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Wilson Wants Labor To Play The Role Of Lamb

By LUCIEN SAINT.
(Special Correspondence)

Washington. — Wilson's true colors, beliefs and intentions relative to capital and labor were disclosed for the first time when, at the White House the other day, he addressed an impressive gathering of labor representatives.

Wilson is endeavoring to soften and obliterate class lines by the old civic federation tactics—making capital and labor lie down together like the lion and the lamb. That's all.

Can it be done?

Small Business Statesman.

Wilson thinks so. He thinks that the toilers of the world can co-operate with their exploiters while their wealth and their strength are being taken away from them. He favors all kinds of social reform measures, but he does not favor the reformation of society on a new and just basis. He is an old-fashioned, small business man's Democratic statesman.

This is the man who is to be President of the United States for four years more. His position is not the Socialist or enlightened labor position that many of his supporters are labor people. He is not as radical as he sounds, though he is enough "progressive" to scare timid Wall Street every now and then. The best that the labor movement can expect from Wilson is a hearing and an intelligent understanding of its superficial desires. He does not cut deep.

Congress To Mark Time.

The Congress which is to meet to obey the President's wishes a couple of weeks hence is still a thoro Democratic Congress. It will do exactly what the President wants. It will enact a \$300,000,000 naval bill and plenty of money for the army. It will pass the anti-labor railroad legislation which the President has promised the railroad capitalists that they shall have. It will distinctly NOT tackle the high cost of living. It will NOT touch labor legislation, even the less vital. It will NOT do anything but mark time and draw its pay and run the same old routine.

The election of November 1917 elected another House of Representatives, which House will be in good old reactionary Republican hands. This will hold down Wilson, even if he wanted to kick up his heels a little and give him, furthermore, an excuse for not doing many things which progressives who voted for him confidently and foolishly expected him to do.

FIGHT CONSCRIPTION.

Washington.—What will be the attitude of the Administration toward the repealer of the "draft" clause in the Hay Army bill? The pacifist forces are announcing that they will attempt, thru Representative George Huddleston of Alabama, to strike out section 79, containing the obnoxious word. The President, speaking thru the mouth of his Secretary, announced during the campaign that he would stand behind such a repealer. It is evident that here is a bone of contention which may be the cause of some very sharp skirmishing before the winter is over.

The clause in question is entitled "Reserve battalions for recruit training," and provides that "If for any reason there shall not be enough voluntary enlistments to keep the reserve battalions at the prescribed strength a sufficient number of the organized militia shall be drafted into the service of the United States to maintain each of such battalions at the proper strength." It is the contention of the socialists, the pacifists, and Representative Huddleston of Alabama that this clause means conscription. "Unorganized militia," under the terms of the National Defense Act, includes all male American citizens between the ages of 18 and 45. Regarding the word draft, this passage from a fiery speech delivered by the governor of Alabama, states the minority view of the situation.

Congress Surrenders Power.

"Of course, Congress has the power to authorize the President to 'draft' men in time of war. But that is a power which Congress has always kept in jealous possession. You may search the pages of our history without finding a single instance where Congress has yielded up this power to the military authorities in advance of any emergency. It is a power which democracies are reluctant to place in the hands of bureaucrats; but that is exactly where this bill lodges it. In time of peace, without a real enemy in sight, this Congress has unwittingly surrendered to the military authorities the power to conscript men.

"Suppose there is a war on. Men may be enlisting freely both in the populous centers and in the agricultural section. There is no attempt under this bill, to adjust the situation. No; as soon as recruiting slackens temporarily in a given district the military authorities may step in, without further action of Congress, and clap on the 'draft.' Men loathe the 'draft,' and rightly. This bill, then, thanks to this 'joker' gives them no protection against its steady extension thruout the country in time of war."

HERE'S ONE LIVE TOPIC.

Washington.—Government ownership and operation of the railroad systems of the United States is the one live-topic before the special committee of Congress which has just been to hold hearings on the railroad

question. The forces of reaction are fighting against government ownership and against any publicity on the government ownership side. The kept press has its busy censors out on the job already.

The politicians know that Government ownership of the railroads is a coming thing. So do the railroads, and so does Woodrow Wilson, President of the United States who stated to three cabinet officers recently: "I have always been able to see Government ownership of the railroads, but now I see it sticking me in the face."

The inevitable breakdown of the privately owned monopoly has failed utterly. Regulation has failed. Railroad labor is badly treated and restless. Capital will not invest in railroad securities. Railroad service is not what it should be. Railroad rates, both passenger and freight, are extortionately high.

Facing The Inevitable.

Even the chairman of the joint congressional committee has admitted that the committee must investigate HOW to take over the railroads—whether by condemnation or by taking over the stocks and bonds. He, too, knows that the inevitable is about to take place.

Every radical and enemy of privilege should rally to the fight that is now going on in Washington over government ownership of the railroads. It is a really revolutionary fight. It is organized capital against the unorganized desires of the people. Every individual who can should write to the chairman, Senator Newlands of Nevada, and ask for a hearing or for a copy of the proceedings. Every local paper should be asked to discuss the hearings and to give as much space to the government ownership side as to the reactionary side.

There is a fighting chance for government ownership at this session of Congress; there is a good chance for it at the next session. But the people are the ones to make these chances good. Let them do it!

Quinlan To Be Freed!

As this issue of The American Socialist goes to press the good word comes that Patrick Quinlan is to be freed from the New Jersey state penitentiary immediately. Remember the story of how Quinlan was thrown into the New Jersey state prison to die because of his loyalty to the working class.

Quinlan is a Socialist writer and lecturer. When the Paterson silk strike broke out in 1913 he was asked to come there and help, and he did so. One day he was arrested. In a series of trials he was sentenced to serve an indeterminate term of from two to seven years in the Trenton prison for inciting to riot, and advocating the destruction of property during a speech in the strike headquarters. More than twenty witnesses swore that Quinlan did not speak at the meeting in question, but this made no difference. Police testimony counted most and he was found guilty.

FOR BETTER SOCIAL ORDER.

John Spargo in "Elements of Socialism." Socialism is a criticism of existing society which attributes most of the poverty, vice, crime and other social evils of today to the fact that, thru the private or class ownership of the social forces of production and exchange, the actual producers of wealth are exploited by a class of non-producers; a theory of social evolution according to which the rate and direction of social evolution are mainly determined by the development of the economic factors of production, distribution and exchange; a social forecast that the next epoch in the evolution of society will be distinguished by the social ownership and control of the principal agencies of production and exchange, and by the equalization of opportunity as a result of this socialization; a movement primarily consisting of members of the wealth-producing class, which seeks to control all the powers of the State and to bring about the collective ownership and control of the principal means of production and exchange, in order that poverty, class antagonisms, vice and other ill results of the existing social system may be abolished and that a new and better social order may be attained.

