

# The Iowa Socialist

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## Human Greed

"It's hardly in a body's power, to keep at times from being sour, to see—HOW THINGS ARE SHARED."

Let us inquire into the causes that have created that greed for gain, that worship of the almighty dollar, now so universal with the people of the country. Could any other result be expected from the generation after generation of schooling and training our race has gone through? The instinct of selfishness, exercised continuously for centuries upon centuries, could we expect any other result than an increase, a growth in its power and influence over the acts of man? We know, or should know, that selfishness is an instinct of the human being. One of the primal functions of his nature and like his other instincts it varies in degree of power in different individuals. We also know that these instincts and inclinations are hereditary, that is transmitted from parent to child, and that use and exercise, whether of mental or physical organs, increases their power and growth. For example examine the smith's right arm and compare its size of muscle with the left one, that only holds the iron on the anvil for the right one to maul into shape.

At the start of social organization, necessity of means to facilitate exchange of the products of the soil or of the chase, soon suggested more convenient means than the barter and exchange of the commodities themselves. With the first settlers of our own land, coon skins were made an equivalent for coin in its almost total absence. It is of no importance to trace by conjecture the process that led to the selection of coin as the medium of exchange. It is sufficient for us to know, it has been so used as far back as human records run. Its power in commanding labor, and the products of labor, its power to exact interest opened the door for greed to gather it in masses, giving its possessor power over his fellow men. In this manner, it has become the main object of man's ambition. From the practice of usury, that is drawing interest from its loan, control of it soon fell into the hands of the most capable selfish few. The only medium of exchange of commodities except in bulk and kind it at once became comparable to the blood in the human system, indispensable, in all matters of commerce and trade. As one of the elder Vanderbilts said: "My son, the man who gets 7 per cent interest will soon own all the money."

It is mainly through our own financial system that our country's wealth is so unequally distributed. There is one way, and only one in which this deity of our own creation can be dethroned. We must uncrown it, as we did King George and make a substitute, one bound in by constitutional limitations. Socialism suggests the substitute in its labor checks, unassignable, redeemable only in products of labor of brawn and brain. Remember money is created by legislation. Fiat alone can make it a legal tender. A bar of gold or silver without the fiat of government will not be accepted in settlement of a judgment. Unless made by fiat of government into legal tender the value of either is far below that of iron.

The idea of a personal devil, the author of all human ills, who, according to tradition, seduced our

## Capital's Colorado Crimes

Eugene V. Debs in *The Chicago Socialist*.

The arrest and deportation of Mother Jones and the arrest and imprisonment of Chas. H. Moyer, the lion-hearted president of the Western Federation of Miners, are among the latest outrages in the daily budget of crime reported from Colorado.

The crimes of the capitalists and their henchmen under the law and order administration of their executive utensil multiply so rapidly that it requires a swift pen to keep the record.

And the record must be kept to the minutest detail, for when the day of final accounting comes, as come it will as surely as the green earth rolls sunward, the capitalist class will settle by the books to the last cry of agony and the last groan of despair wrung from the misery of their crucified and exiled victims.

The midnight assault of the brutal soldiery upon Comrade Floaten—than whom a truer comrade does not live—the beastly insult to his pleading wife; the violent deportation of Guy Miller, president of the Telluride Union, and his comrades; the lashing of a union man to a telephone pole solely because of his being a union man; the jailing of inoffensive citizens and the outrages upon defenseless females are all charged up in red letters in the book of remembrance.

Governor Peabody and his accessories will answer to the last line of the last indictment drawn by an awakened Justice at the bar of an aroused working class.

The coming of the day of Judgment is slow, but it is sure.

And the memory of the working class is long—they do not forget.

At times the blood boils with indignation, but we must keep cool, keep calm—cool and calm and resolute.

The talk about armed attack by the unarmed worker is criminal folly—worse still, it is suicide.

The time may come for that, but it is not now.

That is the program of Peabody and his mercenary hirelings to incite attack that the blood of union men may flow like mountain streams.

Have you forgotten how the working class in Colorado voted but a few months ago?

Well, that is the way they will shoot today.

Should armed collision now ensue in consequence of excited councils the brave and brainy union men would pay the forfeit with their lives and the movement in the state would be crushed and paralyzed.

These are the days to preach the class struggle in Colorado.

Every day makes it clearer; every outrage confirms and emphasizes its commanding truth.

The real danger comes with the cry to "bury Peabody beneath an avalanche of votes."

The unthinking will rush from the frying pan into the fire.

In their eagerness to bury Peabody they will forget Peabodyism.

To bury Peabody will be time wasted if capitalism, of which he is but the spawn, is overlooked.

The democratic party will freely proffer its services in the burying of Peabody and passionately proclaim its sympathy and friendship.

Trust it no more than you would the republican party.

The only difference from the workingman's point of view is that one is run in the interest of a small number of large exploiters and the other in the interest of a large number of small exploiters.

They are both against the working class.

The republican Peabody will be duplicated, if the workers so will it at the polls, by a democratic Nobody. The capitalist class will rule as before and bull pens will do business at the old stands.

The Socialist party is the party to support, the working class party, the deadly and uncompromising foe of capitalism and wage slavery.

Arouse, ye workingmen!

Open your eyes and see the class struggle!

Join and support the only party that stands squarely upon the class struggle as the basis of its revolutionary character.

The republican, democratic and populist parties are all capitalist parties, all for wage slavery, all against the working class.

