

Repeal
Unemploy-
ment!

AMERICA FOR ALL

Vote
Socialist!

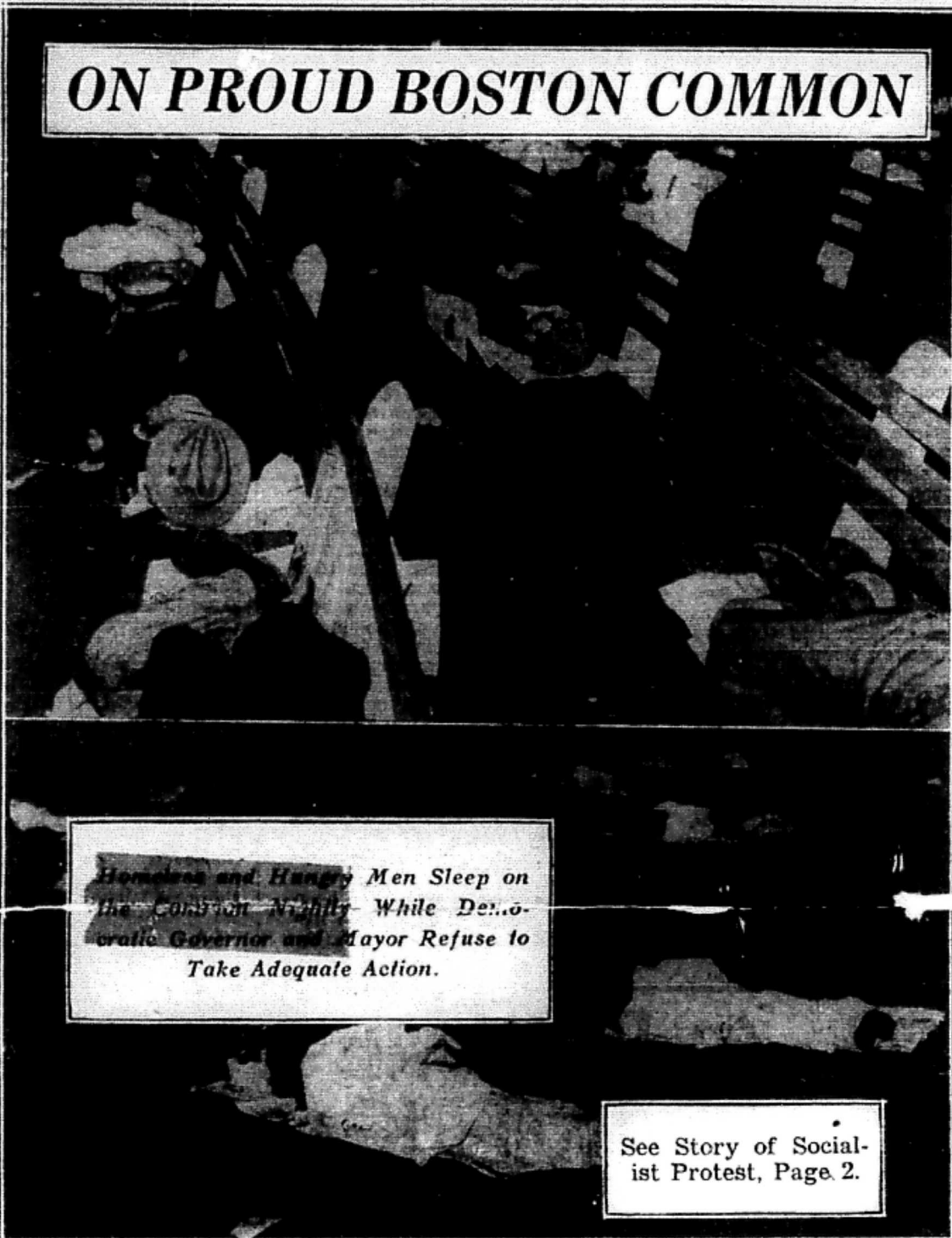
No. 9

OCTOBER 1, 1932

Chicago, Illinois

INSULL SHIELDS HIGHER UPS THOMAS CHARGES

ON PROUD BOSTON COMMON



Homeless and Hungry Men Sleep on the Common Nightly While Democratic Governor and Mayor Refuse to Take Adequate Action.

