

The American Socialist

Official Organ of the Socialist Party of the United States.

J. L. ENGLISH, Editor; WALTER LAMMETER, Business Manager; RALPH KORNBLITH, Circulation Manager.

1914 at the postoffice at Chicago, Ill., under the Act of March 3, 1879.

NOVEMBER, OCTOBER 31, 1914.

NO MISUNDERSTANDING.

Prejudice and misunderstanding must be swept aside by the Socialist Parties of Europe and the world in the big effort to restore peace to the prostrate nations of Europe.

Now that "The Internationale" is again assembling its forces, all national feeling must be forgotten to make place for the greater international solidarity and brotherhood.

The Socialist movements of every country must study and understand the position of the Socialist movement in every other country.

Ignorance must give way to universal understanding.

In this crisis George Plechanoff, the well known Russian Socialist, the author of "Anarchism and Socialism," presents the viewpoint of the Russian Socialists, who have waged and continue to wage a heroic war against Czarism.

It has been the strongest support of his brother Nicholas II. In Russia everybody knows it, and so true it is that even at the present time even during the war itself — the extreme reactionary party leans toward Wilhelm.

"Germany would impose upon Russia such onerous conditions as would render her further economic evolution terribly difficult, but as economic evolution is the basis of social and political evolution, Russia would thus lose all, or nearly all, the chance of bringing Tsarism to an end."

"That is why there is among us only the extreme reactionary party which can reasonably hope for the triumph of Germany."

"The Socialist world must not be led astray by the phraseology of the German General Staff. The victory of Germany means the setback of progress in Western Europe."

Gradually the workers of Europe will realize that the present system of society has swept them into this human slaughter house. When this is fully realized they will then turn on their betrayers. In that hour "The Internationale" must strike with complete understanding and irresistible power, for the future of civilization and the welfare of humanity.

Intolerable Enterprise (From the Milwaukee Leader). When conferred by the Interstate Commerce Commission, former President Taft, who was the first to confess that the only way to end the leading of American railroads and the scandalous financial transactions which have enabled a few men to rob the stockholders and the public with equal immunity is for the government to own and operate them.

The Interstate Commerce Commission will not have expected the answer that Taft gave to its question. It is engaged in regulating the railroads and it may have expected that he would be gracious enough to say that what's needed is more stringent laws. But Taft, like Mellon, has reached the end of his rope. He might as well tell the truth. He has a great deal for which to atone. For a long time he was a successful man and is even yet a prominent citizen.

THREE MILLION UNION MEN

One of the ambitions of The American Socialist is to reach the three million workers organized into the American labor unions.

There is at least one Socialist in every labor union. If you are that one, you ought to have a bundle of The American Socialist for every meeting night to distribute among the non-Socialists. That will make Socialists out of them.

American Socialist Bundle Order Blank

American Socialist, 303 W. Madison St., Chicago, Ill. For the enclosed \$ send me copies of The American Socialist, No. 10671, "THE RAILROADS," 10 copies, 10¢; No. 10672, "THE RAILROADS," 10 copies, 10¢.

Name, Street, City, State.

Every Hour Is Precious

By VICTOR L. BERGER

A man who is a soldier in this great international army of Socialism, can not do his duty by merely voting the ticket. A man who only does that and allows others to do the fighting, is not the least of a victor which he did not help to achieve.

He even diminishes the extent of the victory by his failure to make new recruits.

His vote certainly counts, but he might have multiplied it five or tenfold.

Only a few days intervene between now and the election.

Every one of these days is precious to the Socialist. Every day is lost which he allows to pass without doing something to further our cause.

From this hour until election, consider the time different from usual. Make every day not a holiday, but a holy day devoted to the cause.

THE PURPOSE OF SOCIALISM

By CARL D. THOMPSON

DEFINITIONS OF SOCIALISM.

You are often told that socialism would destroy property, abolish private ownership, or divide up the wealth of the world. As a matter of fact, socialists have no more idea of abolishing property than they have of abolishing life.

It is not for freedom that Germany has declared war. No country has ever made war for the conquest of economic supremacy. This is the Imperialist programme which she strives to realize.

It is not for freedom that Germany would impose upon Russia such onerous conditions as would render her further economic evolution terribly difficult, but as economic evolution is the basis of social and political evolution, Russia would thus lose all, or nearly all, the chance of bringing Tsarism to an end.

