Massachusetts Lines Up

CHICAGO, ILL., MAY 15, 1924

Price, 5 Cents

OMAHA, Neb.—(Special to Farmer-Labor Voice.—I’ll go to jail—to hell—before I’ll vote in favor of war, or of the development of any other practices of the capitalists,” was the opinion voiced by E. M. Paul, a farmer, in his keynote speech to the May lst convention of the Progressive Party of Nebraska. And this sentiment met with vigorous applause from the assembled delegates.

It was the regular convention of the reorganized labor-syndicate political party, which has declined to fuse with Governor Charles Bryan’s “progressive” Democrats. And at the same time, in Omaha, conventions of both the Demo-

crats and Republicans were in session. Des
erate efforts by the Bryan following of Demo-
crats, to “buy off” the Progressive Party and its leaders, have signally failed. But Bryan, with his oldstyle Tammany tactics, has cre-

ated much confusion—and little fusion.

It was the chief task of the Progressive Party to rid their State ticket of all potential connection with “fusionists,” and to make clear their basic issues on which the movement for a national Farmer-

Labor Party is being built. Therefore, a reso-
novation of organization has been required. The Executive Committees, in cases where Demo-
crats and “fusionists” have held the state Pro-

gressive Party ballot, “to declare all such nom-

inations vacant and to fill such vacancies on the Progressive Party ballot with the names of such members of the Party as are known to be favora-
able to an independent political move-

ment of farmers and workers, and who will abide by the laws and principles of the Progres-

sive Party,” was adopted by the platform.

Eventually typical of the highly mechanical-

ized capitalist system of agriculture, the dele-

gates caravan now being organized “to go to jail—to hell—to war.” For they are in place of the more picturesque and spacious “covered wagon” that brought hand-hungry farmers to the plains. And the Bryan Democrats have a new rallying point, the “going West.” Meeting at a convenient cen-

tral point, this latter-day caravan of “busted” organization, and Judge Vanik upheld claims, to help launch in St. Paul the movement which is to bring back to the farm the Federal “labor” bond, for its users.” And there they will fight to save from capitalist desolation the lands which, with their pioneer flesh, have been fought for and must out and move to bloom with fertility.

Another resolution adopted in this conven-
tion enjoined railroads to act freely in their traffic plans, and Judge Vanik urged the railroads to act freely in the interests of farmers and industrial workers. One speaker was vigorously applauded when he denounced the “labor monopoly” and said that the future of the movement must be based on the personal liberty and independence of the individual worker.

The delegates were unanimously in agree-
mint that the time for all hesitation and vacil-
dation has passed, and that the sentiment is ready to discard the unprofitable and unproductive bonds that bind the farmers and industrial workers. One speaker was vigorously applauded when he denounced the “labor monopoly” and said that the future of the movement must be based on the personal liberty and independence of the individual worker.

AN IDAHO JUDGE SEE:s THE LIGHT

The "Criminal Syndicalism" statute re-

ceived severe jolts in Idaho, the recent deci-
sion by District Judge B. R. Varian when dismissing the case of C. W. Hammond, a union (I. W. W.) organizer. Judge Vanik upheld claims, to help launch in St. Paul the movement which is to bring back to the farm the Federal “labor” bond, for its users.” And there they will fight to save from capitalist desolation the lands which, with their pioneer flesh, have been fought for and must out and move to bloom with fertility.

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Washington Delegates to St. Paul Convention

The State of Washington, which is en-

listed in 33 votes in the St. Paul convention of farmer-labor forces, June 17th, is already prepared for the sending of 25 delegates to that gathering. This delegation will be headed by William Bousch (Sedro-Woolley), National Chairman, Federated Farmer-Labor Party, and John John C. Kennedy (Seattle), state chairman, Secretary, Farmer-Labor Party of Washington.

Western Progressive Farmers’ Coming State Convention

The State of the Western Progressive Farmers will be held at Progres-

sion, commencing on Monday, June 2nd—
one week earlier than as originally set. This change in date was made by the Executive Committee because of the Farmer-Labor National Convention in St. Paul on June 17, at which many of the W. P. F. delegates will doubtless be in attendance.

For the Prosser meeting, preparations are being made so that delegates can “camp out” and have their food cooked on the camp grounds.

Rhode Island Labor Party Convention on May 25th

The State Convention of the Rhode Island Labor Party will be held at Provi-

dence, on May 25th, in the American Co-

operative Board, 1753 Westminster St.

Official call for this State Convention is addressed to “Members of Labor Unions, Workers’ Fraternal Organizations, and Co-

operatives in Rhode Island.” And the call states that membership card in a labor or-

ganization will be received as sufficient, by the credentials committee of the convention.

