

Unmask Conspiracy to Wreck Public Schools—Lines Drawn Between Capital and Labor

If Future of Your Children is Precious to You, Then Read this Story—Shall Your Sons and Daughters Reverence Greed and Graft? or Shall They be Brought Up Loyal to the Cause of Labor?—That is the Question.

By IRWIN TUCKER

A CONSPIRACY of Big Business to destroy the only hope for betterment of the children of the workingmen—their education—was revealed and proven by documentary evidence at the mass meeting of the Teachers Federation of Chicago, Sept. 7. Hatched in darkness and deceit, the conspiracy was furthered by trickery, by impersonation, by lying, by legislative legerdemain and by outrageous impudence. And when it was exposed, The Illinois Manufacturers Association, organ of the capitalists for anti-labor lobbying, promptly endorsed the conspiracy and the plot, and Labor, through its governmental, national, state and city officials, stood firmly on the side of decency and honor.

Never were the lines more clearly drawn between Capital and Labor, nor the unblinking crookedness of the war against Labor more plainly revealed. As day by day goes by, the gigantic nature of the plot comes more and more into light. The war against the Chicago Teachers' Federation has become more than a local issue, it is a national conflict between Labor and Capital for the control of the minds of the new generation.

FIGHT FOR FUTURE. Is the future of your children precious to you? Does it matter to you whether the funds sacred to their education are used for their benefit, or whether it glids the pockets of a grafter?

Are you interested in seeing the schools divided into slave-schools and master-schools, wherein your children are taught to serve and the children of the well-to-do are taught to fide and exploit? Shall they be taught to reverence Greed and Graft as their gods, or shall they be brought up as men and women loyal to the cause of Labor?

IF THESE THINGS MATTER TO YOU, THE STRUGGLE IN CHICAGO IS OF VITAL MOMENT. FOR IF LABOR IS CRUSHED OUT OF THE SCHOOLS THERE, YOUR CHILDREN'S SCHOOLS WILL BE THE NEXT TO BE ATTACKED.

American Labor stood solidly behind Margaret Haley, business agent of the Teachers, on the platform of the vast Auditorium Theater in Chicago when on the night of Wednesday, September 7, she unveiled and proved by documentary evidence the most contemptible of conspiracies to disrupt the Teachers' Federation in order that the way might be clear to loot the schools.

POWERS OF PREY RALLY. On the other side, the powers of prey were not slower in rallying to their champions. The Illinois Manufacturers Association through S. M. Hastings, its president, sent a letter to Mayor Thompson and to the president of the school board, announcing its approval of the plot to smash the Federation. THIS WAS DONE AFTER THE EXPOSURE OF THE CHOCOLATE CONSPIRACY. By so doing the Illinois Manufacturers' Association stamped with its approval all the underhanded work of the Board of Education; and showed how true were the charges made by the teachers as to the identity of the backers of the plot. Multiball made clear the methods of Capitalism in fighting Labor—now Capitalism comes forward to own and admit its guilt.

IT WAS PROVEN: That millions of dollars was and still is looted from school funds by graft; That school finances in Chicago, involving the expenditure of EIGHTEEN MILLION DOLLARS A YEAR, are in a hopelessly chaotic condition; That the secretary of the School Board has for years been fighting off any attempt to secure an accounting; That hundreds of thousands of dollars mysteriously disappear under fictitious charges; for instance, although substitute teachers bring in more money to the board than is paid for them, as the regular teacher is docked more than the substitute is paid, yet \$100,000 a year is charged off to the expense of substitutes; That the Chicago City Council attempted to investigate the finances of the Board, and were refused access to the books; That by a corrupt and illegal

Attorney of Cook County, (Chicago) the proof that Myer J. Stein was personally paying the cost of a state body:

WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM. RECEIVED AT CORNER JACKSON BOULEVARD AND LA SALLE STREET, CHICAGO. E 46 A ER 347 COLLECT ONT DASH PERIODS COMAS PNS KO. HILLSBORO ILLS 135P SEP 8 15. HON FRANK JOHNSTON JR. Actg. States Atty. Criminal Court Bldg. Chicago, Ill. Forty-ninth General Assembly, State of Illinois. Senate. Myer J. Stein Senate Solicitor and Law Secretary, Oak Park, Ills. (Confidential). Room 211 Hotel La Salle, Chicago, August 28, 1915. Hon. Stephen D. Canaday, Hillsboro, Ills. Senator. Disinterested Citizens of Chicago. Personal friends of mine—acting en masse from philanthropic motives, and having no axes to grind, have arranged to provide the committee with funds for the payment of its actual expenditures during the course of this investigation. I am perfectly willing to go along without any money for myself, but there are necessary expenses incurred, and it has been necessary for me to make this arrangement.

