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**THE APPEAL EDITORIAL STAFF**

J. A. WAYLAND EUGENE V. DEBS  
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# Appeal to Reason.

J. A. WAYLAND

Entered at Girard, Kansas, postoffice as second class mail matter.  
**FRED D. WARREN,**  
 MANAGING EDITOR.

Girard, Kansas, U. S. A., May 22, 1909

**Total Number of Subs**  
**for Week Ending**  
**May 8 293,525**  
**Total Edition Printed Last Week**  
**340,000**

**PROPHECY FULFILLED.**

In the issue of the Appeal to Reason of March 8, 1907, I had an article from which I now quote as follows:

During the past ten years the country enjoyed unparalleled prosperity measured by the capital standard. Labor was generally employed, wages were high, prices higher, dividends high, profits were high, and the general condition of affairs was such as to inspire confidence and hope. The public looked with tolerance upon our Socialist propaganda—with here and there a half-hearted attempt to suppress it. His was not to tempt upon the mad scramble for dollars to take money from the pockets of Socialists, but to take it from the pockets of the wide-spread acceptance of Socialism. Patrons now recognize that this condition means and shows fairly that it is a time to stop and consider the Socialist agitation and put our press and speakers out of business. Previous attempts will be as a summer's supply compared to the drastic measures that will be put in force from now on. The immediate future will try the mettle of every Socialist. Are you ready?

At the time this article was written I had information regarding the plans of the administration with regard to the Socialist press, the source of which I was not at liberty to reveal, which satisfied me that the most strenuous efforts would be made to choke off the Socialist press as a means of arresting the progress of the Socialist movement. I now recall what was then written and present it to our readers in the light of at least partial fulfillment.

It is not that I was gifted with special prophetic insight that I was enabled to foretell the future, but simply because the information I had from inner sources left no room for doubt as to the intention of the ruling power to cripple the Socialist movement by a deliberate and carefully worked out plot to destroy its press.

This is the reason why Attorney General Bonaparte, backed by President Roosevelt, issued the telegraphic order to the district officials of Kansas to prosecute the Appeal to the limit and if there was not a good case against it to make one.

This is the reason Prosecuting Attorney Bone in his speech to the jury, denouncing the Appeal, declared that its name should be changed to "The Appeal to Treason."

This is the reason Deputy Prosecuting Attorney West proclaimed the Appeal's guilt and stated that Warren would be sent to the penitentiary for a long term of years.

This is the reason another official, prominent in the prosecution, boasted that if the Appeal could be suppressed in no other way it could be kept in court indefinitely, and so loaded with costs, fees, and other court expenses, that it would finally be "bled to death."

These are the simple facts. Comment upon them is scarcely necessary. This attack upon the Appeal was plotted years ago. It has now been in the custody of the court and its editor under bail more than two years and there is no end in sight.

The truth is that the liberty of the press is involved.

Protestation to the contrary deceives no one except those willing to be deceived.

The issue is stripped naked by the prosecution itself. It stands clearly revealed. There can be no mistake in regard to it.

The object of the prosecution from first to last has been to destroy the Appeal. And the reason this paper has been marked for suppression is that its circulation reaches the people and that it has a voice loud enough to be heard by the nation. This was demonstrated in the kidnaping of Moyer, Haywood and Pettibone, to the surprise of the plutocrats who had plotted that infamous conspiracy and expected to pull it off without serious interference.

From that hour the Appeal was marked and secret service operatives have been camping upon its trail. My indictment, prosecution, conviction, and suspended sentence are all in the sequel.

Let the main issue be clearly understood by our readers.

It is not for myself I am pleading. I would scorn any suggestion that I am a martyr or that I could be metamorphosed into a national issue.

Nor is it the Appeal to Reason the only paper that is aimed at in this fight. It is the press of the Socialist movement, the only movement feared by the capitalist despotism which rules the land. It is the Appeal to Reason now and later it will be some other Socialist or labor paper which can not be bribed or browbeaten into silence.

There is but one thing for us to do and that is to muster all of our forces and resist the capitalist campaign to throttle our press. Clearly understood and wisely controlled this situation can be converted into one of immeasurable benefit to our movement. We have only to rally our host and unite in the declaration that we know our rights and in the determination that we propose to maintain them.—FRED D. WARREN.

LOUIS GLASS, a telephone magnate of the Pacific coast, was convicted of bribery. The matter was appealed to the appellate court, and the case was remanded for a new trial. It was found that Glass was innocent. The grounds assigned for a new trial were purely technical. One of the two errors alleged to have been made in the trial court was the admission of testimony showing crookedness which was not alleged in the indictment. What a farce the capitalist courts are! Because a convicted rich man is more guilty than alleged, he must be given a new chance to come clear. Would a poor man be given such an opportunity, think you?

**WHILE REJOICING, TEDDY SHOULD NOT FORGET**



THAT "HE WHO LAUGHS LAST, LAUGHS BEST!"  
 —Chicago Socialist

**CHEER UP, COMRADES!**

A few Socialists are inclined to feel gloomy over Warren's conviction. There is absolutely no reason for this. If anything it is a matter for rejoicing. It is evidence at least that Socialism has a paper and an editor worth prosecuting. This is a happy omen. It is not exactly a pink tie affair for the editor, but so far as the cause is concerned only good can come from it and there is no reason to take a pessimistic view of it, but on the other hand, there is every reason for cheer and congratulation.

Let us take a leaf from history. The Socialist movement in Germany advanced but slowly until it reached a point where it began to be a menace to the ruling class and then measures were taken to arrest its progress. Its papers were suppressed and its editors jailed. The old veterans Bebel and Liebknecht served much of their time behind prison bars.

The weak brothers, then as now, felt that a calamity had befallen them and that the movement was in a bad way, but the true Socialists came to the front and the revolutionary spirit for the first time asserted itself in more aggressive and determined agitation. The fight now began in earnest—it is only when a movement is fighting for its life that it develops its real spirit and expands to its true proportions.

The mighty Bismarck, the "Iron Chancellor," invoked all the powers of the empire to crush the movement. But he failed and failed miserably and under his rule of "iron and blood" Socialism had a new birth and rapidly spread over the entire nation. Had it not been for Bismarck's repressive policy it would have taken years longer to build up the German movement.

