Total subs previously reported	23,094
News subs last week	473
No. expiring subs last week	380
Gain for the week	93
Total No. subscribers this date	

23,187

THE REBEL

THE GREAT APPEAR GREAT TO US ONLY BECAUSE WE ARE ON OUR KNEES — LET US ARISE.

T. A. HICKEY, Editor and Owner.

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If this No. is opposite your name your subsciption expires next issue 92

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HALLETTSVILLE, TEXAS, SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 1913. No 91

A TYPICAL "DONK" LEGISLATURE

THE THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLAURE.

The Thirty-third legislature consists of 142 men in the House and 31 in the Senate—mostly fools.

The foolish ones believe that they are engaged in the work of legislating for four million people.

The wise ones know that the Commercial Secretaries are the ones that are doing the work.

The work was so coarse and raw that the Dallas News recommended last week that a change should be made in the payment of senators and representatives because, said the News: "Men of ability will not work for wages; they must receive salaries."

As usual the muzzled News made a stupid break, because men of real ability who knew what they wanted and how to get it, were being p[illegible] $2 a day and if you do not believe The Rebel I will merely point o[illegible] the fact that such distinguished millionaires as John H. Kirby, [illegible]is J. Wortham and Capt. Paddock worked hard and long for the [illegible]o per, although they paid twice that sum for the carnations they w[illegible] on their coats and distributed among their friends.

H[illegible] well these men worked can be seen from the fact that every measure introduced that carried within it the slightest evidence of progressive tendencies was killed. They killed the recall, the initiative and referendum, the women's fifty-four hour bill, the land amendment and every other measure that might redound to the people's welfare.

If this legislature were picked up bodily and dropped into the capitols of Pennsylvania, New York or Massachusetts and the membership of any of these reactionary state legislatures were dumped in Austin the only difference the observer might notice, would be that the headgear was different, the carnations were absent and the voices were not so coarse—the spirit of the twain is alike.

Just as in the reactionary capitals of the east, the reactionary work was made possible by the great muzzled dailies of the state. No more courteous body of men can be met anywhere than the newspaper men who are on the staff of the big dailies, but each man has instructions as to how he shall write and as to what he shall say, consequently the people at large know but little of what is doing on the inside.

The Rebel remained at Austin for one week and spent many weary hours watching the game from the galleries. In the House an Anti lawyer named Terrell from San Antonio was speaker and he was elected by the Pros. In the Senate a Pro editor from Brownwood presided and he was elected with the Antis concurring. No reactionist feared this Pro because he fought union labor in Brownwood bitterly for years and turned his paper, The Brownwood Bulletin, into a "rat" shop. Both presiding officers merely mirrored those that sat beneath them, for both are strong corporation men.

When the Senate and House had elected the reactionary Pro and Anti to rule over their deliberations it would be of course foolish to imagine that any beneficial legislation for the masses could be passed. Hence the posted observer who longed to see Texas make a forward move must have felt saddened as he watched this legislative bunko game and yet there were moments when the seeming tragedy was turned into a farce comedy that convulsed the galleries. One of these occasions came in this wise: One of the Pro representatives got on a terrific toot. For twenty days he was absent from his seat while he vainly tried to drink up all the joy water in Austin. When Representative Bagby, the Anti leader for tactical reasons and believeing that the Pros misrepresentatives were not sincere, introduced a rabid prohibition measure that provided for the very strongest kind of prohibition our bibulous Pro friend staggered down the aisle with flushed cheeks and dishevelled hair and to an accompaniment of wildly waving arms he addressed the House and said:

"You shall not crucify the prohibition movement on the cross of fanaticism."

This brought down the house and galleries and broke up the proceedings for a couple of minutes. It was the one great human picture of the Pro and Anti debate that has consumed most of the time of the legislature, time that should have been devoted, if it were an honest legislature, to bills that would have benefitted the masses of the people.

Another incident that illustrates how the game works happened this way:

Louis J. Wortham, who is the owner of the Fort Worth Daily Star-Telegram, was standing one day on the floor of the chamber with his arm around the shoulder of a little nine-year-old page boy. Said a representative to Wortham: "How are you and your partner getting along?" Wortham patted the child on the head and said: "We are both getting through life on a $2 per day." Then all the wise ones laughed.

I wish that I could fill the galleries day by day with renters of Texas who vote the democratic ticket and, while pointing out the senators and representatives, ask the Democratic renters this question: "Here are 142 men in the House. Where is your kith and kin.? Where is the man of your class that works in the fields beside you? Where are the men that wear your kind of clothes, eat your kind of food and associate with your sons and daughters?"

The answer would indeed be illuminating, because there are no renters or small farmers there. I have gone along the list of names of those in the Senate and House and inquired as to their occupations. That list I publish elsewhere in this issue.

Suffice to say, the overwhelming majority of them are lawyers, then follow editors, then bankers and merchants, but as to farmers, mechanics and laborers and renters, they are conspicuous by their absence.

Need we wonder then that no forward step was taken? Need we wonder that the railroads secured all the consolidation bills they asked for? Need we wonder that the corporations secured their own legislation and defeated bills that might be beneficial to their own employees? Need we wonder why Texas has lined up with Pennsylvania and is way behind Oregon, Washington, Kansas, Nebraska and other progressive states?

• • •

After all it may be well that the legislature has acted in this way. It demonstrates so vividly the truth so well known by thoughful men that the Democratic party is the Bourbon party of the country. From it nothing good can come and now that it has demonstrated its reactionary character in the leading Democratic state of the nation, so plainly that even the blindest can see, is it too much to hope that two years from now the intelligent patriotic workers of Texas in farm, shop and mill and mine will rally together under the banner of the Socialist party and bury forever the party that has for its emblem the animal called "donk?"

Let us all work and pray and fight that this may be so, is The Rebel's prayer after gazing at the gyrations of the Thirty-third legislature.

THE KILLING OF THE LAND AMENDMENT.

Under date of March 29th, 1913, Senator Paulus writes The Rebel a postal as follows:

> Senate Chamber, Austin, Texas.
>
> Dear Hickey:—Just to say that the committee on constitutional amendments met this morning and postponed indefinitely action on your joint resolution.
>
> Your friend,
>
> Paulus.

In the above words the people of Texas can read the fate of the one great measure framed to alleviate the ills from which the vast majority suffer. It was to be expected. In spite of all the labor, time and expense that we have gone to, to get this amendment before the people The Rebel would say that if the work had to be gone over again we would do exactly as we have done even though the results would be as shown above.

No sensible man who reads The Rebel and understands conditions as they are, expected for a moment that the collection of Pro and Anti misrepresentatives that has been disgracing Texas for the past eighty days could do anything else than kill this land amendment

It is generally known that no measure that is introduced by request can have any hope of passing. Automatically all such measures are killed. It is also well known that a start must be made and we introduced this land amendment so that we could get the Senate on record and prepare to deal with them when they come up for re-election.

Much valuable information that will help us immensely in the coming campaign has been secured by the introduction of the land amendment at this session. During a recess last week the editor of The Rebel walked through the Senate Chamber and conversed with the Senators who were alleged to be progressives and would likely support the amendment. We found that those who would support the amendment if it were brought out of the pigeonhole of the Committee on constitutional amendments were but four out of the thirty-one: Paulus from Lavaca, McNealus from Dallas, Collins from Jefferson and Westbrook from Collin county.

The rest of the Senators were frittering away time on whether we should have open saloons, open clubs, closed saloons and closed clubs, whether prohibitionists were boot-leggers, or boot-leggers were prohibitionists, whether you can make people sober by acts of legislature or not; whether prohibition was a great moral question, or a great political question; whether Paul was right as to his advice about taking wine, and whether the wine that was served at the feast of Canaan was fermented or unfermented. So they wrangled and jangled and fought and the hours passed away and nothing was done.

• • •

As I listened to these idiotic discussions a picture came over my mind something like this:

A great state a thousand miles long and six hundred miles wide. larger than Germany or France and with land more productive than lies within either of these great nations.

I saw four-fifths of this land locked up in the hands of Pro and Anti land-lords. I saw them driving the price of this land out of sight. I saw the population growing. I saw the state's development retarded. I saw the black spectre of peonage that ever follows in the wake of tenantry looming larger and more ominous with the passing of the days.

I saw this great state sunk in a dismal swamp of illiteracy indicated by the fact that although we are the most American state in the Union in population and have less than 17 per cent negro and even the darkies decreasing in population, we stand near the bottom of the list of states in educational affairs.

I saw the women in pregnancy pulling the cotton sack down the row under the Texas burning sun. I saw the children walking to four months school after their labor in the fields was done.

I saw a great state grabbed by the cruel hands of cunning sharks within the space of two generations. I saw the mighty Panhandle with ninety-seven and one-half percent of its vast domain fenced in untouched by the plow.