That is why there is among us only the extreme reactionary party which can reasonably hope for the triumph of Germany.

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Letters from "American Socialist" Readers

WHY SHOULD WE WONDER WHY?

We fondly imagined that our European brother-Socialists were pretty sound and solid internationalists. We could count on them to remain true to the spirit of world-unity and universal brotherhood.

But we have been disappointed. We have found them to be anything but internationalists. Ought we to be wondering why?

Let us know enough about psychology, the science of the mind and soul, to realize the compelling power of early impressions? They were literally soaked in narrow nationalism long before they were introduced to the international patriotism which we profess to love.

All of us who are Socialists. That explains it all. We don't need to go farther. Here we have the weak point. Capitalism has made foot-patriots of the most of us, and even if, after a while, many of us seem to get away from that early and innate country-love, so-called, yet later developments prove that we are still strongly pulled by the first impressions of our childhood years.

Don't you believe in Socialist Sunday Schools? Perhaps you prefer to hold them on Thursday and to call them by other names. We call ours what it is: a Socialist Sunday School. What do we teach? Food, clothing and shelter. How? By song and story and play and festival, and by the simplest kind of direct teaching.

Most of our teaching is, of course, indirect. We sing the kiddies into intelligent rebellion and revolution. It can be done. It is being done. We are making good-spirit. When we have a Socialist Sunday School, we have had a Socialist Sunday School for four years or more, and we are beginning to see results.

Have you a Socialist School already started? Let us all get together and form an American Socialist "Sunday School Union." Let's form it now. Write us this week, telling us the name of your school, the place or location of it, the names and addresses of its superintendent and secretary. We'll see how many of them there are, and then by correspondence we'll form a union of them.

Do you get your paper? We are receiving numerous complaints from subscribers claiming they do not get their paper. In practically every case that we have investigated we find that the subscriber's name is correctly entered on our mailing list and that the paper is mailed to him regularly from this office.

When Socialists of their own free will, join the armies and go to the front to shoot other workers, as they have recently been doing in Europe, it seems to us a little out of harmony for us to toot our horn so loud about International Socialism being so viciously opposed to war.

Let's join our mental and financial powers and we can do something—sure. Now if we can't do just all that I have suggested, let's do something anyhow. John P. Schlesman, Rte. 10, Pa.

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DEFENDS PROFITS.

In your issue of Oct. 17 you print a letter from a Chronic Kicker, Will C. K. kindly state his recipe for carrying on business without profit under the profit system.

Suppose Mr. Wayland do make a miserable nickel year out of the Appeal. On a half-million paid up subscriptions it would be \$25,000 a year a sum a Capitalist parasite would spend on floral decorations for a single banquet.

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3 Winners

"PUBLIC OWNERSHIP OF RAILWAYS" By Carl D. Thompson.

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Are we all equal in America? Do the Socialists spread class hatred? What is the meaning of class-consciousness? Does the United States government represent the poor as well as the rich? You will find out by reading this book.

One Copy 10 Cents 12 Copies 75 Cents 100 Copies \$4.00 Prepaid.

"WHERE DO YOU GET OFF?" By John M. Work.

Work is justly known as one of the best and clearest exponents of Socialism in America. The man who wants to find out what Socialism is without getting a headache doing it, should read this book.

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TO GET YOU ACQUAINTED WITH OUR 10-cent publication, we will send you three splendid booklets for 25c in coin or stamps. Ask for THE THREE WINNERS when making your order.

SOCIALIST PARTY

303 West Madison St., Chicago, Ill.

AN INCIDENT FROM THE Hillquit-Gompers Debate

MR. HILLQUIT: Mr. Gompers, when you stated that the workmen of today do not get the full product of their labor, will you tell us who gets the part which is withheld from the workers?

MR. GOMPERS: Investment, superintendence, the operation of creation of wants among the people and many others.

MR. HILLQUIT: Well, then in your opinion these are legitimate factors in industry entitled to reward?

MR. GOMPERS: Many of them yes many of them are being eliminated.

MR. HILLQUIT: Which ones are entitled and which ones are not entitled to reward?

MR. GOMPERS: Superintendence, the creation of wants administration, return for investment.