The same results will follow the attempt of the American authorities to follow in the steps of Bismarck to suppress the papers, and imprison the editors of the Socialist movement. The Appeal to Reason is the first paper to be attacked and Fred D. Warren the first editor and they are proud of that fact. They have no apology to make and if there be weak Socialists who give up at the very time they should prove their fealty they are but to be pitied. They lack the true spirit and unless they throw off their weakness and come to the front they cannot hope to be of any real service to the movement. They who take the back track when the enemy is encountered and the fight is on, even if it be lost, are not of the stuff of which revolutions are made.

Now is the time to buckle on the armor and sound the note of defiance, and not weakly yield to despair. Now is the time to stand up and be counted; the time to take hold with both hands; the time to show a cheerful face and speak brave words; the time to show what we are made of and prove by our acts that we are worthy of the cause; the time to go out and get subscribers and increase the power of the paper the enemy has set upon to destroy.

Cheer up, comrades, it is about sunrise and there is prospect of magnificent fighting all along the line!—E. V. DEBS.

The sugar trust has been robbing the government of millions by fraudulent weighing of imports. Of course these millions went into the pockets of the trust owners. Now comes the grand jury and indicts a few small employees, charging them with the crime. Of course they are but the goats in the case. They got none of the swag. That went into the capacious maws of the trust-owning capitalists. They of course are not indicted. It is only the seven-dollar-a-week dock employes. And this is justice! Is it to laugh, or to weep, or to swear?

## VERDICT OF GUILTY TRIAL AND CONVICTION OF FRED D. WARREN

**Tombstone, Ariz., May 16, 1909: After eleven hours deliberation the jury at 11 o'clock this morning returned a verdict of "guilty" against Magon, Villarreal and Rivera. A motion for a new trial will be made tomorrow, but it is expected that it will be denied.**

GEO. H. SHOAF.

**THE ARMY'S ANSWER.**

Quick and emphatic has been the answer of the Army to the federal court's packed-jury conviction of the editor of the Appeal. The subs are rolling in like a tidal wave. Next week we will have a showing that will make the hearts of Army veterans leap with joy. It required just this attack to fire the blood of the rank and file.

The Appeal Army is now on its fighting mettle. The packed jury of the federal court and the conviction of Warren has turned sluggish inaction into bristling activity. The whole Army is bending to its work and the tide is rising in a majestic swell. The Appeal upon its crest, and its colors flying defiantly in the breeze.

Look for the circulation statement next week and you will see what the Appeal Army thinks of the conviction of Warren. Carry the news to the prosecution! The conviction it secured by means of a packed jury is the Appeal's highest certificate of character and efficiency. Another such conviction and we will have a million subscribers. Keep them coming, comrades, keep them coming; for you are the people and the people finally reverse all unjust verdicts and establish the true majesty of the law.

**SOCIALISM ON TRIAL.**

The Kansas City Journal has an editorial "Socialism Not on Trial," from which we quote as follows:

No doubt a great deal will be made to show that in the case of Fred Warren, editor of the Appeal to Reason, the man himself that is on trial. In my view Socialism is on trial at Fort Scott, Warren's case is merely a question of fact. Did he or did he not on a certain occasion outside the United States, mail?

The Journal is so sure that it is Warren and not Socialism that is on trial that it hastens to warn its readers not to be deceived into wrongly believing that it is Socialism and not Warren that is on trial. The Journal knows very well that it is Socialism and that is why it is so solicitous to have its readers believe that it is Warren that is on trial.

The Journal has a short memory. If it will consult its own files it will find that in an editorial in its own columns it stated that the prosecution of Warren was directed against the Appeal to Reason and that it was ordered by President Roosevelt himself. If it will examine the same editorial it will find that it expresses the regret that a technicality had to be resorted to in the prosecution to suppress the Appeal to Reason.

And now the Journal has the hardihood to say that it is not Socialism that is on trial but only Fred Warren, the individual who happens to be its editor. Will the Journal seriously contend that if Warren had been a republican editor, or a democratic editor, or no editor at all, that he would have been indicted upon this charge. Well does the Journal know that it is only because he is the editor of the Appeal, and only because the Appeal is an exponent of Socialism, that this prosecution has been instituted.

What is the specific charge upon which Warren has been convicted? It is that he mailed an offer for the return of a fugitive from justice charged with murder. Thousands of others have circulated offers of similar rewards and circulated them through the mails, but not one of them has ever been indicted.

Will the Journal kindly tell its reasons why? We have here in this office hundreds of postal cards containing rewards offered by individual citizens and officers of the law, similar to the one mailed by Warren, which have passed through the United States mails, but no thought of indicting the senders ever occurred to any post office inspector.

Why should Warren alone be singled out for indictment and prosecution? The Journal dare not tell its readers that it knows that the reason and the only reason he has been indicted and convicted is because he is the editor of the Appeal to Reason and the Appeal to Reason is the principal Socialist paper in the United States.

**RECORD OF THE CASE.**

Fred D. Warren was indicted May 2, 1907. Gave bond May 3, 1907, for appearance at the November term, 1907, after first appearing before the court and making immediate trial and being denied a hearing.

November, 1907—Editor Warren appeared before the court at Fort Scott, with his attorneys, ready for trial, and on application of the government, postponement was taken for the May term of court, 1908.

May 2, 1908—Editor Warren appeared before the court with his attorneys, ready for trial, and on application of the government, postponement was granted until "after election," November 2, 1908.

On November 2, 1908, Warren again appeared at Fort Scott, with his attorneys, ready for trial, and on application of the government, postponement was taken for a continuance. The case was postponed until May 2, 1909.

May 2, 1909—The attorneys for Warren insisted on a trial, and at last the state prepared for a hearing. Indeed, it had been preparing for some time before. By Governor Taylor of Kentucky was pardoned, so he might leave the State of Indiana in safety, and come to Kansas to testify. A jury made up almost exclusively of republicans, was selected. The case came to a hearing, but the result was foredoomed. A verdict of guilty was brought in two weeks.

May 5—The court announced that it would pass sentence, in accordance with the decision of the jury, and hear arguments for a new trial in two weeks.