TERRE HAUTE SHOWS HOW.

The city of Terre Haute, Ind., has entered the retail coal business and greatly reduced the cost to the consumer. Residents of the city, thru the municipal market, were able to buy Indiana coal at \$2.75 a ton. Dealers were asking \$6 a ton for the same grade. The city has leased a mine and hired 200 teams to haul the coal to the city.

CLEVELAND GETS THE IDEA.

Purchase of coal lands by the city of Cleveland, Ohio, as a guard against further coal famines will be considered by the city council. Lighting Commissioner W. E. Davis is back of the plan to purchase coal fields to supply the 700,000 tons used yearly by this city.

Bryan, the uncommon Commoner, says there will be a prohibition plank in one or both of the old party platforms in 1920. What a happy thought! That would divert the attention of a lot of people from the bigger issues of the campaign, of which the Socialist party has a monopoly.

The real strength of our party is measured by its membership. This has grown more this year than the party's vote. Join now, for your own good and for the good of the party.

FOUND—THAT A LOT OF Dime Banks are still out. They should be returned at once.



He Will Get What He Voted For!

"Law Or No Law!"

THE RAILROAD workers are determined to have the eight hour workday as follows: "LAW OR NO LAW!"

That means that if the Adamson eight hour law, passed by congress and duly signed by the President, is wiped off the statute books by the supreme court, the railroad workers will resort to force, TO THE STRIKE!

PREPARING FOR STRIKE.

DURING the past week the representatives of the railroad workers have proceeded in several directions to prepare for a strike.

They have met in conference, in Washington, D. C., with the representatives of the railway shopmen, organized into the railway department of the American Federation of Labor, to wipe out the differences between the men in the shops and the men on the trains in the railroad industry.

Let us hope that this will prevent a repetition of what took place during the Illinois Central and Harriman railroad strikes, when the men in the shops went on strike while the men on the trains remained at work. This amalgamation of interests marks an epoch making advance in the organization of the workers in the transportation industry.

Then the representatives of the railroad brotherhoods journeyed down to Baltimore and addressed the convention of the American Federation of Labor. It was promised that the aloofness of these so-called railroad "aristocrats" of the labor movement was a thing of the past, and in return the support of the men and women organized into the A. F. of L. was pledged the railroad workers in the great struggle now confronting them.

THE CONCERN OF ALL.

IT HAS therefore come to pass that the American labor movement is united as never before on one great issue, "THE EIGHT HOUR DAY."

The coal miners will not be at all backward in supporting the railroad workers, and with these two great groups of toilers arrayed shoulder to shoulder, the proposed strike can have but one outcome, THE GRANDEST VICTORY LABOR IN THIS NATION HAS EVER ACHIEVED!

PROGRESS SO FAR.

LEGISLATION for the eight-hour day was forced thru congress on the eve of election. There were two contributing causes: the strength of the organized railroad workers and the anxiety of President Wilson to secure as many votes as possible in order to bring about his re-election.

Representatives of the railroad brotherhoods, immediately after the Adamson law passed, offered to meet with the railroad heads to decide on the application of the law which is to go into effect Jan. 1, 1917. The haughty railroad barons refused to meet and discuss.

Instead, immediately after election, the railroad owners went into the federal courts and began attacking the constitutionality of the Adamson eight hour law. They invited the railroad workers to fight them in the courts.

As one official of the Brotherhoods put it, "We have decided not to spend one cent of our funds in court litigation, deciding rather to preserve the funds intact in case they shall be needed to pay strike benefits."

The capitalist government of the nation is therefore left alone to defend, in the capitalist courts, the law enacted by the representatives of the capitalist parties in the last session of congress.

3,000 SUITS FILED.

IT IS estimated that 3,000 suits have been filed or will be filed, very soon, attacking the constitutionality of the eight hour law.

Judge William C. Hook, former counsel for the Santa Fe railroad, now judge in the United States district court at Kansas City, Mo., has helped "rush" matters to the United States supreme court by declaring the Adamson law "unconstitutional." This was done on one day's notice. The court, having in view the mere rushing of the case to the U. S. supreme court, could just as easily have declared the law "constitutional." But the capitalist court proved true to its capitalist masters and declared the law unconstitutional; the capitalist press hailed the decision as a great victory for

the plutocracy and didn't charge one red cent for this free advertising to mould the public mind against the eight hour law.

LAW IS CONSTITUTIONAL.

IT IS declared by expert constitutional lawyers that there isn't a flaw in the Adamson eight hour law.

WELL AND GOOD! That clears the issue!

That makes it clear that this struggle is going to be one to see who controls the government of the United States, the capitalist class or the working class. There is no doubt in our mind NOW! The courts, the state legislatures, the national congress, in the last analysis, have always proved themselves true to the master class.

The United States supreme court has shown no swing toward human rights as opposed to property rights. When the trial comes we feel that it will prove true to the class that has put it in power.

When it is finally called upon to decide, the United States supreme court will declare that congress has no right to pass laws in the interests of the working class, and every worker who voted the democratic ticket in the last election because, "He gave us the eight hour law!" will immediately be forced to class himself among the nation's Henry Dubbs and enroll in the school of hard knocks to acquire a little real political intelligence.

NO HOPE FOR WILSON.

THERE IS no hope for the President. He has fallen down completely, now that the election is over.

He is trying to play the game that Mark Hanna sought to put over when he organized the National Civic Federation. What Mr. Hanna, the greatest politician the capitalist class ever produced, was not able to do, the politician in the White House cannot now accomplish.

Mark Hanna tried to make a lion out of capital, a lamb out of labor, and then force them to lie down together, the lamb inside or outside of the lion, it didn't make much difference.

Many of the highest officials of labor immediately became victims of Mark Hanna's great scheme and soon turned up as shining lights of the National Civic Federation along with the capitalist lions of industry. The capitalist lions and the labor lambs ate high priced foods and drank high priced wines together annually in some swell hotel in New York City. And thus all went well for a short time.

LAMB BECOMES LION.

NOW IT seems that the meek lamb has suddenly evolved into a roaring lion seeking an eight hour day, "LAW OR NO LAW!"

Labor is getting more conscious of its power and has decided that it has played the role of lamb long enough.

The words of the President, therefore, sounded like the death rattle of a conquered master class, when he spoke as follows:

"Nothing alarms America so much as rifts, divisions—the drifting apart of elements among her people—and the thing we ought all to strive for is to close up every rift."