In this connection I want to say that you have been put to considerable expense, and will be in the future, attending hearings of the committee, in view of which fact I want you to please send me a statement of your expenses to this date, and I will see that you are paid. I have given my word to these friends of mine that this amount will be paid to them immediately the next session of the legislature convenes. Instead of taking a vacation, as I had intended to do, I have gone along with the work, and together with my assistants, am working almost night and day in the preparation of evidence to be submitted when the committee reconvenes. Of course you understand that in the future your expenses will be taken care of, as the sacrifices you are making in attending the sessions already are considerable. With kind regards I am, yours very truly, Myer J. Stein. M. J. S. M. B. The above is a true copy of the original letter. Will send photograph copy tomorrow.

HEARING IS FARUCIAL. That this Senate Committee conducted a farcical hearing, in which the members of the Board of Education of Chicago were the only witnesses, and in which they made absurd charges against the Teachers' Federation—to prevent an investigation of themselves; That, proceeding on their own testimony as a basis, they launched the order to disband the Teachers' Federation; That crooked money, mysteriously secured and mysteriously expended, financed this illegal Commission. That false impersonation of a Senator of Illinois and Chairman of the Board was resorted to by the attorney for the wreckers, Myer J. Stein, to win his aims. Before an assemblage of five thousand persons gathered in the Auditorium theater—which was jammed clear to the high fifth balcony—Margaret Haley, who is small, but a fighter, drove home these points one by one. Every step in the chain of evidence she backed up with documentary proof, and the huge theater rocked and rang to the applause of the host there gathered. Each person in the audience had received a copy of last week's issue of THE AMERICAN SOCIALIST containing the history of the long struggle, and they all knew why they lay back of and behind the scenes. And when the little gray-haired woman walked over to the press tables and delivered to the reporters copies of the proof of her charges in the shape of a letter sent by Myer J. Stein, attorney for the school Board, to the acting Governor of the State, Senator Canaday, president pro tem of the state, then it was as though bedlam had broken loose. This is a copy of the telegram, from Acting Governor Canaday, in which he places before the States

FOR UNIFORM BOOKS. John H. Walker, president of the state federation of labor, told of the heartfelt interest of the state

TEACHERS SHOULD ORGANIZE
By MARY O'REILLY
One of the 7,000 Chicago Teachers

THE members of the Chicago Teachers' Federation have this message for the teachers throughout the land:

ORGANIZE! STAND TOGETHER! Join with us! Affiliate with the American labor movement! Let your voice be heard in the industrial struggles which are going on today all over the world!

Today we are engaged in a bitter struggle against the interests whose selfish plans have been foiled. All of their power has been arrayed against us. Teachers are being subjected to an inquisition paralleled only by the cruelties of the middle ages. In spite of this they are not daunted. Not one is afraid. They are standing together with splendid courage. They face the struggle with no doubt of their own strength.

TEACHERS HAVE a larger duty to the children and the community than the mere service in classroom routine. They must protect their charges from attack and exploitation. They must demand that the children shall be free, that education shall be democratic, that expression shall be fearless and honest. Can they demand freedom for the children without having it for themselves? We know they can not. Socialists understand this above all others. To bring about the newer, better order of society we must be free. To make the struggle for all that it means to us we must be united. We must be a part of the great industrial movement of the world, bearing our share of its burdens and being supported by its strength. A strong national organization of teachers would be a safeguard for democracy. Let the American Socialists send this message to teachers all over the land—ORGANIZE! STAND TOGETHER! SPEAK FOR YOURSELVES!

labor body in the struggle in Chicago. Out in Illinois the school book companies dominate the situation, he said.

"We have been having a long struggle in Illinois to enforce county uniformity," he continued. "Men whose work demands that they move from one town to another in pursuit of work, the coal miners especially, are frequently compelled to forego sending their children to school because they cannot afford to skip and save, economizing on food and clothing, in order to be able to pay for the books. By this means the school book companies sell books worth anywhere from two to five millions of dollars a year EXTRA; and they have fought every endeavor to change the law. From two to five millions of dollars taken out of the pockets of the hardest worked and lowest paid workers in the country—for the benefit of the school book trust."

Samuel Gompers linked the attempt to destroy the Teachers' Federation of Chicago with the recent wholesale dismissals of professors from the universities throughout the country. It is all a part of the general plan he said, to bring education, which means the moulding of the minds of the future race, under the control of Big Business.

GREATEST ISSUE DAWNS. But the greatest issue of the struggle is this; it seems to be gradually dawning upon Labor in Chicago that in order to retain control of its own schools, it must stand together politically. Time and again in the meetings organized in Chicago this point is emphasized; and it may be that this assault of Greed and Graft upon the public schools of Chicago will compel Chicago workmen to realize that in unity at the ballot box lies their hope for the future.

END CAPITALISM AND YOU WILL END MILITARISM. So long as the people do not vote war bonds, these bonds are illegal and must be repudiated. The world may be getting better, but it is a cinch that the standard bearers and jingo are not responsible for it.

WORKERS SHOULD NEVER FIGHT UNLESS THEY DECLARE THE WAR THEY ARE TO FIGHT. And they will never declare war except on the plutocrats and autocrats. Until the workers declare war and give general command in war they have the right to ignore and disobey the autocrats who usurp the power to do these things.