See Story of Socialist Protest, Page 2.



ONE OF THE MILLIONS OF SLUM STREETS in the nation. Socialist platform calls for Federal and State slum clearance to provide work for the jobless and cheap, good homes for the workers.

SOCIALIST SAYS SYSTEM WAS GREAT RACKET

By NORMAN THOMAS
Socialist Candidate for President
(An Address Before the Chicago Bar Association)

THE revelations which have come to light in the strange adventures of the Insull holding companies illustrate two things: One, the racketeering stage which capitalism has reached and the poison of its virus on the public, leading financiers, newspapers and bar associations; and, two, the obvious folly of continuing to try to regulate this sordid gambler's grab game of a power trust instead of owning it publicly and managing it for the public use.

I do not pretend to be an expert on the tangled affairs of the Insull companies, but it requires no expert to realize that we have not the true and full list of insiders; that the custom of permitting advance purchase of stock at half the market value is legalized robbery; that business leaders of high standing and politicians were virtually bribed by Insull's 'generosity'; that for six months newspapers and prosecuting officials contrived to play down the truth; that even now, the Insulls are 'g boys'—at least verbally—for a system and for their associates who were also responsible; that their chief crime in the eyes of business was failing and getting caught; that they could have pulled off none of their manipulations without the astute help of lawyers who as usual prostituted legal ethics to personal profit; that in short Al Capone has new reason to say, 'Everybody is doing it.'

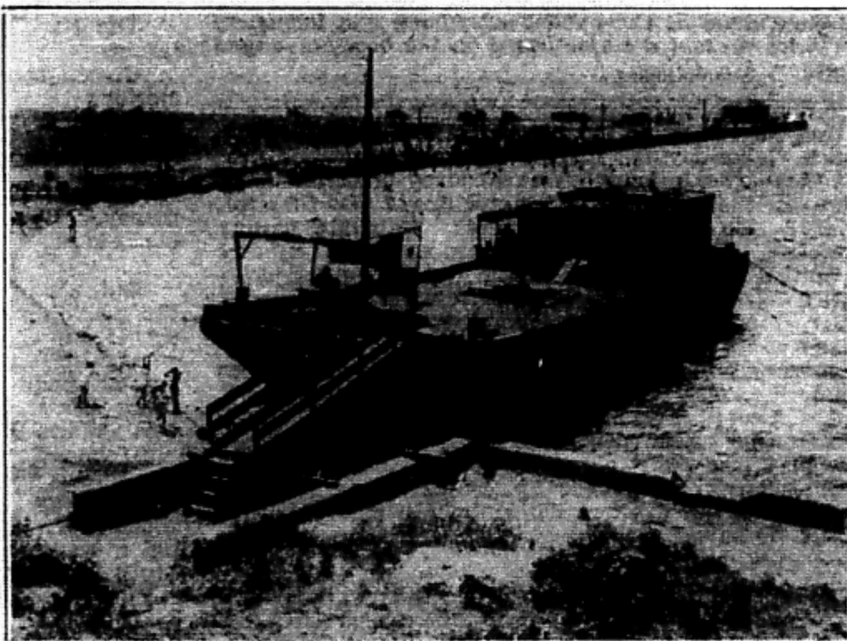
Consumer Paid for It
In good times the Insulls, with legal help, pyramided holding companies until according to John P. F... 's calculations, one dollar in Middle West controlled \$1,750 of basic capitalization in certain operating companies. They were leading actors in a general scheme of financing power development under private ownership which Stephen Raushenbush's careful estimate shows must cost the American public at least \$1,000,000 a day more than it needs to pay for light and power.