MR. HILLQUIT: Return for investment? Does that include every kind of capital invested in industry, regardless of origin?

MR. GOMPERS: No, sir.

MR. HILLQUIT: Then what do you mean by return for investment?

MR. GOMPERS: For honest investment, I don't mean watered stocks or inflated holdings, but honest investment.

MR. HILLQUIT: Honest stock investment?

MR. GOMPERS: Honest investment. I did not say "stock investment."

MR. HILLQUIT: Well, I am talking about stock investment, Mr. Gompers. Do you consider dividends paid by corporations as distinguished from salaries paid for superintendence and so on—do you consider that a legitimate charge on the products of labor?

MR. GOMPERS: That depends entirely as to the character of the services performed.

MR. HILLQUIT: Now, I assume that no service is performed. So far as services performed are concerned, we have classified these under the head of superintendence, management, initiation, and so on. Now, I am referring to the dividends on stock, which is paid to stockholders by virtue of stock ownership, and regardless of any activity on the part of the stockholder.

MR. GOMPERS: I am speaking of honest investment, too, which you did not include.

MR. HILLQUIT: Will you please answer that question with such qualifications as you may deem proper to make?

MR. GOMPERS: I have already replied, and I now repeat, upon honest investment, yes.

MR. HILLQUIT: Mr. Gompers, assume that I purchase to-day in the open market and pay the full price for, say, 100 shares of Steel Corporation stock. The next quarter year I get my dividends. Am I entitled to such dividends?

MR. GOMPERS: No, sir. I am assuming that Mr. Hillquit is going to permit this investigation to degenerate into a question of high finance, why, we had better get a high financier here.

CHAIRMAN WALSH: I think that is a proper question and germane to this inquiry, but if you cannot answer it you may say so.

100 Pages 25 Cents Prepaid.

THE BEST BOOK FOR PROPAGANDA AMONG UNION MEN EVER PUBLISHED.

10 copies, \$2.00 express collect; 25 copies, \$4.00 express collect; 100 copies, \$7.00 express collect.

NATIONAL OFFICE SOCIALIST PARTY 303 W. MADISON ST., CHICAGO, ILL.

100,000 SUBS By January 1st, 1915

Last Week 45,114 Off 712

This Week 46,821 Gain 1,707

It is evident to all of us here in the office that our fond hope of seeing the subscription list of THE AMERICAN SOCIALIST mount to 100,000 by January 1, 1915, stands a good chance of not being realized.

Now comrades, a word with you. We are not complaining, we have nothing to complain of. This paper is collective property. It is as much yours as it is mine.

It is harder to get people to subscribe to the paper now than it was two months ago? Are there not many men and women all around you who need its message? Certainly.

It should not be necessary for us to tease you and cajole you into working for the cause we all love and to get you to build up our own party paper. We do not intend to do so.

SUBSCRIBE TO THE AMERICAN SOCIALIST FOR YOUR NEW MEMBERS.

Among the locals that will send the American Socialist to all new members are the following: Mauch Chunk, Pa. Hartford, Ark. Granite City, Ill. Pocahontas, Ia. Atlanta, Ga.

ROLL OF HONOR

"I cannot feel comfortable in this place without THE AMERICAN SOCIALIST, so I am going to subscribe for January 1915."

"The best paper in America is THE AMERICAN SOCIALIST. I have been reading it for years and I have never found anything better."

"I am glad that our party is publishing such a fine propaganda paper and wish to help you on the end work."

"I am enclosing eight subscriptions for our valuable paper THE AMERICAN SOCIALIST from now on I shall be an ardent supporter of our party paper."

"After the Campaign is over I shall endeavor to help you build the party."

"The following comrades read in lists of Mrs. M. W. Miller, New Orleans, La. O. A. Kennedy, Ogden, Utah. A. Batch, Edgemoor, Pa. Jessie I. Ross, Fresno, Cal. W. H. Know, Grand Rapids, Michigan. Wade Kluge, Denver, Colo. D. H. Korta, Trouton, N. J. W. Lavender, Fayetteville, W. Va. U. L. Jacobson, Can. on, Ill. L. B. Loy, Postoria, Ohio. E. D. Mitchell, New York City. E. J. A. Rastley, Postoria, Ohio."