Mother Jones in exile, Charles Moyer, your brave leader, in jail!

Have you a drop of red blood in your veins?

Has your manhood rotted into cowardice?

Wake up and take your place in the class struggle!

For the desecration of the flag your leader is in jail.

What flag? The flag of the capitalist class—the flag that floats above the bull pens of Colorado.

The wholesome truths he stamped upon its stripes are your shame and your masters' crime.

Rally to the red standard of International Socialism, the symbol of proletarian revolt, and the workers of Colorado and all the world shall yet be free.

first parents in the garden of Eden, still holds sway with ignorant masses. Such a devil could hardly equal a device so well calculated to people his fabled home in the infernal regions with victims of his malice as man himself did when he originated money and legalized interest for its use. As Romeo says to the apothecary when he gives him gold for the poison, which in despair he is about to take: "There is thy gold, worse poison to man's soul, doing more murders in this loathsome world than these poor compounds which thou mayst not sell. I sell thee poison; thou hast sold me none." Instead of this imaginary devil, we have lots of two-legged ones, "For prey, all

holes and corners trying." It's the mission of Socialism to deprive these human devils of the power and motive to oppress their fellow man, to uproot their selfish greed, to make of them lovers and benefactors, instead of heartless task masters. Were it not for the greed and cupidity of man, this earth would support twenty or forty times its present population. The Chinese have demonstrated it in utilizing its waters in fish culture. Every single acre will support a human being. To compel a millionaire to support himself on an acre for each one of his family would be a great change from his present high style of living, but would there not be a compensa-

tion? His frugal diet would be eaten with a better relish, his sleep, "chief nourisher in life's feast," would no longer be embittered by nightmares from indigestion. No gout or rheumatic pains to torment him. Instead, pleasure in active use of his muscles and his brain. Instead of pouring over his ledger, or collecting his rents, or evicting his poor tenants he would have the pleasing duty of teaching his children how to manipulate the soil, to subdue noxious weed, to catch the fish, to provide and prepare the fuel, to train their intellects, to develop their musical instincts, and to fondle them on his knees in their tender years. "That's the true pathos and sublime of human life." H. CLARK MOORE.

## An Appeal to Womanhood

Woman takes it upon herself to usher in the life of the race and the fate of its destiny rests upon her soul.

Has woman the right to usher in life if she has not the moral courage to stand against everything that tends to make it a blight or a curse?

There is not a wrong condition of life which man has not the power to obliterate and if woman is the embodiment of the highest spiritual forces of earth, she should take the initiative in all reform movements instead of being conservative. She is not truly womanly who can be contented in the midst of injustice and wrong.

A silent, subject motherhood means a subject race. The woman who does not stand for her own rights will be silent when the rights of her children are trampled under foot.

The greatest crimes of present day society were unknown in the matriarchate age and with woman's subjection began the iniquities of private ownership and war.

Today millions of lives are doomed to endless trial and deprivation, robbed of all that makes life worth its while, while thousands of lives are shortened many years by incessant toil and lack of nourishing food. On the other hand there are those who "toil not, neither do they spin," yet they control millions more than they need.

She is neither Christian nor womanly who can look these conditions indifferently in the face.

As the next step in its evolution, human kind is getting ready to systematize industry which will right all of these heinous wrongs and it is woman's part to become an aid in this great movement instead of being a hindrance with her conservatism.

The Socialist women of the United States should come together and never be silent until the world listens to the laborer's cry of injustice. Our women should join the locals and attend the county, state and national conventions. How many millions suffer in their wrongs today! Shall our women not aid rather than hinder them in their efforts for liberation?

Every year thousands of lives are blotted out in warfare and millions of dollars wasted that should be expended in bettering the conditions of life.

Sisters, did you ever stop long enough to really comprehend the awful suffering and waste of war and did you ever realize that if the women of the world should say "no" there would immediately be an end to this twentieth century barbarism?

Life was given to man to be a growth and a joy and the stain of every drop of human blood that is shed is upon the soul of every woman who has not raised her voice in protest against these wrongs.

Let our women everywhere band together in their demands for industrial justification and in their protests against warfare and see what can be accomplished in a very short time.

Let our women in every state carry on the agitation against warfare by enlisting the women opposed to it.

The world has reached the greatest crisis in its history.

We must either rise like men and women or come to revolution like intellectual and moral pigmies. Life and liberty, peace and plenty or war and poverty, crime and misery. I should like to hear from any of those women who are ready to enlist against poverty and war.

LUELLA R. KRAYBILL,  
Socialist Organizer for Kansas.



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## A FAIR WAGE

Bishop Spalding is a member of the anthracite coal strike commission and has been urging the establishment of a "permanent board of arbitration," to which shall be referred disputes between capital and labor. This would seem to indicate that the bishop anticipates the indefinite prolongation of the class struggle. He evidently sees no end to the conflict, and with all his learning does not devise a program by which this eternal "hell of warfare," as he rightly feels it to be, may be abolished.

The province of this permanent board is "to settle disputes as to hours, treatment and pay of employes."

He is reported as having said: "A fair wage was determined in the soft coal mines of the west by the condition in the mines and the cost of living," and that "where a business did not permit of a living wage according to the American standard of living, that business should close up."

It is plain to be seen by the first quotation where the bishop stands in his meaning of "a fair wage"—it is "determined by the conditions (?) and COST OF LIVING." That is, how much risk will a man run in order to earn a living? And the "cost of living" means "how little will it take in food, clothes and shelter to keep you, Mr. Worker, in sufficient energy to go on with your work, and to beget children to take up the burden where you leave off," that is what both priest and politician always mean when they talk of "a fair wage."