Now the Insull's contribution to this picture seems to have been a particularly brazen policy of buying friends and of using holding trust funds to finance private brokers in bad times by huge loans. Hence despite what consumers paid—never forget!—at consumers did pay for all this in rates—investors have lost terrifically. The audit for the Utility Investments Corp. seems to show a deficit of \$78,000,000 with an estimated loss of \$226,000,000. The audit of the Mississippi Valley Utility Investment Corp., which showed a strange variety and character of loans to officers and investments, showed that a book value of \$49,000,000 has slumped to \$9,000,000. And the audit of the Middle West Utilities appears to show a loss to investors of \$714,000,000.

What government waste which so excite the Chicago Tribune—which admits that it is the world's greatest newspaper—could equal the record of these Insull holding companies?

Gave to Old Parties
And what method of corrupting government equals Mr. Insull's pur-

(Continued on page 3)



GOOD VETERAN GETS REWARD, BECAUSE HE STAYED HOME and didn't go to Washington with the bonus army, the War Department gave Henry Harris this abandoned refuse barge on which to make his home with his four children. It is anchored in the Hudson River, in New York City.



HOW SOCIALIST CITY HONORS GEORGE WASHINGTON. On the 200th anniversary of the birth of Washington last February the Socialist government of Vienna opened the George Washington House. It is a huge apartment, housing 4,000 families, and will be occupied by the workmen of the city. Karl Seitz, Socialist mayor, is shown here dedicating the apartment.

Vote Socialist to Repeal Unemployment

TUNE IN ON THOMAS' PACIFIC HOOK-UP OCT. 7TH

Norman Thomas' speech before the Commonwealth club in San Francisco, to be made from 12:45 to 1:30 p. m., Pacific Standard Time, on Friday, Oct. 7, will be broadcast from station KGO and the "Gold" network of the National Broadcasting Co., which covers the Rocky mountain and Pacific coast states.

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College Men: What Kind of a World Do You Want?

By ROBERT MORSS LOVETT

THE most hopeful sign in college education today is the great increase of interest in public affairs on the part of students. In view of the present state of the labor movement in the United States, it is to the college men and women, with the basis for organization and unified action which exists in their common experience, that we must look for leadership in the movement for social justice and a new social order. This impulse assumes naturally an intercollegiate character, expressing itself in such associations as the League for Industrial Democracy, in conferences, and even in direct action, such as the expedition of middle western students to the Illinois coal fields. In this intercollegiate movement Norman Thomas has taken a leading part. He has probably spoken to more and larger college audiences in the last 12 years than any individual except Harry Laidler. Everywhere his message has been received with enthusiasm.

No one questions the validity of Norman Thomas' criticism of the present social order, or the cogency of his argument for a great and sweeping change in the structure of society. The only retort is: "It can't be done."

Youth Must Answer

The answer to that is in the hands of the youth of the country, of whom the best equipped and organized for concerted action are in the colleges.

They can see in motion the forces of good which must triumph over recalcitrant self-interest and greed, if civilization is to continue. It is not necessary here to recapitulate the story of the bankruptcy of the old partnership between politics and privilege under the slogan of "rugged individualism." It is not necessary to show in detail how both major parties are pledged to continue this partnership—how neither Mr. Hoover nor Mr. Roosevelt, in spite of good intentions, dares offend the racket known as business. It is surely unnecessary to remind intelligent men and women how, as in the past, these good intentions will continue to enlarge the pavement of the acquisitive society which is hell for an increasingly large number of human beings.

It is not to be expected that old people with fixed habits of thought and established party affiliations should rise to put an end to the farce and fraud of Republican versus Democrat. Many of them, doubtless, wearied of continued betrayal, will vote for Thomas and Maurer in protest against another meaningless election. Frankly, this protest vote, significant as it will be, is not the sign of promise for the future that this election must show.