In this call is embodied the following language:

"Ten years ago a group of workers in Rhode Island organized the Rhode Island Labor Party; and later they affiliated with the American Co-

operative Party. The Federated Farmer-Labor Party has suc-
ceded in grouping together various inde-
pendent political parties, into a federation. This is the first real effort that has been made to unite the worker on the land and the worker in the factory, into one organi-

zation."

All leaders of Farmer-Labor Voice, who are members of farmer or labor groups in the Rhode Island district, are urged to bring before their organizations the necessity for co-operating in the matter of this State Convention. Through such co-operation, a full Rhode Island delegation should be elected to attend the June 17th National Convention in St. Paul.

Nebraska Progressive Party On the Way to St. Paul Meet

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“OKLAHOMA LEADER” WINS NOTABLE DEFEAT

By JOSEPH MANLEY

OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLA. [Special to Farmer-Labor Voice.]—The Oklahoma scene of many interesting political struggles, all of which are part and parcel of the great American Capitalism and its two old political parties, has just witnessed another attempt of the workers and exploited farmers to organize a party of their own.

"Leader," Min-Leads.

This attempt is being made by the maneuvering of a middle-class group of liberals, professional office seekers and ex-justices, in the endeavor to get control of the two personnel and direction of the "Oklahoma Leader," a newspaper financed by the nickels and dimes of the men and women in the state, supposedly co-operatively owned, but in reality because of the property of a few select individuals who have made out of it an institution that now aids and abets the capitalist, by preventing the farm workers from launching a real class Farmer-Labor Party, and substituting their own pet ideas—a monstrosity in the shape of a party with only the name "Farmer-Labor," with a Third Party platform and a non-partisan policy.

Old Factionalism.

In the period before the war Oklahoma had a Republican, a Democratic and a Socialist party, all of which were well organized. The war and the consequent boom and prosperity and of production brought about the conditions that gave rise to such political phenomena as the "Oklahoma Leader," which later the Farmer-Labor Reconstruction League, and still later the Oklahoma People's Party. The Democratic party has been the dominant party, and with all of the foregoing organizations successively furnishing fertile material, this group is now hopelessly split into several factions. The old Farmer-Labor Party that existed prior to the Chicago July Convention of 1923 was not organized here. But its national committee, J. E. Spurr, tried to parallel the old party in its organization and partly in its policy, while actually not having a trace of organization and membership to back it up.

Progress Delayed.

The Farmer-Labor Reconstruction League met on March last at El Reno, and in line with its non-partisan policy endorsed a full State ticket, all of them parts of factions in the Democratic party. Consequently, the desired class Farmer-Labor Party in line with the real needs of the farmers and industrial workers, and the need to form a new organization, would be impossible, and the situation would set the stage for the new party, which is indeed the "Oklahoma Leader," a newspaper financed by the nickels and dimes of the men and women in the state, supposedly co-operatively owned, but in reality because of the property of a few select individuals who have made out of it an institution that now aids and abets the capitalist, by preventing the farm workers from launching a real class Farmer-Labor Party, and substituting their own pet ideas—a monstrosity in the shape of a party with only the name "Farmer-Labor," with a Third Party platform and a non-partisan policy.

Stein-Roller Functions.

The convention opened up on the morning of March 3rd in a school building present, in the auditorium of the Baptist Church, the pastor of which pronounced the benediction. Some of the officers of the committee of Stein-Roller were the temporary chairman and secretary, respectively. Hourly appointments, and the morning session was consumed in listening to the attacks on the non-appearance of the Mayor—who had promised to deliver the address of "welcome to the convention," and the non-attendance of the delegates by long speeches, such as that delivered by George Wilson, a former Democrat, who, if after a time, he visited the floor of the Oklahoma "Leader" steam-roller that ran this convention, the speeches of--

"Walter" H. Thomas Jefferson

[Speech not complete.]

The convention closed on March 9th, 1926. The President, George Wilson for U. S. Senator, and L. L. Libby for Corporation Commissioner, Workers Welfare, was endorsed.

Finally, when the question of the national convention arose, they moved to send one delegate to St. Paul, who would be the sole representative of the Farmer-Labor Party of Oklahoma. This forced me to again take the floor and point out the unfairness to the rank and file of the workers, and the workers, of Oklahoma, to tie them up with a single delegate.

The effect of this was to pass a motion that the delegates be selected from each county. Hogan then wanted to have the Executive Board appoint the delegates, but the convention thought this too raw and would not stand for it. Houchin was then elected as the "candidate-at-large," to St. Paul. He immediately announced that he was also going to Cleveland—and no doubt, that is where his heart lies. E. Spurr was elected as the regular delegate to the Cleveland C. P. P. A.