But in the second quotation, the good bishop is not so clear; he speaks of "a living wage ACCORDING TO THE AMERICAN STANDARD OF LIVING." Now, there are several different "American standards of living," and he should make clear which one he means. He has referred to the west, and to labor troubles in Colorado; does he mean the American standard of living as seen on Capitol Hill or on the river flats in Denver, or in the mining districts? Or, bringing it nearer home, would he advocate for the workers the standard of Grove Terrace or the flats of Dubuque or some point between these extremes?

These conditions are all "standard," are found everywhere in the United States and are taken as a matter of course.

It is easy to infer which standard Bishop Spalding would have the working people enjoy (?) and as long as the majority of workers are satisfied with the portion assigned them, it would seem foolish for us to raise any objections; but, unfortunately, the innocent must suffer with the guilty, and because these workers are willing to accept

the back streets for their homes, shoddy for their clothes, and so on, they have no right to perpetuate such conditions for their children nor for others who see the better way and are ready to go on. They must in some way be made to know that so long as they hug their own chains, they are forcing their fellow workers and even their own children into slavery. The great problem before us is: How can they be made to see and understand this point? Will some one please rise and explain?

That the capitalistic press should ignore or barely mention the great struggle being waged in Colorado by the Western Federation of Miners against organized greed is not to be wondered at, but that no mention of this great struggle should be made by the American Federationist, the official organ of the A. F. of L., is certainly a cause for wonderment. Can it be that lack of space prevents? No doubt the editor, who by the way is Samuel Gompers himself, is compelled to reject much valuable matter on that account. However, when we read such drivel as the following which appeared in the March number of the Federationist we are forced to the conclusion that it would be better to have the office boy wield the blue pencil instead of the editor:

"Samuel Gompers, president of the A. F. of L., and the most conspicuous labor leader in the United States, is a man upon whom anyone would cast a second glance when once his eye had fallen upon him. Gompers possesses individuality to a marked degree. In the first place, he is unusual in appearance. He is very short and very broad and has an unusually large head. Gompers cannot be called handsome, and yet there is that presence of magnetism about him that prevents his being called ugly. In a word, Gompers is worth meeting and worth talking to. \* \* \* It is conceded that Mr. Gompers is the possessor of the greatest ability of any and all organizers in the labor movement in his time. As a debater and reasoner he is sound and logical, equal to all emergencies that arise, at home and familiar to a wonderful degree with all subjects; he is absolutely non-partisan, and a most wonderful orator, with an inexhaustible vocabulary richly stored with historical and poetic lore that is at his ready command, to contrast, to elaborate, depict or describe the point at issue, or the discourse to be trimmed, ornamented, or satired or ridiculed as may be the pleasure or wish of this architect and wonderful world builder."

After reading the above exhibition of bad taste, not to say assiduity, the western miners will understand why the presentation of their cause has not found space in the columns of the American Federationist.

Because the exposure of the methods employed by the Corporations Auxiliary Co., of Cleveland, Ohio, in its nefarious business of supplying union spies and traitors for employers in case of strikes, etc., was made by a Socialist paper Secretary Morrison of the American Federation of Labor refuses to take any notice of the matter because he suspects it is merely "a game of politics." Is Secretary Morrison also in the employ of the Corporations Auxiliary Company?

Discussing Hearst's chances for the democratic nomination for the presidency, Wilshire says in his Magazine: "The Socialists would rather welcome his nomination than otherwise because there is no doubt that he would be widely accused of being a Socialist which would make people inquire what Socialism is, and that is all we want. Once our principles and program are understood there can be little doubt the world will wag our way."

The president and secretary of the Western Federation of Miners have been arrested by the military officials on the charge (?) of desecrating the American flag. To hear the hoodlums at the head of the Colorado militia, who have trampled upon every constitutional right of the miners and whose motto is "To hell with the constitution," talk about others desecrating the flag sounds very much like a prostitute boasting of her virtue.

Carnegie offers half a million dollars—or a whole million if it is necessary—to secure the re-election of President Roosevelt. Since he is one of those who believe in the identity of interests of capital and labor, we presume he would offer a like sum to insure the election of a workingman president—Eugene V. Debs for instance.

The administration has decided to prosecute no more trusts or mergers. This will insure contributions to the campaign fund from the big guns, while the recent merger decision will attract the vote of the trust busters.

It is estimated that the reduction of 5½ per cent in the wages accepted by the coal miners will save to the coal mining companies \$18,000,000 a year. It has not been estimated what John Mitchell's share of this will be.

Owning the means of life, the capitalist class can starve the working class into submission. United at the ballot box, the working class can vote the capitalist class into submission.

Perhaps the fact that the municipal elections follow so closely upon All Fool's Day accounts for the foolish way the workingmen voted.

The difference between the Socialism of the Socialist party and the Socialism of Hearst is that the former is Socialism and the latter isn't.

As another evidence of his love for the workingman, Hearst has opened headquarters in the Hoffman House, 5th Ave., New York.

Whether a right is "natural" or "unconstitutional" depends upon whether it is in the interest of the capitalist or the laborer.

The president, cabinet and congressmen have "conspired" to raise their wages, and they have not been injunctioned either.

A great many men who "get onto the band wagon" of capitalism discover to their sorrow that it is a hearse.

