jake in the July primary.

Bailey's gang played this trick on Johnson in the governorship race in 1910. They put Bill Poindexter of Cleburne, a Bailey pro, into the race and by splitting the pro vote enabled Colquitt to win a plurality nomination. Maybe they can turn the trick a second time.

Johnson is in no position to heave any bricks at Wolters, for being a brewery candidate. Johnson himself, years ago, as a brewery attorney and political agent, fought county prohibition in most every county in East Texas. It was not until East Texas counties all or nearly all went dry that Johnson switched to the pro side and became the apostle of morality.

With these Texas democratic leaders, it is any old way to land the office. Most of them have been on both sides of every issue.

The Bailey crowd doesn't care a hoot for prohibition either way, except as a means of electing a protective tariff, anti-direct legislation senator. The protected special interests of Texas—headed by the lumber and oil trusts—are bound to protect their tariff graft if possible, and incidentally they want to make sure of a senator who will oppose any extension of popular government.

The daily papers of Texas discuss this campaign seriously, as if there were really important issues at stake. The fact is, it is a mere crooked, tricky—and, from the socialist viewpoint—an ignorant scramble for office and official power.

Not one of these "big men" has given any evidence that he knows the rudiments of modern political economy, nor that he has even a faint intimation of the social and industrial revolution which is now taking place throughout the world.

Not one of them has shown any intelligent interest in the needs of the workers, in city and country, nor any knowledge of how those needs must be satisfied.

It surely is the donk party, judged by its "leaders"; luckily, thousands of the democratic rank and file are getting wise to the real facts, and are heading into the socialist party, the only really democratic party now in the field.

## Poor John Mitchell.

John Mitchell, ex-leader of the union miners, has lost his way. He is helping the enemies of the workers keep the chains of capitalism fixed on their limbs. In Milwaukee, where both old parties have united to fight the socialist party, Mitchell got up a few nights ago and made a speech for the allied forces of capitalism. He tried to injure his fellow workmen who are fighting under the banner of social democracy for a genuinely democratic government in Milwaukee.

Notwithstanding nine daily papers and all the other forces of capitalism rallied to boost Mitchell's speech, only 382 people came out to hear him.

The rich hold him in contempt; they have bought him, and don't want to hear him. The workers either pity or hate him, as a man whom they honored and who later, for a big salary and "society honors", went over to the side of the exploiters.

Poor John Mitchell.

What could Mitchell tell the 382?

Why, if he told the truth, he could only tell them that the socialist administration of Milwaukee has been the cleanest, the fairest, the most progressive the city ever had. That under socialist government Milwaukee has prospered in every way. That the socialist administration has been absolutely free from even the suspicion of graft, which disgraced all previous administrations. That crime and vice have been checked as never before. That in spite of the opposition of a capitalistic legislature progress has been made toward the socializing of public services in Milwaukee. That union labor, and non-union labor too, has been protected from capitalist oppression, by the Socialist city government, as it never has been protected by any administration in any American city before.

What advice could Mitchell give the 382?

Could he, under the circumstances, remind them that they are sovereign citizens of a free republic?

Or was he bound, being where and what he was to advise them, **"Servants obey your masters?"**

The tragedy of it is, that John Mitchell, endowed by nature with mental ability to become a loved leader of humanity in its fight for freedom, has thrown away his fame and sacrificed the trust of his fellows, so that they no longer wish to hear his advice on any subject.

Poor John Mitchell! He betrayed not only his class, but the cause of humanity.