A Clubbing Rate!

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606 N. Clark St.,

JOSPEH MANLEY, National Secretary:

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

Name:

Address:

Town:

State:

When There's a Fall Out

NEW YORK—Lawyers and capitalist newspapers got the worst of it in a mutual mudslinging contest before a New York Bar Association meeting Wednesday evening, where newspapermen with blocking justice, coquetry, with unethical lawyers, raising the reputations of newspapermen to all too high a plane in the national stories and sabotaging legal reforms.

Framed and Charged.

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INFORMATION

California Still Quarantined
For Foot-and-Mouth Disease

According to reports from the Department of Agriculture, all California counties infected with the foot-and-mouth plague are still under rigid quarantine. The counties of Orange, Contra Costa, and San Francisco have been closed to Arizona and Oregon, with certain portions of the counties of Riverside, Tulare, Los Angeles, and Sonoma, Mercer, Napa, San Bernardino, San Francisco, San Joaquin, Solano and Stanislaus.

Western States Conference Called

By resolution of Governor Richardson, of California, the adjourned session will be held in conference in Sacramento, for studying conditions with a view to ameliorating all facts concerning foot-and-mouth disease in California. Invitations to this conference have been accepted by the states of Arizona, Nevada, New Mexico, and Oregon.

Coyote Campaign Part of Quarantine

An intensive pan-hoarding was inaugurated against coyotes and hawks, particularly in Contra Costa County, in order to prevent the spread of infection by means of these animals. And many dead coyotes and owls have been found in many strange ways and domestic cats addicted to cross-country strolls. But—courageously states of California and Oregon are fighting this disease.

"This reduced the liability of their carrying infection from one ranch to another."

Low Price For Wheat Due

To Loss of Foreign Markets

Reports from the West are that this year's crop of wheat in Kansas and adjacent states will be one of the finest in years. The prices are higher than the usual season, but the premium is not included in the forecast. The forecast of new crop wheat at the current price of 12 dollars is about the same as the previous season's average.

Commodity prices in Chicago on April 12, 1923, with those of the same date this year reveal the expected increase in prices on all cereals and grains. The closing quotation on wheat in Chicago on April 12, 1923, was $1.00 per bushel, compared with the corresponding date of 1922. The prices of other grains were as follows: Corn, 30 cents; oats, 22 cents; and 46 cents; oats, 87 cents; and 45 cents. Wheat and oats are still lower than the average price of these grains.

Spanish-American War Prisoners

Washington has almost a dozen class war prisoners in her jails. The I. W. W. boycott is intended as a signal attention to the persecution by California of workers who are otherwise unexcused from one to fourteen years because of membership in that labor organization.

"NOTHING TOO GOOD FOR OUR BOYS"

(By Federated Press)

PALO ALTO, Calif.—The veterans' bureau is investigating charges that decayed eggs and cast off scrapings of ice cream are being served to the sick soldiers in the base hospital here and at San Carlos.

Page Mr. Johnson!

Where now is the great "Redeemer of California"?

The States of Arizona, Idaho, Nevada, Utah, Oregon, and California—in all of which States the foot-and-mouth disease quarantine has from the start been strictly enforced, are generally looked upon as places for placing a still more drastic embargo on California proceeds.

Governor Pierce, of Oregon, complains that infection from California has cost the lives of 20,000 Oregon dairy cattle, and that the menace of such infection is seri-

ously interfering with business generally in the West. The great cities of the West are inquiring of the Federal government for funds to help them in arranging for shipments of fruit and vegetables from Florida, Texas, Colorado, and other sections, in place of the California produce.

In California itself, business is paralyzed. The City of Los Angeles—Mecca of the motor tourist—now stops all incoming cars. All the liquor establishments turn these vehicles away, demanding gasoline and $2.50 in cash to speed them away. This foot-and-mouth disease epidemic is costing California millions of dollars a day.

And "California, the Beautiful"—is now a Laper-land of Isolation!

BE A STAFF CORRESPONDENT.

It is the desire of Farmer-Labor Voice to speak directly to the farmers and industrial workers, in their own language and from their own point of view. As far as possible, we are asking our readers everywhere to send in news items with reference to the Farmer-Labor movement in their localities or with immediate vicinity—about the growth of farmer-labor sentiment for unity of action, and as to organization meetings held or in prospect.

In "God's Own Country."

(From The Volksstimme)

SACRAMENTO, Calif.—There were 342 murders in California in 1923, and 3,366 deaths by accident, many of them industrial; but 963 committed suicide in Cali-

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BE A STAFF CORRESPONDENT.
The Melon tax-plan has been killed in the United States Senate—and the Democrats are vociferously jubilant. The Republicans are in a minority, without much less demoralizing—indeed—for this is a doublegje opening measure of the Democratic swan-song.

