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T. A. KICKNEY, Editor and Owner.

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No 99

The Socialist National Committee Meeting

THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE

National Committeeman T. A. Hickey has sent the following report to state secretary, E. A. Green, for transmission to the membership.

Hallettsville, Texas, May 27, 1913.

Hallettsville, Texas, May 27, 1913.
E. A. Green, State Secretary S. P., Rockdale, Tex.
Dear Comrade:—

[illegible][illegible]

Requesting the committee to recommend the abolishment of the National Lyceum Bureau, I pointed out that the lecturers sent out by the N. E. C. advocated the centralized policies of the reactionary Y. K. C. that was but natural for the Y. K. C. to do. I pointed out that the Y. K. C. was doing acrimonious debate on the floor of the National Council. I. E. Katterfield, the brilliant energetic manager of the Bureau, congratulated Higgins on having converted Morris Hillquit to the Texas idea of about \$100,000 dollars. The National Committee decided that within four or five hundred locals took their course by the first of September the National Committee shall take vote on the question of continuing the Lyceum Bureau and endeavoring to secure the new National Council. On this point, I said that I would like to see the money appropriated in any event. Your National Committee man believe that this means the death of the Bureau and

that the working class of the nation will be reached with a Socialist message through state-managed encampments as in Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Oregon and Coney Island, New York, and through winter courses as in Washington, Minnesota and other states. From the bottom up the Socialists must work; not from centralized bureaus at the top down. Score again for the Texas Program.

Your national committeeman opposed special organizers for negroes, pointing out that this was a matter for states to take up that have the negro problem on their hands. The committee accepted the view.

I brought the land question up before the committee and a peculiar condition then arose. The majority of the committee, who were more or less tainted with the virus of centralization, insisted that the land question was a question to be settled by the various states. An ardent champion of the right of states conduct their own affairs agreed to this position, so from now on the states in the cotton empire will solve their land problem without interference from eastern lawyers, who couldn't tell a bale of cotton from a bale of hay. So again.

The matter of party-owned press came up in the committee as to my astonishment and delight Arthur Brooks Baker, once its powerful champion, came over to the Texas Program view and said: "I do not see how a party-owned press is possible with 999,000 socialists as one editor, and that poor devil with a ball and chain on him!" Sure, the fight is breaking. Score again for the Texas Program.

The committee concurred in a request that I made that the Texas organization be allowed to name a special body to act as a referendum committee that shall have the power to initiate and second national motions as the Terrell Election Law does not provide for it.

state executive committee doing such work. If the Socialist party state executive committee of Texas should initiate or second motion in other states or bring in any other extraneous matter not provided for the Terrell election law as to state party committees an arbitrary secretary of state in Austin could rule us off the ballot next year and would undoubtedly do so since we are the second party to the state and with the Republicans and Bull Moosers gone where to headline twelfth the Socialist party is the only party in Texas left to fight the Bourbon. All this hoopla talk about giving state committee in Texas liberal powers had better cease.

A motion made to reduce the national dues to one cent was voted down. This motion was made because all the states are now organized and we don't get a cent's worth of the return for the money sent to the national organization. This matter will come up again.

A motion I made demanding rotation in office for national officials was, as a matter of course, voted down. Out of 58 votes against it, 17 were state secretaries who, of course, wouldn't vote a principle that if adopted nationally would cut their own throats.

their respective states later on. However the principle is a sound one. The moderate one and the progressive socialists will continue to fight for until it becomes a party law.

At the national convention a majority of the committee on organization and propaganda I helped defeat called for a salary of \$5,000 a year the National Secretary. I moved an amendment that the salary remain one cent and was brought in a minority report of one and in the coming fight I moved a salary of \$1,500 a year. I was defeated. I think the National Secretary \$1,500 still believes this is about \$600 too much, although Berger disagreed with and stated on the floor that he wished he were able to pay the Executive \$2,000 a year. I informed the national committee that I was not going to be paid and I said I would not get any money from Texas to pay and I knew I was speaking the truth.

So much for the legislative work.

An ugly row occurred over the investigation of the national office of the Old Guard. It was decided to investigate. I was nominated for the committee, and declined on the grounds that the only committee of that sort that I would join would be a committee of inquiry. There were no other members of the committee. The charges backed up by documents that had been taken from the files of the national office. These documents revealed gross incompetence and a lack of interest in the work of the organization. It was a conspiracy to hold up the Bronx national last year. It being admitted that Barnes would have been recalled but for this illegal hold-up. The charges were not only against the national office but also against the "slapping Fred Warren". A committee of officials examined other officials and nothing was done save a demand of Resmer to tell the truth. He got into a bad temper and was told to go. He was told to go and was excluded from the floor. He will take the matter up with his state organization. It appears to the Rebel that it is peculiar conduct of some kind to have a committee of inquiry. The national office must be secured through representatives of the sources. But on second thought this is not strange, because the same condition applies in every national office since the republic was founded. There is a great lesson in this for those who think deeply on the important question of organization.