The Future State

That promise of a better world can be given only by the youth of America, who in working and voting for the Socialist party in 1932, will express their unalterable conviction that the state should be an instrument of social welfare, not of special privilege, and that individualism should be measured by genuine co-operation for the common good, not by supremacy in predatory gain.

The enlistment of college men and women in this cause, with a pledge of loyalty and perseverance through the long struggle ahead, is the most important result to be achieved in this election. It is actually more important than victory at the polls. Nothing is so dangerous to a cause as a premature or accidental victory. We would not have Norman Thomas elected president merely because the electors found his rivals in their party capacity too loathsome to contemplate. Such success would mean responsibility without power. It is a truth born in on us by the history of the British Labor party that we cannot have Socialism without Socialists.

Justice Holmes has said: "We all

whether we know it or not, are fighting to make the kind of world that we should like."

I ask you, college men and women: What kind of a world do you want? You can get it in these United States. You have 50 years in your generation, and the increasing momentum of those who come after you.

You can contribute to the finish of a decaying social order by voting for Hoover or Roosevelt. I once voted for Taft instead of Debs on the ground that if we paid out enough rope he would be sure to hang himself—as he did. That was a counsel of cynicism and despair.

You are not interested in the finish, but in the beginning of a new world and a new life for yourselves and your fellows.

That beginning is SOCIALISTS. And so I say to you young college people (among whom I gratefully record that I have lived and worked all my life) vote for Thomas and Maurer and vote for them as good Socialists, both they and you.

Candidate of America's Youth

By SILAS BENT

NORMAN THOMAS is the presidential candidate of the youth of America.

Those who have just come of "full age" have an opportunity now (and watch them avail themselves of it!) to register their disgust with a stupid industrialism for profit, and to discipline both major parties.

A quarter of a century ago, when women could not vote, every young man as a matter of course followed in the footsteps of his father, whether in politics or religion. If the father was a Democrat and a Baptist, that is what he was. If his father was a Republican and High Church Episcopalian (or Quaker), that is what he was.

It is a heartening sign of the times that the young people of today of both sexes have taken the bit into their teeth and are thinking for themselves. Even though their elders see the sound sense of Socialism, they will hesitate to vote the ticket if they are afflicted with mental sclerosis.

Thus the majority of the huge ballot to be cast in November for Norman Thomas will consist of the votes of younger people, the future rulers of this country.

Even if Norman Thomas does not live to be elected President, he may govern from the grave.

"The man of action has the present," says former Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes "to the thinker belongs the future."