That is the false philosophy that has always been advanced by the overbearing master class, the philosophy that Mark Hanna sought to perpetuate in the National Civic Federation.

IT DIDN'T HELP.

ALL THE speeches made at National Civic Federation banquets, however, didn't lessen one bit the great struggle between the exploiters and the exploited. The condition of the slaves of industry did not improve.

There is only one solution—the wiping out of the exploiters thru the social ownership of all the great industries. This is the only solution that will close up the rift that exists in present day society.

THIS RIFT TOO BIG.

INSTEAD Of advocating the socialization of industry, the President has come forward as the champion of compulsory arbitration.

The working class stands for the socialization of industry and is opposed to compulsory arbitration, claiming it will only fasten the chains of wage slavery more securely upon them. There is a rift that cannot be eliminated

by all the speeches the President may make both before and after election.

BIG STRUGGLE LOOMS.

IN SPITE of the protests, therefore, of the businessmen who read it, The Chicago Herald was very close to the truth the other day when it declared in a startling headline: "LABOR-CAPITAL WAR LOOMS."

We ask, "What will our capitalist government do when it has declared the Adamson eight hour law unconstitutional and tried to put into force its compulsory arbitration measures?"

The men say they will strike. Will our capitalist government dare conscript them back into service on the railroads, carrying out what the President now seems to be trying to write into the law of the land, and what the militarist governments of Europe have already succeeded in doing? The railroad workers say, "If that is what the capitalist government of this nation is trying to do it is about time we found it out."

ANSWER WILL COME SOON.

THE ANSWER to all the doubts and fears of today will come soon. The Adamson law goes into effect Jan. 1, and there is a heavy penalty for violating it after that date. The United States supreme court will render its decision before that time. Congress will be in session to pass more laws at the President's bidding.

We are on the eve of great events in the history of this nation and in the upward struggle of the working class.

We repeat our plea of a week ago: "WANTED: Stout Hearts To Face This New National Crisis!" We believe that the working class in this new crisis is stout of heart. It demands the eight-hour day: "LAW OR NO LAW!"

WHERE THE FOOD GOES.

Federal authorities in Chicago, in spite of their blindness, are coming to realize that there is a conspiracy among produce men and wholesale dealers to juggle the cost of food.

Information that dealers had bought and paid for farm produce and then allowed it to rot in the fields was obtained thru investigators from farmers.

One farmer—B. L. Brundage, living near Gary, Ind.—said to have reported that after an alleged produce man had bought his entire crop of pumpkins, and paid for it, the crop was allowed to rot. Brundage, it was asserted by District Attorney Clyne's informant, made inquiries when no effort was made to collect the crop, and discovered that the buyer had given a fictitious name and address.

The names of dozens of other farmers in Indiana and Illinois, who, it is asserted, have seen their crops rot in the fields after they had been bought and paid for by the produce dealers, are said to be in the hands of the federal authorities.

Another report that reached Mr. Clyne was that twenty-eight carloads of potatoes had been dumped into the river at Peoria.

Government officials also were told that large quantities of beans are being held in Norfolk, Va., Philadelphia and Saginaw, Mich., both in bulk and in cans. The storing of this commodity, it is said, has increased the cost of dry beans 40 per cent and canned beans 60 per cent in the last half year.

And still nothing is done! Do the food pirates control the government?

HILLQUIT TO CONGRESS.

Morris Hillquit, Socialist candidate for Congress in the 20th New York district, defeated in the recent election by gross fraud and trickery, declares he expects to gain about 1,000 votes when the recount is made. He said the crooked work of the election boards was so crude, and added that some of the board members would probably go to jail for corrupt practices. If this estimate is correct, Hillquit will go to Congress next session, which is about one year from now, in place of Isaac Siegel, the "successful" Republican, who defeated him by a narrow margin.

The Socialists and near-Socialists who betrayed their party and voted for Wilson have the satisfaction that they elected him. Without these deserters Hughes would undoubtedly have carried enough of the close states to win. We are glad these people accomplished their desire, for they now have four years to learn that you can conquer the enemy only by fighting him and not with him.

President Wilson, in settling the railroad strike, qualified as an expediency expert. The question bobs up again within a week after the election. We hate to see the matter considered in Congress again now when the trainmen have no pre-election leverage.

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"Educators" Make An Important Finding

By WM. F. KRUSE. All sorts of investigations are going on and some of them bring to light some interesting facts, which are published from time to time and promptly forgotten by all save the pernicious socialist agitators.

Such a case is found in the recent report of the "Committee To Investigate Causes For Pupils Leaving School," appointed by the Schoolmasters' Club of Minneapolis, Minn.

Of all children who graduated from the grade schools and then applied for working permits, 76 per cent did so because of financial necessity.

From all these figures culled carefully out of the attendance reports of the schools themselves the committee draws the conclusion that they "fail to see that these readjustments (vocational guidance and other proposed changes in the curriculum) will keep any appreciable number of children in school, for the reason that the average family in Minneapolis cannot afford to educate their children if they are first to provide them with food, clothing and shelter."

The director of the Department of Attendance, who held an honorary position on the committee, cannot see his way clear to support this declaration.

tion and in his supplemental report he suggests that "the committee, doubtless, will not care to stand by the proposition" quoted above. In the face of the Director's own figures it is difficult to see how they could stand by anything else.

Cheating America's Youth. "It is our duty to proclaim the truth that the American youth are being cheated of this inheritance (a liberal cultural education) because the wage scale and working conditions of their fathers are unsatisfactory—to proclaim it with no uncertain voice until the great mass of the people are aroused to take such action, properly legislative, as will insure the perpetuation in America of true democracy.

Nothing need be added here save that every Socialist will heartily support this plea for a broad and deep education for every child and youth in this country.

LOST!—TWO THOUSAND Dime Banks are scattered all over this country. They should be back in the National Office of the Socialist Party not later than December 1. Help find them, help return them.

LETTER TO HENRY DUBE.

Dear Henry,—Did you ever see a linotype machine? If you haven't seen one of these wonderful little labor savers you call around at The American Socialist's office next time you are in Chicago.

The latest report is that there is "little if any" prospect of action on the part of the President to secure an embargo on food products.

Philosophy Of Socialism

By A. M. SIMONS. People often speak of Socialism as if it were a system that could be "enacted," a plan that was proposed, or an elaborated Utopia offered for criticism.

It should be distinctly understood from the beginning that Socialism is not the state of society, "to be," either proposed or existing. The "Co-operative Commonwealth" is no more Socialism in the true sense of the word than was the Competitive Society of our fathers, or the Monopolistic Society of to-day.