There was a great deal of talk for the membership that some blood has got on to the national executive committee. Three anarchists have been scrubbed from the list of the ship of state. It appears that the national office has a large sum of money, a fortune of a quarter of a million dollars earned as a corporation lawyer.

New York, so John C. Chase informs me. John Spargo has retired to the granite hills of Vermont to write some essays on the milk question. Job Hartman is repairing damaged fences in Los Angeles.

Your national committeeman is sorry to report that the principle of interlocking committees so much in vogue with the plutocracy, is practiced in the form of interlocking committees of the national organization. Some men are members of the national committee and vote for themselves to become members of the national executive committee at the same time. This was true of EHQUICK and is now true of Bergey Goebel, Wilson, Gerner and Maurer. Such conditions call for immediate remedy. To show how this situation works out take the case of Lanfersiek, who thinks he is national secretary on the first of June but actually will not be.

He appeared on the floor of the national committee as national committeeman from Kentucky. He is also state secretary from Kentucky, and finally was elected national secretary in the place of John M. Work who was unexpectedly thrown down by Hillquit and Berg because he objected to Referendum C being illegally held up last year. Lanfersiek is not national secretary because the national constitution specifically provides in Sec. 6, Art. 5 that:

"No member of the National Committee or of the Executive Committee shall be eligible to any position of permanent employment in the National Office, but such members may be appointed lecturers on courses arranged by the national office and may be given temporary assignments for special party work."

This section of the National Constitution eliminates Mr. Leffler from the position of National Secretary that a majority of the National Committee foolishly elected him. I have sent out this new National Motion to correct this error that our "highly efficient" leaders of the N. C. did not or would not see. The motion follows:

NATIONAL COMMITTEE MOTION

Hallettsville, Tex., May 23, 1913

I move that the present National Secretary, John M. Work, hold office until such time as the National Committee shall constitutionally elect his successor.

Sec. 6, Art. 5 of the National Constitution renders the election of National Committee-men, Walter Lanier, as Executive Secretary by the National Committee null and void, as a reading of the section will show: "No member of the National Committee or of the Executive Committee shall be eligible any position of permanent employment in the National Office, but such members may be appointed lecturers of courses arranged by the National Office and may be given temporary assignment for special party work."

I may say that this clause in the Constitution is based on a national committee rule originating from Texas, passed in 1911, when National Committeeman Noble moved that no member of the National Committee or the National Executive Committee should be an employer. In the new election that must be held it is quite likely that John M. Work will be re-elected to his old position, if he cares to contest it.

[illegible]

I don't believe that there is a crook in the entire crowd, but these conservatives and selfish egotists galore, who for one reason or another seek to dam up the Socialist river in narrow channels bounded by committees, ruled by cliques. Needless to say they will be sent to rear as the party grows in power and intelligence, and we may be that before those of us whose hair is now turning gray pass into unknown we will have accomplished our mission, emancipated the class and established the Socialist Republic.

T. A. HICKS
National Committeeman, Soc. Party, Tex.

ABOLISH SANITARIUMS.

We all know of Cueta, the so-called, Spain's hell hole; Shakim, the "Isle of the Lost" where the Czar sends the students at Writers of Russia or "Peter and Paul" under the frozen banes; the Neva; and last and worst "San Juan De Ulises," old Porfirio Diaz's slaughter house. But remained to Texas to improve on these pleasant abodes of the unfortunate. We have produced the "King of Leather" who with the "Black Bull" and "Red Heifer" boasted that he could make a coyote scream so you could hear his smile and made his boss good. A noisy grand jury in Hill county indicted him for beating a prison to death.

tions by a letter forwarded us
the "Appeal to Reason" where
comrade asks them to investigate
the insane asylums of Texas.
We have had the misfortune
to visit only one general
State Asylum and talk with
a few ex-attendants, and as we
The Rebel says it usually pro-
we will pass to something we
prove for the present.

An English writer, Reade name, created a greater stir in England over private mad-houses than did Dickens on his private schools, with the result that they were legally abolished.

Well in Texas within the shadows of the steeples of San Antonio, the City of the Alamo from whose turret tops the flag of five great nations have pro-

by "itineraria" which operate as follows:

The patient is first kidnapped by the canvasser of the local hospital, the "Sanitarium" doctor, those who wish him out of the area or else who do not want him in an insane asylum, as the film is usually not really in.

