West Virginia F.-L. P.
Convention

Report on the Farmer-Labor Party convention held in Clarksburg, West Virginia, on March 13th and 14th, was not at hand in time for a memorable mid-March issue.

The session was a convention, which brought together more than 200 regular and fraternal delegates from farmers' and industrial workers' organizations, clearly demonstrating the lively interest in the swiftly growing farmer-labor unity movement.

The strength of this sentiment was exemplified by the unceremonious manner in which the delegates repudiated and drove from the convention Mr. W. T. Harriss, president of the West Virginia Federation of Labor.

With evident intention to wreck the Farmers-Labor Party, this loyal disciple of Sammy Gompers introduced a resolution calling for “non-partisan political action.” The vote was almost unanimously against this reactionary proposition. And after grossly insulting the convention for its progressive sentiments, Harrison beated a hasty retreat with a farewell message to this labor faker, he was informed by delegates that charges have been preferred against him, for his pernicious activities in the interests of the capitalists.

The principal purpose of the convention was to call a convention of the Farmer-Labor Party candidates for State officials. And this purpose was duly accomplished, with nomination of Ablett for the governorship.

For Governor: Dr. A. S. Bosworth, of Elkton; for Secretary of State, W. F. Nayor, of McMechen (representing the railroad craft organization); for State Treasurer, Dr. John S. Thayer, of the Farmer-Labor Party (formerly President of State Teachers Association); for State Auditor, Joseph R. Diggs, of Fairmont; for Attorney General, G. H. Dauth, of Clarksburg; for Superintendent of Schools, Mrs. Della Pettrick Franklin, of Huntington; and for State Commissioner of Agriculture, J. B. West, of Martinsburg.

As a candidate for United States Senator, on the Farmer-Labor ticket, the convention unanimously nominated Dr. M. S. Vann, of Wheeling.

And all the other nominees received a vote of acclamation.

It was a remarkable convention, that attended strictly to the business on hand—and then adjourned for a friendly farewell dinner, which was served to the delegates on Friday evening, the 14th. May there be many more of its like—and the nearer the better!

A Farmer-Labor Club

SPokane, Wash.—(Special to Farmer-Labor Voice) Rather a new departure in the farmer-labor movement was the outcome of a recent meeting of farmers and industrial workers in Carpenters’ Hall here.

The meeting’s chosen chairman was J. A. Vann, (formerly of the Vann), and the elected secretary was Dave Reid, formerly editor of The Spokane Forum. William A. Sayre, president of the Federated Farmer-Labor Party, addressed the meeting.

The farmers’ group made to hold a county mass meeting immediately, with a view to organizing the saluting precipices and to have a good representation attend the June 17th convention in St. Paul. More than fifty dined the roll as active workers in the Farmer-Labor Club, which was organized in this meeting.

New York State Convention

END OF POWER

Oklahoma Has a Real F.-L. P. Movement

In a meeting called by the Canadian County Branch of the Farmers Union of Oklahoma, the farmers were taken to organize a Farmer-Labor Party in the State of Oklahoma.

About 50 farmers and industrial workers’ representatives from various parts of the state met on Thursday, May 9th, and organized the new party. The meeting was held in the community house in Cimarron City, and was addressed by Miss Elizabeth Gilman of Baltimore. These three women have been convicted of frame-up among the victims of the six-week strike and are now “doing time.” California governors—Johnston, Stephenson and Richardson—have refused to grant pardons, and the courts have held that, although there is abundant evidence that the men were convicted by the use of false testimony, there is no way to grant them new trials.

The Canonsburg Meeting

CANONSBURG, PA.—(Special to Farmer-Labor Voice) The Federated Farmer-Labor Convention of Western Pennsylvania, which has issued a call for their county convention to meet in Canonsburg on April 27th, with purpose to place a ticket in the field for the coming county election.

This branch of the Federated Farmer-Labor Party has made great strides toward bringing about a radical reformation in the State legislative policies. With a membership of nearly 30,000 and an affiliation of fourteen local unions, two central labor councils and several progressive labor organizations, it is expected that some 200 delegates will attend the coming convention, from the labor union and farmer-labor organizations throughout the county.

