

CONVICT LABOR IS ON PAR WITH COOLIE LABOR

CONVICTS AT THE CAPITAL CITY

State Prison Board Bring Convicts to Helena to Work on State Fair Grounds and Buildings--Montana Federation to Act

Convict labor is still an unsolved question in Montana. About forty convicts are being housed at the State Fair grounds near Helena, having been brought from the state prison by Warden Conley, who done so under instructions from the Prison Board. The union men of Helena are on the war path over the matter and threaten to put the State Fair on the unfair list, and a committee of the unions of Butte and Helena in conjunction with President Donahue and Secretary Partelon of the Montana Federation of Labor had a conference with Governor Norris, Attorney General Galen and Secretary of State Yoder. Nothing came of the conference except that the State officials are put on record, and are determined to use the convicts in competition with free labor. The last legislature appropriated \$20,000.00 to maintain State Fair grounds and buildings. This means \$10,000 a year appropriation. The last legislature also passed a bill taking the supervision out of the hands of the State Fair board and gave it to the State Furnishing board, which is composed of the same officials as make up the Prison Board. Every year heretofore the work around the State Fair grounds was done by wage labor but this year the Prison Board decided to have the convicts do the work, regardless of the fact that the last legislature made ample provisions to hire men to do the work. Not only are the convicts working around the State Fair grounds but they are constructing a Boulevard from the fair grounds to the city and are even coming to work within the city limits. The present convict labor law in Montana is rather vicious and has been a dead letter up till recently. The last session of the legislature refused to pass a law legalizing convict labor on highways, but the Prison Board disregarding the wishes of the legislature, take advantage of an old law that gives them power to do as they please, and proceeds to work convicts everywhere and anywhere they please, especially in places where workers are liable to secure means to make a living. There has been a large number of settlers come into Montana during the past year. Some of them have given about all their money for land and the dry season has made crops on new homesteads rather slim. This tends to make towards a large number of unemployed in the state this coming winter and next spring. During the strike that took place in Great Falls recently a large number of the scabs were men from the dry land farms of Cascade and Fergus counties. These men came mostly from Missouri and Illinois within the past year and as dry land farming was not very successful this year and their money about gone they took advantage of the strike in Great Falls to scab on the building laborers. The Montana Federation is to meet in convention on August 15, at Great Falls and this body will deal with the subject of convict labor in this state. The question has reached the stage of practical politics and must and can only be solved by political action. This being the case the Montana Federation of Labor must go into politics this year. The two old parties are in favor of

convict labor. Governor Norris is a democrat, while Attorney General Galen and Secretary of State Yoder are both republicans, thereby giving the republicans a majority on the Prison Board. At the Good Roads convention recently held in Billings, Governor Norris in a speech on good roads and the use of convicts on the roads by the Prison Board, made the statement, "It is up to you gentlemen of the convention to see that the next legislature approves and authorizes the continuance of the work on roads by convicts already commenced by the Prison Board." That statement binds the two old party officials together as far as convict labor is concerned. The Prison Board are forcing the issue and seem desirous of rousing up organized labor and create a sentiment on convict labor in order that the present convict labor laws be repealed or amended to the extent that laws more definite and specific be placed on the statutes. The Prison Board want an appropriation made by the next legislature to build and equip a factory at Deer Lodge to be operated by convicts. This seems to be the end aimed at by our state officials and the delegates to the Montana Federation of Labor convention must be on their guard and not play into the hands of their enemy. Next to state legislature which meets next winter the convention of the Montana Federation of Labor will be the greatest legislative body that will convene in Montana this year. The democrat and republican convention, will be insignificant in comparison to it.

CONVICTS TURN OUT COUNTERFEIT COINS A Class of Work Not Appreciated or Desired by the Advocates of Convict Labor.