And then I saw the gaunt hungry regiment of renters two hundred and twenty thousand strong with their wives and children and dependents amounting to over a million souls without one inch of land they could call their own and then I saw that with every tick of the clock the land was receding further and ever further from them. so far as securing possession of it is concerned. I saw homes broken women broken, men discouraged, children's future hopeless, and I saw all this while I listened to the discussion of the State Senate of Texas on the question of saloons and booze.

• • •

Repeatedly The Rebel has branded the pro-anti fight as a fake It is exactly the kind of fight the landlord wants. As long as the legislature can tear a passion to rags over non-essentials so long will exploitation of the masses be rendered easy. It is just the fight that a Rockefeller wants, and (as I will show in another artcle) behind the smoke of this sham pro-anti battle the great interests are putting through their schemes for the further looting of the state.

The Rebel has fought the first skirmish in this gigantic battle against landlordism. Considering the short time that we had to work we can be well pleased with what has already been accomplished Without any preliminary organization we have succeeded in sending petitions amounting to fifteen thousand names, to Austin. We have seen thousands of letters pouring on the astonished legislators.

We have learned that nineteen out of every twenty people approached signed the land amendment petitions gladly. We know the sentiment of the vast majority of the people of Texas are with us in the fight. We know that we can sweep the State of Texas like a cyclone for this amendment two years hence.

We can make this the paramount issue. We can elect a Socialist governor and a legislature upon this issue, and before three years have passed we can kill landlordism in Texas, because the people have shown they are for the land amendment and will destroy whoever stands in its pathway when the next election comes. But one thing is needed and that is organization, education and agitation.

Up then, with the Renters Union. On with the Socialist organization and agitation and victory will soon be ours.

GET THE MUN.

"Did you hear the news?" asked the wise one of the small business man as they met outside the postoffice.

"No, what is it?"

"Well, J. P. Morgan has, passed away in Rome."

"Well," said the small business man philosophically, "that means another great fortune broken up. Three or four generations from now Morgan's millions will all be back in the hands of the people because there is an old saying to the effect that it is three generations between shirt sleeves and shirt sleeves. The grandfather works in his shirt sleeves for his fortune, his descendants spend it and in three generations we find the family back in the shirt sleeves working again as did the founder."

"What sort of a Rip-Van Winkle-like cave have you been buried in anyhow?" queried the wise one, as he grabbed the little business man by the coat and shook him. "Don't you know that guff you have just handed me has played out years ago. Have you never heard of the device of keeping fortunes intact by means of estates in trust. Don't you know that old shirt-sleeve business operates no longer?"

"I don't know any such thing," snapped the little business man. "I have seen it happened in the County Square."

"Oh," remarked the wise one, "I see where you have made your mistake. "You mix up the petty little fortunes of small business men, fortunes amounting to forty, sixty or a hundred thousand dollars, with the colossal riches of the plutocracy and therein is where you make the mistake. Let me illustrate."

A large crowd had gathered by this time and craned their necks to listen to the words of the wise one who was speaking in a slow distinct voice, saying:

"Some years ago George M. Pullman died and left a fortune of forty million dollars. He left behind him two sons who were known in sporting circles everywhere as the Pullman twins. They were the champion long distance drunkards of America, If anybody since their childhood days heard them draw a sober breath, history records it not. They took no part in the business their father left. They knew no more about the construction of a Pullman car than they did of an automobile and yet when they died it was found that they left an estate in spite of all their dissipation that amounted to many millions more than that which their father left them.

"The grand-children of Marshal Field are another case in point The old man's will has provided for forty years to come how the estate shall grow, how many millions each of his grand-sons shall receive at various periods, and every year since his death reveals the fact that the fortune is increasing just as he knew it would increase although he went to other regions several years ago.

"Again, take the Vanderbilt's Since old Comodore Vanderbilt and his son, William K., passed away. the next generation has taken no interest in railroading nor real estate, in fact they spent all their time in Europe; but just as steadily as the moving of an avalanche their property has increased in value and every day and every hour they are further from hope or chance of working in their shirt sleeves."

"Please, tell me sir," said the country banker, interrupting the wise one, "how it happens the children of the wealthy men around the square lose their fortunes their fathers made, while the children of men you have just mentioned do not lose theirs."

"The answer is simple," replied the wise one. "You have the funny notion in your head that people around here die rich, while all the money the richest of you make in a year wouldn't buy flowers for one entertainment that a plutocrat gives to his concubine. The plutocrats own the natural resources of the nation. They own the railroads, the coal, the oil, the lumber, the steel, etc., and thus are in a position to tax the entire nation, while you little fellows around here can merely graft off a few individuals in your immediate vicinity.

"That is the reason why the trust estates grow from generation to generation and can be handed down from father to son just as are the estates of the English nobility. If you will read this clipping from the San Antonio Express of April 1, you will see the size of Morgan's fortune or why it is impossible for his children to dissipate it while the capitalist system lasts.

The wise one then read the following clipping to the assembled crowd:

BANKING CAPITAL AND RESOURCES CONTROLLED BY J. PIERPONT MORGAN.

Equitable Life Assurance Society	$ 462,000,000
New York Life Insurance Company	557,000,000
National Bank of Commerce	244,000,000
First National Bank	184,000,000
Guaranty Trust Company	100,000,000
Mercantile Trust Company	75,000,000
Equitable Trust Company	62,000,000
Bankers' Trust Company	48,000,000
Astor Trust Company	17,000,000
Total	$1,749,000,000

"Now my friends," concluded the wise one, "Mr. Morgan Jr., controlling nearly two billion dollars will have more than that when he dies unless the Socialists come into power in the meantime. For verily I say unto you he is the man that has got the "Mun."

The men and women who are organizing the Renters Union in Oklahoma are featuring the fact that without free access to the land they cannot educate their children. The renters in Texas and the other southern states are in the same fix.

The muzzled press informs us that as a result of the flood in Dayton, Ohio, there are 50,000 people without homes. The Rebel would like to know how many homes these people had before the flood. In Texas we haven't had a flood and we know of 300,000 people who have no homes. *Quien Sabe?*

A working man who would vote for a system that results in his children being deprived of education should be made the chief menial in a Turkish harem.

The Rebel visited at Austin last week. He witnessed the Thirty-third Legislature work for five days. On his return he placed himself into the doctor's hands who recommended fumigation. He is slowly recovering.

I met a yahoo last week who said the capitalist system was eternal. I handed him Dr. Chamberlain's Life of Morgan in which he shows the natural increase of the Rockefeller fortune alone, not to speak of Morgan's, would acquire all America in a hundred years. The yahoo hasn't recovered yet.

Why, oh, why did not Senator Collins live up to the beautiful poem he delivered in the State Senate two years ago. You remember. little one, that angered at the obtuseness and open corruption of the Senators he likened the situated to the farmer whose crops were destroyed by grasshoppers in Nebraska and then he wrote this and nailed it on his door.

"Good bye Nebraska, good bye,
I write on this humble door.
I may go to Hell, you never can tell.
But I'll never come here any more."

A Bonehead From Van Zandt

Down in the free state of Van Zandt there lives a man named D. S. McPhail who is chairman of the Democratic party executive committee of Van Zandt county. The Rebel would like to see that remarkable gentleman, because he is the one man in east Texas who possesses a skull of solid bone 30 inches thick, capable of standing a thirty thousand pound pressure.

Do you doubt this gentle reader? If so, I shall have to refer you to a handbill that he sent out some time since in which he made the following four charges:

1st. Socialism stands for free love and for abolishing marriage.

2nd. Socialism stands for the abolishment of the church and religion.

3rd. Socialism stands for the abolishment of individual ownership of land as well as personal property. ... ...

4th. Socialism stands for social equality between the whites and negroes, and all other races.

• • •

Let us look into these four charges briefly. He tells us that Socialism stands for the abolition of the church and religion. What is his authority for this statement? Is it to be found in the national platform or in the platform of any of the forty-eight states or in the county platform of Van Zandt? The answer is of course "No".

Well, where does he get his authority? He leaves the salt of Grand Saline, passes through the sticks of East Texas, travels through the various states to New York, crosses the ocean to Liverpool, England, rides up to London, travels over to the east end of the wonderful city, and finds a man who wrote a book, called, "God And My Neighbor," then wades through that book, tears a sentence out of its context and upon that basis he declares that Socialism stands for the abolition of the church and religion.

It appears to the Rebel that on his way to the Englishman he might have stopped off at the White House in Washington at any time prior to the 4th of last month and found the President of the United States who is an Unitarian and who positively, flatfootedly and without any equivocation denies the divinity of Jesus Christ.

He might have walked into the Senate Chamber or the House of Representatives and found that the prayer that is heard before the House or Senate commenced business, was delivered by men who have written and preached and taught that Christ was not the Son of God any more than any white man or negro in Van Zandt county.