To reduce the higher surtaxes of the very rich, from the present rate of 25 per cent—and to add additional taxes upon “worker” and the small business man.—While the Melon plan, the Democrats plan, and the longworth substitute proposed little different in that plan.

The special interests behind the defunct Melon plan died hard. But after having failed twice comprehensively, the House—by adoption of the Garner plan and then by adoption of the Longworth substitute—the Senate has now rejected it, along with the other.

The Garner plan was for 44 per cent on income, 71 per cent upward; and the Longworth substitute proposed little change in that plan.

Behind the Melon plan were lined up special interests controlling the most powerful propaganda machine ever formed in America—representing wealth and every predatory force now existent. Through the operation of those interests, these interests received from the last Congress a reduction in taxation to the amount of more than a billion dollars. Yet the small tax payer received practically nothing in the way of reduction.

When the Melon plan was first proposed there was a great hullabaloo from the Republican reactionary and special interest press and other instruments of propaganda, to the effect that the national administration was attempting through its Revenue Committee was going to give the country substantial tax reductions. But when this plan was analyzed, it was found that the tax deductions would apply only to the privileged few. Yet the operation of its propaganda machine had been so effective that even many of the people who were thus deceived do not know what the Melon plan really was.

A part of the same commodities to make it appear that by defeating the Melon plan, the opposition could avert the issue of tax reduction—and thus were deceived many thousands of tax payers whom the plan would not have benefited. This alleged plan for tax reduction was intended to be made an effective campaign slogan for the Republican Party. And the consequent defeat of the tax reduced will arise such a slogan for the Democratic Party. The interest of the small tax payers, however, would not have been increased by adoption of the Melon plan; nor will those interests be materially affected by its now heralded defeat.

With us, government has come to a trade and is managed solely on commercial principles. A man plunges into politics to make his fortune and only cares that the world should last his day.—Emerson, writing in 1863.

Government is always stupid, slow, waste, corrupt. We can stand the restrictions if it is qualified to be merely a watch-dog; we are lucky if it is an honest one.—Herbert Spencer.

We wonder if Congress would consider a petition, endorsed with a couple of million voters' signatures, asking that the Post-Office Department change its slogan to "Training Camp" into "Let's Go to St. Paul!!"

The Farmer-Labor Party goes on gathering strength every day, and its opposition by politicians in high places—elected by farmer-lobbyists. And as this new political party gains in strength watch these kypocrats scramble onto its bandwagon.

The Farmer-Labor Party is not seeking many new laws. Mainly it is seeking to change privileged class laws into common and equal laws, and eventually to reduce the number of laws to a single one. To the work, the product of his work.
Organizational Support Grows for National Farmer-Labor Party

By C. E. RUTHERBERG

Reports from St. Paul indicate a nation-wide interest on the part of the farmers and industrial workers of this country, in the June Convention of the Farmer-Labor Party. Unquestionably several thousand delegates and others in that convention, representing at least 200,000 farmers and 70,000 farmers. And what is more important, right now, the work of building a solid organizational structure for the national organization which will be formed at St. Paul is well under way in many states.

Significance of June 17th Meeting

A meeting of the Farmer-Labor Party at St. Paul would be a splendid thing from an agitational point of view; but unless this convention, if not followed by concrete organizational work, would soon disappear. Thus the significance of the June 17th convention is in the fact that we are assuming a nation-wide interest and determination to bring about the formation of the Farmer-Labor movement in all states.

New State Parties Building

The six state parties referred to above are the result of the movement throughout the country, all of which are pledged to the St. Paul convention. In New York, the call for a State convention is being issued by a group of local trade unions, and an organization will be created during the latter part of the month of May which will be pledged to the June convention.

Come to St. Paul!

Come to St. Paul!

By ALBERT H. HOOK

The most important convention ever held in this country, and the one in which the workers have the greatest opportunity to increase their strength and to demonstrate their potential power, will meet in the City of St. Paul, Minn., on June 17th.

Working-Class Gathering

This convention is a combination of men and women truly representing all that is real in the movement of farmers and working men. It will represent the Farmer-Labor Party. It will be the expression of the masses of the people, who are dissatisfied with the present régime, and who will have been organized by the greatest single and most successful mass action program ever undertaken in this country. This convention will be the most tremendous and the most embittered and the most determined black letter program ever presented to any convention for the working class.

Permanency of Crystallization

The fact that in the six states there are Farmer-Labor Parties already in existence or in the process of building, indicates that there is a determined movement for independent political action and gives promise of a permanent crystallization of the Farmer-Labor movement. It is the result of the organizing work carried on by the Farmer-Labor Party.

