

# Hasten Downbreak of Capitalist Class, Urges Socialist Anti-War Decree

**T**HE International Socialist Party, at its congresses at Stuttgart and Copenhagen, laid down the following principle for the war against war: "In case of war being imminent, the working classes and their parliamen-

tary representatives in the countries concerned shall be bound, with the assistance of the International Socialist Bureau, to do all they can to prevent the breaking out of war, using for this purpose the means which appear to them the

most efficacious, and which must naturally vary according to the acuteness of the struggle of the classes and to the general political conditions. In case war should break out, notwithstanding, they shall be bound to intervene to bring it to a

speedy end, and to employ all their forces for utilizing the economic and political crises created by the war, in order to arouse the masses of the people and to hasten the breakdown of the predominance of the capitalist class."

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## THE AMERICAN SOCIALIST

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# SEEK EUROPEAN WAR TO HALT SOCIALISM

Socialism is facing its greatest hour of combat with the tottering thrones of Europe, bulwarked by the capitalist enemies of the organized workers.

European capitalism is fomenting the pending pan-European campaign of wholesale murder as its only hope of checking, crushing and stamping out the continually growing and increasingly formidable rebellion against wage slavery.

If this carnival of carnage is averted it will be the achievement of International Socialism. No other power has raised its hand to stay the wanton slaughter. If this approaching horror, this blood-letting, this suffering, this attempted blow at civilization is checked at its start, then the unity of toil will have once more successfully spoken.

Nearly two years ago at the Extraordinary International Socialist Peace Congress held at Basel, Switzerland, during the Balkan War, the bloody fingers of anti-humanity were seen streaking their hope for war in unmistakable letters across a reddening sky.

The declaration of this congress, Nov. 24-25, 1912, which stayed this war hope for nearly two years, was as follows:

"The Socialist parties of Austria-Hungary, Croatia, Slavonia and Herzegovina must continue with all their strength their hitherto successful efforts to prevent any attack of the Austrian monarchy upon Serbia. They must continue to oppose in the future as they have done

up to the present any attempt to take by violence from Serbia the fruits of war and to transform that country into an Austrian province and to embroil the peoples of Austria-Hungary and other nations of Europe in conflict in the interests of the ruling dynasty. The Socialists of Austria-Hungary will have to struggle in the future in favor of securing a complete autonomous democratic government for the whole of the Southern Slavs, now governed by the Hapsburg dynasty within the frontiers of Austria-Hungary.

Thus the International Socialist movement spoke. Serbia is a haven of hope for Southern Europe. The liberties won by its peoples must be the cruel oppression of the dual monarchy of Austria-Hungary as the freedom achieved by the United States challenges middle-aged Russia.

The South Slavs dream of a South Slavic republic. The Servians join in this dream and strive to make the dream real. Such success would mean the wreckage of Europe's trembling thrones and the scrapping of its tyrants' crowns.

It would mean the toiling masses, more united and more unshackled, approaching near to their emancipation, wage slavery a thing passing, and capitalism being annihilated from the earth. Hence the effort to crush and annihilate Serbia.

On the eve of the approaching conflict the International Socialist Bureau has been ordered to gather im-

mediately at Brussels, Belgium, with the assemblage of the World's Socialist Congress at Vienna, the capital of the belligerent monarchy, less than one month away.

The Italian Socialists have issued a statement declaring that war would be useless and demanding the immediate convocation of Parliament to give the government an opportunity to guarantee that there will be no war, whatever happens.

Immediately the storm clouds broke, the German Socialists issued calls for mass meetings, their watchword being, "Down With War." Risking their lives, Socialists spread broadcast copies of Vorwarts, the Berlin Socialist daily, freely mingling with the war-insane retainers of capitalism. German workers refused to doff their caps to huge portraits of Emperor Francis Joseph and Kaiser Wilhelm carried in procession by the blood-crazed enemies of progress.

Twenty-five thousand toilers made the streets of Paris alive with their manifestations against war which 2,000 police and a regiment of soldiers were unable to quell.

On the eve of this pending catastrophe to humanity Russia is facing a strike of 200,000 workers centered in its own capital of St. Petersburg; France is on the verge of a political upheaval, and Great Britain is threatened with civil war in Ulster.

It is felt that should the Italian government dare to issue an order of mobilization to help Austria, it is

certain that a general revolution will break forth and upset the monarchy.