Would the gentleman then say that the Republican and Democratic representatives who listen without protest to this prayer and fail to condemn the President who agrees with these prayer-givers, are men who stand for the abolishment of the church and religion? If Ex-President Taft and the chaplains of both branches of Congress are correct and they live up to their preachments then every church in Van Zandt county and all orthodox religion in Van Zandt county and in the state of Texas and in the United States that is founded upon the divinity of Jesus must perish from the face of the earth because it is untrue, unscriptural and false according to the teachings of Taft, his chaplains and his Unitarian scholars and friends.

Wherefore the Rebel would ask: If the logic of McPhail is right do not the ex-president and his friends stand for the abolishment of the church and religion?

• • •

McPhail, the man with the marvelous head, then goes on to tell us that Socialism stands for the abolishment of the family and free love. Does not our ivory-skulled friend know that the good book teaches: "By your fruits ye shall be known"? Very well, what about the fruit of the socialist teachings of free love among the neighbors of McPhail? How many free lovers does he know among the thousands of Socialists of Van Zandt county and East Texas? Does he not know that in every home there is a marriage certificate on the wall? Does he not know that the same is true of socialist homes in every portion of the United States? Does he not know that Mr. Bebel, the author of "Woman and Socialism" has worn the white flower of a stainless life for more than the patriarch's span of years and only one short year ago received congratulations from all over the world on the anniversary of his golden wedding that was celebrated in Berlin when with his helpmate by his side he received his friends with his arm around the waist of her who for fifty years had trod the thorny path of life with him alone?

Does he not know that the Edward Carpenter whom he quotes is not now and never was a Socialist? Does he not know that Marx in his Manifesto does not advocate openly legalized community of women any more than the Supreme Court of the State of Texas does when in the past month it handed down a decision legalizing the living together of men and women who have never been married by church or state, but have by word of mouth declared to neighbors and strangers that they are man and wife, which legalizes a community of men and women.

• • •

The Rebel sometimes thinks that time is wasted answering these McPhails. We can give the poor fool information; we can give him books, but Heaven be our witness, we can not give him brains to understand. Nevertheless we shall proceed with his third and fourth charge.

• • •

Says our granite-craniumed friend in his hand bill: "Socialism stands for the abolishment of the individual ownership of land as well as personal property."

Where, McPhail, where? Did you read the Socialist party platform adopted at Indianapolis on the 17th of last May? Did you read its plank on land? Did you read where we say that land held out of use, shall be taxed to its full rental value? Did you read the Socialist party's Texas platform? Did you read the Socialist amendment just recommended to your home-wrecking legislature? If you did, don't you know that Socialism stands for use and occupancy as the title to land and that all the Socialist party — which is the political expression in America of Modern Socialism — stands for, is the destruction of the great landlords and speculators in land so far as their holdings are concerned?

Don't you know that these landlords have locked up four-fifths of our state and thereby caused tenantry to develop at a frightful rate? Don't you know that it is at this that the Socialist strikes and it is for this landlordism that your democratic party stands.

• • •

As to the abolishment of personal property, again I deplore the fact that I cannot supply you with even a small measure of human intelligence.

The Socialist position on property is condensed in this phrase:

"The collective ownership of all things collectivelly used and the private ownership of all things privately used."

• • •

Now to your last proposition: "Socialism stands for social equality between the whites and negroes."

Can it be possible that it has not yet sunk in through the armor plated headpiece of McPhail that social equality is being practiced now in every northern state where the Democratic party is in power? Whites and blacks are married in Democratic city halls in every city on the other side of the Mason and Dixon line. As to race equality we find it all over the South. The Editor of this great religious weekly wrote a few lines on race equality some weeks ago that has since been copied all over the country. If McPhail knows anything he must know that this paragraph which I here now republish is true:

RACE EQUALITY.

He was standing on the tiled floor of the Beaumont postoffice and vigorously declaimed that the Socialists would bring around race equality.

A man took him by the arm and walked him down the big stone steps around the corner into an alley. Through latticed wired windows he asked his friend to look at the women who were toiling amidst the modern machinery of an up-to-date laundry. "Count them," said the man, "thirty-one, notice: sixteen white women and fifteen negresses."

And the women, white and black were on the insioe, looking out.

Now, McPhail it would be useless for me to take you to every city in the state of Texas and show you conditions existing similar to that sketched in the few lines above. If you know anything you know it is true and if you do not know or your constituents whom you duped in the last election do not know, then I would be merely wasting time with you and yours. Race equality is not a theory; it is a fact in America under the capitalist system.

Let me tell you, McPhail, where we Socialists stand:

We propose that the nation shall own the trusts instead of the trusts owning the nation.

We propose landlordism shall be wiped out. We propose use and occupancy shall be the sole title to land.

We propose that all things socially used shall be socially owned and all things privately used privately owned.

We propose not only a political democracy through the initiative, referendum and recall, but an industrial democracy.

We have confidence in the masses of the people. We propose to enfranchise our womanhood and then possessing complete industrial freedom and freedom of press, speech and assemblage with power to worship God in any form we desire, we shall leave it up to the people if they want social equality or free love, and if you or anybody else dares to intimate for one moment that our white women who make up one-half of the population are going to vote for social equality or free love then you are as low in morals as you are in intellect.

In conclusion I would like you to know Mr. McPhail that the labor question which the Socialists have the solution of, is the root question of all, and when we solve it by our industrial democracy then th erace and other questions will take care of themselves.

In a prayerful and penitential mood the editor of The Rebel passes these remarks over to his readers with thanks to the bonehead from Van Zandt for giving us the opportunity to thoroughly answer him and a lot of other filthy maligners of the noblest movement in all history.

STIRRING THE LANDLORDS.

Hughes Co. (Ok.) Socialist.

The organization of the Renters' Union at Ada, Okla., has stirred up the landlords of that section of the state. The landlords are aroused to the fact that the farmers are going to be organized on the industrial field and that the landlords and grafters will not be permitted to get into the organization as they have done in the past with all other movements that have been organized for the benefit of the farmers.

The usefulness of the old Granger movement and the Farmers' Alliance was destoyed by the landlords and grafters, but the Renters' Union will be open only to that class of farmers who till the soil, and not to that class of farmers who live in the cities and "farm the farmers", by means of the "share crop" or "cash money rent" plan.

The plan of the Renters' Union is to organize for united action against the landlords in order to force concession by both industrial and political action.

The New Century of Sulphur is making the land question a burning issue and the Hughes County Socialist welcomes every movement that has for its object the relief of the tenant farmers and wage workers.

The following comment on the true situation is from the New Century of March 14:

"The landlords and bankers of the state are entirely familiar with the plans and purposes of the Renters' Union. They are not sleeping on the job, but are actively opposing it. YOU are sleeping on your rights so long as you stay outside the protection and benefits accruing from the organization. Only by so organizing themselves into a compact body, free entirely from the dominance of the landlords, can the renters hope to achieve freedom from the bondage of tenantry and the curse of landlordism."

THE REBEL CONTEST.

Owing to lack of time we are not able to make announcement as to the winners of the prizes in The Rebel sub-getting contest.

A full announcement will be made next week.

We read in the Ancient Mariner "Water, water everywhere, and not a drop to drink." With millions of tons of the finest food at his command, Mr. Rockefeller cannot force a three-ounce meal into his three-pint stomach. Harriman died of semi-starvation. Roswell P. Flower master of millions died of indigestion and now we hear J. P. Morgan died of starvation. There is food for thought in this, my people.

THE WAR IN WEST VIRGINIA

There is a neck-to-neck race between West Virginia and Louisiana to decide which shall first fly the flag of peonage. From information at hand The Rebel is doubtful as to which of these states are in the lead at this moment.

In Louisiana every conceivable crime against human liberty has been perpetrated by the thieves who control the lumber trust and their official henchmen who boss the politics of the state.

In West Virginia a similar condition of affairs prevails. If there is any difference between the two, it may be indicated by the fact that more working class blood has been shed in West Virginia than in Louisiana.

Just as the hellions of the lumber trust shot into a peaceable meeting and killed men at Grabow, so have the "guards" of the coal trust in West Virginia committed murder, only on a larger scale.

The men in Louisiana with their women and children belong to the I. W. W. The men in West Virginia belong to the A. F. and L. and in the experience that is read in the flash of the rifle, the men of both organizations are commencing to realize the necessity for one great union.

In West Virginia martial law has been declared and the deeds of the time are written with the point of the soldier's bayonet. The civil courts in the strike districts have been wiped out and a military commission with drumhead-court-martial powers has taken the place of the civil law.

One of the grandest characters of the past two generations have produced, the heroic "Mother" Jones, is to be tried by these satraps. Of course "Mother" is innocent of crime, unless it be crime to inspire the men and comfort the women and protect the children with her brave, frail old body while the battle between the cohorts of plunder and freedom was on.