The basis of Socialism in this sense is found in what is sometimes called the "materialistic conception of history" or Economic Determinism.

"In every historical epoch, the prevailing mode of economic production and exchange, and the social organization necessarily following from it, form the basis upon which is built up, and from which alone can be explained, the political and intellectual history of that epoch."

Perhaps this position can be made clearer by an illustration from the field of biology. It is a well known law in the world of plants and animals that in any organism the entire form and structure is simply the most advantageous manner of arranging the material of which the plant or animal is composed in order to meet the difficulties with which it is surrounded.

In the same way society as a whole is simply the form in which its members unite to conform to nature. It is a machine, an organism, a structure with which to obtain the Good desired by its members.

Let this not be misunderstood. If society is not a means to the satisfaction of human desires thru conquest of an external world, the lowness of a society does not depend upon this fact but only upon the lowness of the desires that govern.

The Labor government of Queensland, Australia, which established butcher shops in Brisbane and reduced the price of meat from an average of 25 cents a pound to 12 cents a pound, has opened three more shops in Rockampton.

"For Things as They Are—More So and Better." That is the motto of a capitalist paper which is sent to us, and a more despicable sheet we never saw.

BRITAIN GETS BARBAROUS.

England's treatment of the Conscientious Objector is one of the most barbaric features of the European War. To date, 25,000 men, mostly Socialists, who have been conscripted into the army have refused to bear arms.

In not a few cases sentence of death has been passed on Conscientious Objectors. To date none have been shot, the sentences of many being commuted to long term imprisonment, but it is thought by some writers that in the near future Conscientious Objectors will receive the full penalty the law admits.

This is in England, a country known as free. In fact England, before the war was more free than the United States. Then there was no draft law and for a long time after the war commenced the popular sentiment of these patriotic people was strong for the inherent rights of free Englishmen that the conscription acts were passed with difficulty.

In the United States, however, we are prepared for war in time of peace, thanks to the last Congress which passed a law permitting the president to draft any citizen into the army in war time.

CHRISTIAN VIEWS SOCIALISM. There is a great and growing interest in religious circles regarding Socialism. The time is past when the statements of a subsidized press are taken as truth by the religious man.

When the investigator sees that the constant change and evolution of mankind from a lower to a higher state is the product of natural law due to the struggle for existence; when he examines one historical epoch after another and places his finger upon the economic causes of each successive change and finds no mystery nor intervention of any supernatural power, he goes as far as his experience will allow him.

The believer in a revealed religion has no quarrel with him; the whole world is a debtor to the determined efforts of the searchers into the phenomena of material things.

Whereas the truth is, that there is no inherent contradiction between Socialist science and revealed religion. Every newly discovered law in material things, every evolutionary process that directs or forces mankind to better conditions, is a new proof of Divine Omnipotence, of God's determinate counsel and foreknowledge.

HELD UP!—Two thousand Dime Banks are being held up and so is the final report on the Dime Fund being held up, because these banks have not as yet been returned. If you have a bank send it back today.

Have You Read The Jungle by Upton Sinclair.

Before this war broke out, countless thousands of people came to these shores from every country of Europe. They came here hoping to find the promised land—some of them and six feet of the promised land, but on the Potter's Field.

Among those immigrants was a family of Lithuanians, and some of their friends. Their hopes were high and in different directions, they thought of money, love, marriage, happiness—all to be found in this promised land.

And soon we find Jurgis, his strength gone, wife and babies dead, friends scattered, and with a jail sentence at his back, tramping the country as a common "bo".

NOTE.—This series of book reviews is being conducted for the purpose of giving reliable evidence on those, especially among the younger socialists, who are trying to broaden their knowledge of present day conditions and of Socialist literature.

The Statist is a British capitalist publication of wide circulation and influence and an acknowledged authority on matters relating to its class interest.

ests. In reviewing the economic changes that have been wrought during the past year or so, the London paper does not hesitate to call things by their right names.

And in the hands of the government the greater part of the whole trade of the country. We have given protection to the banks, the insurance companies, the Stock Exchange, the acceptors of bills, and so on.

A GOOD BUSINESS PROPOSITION. You want a business of your own. Go into the Popcorn Crispette business and make \$2000.00 to \$7000.00 a year.

It tells the whole story—how and where to start, how to succeed, gives experiences of others, etc. It's worth reading, even if you don't start.

The Momentous Question "What shall buy Him or Her for Christmas?" Is Answered. The thought uppermost in the gift buyer's mind is to give something, worth while, that is lastingly appreciated, that is useful, that continually will suggest the spirit of the giver. This can be accomplished by buying and giving SOCIALIST JEWELRY.

RINGS. Solid Gold Rings. Size similar to the ordinary signet ring. These rings are set with the party emblem—two hands clasped across the world. Artistic and attractive. These rings are made to order in any size. Go to any jeweler and get the correct size number. PRICE\$5.00. KARL MARX FLAGS. A miniature reproduction of the red flag actually worn by Karl Marx. These come made up as follows: Lapel Buttons 25c Stick Pin 25c Lady's Hat Pin 25c Cuff Links—Gold Shell—Pair. \$3.50.

Eugene V. Debs Says: "THE PEOPLE'S COLLEGE is the beginning of a world-wide revolution in education." "The People's College was founded by the working class, is financed by the working class, and controlled by the rank and file of the working class, to the minutest particular. Each member of the College Union—which controls the College—has equal voice with every other in directing the policy, and in managing the affairs of the Institution. It is fundamentally democratic, and marks the awakening of the masses to the necessity of establishing their own colleges and universities, and educating themselves, with the one supreme object of getting at the truth in all things, knowing that the truth alone can make them free, and fulfil their destiny." EUGENE V. DEBS'S CHANCELLOR OF THE PEOPLE'S COLLEGE, AND PRESIDENT OF THE PEOPLE'S COLLEGE UNION.

MAKE EVERY SOCIALIST VOTER AN AMERICAN SOCIALIST READER

HERE'S THE RIGHT SPIRIT. Here's one of the letters in the day's mail that makes us feel good: "St. Louis, Mo., Nov. 12, 1916. "The American Socialist, "Chicago, Ill. "Dear Comrades: Enclosed please find \$1 for renewal of my subscription. We are growing some in St. Louis and things are looking better for us. Should the price of subscription necessarily rise, let me know, as I feel we ought to share the burden in keeping The American Socialist alive. "Yours for the Cause, "John T. McNamee". Don't think for a moment that the increasing cost of paper, and everything else, has not hit The American Socialist. It has. But we are holding on, as best we can, to the present subscription rates. We shall have more to say about this situation in future issues.