Wage Cuts for Kentucky Miners

CHICAGO.—Wage reductions threaten coal miners in western Kentucky, according to information published for the benefit of the trade in the coal and coke section of the Chicago Journal of Commerce. The suggested action by a new board of the United Mine Workers of America, which would cut wages by 10 per cent, will be reviewed by the miners and the union. The proposed cut would be a new minimum rate for the coal miners of the district, which had been established between the miners and the operators in the district, at $1.50 per ton. This would be a new minimum rate for the coal miners of the district, which had been established between the miners and the operators in the district, at $1.50 per ton. The field producers of coal in this district are demanding that the miners be paid higher wages, as their work is more difficult and dangerous than that of the miners in the eastern districts. The field producers are also demanding that the miners be paid higher wages, as their work is more difficult and dangerous than that of the miners in the eastern districts.
National Secretary Reports on the East District

My recent trip and organization effort through the industrial centers of the Eastern district has revealed the fact that the work of organizing the Farm-Labor political party is proceeding in a most energetic manner.

When speakers pointed out the limitations of LaFollette's plan, demonstrating how such a program could make little headway against the forces of organized capital, the farmers were convinced that the need of such a class-farmer-labor political organization, separate and apart from the personality of Mr. LaFollette, was a powerful local leader.

And in Buffalo, at a meeting of the Central Labor Council, I was given the floor to speak on the importance of the 17th convention. I also pointed out the corrupt character of the present political administration, as exposed by the Teapot Dome investigation, and stressed the necessity for unity of action between the exploited industrial workers in the West and the farmers in the East. In this meeting a movement was inaugurated for the holding of a State Convention in New York City, and an effort was made to organize the State Branch of the Federated Farmer Labor Party.

Through Pennsylvania.

Then in Reading, Pa., there was a conference of Federal-Farmer Labor Party and other representatives, as a first step toward organizing a real functioning State Farmer Labor Party, and to arrange for sending delegates to the June 17th convention in St. Paul.

One conference was also held in Philadelphia, with trade union representatives, for the purpose of inaugrating a State Farmer Labor Party. A petition existed in Pennsylvania only in name heretofore. It is expected that a State Conference will soon be held in Reading, Wilkes-Barre, Erie, Pittsburgh, Reading, Philadelphia and other points, and that the State Farmer-Labor Party, when organized, will be committed to a definite program endorsing the June-17th convention.

South Dakota Primaries

PIERRE, S. D., March 28, 1924. (Special to the Farmer-Labor Voices.) The primaries in South Dakota have been fought out between the Coolidge Republicans and the Johnson crowd, with the result that Johnson obtained a scant two-thousound majority over the Coolidge people.

There were less than eighty thousand votes for both Johnson and Coolidge, but the few scattered precincts yet to report may bring the total vote slightly above that figure.

Farmers "Lay Low."

The fight was a hot one. A great deal of money was spent on both sides. The towns voted quite strongly, but the farmers mostly remained at home. The fact that there was a lack of earnestness on the part of the farmers was not fully facotory account for this stay-at-home vote.

The farmers, as a rule, saw nothing in either the Coolidge or Johnson candidate to justify their firesides. Of all them could have gone to the polls. The weather would not have made any difference to them from attending. But sick people did not attend, nor did the well ones; and for identification the same reason. They expected to be enlisted in either the Republican candidates. (It certainly is no credit to our State.) And so the Coolidge in South Dakota. A pig-tailed Chinaman could have done about as well, if there had been any real confidence. If he could have defeated Coolidge by a three-to-one vote.

Sterling Disposed Of.

The fight on Governor McMaster—"Gasoline Billie" vs. "Old Sterling Honesty"—was bitter and expensive. The governor was backed by a horde of State employees. Sterling was backed by the independent gasoline dealers and the stand-pat Republican bunch. The governor has promised to have his bill re-sterling. The vote has been waiting six years to get a whack at him. Anybody could have defeated him, on any issue, if it had been used merely in the implement to take a crack at the object of an ancient grudge. And this fall, having been buried South Dakota will probably not pay their respects in like manner to McMaster, against whom they have a local complaint quite as old as the great grudge they held against Sterling.

The majority democrats, McAdoo, Cherry and others, were well against the Houlahan fusionists. The majority of the regular democrats will probably be about four to one.

"Fusion" Fake Rejected.

In the farmer-labor primaries the majority ticket carried the State of South Dakota. The State Chairman, A. L. Ayres, for United States Senator and A. L. Putnam for Governor, has been opposed by the Independents in South Dakota, by about the same figures that the Bates crowd was defeated in the regular democratic primaries. It is believed that the Bates ticket last received its death blow and will hereafter be not seriously proposed by any group. They are, however, going to vote the Republican ticket this fall. They are labor-farmers, but they are registered as Republicans to avoid the inconvenience of having to be classified as Independents.

They presented the registration law, but finally complied to a great extent because the agents of the Republican machine made a house-to-house canvass and impressed them into the registration lists.

"Independent" Possibilities.