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When Capitalist Interests Unite To Fight Socialism

By DANIEL W. HOAN Socialist City Attorney Of Milwaukee

One of the main reasons why the capitalist interests in Milwaukee are getting together to fight Socialism is the fact that the Socialists are getting together to fight capitalism.

Because of the increasing Social list vote the judges who appointed the three jury commissioners consented to appoint a Socialist as one of the number.

It was undoubtedly believed that this minority on the commission could do little harm while at the same time would serve as a crumb for the working class.

Capitalists Overtook Something. The thing that was overlooked was that the commission as a body did not select the jurymen, but each commissioner selected one-third of the list himself.

The Socialist commissioner, Chas. Schmidt, was not slow in selecting active party members and trade unionists. It was not an uncommon thing to see many well known Socialists up on juries.

Juries are required in many cases not only to fix damages, but to render special verdicts. A special verdict is a long series of questions to which the jury answers "yes" or "no."

Attorneys for large interests had found it easy either by means of complicated questions or by some stool pigeon on the jury to get inconsistent answers and thus were enabled to set aside many hard earned verdicts.

With Socialists on the juries, this trickery stopped, at least the Socialist member of the jury would point out the pitfalls and show up the deceptions. Besides this I have known personally of many cases where the Socialist stood out for large verdicts for injured workmen to the last. The jury would in such cases either finally have to concede or compromise on a much increased sum.

Revolution Results. All of this resulted in a veritable revolution in the results of jury verdicts. Thousands and thousands of dollars that were justly coming to injured workmen from the corporations and justice resulted in numerous other ways.

The outcome of this was that the Merchants and Manufacturers Association of Milwaukee buckled on its belt to defeat the reappointment of any representative of the working class as jury commissioner. They took an open part in the election of new judges and undoubtedly pledged their support to the Socialist jury commissioner.

At all events, the judges refused to reappoint a working class representative, and we are now back in the old way. We are served with such infamous verdicts as the one for \$1200 against Milwaukee's Leader for libel, which even the judge himself could not stomach.

Abolish The System. I hope this proves that the immediate remedy for rotten juries is Socialist representation in picking juries. The first step, of course, is to abolish the rotten capitalist system.

Private ownership of social property and private profit are the direct cause of nine-tenths of litigation in the modern world. Our own courts, like the one in Nevada, induce men to render unjust verdicts.

The working class of Milwaukee has not been asleep to the importance of clean juries. We have been demanding reappointment of our own men. Our answer will be served Nov. 3. We shall elect one if not both congressmen, two thirds of Milwaukee's assemblymen, and may elect our entire county ticket.

JURY PICKING SYSTEM IS BIG AID TO CORPORATIONS. The outrageous system of picking juries in Cook County (Chicago) was denounced as a monstrosity by Atty. Amos Marston.

He declared that he recently headed a campaign against corporations that they had won 84 out of 80 cases before juries in the municipal court. He said these boasts were the result of "packed jury lists."

"One of these lawyers represented a great car company and brought a \$6,000,000 suit against the American Socialist. He won 42 out of 45 cases before juries in the municipal court," he said. "The other also represented a corporation. He brought a suit against the same car company. The system is a monstrosity and something should be done."

The workers will never get a "fair trial" until they capture the jury selecting power by electing Socialists to county offices.

HOLD MEMORIALS IN HONOR OF LATE SOCIALIST BISHOP. Memorial services in honor of the Right Rev. Franklin Spalding Bishop of Utah, will be held at Trinity Episcopal Church, Chicago, the largest Episcopal church in the city.

Democratic, Republican Or Progressive; It Makes No Difference To "John D."

By EUGENE V. DEBS

Under the present system, all of you are slaves. You are the slaves of the masters who are in the minority—the very small minority, and yet you permit it every time you vote for the Republican, the Democratic or the Progressive party.

The Socialist comes to you and says that you are wage-slaves only because you are ignorant. You've got to learn what is good for you. You will vote the other way just as long as you are content to build palaces for the masters and live in cottages. Just so long as you work to let them wear silks, satins and broadcloth and you go in overalls and calico.

It doesn't make any difference to John D. Rockefeller whether the Democratic or the Republican or the Progressive party is elected. They represent the masters, are their tools. "John D." says Socialism isn't any good because he knows what it is. And you vote for his class, because you don't know what Socialism is. You get back just what you want, just what are after when you vote for the masters.