ROLL OF HONOR

"I cannot get along without The American Socialist," writes Comrade B. H. Bales, of Somerville, Oregon, as he renews his sub. "I feel that the Benson leaflets and The American Socialist, that I worked so vigorously to distribute here, had their effect on the election," writes Comrade J. A. Standley, of Pocatello, Idaho. "I feel that I am well repaid for my efforts". "I will send you a sub every month or after hereafter," writes Comrade George Christensen, of Phoenix, Ariz. Comrade Wilson Olds makes it 32 subs from Heloit, Wis.

Comrade A. E. Welch, of Waco, Tex., comes in strong with a list of 30 subs. "Now that election is over we must work harder than ever," writes Comrade John Spencer, of Mason City, Iowa, "to get the best workers in our Socialist papers and books. The American Socialist is to my mind the best paper in the country. The official vote is not given out here, we have good grounds to know Mason City progressed a little".

Perhaps you forgotten all about our premium list. Here are some of our premiums: Anyone of the following for a club of 12 subscribers at 25 cents each: The 1914 Campaign Book. The Human Slaughter House (Lamaszus). The Carpenter and the Rich Man (White). War! What For? (Kirkpatrick). We will send you a copy of "Why I Am A Socialist," by Charles Edward Russell (cloth) for a club of 10 subscribers at 25 cents each. Anyone of the following for a club of eight subscribers at 25 cents each: War! What For? (Kirkpatrick) paper. Business, the Heart of the Nation (Russell) paper.

Either one of the following for a club of six subscribers at 25 cents each: The Failure of Regulation (Hoan). Hillquit-Gompers Debate. For a club of four subscribers at 25 cents each we will send you "The Legislative Program of the Socialist Party" (Mills). Comrade C. F. Kober makes it a list of 46 subs from Elkhart, Ind. Comrade L. K. Enland, of Moline, Ill., sends in a list of 12 subs and gets a copy of Kirkpatrick's "War! What For?" Comrade C. L. Dawson comes in with a list of 19 subs from New Castle, Indiana.

"The Socialist vote in this county fell far short of former years due to the fact that no effort was made to organize our forces or to do any campaign work in the county," writes Comrade W. M. Higley, of Albany, Ohio. "Political inertia has lost us many votes that were won by the specious slogan of the democrats in the campaign just closed. We lost votes but not any real Socialists". "Before the election a friend of mine that belongs to the Socialist Party asked me to become a temporary subscriber of The American Socialist," writes one of our readers in Cleveland, Ohio. "But now, after I found The American Socialist such a good paper, which serves the interests of the working class, I wish to renew my subscription".

YOU WANT TO SEE a final report on the Dime Fund, don't you? This cannot be done until all outstanding banks are in. Return yours today and ask hat friend of yours to return his. Send five cents for a sample copy of The New World, Lincoln Phifer's Paper-Magazine, Girard, Kansas. Debs says in the Rip Saw: "It is a live and ambitious publication, and will make a place for itself in the modern struggle for democracy and freedom. It is one of the most unique and original publications that come to our table."

A Book On A Vital Subject

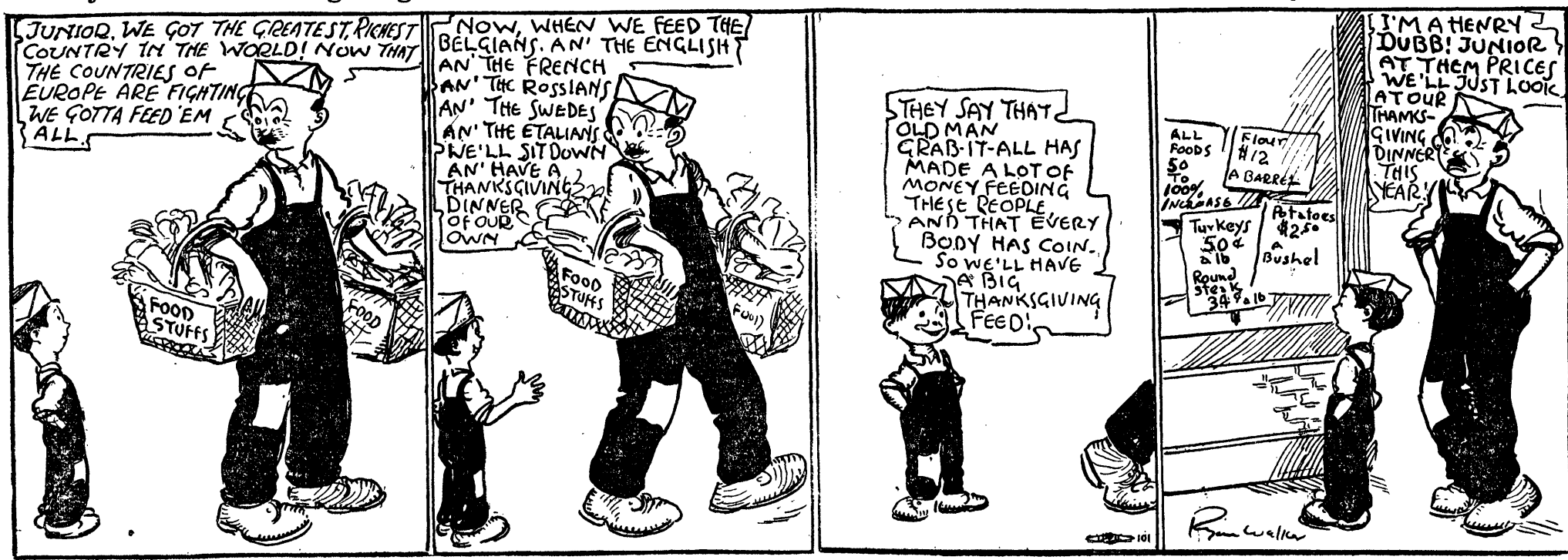
Fakes In American Journalism

By MAX SHEROVER. Ninety-six pages of Suppressed Information. Red Hot Facts, that will make one lose faith in the capitalist press. THIRD EDITION—TWENTY-FIFTH THOUSANDTH. Price per copy postpaid 10 cents 12 copies for \$1.00 postpaid 50 copies for \$3.50 postpaid 100 copies for \$6.00 postpaid. SEND ALL ORDERS TO LITERATURE DEPARTMENT NATIONAL OFFICE SOCIALIST PARTY 803 WEST MADISON STREET, CHICAGO, ILL.