May 8—The Judge announced that he would defer passing sentence on Warren until the November term of court, 1909.

By Eugene V. Debs.

**LIBERTY OF THE PRESS IS THE ISSUE INVOLVED IN THE CASE OF THE UNITED STATES VERSUS FRED D. WARREN, EDITOR OF THE APPEAL TO REASON, WHICH HAS BEEN PENDING IN THE UNITED STATES COURT SINCE THE INDICTMENT FOUND AT FORT SCOTT, KAN., MAY 27th, 1907, OVER TWO YEARS AGO.**

This is of course denied by the prosecution, the contention being that an individual offense has been committed and that the punishment of an individual is all that is contemplated. It will be remembered that precisely the same contention was made in the cases of Moyer, Haywood and Pettibone when it was insisted by the prosecuting officials and the mine owners who were backing them, that these were but plain murder cases and that no other issue was involved. It developed during the trials and is now clearly understood that the real issue was capital vs. labor and the right of the Western Federation of Miners to maintain its existence and defend the interests of its members against the aggressions of the Mine Owners' association.

Similarly in the present case the issue involves far more than the punishment of an individual for the alleged violation of a federal law. If this were all, the case would have been settled long ago and would have excited but little interest.

But readers of the Appeal are too well informed and have been following the trend of events too closely to be misled by any such specious plea on the part of those who are far more interested in suppressing the Appeal than they are in punishing its editor for an alleged individual offense.

Let us briefly review the main features of this now celebrated case which has extended over so long a period and has had so many curious turns and windings that there is no other like it in all the history of American jurisprudence.

First.—The indictment charges Warren with having sent, or caused to be sent, to one Pierson in California an envelope bearing a reward for the return of ex-Governor Taylor to the state of Kentucky, from whence he was a fugitive and where he was under indictment for murder. This envelope fell into the hands of a post-office inspector and the indictment followed. Pierson himself, to whom the envelope was directed, made no complaint. For some reason as yet unexplained he did not even receive it. How it came to be directed to him no one knows. His name is not on the Appeal's lists. Neither Warren nor the Appeal had ever heard of him, nor has he ever been heard from since the trial began. Who Pierson is, or if there is such a person, no one knows. For all that the evidence shows he is simply a dummy who has been made to serve in what seems to have been a plot to indict the Appeal, a thing which had been long before and repeatedly threatened.

Second.—Warren was arrested, placed under bail the day following his indictment, and asked for immediate trial. This was denied and the case went over until the November term of court. Since then there have been four distinct postponements, all on motion of the government, every effort of the defendant to have the trial proceed proving unavailing until the case was finally called at the May term of court, 1909, two years after the indictment.

Third.—The specific charge in the indictment was that Warren had violated the federal statute prohibiting the mailing of "scurrilous, defamatory, and threatening matter." By no stretch of the imagination can the matter complained of be construed as having any such meaning. Ex-Governor Taylor did not complain. In truth he had nothing to complain about. The state of Kentucky had offered a \$10,000 reward for his return to that state and spread it broadcast. The Appeal had offered but \$1,000. Taylor himself, so far as any one knows, did not feel aggrieved. If any one was injured it was he and if he was not injured no

one could have been, for he was the only one mentioned. No one denies that Taylor was under indictment, that he was a fugitive and that a reward had been offered for his return by the legislature of Kentucky. All these facts are well known and Warren simply took advantage of them to ascertain if a capitalist politician as well as a workman could be legally kidnapped. He found out. He at least compelled the federal government to show its hand. When Moyer, Haywood and Pettibone were kidnaped, the supreme court decided that it could take no cognizance of that fact in the consideration of their appeal, in effect legalizing the kidnaping of workmen.

Associate Justice McKenna dissented from the court if a ringing opinion in which he declared that the state officials of Colorado and Idaho were the real criminals and should be dealt with accordingly. Warren's offer of the reward for Taylor, although it has subjected him and the Appeal to thousands of dollars of expense, has by its result in his imprisonment, as demonstrated at least one fact of no mean importance and that is that while under the present capitalist government workmen can be kidnapped and forcibly deported by sanction of the supreme court and denounced in advance of trial by the president, a representative of the capitalist class is protected by all the powers of government and the mere suggestion that he be kidnapped, even if a fugitive with a reward upon his head, is promptly followed by indictment and prosecution of the offender.

Fourth.—At the preliminary hearing Deputy Prosecuting Attorney West stated, in an impassioned plea for the prosecution of the defendant, that orders had been received from the department of justice at Washington to prosecute the case against Warren, the assurance being given that the indictment was good, that the law had been violated, and that a conviction could be secured. If the case involved but an individual offense, as contended by the prosecution, it is probable that the department of justice at Washington would have been so vitally interested in securing a conviction? Would the president of the United States have been so eager to direct the prosecution from the white house as announced by the press dispatches and commented upon editorially by such a powerful capitalist daily as the Kansas City Journal? Is it customary for the president and attorney general to direct the prosecution of individual offenders in cases of minor importance? But one answer is possible and that is that the administration was interested in the case, not because of Fred Warren, the individual offender, but because of Fred Warren, the editor of the Appeal to Reason, the most widely circulated Socialist paper and the most formidable opponent of capitalism in the United States.

Fifth.—A significant remark made by a gentleman of high official standing, whose name we cannot disclose without betraying the source of our information, throws a clear side light on the animus of the prosecution and also explains the cause of this long-drawn trial and its repeated postponement. The remark was to the effect that if the Appeal could be reached in no other way it could be kept in court indefinitely and loaded with fees and costs until "the damned reptile was bled to death." This view was inadvertently corroborated by Prosecuting Attorney Bone in his speech to the jury in which he said, "the name of this sheet, the Appeal to Reason, should be changed to the Appeal to Treason."

And yet Mr. Bone in his opening statement declared that it was simply a case of trying the defendant for depositing a letter in the mails which was not mailable under law. If this was true, what had the mailing of this letter to do with the Appeal to Reason and why did he deem it necessary to denounce the Appeal as a treasonable sheet? It was here that he gave his entire case away and revealed too clearly to admit of doubt that it was the Appeal to Reason as a Socialist paper he was after and not Warren as an individual offender.