The June Convention

By ALFRED KNUDSEN

As the time approaches for the meeting of the Farmer-Labor Convention at St. Paul, more and more the name of the organization grows in the minds of those farmers and industrial workers who have been called "progressive" leaders who pretend to be the leaders of the farmer-labor movement are now advancing the idea of the premature launching of a national Farmer-Labor Party.

Farmers for Action NOW!

So far as the Northwest is concerned, all talk of such a movement is in the air. Almost to a man they are for such a "new" idea and they want it NOW. They are fully as much interested in the farmers and industrial workers as in the others and will give them justice.

Most of the farmers will say that things are not working too well under the old régime, and that this is not the only one who is now in dire need of relief. The farmers of Oregon, California, Oklahoma, Ohio, West Virginia, and several other states, who are now busy organizing Farmer-Labor parties in their states, realize the necessity for putting up a united front of all workers, against the tyranny of the mortgage sharks and food gamblers.

Conditions Rigor Mass Party

Some there are those who fear that such a political organization of the nation's workers will be a great encumbrance and they tell us wisely: "You cannot launch a Farmer-Labor Party by the adoption of a resolution."

But it is not necessary to imagine or invent unnecessary conditions and grievances, in order to inaugurate such a political party at this time. The conditions for its creation are not only present, but exist, and the more they exist, the more the people will rally to this movement. With hungry, bankrupt, tens of thousands leaving the farms and cities every month, we need the unity of the entire country not earning sufficient net income from their crops to pay the interest on the mortgages and the whole country is discontented in order to find an excuse for now creating a National Farmer-Labor Party.

Let us move forward with the formation of a real Farmer-Labor Party in the United States. Remember the date of June.
FARMER-LABOR PARTY IS BUILDING IN PHILADELPHIA

Unions Issue Call For May 27 Conference

PHILADELPHIA, PA. May 11.—A call for a Farmer-Labor party conference, to be held May 27, 8 p.m., at Machinists' temple, was issued last week by the executive committee of that city.

Brother Adolph B. Gersch of Painters', Local 666, 1923, was elected chairman of the conference committee. Another Brother H. O. McClurg of Paperhangers' Local No. 587 is the secretary.

The call reads:

"Greetings: There never was a time in the history of this country when the possibilities were so apparent for the formation of a labor party. 

"The cost of living is rising. An intense campaign is being carried on everywhere for the disfranchisement of the worker, and for the establishment of the open shop system."

Bankruptcy of Farmers

Millions of farmers are bankrupt. The Tender Dime exposes have shown conclusively that our government is completely subjected to Wall street and other big financial interests. When a strike takes place the government has no sympathy for the bosses and against the workers.

The money powers in control of both the political and economic situation do not care for the political or economic well-being of the nation. They are only interested in the control of the political and economic status. When the labor movement becomes stronger, these powers consider it a threat.

The success of the British labor party is an example of the first achievement. That comes at a time when the necessity of unity is most pressing, it is to the benefit of the nation.

The success of the Farmer-Labor party of Minnesota is another striking example of the wisdom of united efforts for the struggle of the farmers and industrial workers. The farmers and the workers have a common cause, those who work for the destruction of our organizations are also responsible for the appalling condition prevailing among the farmers. More than five and a half million farmers are bankrupt and are at the point of starvation.

All over the country the workers and the farmers are finding that no great achievement is possible among Farmer-Labor parties with the end in view of consolidating all these local Farmer-Labor parties into a national party, which will nominate candidates for governor and vice-president on a Farmer-Labor ticket.

Conference Called

A large number of Philadelphia labor unions adopted resolutions for the immediate formation of a local labor party. Delegates were elected by these locals to a committee to call a conference for the formation of such a party. The committee met May 6, at the Paperhangers' hall, 1524 Ridge avenue.

"The name of these local unions the arangement of the conference calls upon all labor and farmer organizations, working class fraternal and working class political organizations to come to the conference to be held at the Machinists' Temple, 13th and Spring Garden streets, on Monday, May 27, 8 p.m., for the purpose of organizing a local farmer-labor party in Philadelphia."

Representatives from the conference will be as follows: Three delegates for each local labor union or working class political party; one delegate from each industrial union or working class fraternal organization.

FARMER-LABOR PARTY

"You call upon your organization to elect delegates to this conference and to forward their names and delegates' qualifications to H. O. McClurg, 1519 North 13th street."