"The Church And Socialism"

(Reprinted from The Churchman) By CHARLES EDWARD RUSSELL. This article is now being issued in a four-page leaflet. You can make use of a big bunch of them. PRICES: 20 cents per 100; \$1.50 per 1,000. Order from the NATIONAL OFFICE SOCIALIST PARTY 803 WEST MADISON ST., CHICAGO.

Henry Dubb's Thanksgiving Dinner



By RYAN WALKER

Schools For Democracy

In the election that resulted in making Comrade Thomas H. Van Lear, Socialist mayor of Minneapolis, Minn., Comrade Lynn Thompson was also elected to the school board. The School Board Platform of the Minneapolis Socialist Party, in this campaign, which was headed "Democracy in Education—Education for Democracy" was as follows: DEMOCRACY IN EDUCATION—EDUCATION FOR DEMOCRACY.

WE BELIEVE in democracy, and in the schools as the chief agency of democracy. We believe that the schools have failed of their fullest attainment because of undemocratic administration, adherence to tradition, and lack of responsiveness to the needs of the community. We believe that the best interests of the schools and of the people demand an intimate contact and effective co-operation between the teachers and the other workers of the community upon whom the future of the democracy must depend, and that such contact and co-operation can best be secured thru an increased voice in the affairs of the schools on the part of the teachers. To the end that these ideals may be realized in a measure, at least, we demand:

- I. IN THE INTEREST OF THE PUPIL. 1. That funds be appropriated for the erection of new school buildings to provide every child decent accommodations in a full-time class, and do away with the part time, the double session, or the duplicate school. 2. That the system of medical inspection be thoroughly reorganized to serve the children and not the medical profession, and to include at least one free clinic for each high school district, to be conducted in connection with the high school gymnasium or physical training department, the cost to be borne by the city. 3. That the compulsory attendance of children under sixteen be rigidly enforced; that where economic pressure prevents, free maintenance be extended; and that free and penny lunches be provided for in all schools according to needs, and that the children needing such assistance be adequately protected from the stigma of charity. 4. That industrial relations and co-operative bargaining be taught as a part of all vocational and industrial courses. 5. That free text books and supplies be furnished in all the schools, and these to be furnished from a municipal printing plant, as is now in use by the United States government, to eliminate the book trust graft.

II. IN THE INTEREST OF THE TEACHERS. 1. That the teachers enjoy the freest opportunity for organization for the advancement of scholastic and professional standards, and the betterment of their social and economic conditions, now almost universally accorded all other workers. Servility breeds servility. If the schools are to produce free, unafraid men and women, the teachers must live and work in an atmosphere of freedom and self-respect. 2. That the conditions and compensation of teachers be such as will allow them to offer themselves most freely for the good of the schools. 3. That the teachers, who come in intimate contact with the children and who carry on the real work of education, be given greater voice in the management of the schools, and to that end be represented on the administration staff of the schools.

III. IN THE INTEREST OF THE PUBLIC. 1. That adequate provisions in the way of night school, summer schools, and continuation schools be made to accommodate all people desiring elementary or high school instruction. 2. That every recreation and community center be developed to the fullest capacity, and that every school in the city be provided adequate playground facilities, so that after-school athletics for boys and girls will become a regular part of our educational system under competent directors maintained by the city. 3. That janitors be paid a minimum of \$85 a month and the engineers a minimum of \$100 a month, and all other employes on the basis of union wages. 4. That a children's saving system, extending thru the high school be established, the funds to be used in developing the schools, instead of, as now, furnishing free funds for a private banking institution.

IV. SCHOOL BOARD. 1. That all work on school buildings shall be done by day labor at the prevailing scale of union wages, and that no contract shall be let for the construction of any school building, but built under the supervision of the school board, by day labor. 2. We do not believe that militarism in any form should be encouraged or that units for the practice of military tactics should be established in the schools for the training of students in the arts of warfare.

SOCIALISM. The late Governor Altgeld, of Chicago, whose monument now stands in Lincoln Park, Chicago, by the side of Lincoln, as one of the great men of the world, in the World's Famous Orations, Vol. 10, says: "Socialism has been defined as a system of government in which the competitive system has been entirely abolished and the principle of associated effort is applied to everything. According to the standard authorities, Socialism is an ideal state founded on justice and in which the benefits of modern inventions and of monopoly shall be shared by all the people instead of being controlled by the few and used by these few to make themselves the absolute masters of the many. The word 'Socialism' is used as a term of derision only by the ignorant or the servile."

Since election to the New York Tribune comes to bat with this editorial statement: "The East is ripe for political revolt. Both political parties are dead. They are things without honor and without appeal to millions of men and women." That makes it unanimous. We have known for a long time that this was the case and now such a staunch old party supporter as The Tribune admits it.

New Tricks

By JOHN M. WORK.

ARE YOU too old to learn? If you are, it is time for you to die and make room for some one who is worth while. We often hear that when a person begins to get up in years he gets "set in his way", and thereafter, in the more picturesque than grammatical vernacular, "you can't learn him nothing". "It is hard to teach an old dog new tricks."

IT ISN'T hard unless we make it hard. There are plenty of men and women who are open minded and eager for new ideas and new truths clear up to the time when they shuffle off this mortal coil. Anyone can be that way if he wants to. The thing is to get a right attitude. If you think everything is just so, and that it never has changed and never can change, why, of course, you are a trusted old fog, and the sooner you kick the bucket the better it will be for the world. But, if you will use your intellect just a tiny little bit, you will be able to see that, for centuries and milleniums of time, things have been gradually evolving until they have reached the present stage. You will then realize that we are now living at a mere way station of civilization. You will realize that these things are going to gradually develop in the future, as they have in the past.

YOU WILL realize that this development has many phases. So far as the economic phase is concerned, you will realize that the present capitalist system of industry, in which the industries are owned by a few, who get the benefit of them, is a mere temporary stage in industrial evolution. You will realize that we are bound to keep on evolving until we reach the stage of collective ownership of the industries, so that the benefit will go to all the people. In fact, just as soon as a majority of the people come to that realization, we will be there. Collective ownership will then be realized. In other words, Socialism. And will we then stop thinking and quit having new ideas? Well, hardly. Socialism would not be worth having if that were to be the case.

THE FACT is that Socialism is the great liberator. It will liberate the people from slavery to material things, and give them a chance to expand mentally and spiritually. We think we have had some wonderful development during the past hundred years—and we have. But the development which we shall experience when Socialism opens the way will be so much more marvelous that past achievements will seem tame in comparison. The world will be a charming place then. Help it to come.

Capital Proposes

By JOSEPH E. COHEN.