Boston, Aug. 10.—How three inmates of the prison at Charleston were able to construct a counterfeit-making outfit and manufacture spurious half dollars has been discovered by secret service officers. Ever since July 21, when the state prison officials discovered that counterfeit half dollars were in circulation in the prison and that some had got outside, an investigation has been under way. At that time it became known that Patrick Stanley of Lynn, who is serving a 25-year sentence as a habitual criminal, was involved. The method of the counterfeiters was ingenious. They secured from unknown sources some scraps of tin and lead, a jeweler's crucible and some plaster of paris. One of the trio has a knowledge of electricity, and it was he who devised the means of melting the metal. He cut in on the electric light wires in Stanley's cell, attached two pieces of carbon and placed them on a small sheet of iron covered with fire-proof cement. On the white-hot carbon the crucible was placed, the metal was melted and the coins were manufactured in a plaster of paris mould. It is supposed that there was an accomplice outside. Kings and nobles and landed proprietors are relics of feudalism in a few years coal barons and steel kings will be relics of a past capitalism.

HALF MILLION DOLLARS WON

United Mine Workers Tenth District Leads. The 10th District, U. M. W. of A., adjourned its convention, Wednesday August 10th, after five weeks' session. The regular business was transacted in ten days, but the adjustment of terms for the next two years, occupied over three weeks. All the delegates stayed on the ground till the Joint Committee's report was received and ratified. Those three weeks were pretty expensive for the Locals, but the results seem to justify the outlay. President Gatz and National Board Member Tom Russell, constituting the Mine Workers' representatives on the Joint Conference, bore a heavy responsibility, but the Convention adjourned with victory achieved. Best Terms in U. S. THE BEST TERMS WERE SECURED FROM THE OPERATORS IN THIS DISTRICT OF ALL THE DISTRICTS IN THE UNITED STATES. Under "General Provisions," the discharge as they never have been before, only fifteen days being allowed the employer to prove his charges against the discharged miner, the day of his idle time, if the charges are later to recover up to ten days' wages not sustained. A miner cannot now

be "fired" for political reasons, or as an "agitator." Another "General Provision" gained is that a mistake in calculating a miner's monthly pay must be rectified within four days and at the place where the mine is located. Heretofore, the company might keep the miner out of his pay for a whole month, and make him travel miles and miles to their office in order to find out whether the error had been corrected. Unpaid Labor Half Million Less. The Wage Scale demands made by the Unions were granted by the operators. THAT IS, 5.55 PER CENT ADVANCE FOR ALL CLASSES OF WORKMEN, ABOVE AND BELOW. HAS BEEN WON FOR THE NEW SCALE. This means, for instance, that the regular underground scale is advanced from \$3.60 per day to \$3.80. To be sure, this is not much, compared to the big amount of Unpaid Labor the coal companies appropriate from these Mine Workers. It is only 20 cents a day, while the owners (mostly Northern Pacific R. R. concerns) extract \$4 to \$5 worth of coal for nothing out of every one of the workers every day they work. Yet 4,000 miners gain 20 cents a day by the new agreement, and that is Eight Hundred Dollars a day and (Continued on page two col. four.)

RESOLUTIONS ON CONVICT LABOR PASSED BY UNIONS

The Montana Prison Board has been snowed under by resolutions from the unions of Montana against convict labor. Space prohibits us from publishing all the resolutions that have come to this office. The following are a few of the resolutions passed by the unions: At a regular meeting of Butte Mill and Smelters' Union No. 74, W. F. of M. held on the 23rd day of June, 1910 the following resolution was adopted. Whereas: Edwn L. Norris, Governor of our State openly and without hesitation recommended to the Prison Board the employment of convict labor on the roads and other work of the state, and Whereas: Under his instruction, been and are now employed on the roads and other work of the state in competition with free labor therefore be it Resolved: That we, the Butte Mill and Smelters' Union No. 74, do hereby condemn this action of Gov. Norris and the Prison Board for causing convict labor to be used in this state as being in opposition to the best interests of the great majority of the citizens of the state and especially to our principles as Union men, and further Resolved: That we consider the employment of such labor in preference to free union labor as a direct infringement on our inherent rights as free men and a great disadvantage to us in obtaining employment which is our means of support, and we will, in the future, remember this action of the officials of the state. John H. Matheson, President. A. M. Fluett, Secretary Treasurer. The following resolution was adopted by the Silver Bow Trades Assembly and addressed to the Prison Board. We, the members of the Silver Bow Trades Assembly, hereby advise the Prison Board of this state favoring or favoring to the employment of state or county prisoners upon the highways of the state or in any other cap-