No matter what party is in power, through all the history of the country, under all sorts of political conditions there have been industrial deceptions with hundreds of thousands of men out of work. The masters do that. They crush you. You want them to; you vote for them.

There are hundreds of thousands of men in idleness today, big strong men, looking for work they can't find. There is misery in all our cities. There are 750,000 fallen women in the United States. And it is all the fruit of the rotten decaying social system of the capitalist class.

The masters said in Europe, we want more exploitation. So the war started. It is exploitation. Tonight, trenches nine miles long are filled high with dead. Four million men are engaged in a death struggle for the mastery of the world, and this in the name of Christianity! These were your Christian nations!

Every flag in Europe is flying tonight over slaughterhouses and are stained with blood. The only flag in the world that is not flying over fields of blood and death is the red flag of Socialism.

Workers never declared a war and never will. The masters ordered them to fight. They are doing so because they are slaves. They call it patriotism, this doing murder in uniform. The red flag will never fly in any war, but the last war—war against war to obtain universal brotherhood and peace.

Information Department

SHORTER WORKDAY DOES NOT REDUCE PRODUCTION. Excerpts from publication of United States Public Health Service, Report No. 195 from the Public Health Service, May 22, 1914, entitled "Industrial Conditions. Their relation to public health." May be secured from Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C. for 5 cents.

(Continued from last week) The industrial establishments of the United States are so many that proper sanitary supervision by the state is prohibited by the cost. In the campaign for prevention of disease following requirements are important:

1. Hours of labor which do not cause excessive fatigue or cause damage to any of the body. 2. The regular employment at a wage sufficient to meet the cost of hygienic living and insure against sickness or other physical disability. (See last week's issue.) 3. Sanitary environment in the place of employment as to methods of hygienic living and the importance of such living.

MEN BECOME MORE SOBER. When the hours of labor are so prolonged as to strain is so great that the night rest is not sufficient to restore to body cells to normal, the worker who in his day work partially fasts and can't keep his pace will eat off his fat, and that requires the same individual were properly treated. The exhaustion lowers mental and physical resistance, and need of stimulation causes many to drink, at times to excess, when under great strain, they may die and lead comparatively sober lives. This has been demonstrated in the Ergis Zinc Works. The hours of labor were cut down from 12 to 8, the men earned as much and did as much work in 8 hours as they did in 12. There was a marked decrease in the evils upon the sick, the men no longer felt the need of stimulation, drunkenness on duty was no longer noted, and sobriety was markedly increased.

In the campaign to demonstrate to the business world that there is an optimum of hours of labor, speed, and nutrition for the industrial worker which, if adhered to, will bring his output up to the maximum of quality and quantity and that at the optimum the worker will have fewer stoppages on account of accident or disease and will last the longest time in a profitable producing state.

Establishments have made the change from 12 to 8 hours a day or from 9 to 8 and the increased cost has been offset by the increase in the hourly output. The instance of the Ergis Zinc works mentioned above is a case in point, and it is a proved fact that the cost of production was decreased 20 per cent when the hours were changed from 12 to 8 per day.

HEALTHY MAN MORE EFFICIENT. The clearest case of record is probably that of the Zeiss Optical Works, Germany (Fatigue and Efficiency, by Goldmark). These Abbe kept a careful record for the years 1898-1900 of every cost when the plant was operating on a 9 hr. day in 1898-1900 the day was reduced to 8 hours. The records showed that the men earned over 3 percent more their labor the previous year, the output of the work for the 8 hour day was equal to that of the 9 hour day.

The plant was able to shut down an hour at an average age of 31 years and many different occupations on a piecework basis were represented in the shop. Employers must be shown that the healthy man is the most efficient. The reasonable expense to maintain him in health is a profitable investment.

Employers must be convinced of the results to be expected from the maintenance of hygienic standards and that much of the responsibility is theirs. The responsibility has been so thoroughly fixed on the employees by the protocol agreement among the garment workers in New York City that sanitary strikes are authorized.

The BREAD LINE Starve War—Food America

By Winifred E. Brewster

The eviction law of New York City is working great hardships upon the poor and unemployed of the tenement district. Tammany stoops to protect one man who affirms before the Municipal Court that he is a poor man.