It is characteristic of the situation that at the moment that Mother Jones was being arrested some senators, and representatives were being arrested in a big hotel at the capital for receiving thousands of dollars to vote for a certain United States Senator that the coal barons wanted to return to the senate at Washington.

• • •

West Virginia is one of the most beautiful states in the Union. It is the border land of the sunny South. Its hills are loaded with precious minerals. Its valleys are immensely productive. Oil abounds within its confines and yet it has been turned into a Siberia.

The reason is perfectly plain. The owners of the oil, lumber, coal and railroads control the government. To protect their economic interests they invade both old parties and dominate them. Thus we have seen a Steve Elkins representing the Republican party in the United States Senate and his father-in-law, Gassaway Davis, representing the Democratic party in the Senate. Both own the natural resources of the state. Both own the two old parties. What the father-in-law missed the son-in-law got. They caught the suckers "coming and agwine."

This war in West Virginia dates back many years. It was in 1897 that 'Gene Debs received a sunstroke while speaking to a crowd of striking miners under the July sun in the open air and for years before and since that time the struggle between the foreign plutocracy and the native miner has been on. It is an irreconcilable conflict that must continue until it is settled right and that will be by the confiscation of the possessions of the plunderbund that now holds paper titles to the vast storehouse of wealth in the state of West Virginia.

The muzzled press in West Virginia as in Louisiana is hiding from the people the grim tragedy that is taking place in the mountains, but one paper of general circulation is telling the awful story. That paper is the Labor Argus published at Charleston, W. Va. Its editor is an active Socialist. In the last issue he describes one of the coal barons correctly as follows:

THE COAL BARON.

A snarling, slinking, silk-clad human fiend;
A harpy, never yet from hell-thought weaned;
Steeped to the inmost soul in robbery's art,
A cur incarnate and wolf at heart;
A vampire brooding o'er the virgin soil,
And drinking to the dregs the blood of toil.

Writing on the phase that mountianeers are always free men he says:

"MOUNTAINEERS ARE ALWAYS FREEMEN."

Again has West Virginia been disgraced, her motto made a mockery, her constitution a meaningless scrawl. The nation's flag has been dipped in the blood of her citizens and wrung out by the puny pismires who disgrace the mud-colored livery they wear, while the crimson drops that are wrung from the folds of "old glory" are caught and coined into gold wich pours into the coffers of the Masters of Greed and is used to buy legislators corrupt the courts and prostitute the executive officials of the state. "Mountaineers are always free." is a base deceptable damnable lie and should be blotted from the coat of arms of the Little Mountain State by the tears and blood of the slaves who inhabit it. Anyone in quest of evidence of this, has only to visit the military bull-pens at Pratt and Mucklow to realize just how meaningless and false that motto really is. Here we find 200 of those "free mountaineers" herded like cattle into military prisons, guarded by the liveried lackeys of greed, robbed of their liberties and deprived of their civil rights, to be tried by a court martial appointed by one of the most subservient tools of the corporate interests, better known as the "Invisible Government," on no other charge than they insisted upon exercising their rights as freemen. While the "Mountaineers" have been thrown into prison and guarded by soldiers who have instructions to shoot to kill; they can look rom their prisons and see the murderous mine guards against whose outrages and brutalities they were compelled to protect their families with weapons of war, mingling freely with the officers of the militia. The gun men of the Coal Barons alone are free, free to assault, brutalize and ravish the disinherited mountaineers under the protection of the state militia and every other power a prostituted state government can lend. The miners and their sympathizers have been thrown into bull-pens for daring to protect their lives and homes from the murderous attacks of the armed thugs of the coal corporations, while these same thugs parade about the military camp in plain view of the imprisoned miners herded in vile unsanitary prisons. Who will wonder if these prisoners leave the bull-pens carrying with them an unquenchable thirst for vengeance, and embittered against those responsible for the gross injustice? Let that beautiful bird of prey scream with rage at the sight of a military despotism assassinating the liberty and outraging the manhood of West Virginia. With beak and talons the vultures of greed kill and maim the sovereign citizens and feed upon their lives. It is time the Mountaineers of West Virginia were protecting their freedom or else hide under the cloak of hypocrisy that meaningless motto and write in its place these words of truth: West Virginia is a damnable slave pen and her people are Peons!!!

So goes the war in West Virginia. The Rebel deals with this at length not only for the purpose of calling the attention of our readers to the terrible conflict raging in that state, but also for the purpose of showing that out of that conflict and the conflict in Louisiana and the struggle of the renters in Texas and Oklahoma and the general impoverishment of the masses in Georgia, Florida, Mississippi and the other southern states the time is he re and now when all good men and women must get together and develop a tremendous economic organization along the lines of one great union of their industry and then backed by a powerful growing party such as is the Socialist party, the masses can conquer the political power and establish economic freedom and settle the present industrial slavery.

The Rebel realizes this will not be a thirty-day battle and that weaklings had better keep away; that it is a fight to death between the workers and the plutocrats which can end only with the peonage of one or the expropriation of the other.

And this is the lesson of the war in West Virginia.

WHAT THE SOCIALISTS AIM TO DO AND WHY.

By Frank D. Warren.

They will pass laws condemning all the trusts, railroads, telegraphs, telephones, mines, mills, factories and all land held for speculation or used for exploitation, (in other words, "the means of life"), declaring them a menace to the well being of the people as at present owned and managed, and, by right of eminent domain will make them public property, the joint possession of the whole community, to be run for the benefit of all the people.

The big industries will then belong to all the people in the same way that the postoffice and public schools belong to all of us now (except that they will be differently managed) and will be run "for use and not for profit."

It is plain to see that this will do away with the capitalist class (the exploiting class—the robber class) who now own all these things and use them to plunder the people.

The workers in the industries will elect their most capable and experienced men as heads of departments, managers, superintendents, overseers, etc., subject to recall in event they prove unsatisfactory.

Then demand will regulate supply because the workers will receive he equivalent of what they produce (in legal tender) and will be able to buy back what has been produced, leaving no large surplus to accumulate, as now, to glut the market and throw millions out of work (to starve because they have produced too much). And the industries will not be shut down unless the workers vote to do so in order to give themselves a vacation which they will be able to enjoy because they will know they have not lost their jobs, but are secured from want and the fear of want.

Thus will the workers rule their own destinies by their votes.

The initiative, referendum and recall will be in full swing.

That's selfgovernment.

What we have now is plutocracy (rule by the rich).

Now, what will be the logical outcome of such an industrial system? Reason it out for yourself.

The people will own the industries collectively and will, therefore, own their jobs. At present they do not own their jobs, and, even tho they were starving, the right to work and to support their families is denied them. What a travesty on our "twentieth century civilization"(?)! The beasts of the jungle have a code of ethics superior to ours. But, when the workers own their jobs they will have a right to work, and, as there will be no capitalists to demand a large share of what they produce, the workers will receive the full social value of their labor. Thus there will be work for all and plenty for all who are willing to work, and, according to their slogan: "He that will not work, neither shall he eat."

Remember this as the basic principle regardng public and private property: "THAT WHICH IS PUBLICLY USED SHOULD BE PUBLICLY OWNED AND THAT WHICH IS PRIVATELY USED SHOULD BE PRIVATELY OWNED."

EARN WHILE YOU LEARN.

Penmanship, shorthand nad the civil service branches taught at your own home, by mail. Write for fist lesson in shorthand, its FREE. Address Roberts Business College, Weatherford, Tex.

PRIVATE SHAUGHNESSEY'S DREAM.

Oi had a dhrame last avenin'
Whin iv'rythin' wuz still;
Oi dhrimpt Oi saw the Army
A marchin' down the hill.
The bands wuz plain' Dixie,
In stirrin' strains so swate
That Oi got pathriotic
To see their marchin' fate.

Begorry, Oi wuz puzzled
At John D. in the lade,
Wid Morgan close behoind 'im
A drawin' uv his blade.
The dollar marks wuz shinin'
On each wan's haversack
An' Teddy wuz commandin',
"Aim-shot 'em in the back."

So, thin there cum the bankers
A marchin' in rows
While Taft wuz sweatin' awful
An' muttherin' "God knows."
Along thin cum the Bishops,
The Boy Scouts follered, too,
A chantin' to a banner —
The "Old Red, White an' Blue."

The next platoon wuz lawyers,
Aswingin' down the line;
Loud singin' "Christian Soldiers,"
While Dixen sez, "Thot's foine."
An' whin they reached the chorus
Salt t ars cum in their eyes
To see the land sharks prayin'
Fer guidance from the skies.

Appeared thin Cunnel Bryan,
Sez he, "What's this about"?
But Rocky sez "Gwan, yez,
Oi runs this whole layout."
An' thin cum Doctor Wilson,
Sez he, "How's this, me man"?
But Rocky sez, "Fall in, sir,
We're takin' uv a stan'."