This is the situation as the Triple Alliance (Italy, Austria-Hungary, Germany) and the Triple Entente (Russia, France, England) are seeking to array one-half of Europe against the other half. The big question is, "Will the workers, led and inspired by those of their number organized into the Socialist party and the trade unions, permit themselves to be led to the shambles and sacrificed on the altar of greed in order that capitalism might endure for yet a few years?"

Lovers of mankind the world over are awaiting an answer.

With its membership of 100,000 and its voting strength of one million men, the American Socialist party should be a factor in stifling this Moloch's cry for blood. This nation is the home of men of every nationality. Representatives of the nations of Europe are to be found in every city, town and hamlet. The American Socialists can everywhere call mass meetings of peoples of all these nationalities, have good speakers decry the futility of hatred of man for man, and point out the brotherhood of all.

Europe's monarchs look to the United States for recruits to their human slaughter house. American Socialism should see that no victim crosses the seas in the mistaken hope that he is helping himself by going to his grave fighting the battles of European capitalism.

## Austria Is Principal Actor As War Clouds Hover Over All Europe

With 17 Nationalities Within Its Borders It Must Crush Slavs or Face Disintegration

### DECLARE WAR—SOCIALISTS START WAR AGAINST WAR

Almost at the same moment that Austria-Hungary's capitalist government declared war on Serbia, Wednesday, the German Socialists, 100,000 strong, in a 27-man meeting in Berlin alone, declared war against war. No effort was made by the German government to stop the demonstration.

Later the Socialists converged in processions to the center of the city, singing the workers' "Marseillaise" and shouting "Down with war!"

The French Socialist parliamentary group met and drew up an anti-war proclamation that will be presented to the French government by a committee headed by Jean Jaures.

BY RALPH KORNGOLD.

Europe is on the eve of tremendous events. By the time this issue of the American Socialist reaches its readers the question will probably have been definitely decided whether we shall have peace or war, whether men shall leave their labors to engage in a senseless and brutalizing slaughter or whether they shall live at peace with each other.

The decision, as in all such cases, will be made by the ruling classes of the nations involved.

Austria Medieval Empire. Austria is the principal actor in the drama. Next to Russia, Austria is the most medieval country of so-called civilized Europe.

It is made up of the odds and ends of some 17 different nationalities, held together by a medieval system of oppression and espionage.

A great part of the population of Austria belongs to the Slavonian races and the oppression they have undergone has made them ready listeners to the propaganda of a great South Slavic nation, of which Serbia has been the particular champion.

The success of the Serbian army in the Balkan wars has given fresh impetus to this propaganda until now Austria realizes that it must forever crush the aspirations of the Southern Slavs or accept inevitable disintegration.

German-Russian Interests. Germany needs Austria as an ally to maintain its position against Russia and France. Germany cannot afford to see Austria fall to pieces and to see the power of the already menacing Slavs increase.

Russia, on the other hand, cannot afford to see Serbia crushed. Add to this that Italy is under obligations to help its allies, Germany and Austria, and that France and England have some position in regard to Russia, and that Greece and Roumania are similarly involved, and one has an idea of the extent of the European powder mine.

How About the Workers? All this seems very important if viewed from the standpoint of the masters, but when viewed from the standpoint of the working people the situation approaches the ridiculous.

What can it matter to the German-Austrian workingman whether the Austrian empire is dissolved or not? Surely he has no reason to love the empire. His economic condition is miserable. Until a short time ago outrage was denied him, the rights of free speech and free press are still very limited, and in recent years he was ruthlessly ridden down by lawless and drug-crazed.

The worst that might happen to

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## THE BUTTE AFFAIR REVIEWED

By Eugene V. Debs

**T**HE assault upon the Butte Miners' Union, the wrecking of its hall by dynamite and the looting of its safe by its own members, coupled with the riot which followed between the two factions into which the union had been torn, egged on by a vicious element imported for that special purpose, has made June 23 a memorable date in the annals of the labor movement.

There is much in this deplorable affair that is still wrapped in mystery, but enough is known to warrant the general conclusion that the Butte Miners' Union has long been marked for destruction and that its enemies have for months been conspiring to deliver the coup that should put an end to its existence.