acity. We, the workers, know that their employment in this class of work will drive many workers out of this field of employment; that the employment of state or county prisoners in this work brings such prisoners in to direct competition with free workers; that it will debar many men from earning a possible livelihood. "Thousands of free workers are now idle in the state of Montana. To employ prisoners in any capacity that enters into the competition for jobs will increase the number of the unemployed in a community. "Today free men are seeking the privilege of work in order that they may live. We, the free workers, demand your board protect those free men seeking employment, give employment to free men, rather than to attempt to take from them, by the employment of prisoners, the small wages paid to them for this class of labor so necessary to maintain them and their families." Wm. O' Brian, President. Oscar M. Partelow, Secretary. The following is the full text of the resolution adopted by the Butte Miners' union protesting against the employment of convicts on roads in Montana: To the Officers and Members Butte Miners' Union, No. W. F. of M.: Whereas, Having seen and read the recommendations of our governor, Edwin L. Norris, to the roads commission, and his unqualified endorsement of the employment of state convicts in building said roads, and Whereas, We believe implicitly that those recommendations, if concurred in and carried out accordingly, will mean a popular uprisal and revolution of feeling such as was exhibited some 14 years ago when convicts and what are euphoniously known to the law as "vags" were seen in the streets of the cities of our state, with ball and chain attached, doing the work for which the taxpayers of Montana could and should hire honest labor. Mere Subterfuge. And we further believe that the statement of our governor to the effect that a sufficient amount of money

SOCIALIST CITY COUNCIL AT WORK

Milwaukee Paving the Way for the Ideal City of the Future--How Money Is Being Secured to Advance the Work

Here is an amusing little incident of the new administration. During the last campaign, a certain Milwaukee anti-Socialist lawyer in the last city campaign was awfully concerned about the incompetency of the Social-Democratic candidate for city attorney. But the voters of Milwaukee did not listen to the plaintiff, they elected our candidate Comrade Hoan to the city attorney's office. Now one of the first cases that Com. Hoan tried was the case against the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway to compel it to lower its tracks through the city thus protecting the lives of the people and especially the working men on their way to work and children on their way to school. And one of the lawyers on the side of the railway happened to be this very anti-socialist lawyer who was so much worried about Comrade Hoan's incompetency. He does not worry about it any more. Comrade Hoan won the case, and he lost. Is anybody else worrying lest the socialist administration of Milwaukee should prove incompetent? He may as well calm his fears. The way socialists are handling a department is enough to silence half the objections that have ever been made to putting socialists in power--especially the objection that only private owners can manage big business successfully. It is true that the power of the socialists in Milwaukee does not go very much further than their power—for the capitalist politicians are much afraid that the socialists will catch them if they don't watch out. This is undoubtedly the reason that since the socialists carried Milwaukee a difference has been noticed even in the courts. Suits brought under various factory laws for the protection of children, cases against child labor, ect. are receiving much more attention than ever before. This is not because the courts love the working class any better than they did before April 5th. But—they are learning a little wholesome apprehension. Some socialists outside of Milwaukee were a little disturbed because Mayor Seidel took an expert for the office of health commissioner, instead of a dyed-in-the-wool socialist. These comrades forget that hygienic laws are not governed by the law of surplus value. For such a department as the board of public works, however, there may be reasons why a socialist can do the best work. It is therefore gratifying that Comrade Harry E. Briggs has been chosen to that office. One of his first acts was to choose Comrade J. J. Handley as his assistant. His second act will be to eliminate all waste in his department. The practice of buying everything needed in the department at retail prices has prevailed heretofore, to the profit of many private concerns, and to the loss of the city. Comrade Briggs will establish a buying department, which will have charge of all purchases made and will be directly responsible for economic management. This is one of the ways in which the socialists are stopping up all the little leaks—in order to have funds for the big things that we are planning. A far more important means of stopping the leaks is the measure introduced by Comrade Victor L. Berger in the Milwaukee Common Council.