POSTPONED Due to the fact that the minutes of the Socialist Party national executive committee meeting will be published in next week's issue of The American Socialist, the Special Socialist-Suffrage edition will be postponed one week. The executive committee minutes will take up considerable space and this would crowd out valuable material that we have secured for the suffrage issue. The Socialist-Suffrage Edition, to help in the big campaign now being carried on in Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania, will therefore be dated Saturday, Oct. 2. This will therefore give you a longer time in which to send in your bundle orders in response to the big offer made in The American Socialist last week.

WHY ARE YOU OPPOSED TO SOCIALISM? By J. L. ENGBAHL

THE quarter of a million readers of The American Socialist. We will be glad to publish your statement, as prominently as possible, and leave your case with the great mass of the members of the Socialist Party.

J. C. Havemeyer, Sugar King, Tells Why He Opposes Socialism--Simons Replies

By J. C. HAVEMEYER
His Attack on Socialism

I HAVE received the following courteous request from the Editor of "The American Socialist" of Chicago, for an article stating: "Why are you not a Socialist?" or "Why are you opposed to Socialism?" and answered that I would comply with the request if a brief statement of the socialistic belief and proposed action should be forwarded to me. I received promptly a printed summary of the views adopted at the National Socialist Convention in 1912, which gave me the required information.

My leading objection to Socialism, as announced in the United States Convention of 1912, is its narrowness and failure to consider truth in its widest sense, and its views are therefore, incomplete and impracticable. Indeed, a definition of Socialism seems to me, an effort of a certain number of people to have the rest of the world think and act according to their requirements without considering whether their own judgment and conscience approves, and whether it meets their needs. I find that its great aim is to attack and destroy capital, and I think that it is therefore, in many respects, unjust and unreasonable.

WE CERTAINLY can not afford to avoid a careful consideration of the question: who has made us and for what purpose? Surely, we should have this knowledge as it is useful for a successful life. We certainly are fearfully and wonderfully made. What is sight, hearing, taste, memory, sleep and mind or thought; and what is their intended and therefore right use? In the search for truth we should also perhaps realize that everything around us is made for a purpose and of an almighty power.

AT A VERY early age I accepted the existence of God as a fact, and the Bible as a revelation of His will, which should during my life regulate my faith and practice. Seventy years have elapsed, and my early faith is fully justified and confirmed. I should like to know whether the socialism expressed at the Convention in 1912, considers that the world was not made by God, and looking at its history since that time, there has not been failure and punishment or extinction, if God has not been recognized and obeyed? Have we not even lately, through the floods, tempests and whirlwinds which have wrought such destruction to houses, crops, lives and railroads, learned how absolute is our dependence upon Him? Is He not the author of pestilences and famines and other phenomena, which destroy comfort and life? No man or woman can afford to be ignorant of the truth the Bible gives concerning God and His requirements.

THERE IS the wonderful teaching that the first man and woman were made in the image and likeness of God, and were placed in the Garden and instructed as to God's will. They could obey or disobey. While they obeyed, God came into the Garden and communed with them, and, as it were, shared their life; but when they disobeyed, His communion ceased, and the spiritual likeness to God had left them, and Jeremiah's description applies to all men and women when he said: "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked; and Jeremiah's description or that given in the New Testament applies to all men, which includes the people who participated in the Socialist Convention." All have sinned and come short of the glory of God—the glory which God desired to share with Adam and which Christ came to restore. Christ called this restoration a new birth, which alone would fit us to share God's existence and presence in the other world. When Christ was asked what is the great commandment in the law, He replied: "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbor as thyself."

THE WELFARE of the individual is the welfare of the nation, and no legislation of any convention will affect the welfare of the world if there is failure of obedience to God. It should be remembered that religious truth is not opposed to, but is consistent with the highest common sense; and is not separate from, but represents what is reasonable and practical. It simply takes into account what is truth or fact in what relates to this world and the world to come. I have given a Bible quotation as to what is

WHY ARE YOU OPPOSED TO SOCIALISM?

By J. L. ENGBAHL

That is the question that I addressed to the masters of industry, prominent editors, authors, churchmen and others who always rally to the defense of the capitalist system and the interests of big business, when Socialism appears as a challenging force in the community.

I asked them all, "WHY ARE YOU OPPOSED TO SOCIALISM?" and offered them space in The American Socialist to show us where we were wrong. Some replied, others refused, others dodged, while the majority, when offered this excellent opportunity to place their anti-Socialist arguments before Socialists, remained strangely, perhaps discreetly, silent.

In the letter sent to these upholders of the capitalist system I said: "There is no denying the fact that Socialism is one of the most discussed questions of the day. The Socialists are carrying on a bigger campaign than ever for the principles in which they believe. The opponents of Socialism are growing more strenuous in their opposition to Socialism. 'The American Socialist,' the official organ of the American Socialist Party, is securing the opinions of a large number of prominent men on this question. It wants to know, 'Why are you not a Socialist?' or 'Why are you opposed to Socialism?' The charge is often made that Socialists are biased, that they are one-sided, that they are prejudiced, that they are ignorant; and that because of all these characteristics they are a menace to society. 'Here is an opportunity for you to get your views before

the natural condition of every man and woman in the world. How can this Bible assertion be denied or doubted?"