### HAS DECIDED VIEWS.

Since that fateful night at Butte which witnessed this brutal and disgraceful scene, this rioting among men who wear the union badge and call themselves brothers, and the wanton killing and maiming of innocent people, I have read everything in the way of a report which has been issued by the respective factions and which has found its way into the public prints, and I confess that I am as yet unable to account for this tragic and inexcusable affair. But I have some decided views upon the matter which I will now proceed to express in the briefest manner possible.

First of all, I know Butte Miners' Union and am familiar with its record from the beginning. Frequently I have been a visitor at the hall now wrecked and many are the times that I have spoken under its auspices. Butte Miners' Union has the best record for sympathy with the working class and fidelity to the labor movement of any labor union in the United States, barring none.

The members of this union have contributed hundreds of thousands of dollars of their hard earnings in support of strikes in other industries and in relieving suffering in the working class, even to the remotest parts of the country. There is no other union that has a record that will begin to compare with the Butte union for the kind of loyalty that is not merely expressed in resolutions but is backed up with moral and financial support to the full extent of its capacity and resources.

### BEST ORGANIZED MINING CAMP.

For years Butte has been known as the best organized mining camp in this country. The working conditions there are admittedly superior to those of all other camps, the wages are as high or higher, the hours as low or lower, and all other conditions approximate as favorably as it has been possible thus far to realize under the capitalist system.

These things being true the conclusion is unavoidable that whosoever raises his hand to strike this union or conspires to overthrow it is the enemy not only of this union but of the whole working class.

Now as to Charles Moyer, president of the Western Federation of Miners, whom the rioters and destructionists sought to murder on the night they blew up the hall which was announced to speak. It is impossible for me to understand how any man professing to be a union man could have any part in such a reasonable, cowardly and disgraceful plot, and I shall believe that every criminal gunman who had a hand in this affair was the hired assassin of the criminal corporations which for years have been hounding Moyer because they have not been able to buy, bully or browbeat him.

These things being true the conclusion is unavoidable that whosoever raises his hand to strike this union or conspires to overthrow it is the enemy not only of this union but of the whole working class.

### MOYER NEVER FLINCHED.

I was present at the convention in Denver where Moyer was first elected president of the Federation, and from that day to this, to my personal knowledge, Moyer has been on the firing line and has never once shown

out, and I often wonder how they feel about it. No one says anything because the strikers have promised to keep the peace.

Wonders How Long. The working people are the most forgiving people on the face of the earth. They are like a lot of children, confident and trustworthy, and are ready to believe the first convincing story.

And I wonder at these people, how long they will remain so unforbearing, and how long they will be contented with the promise of the man behind the scenes.

"GOOD MAN" BALKS VOTERS AT BATTLE CREEK, MICH. Although the voters of Battle Creek, Mich., declared in favor of a municipal gas plant by a vote of 3,025 to 663 we heard a conversation at the meeting of the commission of this city as follows:

"I have several letters regarding the municipal ownership of gas," reported the clerk.

"Put them into the waste basket along with the rest of the letters you have," ordered Mayor John W. Bailey. "I would not vote to spend \$3 for municipal gas." And the letters were not read.

"This is an example of how commission government and a 'good man' for mayor serve the people," writes C. J. Hughes to The American Socialist.

## SMOTHER STRIKE REPORT.—It is understood that the Democratic member of the Congressional Committee that investigated the Michigan strike will smother most of their findings and issue a short, white-washing report.

**Plan Big Strike.**—The organized workers of British Columbia are now taking a referendum vote to determine whether they are all to strike in support of the Vancouver Island mine workers.

**United All the Miners.**—The uniting of the United Mine Workers and the Western Federation of Miners into one big union was favorably commented upon by Charles H. Moyer, president of the eastern federation, in addressing the Denver, Colo., convention.

**Must Elect Workmen.**—"You must elect workmen—not 'friends of the workmen'—to office," urged Adolph Reimer, Socialist party national executive committee member, and vice-president of the Illinois miners, in speaking at the annual Milwaukee Socialist picnic recently. "Here we did more in Congress for the workers in one term than all the good men have ever done, including William B. Wilson, a member of my own organization."

**Japs Make Cigars.**—According to the statistics of the Anti-Japanese Laundry League, the Chinese are practically in control of the San Francisco cigar-making industry.

**Private Detectives Busy.**—Spies and private detectives working for the traction interests are busy trying to break up the street car men's union in Baltimore, Md.