This will certainly be an ill-fated year. The workers will this year elect a capitalist candidate for president.

The reason the workers have to "divide up" with the capitalists is because they are divided at the polls.

There are 7,000,000 workers in this country engaged in unproductive or wasteful employments.

So long as the working class will not vote together they must expect to starve separately.

"You can't fool all the people all the time"—not even the working people.

Every American boy has several chances of some day becoming—a tramp.

The Socialist party needs men, but men also need the Socialist party.

Great private fortunes are misfortunes.

Wealth belongs to those who create it.

# SOCIALIST PLATFORM

Adopted at Indianapolis, Ind., 1901.

The Socialist party in national convention assembled, reaffirms its adherence to the principles of International Socialism and declares its aim to be the organization of the working class, and those in sympathy with it, into a political party, with the object of conquering the powers of government and using them for the purpose of transforming the present system of private ownership of the means of production and distribution into collective ownership by the entire people.

Formerly the tools of production were simple and owned by individual workers. Today, the machine, which is an improved and more developed tool of production, is owned by the capitalist and not by the workers. The ownership enables the capitalists to control the product and keep the workers dependent upon them.

Private ownership of the means of production and distribution is responsible for the ever-increasing uncertainty of the livelihood and poverty and misery of the working class, and divides society into hostile classes—the capitalists and the wage workers. The once powerful middle class is rapidly disappearing in the mill of competition. The struggle is now between the capitalist class and the working class. The possession of the means of livelihood gives the capitalist the control of the government, the press, the pulpit and the schools, and enables them to reduce the workingmen to a state of intellectual, physical and social inferiority, political subservience and virtual slavery.

The economic interests of the capitalist class dominate our entire social system; the lives of the working class are recklessly sacrificed for profit, warfare fomented between nations, indiscriminate slaughter is encouraged and the destruction of whole races is sanctioned in order that the capitalists may extend their commercial domination abroad and enhance their supremacy at home.

But the same economic causes which developed capitalism are leading to Socialism, which will abolish both the capitalist class and the class of wage workers. And the active force in bringing about this new and higher order of society is the working class. All other classes, despite their apparent or actual conflicts, are alike interested in the upholding of the system of private ownership of the instruments of wealth production. The democrat, republican, the bourgeois public ownership parties, and all other parties which do not stand for the complete overthrow of the capitalist system of production, are alike political representatives of the capitalist class.

The workers can most effectively act as a class in their struggle against the collective powers of capitalism, by constituting themselves into a political party, distinct from and opposed to all parties formed by the propertied classes. While we declare that the development of economic conditions tends to the overthrow of the capitalist system, we recognize that the time and manner of the transition to Socialism also depends upon the stage of development reached by the proletariat. We, therefore, consider it of the utmost importance for the Socialist party to support all active efforts of the working class to better its condition and to elect Socialists to political offices in order to facilitate the attainment of this end.

As such means we advocate:  
 1. The public ownership of all means of transportation and communication and all other public utilities, as well as of all industries controlled by monopolies trusts and combines; no part of the revenue of such industries to be applied to the taxes of the capitalist class, but to be applied wholly to the increase of wages and shortening of the hours of labor of the employes, and to the improvement of the service and diminishing the rates to the consumer.

2. The progressive reduction of the hours of labor and the increase of wages in order to decrease the share of the capitalist and increase the share of the worker in the product of labor.

3. State or national insurance of working people in case of accidents, lack of employment, sickness and want in old age; the funds for this purpose to be collected from the revenue of the capitalist class and to be administered under the control of the working class.

4. The inauguration of a system of public industries, credit to be used for that purpose in order that the workers be secured the full product of their labor.

5. The education of all children up to the age of 18 years, and state and municipal aid for books, clothing and food.

6. Equal civil and political rights for men and women.

7. The initiative and referendum, proportional representation and the right of recall of representatives by their constituents.

But in advocating these measures in steps in the overthrow of capitalism and the establishment of the cooperative commonwealth, we warn the working class against the so-called public ownership movements as an attempt of the capitalist class to secure government control of public utilities for the purpose of obtaining greater security in the public exploitation of other industries and not for the amelioration of the conditions of the working class.

## Clubbing Offer

The Iowa Socialist for one year and any of the following papers for one year for 60 cents: Wilshire's Magazine, Coming Nation, Chicago Socialist, The Vanguard; or the Iowa Socialist for one year and The Comrade for six months for 60 cents.

P. C. Murray, the lawyer in the office building, makes a specialty of drawing wills and settling estates.

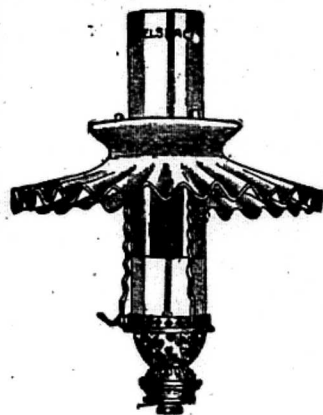
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## Down at the Corners

"Do you know old man Fisk down at the Corners—I mean him as owns the cotton factory down there? You don't, eh? Well, its just as well—them that knows him best hates him most. 'Tother night Bob and Sile and I sot out in front of Beecher's store talkin' of one thing and 'nother and wonderin' if Tom was goin' to be late at roll call—when who should come along but old man Fisk puffin' along with his gold-headed cane, he hardly ever looks at us common fellers, though we can rickollect the time when he was as poor as any of us. But what with skinnin' an' grindin'—a-workin' wimmen and children and pushin' the wages of men down to the lowest notch, he has become one of these fellers they call Captains of Industry. He used to own and run his business himself. He owns and runs it now, too, as fur as the Corners is concerned—but he's gone into the cotton trust, and that fixes the price of everything—labor included; leastways that's what he tells his help when they talk about an increase of pay.