IN THE TEN Commandments given from Mt. Sinai, intended primarily for the Israelites, and later for the whole world, a warning is given against worshipping idols made of various substances, including gold; and there is the command not to murder, steal or bear false witness. The necessity for these Commandments is due to the selfishness which characterizes individuals and nations. How clearly this is proved by the number of prisons in all the lands and the prisoners who occupy them. How indispensable is a police system among all nations to protect life and property and enforce law and order, and what an illustration is the fact that a man named Mohammed born 570 A. D., nearly 1500 years ago, declared himself to be a prophet of God and has secured a following amounting, at the present time, to over 180,000,000 people; but the most convincing proof is the war now raging in Europe, in which the intelligent and educated nations are participating and killing each other by millions for worldly ends, to enlarge their territories and secure possession of what belongs to their neighbors, being inspired by the deceitful pretext that patriotism is a national duty which requires men to participate in killing as many of the people, and in destroying as much property as possible, of the nations opposed to them.

Hon. Elihu Root in an address before the Senate, made the following statement regarding the spirit and purpose of the United States: "We wish for no victories but those of peace; for no territories except our own; for no sovereignty except the sovereignty over ourselves. We deem the independence and equal rights of the smallest and weakest member of the family of nations entitled to as much respect as those of the greatest empire, and we deem the observance of that respect the chief guaranty of the weak against the oppression of the strong. We neither claim nor desire any rights or privileges or powers that we do not freely concede to every American Republic. We wish to increase our prosperity, to extend our trade, to grow in wealth, in wisdom, and in spirit, but our conception of the true way to accomplish this is not to pull down others and profit by their ruin, but to help all friends to a common prosperity and a common growth, that we may all become greater and stronger together." Surely, Socialism is not the change the world needs; it is not designed for the real men and wo-

men who inhabit it. Every individual and nation needs to recognize and obey God, individually and nationally, and the great of a successful life must be to "seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness", and regard things seen as simply temporal, and things unseen as eternal.

DOES NOT American Socialism practically ignore the very important fact that men differ widely in talent, ability, skill, fact, education, economy, morality and in other respects? Can human affairs be regulated so that every man's position and influence should not be determined by what men are, and what they are able to do? We also learn from the Bible that it is the duty and privilege of every man and woman to be co-worker with God. It therefore follows, that every one who fails to fulfill this duty hinders God's work in the world. We may take as an illustration, that all parents have the positive duty to bring up their children in the way they should go and when they are old they will not depart from it. Does Socialism enforce this duty? As previously suggested, no one can escape the obligation that at all times and in all things, we are to "seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness."

By A. M. SIMONS
His Reply to Havemeyer

ARE Socialist platforms so completely unintelligible that a man supposedly intelligent can make no more of them than Mr. Havemeyer has done? If so Socialists should seek earnestly to simplify and explain their writings.

It is plain that what he is talking about bears not the slightest relation to Socialism, and it would be easy to ridicule him for his ignorance. But I have no desire to do this. Socialists should try to explain themselves so that even Mr. Havemeyer can understand them. When Socialists urge the utmost democracy and insist that no step shall be taken, even in the direction of Socialism except after full discussion and with a thorough understanding of its effect by all concerned, it sounds strange for someone to charge them with wishing "the rest of the world" to do anything "without considering whether their own judgement and conscience approves." Such a statement is the exact reverse of the truth.

In every language and in almost every possible phraseology Socialists have explained that far from wishing to "attack and destroy capital," they only seek to substitute the community for the private capitalist. Does Mr. Havemeyer hold that the public school system "attacks and destroys," buildings, books and desks. These make up what private educational institutions call their capital.

I AM UNABLE to understand the writings of a mind that imagines a criticism or objection to Socialism to be contained in the statement that, "I am greatly surprised and even shocked, that the name of God is not once mentioned in the literature sent me as a summary of the work of the 1912 Socialist convention." Was it mentioned in a platform of the Republican or Democratic parties? If so, did it mention affect the policy of the parties?

It is only when, to quote Havemeyer, that "millions upon millions of men" are "wondering why they are so poor," that all state documents assume a partnership with divinity on the part of rulers. But all this has as little to do with Socialism as theosophy, astrology, or Mohammedanism have with high wages, unionism, child labor and political control of industry by labor.

If the Socialists have failed by other means to make this point clear to Mr. Havemeyer, I will try an illustration that I think he can understand. Did the law granting a preferential tariff on refined sugar contain any mention of God? Did Mr. Havemeyer have any law explained by his lawyers or by his pastor before taking advantage of it to make millions?

Socialists are working for legislation to stop exploitation and slavery in industry. They are concerned with economics not theology. Therefore all the references to the ten commandments, Mohammed and Elihu Root are very much beside the point.

SOCIALISTS HAVE no objection to "rendering unto God the things that are God's." They object to rendering unto capitalists the things that are produced by labor.