**Plan Massachusetts Campaign.**—Plans for a vigorous fall campaign were made at the annual Massachusetts Socialist party conference held at New Bedford. A ticket was nominated as follows: James F. Carey, governor; Sylvester J. Melrose, Waterbury, lieutenant governor; Joseph Goldwell, Millford, treasurer; Percy Ball, Attleboro, secretary of state; John W. Sherman, Boston, attorney general, and Daniel R. Donovan, Springfield, auditor.

**Delegates to Baltimore Federation of Labor** recently voted to invite 25 "prominent citizens" to their "Crab Feast." Some of the delegates wanted to know when the prominent citizens of their own city were to any of their feasts, but could not muster enough strength to defeat the proposition. No wonder Baltimore is trailing behind other cities in the advance of the workers toward their own emancipation.

**The exploiting interests of Colorado** are now issuing subpoenas to the kept press of that state to exalt by rummy and justify the murder of workers. Such a subpoena is issued as part of the Evening Times-Fort Morgan, Colo. The workers must build up their own press to fight such protracted publicity.

**Election Aug. 6.**—Nashville, Tenn., Socialists will picnic Sunday, Aug. 2, during the day of their campaign before the primaries Aug. 6. Good crowds are attending the nightly Socialist meetings.

**Salutary in Chicago.**—J. B. Salutz, salaried editor of the Chicago Socialist Federation, will speak Saturday, Aug. 1, at the meeting of the Chicago Jewish Labor Movement.

**The American Socialist to All New Members**

"I write to inform you that Local Bridgeport, Conn., of the Socialist Federation of America has adopted the plan of sending a twenty-five cent subscription to The American Socialist to all members joining the party in the future. An initiation fee of 25 cents to be used for payment of same, and a special stamp entered on their books."

Mrs. G. D. Sikes, Secy.

Be sure and read the circulation report, page 4, column 1.

## PROMINENT CATHOLIC PRIEST DEFENDS SOCIALISM

### McNABB POINTS TO FOLLY OF FALSE STATEMENTS AND MISREPRESENTATION

Editor's Note: The following article on Socialism is by a prominent Catholic priest, the Rev. Vincent McNabb, Order of Dominican Fathers. It appeared in a prominent Catholic paper, the Catholic Transcript, Hartford, Conn., June 4, 1914.

It does not profess to be a defense of Socialism; on the contrary it distinctly disavows such a purpose. It tells the truth about it. And Socialism needs no defense. Father McNabb denies the false statements and exposes the unsound and illogical arguments so often used by the clerical opponents of Socialism. Facts and logic, he says, are absolutely essential in this matter. And with that we fully agree.

We republish this statement here for we believe it will help thousands of our readers to clear up a few points that are constantly confused by the Catholic critics of Socialism.

And, we may add, if the methods of investigation, of reasoning and of handling facts that are here urged by Father McNabb were used by all critics of Socialism they would spare themselves and their followers a vast amount of error and confusion.

BY REV. FATHER VINCENT McNABB.

FOR the purpose of clear thinking on social matters, I venture to set down some thoughts on Socialism.

Very gravely I add that they are not meant to be a defense of Socialism. They are merely social facts, the knowledge of which has been arrived at by a process of observation. I set them down as the astronomer tabulates and records his observed astronomical facts, not knowing what use may be made of them; but feeling that it is his duty to record them, whether they are used or not.

A late writer in an influential Catholic review maintained that absolutism could not be given to a Catholic Socialist who came to confession, because the policy of the Socialist party was secularization. The argument, couched in the accustomed forms of the schools, was very persuasive. But on second thought it could be seen that the premises, which served to insure the conclusion desired of the writer, would also serve to justify not a few conclusions which the writer would disown.

Socialism is accused of wishing to do a number of undesirable things. Indeed, the common method of disproving Socialism is to show by striking and detailed word painting that if Socialism became dominant in the commonwealth the state of things thereby introduced would be intolerable and even unjust.

**SOME SAMPLES.**

1. One of the first charges made against Socialism is that it would socialize everything and everybody; and that it would thereby make slaves of us all, or at least of all except the state officials under whom we should all be regimented, case-paroled, paid, fed, tended and buried.

This argument, if carefully drawn by a man of feeling, can be particularly effective. It is perhaps the locus communis, which for years has left me not unmoved whenever I hear it.