This provides for the unit system of cost-keeping. It will doubtless pass the Council at its next meeting. "Every trust", Berger says, 'has this system. The difference between Milwaukee and the trusts will be that the trusts adopt it for purely financial reasons, while Milwaukee will adopt it from the standpoint of political economist'. This method, together with the other smaller economies of the various departments, will undoubtedly furnish money enough to inaugurate the big municipal housing plan now proposed by our socialists. Thus the greatest and grandest of all projects ever yet undertaken in this country will be started in Milwaukee— a project for providing beautiful and sanitary homes to the working class at cost. In connection with this work of stopping the leaks, it is worth noting that our socialist city attorney has dug up an old provision in the franchise of the street railway company, which requires that every car run shall carry a license. These licenses would cost \$15. each. Somehow, this provision was most conveniently forgotten under all the capitalist administration of the last ten years. Only when the socialists came into office, was it unburied, to the discomfiture of the street railway boss. Of course, the point will be contested in the courts. But the capitalist exploiters and grafters are beginning to find that court decisions do not always go in their favor nowadays. The one lone socialist on the Park Board is making things lively. The majority of the board holds over from the last administration. But our one newly appointed socialist is stirring things up to the best of his ability. For instance, he is demanding an investigation of the kind of truck which is sold as food and beverages in the parks. He says that more care is taken in feeding the animals in the Zoo than in feeding children in the parks of Milwaukee. Thus our men, each in his own line is pushing the work forward. We have to begin with little things. Put the Milwaukee socialist have always won by being "faithful in that which is least". This is the reason why they have been made "rulers over men." Verily the Socialists are no respecters of persons. . . The street railway king of Milwaukee—the man who has always run the city according to his own notions and for the profit of his company— has been arrested by order of the Socialist Mayor and the Socialist City Attorney. This is about as impressive a spectacle in Milwaukee as if Kaiser Wilhelm should be arrested in Berlin. This mighty street car magnet John I. Boggs, besides running his cars when and how he pleased, and as crowded and as dirty as he pleased, has also completely defied the provision which requires every street car in Milwaukee to carry a license. Accordingly the Socialist City Attorney has begun an action against him to recover the back dues for these licenses. As they have not been collected for over twelve years, the amount due the city is over \$70,000. At the same time a criminal suit was brought against Mr. Boggs for (Continued on Page 4.)



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**OLD PARTY PRESS AND CONVICT LABOR**

"An example of how unreasonable and how inconsistent are the labor unions in dealing with the employment of convicts outside the state penitentiary was given at the conference held between the members of the prison board and representatives of the Silver Bow Trades and Labor Assembly and the Helena Trades and Labor Assembly held in Helena last Tuesday. The representatives objected to the convicts being employed in road building because they had built two or three small concrete bridges on a road that would never have been constructed had the convicts not been used, claiming their concrete work was a work that should have been done by outside labor—costing probably one or two hundred dollars had union men done it. At the same time these representatives suggested that it would be a good idea for a state farm to be provided upon which convicts might grow all the food stuffs, or a large part of it, used at the penitentiary, which policy would eliminate the market for the farmers in the vicinity of the prison for such food stuffs, amounting to thousands of dollars yearly. In other words, let alone work that may give union men a few 'score dollars' worth of work, but give them work that will take thousands of dollars' worth of business from farmers who are not affiliated with labor unions. Oh fudge.—Dillon Tribune."