"The Socialists are cumin'
About tin million strong,
We still have got our banner
But it won't be fer long.
They've offered us a black one
To use, they say in lieu,
Uv that we've been protectin' —
The old Red, White an' Blue."

Begorra when Oi wakened
Oi sez, "Oi sees the game,
And if Oi foight the workers
[illegible]
'Tis Wall Street nades the Army
To kape the toilers goin',
So that the Dirty Siven
May garner all the coin."

So, whin me toime is ended
Oill hike out wid me pard,
To join the Workers' Army
And git a crimson card.
Oi 'll tell me ch ance to many;
An' help clean out the webs
Thot binds the brains uv workers—
An' thin, WE'LL STAND WITH DEBS.

Anne R. Chist.

Santa Paula, Cal.

OUR REBS.

A glance at the circulation figures this week will show that in our fight with the "offs" we are holding our own and then some. When a paper is sold as cheap as The Rebel for forty weeks this means that we must be continuously struggling against those that are falling by the wayside.

That we have been able to hold our own and increase in spite of the reaction that all Socialist papers suffer from during the winter following the presidential campaign, is clear evidence that The Rebel is filling its field and is here to stay.

We [illegible] more than once in these columns that the only kick we had was that we were turning out a paper of such educational value that it should be read by ten times the number of people who read it now.

With our present large circulation we have succeeded in forcing the land amendment to the point where there was a heated discussion in the committee on constitutional amendments in the state senate. I am sure as I am living that if we had even five times our present circulation the land amendment would have been taken out of the committee and brought on the floor of the house and in the ensuing debate the eyes of the world would have been turned upon the Texas land situation. We are determined therefore that when the land amendment comes up again, as come it will, we shall have passed the six figure mark and with our unmuzzled press be in shape to drive from public life every man who seeks to oppose this righteous remedy for the people's ills.

Here are some of the men who are filled with the same spirit:

S. H. Henderson, Val Verde Co., Tex. sends five and says: "Put me down along with W. W. Gilbert of Hunt county, for one thousand of Debs' "Toward the Sunrise" and the "Hierarchy" article."

Jim Windham, Mason, Co., Tex., joins our four-years-for-$1 club and says: "Stay with 'em, Tom, and we'll give the plutes h—— the next four years."

W. J. Morgan, Erath Co., Tex., sends a club and shouts: "Shoot it to the plutes hard; I'm with you till the end of the war."

J. N. Broughton, Erath Co., Tex., remits for four, and wants a number of land pamphlets.

J. R. Elliot, a Hardeman County Reb, fires in a club and says it is the best paper in the world.

County Secretary Joe Hudspeth of Haskell Co., Tex., writes: "Please announce that Stanley J. Clark will lecture at Haskell City, April 7, 8 p. m.; Weinert, April 8, 8 p. m.; Rochester, April 9, 8 p. m."

W. W. Turner, Gonzales Co., Tex., sends sub cards and causes blushes on our youthful cheeks, by informing us that we have the best paper of all.

Rev. J. J. Moye, Wheeler, Co., Tex., sends $3 for sub cards, wants some land pamphlets and supplies for the Renter's Union and reports that the comrades have just taken a nice hide in debate in Wheeler county.

W. T. Kuykendall, Matagorda Co., Tex., joins our $1-for-four-years club, declares that he is no Socialist but an old Populist, but it seemswants everything the Socialists want. He will take out a crimson card.

W. B. Driver, Freestone Co, Tex., sends $10 for 40 sub cards and says this makes 85 subs for him this year. If all the other comrades would drive as hard as Driver we would soon drive her to the 100,000 mark.

W. A. Young, Bowie, Co., Tex., sends in a club of 40-weekers and says: "For God's sake, Tom, send them one at a time, because if they got forty at once it would be too much for 'em." Comrade Young, who is one of the committeemen for the big encampment at Texarkana next summer, also received a large bundle of Rebel's last week which he distributed. He is sure a hard worker.

J. A. Wood, Somervell Co., Tex., sends five subs and says: "I have title to 125 acres of land. I know how hard I had to work for it that is why I am a Socialist."

Jas. L. Richardson, McCurtain, Co., Okla., joins our bundle brigade and send the coin for a bundle for free distribution. Will all the members of the Rebel get busy along this line, because every week some big article comes forth in The Rebel that will convert the heathen?

Mrs. F. A. Harrison, Callahan Co., sends a club and writes: "The Chicken Story captivated me and I could not rest until some of my non-Socialist friends read it. I am the mother of five boys and will raise them all to be Socialists."

F. A. Nye, Hale Co., Tex., joins our four-year club, orders the Land Pamphlet and sagely remarks: "You are certainly stirring up the animals. Go to them; you have my consent."

W. W. Wessinger, Bryan, Co., Okla., sends five and earnestly prays that the "God of Love and Justice may fire you with zeal to uphold the truth."

J. W. Lawless, Angelina county met a man from Merryville, La., and when he heard the tale of woe told by this fighter against peonage, he decided the best thing to do at the moment was to make the people acquainted with the conditions was to send them The Rebel, which opens the eyes of all who read it. He sends us thirteen subs and wishes us luck in the battle.

G. W. Young, Concho Co., Tex., renews his sub and says "On with the [illegible]

OKLAHOMA NOTES.

By H. M. Sinclair, Secretary.

The Fight is On.

The Socialist Organization has got down to business and are going to initiate petitions to refer any election law that the legislature might pass that is detrimental to the working class, to a referendum of the voters. Also amendments to the present law which will give all political parties representation on the various election boards, same to be elective by the people and not appointive as is the case at this time.

The time has come for all Socialists to get in the collar and do their part. That part consists in raising funds to pay the expenses of initiating the above measures, circulate the petitions and see that they become the law on election day, August 5th, 1913.

The fight is on and will be a hot one. We need the assistance of every Socialist in the State for by your efforts depends its success.

Where do you stand? What will you do?

Shove it over.

The Appeal is near the 25,000 mark in this state. Suppose you exert yourself a little and put it past that mark. The Appeal gives us space in their paper and expects us to maintain a list of 25,000. Let's get busy and do it.

State Ex Com. Meets.

The S E C met at headquarters on March 23rd and 24th. All members present. After due consideration the following motions were unanimously adopted.

That initiative and referendum petitions be prepared for the purpose of giving the Socialists and all other parties representation on all State, County and Precinct election boards and for the purpose of vetoing by the people all poll tax, registration and other features of the primary election laws that are opposed to the interests of the working class. And further P. S. Nagle be instructed to take the necessary steps to bring such petitions to a vote and should he fail to report progress to the State Secretary by April 1st, 1913, the Secretary is authorized to proceed with same and call to his help, legal aid.

In order to settle the disputes that exist in the State over bills and other matters pertaining to the organization, the S. E. C. will submit to the membership on first referendum ballot from this date, the following:

1st, We find that the convention of 1912 allowed claim of Stanley J. Clark for $110.00.

Shall the S. E. C. be instructed to pay same?

2nd, We find that the convention of 1912 allowed claim of T. J. Jones for $163.50.

Shall the S. E. C. be instructed to pay same?

3rd, That $224.00 of above claims is due J. F. Kelly.

Shall the S. E. C. be instructed to pay him out of said claims in the event they are allowed?

Shall the State Executive Committee be instructed to pay the claim of Geo. B. Owens, amount $1,040.84, as presented by him for services as editor of the Pioneer?

Crop Report.

Branch Gotebo, Kiowa county, 10 acres cotton.

Branch Duke, Jackson county, 25 acres cotton.

Branch Good Hope, Tillman county, 40 acres cotton.

Comrade E. F. O'Bryan, secretary of Branch Good Hope, in reporting of action of his local states that they will put in 40 acres of cotton to be worked on the co-operative plan, the crop to be divided in two patches of 20 acres each. Comrades W. H. Cooper and W. M. Johnson have charge of the S 20 acres and H. Moeller and Cox the North 20. They raised $100.00 by donations to carry the good work on with.

Motions.

By Br. Lamar for resignation of National Committeeman Oscar Ameringer has been seconded by following locals or branches: Branches Gerty, Wetumka, Elk City, Greenleaf and local Boswell.

By Br. Lamar for mass convention at Shawnee, July 24th, 25th, and 26th, 1913. Seconded by Branches Gerty and Shawnee.

By Br. Lamar providing for placing of occupation on ballots for party officers. Seconded by Branches Gerty, Wetumka and Greenleaf.

By Branch Elk City of Beckham county. That C. H. Armstrong, G. W. (Pap) Davis and Marvin Brown be reinstalled in the Socialist Party.

L. N. Thompson, Secretary.

Adopted March 31st, 1913.

By Branch Sayre of Beckham county, That G. W. Davis and C. H. Armstrong be granted right of membership in the Socialist Party.

M. A. Hodgepeth, Secretary.

H. Coomer, Chairman.

Adopted March 21st, 1913.