Sixth.—Judge Pollock in interrogating the deputy prosecuting attorney at the preliminary hearing shook his head significantly in denial of the latter's contention that the mailing of rewards for fugitives from justice was in violation of the federal statute; and then sounded the precautionary note in words too plain to be misunderstood that such a prosecution directed against an editor would be construed as an attack upon the liberty of the press and would probably have an effect opposite to that intended. It was at the close of this hearing that the attorneys for the defense expressed the opinion that there was nothing in the case and that it had been postponed so that it might die out and be stricken from the docket. It was about this time that the department of justice at Washington was heard from, the purport of its order being that if there was "not a case against the Appeal to make one" then followed the announcement that if Warren did not plead guilty, thereby

fastening the odium of having committed a crime upon himself as editor of the Appeal to Reason, he would be prosecuted to the limit of the law.

Seventh.—Rewards for criminals and fugitives from justice are mailed daily in all parts of the country by sheriffs, mayors, detectives, bankers, and private individuals, but no one has ever before thought of charging them with violating the postal laws. The claim that in the case of Warren he offered his reward to kidnap a fugitive, and therefore committed a crime, will now hold, seeing that the United States supreme court has legalized kidnaping by refusing to take cognizance of the kidnaping of Moyer, Haywood and Pettibone when they appealed to that august tribunal. If it is not a crime to kidnap a workman who has not been indicted then it cannot be a crime to kidnap a capitalist politician who has been indicted. That is the point at issue. The supreme court of the United States is welcome to either horn of the dilemma. The case may not be clothed here in the legal terminology designed to mystify the issue and convey doubtful meanings, but in substance and effect it is clearly stated.

Eighth.—When the case was finally called for trial a jury had to be chosen from a panel which had been prepared by the United States marshal. The panel was carefully selected and no mistake was made and as a result the jury was a packed jury. There was no Socialist or Socialist sympathizer upon that jury. There was not a democrat or a populist. It consisted of rock-ribbed republicans who regarded the Appeal to Reason as a treasonable sheet and its editor as a criminal. While the jury was being chosen Judge Pollock took occasion to state that the matter of politics was not to be considered in the trial. In the light of the plain facts in the case this must be considered a joke although the judge looked too solemn to have so intended it. If there was no politics in the case how did it happen that there was not a Socialist on the panel or on the jury and that Warren had to be tried by a jury consisting wholly of his political enemies?

Ninth.—Even that it required the jury twenty-two hours to decide upon a verdict of guilty. Three of the members, notwithstanding their political hostility, were opposed to a conviction upon such a flimsy charge and held out until they were finally over- come by the large majority against them. When the verdict was announced the judge suspended sentence, the attorneys for the defendant making a motion for a new trial. The judge stated that he would hear argument upon the motion in ten days or two weeks from date. Following adjournment, however, the judge postponed the entire matter, including the passing of sentence, until the November term of court—and here the case rests. Why the judge hesitated to pronounce the sentence in accordance with the verdict found in his court and postponed the case for another six months is left wholly to conjecture. It is quite evident that notwithstanding the insistence of the prosecution, and the power behind the prosecution, upon a conviction, there is still some reluctance to execute the law and enforce the penalty imposed by the court.

Ten.—We have here reviewed the principal features of this remarkable case. Our readers may arrive at their own conclusion as to whether it is merely the prosecution of an individual or an attack upon the Socialist press in particular and the liberty of the press in general. Without the Appeal to Reason this case would never have been heard of. Warren might have deposited the same envelope in the postoffice every day to the end of his life and no grand jury would ever have dreamed of indicting him.

The Appeal to Reason recognizes the issue and faces the attack without fear of the ultimate outcome. Its managing editor has violated no law, but has been indicted in the orderly discharge of his duties for no other reason than that he is the editor of a paper which is opposed to the present capitalist regime and which has influence enough among the people to make itself felt in the struggle of the masses to abolish capitalist misrule and emancipate themselves from wage-slavery.

The Appeal to Reason is fortunate in having the support of as loyal a body of men and women as ever consecrated themselves to any cause and with these to back it up it is ready to face any attack which may be made upon it, and if its colors are ever lowered it will only be when it is overwhelmed by superior numbers.

This Democratic Standard of Ashabula, Ohio, prints in full the Appeal's reply to Roosevelt, covering two pages, besides some interesting editorial comment. The Standard is a wide-awake paper which can see the handwriting on the wall and knows that Socialism is the most vital question of the day.

THE SOCIALIST VOTE OF THE WORLD  
 in detail in the Appeal's "Annual" bound in the mameop and built just right for the year  
 pocket, camera, compass and accurate.





# THE CRUSHING OF A FREE PRESS BEGUN. MEANING OF THE WARREN CONVICTION.

The Warren case has become a national issue. It is not because it is the Appeal that is attacked; it is not because the case is within itself a strong one; but from the very fact that it, while so weak as to be puerile, has been made the means of convicting an editor under a criminal indictment for that which at best can be nothing but a matter for a civil suit, it has become the center around which is being fought a battle for freedom of press and speech.

If it be possible to convict a Socialist editor for doing what a capitalist editor can do with impunity; if it be possible to convict a man of crime because he suggests the kidnaping of a republican fugitive from justice, and at the same time the supreme court says the kidnaping of a labor leader is no crime; if it be possible to convict, on a criminal charge, a Socialist editor who for alleged libel of a man who makes no claim that he was libeled; if it be possible to hold an indictment over a man for two years and then suspend sentence for six months longer as a sort of hostage to silence him from criticizing capitalism and the party of capitalism, then liberty is gone. It will be easy to silence you as a speaker, to suppress free speech as effectively as it is done in Mexico, and to make it criminal to advocate the election of any but republicans or to criticize the powers that be, however venial may be their conduct.

**Inception of the Case.**  
Readers of the Appeal are familiar with the circumstances out of which the case grew. During the progress of the Moyer-Haywood trial, when it looked like it would be impossible to save these champions of the workers' cause from the gallows, and soon after the supreme court of the United States had decided that the kidnaping of these men was legal, the Appeal, in order to test whether the supreme court would decide the same in case a republican and an advocate of the capitalist system should be kidnaped, offered a reward of \$1,000 to anyone who would kidnap ex-Governor Taylor and return him to the Kentucky authorities.