"Well, that night the old man seemed in a genial mood and acctoally stopped and shook hands with us. We knew at onct there was somethin' in the wind, but of course we didn't know what it was. He hadn't been there more'n five minutes when 'long come Tom. 'Why, good evenin', Thomas,' said the old man, stretchin' out his hand to Tom. 'Howdy,' said Tom, passin' right along and payin' no attention to the outstretched hand. Just then Sile had a hard fit of coughin' and Bob and I, who allays had more self-control than Sile, pulled our pipes hard. The old man settled back in his seat as though nothin' had happened, and says he, puffin' his cigar: 'Guess if Mark Hanna hadn't died the unions would have forced him onto the republican ticket next time and left Teddy out. Mark has allays been such a friend to the laborin' man. Then, too he's accomplished so much for labor with that Civic Federation he's president of. Why, they do say, if it hadn't been for Mark and Sammy Gompers the hull crowd of labor organizations would have joined the Socialists. And then where'd they been? Couldn't ever have ekspected any more favors from capital if they'd gone and done that. But Mark and Sammy they both worked in unison and they prevented that ca-tas-tro-phy. And now they do say that the labor unions, leastwise all that Sammy is at the head of, yelled like mad for Mark to go onto the republikin ticket, out of pure gratitood.

"'Of course,' went on the old man, 'us capitalists would like to see Teddy on the ticket, fur barrin' his attempt to play hob with Morgan, Hill and the railroad crowd, he's done pretty well. He's talked a blamed sight about the trusts, but he ain't done nothing to hurt us.

"'But, nevertheless,' continued the old man, with a sigh, 'I 'spose if the labor crowd had really demanded Mark's nomination we'd had to submit, much as we'd like to prevented it. It's got so nowadays that anything labor asks for it generally gets. And I 'spose if it wanted Mark it'd have to have him. And us fellers 'll have to try and worry along somehow.'

"Just then, right across the street, a crowd began to come together, and as the old man stopped that same little cuss that talked 'tother night began. 'I tell you,

'feller citizens,' cried he, 'why the laborin' man no longer has any rights in this country.' Sile looked at me and winked, and the old man was quietly smokin' his cigar as though he didn't hear nothin'. But the speaker went on: 'I'll tell you why it is—it's all the fault of the system; its becoz under this competitive capitalistic system an honest man can't run his business honestly. Why, if he wants to do the fair thing by his laborers and his customers, he can't do it. Take an old skinnin' like that old grinder Fisk that runs the cotton mill here at the Corners—he can bring every other man in the same kind of bizness to his way of runnin' his business.'

"We all looked sideways at the old man, and there he sot with the light shinin' out of the store onto his face, as pale as death and shakin' as though he had an ague fit. We could all see that he was mad clean through.

"The little feller went on. 'Why, feller citizens, where is the justice in a system that will permit a man who makes the poorest and rottenest kind of goods, and pays his employes the lowest kind of wages, and works them under such conditions as a beast, much less a man, ought not to work under—yes—and hires wimmen and childerns just as cheap as he can get 'em. Where is the justice, I say, in a system that will bring all men down onto the same level in runnin' their bizness, whether they want to come there or not. They tell me Fisk is in the trust, and the trust is a public benefactor. You folks that live here know how that is. How much better off are you since Fisk went into the trust? Ain't things worse over there at the factory in every way for the help since Fisk jined the trust? The trust is better for the capitalist, but it's a blamed sight worse for the laborer.'

"Just here the old man, after tryin' a couple times, managed to get up out of his chair and says he, with his teeth chatterin'—he was that mad:

"'Good evenin', gentlemen. It's gettin' late; I must be goin' home. And off he went without another word. For a long time we could hear that cane of his go thud! thud! on the gravel above the noise of the crowd across the street. As we turned to listen to the little feller he was sayin':

"'Yes, feller citizens, the trust is all right—for the capitalist. But what we want is a trust that will take us all in—a trust that will make us all capitalists. We want a trust with Uncle Sam at the head, givin' employment to every man that wants to work, makin' the hours so they can all work, and givin' every man, with no wimmen or children workin', every blamed cent he produces. A trust not producin' for profit, but just enough to give everybody all they need. A trust bigger than Schwab's steel trust, making \$140,000,000 a year, and givin' the hull blamed thing to the men who make the steel.

"'Do you know what that kind of a trust would be? That would be Socialism, and the way to get it is just to vote for it.'

"'At this point Beecher's boy blew out the lights in the store and, as the night was dark, the little feller quit, and we all went home. And I—well, I had more to think about.'

The Iowa Socialist in clubs of four or more for twenty-five cents per year. Four postal subscription cards good for one year each for \$1.00. They are handy. Order a bunch.