By local Byars of McClain county; Whereas, we, the members of the Socialist Party of Local Byars have known C. H. Armstrong for the past 6 years as a true Socialist, he being one amongst the first to assist in organizing and maintaining our local— was ever ready and willing to do anything in his power, financially or otherwise to benefit the cause and whereas;

We feel that he was grossly mistreated through prejudice by the local of Oklahoma City, therefore it is moved that he be admitted to membership in the Socialist Party of Oklahoma.

E. W. Harrall, Chairman.

F. P. Rantz, Secretary.

Adopted March 23rd, 1913.

THEY BUILD BUT INHABIT NOT.

One of the unsolved questions of the centuries is this: Why is it that those who produce the wealth of the world receive not? Out of that flows another. Why is it that those who produce the greatest luxuries are the farthest from enjoying the pleasures of them? A section man will toil all day in the burning sun of the South and will freeze in the cold of the North to make safe the rails over which the Pullman car glides, and yet never dreams of sitting in the luxurious confines of such a car.

The men who produce the rubber in the Congo and in the South American forests, suffer the tortures of the damned, while their brothers who prepare the raw materials in American cities are but slightly removed from them in human suffering. And the rubber workers no more than the section hand rides in the auto his labor makes possible.

The Rebel is moved to these remarks on reading the report of one of our Socialist party's national officers, Alexander Irvine, who has just visited Akron, Ohio, where 15,000 rubber workers are on strike. He says:

"I have spent several days investigating conditions in Akron. There are 15,000 men and women on strike—mostly men and men who are American born citizens. The usual Citizens' Committee have been appointed but they are doing unusual work. They are armed with clubs to beat the strikers. The preachers are more prominent in this fight against the workers than they have been in any fight of recent years. A preacher heads the Citizens' Committee and is the most outspoken in advocacy of martial law. The riot act has been read and the men are forbidden to picket. The special policemen and patriotic (?) citizens wear yellow badges. An automobile corps has been organized and attempts to terrorize the strikers from early morning till late at night. The autos are used as gun carriages.

"The strikers are determined and courageous. They can be beaten by but one thing—starvation. The working class of America should see to it that they get help to hold out. They need help and they need it at once."

When will the workers of the Southland join with their brothers in the Northland in one big union and thus put a stop to this human exploitation with its accompanying degredation.

LANDLORDISM AND ITS ROOTS.

The taproot of landlordism is lost in the twilight of fable.

The first written record we have of it is on the cuneiform rocks from the third city buried under Nineveh 14,000 years ago.

Next comes the long, laborious effort of savants to show us landlordism legally writ upon the obelisks and pyramids of Egypt and monuments of the ancient and buried nations.

Then the great Book in which we listen to the thunders of Moses, the mighty songs of David, and all that majestic procession passing without one thought of the renter.

The Rebel and the Renters' Union have space and time only for present and future troubles. The dead past has buried its dead. Let us get down to things the schoolboy can touch:—Greece, Rome, Germany, France can be studied here and now.

In England the farmers' heritage was judicially confiscated and turned into sheep runs. The farmers found their titles wer ewritten as in water They were not organized.

These title roots we have mentioned have sucked much substance, but it remained for America to show the world the weirdest, most ghastly and cunning form of serfdom yet known to history. It has now the most vigorous root of this upas tree of landlordism and for fear that it might soon strike into rocks and ashes and cause a giant tree to lift its withered arms to a leaden sky The Rebel continuously called your attention to a few facts and the Renters' Union was born.

Ninety per cent. of the wealth of this country is now in the hands of less than five per cent. of the population. In Texas we have the following conditions:

The land gone into the hands of the few; the multitude homeless; tenantry increasing, land values advancing and the hope of securing a home diminishing.

Get behind the Land Amendment for the next two years, drive it through, make it the law of the state, and then our hopes will not go glimmering into the gloom of night like a dream of things that were.

W. D. Simpson.

ENCAMPMENT MANAGERS ATTENTION.

The Rebel desires to give as much [illegible] free notices of encampments, county conventions, mass meetings, etc.

We would suggest however that you mail all such notices to Ed. Green, State Secretary, Rockdale, Texas, who will publish them in the state notes column of The Rebel.

J. Pierpont Morgan whose 1907 panic caused thousands of poor devils to go hungry, died of starvation, so did Mary Jones, an East Side seamstress. Mary is in heaven and J. Pierpont is on his way.

RENTERS UNION.

By E. O. Meitzen.

Owing to an unexpected delay in getting out the new supply of constitutions we are somewhat behind in our work and therefore ask the indulgence of those who lately wrote for information. I am sure that everything will be in working order again by the first of the week when the new pass word will be mailed to all who are entitled to same.

Brothers A. J. Rasco of Eustace and W. O. Brannen of Kennard are busily engaged on their plan of co-operative farm home building They have gotten several land owners and otherwise wealthy men interested in their movement, worked out a good constitution, and plan to begin work right away. We think that all who have no homes and God knows there are a plenty of them, to write or visit these brothers, and get better acquainted with their plans.

F. A. Hernandez of Nordheim, the Mexican organizer, is still at work adding members to the locals there and at Runge. Antonio Valdez, who organized several unions in Travis and adjoining counties last year has gone to Mexico. Let us hope that he will succeed in liberating the slaves in his native country.

Lee Bennett, a renter from Knox county, wants to know a reason for the following: "A man raising a $5 note to a $50 one is a counterfeiter. A man raising the price of $5 land to $50 is a gentleman." Don't all answer at once.

J. E. Hardie organizes a local with 12 memebrs at Point, Rains county.

D. C. Clevenger of Nimrod, writes that he wants to get busy and line up the renters in his neck of the woods.

J. R. Parsons of Blackwell, Nolan county also wants information.

The geratest activity in the work is now going on in our sister state, Oklahoma.

T. A. Harris after some unavoidable delay comes in with an organization of ten members at Oscar, Jefferson county, Oklahoma.

J. T. Bean sends in for a charter for a local with 11 members at Rock Creek, near Dougherty, Oklahoma.

H. Grady Milner is also at work in the 4th district of that state and is determined to not rest until there are enough locals organized to have a state organization. Let us hope that this may soon be realized.

There are several organizations that have as yet not sent in their quarterly dues. Each member should see to it that this very important item is not further neglected.

RENTERS' UNION

I attended the State Convention of the land renters at Waco, November 8th. Twenty-eight counties were represented and 112 delegates were present; from the plains to the gulf reports came in. It was indeed a most enthusiastic meeting. Several very earnest speeches were made concerning the condition of the land renters of Texas. Short talks were made by a number of delegates and from different parts of the State came stories that would shame even Russia. Some have been denied the right to rent land because they are preachers; men have been forced to vote the ticket of the boss or move; others have been asked about their religious belief and told that they could not rent land from certain landlords unless they, the landlords, could know their religion and their politics, while still others have been required to sign a hundred-dollar bond that they would not take a drink of whiskey for one year in order to get a place for their loved ones to live, and labor to pay tribute to some one who had been more fortunate than themselves.

Now, gentle reader, I hope you will not infer from the above that I am an anti-prohibitionist because I am not. Neither I am a rum drinker. but on the contrary I am a prohibitionist and a total abstinent. It is the principle involved to which I object.

When God expelled Adam from the Garden of Eden He told him to go and till the soil. He did not say "speculate" in its values but He plainly told him to till the soil, and Webster says that means "to plow and draw, as land; to cultivate." God also told Adam "In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread till thou return unto the ground." He did not say in the sweat of other men's faces, but 'In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread." Not for a few years until he could buy up a large block of land, rent it out and put other men to work for him so he could live easy. or in the sweat of other men's faces. But He said "till you return unto thee ground."

Now let's see "whither we are drifting."

The last census report (1910) places the number of all farms in Texas at 417,770. Of this number 219,575 are worked by tenants, [illegible]332 by managers and only 167,515 are operated exclusively by the owners

Thus we see that 247,255 of all these farms are worked in whole or part by tenants or managers, and as these farms range in size from three acres up to what one man works, or has worked, it is but natural to presume that most of the farms worked by the owners are small, leaving the larger farms to be worked by tenants and managers.

The report further shows that the proportion of tenants has increased [illegible] cent in 1910.

From foregoing figures we plainly see that a majority of the land holders are living "in the sweat of the other fellow's face."

Take Young county for instance. I believe I will not exaggerate if I say most of the land rented in the county is owned by individuals and companies located in town, and is being held for speculation.

Now I am not blaming the individual or the company, but the system. As long as we are cursed with the present system one man has a good right to speculate in land values as another, but undoubtedly landlordism under our present system is directly the cause of more suffering than any other one [illegible] our rum system.

Let us have a law limiting the ownership to what each family actually needs, and requiring them to live on and cultivate it, or use it for grazing purposes.