The publication of the offer created a profound sensation over the United States and called attention to the unlawful means that had been adopted to procure the conviction of the federation officials, in a way that was so striking as to provoke comment from even the capitalist press. It was one of the factors that helped to arouse public sentiment and save the accused comrades from the gallows.

The Moyer, Haywood and Pettibone cases were fought to a finish, and in every instance, despite the conspiracy against their lives, that involved, not only mine owners, but also governors, a venial press and even the president of the United States, the accused were acquitted. It was a royal battle of the class struggle, such as had never been fought before, and called forth the assistance of every Socialist and labor editor in the country, enlisting also the interest and aid of many speakers and writers in England, in continental Europe and in Australia. It was a battle that resulted in a complete victory for labor, the first time in which capital was ever thwarted in wreaking its will upon intended victims. The victory for labor has been complete, except for one thing: That is the Warren case.

**Conspiracy Against Freedom.**  
The case grew up as a conspiracy which involved the entire machinery of the federal government. A law was apparently enacted for the sole purpose of catching the Appeal. This appears from the following, which was printed in the Washington Daily News of March 13, 1907:

The persons bill makes eight printed lines, but like dynamite, it was powerful in small quantities. It proposed to test the postmaster general with absolute power of censorship. Of course, it was not intended that this statute should be used in an absolute way. The introduction of the bill was considered by the joint committee of a Socialist organ in a western state, and while it was to be a general law, it was intended only for PARTISAN AFFILIATION.

Yet, though a law was made, as was claimed by capitalist papers, for the express purpose of "getting" the Appeal it appears that the administration was unable to find a violation of the provision of that special law. It was eager, however, to do something, and it found a statute under which it was able to prosecute the Appeal editor, yet only then by doing an unheard-of thing.

**A Civil Issue a Criminal Charge.**  
The eagerness of the powers, which had been defeated in their efforts to murder the Federation officials, to get at the Appeal, is illustrated by the fact that they made their criminal prosecution on a charge that at best should have been nothing more than a civil action for damages. What could it matter to Uncle Sam whether or not the Appeal had said anything calculated to reflect on ex-Governor Taylor? Would it have brought suit against an editor who reflected on some workman? Rather did it bring suit against Roosevelt when he referred to Moyer, Haywood and Pettibone as undesirable citizens? Why this discrimination? Was it, indeed, any business of the government to see that this particular individual or any particular individual was not slandered? If Taylor himself had thought himself slandered, there might have been some grounds for a civil suit in order to test the matter in the courts, since the right to sue belongs to all. But

Taylor brought no action against the Appeal. He is not even the complainant in the action brought by the government.

The government is therefore under the peculiar situation of claiming an injury done to a man when he himself does not claim an injury was done to him.

Ex-Governor Taylor was placed on the stand and made no complaint that he was injured or maligned. Even the prosecuting attorney, Judge J. S. West, made no claim that the language used in any way injured Taylor. If it did not injure Taylor, whom could it injure?

### Object of the Statute.

The object of the statute under which this action against Warren was brought is stated as follows in re Barber, 75 Rep. 980:

This provision relates to the external appearance, and is a protection against defamations or words which will convey or imply insult, threat or harm to the person addressed, operating directly in injuring his feelings, or indirectly by attracting the notice of other persons, and relating to the interference of his social life.

This clearly makes the statute to apply only to personal suits by the aggrieved party. The government was not the person addressed, neither was the prosecuting witness, the attorney or the judge who hears the case, injured personally or alleged to be injured. It is a suit for someone else, who makes no claim to be injured. It is obviously illegal for anyone other than Taylor himself to prosecute in this case.

If Taylor had first brought civil action and had obtained damages, then the evidence that gave him damages might, and might not, have been sufficient to warrant the government in prosecuting the case. But Taylor has made no complaint whatever. The Appeal contends that the publication did not reflect on him in such a way as to injure his character, but it is not bound to prove this, for the reason that he has brought no complaint against the Appeal. It would be as logical for John Doe to bring suit against Richard Roe for injury alleged to have been done to Samuel Smith, when Samuel Smith himself claimed no injury, as for the government to prosecute Warren for injury done to Taylor when Taylor makes no claim that injury was done to him.

### Even Kidnaping no Crime.

The Appeal was not guilty of kidnaping. But even if it had been, even if the advertisement led to an attempt to kidnap ex-Governor Taylor, kidnaping is no crime. The supreme court of the United States said so in its decision in the Moyer, Haywood and Pettibone cases. Here is its attitude in the matter.

Looking first at what was alleged to have occurred in Colorado touching the arrest of the petitioners and their transportation to that state, we do not perceive that anything done there, however hastily or inconsiderately done, can be adjudged to be in violation of the constitution or laws of the United States. Even if it be true that the arrest and deportation of Pettibone, Moyer and Haywood from Colorado was by fraud and conspiracy, to which the governor of Colorado was a party, this does not make out a case of the violation of the rights of the appellants under the constitution and laws of the United States.

Yet the prosecution of the Appeal hinges on this very matter which the supreme court had already passed on. Warren's effort was solely to find out if capitalist courts would accord to laborers and Socialists the same rights which they claimed for capitalists, and this prosecution fully established the fact that they would not, without affording the least foundation on which they could stand.

### Mailing Reward Offers.

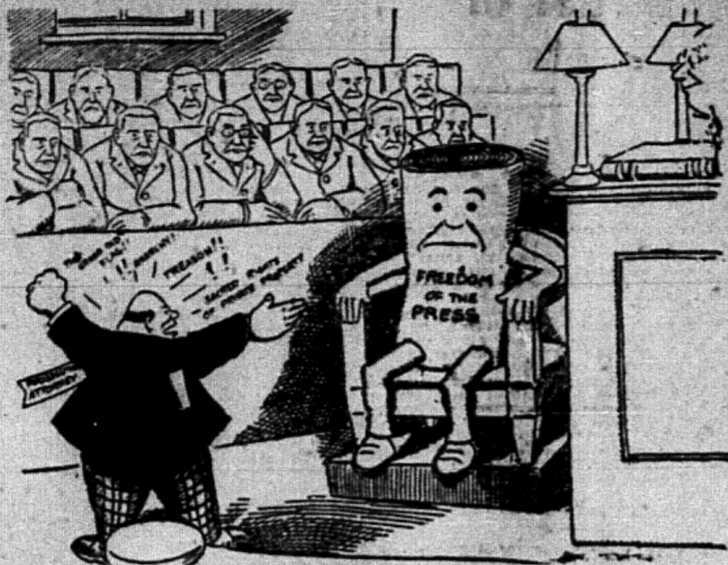
Then the matter of mailing rewards for the arrest of men under indictment or only suspected is so common as to make prosecution for the offense something that would stop all legal procedure.