## John W. Bennett

### The Engineer Orator

Organizer and Lecturer for the Socialist Party of Iowa

For Terms and Dates, Address:

J. J. JACOBSEN, State Secretary,  
1129 12th St., Des Moines

### Woman's Socialist Union

The Woman's National Socialist Union will hold a national convention in Chicago on the mornings and afternoons of April 29 and 30, with an evening session on the 30th. The day meetings will be informal, with discussions as to the policy of separate organizations for women, and why it is not advisable for the Union to affiliate with the political organization or become political instead of remaining educational. The evening session will be devoted to three addresses on the industrial condition of woman and children, past, present and future. These meetings are open to the public. Gentlemen are invited, and Socialist women, whether they belong to the organization or not, are earnestly requested to be present. Convention will be held in the People's Institute, Cor. Van Buren and Hoynes Ave. The above dates were chosen so that they would not conflict with those of the regular convention. JOSEPHINE CONGER, Girard, Kas. Cor. Sec'y.

Thornwick Rye  
Equal to the Best  
And Better than the Rest.

### Iowa Financial Statement

March 1, 1904, to March 31, 1904.	
RECEIPTS.	
March 1	Balance Feb 29, 1904, \$ 91 62
" 1	Van Horne, reorganized 1 50
" 1	Little Rock local 3 60
" 1	Marshalltown local 3 00
" 2	Boone local 3 00
" 2	Hiteman local 3 50
" 2	Rock Rapids, supplies 65
" 2	Davenport local 4 95
" 3	Avery local 3 50
" 5	Council Bluffs, reorganized 2 00
" 5	Logan local 1 70
" 5	Centerville local 3 25
" 5	Clinton local 6 25
" 6	Missouri Valley local 3 00
" 9	Members-at-large 75
" 9	Davenport local 10 65
" 9	Grinnell, reorganized 1 20
" 10	A. E. Foreman, Logan, donation 1 00
" 10	Lost Creek local 90
" 12	Madrid local 75
" 12	Boone local 3 90
" 13	Newton local 1 66
" 17	Beebeetown local 90
" 17	Wm G. Stuart, Bellevue, supplies 65
" 19	Monroe local 2 40
" 19	H. C. Miller, supplies 10
" 20	Member-at-large 50
" 20	Newton local 2 00
" 23	Stratford, charter 90
" 24	Marshalltown, supplies 50
" 24	Pisgah local, charter 1 75
" 24	Ryan local, supplies 25
" 27	Clarinda local, supplies 50
" 27	Des Moines local 3 00
" 28	Sioux City local 11 70
" 30	Mystic local 1 20
Total	\$178 02
DISBURSEMENTS.	
March 2	Wm Maily, due stamps \$ 25 00
" 3	L. B. Patterson, printing 4 00
" 4	Iowa Socialist, printing 1 75
" 7	Iowa Socialist, sample copies 3 00
" 10	Postage 3 00
" 10	Kenyon Printing Co., printing 4 75

## M. W. WILKINS,

Of California,

### NATIONAL LECTURER AND ORGANIZER

Will fill a few dates in Iowa after April 25.

His lectures cover a wide range of subjects, embracing every phase of the social problem.

For dates, terms and other information address the National Secretary, Omaha.

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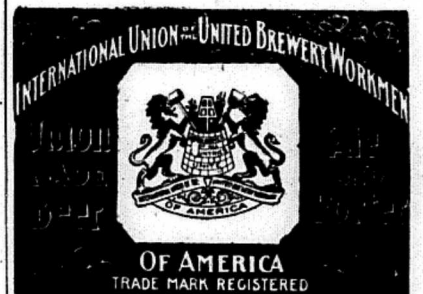
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Clean Towel Supply.



# Party News

National  
State  
Local

## National Headquarters Bulletin

NATIONAL ORGANIZING FUND.  
Total to noon, April 9 \$ 52.60  
Previously reported 3115.30

Total \$3167.90  
John W. Brown will close his work in Montana the last week in April and will fill engagements in Nebraska, South Dakota, Minnesota, Illinois and other states on his return east.

Dates for George H. Goebel have been arranged in Ohio as follows: East Liverpool, April 15; Cleveland, 19; Sandusky, 20-21; Zenia, 23; Cincinnati, 24. The rest of the month will be filled in Indiana.

State Secretary Pierce, of Montana, has notified the national secretary that another alderman was elected in the recent municipal election at Butte. This is the only official report of the elections so far received.

Two more dates have been secured for James F. Carey in Indiana at Indianapolis, April 20, and Anderson, 21, after which he will enter Ohio. Further dates will be announced next week. Splendid reports are being received from all points he visited.

M. W. Wilkins will close his work in Idaho, April 15, and start east filling engagements as follows: Rock Springs, Wyo., April 17; Laramie, 19-21; Kearney, Neb., 22; Omaha, 23; Atlantic, Iowa, 24; Sigourney, 26. After the convention Wilkins will return to the west through Illinois, Missouri, Kansas and Colorado.

Geo. E. Bigelow's dates in Alabama have been arranged as follows: Fairhope, April 24-25; Montgomery, 26; Birmingham, 27-28; Bessemer, 29; Adger, 30; Bessemer, May 1-2; Patton, 3; Adamsville, 4; Leesburg, 5; Albertville, 6; New Decatur, 7; Florence, 8. His route home will probably include Tennessee, Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska.

Credentials for delegates and alternates have been sent to all state secretaries to the number each state is entitled to under the call for national convention. An "Original" and "Duplicate" credential is sent for each. The duplicate should be filled out and sent to the national secretary at once in addressed envelope sent with credentials. Full instructions concerning reduced rates are being sent to the Socialist press.