But, the second thought, it appears that this inhuman program which Socialism is expected to bring forth is already being carried out, not by the Socialists. Mr. Belloc and others who are confessedly not Socialists agree that Socialism is committed to this diabolical homogeneity and slavery. But they add that it is a thing in great part and essentially realized by existing political parties. One has only to read "The Servile State" to be haunted by the idea that not only existing Socialism, but the existing Conservative and Liberal and Democratic and Republican parties are committed to a program of socialized services which rest essentially on a basis of compulsory work, i. e., slavery.

Moreover, in such a thorough-going monarchy as Germany, the number of social functions that have now become socialized are almost as many as the Socialists would claim for their Socialist state. Indeed, the majority of the most absolute monarchy, "L'Etat, c'est moi," needs a change, not of form, but of content, to be the program of every advanced party in modern political education.

All this is dramatically confirmed by the diagnosis made by Leo XIII. of the actual state of social affairs. A small number of very rich men have been able to lay upon the teeming masses of the laboring poor a yoke little better than that of slavery itself. (Rerum Novarum.)

It is quite evident that this existing state of things is substantially what Socialism is condemned for proposing to bring in. Moreover, it is equally evident that the state of things condemned by the Pope is not due to Socialism; but, if attributable to any party, then to Conservatives, Liberals, Republicans, or Democrats.

**ANOTHER SPECIMEN.**

2. A second plea for degrading Socialism is that it would secularize education.

Here, as elsewhere in this matter, the small number of very rich men have been able to lay upon the teeming masses of the laboring poor a yoke little better than that of slavery itself. (Rerum Novarum.)

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## Sight Victory in New York—East Side to Put London in U. S. Congress

Good Work for Socialism in Buffalo, Rochester and Schenectady.

BY WM. MORRIS FRIGENBAUM.

New York is both the despair and the hope of the nation. Containing one-tenth of the population and a great part of the wealth of the United States, vast industries, and the colossal city of New York has many things to use as a basis for its numerous shortcomings.

This is as true for the Socialist movement as it is for general progress. The average American quickly scuffs at New York, both the city and the state, and secretly is proud of them.

**New York's Afflictions.**

Some of the sad facts about this state are these: It is the state of the greatest population; it has the greatest industries; it is the dumping ground for all the huge undigested immigration that annually comes to the Land of Promise, most of which stays here; it has the city that is the center of art, culture, hordes of capitalist-minded clerks, finance and industry; it has the largest and most class-conscious proletariat. Furthermore, it is afflicted with Tammany Hall, the rotten Republican machine and Theodore Roosevelt.

With such handicaps it is no wonder that Socialism has lagged a bit in this, the state that should show its greatest growth.

Today, with the greatest and most enthusiastic state convention in ever held part behind it, with a membership of from 13,000 to 15,000, united, harmonious and devoted, with a superb ticket nominated, the Socialists of New York are about to demonstrate that difficulties have no terrors for them, and are going in to win.

**Saw Socialist Beginnings.**

The Socialist movement began in New York. Immigrants, refugees from foreign tyrannies, long ago sowed the seed that is now bearing fruit. But they also sowed the seed that resulted in the split of 1892 that set the movement back at least a decade. So with a vote of 1000 in 1900, but 12,000 the comrades have toiled without rest or respite, until at the last election the head of our state ticket received 65,000 votes.

We have tasted near-victory, too. For instance, it is the earnest conviction of all impartial observers that in 1906 Morris Hillquit was elected to Congress, and was robbed of his seat by Tammany. In 1908, 1910 and 1912, that district has given a huge Socialist vote, the Socialist candidate coming in second, and losing each time only by a silent coalition of the masses.

This year Meyer London will almost certainly be elected to the combined Tammany-Republican candidate. The district, the most congested on earth, on the East Side of New York, filled with recent immigrants, of right belongs to the Socialist party. In its territory is the beautiful building of the Jewish Daily Forward, the fighting Socialist paper. It is the district inhabited by tens of thousands of garment workers, whose great struggle and triumphant victory were almost suggested to Socialist support. And from that district will probably be elected to the state constitutional convention that will meet next winter, such great minds as Morris Hillquit, Meyer London and Abraham Kahn, the Socialist trio of nominees.

**Vote is Growing.**

In many other sections of the city the vote of 1912 and 1913, that to New York 35,000, will be surpassed. The great working class districts are steadily giving greater and greater

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