The Appeal submitted to the district attorney a number of cards that were mailed in the third district, and that were well within the statute limitations, among them being the appended postal card which, as you will note, comes within the purview of the law under the interpretation placed thereon by the assistant district attorney:

**\$25.00 Reward**  
For one British Nicholas and team of mares. The mares are nine and ten years old. Signs his name, Nicholas. He is sandy complexion, has 24 teeth, old medium sized, weighs about 160 pounds. Came from near Hunter, Kan. Arrest and notify.  
FIRST NATIONAL BANK,  
Locas, Kan.

The assistant district attorney's excuses for not bringing an action against the sender of this card comes to naught as it is quite evident from the signature who is responsible for its mailing; also the date of the postmark shows that it was mailed within the three-year limit and within the jurisdiction of the Kansas district. Other cards accused men for whom the reward was offered of horse stealing, some of burglary, some of rape. These men had not been tried or proven guilty at the time the cards were mailed. Therefore, these charges not only "reflected injuriously upon the character and conduct of another," but made specific charges that had not been sustained. Names were attached to the offers of reward, as no name was attached to the reward offered by the Appeal. Some of the men for whom rewards had been offered had not even been indicted by the grand jury, but ex-Governor Taylor had been indicted by the grand jury. These cards were sent back without comment by the district attorney, Harry J. Bone, who declared that in his opinion "congress did not intend the law should apply to officials in the performance of their official duty." Under this interpretation the law becomes class legislation and therefore, unconstitutional, which position was maintained by Judge Pollock in the November, 1907, hearing, while at the same time the admission implies a similarity between the Warren indictment and a possible indictment of these officers who offered rewards for the arrest of suspects. Attorney West, when arguing at Fort Scott eighteen months ago against the dismissal of the Warren case, was asked by the presiding judge if these reward cards came within the meaning of this statute, and he ventured the opinion that they did. Then why did he not present them to the federal grand jury?

As a matter of fact, every district attorney to whom has been submitted postal cards bearing reward offers has turned down any attempt at prosecuting the parties who mailed them. Attorney Darrow personally appeared before the department of justice in Washington and laid before the attorney general of the postoffice department several hundred postal cards of the character described above, but no action has been taken against any of the alleged offenders. Every government official to whose attention these cases have been called has refused to take any action except in the case of the editor of the Appeal!



Chicago Socialist.

if the accused had been a republican politician Judge Pollock would not have thrown the case out of court with a rebuke to the grand jury? Does any one suppose that a purely republican jury was not prejudiced? If so, why did they not empanel a purely Socialist jury and then expect a fair trial? Why do they hold this indictment over Warren for over two years? And why, after they have secured a conviction through questionable means, do they not at once pass sentence and let an appeal be taken? Why prolong the case after prosecutor and presiding judge have both declared it was weak? Are you there for the purpose of doing justice or of prosecuting Socialists and suppressing free speech?

There is a section of the constitution which says:

In all criminal prosecutions the accused shall enjoy the right to a SPEEDY and public trial by an IMPARTIAL JURY.

Warren did not have a speedy trial, nor a speedy sentence after trial, nor an impartial jury. If this is not persecution rather than prosecution, what is it? If this is not in violation of the constitution which says: Congress shall make no law.

Abridging the freedom of speech or of the press.

What is it? Cooley's Constitutional Limitations, 6th ed. 618; Am. & Eng. Ency. of Laws, Vol. 18, 1125 thus defines the meaning of the constitutional provision:

The liberty of the press consists in the right to publish with impunity the truth, with good motives, whether it respects governments or individuals.

It is not denied that freedom of the press involves the right to suit for libel. But inasmuch as a government cannot be libeled and only an individual can be libeled, it follows that the proper action is a civil suit. Men at the head of a government, it is true, may be libeled and sue as individuals, but the government itself, like the corporation, is intangible, and, therefore, all interference of the impersonal government with the press becomes an abridgement of the liberties of the press. The distinction ought to be clear, and it is the only distinction that can be made with absolute fairness to all concerned. The president, as an individual, might.

### Comments on Warren Case

#### Capitalist Misrepresentation.

New York Evening Call:  
Fred D. Warren, editor of the Appeal to Reason, has been convicted on a charge of sending defamatory matter through the mails, in violation of Federal law.

Those who read only the dispatches published in the old party papers will naturally suppose that Warren has been found guilty of using the mails to disseminate obscene and scandalous publications. The real nature of his offense will not be made clear by these moulders of public opinion, because to make it clear would be to convince fair-minded men that the prosecution of Warren was really a persecution.

The facts are these:  
Three labor leaders were kidnaped at night in Denver, were taken aboard a train under armed guard and hurried away into Idaho without being given time to communicate with counsel or even with their families. All the ordinary processes of extradition were violated, all the rights legally accorded to common criminals were denied these men.

When they appealed to the courts the courts ruled that while they had been unlawfully arrested and deported, yet their trial should go on under circumstances unfavorable to themselves and favorable to the prosecuting authorities, who had sworn that they should never leave Idaho alive.

To call attention to this outrage, the Appeal to Reason offered a reward to anyone who should seize former Governor Taylor, the republican politician of Kentucky, who had been indicted for the murder of the democratic governor—Goebel—had taken refuge in Indiana, and was being shielded by the republican governor of that state.