The Tribune is one of those union hating sheets that is always trying to belittle organized labor and create a sentiment against the unions.

We would advise the editor of the Tribune that there are very few farmers in the neighborhood of the State prison, all the land in the vicinity being held in large tracts for speculation and bonanza farms by the feudal lords of the Deer Lodge Valley. However for the information of the Tribune we will say that last winter there was some eighty or one hundred convicts were working on the farms of Conley and Mactague. According to press reports six months ago, Conley and Mactague sold to Beilenburg of Deer Lodge 2,600 head of cattle. Now Beilenburg has the contract to supply the State Prison with beef. The question now arises, Did Conley and MacFague or Beilenburg or the convicts raise the beef that the state prisoners consumed? Undoubtedly the convicts raised some of the beef and the State paid for the beef the convicts ate. Who got this money for the beef the convicts ate? The State paid Beilenburg, Beilenburg paid Conley and Mactague. Who paid the convicts? One of the greatest live stock displays at the last State Fair exhibited by an individual was by Conley, from the farm of Conley and MacFague, and all the fine cattle and horses were raised and fed by convict labor, of course the Tribune has nothing to say against this kind of competition that the farmers of Powell and Deer Lodge Counties have had to contend against, perhaps it is against the interests of the political bosses of the Tribune for that paper to tell its readers of the great grafts that have been going on in the state. If the editor of the Tribune wants to be fair and a champion of the people let him go to Deer Lodge and make an investigation of this condition of affairs and the position that the farmers in that vicinity have had to contend with during the past twenty years. Organized Labor is fighting the battles of the farmer of Powell and Deer Lodge Counties when it takes up the fight against convict labor.

"Convict labor, long a matter of discussion in other states, is now a live issue in Montana and the politicians are stepping sideways. Nothing puts a politician on the anxious seat like a brush with the labor ques-

tion as the sponsors of labor, the unions, are ever ready for a bout. There is in all labor unions an element that loves strife and is never satisfied unless involved in a controversy of some nature. This element in times of peace is compelled to pursue an even tenor and endeavor to work in harmony with employers, a monotonous program to be sure, so that the slightest pretext for an upheaval is welcomed. The issue today raises from the proposal to set the convicts of Montana to work building roads. The prison at Deer Lodge is filled to overflowing, the roads for which there is no appropriation deserve attention, what can be wrong with the suggestion to put the convicts to work upon these public highways? Convict labor upon the roads of Montana in no way will interfere with the workingmen of this state. It is not depriving the latter of work because nobody is at present employed thereon and never will be as funds are not available for the purpose. By all means let us have better roads since it will cost nothing and injure nobody."—Valier Vallerian

Valier is one of the points in the state that has been advertised as a home seekers paradise. Large irrigation companies have land to sell to the eastern land hungry people and dry farming has great opportunities. Large numbers of people have settled in and around Valier during the past year, everyone of them endeavoring to establish themselves on farms. Owing to the exceedingly dry season that has prevailed this year, the late settlers have been unable to grow a crop and have to give up farming this summer and go out and seek work elsewhere in order to make a living. Reports coming to this office are to the effect that 500 people who settled in and around Valier during the past year have had to leave, on account of failure of crops brought about by the excessive drouth.

How much better it would be for the Valier Vallerian to work in harmony with organized labor and have good roads built everywhere by wage labor and not with convict labor. In this way these new comers into the state would have a chance to secure work for themselves and teams at home, instead of having to go out and spend their all that is left of their savings looking for work.

In the northern part of the state along the Great Northern Railway the homesteaders are asking the Secretary of Agriculture to secure them a leave of absence for one year from their homesteads in order that they may look for work at wages, so that they can get enough to give them a grub stake to tart over again on their homesteads.