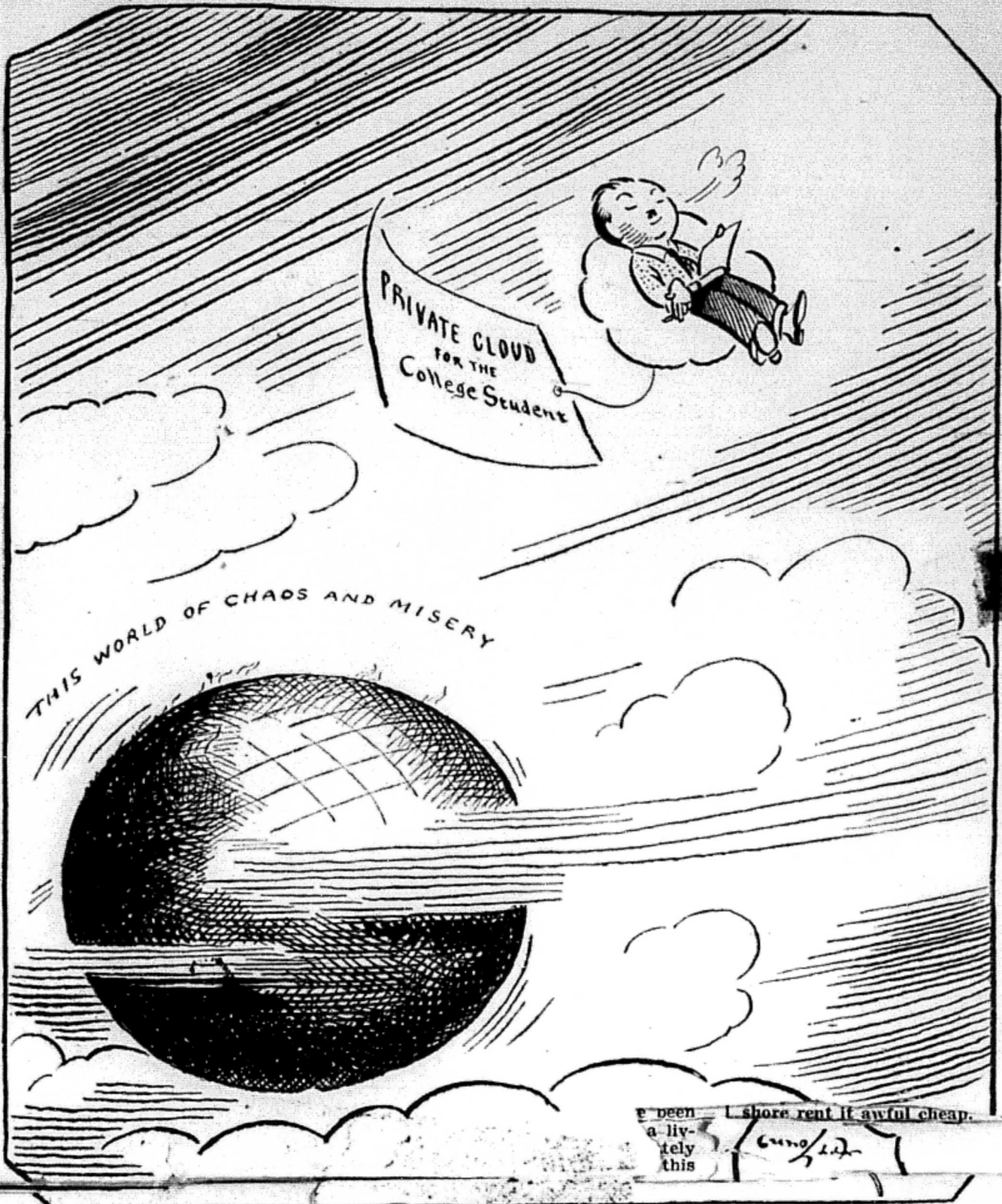
There Is Work to Be Done

ON the farms of the nation, food rots because farmers will not sell the product of their toil at starvation prices.

In the cities and towns, millions of workers go hungry because they cannot sell their labor power.

Twelve millions are idle. Yet the nation's ill call out for work to be done. Work which would keep the 12,000,000 unemployed busy all year round and for years to come. There are square miles of slums to be razed and decent dwellings to be put in their place; the magic of electricity needs to be brought to the farm areas; the devastating effect of the industrial breakdown calls for a broad nation system of health and social services; forests denuded by the criminal lust for profits of capitalism, need re-planting.

There is work to be done—there are 12,000,000 workers ready to do it. The Socialist Party would put them to work. Vote Socialist to repeal unemployment!



been a-ly-tely this

—Drawn by Art Young.

That Beautiful Detachment

"I doubt whether the student can do a greater work for his nation in this grave moment of its history than to detach himself from its preoccupations, refusing to let himself be absorbed by distractions about which, as a scholar, he can do almost nothing. The world will go on somehow . . ."—From Walter Lippman's lecture to college students.

Socialist Sentiment Sweeps Colleges

NO social movement has caught the imagination of the students with anything like the force with which Socialist sentiment is sweeping the colleges and universities these days. With the college year still to open, the National Student Committee for Thomas for President Clubs reports 77 clubs organized. Paul H. Ritterskamp, chairman, makes the confident prediction that by Election Day 300 clubs will be functioning on and near the campuses doing their full share to swell the Socialist vote.