This is anticipated of your cooperation in this most important matter, and we wish for a united front. We beg to remain,

Fraternally yours,

PHANTERS' L. U. 666

Adolph B. Gersch, Chairman;
PAPERHANGERS' L. U. No. 587,

Editorial Note:

THE FARM CRISIS

By HAROLD M. WARE

(Following: this concluding installment of "The Farm Crisis"

there will be a complete serialization of the various proposed and prospective remedies for the present agricultural depression in the agricultural industry; and at the end, a general summary of the whole with Ed.)

COTTON FARMING

As you drive through Oklahoma and Texas you come to the land of Kings. It is not a cup of coffee country. But the striking difference is the absence of modern machinery; the primitive methods and the small average holdings of the tenant operators. It is true there are a few large holders in these two states, but farther East, in the Black Belt, they are virtually on only 20 to 40 acres each. In the South, in fact the whole social and financial system of the country hinges on cotton. It is natural then that the demands of the cotton crop do dictate the development of the South. In the past no machinery has been invented that can profitably displace the black fingers of the Negro cotton picker; and so, for centuries, the Negro has been driven to this actual as well as political slavery.

But now a new element has formed itself upon the South. It is the belt weevil. The ravages of this infestation have spread throughout the whole cotton area. It has brought about new processes of planting, disinfection and rotation of crops, which are far beyond the experience and capabilities of the Negro tenant on any of these projects. The migration of the Negroes to the North is not but one of the evidences. Cotton failures have restricted the Southern cotton trade and no one could have anticipated the number that are now coming to the markets. Cotton, which was customarily "carried"—that is, fed—until the cotton gin was invented, is in the South now a product of the labor of the Negroes. The United States is now a cotton country. The Negro thrives by Northern manufacturers, of cash wages, and you see the movement of Negroes from the Southern cotton-growing area to the West.

In the industrial agriculture of the West the interest in the working of the "white stubble"—is more than an attainment of new wages. They have lost their skill, their labor, to a foothold and a home on the land they took.

The "Northerner" is slowly awakening, from the jolt of a 400 per cent increase in cotton prices, to a realization that his equity is evaporating. Also the cotton and the prices of 1929 have fallen along with all other farm prices, in the cotton center at his home town, and this great depression of 1929-20. The Eastern farmer must fight for his land— or more to the point—his home.

In the grain country, a social change is being forced, the inequalities between the individualistic agricultural production and the socialized system of industrial production. The new social structure in the grain country will demand that the struggle between the forces of capital and the farmers be fought and the worker, in the form of a labor party, be an independent factor of the community.

In the South the working farmers—that is, the Negro and poor white—have been bankrolled by the big cotton planters in the hands of the capitalists who exploit the working farmers. A cotton economy is a terrible thing, but a change has been made necessary. A change is possible on an industrial basis. More and more, modern methods are being adopted. The Negroes will become in name as well as in fact an exploited labor class.

HOME TOWN LABOR'S VIEW OF FORD

DetroiT.—Ford's labor policy is well known to those who are close to Detroit. The executive officers of the Detroit News, organ of the Detroit Federation of Labor, as one gets away from the city, is not even in the hands of the capitalists who exploit the working farmer. As for the Ford motor car, it may be the best car in the world, but a change has been made necessary. A change is possible on an industrial basis. More and more, modern methods are being adopted. The Negroes will become in name as well as in fact an exploited labor class.

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FARMER-LABOR VOICE

UNEMPLOYMENT 

AConstant dread of the workers under Capitalism—and the fear of it—is a scourge which will drive them in the slaughtering of men. and consequent growing unemployment. Despite temporary variations due to inconsistencies within the capitalist system, the general trend has been toward a more widespread unemployment of the working class throughout the world. And at the same time, the workers are confronted with the most profound unemployment crisis in history. The need for workers is now no longer just a question of choice; it is a matter of life and death.

Extend and Rate of Unemployment

In the United States alone, the mass scale of unemployment has not yet developed the mass character which is now evident in many European countries. The rate of unemployment in this country is increasing rapidly, and the government has no control over the situation.

In the case of the mass unemployed, there is no way to escape the present financial and social crisis.

THE UNFAVORABLE CHANGE IN THE EMPLOYMENT SITUATION DURING APRIL, IT SAYS, "IS OF REAL SIGNIFICANCE." THE EMPLOYMENT BUREAU'S REPORT SAYS "IT WILL PICK UP IN MARCH AND EXPAND FURTHER IN APRIL AND MAY," FAIRLY PLEADING THAT "THE RATE OF UNEMPLOYMENT IN ILLINOIS INDUSTRIES IS REACTING TO A LOWER LEVEL."

Secretary Hoover's "Prosperity" hoax

Was Secretary Hoover conspiring with Wall Street to give the people a false sense of prosperity? The worker's voice is denounced throughout the country. The president's cabinet that there was little or no unemployment in the country. U. S. Senate a large figure to writers of the opinion that he must have a dollar or more to spend in the store. And the executive branch of government appears as the publicity tool of business interests.