We would not be surprised to see the Valerian advocating the convicts being transported to Valier to work on some of the large irrigating companies ditches.

The Valerian is a cheap guy for advocating cheap labor. Wonder how the editor of the Valerian would like to compete with convict labor?

The republican and democrat papers of Montana are trying to make the election of a U. S. Senator the issue of the campaign.

The Montana News, the only socialist paper published in the state has made convict labor an issue and the old parties cant evade it now.

Union men all over the state are saying, "The question I will ask the candidates for the legislature is. How do you stand on convict labor? How do you care who he votes for U. S. Senator." Convict labor is an economic question with the wage worker and it is an immediate demand. Convict labor threatens the bread and butter of the workers and their families and that more than any thing else demands his attention at present. The election of a U. S. Senator will only be a side issue to organized labor in Montana this year.

The working man or professed socialist who tries to kill a labor or socialist paper is on par with a strike breaker. We have a few such vermin in Montana and they have the gall to call themselves class conscious.

The Montana News is the oldest labor paper in the State. It leads but follows none. In many a fray the News has been in, it has always been in the thickest of the fight, battling uncompromisingly for the working class.

With one exception every old party paper in the state is advocating convict labor. Wonder how long these papers would run if they had to depend on convicts for subscriptions, or how long their advertising patronage would last if the advertisements were read wholly by convicts.

The capitalists would feed the workers on their sympathy. What the workers want is for the capitalists to stop feeding themselves off what the workers produce.

**Laissez Faire.**  
By Robert Hunter.

The above is the name of a polittic that the powerful claim that they believe in.

It means, 'Let Alone'. It means that the community must not interfere in behalf of the weak, nor in aid of the strong.

It is the polittic upon which our government is said to be founded and it has been called the polittic of 'Everybody for himself and the devil take the hindmost.'

Those who are successful say that it is a fine doctrine, that it means, unlimited competition, unlimited struggle, und the survival of the fit.

They say everyone should have freedom to battle and to win, if he can. And they claim that Laissez Faire permits a free race in which the swift always wins. And so Bryan and Taft, annon and Aldrich, and nearly all the leaders of both parties, say they believe in Laissez Faire.

When the the judges declare unconstitutional laws limiting the hours of work, they speak in the name of Laissez Faire.

When the trusts want to escape the law they plead in the name of Laissez Faire.

When the rich fight Socialism they say it is because Socialism would hurt Laissez Faire.

And who is this Laissez Faire anyhow that has become such a terrible bogie?

Well I'll tell you. It is a secret, but I tell you. He doesn't exist. He is just gas and wind. He is a goblin.

If Jack Johnson should go to Mr. Rockefeller's estate and beat up Mr. Rockefeller and take his property away from him, Mr. Rockefeller would run to the courts not to Laissez Faire.

If the workers were to gain control of congress and do away with the protective tariff, the powerful would denounce Laissez Faire.

And so the rich not believing in Laissez Faire have built up about themselves every kind of protection.

They protect their gold with steel vaults and granite buildings, they protect their industries with a Chinese wall called the tariff.

They protect their houses and estates by private property laws, by police and militia.

They protect property by owning political machines and political bosses.

They protect labor loot through lying politicians, corrupt legislatures and corrupt judges.

They protect their interests by lying newspapers and lying books and false philosophies.

They destroy Laissez Faire to get rich and barricade themselves behind Laissez Faire to keep rich.

They fight for special legislation, special franchises and special grants, but when the poor do come they comfort them with Laissez Faire.

They protect themselves with rebates, by special favors, special education, special doctors and special laws.

They believe that for themselves there is need of every aid the government can give, but for those they oppose they believe in Laissez Faire.

They believe in bounties, subsidies, high tariffs, special laws, corrupt judges, political bosses, for themselves but the poor, they are convinced, should paddle their own canoe.