The air is full of politics. The latest is an intimation that Senator Smoot, running under the defeat he received, and.declares that he is going to be bought by bribery at the state political meetings. He seems to be an Independent candidate for the Senate.

Another possibility is that Mr. George Egan, the disgraced Sioux Falls lawyer, who is now running for the Senate, may file in that column, which cannot carry any sort of party or platform designation.

All of this muss contributes to the benefit of the Farmer-Labor Party, the only organization in the State which is not rent with dissension.

Interest in the June 17th convention is becoming more acute every day, and ballots are being received at the Mitchell headquarters of the Farmer-Labor Party about the matter in almost every mail.

WITHOUT PRICE—AND EVERYTHING!

The South Dakota farmer-laborites are progressively reporting an unbroken recent experience of the political aspirant named Houlahan—now "more commonly known in that section of the country as "Peanut"—has been "stumping the State" in company with one Frank Comberford, an assistant "spoil-binder" from the lower regions of Chicago's dubious political precincts.

It seems that this Comberford person proved to be much of an orator, but quite a spectacular "red-bender"—which is the principal qualification nowadays for antiprogressives stump-speakers. And the pride of this slate-stick team has been a highly exhilarating subject of political movement, wherever its political song-and-dance has been presented. The progressives are really sorry to see them leave the stage—indeed, several of these comedy exhibitions were quite "free-grants, for nothing" charge for such comedy presentations all the way from Lake County to thirty cents!

Subscription Blank

Federated Farmer-Labor Party, 200 W. Madison St., Chicago, Ill.

JOSEPH MAINLIE, National Secretary

Enclosed find $ for year, for which you will send to below address, Farmer-Labor Voice, for a period of months.

Name:

Address:

Town:

State:

Day:

The people, the leaders of the industrial centers of the Eastern district have been working with energy and determination to organize the Farm-Labor political party. The movement has gained momentum in various states, with conferences held in cities like Buffalo, Reading, and Philadelphia. In South Dakota, the primaries were fought between Coolidge Republicans and the Johnson crowd, with Johnson emerging victorious. The campaign was marked by a lack of enthusiasm among farmers, who preferred to stay at home. The majority of the regular democrats are expected to support Johnson, while the independents have faced challenges. The political landscape is shifting, with possibilities for "independent" candidates emerging, potentially benefiting the Farmer-Labor Party. With interest in the June 17th convention increasing, ballots are being received, and the party's platform and endorsements are taking shape. The political climate is ripe for change, and the Farmer-Labor Party is poised to make its mark.
The Farm Crisis

By HAROLD W. WARE

(Later installments of this article on the agricultural situation will deal with the subjects of Eastern General Farming, Western General Farming, Westernly Western and Cotton Farming (principally Southern).

Following a summarization of those various types of farming, the article will deal with an analysis of proposed and prospective remedies for the farmers' present critical position.

In the spring of 1923 the author made a survey through North Dakota and south through the wheat and corn regions of the United States, in order to determine the effect of the crisis on the working farmer in the several areas.

The effect of the crisis upon the farmer depends upon where he lives and the type of agriculture prevailing in his particular area. As has been shown, the varying and the scientific status of the working farmer is also modified by the various types of agriculture. The well-known "dirt" farmers of the Northwest with characteristic expressions call each other "soil-busters." The working farmer in the South may be a "cropper," a "hand" or an "independent operator." An old or new hand, he becomes a "work-still" and in the East is simply a "farmer."

In plain words, working farmers are the men, women and children who do actually work the land. They work it—and they want it. That is the essence of the struggle.

Speaking generally we may limit American agriculture to four broad types: (1) Industrial farming—(2) Wheat farming—(3) Cotton farming—(4) Industrial farming.

The first of these is not notably an important in the United States as a close approximation to the classification which is most frequently used—staple crop is the single distinguishing feature. The prairie domain is the only high-in-jeep and more fertile irrigated valleys of the West. Some large cattle ranches can be found in New Mexico, Texas, Idaho and California, but the bulk of the products are produced by large and small farms. The classification of food crops—"soil-busters"—is, in the eastern states, of little practical significance. These crops are shipped great distances to markets, out of which a large proportion is marketed on the capitalistic farm proprietors.

In this type of agriculture the "working farmer" is actually a commercial agriculturist, not a farmer at all. He has his skill and unskilled workers' unions. In numbers they make up but an insignificant fraction of the working population of the country. They are unimportant politically, in the management of the farm, and so on, but they are the result of a system of organized labor, that is to say, the organized labors of the country. These organize their own efforts and forward their organization, but they are not organized for such purposes.