Chicago manufacturers sell to warring countries. Great secrecy observed to prevent interception by wandering cruisers. Shipments are practically all being made from Canadian ports.

Eight million women workers now engaged in industry. Every known industry has been invaded, even blacksmithing in which 35 women are registered. There are 408 women coal miners, 45 quarry workers, 15 brick makers, 10 engineers, and 16 furnace men, 35 women workers in packers and tinners, and 1,140 iron and steel mills.

Too much Cotton produced in United States. The present war in Europe is causing a shortage of this product will bring great poverty on the farmers, so says Capitalism. Too much cotton produced in the United States yet the producers of cotton are freezing and starving in the face of an overproduction.

Food Brokers in Chicago fight ordinance to license and regulate brokers in foodstuffs. "None of 'ity's business," statement made to aldermen.

A big shipment of toys received from Germany in spite of war, but the American public will pay an exorbitant price for the toys just the same, and the children of Germany will receive a pittance for making them.

We are in receipt of a petition of several hundred names from the Church of the Revolution. The first signature being "BOUCK WHITE, GREENS COUNTY, Md." Comrade White is the author of "The Call of the Carpenter" and "The Carpenter and the Rich Man," for sale by the National Office or given free with 15 subscriptions to The American Socialist.

"Rich in the production of grain, Australia and New Zealand. Cotton and minerals we can not only supply our own but our sister countries with the necessities of life." Milwaukee Socialists plan to relieve city's need.

War creates an army of unemployed in New Zealand. Melbourne, Australia, bans the sending out of food.

The annual appropriation of \$3,000 to the Springfield, Mass., puppers is exhausted. The jobs are without hope. This is the first year the pupper department has fallen short. And winter has not yet arrived.

Saloons along the water front of New York City turned into sleeping rooms for the benefit of jobless seamen, while the wives and children wait the landlords with dispossessed notices.

Two British cruisers off New York said to have received supplies of coal, food and ammunition from vessel flying American flag.

Representative Moss of Indiana introduces measure for the control of puppers in exhausted. The jobs are without hope. This is the first year the pupper department has fallen short. And winter has not yet arrived.

Inquiry shows that the United States is supplied to meet the demand made upon us from foreign countries for food and clothing. Chicago Milk prices raised 3¢ per hundred pound wholesale.

If you are interested in the bread line this winter, send for the People's Petition, Socialist Headquarters, 803 W. Madison Street, Chicago, Ill.

Comrades: Send People's Petition blanks to the following address: Name Address City

Young People's Dept.

A. A. SOBERS, Jr., Director

To reach the center's youth work with the young people of the city, the Young People's Dept. is now in the East and has formed two leagues, a senior and junior league at New Haven, Conn. The senior league takes in those from 18 to 25 while the junior league includes those between 12 and 18 years of age.

There are now 120 members in the Young People's Dept. at New Haven, Conn. The senior league takes in those from 18 to 25 while the junior league includes those between 12 and 18 years of age.

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Prices Still Soar

By ENRIK SEIDEL

The Democratic administration was given full power on the promise that working class that the high cost of living would be reduced. Notwithstanding this promise the prices are still soaring all along the line.

Since neither the Democratic or the Republican administration has been able to solve the economic problems confronting the working class, we must turn to Socialism as the only practical remedy.

The only "new freedom" the working class has under the Democratic administration is the freedom to be idle and go hungry. But even the Republicans gave the workers this freedom.

We must change our social system. We must replace the system of operation. We must conduct business and industry, not purely for private gain but for the social good.

The European war does not mean the collapse of internationalism. After the smoke of battle has cleared away Socialism will rise stronger and mightier than ever. The great leaders of the various nations will rally their forces and go on with their work for national and international Socialism.

The war means the downfall of the capitalist system. For purposes of war the governments of Europe have confiscated private property, giving in return for commandeered automobiles, etc., merely a receipt; they have arbitrarily fixed the prices that private individuals may charge for the necessities of life. They have seized the railroads, the telegraphs and telephones, they have seized the banks, they have seized the post office, they have seized the press, they have seized the courts, they have seized the schools, they have seized the hospitals, they have seized the factories, they have seized the mines and mills, the forests and streams, the railroads and ship lines.

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National Office Socialist Party 803 W. Madison St., Chicago, Ill.

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