On the evening of Election Day members of the Union League of Philadelphia paraded down the most prominent street singing "We'll hang Woodrow Wilson on a sour apple tree." Needless to say they changed their minds with regard to providing us with a magnificent example of lynch law when they discovered, about the time they were getting over a big head the day after, that Mr. Hughes will not be the next President of the United States.

Anyone who vented their feelings. And they gave the rest of us an inkling of what their first choice was in the election, whether or not they will find Mr. Wilson a pretty good man for a second choice and popular favorite. Those who are not aware of the fact may likewise be informed that Philadelphia is experiencing a boom such as it has never known before—a boom in business. Already the first purely manufacturing city in the world, there is going on a raising of skyscrapers such as is remaking its skyline from one of flattened hills to one of jagged mountains. More than that the whole river front from the city down to Wilmington will be a continuous industrial hive, with ship yards, steel mills and other manufacturing plants opening cells out of which will pour much of the commercial honey makers and carriers of the world's trade.

What Philadelphia is doing in a manufacturing way, other cities, notably New York, is doing in a banking way. Still larger loans are to be floated for the Allies. The latest loans are to be stuffed down the throats of the small fry dealers in governmental credits without any security from the Allies. Getting wind of a possible financial hurricane, the little bankers and brokers have apologetically asked for a sugar coating for their bitter pill in the shape of a promise from the Allies that they will not demonetize gold when the war is over, and American bankers are in possession of at least half the world's available gold supply.

Skimming The Cream. It is a merry time for the men who are skimming the rich cream off the milking we are doing of European governments; it was their voice which was raised in the song that places the neck of President Wilson and the nearest sour apple tree in close proximity. If Germany does not steal a march on the Allies by forming an alliance with Russia and Japan, establishing a transcontinental land empire for the exploitation of the orient, America may do a flourishing business with the awakening Russia when the war is over. Likewise if the three nation coalition is prevented, America may take a slice of Chinese trade when the Allies resume their exploitation of the earthly Celestial Empire. But the land nearest home and which offers the best of golden opportunities is Central and South America.

President Wilson may not have known it, but the clamor for preparedness was for home consumption, not for foreign export. We are not going to invade Europe; there is only a remote possibility of our being driven into Asiatic complications. And there is no immediate prospect of our having to turn subways into trenches, and having to pay transiting companies royally for thus exercising the right of eminent domain over their property. If we are going to do any fighting soon it will be in the land of the southern sun. An incredible amount of American capital is circulating in South America. The days of the promoter are again upon us; gigantic financial bubbles, of rainbow color on the outside and empty within, fill the balmy southern air. Speculative enterprises involving hundreds of millions are on the way—and South America will be asked to take the whole output f.o.b. She may do it gracefully; she may show us a disdainful shoulder, and then there will be trouble.

All Eyes On Wilson. All this is apart from the evident

intention of the same capitalist class to tear wider open the rip between the rising cost of living and the lowering purchase power of wages by fighting the eight hour law and other remedial legislation and movements. It is to amass fortunes of such size as the world has never dreamt, that capital proposes, to be piled together at the expense of labor. It remains to be seen whether President Wilson is disposed to let capital do this act of supreme spoliation. If his opposition to Wall Street has been more campaign thunder than administrative lightning, he will bow to the power of the people, he will stand erect and fight. And as he fights we shall see whether the power of capital is not great enough to break him, whether or not it is possible for the government to be greater than any other force when capitalism is on a mad career of wealth getting. We shall learn whether or not the government controls the capitalist class, or the capitalist class controls the government.

In any event labor must be prepared to defend its position and to fight ahead of time before. If even the aggressive action promised by the organizations of capital against labor is tried out, labor will have to battle upon a scale such as it has never known. It will be the time that will try the soul and body of the labor army, and when it comes thru the fire it will be a new nation with its old leaders removed or remade, a nation of workers in such intimate solidarity that capitalistic controlled government will have to reckon with it, and a nation that will reckon with capitalistic controlled government.

Time To Rejoice. Capital proposes; President Wilson may dispose. But when labor sets itself to the task of disposing of the predatory character of capital, as set itself it soon must, then the outcome will be one to rejoice over among those who bear the heavy burdens of the world.

CHALLENGE TO MASTER CLASS. The Humanitarian Cult is the name of a new organization that is creating considerable stir in the East. It is said to have the endorsement of Henry Ford and other moneyed men who are sane enough to realize that the present social system is a long way from being civilized. The Humanitarian Cult has flung broadcast the following challenge: "We ought to realize that nearly all of our social ills are due to the lack of proper social preparedness, and that we cannot remedy them until we have taken steps to lessen the strife between capital and labor. The best way to better the conditions of the masses is not by trying to teach or uplift the needy and ignorant, but by creating an environment that will make it possible for them to uplift themselves. To do this we must eradicate the root of the evil—poverty."

We make this statement without any fear of contradiction, and are ready to prove it in public debate—that almost 80 per cent of crime is due to poverty. "That almost 80 per cent of all disease is due to alcoholic excesses and poverty. "That the bitter strife between capital and labor, class hatred, greed, selfishness and all other kindred evils are directly due to poverty or man's fear of it. "Under present conditions the needy, the diseased, who are without means of support or opportunity to obtain employment, are forced to apply to either public or private charity societies."

We are waiting to hear whether any of the smug satisfied class will accept the challenge and debate the charges. We fear it will be a long wait. The Journal of Commerce, a Big Biz daily of New York City, comments at length on the probable economic conditions that will prevail in Great Britain and Germany after the war. The J. of C. sees nothing but a wider expansion of government ownership in England, declaring that that country cannot turn back. "If the German Socialists are to assume after the war the political power to which their numbers entitle them," says the J. of C., in referring to Germany, "the organization of industry will proceed on a radically different plan from that which has been heretofore accepted. The existing industrial organization of Germany is an oligarchy, that of the near future will be a democracy, possibly on the lines of collective or public ownership, but assuredly not on the plan that brought Germany to the brink of a great industrial catastrophe, and whose results were satisfactory only to the money lenders, who were the real organizers of the 'cartel' (trust) system, and to the coal barons and iron and steel monopolists who managed it."

YOUNG PEOPLE'S DEPT.

Organization—Education—Solidarity. WILLIAM Z. 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. Address all communications to: Socialist Party Young People's Dept., 802 W. Madison St., Chicago.