Unless a law something like the above is enacted slavery will continue to grow. If a law like the above could be submitted to a vote of the people of Texas three fourths of the democrats of the State would support it.

Suppose we petition the legislature to allow us to vote on this all important one.

John A. Brown.
Graham, Texas.

STRONG RESOLUTIONS.

Chicago, Ill., March 19, 1913.

The Coal Barons of West Virginia have always fought union labor, and have on the merest pretext called upon and used in their interests the state constabulary and militia; as a result the condition of the miners in the mining region of the state are well nigh unbelievable. It has forced the miners at last to rebel; a demand was made upon the mine barons that they respect certain rights of the workers; among which was the right to organize under union conditions with union wages. When this demand was made upon the coal barons, they at once answered with the police and the militia, and instead of giving the mine workers a living wage and reasonable working conditions, they offered them the militia, the injunction judge and the bull pen, and the answer of the cry for bread were bullets.

The Cossacks would run through the strike bound territory at night with a train full of soldiers, and when they got to the miner camp the train would be darkened, all lights being put out and then the hirelings of the coal barons would fire a fusillade of shot into the miners' camp wounding men, women and defenseless children. There are numerous instances of this kind.

Civil law has been abolished in the coal regions of West Virginia, and the military court martial has taken its place. The leaders of the strike who dared to face the hired thugs of the coal barons either have been killed or wounded or thrown into jail or into the bull pen. Amongst those in jail at the present time are "Mother Jones", Paul Paulsen, organizer of the union of mine workers, C. H. Boswell, editor of a Socialist paper, Charles Botley and about 50 others, Socialists and union men.

The state in which this labor battle is being fought at this time gave the largest percentage of increase in the Socialist vote at the last presidential election; the increase being 317 per cent. This perhaps is one of the reasons why the coal trust is doing everything in its power to supress the wage slaves. This should also be a good reason why the Socialist Party of America should come to the front at this time as it has done on numerous occasions before, and take a firm stand on behalf of the miners, giving them all possible moral and financial assistance.

Whereas therefore, this condition of warfare between the working class and the capitalist class of West Virginia, is still raging, and whereas the Socialist Party should be at all times in the forefront of a battle between the exploiter and the exploited, and whereas it is the chief function of the Socialist Party to fight in the class struggle of the working class;

Therefore, be it resolved that we, the Sixth Ward Branch of the Socialist Party of Local Cook County, State of Illinois, call upon the Socialist Party of America to open up its press and urge from its platform all its members and sympathizers, to hasten to the support of the miners in their class war in West Virginia.

Be it further resolved that we urge upon the National Executive Committee of the Socialist Party of the United States to take immediate action to secure the desired publicity and moral support as well as every possible financial aid for the military prisoners and the strikers and their families.

And be it further resolved that we condemn the brutality and inhumanity of the State Government of West Virginia as a travesty on justice and civilization.

And be it further resolved that we call upon the working class of the State of West Virginia to unite upon the political as well as in the economic field and place such men in legislative and judicial power who will promulgate such measures as shall take the government of the State out of the hands of the coal barons and place it in the hands of the workers.

And be it further resolved that a copy of these resolutions be transmitted to the Executive Committee of the Socialist Party of America, the Labor Press and the struggling miners union of West Virginia, and to the Governor of West Virginia.

By order of the Sixth Ward Branch Socialist Party, Local Cook County.

David J. Bentall,
G. T. Fraenckel,
May Walden,

NEW SONG.

WANTED—500 Rebel readers to send 25 cents each, for my new song "Refuge," and thus aid a Texas comrade who is in ill health, the "system" and financial reverses have almost "knocked out." Music is regular sheet music size, neatly printed, solo, piano accompaniment and I will cheerfully return the price, in every case of expressed dissatisfaction. Address W. R. Patterson, 615 First st. Fresno, Calif.

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THE PERSONNEL OF THE SENATE OF THE 33rd LEGISLATURE.

Astin, J. R., farmer & lawyer,
Bailey, L. H. lawyer,
Brelsford, H. P. lawyer,
Carter, E. H., lawyer,
Collins, V. A. lawyer,
Conner, R. P.
Cowell, S. B.,
Darwin, H. L., lawyer,
Gibson, F. M.
Greer, W. J. farmer,
Hudspeth, Claude B., lawyer & banker,
Johnson, W. A., editor,
Kauffman, J. E. businessman,
Lattimore, O. S., lawyer,
McGregor, T. H. lawyer,
McNealus, J. C. editor,
Morrow, W. C. lawyer,
Murray, W. O. retired merchant,
Nugent, C. W., lawyer,
Paulus, D. A. lawyer,
Real, Julius, farmer & businessman,
Taylor, C. W. editor,
Terrell, H. B. editor,
Townsend, W. J. Jr., lawyer,
Vaughan, Horace W., lawyer,
Warren, Robt. L., lawyer & banker,
Watson, Q. U., lawyer,
Weinert, F. C., retired businessman,
Westbrook, Ed., editor,
Wiley, James R. lawyer,
Willacy, John G., lawyer.

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Dr. J. E. Cannaday, 802 Court Square. Sedalia, Mo.

References: Third National Bank, Sedalia, Mo.

Could you do a better act than to send this notice to some poor sufferer of Eczema?

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The Texas Capitol.

Ye Editor a few days ago walked up the broad walk to the Capitol. In front of him was the most majestic pile of granite ever grown from the restless rock or the cunning brain of architect. On his right was a monument which marks the high tide of Anglo-Saxon bravery, it is the monument to the heroes of the Alamo. The monument is 8x10 the Capitol 200x600. The Capitol is filled with freaks; their predecessors gave three million acres of land for the capitol when they who have gone to long sleep and the dark house gave themselves for, that the land might be open to settlement of those who wish to labor and produce the necessities of mankind.

THE AMERICAN MOVEMENT

By Eugene V. Debs.

The twentieth century, according to the prophecy of Victor Hugo, is to be the century of humanity.

In all the procession of the centuries gone, not one was for humanity. From the very first tyranny has flourished, freedom has failed; the few have ruled, the many have served; the parasite has worn the purple of power, while honest industry has lived in poverty and died in despair.

But the eternal years, the centuries yet to come, are for humanity and out of the misery of the past will rise the civilization of the future.

The nineteenth century evolved the liberating and humanizing movement; the twentieth century will doubtless witness its culmination in the crash of despotism and the rise of world-wide democracy, freedom and brotherhood.

It was while in exile, in 1864, that Hugo wrote:

"The transformation of the crowd into the people,—profound task! It is to this labor that the men called Socialists have devoted themselves during the last forty years. The author of this book, however insignificant he may be, is one of the oldest in this labor. If he claims his place among these philosophers, it is because it is a place of persecution. A certain hatred of Socialism, very blind, but very general, has raged for fifteen or sixteen years, and is still raging most bitterly among the influential classes. Let it not be forgotten that true Socialism has for its end the elevation of the masses to civic dignity, and that, therefore, the principal care is for moral and intellectual cultivation."

If, as we are quite ready to believe, the twentieth century realizes the prophecy of the French poet and "bursts full-blossomed on the thorny stem of time" as the century of humanity,— it will be the denouement of the socialist agitation that began in the preceding century— the fruition of the international socialist movement.

In the closing years of the last century, following in the wake of the French revolution, the tendencies in Europe were unmistakably toward what has since developed into modern socialism. Of course the early stages were nebulous and vague, and the trend was not yet strongly marked or clearly disclosed.

But as the inventive genius of man asserted itself in the industrial world; as the use of steam as motive power expanded and machinery was introduced and its applicatio to industry became more general, with its inevitable effects upon artisans, laborers and small trades-men, th emovement was accelerated in varying forms, chiefly utopian, until many years afterward, toward the middle of the nineteenth century, when it was crystalizdd by the genius of Marx, Engels, Lassalle and others, who caught the revolutionary current, clarified it and sent it circling round the globe on its mission of freedom and fraternity.

The earliest traces of socialism in the United States had their origin in the stream of immigration that flowed from the old world to the new and bore upon its bosom the germs of discontent warmed into life in the effete feudalism of European civilization.

We shall not here undertake to chronicle the many attempts, covering more than half a century, or until about 1840, to spread socialism or semi-socialistic doctrine among the American people and thus turn the tide of labor agitation in that direction. The times were fruitful of industrial and social unrest and the many schemes and plans that were proposed, utopian, impractical, impossible though they undoubtedly were, were at the same time the signs and symptoms of social gestation, the fore-runners of the mighty change that was laying hold of governments and institutions and destined to revolutionize them all and level the human race upward to the plane of all-embracing civilization.

Almost eighty years ago, Robert Owen, dreamer, enthusiast and humanitarian, came from England to America, to make the new continent blossom with utopian splendor. His series of experiments in communism, doomed to disappointment and failure, are an interesting study in the early years of the American movement; and although in the light of our present knowledge of industrial evolution his undertaking may seem visionary and foolish to some, he rendered invaluable service in clearing away the brush and dispelling the fog; and the history of Socialism can not be written without his name.