The announcement of this offer was "defamatory" only in the sense that it recited the facts brought out before the jury that indicted Taylor. Taylor was not kidnaped. But the publication helped to focus public attention on the western case, which was the effect desired. It helped to rouse the workers of the nation to that gigantic defensive movement which saved Moyer, Haywood and Pettibone from the mine owners' conspiracy.

If Taylor had been seized and delivered over to the officers of justice in Kentucky, the capitalists of the country would not have cared a snap provided the labor leaders were hanged according to program. It was the triumph for the Western Federation of Miners that exasperated them. That is why Warren has been prosecuted and his conviction secured—not because he volunteered to promote the arrest of Taylor, but because he helped to prevent the judicial murder of Moyer, Haywood and Pettibone.

The administration and the capitalists have gained a formal victory. But it will not be a lasting nor a valuable one. It will help to strengthen the Appeal to Reason and the Socialist and labor movement, for which the Appeal to Reason has served in this and other matters.

### Of Political Significance.

It turns out that ex-Governor Taylor, of Kentucky, who was indicted for complicity of murder after the assassination of Governor Goebel and fled to Indiana, was pardoned a few days ago by the reigning monarch of the Blue Grass state, and was given his liberty through the influence of, and is being used by, the United States government prosecution of Fred Warren, editor of the Appeal to Reason, who is on trial at Fort Scott, Kansas, for alleged "violation of the postal laws." Warren's "crime," the offering of a reward for the arrest of Taylor and returning him to Kentucky to stand trial after the abduction of Moyer, Haywood and Pettibone from Colorado, was declared legal by the United States supreme court. The Warren case bids fair to become celebrated. It is of more political significance than were the famous Idaho cases. If Warren goes to jail it will be of immense advantage to the Socialist party. It is a big political game the "reds" can't lose, even if Warren is compelled to serve time. The agitation feature of the case will be worth a great deal to the Socialist movement, which the fat man at Washington doesn't appear to appreciate. But if Warren goes to jail, watch the fire works.

Contemptible Courts.  
Chicago Daily Socialist:  
One more step has been taken in rendering the courts contemptible. This time it was the federal court at Fort Scott, Kansas, that showed its subservience to the worst elements in present society.

When Haywood, Moyer and Pettibone were kidnaped in Colorado, with the connivance of the railroads and the mine owners' association; and when in defiance of every form of law they were carried by special train to Idaho in pursuit of a conspiracy to judicially lynch them, the supreme court declared that this action was legal. These men had been convicted of no crime. They had not been legally indicted by any official body.

In order to call attention to the outrageous class character of the procedure in Colorado, Warren prepared circulars calling for similar action in regard to ex-Governor Taylor. Taylor was openly a fugitive from law. He was living in Indiana and his extradition had been refused by the governor of that state. The circulars which Warren mailed were almost identical in wording with those sent out regularly by sheriffs, United States marshals and private detective agencies.

The only possible distinction between Warren's action and that which has been officially indorsed over and over again by the United States government is that he was not seeking to do any injury to Taylor, but was seeking to expose the contemptible class character of the courts.

He has accomplished this far better than he expected. All that he hoped for in the beginning was to call attention to the fact that a republican politician is treated differently from a trade union official. He showed this by his circulars.

### A Foregone Conclusion.

The government isn't afraid that the Fred Warren case will ever be reversed if it goes to a higher court, which it will do should Judge Pollock refuse to grant a new trial. There is no way of telling how the judge will act on the motion for a new trial, but it is the common belief here that no new trial order will be issued by Judge Pollock when he hears the motion for the same argued. The government attorneys made a pretty hard fight, and think that Warren will finally have to meet the punishment the court gives him. Warren may be given a jail sentence, along with the fine, and then the court might assess a dollar and costs fine and let it go at that. The cost will amount to quite a pile to say the least.

Subscription Rates.  
One year \$10.00  
Six months 5.00  
The clubs of four or over (40 weeks) 25 Cents.

### The Old Fight for Freedom

INDICTMENT AGAINST GRELEY.  
Virginia Ad.  
In the Circuit Court of Harrison County, Virginia.  
The grand jurors for said county, on their sixth day of July in the year one thousand eight hundred and sixty-six, and from that day to the finding this presentment. Horace Greeley did write, print and publish, and caused to be written, printed and published weekly in the City of New York, and State of New York, a book and pamphlet, entitled "New York Tribune," the object and purpose of which said "New York Tribune" was to advise and incite negroes in this state to rebel and make insurrection and to incite masters in their slaves in the State of Virginia.

And the jurors do further present that said Horace Greeley afterwards, to-wit, on the 5th day of July, in the year 1856, did knowingly, willfully and feloniously transmit to and circulate in and cause and procure to be circulated in and circulate in the said county of Harrison, the said book and writing, to-wit: the said "New York Tribune," with the intent to aid the purposes and objects aforesaid, and to the detriment of the peace and dignity of the commonwealth.

And the jurors aforesaid, upon their oaths aforesaid, and further presentment, that said Horace Greeley on the 5th day of July, in the year 1856, did knowingly, unlawfully and feloniously circulate and cause and procure to be circulated in and circulate in the said county of Harrison, the said book and writing, to-wit: the said "New York Tribune," with the intent to aid the purposes and objects aforesaid, and to the detriment of the peace and dignity of the commonwealth.

Upon the information of Amosiah Hill and Seymour Johnson, witnesses sworn in open court and sworn to the grand jury, who had the "New York Tribune" in the above presentment referred to, before them and examined the same.

Attorney for the Commonwealth, State of West Virginia, Harrison County—St. John G. Williams, Esq., the circuit court of Harrison county, West Virginia, certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of the indictment presented against Horace Greeley by the grand jurors of said county at its regular term in 1886.

Given under my hand and official seal this 10th day of November, 1909.

HOMER W. WILLIAMS, Clerk.

Times change and men change with them! In 1856 J. J. Warren, father of the editor of the Appeal to Reason, lived in Virginia. He was then a supporter of the existing order of negro slavery, and when Horace Greeley, the abolitionist, was indicted, approved the prosecution. Later, the changing times and his changing views led him to vote for Abraham Lincoln, in 1860, the only man in his county to do so.