Mr. Havemeyer has explained why he is not an atheist, a Buddha, or voodoo doctor. He has said nothing that in any way explains why he or anyone else is not a Socialist. Perhaps I may be able to explain it for him. The Socialists would take the railroads and the sugar refineries owned by Mr. Havemeyer and vest their ownership in the community. This would divert the funds that now flow into the pockets of the stockholders into the pockets of the men and women who operated these industries.

This would cut off Mr. Havemeyer's income, unless he is willing to use his talents as an organizer and manager in the service of the community. Just now he probably thinks he would not like to do this, although I believe he would really find it a more desirable occupation, and one permitting far closer compliance with the standards of morals of the theology he preaches, than the work he is now doing.

Until he changes his mind on this point he will not be a Socialist. Nor will Socialists blame him for retaining his position. They will only console themselves with the fact that "we are many, they are few" whose interests unite them with Mr. Havemeyer, and await the time when laborers will refuse to permit their attention to be drawn from their real interests by irrelevant talks on theology.

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Address all communications to the Socialist Party, 303 Madison St., Chicago. Address all mail to Department, 303 Madison St., Chicago.

Letter for publication in the official organ of the American Socialist Party to be filed in the National Office by the Monday preceding the date of issue.

OFFICIAL BUSINESS. NATIONAL REFERENDUMS. Received since last publication.

BY WARREN, OHIO: Proposing that the National Convention of 1916 be held in Cleveland, Ohio, Sept. 14, 1915.

BY OREGON, OREGON: Proposing that the National Convention of 1916 be held in Portland, Oregon, Sept. 14, 1915.

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NATIONAL COMMITTEE BUSINESS. Chicago, Ill., August 31, 1915.

That the National Convention of 1916 be held in Cleveland, Ohio, Sept. 14, 1915.

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Letters from "American Socialist" Readers

RULES FOR THIS DEPARTMENT. The national committee of the Socialist Party in providing for an Open Forum in the American Socialist...

Recommendation No. 6.—An open forum to contain communications from party members or organizations on disputed points of party policy, views and tactics. No personal attacks or abuse of intemperate language shall be allowed. No communication in the Open Forum shall exceed 500 words.

Contributors to this department will facilitate matters considerably by carefully observing this rule.

BREAK THE GRIP OF THE MONEY OLIGARCHY.—The most powerful trust and the most merciless exploiter of the southern farmer is the money oligarchy that creates and controls the circulating medium of the country in violation of the U. S. Constitution while fattening on the sweat and blood of innocent women and children in the cotton fields of the south.

Local Fort Worth, Texas, of the Socialist Party has inaugurated a petition to Congress, which I have indicated the National Executive Committee to print and distribute to all members of the party.

These petitions may be had for the asking by writing The Socialist Party, 303 West Madison St., Chicago, Ill.

Do not fail to get them and get every farmer and working man in your neighborhood to sign, then return them to the party headquarters at Chicago to be sent to Congress as it opens.

Deluge Congress with these petitions compelling them to take action that will destroy the banking trust, or see the farmers of the south desert the old parties like rats from a sinking ship and stampede into the Socialist Party.

It seems expensive to be a foreign speaking socialist with only a speaking privilege. If we made the same proposition to Labor Unions would they join us in a body without a vote in our party councils?

Why not put them on a par and give both foreign and trade-union delegate representation and power proportionate to the number of our dues-stamps used for class-conscious working men to be a socialist member by virtue of one's trade affiliation, dues and class-consciousness?

Our locals should purchase stamps and have that office assist State work when and where such assistance is required. These are ONLY suggestions for your consideration.

Others may have better ones. Any suggestion that will help to build or strengthen our organization should be asked to express it.

Members and Locals should be more directly in touch with the National Office. BUT, if these things were put into effect at once they would be better off.

Besides, we have a campaign coming on; we need an organization fund; we need more speakers sent from Headquarters. We should have much free literature to circulate and every member should have the Official Paper by reason of his membership. — S. FARKS, Local Las Cruces, New Mex.

CUTTING EXPENSES.—A few weeks ago, Comrade Work urged the comrades to concentrate their efforts in order to obtain results. Now Comrade Lanfersiek in his letter of July 24th, is making it plain that the many activities of the National Office and consequent increasing expenses together with a falling membership, is heading the Party towards bankruptcy, which will be almost unavoidable if the proposed 1916 Convention of some 300 Delegates is held, and suggests limiting the number of Delegates to 100.

Even this number is far in excess of requirements, as the only important work to come before the convention will be the writing of the platform. This in all its essential points will be the same as in 1912 with Anti-War resolutions added.

Lutheran is said to have launched into a bitter tirade against the other faction of the Dutch Y. S. L. (represented by "Het Jonge Volk"), but as no one was present to present a defense, the matter was ruled out of order.

By-laws were adopted to define the duties of the International delegate. In their program they pointed out the great need for most energetic opposition to militarism in all its forms, and to all the causes which lead up to it.

It urged all young people to bear constantly in mind the supreme need for international solidarity among all young socialists. Provision was made for an International Young Socialist Peace Day and a recommendation for an International Organ was concluded.