In the midst of the most enthusiastic and successful of his several campaigns, Norman Thomas has paused to comment on the great swing to Socialism in the universities.

Thomas Urges Work

"Speaking at the district conferences in Chicago and New York and reading about the Maryland students' tour of the state has convinced me that students will work for Socialism and will help roll up a huge Socialist vote in November. And by working, I mean not only talking politics to friends or voting in the national student poll Oct. 19th—both of which are important—but I mean also holding street corner meetings, ringing doorbells, distributing literature, sponsoring political rallies, getting publicity, and not being afraid to do the thousand-and-one petty jobs that must be done if a vigorous campaign is to be waged.

"Nor does the work end with the campaign. For, if a strong Socialist movement is to be built—and we know it will be built—then every Thomas-for president chapter must afterward become a Socialist or an L. I. D. Club in order to carry on the struggle for the achievement of Socialism in our time."

Thomas' hopeful statement is

based on concrete activity by the clubs. The colleges and universities have been divided into 16 districts, with organizers at work in 13 of them. Glen Trimble operates from Boston; Harold Luxemburg from New York city; Joel Seidman from Baltimore; James R. Henson, Lynchburg, Va.; Walter Ruether, Detroit; H. Clyde Reeves, Midway, Ky.; Andrew Juvinall, Chicago; Isaac Hoffman, Minneapolis; Glenn Griffith, Grant, Neb.; Jerome Paulson, Helena, Mont.; Stephen J. Christopher, Pullman, Wash., and Gordon McWhirter, Berkeley, California.

Campaign in Full Swing

Behind this systematic organization plan, there is daily fruitful activity. Twenty-six states have state chairmen. District 8, Illinois and Wisconsin has held a convention with 36 delegates from 14 colleges. Christopher has sent a call to all Washington institutions to mobilize. Reeves and the University of Kentucky Club have organized a party local in Lexington and held the first Socialist rally there in many years. West Virginia's state chairman, Elizabeth Franklin, has made contact with 14 colleges. Roland White, University of Iowa, is one of the many who have had articles on Thomas printed in their college publications. Iowa's state chairman, Al Coons, has called a state convention for Iowa City. The New York district conference held an enthusiastic convention at the Rand School. District Organizer Ruether has started seven clubs. Merlen Smelker, Otterbein College, has organized not only a club, but a Socialist party local with gratifying publicity. University of Minnesota students have made a Minnesota-to-New York automobile-propaganda tour.

Perhaps the most stirring record

thus far belongs to the Johns Hopkins club in Baltimore. Seidman, Elizabeth McBing, William Seidman, Hannah Biemiller, Sarah Drager and Leo Alpert put on a six-day tour of Western Maryland in the "Red Special," an equipped auto truck, and came back to Baltimore with five Socialist locals organized, yards of publicity in the daily papers and thirteen meetings held.

For Permanent Groups

The national committee has plans which will keep the clubs busy up to Election eve—and after. Oct. 5th will be national rally day and button day, when meetings on every campus and a Thomas and Maurer button on every student will be the order of the day. Oct. 12th will be devoted to symposiums in which Socialist student speakers will take on any and all comers with the temerity to speak for either of the two old parties. On Oct. 19th straw votes will be taken to test student political sympathies. Oct. 26th is the day set down for converting of the Thomas-for-President clubs into permanent year-round Socialist clubs. On this day plans will be made for the heavy literature distribution and watching at the polling places to see that the votes cast are honestly counted and not stolen.

And after election, Chairman Ritterskamp's outline of activities provides the keynote:

"Our program of Socialism is more than a political program. It is a way of life. We must work 365 days in the year on the political front, on the economic front, in cultural, literary and dramatic groups to live, think and have our very-being transformed through our ideal. When we do this we make the coming of Socialism inevitable in our time."