He is put in a bare room with extra heavy wire screen clothes are taken away from him he is carefully guarded by a six foot male guard, who frequently changed. The guard draws \$15 per month and are recruited from the county jail, camps and state asylums. He has no shave or hair cut, there are sanitary arrangements in the building thing in them existing. The out of town in a

land. If you get good you are allowed to go in a large dining room where you learn the art of eating with some genuine luncheon. If you get bad they have a habit of kindly leading you to a room and in the meantime twisting your arm so as to cause the excruciating pain and leaving a mark. If you show up without a mark of your head bruised, you lose "house" and hurt it yourself. Incidentally a large heavy key is the hands of a husky guard in the room. Soon he looks and acts like a wild man. He refuses the food they offer him—then he breaks the power. A doctor and two strong arm attendants come and feed him through the nose. If he gets pissed at the treatment, they are usually in good luck.

any old dope will do. It is
 least that no one has ever

Private sanitariums should legally abolished; they should be publicly owned and conducted as insane asylums; and there will be a better chance to control them and less incentive to keep a sane man confined, bleeding his own family with outrageous fees.

Mother Jones, an old woman of 70 years of age, possesses that spiritual thing called spirit. She said into that Russian like state of West Virginia and single hand she whipped the military and the terror. When I read of nervousness and that then see able to young renters in Texas tremble with fear of a landlord and then to organize a Renter's Union, wonder how the plastic hand of terror is able to mold people so similar in character, outrageous in all that goes to make mankind.

Unskilled laborers employ the construction of building average \$30 per month and eight hours.

Skilled farm hands from \$27 a month with board and 14 hours.

W. THE FARMERS M.

Clyde J. Wright writing the subject of "Socialism Farmer" says:

Just take the time to bring to the revolutionizing forces modern cotton picker, the butterfly, farm laboratory, the "Hatchery," expert stock breeding, age refrigeration, also the off highpriced land, the...

Imagine the "poor whites" as colored farmers of the South, wearing mules and lack of scientific knowledge and without credit or trying to compete with an engine and a gang of plows that are here in forty minutes of time, as at once imagine the same thing as wheelbarrow competing with a train.

Granted, "Comrade White" granted. What are you going to do about it? Do you propose this economic development to proceed while we proceed to educate these "poor whites" as they shall cast a ballot than

do not possess! Don't you that only one human out of votes in the state of Texas to iniquitous poll tax law, the fact that they have to around looking for places de election time, and have to work in other counties at p cotton and public works and the vast majority of them are franchised. If this is so, anybody can deny it, then why you devote your energies to building up of a great ind union of these "poor whites" will, by direct action on the lord, land speculator and

By such an union the re-
condition 365 days in every year
stead of two election days in
years, days on which they were
hopelessly beaten. If there
be any hope of improvement
the renters through the ballot
it can only come through mass
tion in the Industrial Union of
farm today, tomorrow and
day in the year. The Rebel is
and tired of this whining
greasing and complaining of

The way is plain. Every Socialist local where the "poor who live in the sunny South should organize a Renter's Union and demand upon the landlords this: 1. All bonus systems third all around shall cease. A nine months school for the children. 3. Every rented house be clean, weather proof and possess the most sanitary arrangements possible. 4. The poll law must be abolished. Just for a starter to be put through NOW.

Then in their unions they proceed to form educational societies dealing with the question of land. They shall prepare a petition, in boots if necessary, to go to the next legislature demanding that all land held for speculative purposes shall be taken to its full rental value. They shall likewise organize for a compulsory education law; they shall set on foot an imperative demand for man's suffrage and thus give clean white women of Texas a chance to say whether they want to pull cotton sacks down the row of the rest of their lives or not.

shall strike a body blow at us. Then they shall proceed to form cooperative associations for the purpose of buying the most up-to-date labor saving farm machinery possible and by doing these things they will recognize that in union there is strength while he who fights alone fights the losing battle.

If Wright and other of our writers will get busy on this industrial union NOW, they will find that great good can be accomplished for the man who tills the soil and incidentally they will learn the fundamental truth of socialism.

to wit: that the ballot that
not an economic organization
hind it is like the steam that ev-
erates in the air because it is
confined to the boiler.
When friend Wright and others
of his type appreciate this fact,
they will stop writing of the ar-
rian economic conditions that
“poor whites” are pestered on
will turn their talents to something
constructive.

**WILL WORKINGMEN EVER
GET WISE.**

The Paterson authorities refuse the strikers the right to assemble in the city limits, and the Socialist Mayor, Brueckmann, of Hudson, offered to receive the strikers.—Ex.

ED TO ONE ADDRESS
FOUR YEARS FOR BLOC.