Robert Saltiel, German organizer, reports the organization of a strong branch at Indianapolis. The German movement there had practically expired, but through Saltiel's efforts has assumed its old time vigor and young Germans have, for the first time, become active. At Hamilton, Ohio, another German branch was organized. After the Toledo dates reported last week he will go to Cleveland, April 23; Loraine, 24, and back to Cleveland up to and including April 30.

The demand for party buttons is increasing. Comrades write that they find the buttons just what is needed to keep the party name before the people. That thought was expressed in letters received this week from Lynn, Mass., and Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. Many small orders have been filled in the last two weeks. In ordering do not forget that the small price of one cent each applies only to party officials who are ordering for the locals. To individuals we are compelled to sell the buttons for two cents each in small quantities in order to cover the cost.

In making a contribution to the national organizing fund, the Young People's Social Democratic Club of Yorkville, N. Y., writes: "This is the oldest of three clubs in New York City whose purpose is to educate young men and women in the principles of Socialism, to enlist them in the work of the party, and at the same time to bring them together for social pleasure and acquaintance. We feel that our club has been a good thing for its members and that it has done some service to the party. We hope for still better results in the future, and we hope also that clubs of this sort will soon exist in every part of the country where Socialism has gained a foothold."

The associated press dispatch of April 4, to the effect that W. E. Clark had announced the result of the referendum on location of national headquarters was unqualifiedly false. At the time of the alleged "interview" the vote had not closed in the states and as a matter of course, no state had reported its vote on choice of location, making it impossible for any one in the national office to know what the result would be. This statement is made because the fake announcement of the result has been given a wide circulation, and because the party members should know that no information of such a nature is given to the capitalist press until officially announced to the party membership.

### RAILROAD RATES TO NATIONAL CONVENTION.

Of the seven passenger associations controlling the passenger traffic on the leading railroads of the country, the following five

have granted a rate for one and one-third fare from points in their territory on the certificate plan; providing ticket going to Chicago costs more than 75 cents: Central Passenger Association, Western Passenger Association, Southwestern Excursion Bureau, Trunk Line Association and Southern Passenger Association.

Persons wishing to secure the benefit of this rate must have the ticket agent give them a delegate's certificate, which, signed by the national secretary and a representative of the passenger associations at the convention on Tuesday, May 3, 1904, will secure a return ticket at one-third fare, providing there are 100 or more present at the convention holding proper delegates certificates from ticket agents at starting points in territory of above named associations. The representative of passenger associations will collect 25 cents for each certificate signed.

Wives of delegates or alternates as well as others coming to the convention should get delegates' certificates from ticket agent at point where ticket to Chicago is purchased—a certificate for each ticket. As it takes some time for agents to fill out certificates, go early to get ticket.

All small stations do not have delegates' certificates. When this is the case buy a ticket to nearest point where you can get one. If agent cannot sell ticket through to Chicago, buy to point where you can get through ticket, taking delegates' certificates from each. Consult your ticket agents in advance. Do not wait until the last day or minute. They can tell if you are in the territory of either of the above named passenger associations, and if not, the nearest point where you can get ticket in such territory, and there get delegate's certificate.

Tickets purchased more than three days previous to opening day of convention, May 1, will not be honored for reduced fare returning.

Certificates for purchase of return tickets at one third fare must be presented, and tickets used, within three days after adjournment of convention. Return trip must be made over same route as coming.

Tickets cannot be sold or transferred; to do so would cause loss of deposit made by national organization.

No particular road shall be advertised as the "official route." To do so means a loss of deposit.

The Trans-Continental Passenger Association, controlling the Pacific coast states, say: "Delegates may avail themselves of the regular nine months rate which is in effect daily from Pacific coast points to Chicago, and which approximates 2 cents per mile in each direction, or about one fare and one-third for the round trip." These tickets are on sale at all principle points. Agents at small stations can advise nearest point to obtain such ticket.

If other passenger associations grant us the rate, announcement will be made through the Socialist press.

Those who are strangers in Chicago should write in advance to Comrade Jas. S. Smith, 181 Washington street, Chicago, Ill., and advise him at what time you will reach the city, giving day, railroad and train. They will try to have comrades meet you. Display party button.

WILLIAM MAILLY, National Secretary.

### General Notes

Comrade Stanley Browne, of Deloit, Iowa, reports successful meetings at that place by Prof. Kirkpatrick.

The Socialist vote in Chicago at the municipal election for aldermen was 17,788. Last year it was 11,044.

The Socialist women of Kansas met in conference at Wichita March 30 and organized a state union auxiliary to the Woman's National Socialist Union.

### THE MILWAUKEE VICTORY.

In the municipal election at Milwaukee Comrade Berger, candidate for mayor, received 15,333 votes; nine aldermen, four supervisors, two justices and two constables were elected. The Socialist Labor candidate for mayor received 3,650 votes, most of which, it is claimed, were intended for the Social Democrats, but were cast by mistake for the S. L. P. 18,023 votes out of a total of 60,109 is a showing of which our Milwaukee comrades may well be proud.

Leon, Iowa, April 9.

Dear Comrades: The incidents of an organizing tour at present keeps a fellow hustling, and it is pretty hard to do all the things that should be done. I confidently expected when I started out in Iowa to send weekly accounts of my work, but on the skirmish line we sometimes are kept busy. For instance, here in southern Iowa, the state secretary gave ample notice and did his part manfully to get the slaves together. But they are timid, their hearts have not yet gravitated to the right position. They seem to be afraid of some

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500 Walking Skirts, choice of 50 styles, this week's special price

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## Annex Carpet Dep't.