ORGANIZE FOR 1916 FUND

One of the biggest boosts received by the "Organize for 1916 Fund" was the \$38.06 handed in to the national office this week by Frank Petrich, the translator-secretary of the South Slavic Socialist Federation.

In spite of the fact that the South Slavic peoples of Europe have been precipitated into the bloody European war, the Socialist movement among the South Slavs in this country is as strong as ever. This dues stamp sold for the month of August this year shows a membership of 1,940 as compared with 1,822 for August, 1914, when the European war began.

All the foreign language federations are showing considerable strength in spite of the fact that the English speaking membership of the party has shown a wholesale decline. Joseph Novak, for the Bohemian Socialists, reported to the national executive committee now in session, that this federation is now piling up a fund to conduct a vigorous fight for Socialism during the presidential campaign next year. The Bohemian Federation shows an average membership of 1,234 for the first eight months of 1915, which is almost twice the membership shown during the same period in 1912.

There was a steady increase from 1912 to 1915. The same is true of the Scandinavian Federation which has also shown a steady increase in membership during the last five years.

The Polish Federation also shows an increase in membership and Secretary Asenko reports that this federation is planning a big campaign to still further build up the organization. In the meantime the Polish Socialist daily in Chicago will be increased from four to six pages.

The Italian show steady progress, the average membership so far this year being 787 compared to 480 during the same months in 1913. Paul Bruchet reports that the Slovak Federation's branches are each paying five cents monthly to support a fund to secure a speaker from Europe to tour this country after the war is over.

In spite of the distraction resulting from the European war, the German Federation, for August, reported a membership of 4,274 compared to 4,218 in 1913. This federation will tour Alexandra Kollontai, the brilliant Russian Socialist exile, who has lived in Berlin, Germany, for years. She is expected to arrive in this country Oct. 15. The Hungarian Federation has shown a slight decrease in membership but indications are that it will make considerable progress during the fall and winter months.

It is now up to the English speaking organizations to duplicate the progress shown by the foreign language federations. This can be done

As a result of the struggle of the metal workers employed in ammunition factories in the East for the eight-hour day, more wages, etc., the "detestable" agencies are doing a landoffice business and are also inventing various new schemes to discredit organized labor and keep their strike-breaking hirelings in graft jobs. One method is for gunmen to disguise and sue greenhorn strike-breakers and represent themselves to the victims as striking pickets, and another is to have incompetents who are injured by machinery while at work, make the claim they were attacked by union men.

A mysterious newspaper called Free Belgium is causing the Kaiser's officials much worry. It has come to be known as the "spook paper," for the reason that a reward of \$3,750 has been offered for the capture of the editor, who seems to lead a shadowy existence. Your copy appears in Brussels a search is made, and then suddenly the next edition appears in Antwerp; when they hunt for the editor in that city the paper boys up in Ghent or at Namur or Mons.

Learn to speak forcefully and convincingly. The ability to speak effectively in public and in private means greater influence, greater opportunities and greater financial returns. Fit yourself for leadership. Your speech tells more than your face. Your ideas among men is decided by what you say and how you say it.

You can now become a self-reliant, persuasive and impressive speaker. The man or woman who can give a "stage fight" and embarrasment can be really over-armed if you know how to speak. You need our

It will easily and quickly train you to speak forcefully in public and in private. —enlarge your vocabulary. —increase your self-confidence. —develop a strong personality. —become a leader in your business. —at any occasion, without awkwardness or embarrassment.

We Train You By Mail—At Home—In Spare Time. Just fifteen spare minutes daily devoted to our Effective Public Speaking Course will train you to speak at dinner or public meetings without resorting to notes.

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THE TRUTH IS OUT!

By WILLIS ANDREWS

The truth is out! Some cog has slipped in the journalistic wheels of capitalism, else this story would never have been possible.

Heretofore socialists have been branded as disturbers of the peace and breeders of discontent when they have dared to arouse the public to an understanding of the impoverished and starved condition of the masses of the people.

The spread of the dread disease known as pellagra is assuming alarming proportions in the South, and nowhere is the malady more prevalent than in Nashville, Tenn.

Which fact has inspired the editor of the Nashville Banner to state some unwelcome but wholesome truths concerning conditions prevailing among the exploited poor.

Now, the Banner may rightly be judged the accredited mouthpiece of capitalism in the South, so what it has to say on the subject may be considered eminently conservative, safe and sane. Here's what the Banner says:

"The pellagra situation in the city of Nashville is grave. No good can come of obscuring or denying the fact. The best scientific opinion is that the cause of pellagra is a lack of sufficient food and the right kind of nutrition. The theory seems to be sustained by the fact that it exists mostly, almost wholly, among those who, because of poverty, lack proper nourishment, and because, too, the right kind of food in sufficient quantities is a remedy for the disease."

That is not far from the truth in cases not too far advanced.

Facts—every word—but just what the people have been telling the socialist for 10, these many years.