Starts Fund for Unemployed

MAY 15, 1924.

Unemployment insurance, administered by the workers. Grants by the Government. Industry must be responsible for maintenance of its workers. Equal division of work among workers in. each industry and shop. Assessment of employed, for relief of unemployed. Establishment of control committee of workers, to regulate production and investigate accounts.

Employment of the workers in the meatpacking industry.

Struggle against sabotage by employees. Unemployment influenced by the employers and administered wholly by the workers. Jobs on the Toboggan

BY LELAND OLDS

Federated Press Industrial Editor

A serious decline in factory employment during April is shown in reports from the state labor departments of Illinois and New York. Both reports show sharp reductions in working forces as compared with a year ago.

Fully 40,000 workers have been discharged from Illinois industries since June, 1924, according to the state labor department, which points out that employment in the state is materially on the decline.

"The unfavorable change in the employment situation during April," it says, "is of real significance." The employment bureau's report says, "it will pick up in March and expand further in April and May," fairly pleading that "there is a definite trend toward a lower level of unemployment in Illinois industries is reacting to a lower level."

State employment offices reported an oversupply of labor in 142 counties for each 100 jobs. This contrasts with last year, when the state employment offices had only 100 jobs and employers bid the common labor rate up to 72 cents per hour.

Chairman of the Industrial Commission, Chiet of the state report a sharp drop in factory employment during April, with 55,000 fewer workers on the payroll of New York city than a year ago.

The reduction extended to all parts of the country, and is evidence of the first step toward equalization in all important manufacturing districts.

"The job situation almost without exception, show a decline."

Chairman of the industrial commission states that the drop in the labor market is significant, and that the trend is downward.

"The question, "Is there a depression with comitant unemployment?" has changed into the more vital one, "How long will it last?"

SECRETARY HOOVER'S "PROSPERITY" HOAX

The Chamber of Commerce of Decatur, Illinois, seems to be a quite a typical specimen of the Chamber of Commerce. It is one of its actions, was prevented a showing of the great new film—"Russia and Germany; A Tale of Two Economies." This was the result of an effort to assist the starving German children of the city.

The film was booked for show at the Decatur High School, but the last moment protest of the local Chamber of Commerce, the film was not shown. The movie was shown by the local Chamber of Commerce, and it was not shown because of the protest of the local Chamber of Commerce.

The picture is shown all over the country, without hindrance, and a crowded house appeared in the show. It was at Chicago, on May 14th; and the first showing in New York City was on May 6th, at the Capitol Theatre.

The working class of America is moved to compassion by the sight of the German workers battling heroically against the black forces of capitalist reaction, with its attendant small industry and starvation wages.

And they are thrilled with hope, over the tremendous workers' advance shown in the Soviet Russian picture.

The receipts from the showing of this picture were used to pay for the treatment of the Amalgamated Clothing workers and their employes in the Chicago men's garment industry.
Farmer-Labor Forum

Farmer-Labor Voice: solicits from its readers a free expression of their opinions on matters of special interest to the farmers and industrial workers generally.

Citations in this column should usually be of not more than three hundred words. They will only be published if requested. But names and addresses must accompany each contribution.

Farmer-Labor Voice assumes no responsibility for the opinions expressed in this column—Ed.

Outlook, Wash., May 4, 1924

Editor, Farmer-Labor Voice:

The Farmer-Labor Party in this state is getting into action. As chairman of the Fourth District convention which meets next week at Prosser on June 3, for the purpose of electing five delegates to the 8th Paul national convention and also for the purpose of placing a candidate in the field for member of Congress.

On the same date, at Prosser, the Western Progressive Farmers organization will hold its annual convention. They have always been in harmony with the Farmer-Labor Party, and will give it their hearty support.

As for the other farm organizations, they are more or less reactionary, or radical as members, but as an organization The Grange is far more important from the political standpoint. The Grange and the Farmers Union are in about the same position as The Grange.

Some of the labor unions are controlled by Communists, and are definitely reactionary. But a majority of these are members of the United States League, which supports the Farmer-Labor Party.

The secretary of our state committee is John C. Kennedy, formerly of Chicago, and at one time a representative of the University of that city. He is very active in the movement. And so is Ellens Bowles, of Prosser, editor of The Western Progressives Farmers Bulletin, also known as "The Cherry King," because of the great crop of that fruit which he raises.

The sentiment is good here for Senator LaFollette as a candidate for president—but any other capable man would be acceptable.

I am sending a check for $1.00. Send me a bundle of your newspaper for general distribution—Walter Price.