The great bulk of the producers of these food crops are concentrated in the larger and more important areas of the country. They are organized for the purpose of getting a fair price and selling it for a profit, or, as some would say, to keep their wages higher. This is the case in the case of the large capitalist-farm proprietor and the large capitalist-farm proprietor who control the railroads. Both groups try to make the case that the railroads are not responsible for the high prices charged for the products. Farm Wages Are Depression in the United States

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The effect of the crisis upon the industrialized farmer, then, is this sharp reduction in wages. Through the organization of the workers, the farmers are able to keep his wages nearer to that of the industrial laborer, but because of the necessity to migrate to the railroad, the situation remains the same for regular periods of unemployment.

A farmer in Havana County raised 120 bushels of wheat, and his crew had to keep his wages nearer to that of the industrial laborer, but because of the necessity to migrate to the railroad, the situation remains the same for regular periods of unemployment.

Another apple-raiser, at Proser, sold 10,000 boxes of the very best quality—half the rest on ten acres being left unpicked—and he received as return $10.00.
Pacifism—and the Power of Labor

In deep crescendo now sounds the capitalist serio-comic opera fugue in monotone. Harping even upon the single-strung subject of "anti-radical propaganda," its present theme is different only in vocal expression from all previous repetitions.

Refined down to the Great War, the "red menace to civilization" was conned as "anti-preparedness activities," and the American Legion of ex-soldiers found it "anti-Germanism"—or plain "treason." And now it is pure and simple "pacifism." By this word the real enlightenment which the passing days and their eventualities have brought forth, this windy instrumentation of the "anti-war" campaign seems to become ever less popularly received by the listening masses. To such an extent that the idea of the super-patriotic American Legion organization of ex-soldiers finds this monotonous iteration a strain upon the nerves of its members. Having vainly fought "to make the world safe for Democracy," the rank and file is now inquiring as to whether the same organization that permits the Big Business interests "to successfully oppose the grant of a government bonus to those who performed the real and dangerous service of the World War period." When such an enterprise may have "charms to soothe the savage breast"—even of such as these "pa-triotic" murderers of Wesley Everest and millions of their ilk—then the War that is now raging to its impending climax. The selfish souls within these savages have already detected the fatal note in this symphonic dirge of American capitalism. For the semblance has become the veritable thing.

When such as these—with minds enmeshed in the great obsession of "pacifistic fervor," which makes a "righteous" country is appreciated only at the time that certain presumably civilized national governments are bent upon indulging in a death struggle for commercial supremacy, then does the end of capitalism indeed dawn. Because it may rest well assured that the false straws, no longer charm the ears of the great worker masses who have never been broken and who are a powerful fury to battle for their own destruction.

Nor will those masses be deceived by the brassy accompaniment to this murderous strain—that with a downfall of capitalism would come a collapse of Labor and the working men's efforts have brought forth. The masses of the workers have learned much in the cataclysmic epic of the World War; they have been driven into the motion with every passing day since then. The power of Labor to save from annihilation the work of its life and labor, has not been latent but present, and with every passing day the strength and resources of the economic power which it has wrought, and to assume for its own benefit, the social responsibility attendant upon that power.

The power of Labor will not wane with the fall of capitalism, but will rise supreme upon the ruins of that false edifice—modern exemplification of the ancient Tower of Babylon.

Wars are made by rich, selfish old men; and they are fought by poor, foolish young men.

Administrative Incompetence

Universally, through capitalist society, the dominant political parties in each country have demonstrated their inability to achieve any lasting benefit for that part of society in all countries of the world.

And this is due, not only to any structural weakness in the machinery of such political organizations. All structural defects have been removed, and the machine action is perfect—or nearly so as may be humanly possible.

But failure of the political machinery process is inherent, because the purpose of its action is a false purpose—unjust protection of the interests of a few individuals, to the detriment of the masses.

In each country must be preserved a semblance of democracy—or equal suffrage—in order that the administrative machinery may apparently function by popular consent.

There are provided two or more political parties—each equally under control of the capitalist power which rules the State—and between these various political parties the people are permitted to exercise their alleged democratic rights of suffrage. In the United States of America, and throughout the capitalist world, there are at present two alternatively dominant political parties. And each has been permitted to fulfill its separate purpose—of each being the same; and each does accomplish that purpose, during the course of its administration.

Then comes the struggle for retention of power by the political machine in official control against the non-official and the non-political, or by the similar political machine which would supplant it—each fighting for the financial benefit of its constituent office-holders, and for no other end. When Greece, meets Greek, then comes the tug of war. And when Democratic politician meets Republican, even more interesting exhibitions come to pass—like the Teapot Dome oil-land and draft-exposure scandals. With generally bad results for both political machines.