Of course it is known that many other communities in the country are suffering from the same kind of contagion that infests Nashville. The disease is called by another name, hunger and slow starvation. That's bad enough, but it doesn't sound so terrible as pellagra.

THE SUFFRAGE CAMPAIGN

By WALTER LANFERSIEK

The Suffrage campaign, in several of the eastern states, is progressing in fine shape. The women of New York especially are active in pushing the work.

Wherever suffrage is the leading issue, as it is just now in the East, the fight is being pushed by the women of the state. The women of New York especially are active in pushing the work.

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WORKMEN'S SICK & DEATH BENEFIT FUND OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

TABLE SHOWING STATUS OF THE SOCIETY AT THE END OF YEARS STATED, IN ITS YEAR PERIODS

Table with 5 columns: Year, Number of Members, Amount of Benefits Paid Since Organization, Amount Saved in Cash Reserve. Rows for 1885, 1890, 1895, 1900, 1905, 1910, 1913.

For further information write to Workmen's Sick & Death Benefit Fund, No. 1, THIRD AVE., NEW YORK.

Special Limited Offer

Send the coupon for full particulars of our Special Limited Offer — P. R. E. E. This wonderful offer is made for advertising purposes and is not to be used for any other purpose.

Send The Coupon Today

Be sure to investigate this offer. The coupon brings you full particulars without cost or obligation of any kind. Men who never hoped to be able to speak in public are getting marvelous results from our course.

MAIL THIS COUPON NOW

Public Speaking Department, American Correspondence School of Law, 9999 Manhattan Building, Chicago.

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MAKE EVERY SOCIALIST VOTER AN AMERICAN SOCIALIST READER

Last Week 46,779 Off 1,898 44,786 On 872 This Week 45,685 Loss 1,091

TRENCH 45,000.

Trench 45,000 will be a famous trench, for we feel certain that the counter attack of the "Ons" will begin right there.

ROLL OF HONOR

GLEN H. ABELE, Nebraska, earns our NOBLEST KNIFE this week with a list of 16 names on the Socialist map with a list of 16 names.

THE MASTER CLASS

By JOHN M. WORK

THE capitalist grab at every cent in sight. They get men and women to work for them at the lowest possible wages, without regard to their comfort and welfare and the comfort and welfare of those dependent upon them.

THEY BUILD hotels and tenement houses in the most undesirable places and rent them to the workers at exorbitant rates. They take care not to have these hotels and tenements too close to their own mansions on the broad and beautiful avenues.

THEY DO all these things because they have the power to. They have the power to do them because they own the exploiting industries which the workers have to use in order to live.

HOWEVER, we cannot blame the capitalists for the present frightful conditions. They monopolize the good things because we permit them to do so. The wrongdoers are in the majority and can apply the cure, by voting for Socialism, whenever they have sense enough.

CHICAGO YIPSELS HUSTLE FOR THE AMERICAN SOCIALIST.

Something very much akin to the thoroughness and system that characterizes the work of the German Socialist Party was by a group of Chicago Y. P. S. L. workers in connection with the monster mass meeting held by the Chicago Teachers' Federation in their fight to maintain their organization.

The "Free School Edition" of the American Socialist was the most complete exposure of the evils confronting our public schools ever issued by any publication. In view of this it was decided on the very day of the meeting to conduct a free distribution of this splendid piece of propaganda at the big meeting.

At one o'clock the plan was worked out and the printers given their order. The great difficulty was to find means by which to distribute the papers. The National Secretary of the Y. P. S. L. was appealed to, and for about two hours his telephone wire was kept hot in trying to reach as many of the Yipsele hustlers as possible.

THE WORLD OF LABOR

By MAX S. HAYES

Here is a good illustration of a man calling for help and then slinking the dog on those who come to his assistance. It is reported from St. Paul, Minn., that that city is overrun with unemployed men who have been turned back from the harvest fields.

The farm laborers of New Zealand have lately become one of the best unions in the country. They were organized and are offered by Labor and Socialist members of Parliament, because when individual farm laborers undertook the job they were blacklisted.

An Austrian unionist serving in the British army in Egypt writes home that even the capitalist slave-drivers in the latter country are beginning to show signs of possessing horse sense.

Municipal ownership is big SUCCESS IN SOCIALIST CITY. "Municipal ownership has proved a distinct success financially, socially, economically and from every other viewpoint."

Harry F. Kopp, the Socialist member of the Elizabeth, N. J., city council has opened a fight on the poll or head tax and the fur is beginning to fly.

Young People's Dept.

Organization—Education—Solidarity. WM. F. KRUSE, Director

To reach the nation's youth with the message of Socialism and to bring them into the organized Socialist movement through Young People's Socialist Leagues.

YIPSELE NEWS FROM EVERYWHERE. NATIONAL NOTES.

A new circle has been organized at Moline, Ill., and presents a list of 10 charter members. Welcome to the new comers, may he live long and prosper.

At the big outdoor campaign now being conducted, they recently donated \$15 to the Party's campaign fund. Initiations for membership campaign. Valuable prizes given to those who bring in most "staying" names.