Editor, Farmer-Labor Voice:

The present deplorable condition of the wheat-farmers in eastern Washington is a lack of their lack of effort to help themselves. President Coolidge, as well as the Secretary of Agriculture, has said the only way to keep the farmers out of their own salvation.

So we must act as a whole, and hold meetings to explain the plan of operation. County meetings should send delegates to state meetings of farmers and industrial workers, and these delegates to meet with labor representatives in a national convention.

In the nominating convention for a third political party, the farmers have a chance to show them what they can do. If the farmers-delegates will have plans to present, for the solution of their present situation. We are warning farmers to organize coalitions. And miners in the coalfields, of clothing, of coal, oil, paint—growing ready products of the labor movement.

The farmers today are no poor that social activities among them have prospered

WILLIAM MAXWELL
Conway, N. Dak.

To the Editor, Farmer-Labor Voice:

The present financial situation of the American farmers might be said to be due to "the high cost of living menace."

For years and years past, the farmer has had to buy at retail prices. The great wholesale (distributors). He has had his land (job) taxed to carry on many kinds of work which involve several kinds of courts—when the old town-meeting direct legislation worked much better and was of much better than all of these.

The banks—acquired by the people—charge Seven Billion Dollars a year, to the farm population. The Federal Reserve Board, to keep the big banks from acquiring the banks to show that this farmer has money on deposit and not safe in the bank.

It is said that the interest-bearing bonds of all the various kinds of government—including mortgage, streetcars and installment house debts—amount to $20,000,000,000 in Five Billion Dollars. The capital, a farmer pays the banker Seven Billion Dollars on the claim of leased bank credit.

Of the farmers was Henry Ford to pay his workers $6.00 per day—with the buyers' money—and with the same money, Ford does not give full exchange when he trades a Ford for a Ford owner's money. And now he wants Muscle Shocks—for patriotic (profit-seeking) purposes.

Ezra R. Avery,

Coal Camp, Wyo.

Fees of Conscription

(Federated Press Book Review.)

While most people were opposed to conscription before the big business interests threw the shadow of war across the land, only 500 men of draft age carried the opposition to the extreme limit in the few days between every boyon drenched with war fever.

These 800 war objects and the 4,500 who went, part of the way with them in the Wilson War machine get their due in the court of the rending public through Norman Thomas' book "The Conscription Objector in America."

The American is not a bad hickory and he will therefore find much interest them in the account of the government's troubles with these rebels against military authority. He will pass over the accounts of inhuman torture in American camps of some of the objects, knowing that soldiers in bat- tles suffered just as much and more, though perhaps in the name of liberty and justice, coddly administered by sadistic traplains and colonels.

He will linger a bit over the 57 varieties of re- ligious objection and then will come down to the home-swept objector that every dobutcharger could understand.

This was the objector who handed it out to the officers as his view that it was a rich man's war and a poor man's fight. This objector had no objection to the army and to the fighting men as such, in fact he rather favored a good scrap like the Russian revolu- tion or the American revolution and wouldn't mind putting on a uniform and shouldering a gun to fight against the Wall Street war profiteers and the bosses generally. The dollar a day Yank who has now been refined his cash beans will appreciate such fighting doctrine.

Right here the more intelligent reader will con- clude that the book falls down a bit. The author is evidently allied with the groups opposed to all war and develops a comprehensive anarchistic theory of the state. The good point about this is that he knocks those arrogating objectors who were willing to take nonresistant service. They were unwilling to feed the gun but jumped at the chance to feed the granary. Thomas shows them up.

The book has a foreword by LaFollette who pic- turequely points out that "a conscience against war brought objectors to prison! a lack of consciences against stealing brought profiteers to pal- ace!"—C. H. The Conscientious Objector in America, by Norman Thomas; B. W. Houghton Mifflin Co., New York, $2.

Labor Pamphlets

NEW YORK.—The Denial of Civil Liberties in the Coal Fields, by Winthrop Lash has been published by George H. Doran for the League for Industrial Democracy, the American Civil Liberties Union, and other organizations. It pictures the cruelst role of company managers and gamblers in company-owned towns. Besides, the results of other investigations are given including the official report of the Federal Coal Commission.

Development of industry through reduction of sur- taxes on the rich, the steel trust, and how Henry Ford gets his money are some of the subjects dis- cussed in George Sooie's new pamphlet, The Accumula- tion of Capital, published by the League for Indus- trial Democracy, 79 Fifth avenue, New York.

The New York "World" says, "Little did Coolidge think, when he was sworn into office by the light of the oil lamps!" That's too bad. But he was rich for a lot of food though—in the light of the oil illumination.