This is the one little defect which the bulldozers of the capitalist party machin-ery have not as yet managed to eradicate—because of the seeming necessity, for providing the people with a "democratic choice" of candidates in each national election. That there has been no such "democratic" choice; or rather, the capitalist principle of "Heads, I win; tails, you lose," has not apparently made much difference in the working masses—thus far. But times and manner do change, eventu-ally—though very slowly, in some relations. And it seems that the masses of the people have at last wearied of this Tweddle-dee and Tweddle-dum charade. So they have decided to construct for themselves another sort of political party—and to see what comes of it.

Would it be proper to say the portraits of our erstwhile worthy cabinet officials and their "rank and file" are being presented to the public in daily press, are "studies in oil"?

The latest joke in Washington "high jack finance" circles is magnate Sinclair's memo-rial to the dictator Daugherty: "He was a mighty poor oil man." When a fellow begins to "bellow" over some newly discovered right to civilisation, it is a ten to one chance that he is after a soft, well-paid job at combatting the said "bellowing." The Poor Fish says: "I have nothing against pacifists—but they should confine their anti-war activities to other countries; then they would be all right."
FARMER-LABOR VOICE

I personally know, was most extensively advertised and urged on the agricultural students.

In the investigation by the Minnesota Legislature of its labor conditions, the inconsiderate assertion that one million dollars had been expended in Minnesota alone to “save her from red social-ism,” owing to the session about one-half of it was unreturned. I had hoped through some of my progressive political friends to find out the truth in the old fallacy, “bull fund”—contributed as usual by “the great, good and godly,” whose identity as such was almost generalized from the moment they acceded to the Biblical injunction (revised version) to not let the right hand know what the left hand did. And which was doing better was the last word in social and civic promiscuity, even as the result of their liberality in funds was the last word in civic and political graft itself.

The environment of the University of Illinois was strewn with anti-radical literature, and it would have been a most important event had any of the intellectual prophets been the distributors. Meanwhile President Woodrow Wilson had changed human nature overnight, and his pride against fighting had suffered a terrible fall.

The first prominently advertised lectures after the war were offered in the New Year by the “New World” and “Treat ‘em Rough.” This produced a very chilling influence on those who had preserved their mental equilibrium by the thought that the country was “a war to end war,” and that the university would teach them how best to “beat their swords into plowshares, and war into peace books.” And this was followed by an alleged “wonderful Medical Service” in February 1919, during which “Mummas” from all the state clergymen and misrepresentations of the entire Non-partisan League’s industrial program were spilled forth. But this reproduction of the Federal Trade Commission gave back the lie to the very teeth of the “radical” University of Illinois, and afforded a “classic” of the lack of morals among those who apostilize for or advocate rationing in grants.

A large proportion of the dirty work of this University is done under cover of religious services from one person to another, for instance, on November 28, 1919, Stuart Pratt Sherman, one of the most gifted scholars in English, made a “vast attack on the grace of the grace of a Thanksgiving service.” This was at a time when the steel and coal strikes were at their height.

Religious hypocrisy is characteristic of this institution. It deems to Jewish students and others the mere mention of anything remotely comforting that the Puritanical Sabbath. But they can’t “drink the other eye” when it comes to a “pep talk” in favor of the American Ideal. They are presumably filled with “religious fervor and zeal.” They have at heart absolutely no feeling for organized labor.

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9. The date of the filing of the last semiannual statement containing the statement required by subdivision a of this section: November 28, 1919.

10. The annual value of all real estate in which more than $1,000 of the capital stock is owned, either directly or indirectly, is: None.
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JOSEPH MARSHAL

Powers to and subscribed to before me this 1 day of April, A.D. 1919.

(Seal or Signature)

Notary Public

(My commission expires April 28, 1919.)

USURY MUST GO!

By Senator J. W. ANDERSON

Interest on money, or civilization, must end—they both cannot continue. The world has reached a point where it cannot produce enough wealth to pay interest on its indebtedness live.

History teaches us that men repudiate and appropriate, before they starve or die.

Money should be considered as a medium of exchange only and not a commodity. The production of money with no wealth, produces no commodity, does not maintain the community, is mankindy, and yet through interest or usury is able to control and own the wealth which the producers of the world have created.