Peoria, (Ill.), reports unparalleled activity on the occasion of the big Kennedy meeting. The boys of the City and the girls handled literature and collections. Trust the girls to win where the money flows.

LIBERATURE. CAMPAIGN.

Here it is again, not very much to be noted except for cash. There have been several other such things.

NOTE:—In this column, there is traced from week to week, the development of a typical Young People's Socialist League. The successes and failures are traced here and the chances are that you will find some of your own here set forth.

Table with columns: Name, Order, Paid, Due. Lists names like Brockton, Mass., and amounts.

THE STORY CORNER

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HOW THE PARTY MADE OUT.

After it has all over even Jim had to admit that he was surprised at the results of the Party. Of course, they had worked hard for it, and the aid of the whole family had been enlisted in its preparation.

THE UNITED MINE WORKERS' UNION

At Hillsboro, Ill., struck a big blow at the state militia when it ousted five of its members for belonging to this aggregation of mankillers.

THE ITALIAN SOCIALIST PARTY

Avanti, publishes the sad news that Comrade Cantanesi, for many years one of the leading members and secretary of the National Central Committee of the Italian Young People's Socialist League, and representative of the Italian Y. P. S. L. in the International Bureau, has been killed in battle on the Austrian front.

THERE'S MONEY IN IT

By LUCIEN SAINT

(Our Washington Letter.) Philanthropy at 9 1/2 per cent is the object of the directors of a community of model dwellings about to be erected in the National Capital in memory of President Wilson's wife.

WHEN DOCTOR Maloney arrived somewhat later, for he had to attend to a patient first, he was greeted enthusiastically. He was very popular with all the young folks. They soon clamored for a speech, and the Doctor said he would oblige them after all were comfortably settled.

THE Doc was a keen student of humanity, and he had long learned a lesson that many speakers would do well to master. He knew that in speaking, as in most other good things, it was not quantity, but quality that counts.

He started by telling them it was good to see everybody around him having a good time; he only wished that this could always be so, everywhere. To make this condition possible, was one of the reasons why young people should join together.

A PAIR OF SHOES

Once while lecturing up in the Great Northwest, Ryan Walker, the American Socialist's famous cartoonist, fell in company with a genuine knight of the road.

PROLONGED APPLAUSE showed that they were heartily in favor of that sentiment, and when application for membership cards were distributed, 20 out of the 35 then assembled signified their intention of joining.

Walker turned his eyes upon his own feet; then upon those of his chance companion's. The latter were hopeless; flesh gleaming through rips, tears, slits, fringed holes; laces in knots, uppers separating from broken soles.

Walker drew off his shoes. Sir Knight followed suit. The exchange was made without a spoken word. Walker hesitated before thrusting his feet into the horrible makeshifts his fallen brother had handed over to him.

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WOMEN'S LEAFLETS.

- Madam, How Will You Feed Your Family? (Bergers). Frances E. Willard on Socialism. Woman, What Will You Do With Your Ballot? (Thomas).

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"Splendid! Splendid! Beyond Compare!"

This is what Comrade I. L. BURGESS OF NEWPORT NEWS, VA., has to say about "LABOR IN POLITICS," Robert Hunter's incomparable book.

ALGERNON LEE, author, editor, and director of the Rand School says: "I most heartily congratulate the National Office on having published this book. It fills a very real need in our party literature."

NOTICE:—To anyone who buys four sub-cards or gets four subscriptions to THE AMERICAN SOCIALIST we shall send a free copy.

National Office Socialist Party

803 W. Madison Street Chicago, Ill.

ELECTION

Municipal Elections will soon take place in many cities and towns all over the nation. The campaign is now on. NOTHING WILL MAKE MORE SOCIALIST VOTERS QUICKER THAN A SYSTEMATIC DISTRIBUTION OF LEAFLETS.

Here is a complete list of the National Office leaflets. Use this list in making your order. The following four-page leaflets sell at \$1.60 per thousand, or 20 cents per hundred, express prepaid; \$1.00 per thousand in lots of 5,000 or more, F. O. B. Chicago.

HOW MANY? SUBJECTS AND WRITERS.

- Why Should Catholic Workmen Be Socialists? (Thompson) What Congress Ought To Do. (Thompson) A Prominent Priest's Defense of Socialism.

WOMEN'S LEAFLETS.

- Madam, How Will You Feed Your Family? (Bergers). Frances E. Willard on Socialism. Woman, What Will You Do With Your Ballot? (Thomas).

The following two-page leaflet sells at 50 cents per thousand, prepaid; 75 cents per thousand west of Rocky Mountains:

- How Socialism Would Meet the War Crisis. The following 16-page leaflets sell at \$3.50 per thousand; 50 cents per hundred, express prepaid; \$25.00 for ten thousand, F. O. B. Chicago:

A set of sample leaflets sent FREE for a list of 4 subscribers to The American Socialist at 25 cents each.

Name City Street No. State Address

NATIONAL OFFICE SOCIALIST PARTY

803 W. MADISON ST., CHICAGO, ILL.

Henry Dubb May Keep His Brain Quiet But Not His Stomach