Now Located in the Store Formerly Occupied by the Thompson Dry Goods Co.

200 \$3.00 Beautiful Rugs Special price this week

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500 Remnants of Cork Linoleums, worth 50c, 60c and 75c per yard, this week per yard,

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5000 Pieces of Lace Curtains on Sale at Cut Prices

imaginary thing and keep quiet until the organizer is on the spot, then the program is made up in a few brief hours and the limited time does not bring the desired results. Here at Leon I got into town and found nothing done. I went personally to the county auditor, told him what I wanted; got the court house and extended a personal invitation to everybody on the street to come, besides personally distributing the hand bills. It being hot, many farmers were in town. I have been out this afternoon getting signatures amongst those who are Socialists for a local. I try to get at least five signatures before the meeting and as many after as possible and here at Leon I find two or three good class-conscious Socialists and quite a number of democratic Socialists, if you know what that is; but they are learning. Comrades of Iowa, if you believe in the righteousness of our cause, be in earnest, don't hesitate; your enthusiasm and sincerity will break down all obstacles. If you have determined to post our bills in all the stores and on telephone poles, they will go there. Fear is the curse of private capitalism; get it out of your hearts, then our organization will grow rapidly. At Clarinda, Comrade Willis, Eighth district committeeman and others are fighting a good fight. Southern and southwestern Iowa are lining up with the river towns, and it is safe to predict that by another year we will have a state wide proletarian movement that will relieve the old fighters of much anxiety.

JNO. W. BENNETT.

Muscatine, Iowa, April 11.

Dear Comrade: Local Muscatine has not had a meeting for two weeks, but will hold our regular meeting Thursday evening, April 14, at our new hall, at which time we expect to take in quite a number of new members, as the Muscatine button cutters to the number of 500 are out of employment, and one can see them standing in bunches on every corner. On Thursday, April 7, one of the saw mills started up and one of the foremen told me that last year they were five men short when they started up, but this year the mill was so full of "hands" that he could not get through. Of course, that is the result of the wage system. These men haven't got anything else but their labor power for sale and when the labor market is glutted the workers must either starve or accept charity and when one reads Jack London's book, which was run serially in Wilshire's Magazine, called the "People of the Abyss," describing the conditions of the people of London, one does not have to wonder but that in a few years hence we will have the same conditions in free America. If ever there was a class of workingmen who are getting it in the neck it is the button cutters. In the first place, they have to cut an unusually large gross, fourteen dozen, and then have all bad buttons counted against them. Of course, the manufacturer does not lose out on the bad buttons. He simply grinds them down to a thinner grade and therefore little is lost. I don't know what to think of this class of workingmen, as a majority of our Socialists work in these factories and have been explaining and teaching Socialism for the last three or four years, but it seems to have had but little effect up to this time. May be after they get good and hungry and after taking a month's vacation, when they go back to work they will listen a little more to the Socialist agitator. Anyway, we are going right ahead with our propaganda, as we don't expect to quit until we accomplish our ends and we also believe there is a limit to all endurance and hope that before the presidential election these button workers will be with us. We will have Comrade Snyder, of Oklahoma, with us on the 25th and expect to have the hall filled and thereby do some good propaganda work.

LEE W. LANG.

Don't Buy Your Spring Suit or Top Coat until you see

## THE NATIONAL CLOTHING AND SHOE HOUSE ::

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We are Headquarters for Union-made Clothing.

Comrades Mrs. Milan and H. E. Fischer will entertain Local Dubuque next Tuesday. Smoke "The Iowa Socialist" 5c cigar. Best in the city. Give it a trial.

Local Dubuque held another experience meeting Tuesday.

David S. Cameron, carpenter. Terms very reasonable. 3130 Pine street.

Eugene V. Debs, Geo. D. Herron, Edward Carpenter, Jean Longuet, Enrico Ferri, H. M. Hyndman, Karl Kautsky, Jack London, and many other well known Socialists have declared The Comrade to be excellent. The Socialist press is continually recommending The Comrade, pointing out its great value to the Socialist movement. Thousands of subscribers have sent us letters expressing their appreciation. The Comrade is a publication you need, no matter what else you are reading. Each number is beautifully illustrated. Published monthly. Subscription price \$1 per year, or 50c to shareholders of The Comrade Co-operative Co. Bound volumes of The Comrade of the first and second year are \$2 or \$1.20 to shareholders, postage 30c extra. Any Socialist may acquire by monthly payments of 50c a \$5 share and thereby enjoy special rates on The Comrade and other Socialist literature. To new subscribers we make this liberal offer: For 50c we will send The Comrade for six months, and free, the first three issues of the third volume, if this publication is mentioned. Comrade Co-operative Company, 11 Cooper Square, N. Y.

### LOCAL MEETINGS

Des Moines Local No. 6 meets second and fourth Sunday afternoons of each month at 3:00 o'clock in Yeoman Hall.

Davenport local meets every first and third Friday in the month at Turner hall. Visitors always welcome. B. W. Wilson, Sec., 821 East 14th street.

Dubuque Local meets every Tuesday evening at 8:00 o'clock at Socialist Headquarters, 6th and Iowa streets.

Sioux City Local meets every Thursday at 7:30 p. m. in Trades and Labor Assembly Hall, fifth floor Opera House Block.

Chances on Two Free Round Trip Tickets to St. Louis World's Fair.

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