The time has arrived of making the inducements to the keeper of a toll gate upon a public highway. His function is to take tribute. In order to make the illustration simple and the analogy clear, we will imagine all the factories of the world are built on a barren hill side, and all the farmers a great valley, separated from the factories by a broad desert. Connecting the two is a great public highway over which the food goes to the factories and manufactured goods to the farms. This road is essential to the life of the nation; without it the men in the factories would starve and the farmers would be unable to get the products of the factory. The road is a matter of existence, and as such is free. It is owned by all the people. It was built by them for use in exchanging the products of the factory to the farmer, and the farmer's goods to the factories. For thousands of years it was against the laws of the country to obstruct the use of this road. No one was allowed to build a tollgate over these roads—such a one lost all social standing, was imprisoned, condemned, executed and his goods taken from him.

In time of great national danger, certain classes would be permitted to take the toll gates. But for purposes of national unity and defense—a tribute was now taken from all who used this gate.

The taking of the toll gates and the short time the keepers of the toll gates owned both the factories and the farms. The control of the factory and control of commerce and industry, placed in the hands of the owners of the gate, and the owners of the farms and the power of the nation.

The keepers of the toll gate have with the passing of the years, become respectable in the nation.

The slaves in the factories and on the farms are no longer the toll gate a legitimate institution. It was there when they were born and it would be considered “radical” and “socialistic” to make this great highway free once more.

The factories and farms are to produce enough wealth to pay the keeper of the toll gate, but that does not matter. The slaves could use it and vote the toll gate as an existence, but the gate keeper, by threatening to turn the farmers off his farms and the workers off his factories, makes the slaves that they are willing to remain in bondage.

Live or civilization must go! Which shall it be? Votes will tell. Say it with votes.

THERE'S A REASON.

NEW YORK.—The Hearst papers are getting more conservative because Arthur Brisbane, the getting richer, according to The Wall Street Journal, which, in the following:

Arthur Brisbane, headliner of the Hearst newspapers, whose pungent paragraphs daily every day near 9,000,000 readers, is not only an investigator, but is perhaps the largest operators in real estate in New York. The bulk of his fortune, now in seven figures, is in land and buildings. The increasing conservatism of the Hearst newspapers in the discussion of questions affecting property rights is a large measure a reflection of Brisbane, the property owner and capitalist.
They Fear the Fedje Bill

By H. R. Martinson

A tribute is paid to the progressive farmers and workers of North Dakota by the Fargo Forum for their reaction to the re-election of the state's old set of candidates. The editorial, which appears under the heading of "The Fedje Solution," notes that the Fedje candidates are a symbol of the old order, and that the election of the new set of candidates is a symbol of the new order. The editorial argues that the Fedje candidates are out of touch with the times and that the new candidates are more in tune with the needs of the people.

We Have Some Enemies

All organizations and individuals interested in assisting the formation of a new Farmer-Labor Party—which is the purpose of the June 17th convention in St. Paul—must not imagine that there will be little opposition to this effort.

Just as an instance, the official organ of the railroad unions, "Labor," has come out with an endorsement of the Convention for Progressive Candidates. And the case of the P. A. is doing all that it can to persuade farmers and industrial workers that they should not attend the June 17th Farmer-Labor convention.

With evident intention to suggest such action, the P. A. has called "Labor" publication now attempts to separate from the Farmer-Labor movement the strong forces in the La Follette party, and to win them for the July 4th convention of the alleged "Convention for Progressive Political Action." In discussing the coming July 17th convention, "Labor" has this to say:

"Some of the La Follette leaders are seriously disturbed over the preliminary third party movement which are springing up throughout the country. They are particularly suspicious of a call for a third party convention to be held in St. Paul on June 17th. According to reports reaching Washington, the majority of members of the committee on arrangements for this gathering are members of the so-called Workers Party, a recognized Communist organization."

"Only 13 names were attached to the call and no attempt was made to insure a representative attendance."

"In that event, it would be the easiest thing in the world for the Old Guard to park the gathering with its henchmen dissolved as rapidly as possible."

"Thus they could nominate La Follette on an unimpeachable platform to the accompaniment of a series of cheers."

"All of which is nonsense," of course. Because the call for this June 17th convention, was signed by representatives of both Farmer-Labor Party in the United States amounting to anything. And it is a convening called by those groups which are really desirous of creating a Farmer-Labor political party that will represent the interests of the exploited farmers and workingmen. It is true only that the St. Paul gathering will not be a convention built up merely around the personal appeal of Mr. La Follette."

On the contrary, the action before that convention must determine his status there.

"The article in "Labor" indicates that the hesitant, vacillating group behind the C. C. A. — which is now in some indefinite sort of a "Third Party" or for a policy of rewarding the friends and punishing the enemies of labor in both the Republican and Democratic parties—are now bent upon an effort to destroy the real convention of the farmers and industrial workers.