Decidedly less utopian and more practical and promising were the developments in the forties when what is known as Fourierism played its interesting and historic role in America.

Many of the most intellectual men and women of the day were attracted to the movement.

The most ardent enthusiasm seized the devotees and they set to work with hand and heart to convert the American wilderness into the promised land of milk and honey.

Of course the dominant strain was emotional and sympathetic, but there was nevertheless a solid sub-stratum of scientific soundness in the undertaking as is proved conclusively by the writings of the men who so heartily gave it support.

Brook Farm, a beautiful reminiscence, tinged with disappointment, was founded near Boston in 1841. Among the many illustrious names associated with Brook Farm the following have peculiar interest after sixty years: George Ripley, Ralph Waldo Emerson, Horace Greeley, James Russell Lowell, John Greenleaf Whitier, William Cullen Bryant, Albert Brisbane, Ellery Channing, James Freeman Clarke, Theodore Parker, A. Bronson Alcott, John Thomas Codman, Henry D. Thoreau, Nathaniel Hawthorne, George Bancroft, Charles A. Dana and George William Curtis.

The Brook Farm Association, organized by "intellectuals" who had no knowledge of the laws of economic determinism or of the historic evolution of society, was ideal in conception and breathed the air of equality and brotherhood.

The association declared its object to be "a radical and universal reform, rather than to redress any particular wrong. * * * * *"

In the "preliminary statement" the members announced that the work they had undertaken was not a "mere resolution, but a necessary step in the progress which no one can be blind enough to think has yet reached its limit."

They said, furthermore, "We believe that humanity, trained by these long centuries of suffering and struggle, led on by so many saints and heroes and sages, is at length prepared to enter into that universal order toward which it has perpetually moved."

"Thus * * we declare that the imperative duty of this time and this country, nay, more, that its only salvation of civilized countries, lies in the reorganization of society according to the unchanging laws of human nature and of universal harmony."

These passages are indicative of a clear preception for that time and would require but little remodeling to adapt them for incorporation into a modern scientific socialist platform.

The closing paragraph, which follows, is worthy to be preserved in socialist literature. It voices in lofty strain the conviction of the Brook Farmers in the ultimate realization of their hope for something like a co-operative commonwealth.

They say: "And whatever may be the result of any special efforts, we can never doubt that the object we have in view shall be finally attained; that human life shall yet be developed, not in discord and misery, but in harmony and joy, and that the perfected earth shall at least bear on her bosom a race of men worthy of the name."

This was written in January, 1844, and the whole document bears evidence of socialistic thought and tendencies.

Ralph Waldo Emerson wrote: "And truly, I honor the generous ideas of the socialists, the magnificence of their theories, and the enthusiasm with which they have been urged."

Albert Brisbane, Parke Godwin and Horace Greeley, the latter unique and in some respects the most clear-sighted and practical of them all, were commanding figures in that day.

All of them had human blood in their veins— all had democratic instincts and perceived more or less clearly the drift of the time, the tendency toward collective society, industrial freedom and social justice.

In the meantime Marx and his coadjutors were clearing the murky atmosphere of the old world. They were dissecting the prevailing mode of production and capitalist society in general and in their researches discovered the fundamental law of social development in the "materialistic conception of history," the scientific basis of socialist thought and activity throughout the world.

From this time forward the working class movement had a scientific foundation, the scattered and contentious factions were gradually united and harmonized, and socialism became a distinct and recognized factor in the industrial and political destiny of the race.

Following the example and taking inspiration from the pioneers of the old world, and re-enforced by the socialists who crossed the water and at once began the proselyting inherent in the revolutionary spirit, the Americans took heart; they entered upon their labors with renewed zeal, scattered the seed of the socialist philosophy and it struck root in American soil.

(To be continued.)

CORRESPONDENCE.

Robbinsdale, Minn., Mar. 21st, 1913.
Thos. Hickey,
Hallettsville, Texas.

Dear Comrade:—Enclosed please find P O. money order for $1.00 to have my subscription to the Rebel extended four years as per your ad.

Will enclose ten cents extra in stamps for a few extra copies of March 1st if you have them in stock, and if not, send a few samples of later numbers.

I like to take papers from all sections of the country, and of all shades of opinion, so long as they are true to Socialism, as this is the only way I can be sure of keeping up to date; and while your views and my own sometimes conflict, (and the same can be said of a number of other Socialist papers I receive,) I enjoy the investigation of all these varied views, and it quite frequently results in changing my own views, as I very w ll know that many things I believed to be correct 15 or 20 years ago could not be tolerated a moment in my mind today.

The Rebel is certainly far from being destitute of new ideas, and as such is highly prized by the writer, who lives in hopes to live long enough to advance still further in Socialist philosophy than at present, and hopes to yet see the dawn of the "Co-operative Commonwealth."

With best wishes for yourself and, "The Rebels" I remain,
Fraternally yours,
J. E. Nash,
Robbinsdale, Minn.

(Comrade Nash was, for many years state secretary of Minnesota and is one of the strong comrades of the great Northwest.—Ed.)

Phoenix, Ariz., March 31, 1913.
My Dear Tom:—

Just crawling out of my shell long enough to assure a continuation of my Rebel par excellence.

When you announced that you had determined to exclude from the columns of the Rebel further agitation bearing upon the absolute necessity of a democratic form of organization within the Socialist party, I was desolated. However, when, farther along, you informed your readers that you had decided to issue The Decentralizer, I perked up and the sun shone forth.

Socialism without democracy would be a nightmare—a veritable fraud. Sectic[illegible] ,is a capitalistically framed imposition upon the party members. The bureaucrats and lyceum-crats are an intolerable nuisance. The "party owned" press is a recognized fake.

The Rebel is immense. It is a live wire of the greatest magnitude. Its leading articles form a constellation of supreme beauty. The Rebel hits the high places of real propaganda work. The Rebel and its editor have arrived.

W. H. Wherry.

LAND TITLES.

Terry Filius writing in the Co-Operator says:

Why should it be necessary to place title to the land in the individual. Why not let the title remain in the people, as Blackstone says it is, and of a necessity must be, because no one can by the laws of any sytem claim title to the air and sunshine, and why should the State pretend to vest title to land? Where did the State get title? Let us get the abstract and we find it written in blood by the sword; we find the title only a piece of parchment legalizing our forefathers' robbery; there is no use to mince matters at all, let us be honest, we robbed the Indians out of this land—our forefathers did—and we have let a few of our partners in the deal rob us and our future children out of it and are paying a premium to live on earth. I have many remarks pertinent to the issue which I would like to say but will refrain for this time and wait for some other reader to express himself.

Farm & Ranch says: "The corporation is the co-operative way of doing business." The Rebel would suggest that the F. & R. add: "And doing suckers."

Decentralization is Democracy's first law.

THE COST OF A BALE.

My friend Rube says "The Socialist's proposition to increase the reward of labor, and at the same time decrease the cost of labor's products is absurd." Let us look at this matter. A farmer who puts a bale of cotton in market has done fully half the necessary work, and borne fully half the expense necessary to the completion of the finished product delivered to consumer (not including the making into garments.) Investigation has shown this to be the truth. The farmer now gets for his labor and expense say $60, and other labor and expense $60, total $120. This $120 includes all that necessary labor, after footing all necessary expense, gets for the finished product delivered to consumer of one bale of cotton. Now the consumer pays for it without including the making into garments $360. This is $240 more than all necessary labor, after paying all necessary expense gets for the finished product of one bale of cotton.

The farmers now produce say 12 million bales. 12,000,000 x 240 amounts to $2,808,000,000. This two billion billion eight hundred and eight million dollars now goes into the hands of some who earn not one cent of it. This enormous sum they get on the products of cotton alone. As Rube is a cotton producer, let us hope that some one will show him how a part of this two billion eight hundred and eighty million dollars can be wisely and justly used to increase the reward of labor, and the balance eliminated to decrease the cost to consumer of labor's products.

To increase the reward of useful service, and at the same time decrease (by eliminating waste and exploitation) the cost of products is The POLITICAL QUESTION of our time.

B. P. Gandy,
Morales, Texas.

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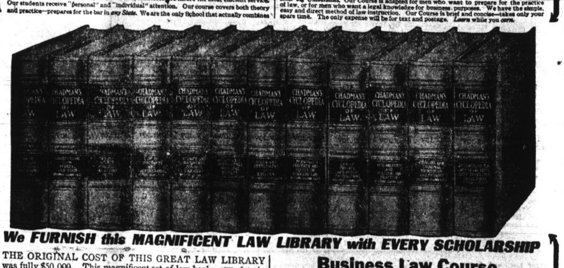

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