WHICH IS THE CHAMPION

Y. P. S. L. OFFICIAL BUSINESS. Y. P. S. L. Constitutional Amendment. To change Art. VI. Sec. 1 to read: "A National Secretary of the Young People's Socialist League who shall also serve as Director of the Young People's Department of the Socialist Party, shall be nominated by the league. Each league shall be entitled to submit its nominations together with a statement and evidence of the qualifications of their nominee, as well as a statement of his acceptance. The National Executive Committee of the Socialist Party shall select two or more nominees; who in their judgment are qualified for the position. Their names shall be submitted to a referendum vote of the league membership. "The term of office of the National Secretary shall be two years. Nominations are to be offered in time for election in January of odd-numbered years and the secretary-elect is to take office on the first of July following. "Section 1 to be made Section 3, and stand as at present. Submitted by the State Federation, Y. P. S. L. of New York. Submitted in accordance with Art. VIII, Nat'l. Const., for the seconds of two other State Committees or of circles aggregating 10 per cent of our entire membership. Time for seconds expires Feb. 17, 1917.

IN THIS COUNTRY ?

Is it the biggest League? Or the smallest? Or is it YOU'S? We are going to find out pretty soon. Watch for further particulars.

ORGANIZATION ACTIVITY. Now that election work is over the leagues everywhere are making plans for furthering their own work. Organization effort is now at its height. PENNSYLVANIA is doing very well according to reports. Comrade Paul Michelson of the Rand School has been speaking at street meetings in Reading and Pittsburgh for the Young People's Socialist League. He has some very successful masquerade socials. North Side Pittsburgh is conducting a class in Socialism, and using the Anna May Rand leaflets. They also have the socialist orchestra furnish music for their dancing class. Makeesport is back in the swim again after a long good work leave. CONNECTICUT. The Nutmeg state has not had much of a reputation so far as Yipsel activity goes, but the three leagues now organized there are planning work for a state organization. Several of the leagues have had more leagues to get under way but they say that that will be easy. Jack Belford, formerly of New York, but now local, is twice in New Haven is trying to make the Yankees come across and he says that there is going to be a hustling league there when Springs goes out here. ILLINOIS. The mid-west is not so slow either. Chicago is the leader here with twelve leagues, one of them organized on Nov. 19th last. Several of the leagues have had lecture courses, and other educational as well as social events are going on continuously. Among our leagues are one Jewish, one Scandinavian, one Lithuanian, and we are now going after the Bohemians. There is considerable activity here for a state organization and Springfield is doing very well. The monthly paper of the League, "The Bulletin," gives them a page of their own each month and the Yipsels make mighty good use of it. INDIANA. The Hoosier Yipsels report that this is the busiest time since they've been in the state. Several of the leagues added to their list in the past few months, and all of them running fine social affairs, and a number of educational classes started. "The Bulletin," gives them a page of their own each month and the Yipsels make mighty good use of it. NEW JERSEY. The State organization is routing a list of five prominent speakers around to the various leagues of the state without expense to the local leagues. The state footing the bill. They have also seconded the N. Y. proposed referendum regarding the election of the Y. P. S. L. National Secretary and his term of office. PATTERSON is again hitting its old stride with three different study classes every week. They are taking up "Municipal Government" twice. They order and sell 30 copies of the Young Socialist Magazine every month, and head the list in the state. TRENTON is also doing fine work. They are conducting a study class under Comrade August Claessens of New York, one of the finest speakers and teachers in the movement. OTHER LEAGUES. Marxian Y. P. S. L. of Milwaukee, Wis., will give their second annual Entertainment Dance on the North Side Auditorium on Nov. 28th. East Side Circle, Cleveland, reports an anniversary dinner in honor of Comrade Morris Winchinsky. New Haven, Conn., has reorganized with 65 members, and ran an ultra-successful Hal-low'en affair. They are now the leaders in the state.

Y. P. S. L. SPEAKER ON TOUR.

Robert Wark, speaking for leagues in Northern New York. A second National Lecture Tour in which Robert Wark, National Organizer of the Y. P. S. L. is lecturing



ROBERT WARK

for various leagues is now in progress. At present only the leagues in northern and western New York are included, but in the Spring the scope of the tour is to be extended. Comrade Wark is a good speaker and a capable executive, this last being his life work. He has served the movement as Local Secretary and Organizer in Buffalo, N. Y., and was one of the pioneers in the New York State Y. P. S. L.

The subject of his lecture is "America's Future—Her Youth". As an organizer and speaker of the younger generation Wark should make a hit. By his good natured social spirit he has won his way into the hearts of all who know him. His dates are as follows: Dec. 2nd—Jamestown. Dec. 3rd—Rochester. Dec. 16th—Syracuse. Dec. 17th—Watertown.

They Go The Limit

When Socialism threatens the power of the old party politicians they are ready to go the limit to defeat our candidates. This was true during the election just past in New York and Massachusetts where the legislative districts from which we had chosen representatives were gerrymandered to comply with the hopes of the capitalist politicians for victory. They drew the lines so that the Socialist territory from the district and added what they thought was weak territory. In spite of this capitalist plot both Representative Shinncock, in New York, and Representative Morrill, in Massachusetts, were re-elected. Here is what the Haverhill, Mass., Evening Gazette has to say about Morrill's re-election. From Haverhill, Mass., Evening Gazette.

Morrill Defeats Aim To Oust Him. The stirring feature locally of election day of 1916, was the re-election of Socialist Charles H. Morrill in the "gerrymandered" fourth Essex representative district, as it has been called. Mr. Morrill already has had a few years at the state house and his re-election with a total of 2239 in the new district, constructed it has been alleged, for the specific purpose of chasing him out of the legislative halls of Beacon Hill is with a lead of 493 over Ex-Senator Arthur L. Nasor, Republican, who goes as the second man in this double district. Hats generally are doffed to Mr. Morrill today, however, as the real hero of the 1916 election day and some are so cruel as to shy a word of criticism at Moody Kimball of the county commissioners who "fixed up" the new district to get Charlie Morrill's political "Nannie", according to allegations of the political solomons. A year ago Morrill won by 406 in the old fourth district and as he beat this total this year it's "Good Morning Charlie, I told you so," all along the line today. Morrill Jubilant Over Outcome. Representative Charles H. Morrill, who was high man in the new fourth Essex district and returns to Beacon Hill for his eighth consecutive term, points to the fact that his pre-election claims were borne out in almost every detail. "I am very grateful for this endorsement of my record," said Representative Morrill, "and I am also gratified that my prediction that the American spirit of fair play would come true."

SEEK TOM SMOCK.

Mrs. M. Bruner, Box 507, Metropolis, Ill., would like to learn the whereabouts of her cousin, Tom Smock, who has not been heard from for 20 months. She writes that it is very important that he be found immediately.

"America First" is the motto of business men. In other words, "Exploit America First; then seek foreign markets."

HAVE YOU LOOKED about the house to see if that Dime Bank is not laying around. Do it Now. And return it to the office.