Lower Than the Lowest!

William J. Burns, the "great detective" in charge of the Government's Secret Service Department, explains why Edward B. McLean, owner of the Wall Street Post, carried on the department's role as a special investigator: "I found him to be very useful," said Burns. "I put a lot of information into him and thru him and thru the Post. We could use him and the Post when we wanted to find out something." Senator Walsh, later, pressed Mr. Burns: "You say, Mr. Burns, you have a lot of clean, poor men and "good men" and bad men," thus provoking the utter hopelessness of the laborers and farmers of the country who are achieving for themselves by voting for candidates on the old party tickets, and

WHEREAS, the exposures in connection with the Tempot Decalbal railroad reserve oils have again proven that both the Republican and Democratic Parties have not sought the exclusive interests of the nation, and these exposures have involved men of both political parties, it is hereby resolved:

RESOLVED, that the Schenectady News Assembly declares itself in favor of the organization of a new political action by the industrial workers and farmers, and be it further

WHEREAS, the conference be called of the different unions, workers' political parties, and other organizations who believe in independent action to form such an organization in this city.
Another "Heavyweight Champion" Passes

It seems that Attorney-General Daugherty has at last resigned his high public office in disgust—what with problems, perhaps? Well, certainly this time was "rotten riffs" for such action—most awfully rotten, in fact.

But before addressing to office with a vociferous promise to prosecute the war-contract grifters of the Wilson Democratic administration. Daugherty’s desertion will be considered a political suicide, and his attitude was fast and furious. His tally of such prosecutions is closely approximated by a large and hollow neural point of 0.

But his own record of iniquity in office mounts considerably higher in the numerical scale. He not only took no effective steps to prevent or remedy such odious scandals as the following (and others too numerous to mention, if we could recall them all), but abjectly he concealed in many, if not all of them:

- The Bureau of Engraving scandal;
- The Income Tax Bureau’s; the Veterans’ bureau;
- The Slem and the Tolbert crooked deals;
- The Reconstruction Service robbery;
- The sugar profiteering issue;
- The Liberty Bond “high finance” operations;
- The Taupat Dome and Exk Bills all-gold bill, and
- The Supreme Court of the Department of Justice—of which he was the official head.

Truly, a record of achievement for any profession politician to be proud of. And now, in his honorable retirement, he can comfort himself with this erudition from his friend, the Chicago Tribune: "He should be ashamed of the circumstances he will be more highly regarded as a private citizen than as Attorney-General of the United States.”

His death. Daugherty—in his old bed of rope yesteryear!

"Oil and Truth Will Get Uppermost at Last”

BY TOM MATTHEWS

The Powers-they have established and maintained in the United States a two-party system which is straight-jacket on the minds of the common people.

The Republican and Democratic parties, unlike other organizations which play a part in American life, have no stabilized membership distinguished by dues-payments or other ties.

In theory, the Republican party represents one great section of the American people, regardless of raising rates the rate it pays for money. Under direction of Secretary Mellon, the interest rate of 4 1/4 per cent, and the dictator, is offered with treasury savings certificates payable in five years. This has forced up the cost of living, and the farmers are less able than before to pay interest on loans.

The Big Business gang would dearly like to divert our attention from its unspeakable racket, such as the Teapot Dome case or the war fraud cesspool. That is why it has been so busy of late trying to kick up a cloud of dust over the bolthole "Nabobun" and other imaginary enemies. But what gets us is to see some working dog help Big Business dig up that cloud of dust. Why play into the hands of your enemies?

We have at last found the right way to organize the farmer. Now let’s see it through.

A Cubbing Rate!

By an arrangement with The Western Progressive Farmer, we are now enabled to offer our readers a year’s subscription to The Farmer Labor Voice and a year’s subscription to the former named publication, at $1.50 for the two issues himself, and the other rate per year is $1.00 per year—and each is worth several times that price, to the farmer, who affords so many enduring interests and duties, but has to wait for the latest news of the great progressive political movement that it has never been crowded for his benefit. The time to subscribe is NOW, while this rate is in effect.

16,000 Producers Declared Bankrupt

by LELAND ORS

(Seven)

More wage-earners and farmers were declared bankrupt by federal courts during the year ending June 30, 1923, than in any one of the previous eleven years, according to the annual report of the Attorney General of the United States. The number of failures among the workers due to eviction of mortgage holders, merchants, manufacturers, professional and others, also reached record-breaking proportions during 1923, the total number declared bankrupt by the courts amounted to 34,401, while the total liabilities amounted to $486,490,989. A year nearer approaching this in the amount of liabilities was 1917 with a total of $203,957,441.