Years after, his son, Fred D. Warren, became a republican editor in Missouri. He thought republicanism was right. But changing times and changing views led him to investigate Socialism and he became an ardent advocate of industrial freedom, when, as in his father's day, few stood by him. Later, when the class struggle grew fiercer, he was indicted, as Greeley had been indicted before him, by friends of the exploiting order. It was then that his father, J. J. Warren, remembered the indictment that had been brought against Greeley, and the son sought it out and for the first time it was printed.

But times still change, and men change with them! Chattel slavery was destroyed. Now, there are none who will argue for it. But a new form of exploitation took its place.

Horace Greeley saw it coming, and protested against it. In doing this he antagonized many who had worked with him in opposing chattel slavery, but had not advanced with him beyond that. It seems that the south, which had never known the dominance of capitalism, was the only section that opposed the new order, and it followed that Greeley became the candidate of the south for president, opposed to the dominance of capitalism. Twelve years after Greeley was indicted in Virginia he received the vote of Virginia for president. The indictment was not quashed; it remained in force until Greeley's death; but the changing times made it inoperative.

There are many points of resemblance between the Greeley indictment and the Warren indictment. The one is merely the complement and the completion of the other. Greeley fought his fight on slavery through and won. He began the fight against the wages system, and Warren took up his work where he lay it down. Warren is passing along the same path to success which Greeley followed in his day.

As to points of resemblance, the "willfully, knowingly and feloniously transmit" of the Greeley indictment is wonderfully like the "willfully, knowingly and unlawfully deposit" of the Warren indictment. The "intent to advise and incite" in the Greeley indictment resembles the "obviously intended to reflect" in the Warren documents. A further resemblance between the two indictments lies in the fact that the complaint came concerning the use of the mails, and in either case was an effort to limit the liberty of the press. In this day we would think it an improper thing for the press to speak against the "rights of property of masters in their slaves" yet it was for the questioning such property rights that Greeley was indicted. It is evident that in the Warren case the "property rights" of the capitalist in the workingman is the real point at issue, even though public opinion has so advanced that it does not dare be stated so bluntly. Some day the indictment against Warren will appear as ridiculous as the indictment of Greeley does now.

But there is this difference noticeable between the two instruments. The one is a state indictment, the other a federal indictment. This is not without significance. It merely calls attention to the fact that the masters of the blacks were circumscribed as to territory, while the modern mas-

ters swing the entire nation. A federal indictment of Greeley would have been impossible; and a state indictment of Warren would have been equally ridiculous. The point of jurisdiction covered carries with it another very important fact; Greeley could not have been punished under his indictment except in one state, and by avoiding that state he rendered it, to all purposes, null. But a federal indictment, such as was brought against Warren could reach out to the state in which he resided and touch him without fail. It all illustrates how much more perfect and complete the modern method of exploitation is than was the slave system, and suggests, what Greeley found out afterward, that the slave system was superceded because the new method was more far reaching, and certain of enforcement.

And the Greeley indictment was a strong and just instrument compared with the Warren indictment. It charges an effort on Greeley's part to "advise and incite negroes to rebel and make insurrection." If this charge could have been maintained, it revealed a PUBLIC danger which gave ground for bringing the indictment; in other words, while the indictment was really an effort of the few masters (one in ten of the people of the south) to stop agitation against their property claims, the reason cited was a public one: and there can be no doubt that if the negroes had rebelled and made insurrection all the white people of the south would have been affected by it. But the Warren indictment makes no charge of public danger. What it does say is that Warren's alleged act was calculated to "reflect injuriously upon ANOTHER"—that is, it is an indictment for an offense against ONE PERSON—and under all jurisprudence the injury of the one, unless that injury has been done and involves loss of life, of limb or liberty, is no concern of the public, but only of that individual. The Warren indictment is all the more weak because the individual concerned makes no complaint of injury, the government pressing an individual suit when the individual does not care to do it himself. It shows that the modern capitalist is far more jealous of his "rights" in property, than was the old slave holder, and has a far stronger hold on the federal government than the old slave holder had on the slave states.

Yet it is the old fight which freedom has ever had to wage against special privilege—advancing ever and always nearer the final goal of full liberty, yet always a fight where the truth is accused and belittled and betrayed, and also triumphant in the end, ever and always.—C. L. P.

### THE CASE OF ELIJAH LOVEJOY

Elijah Lovejoy, a Presbyterian preacher, started a paper called the Observer, at St. Louis, in 1833. He chiefly discussed religious themes, but occasionally spoke against slavery. When two negroes were taken in Illinois and given 200 lashes, he freely criticized the act. A public meeting was held to denounce his criticism, and the meeting resolved that slavery was sanctioned by the scriptures; that the course pursued by the abolitionists, if persisted in, would break up the union; and that the constitutional guarantee of free speech and free press did not imply the moral right of the abolitionists to freely discuss the question of slavery, either orally or through the press.

Alarmed at this attack, Lovejoy removed his paper to Atton, Ill. But in his first issue after removal he criticised a judge who had exonerated a mob for burning a negro to death. For this article his office was wrecked. The paper was revived and permitted to go unmoleted for nearly a year. But at last Lovejoy approved the effort to banish slavery from the District of Columbia, and for this his office was again wrecked. A third press was ordered, and this was promptly broken. A fourth press was ordered. An attack was made on the building where the press was stored, and Lovejoy and a printer defended it with guns. Lovejoy was shot five times, and died in a few minutes.

The Missouri Republican, now the St. Louis Republic, said of the killing of Lovejoy: "We condemn mob violence, but when we see a man wantonly, recklessly and mischievously persist in a course which others are sure to regard as an outrage on their feelings, which is sure to inflame the popular mind and lead to violence, we have but little sympathy with his sufferings. He who willfully excites the tempest should be the first to feel its violence."

But the death of Lovejoy led to the banishment of slavery from the District of Columbia and gave a tremendous impetus to the agitation for freedom. A magnificent monument was erected to his memory by the grand children of the men who murdered him. This is a story of the past. You wonder at it. Yet you see practically the same things being repeated now, though in not nearly so harsh a form. That is encouraging. It is the old fight for liberty, on an advanced ground. Each generation has its own battles, but the best men are ever at the front, fighting for human liberty, always opposed, but always certain of victory.