The official figures show that 10,821 wage-earners and 5,945 farmers were adjudged bankrupt during 1923. In other words, these groups added 47 per cent to the total liabilities in the federal court records. This represents a very material increase as compared with pre-war years in the proportion coming from these two classes. During the five years 1912 to 1916 inclusive, farmers and wage-earners supplied less than 35 per cent of all the bankruptcies.

The extent to which farmers and wage-earners have been harder hit than the business classes by the war and its aftermath is revealed in the following figures, which show the percentage increase in the number of bankruptcies among the various classes since 1912:

Farmers and wage-earners, 1916 per cent;
 Merchants, 163 per cent;
 Bankers and manufacturers, 57 per cent, and profession,
 ais, 17 per cent. It is a startling fact that seven times as many farmer bankruptcies occurred as the Attorney General for 1923 as for 1912.

Cal Opposes Postoffice Race

(Washington) President Coolidge has come out against the race in pay demanded by the postoffice employees of the country. His Goose and Daugherty have persuaded him, for he says that this proposed expenditure of $125,000,000 on adjustment of salaries would have a "derescuing effect on the country."-1943.

'Derescuing effect" is translated into "bad example to labor in all other industries, just when we are trying to smash the general wage level."
The Political "Parlor"

The Farmer-Labor Voice solicits from its readers a free expression of their opinions upon all subjects of special interest to the farmers and industrial workers generally.

Contributions to this Forum should usually be of not more than three hundred words. With these, pen-names only will be published if requested. But name and address of writer must accompany each contribution.

The Farmer-Labor Voice assumes no responsibility for the opinions expressed in this manner.

Editor, Farmer-Labor Voice

A neighbor today handed me a copy of Farmer-Labor Voice, the first issue, and I must say that he could not have done me a greater favor. After reading it through, I feel quite relieved of all skeptical delusions as to the third-party idea. I know, for a long time, that there was something wrong with me. But I never had posted the right prescription—until today. Enclosed you will find my subscription for a year. I am offering you my wireless, to help in any way possible toward furthering the cause which this paper is advocating—and believe this is the clear duty of every true American citizen, whether farmer or other worker.

I am a little "under weather" just now, but as soon as I am able to get out, I shall battle up some more subscriptions. Am sending one other with mine, which I got on the way to the post-office. A little later, subscriptions will come even easier after there have been a few more Tariff Domes kicked over, along with the Mellon tax issues, Interstate Commerce Commissions, Bonus bills, and other Republican high-life scandals. The Harding-Coolidge administration ought to soon be pretty well aired. Some of the old "standing" voters here are already looking white around the gills. Am glad to say that I am not guilty of ever having been affiliated with them, in any way. In looking through the three county papers which I take, I find reported fifty-four mortgage foreclosures, with no doubt more.

But one thing that hits me hardest of all—and right between the eyes—is this "Notification of Execution Sale," which I am enclosing. I see it is pretty tough on that farmer and his family. Everything taken away—even down to the "20 glasses of milk," set away in the cellar, for "grand" occasions! It doesn't seem to be much use for people to work a farm, for that sort of a finish.

If the Government really wanted to do something for the farmers, they would use that $50,000,000 to help out in such cases as this—and give at least a few people a chance. And it would help the banks here, too. Land securities ought to be preferable to defunct foreign securities, or watered railroad-stock securities.

Hoping that I have not overburdened you with this long letter, and also hoping that I may be of some future benefit to the late Farmer-Labor Party and the Farmer-Labor Voice, I remain,

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) I. B. NILES.

Selby, S. Dak.

The Dictatorship of Hunger IN GERMANY

forces German workers to labor long hours for small pay.

A socialistic monument must work for the same amount of nourishment.

2 hours in the United States.
7½ hours in Germany.

This enables German Big Business to produce cheaply.

To meet German low prices in the world market, Big Business in other countries must sacrifice profits or reduce the scale of wages to the German level.

A Defeated Working Class of Germany IS A MENACE To the Working Class of America

Three American Soup Kitchens supported by the Committee for International Workers' Aid.

No. 1 - Petersburger Platz No. 3, Berlin No. 2 - Aschernerstrasse, Wilmerdorf No. 3 - "New York", Emdenerstrasse No. 23, Berlin

Committee for International Workers' Aid 32 South Wabash Avenue, Chicago, Illinois

Enclosed find $ toward the support of American Soup Kitchen No. I pledge $ monthly toward the support of this Kitchen.

NAME:

ADDRESS:

CITY:

STATE:
The Political "Parlor"