They believe in loaded dice when they throw them; in marked cards when they play them; in stuffed ballot boxes when they stuff them; in corrupt judges when they own them.

Socialism means liberty to the workers Capitalism means wage slavery.

**HALF A MILLION WON.**  
(Continued from page one.)

Two Hundred and Forty Thousand Dollars a year of 300 days, or a half million during the next two years while this agreement lasts.

We say, Bully for the boys who won a half million more dollars for their exploited class out of the profits of the bloated bondholders of the Capitalist class.

**7 1-2 Millions Still Unpaid.**

But look at the other side, the mine owners' side, of that half million. Roslyn coal retails in Seattle for 5 and 6 dollars a ton at the N. P. bunkers. The Miners' scale per ton is less than one dollar. Suppose it costs another dollar of wage labor to get the coal from the mine to the bunkers. There s 3 to 4 dollars' worth of Unpaid Labor (or "Surplus Value," Mr. Gompers) from every miner every day. For 4,000 miners that amounts to Twelve Thousand Dollars every day of Unpaid Labor appropriated, stolen, from the Organized Miners of District No. 10 alone. That means Four Millions a year of 300 days, or Eight Millions in two years. That is Graft, if you please; quite a bit of "Something for Nothing."

**Poor Jim Hill.**

Our boys of the 10th District got one-half of a million out of this Eight Million, all of which belonged to them—and left 7 1-2 Millions to the operators—for nothing; for nothing, remember. You miners produced it, all this seven and a half million dollar's worth of coal, but you made a present of all those millions to the Northern Pacific, the poor Jim Hills and his German capitalist backers, Kaiser Wilhelm among them, it is said.

Yet they say many miners in this district were afraid to ask for more than 5.55 advance, and some of them too timid to ask for even that. But Gatz and Russell, luckily, didn't belong to that timid lot.

No wonder the Mine Owners and their "Labor Commissioner" Burke (a former mine worker, now on \$4,000 salary from the operators to fight his own brothers), no wonder these owners want to get rid of the radicals, like Gatz and Russell, who believe in forcing every possible concession from their employers.

Again we say, Bully for the Boys who beat Burke and his Bunch! May their tribe increase.—Seattle Socialist.

**Monkey vs. Man.**

Go to the monkey, thou voter, consider his ways and be wise. Do the monkeys pay ground rent to the descendant of the first old ape who discovered the valleys where the monkeys live?

Do they hire the trees from the chimpanzee who first found the forest?

Do they buy coconuts from the great-great grandchildren of the porilla who invented a way to crack them?

Do they allow two or three monkeys to form a corporation and obtain control of all the paths that lead through the woods?

Do they permit some smart young monkey, with superior business ability to claim all the springs of water in the forest as his own, because of some alleged bargain made by their ancestors 500 years ago?

Do they allow a smart gang of monkeys lawyers to so tangle up the conceptions of the ownership that a few will obtain possession of everything?

Do they appoint a few monkeys to govern them and then allow those appointed monkeys to rob the tribe and mismanage all of its affairs?

Do they build up a monkey city and then hand over the land, and the paths, and the trees, and the springs, and the fruits, to a few monkeys who sat on a log and chattered while all the work was going on?

Strikes are dangerous things. They mean much suffering. Let the private ownership of the means of production be abolished and let the working classes be put in control of the things with which they must work. Then strikes will cease, for how can workers strike against themselves?

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Poet's Corner

ONLY.

(The following poem from the London Clarion emphasizes the extent to which the capitalist system preserves the purity of the home, and provides the incentive for individual improvement.)

Only a woman—wan and wild—  
With body foul and soul defiled,  
Gliding along the city street,  
All numbed with cold and drenched  
with sleet.

Who is this child of woe—pray tell?  
"Only a harlot fit for hell."  
Only a drunkard, gray and old,  
Only an attic bare and cold,  
A scene of sin, death and decay—  
What means this ghastly vision—  
pray?

The church replies without a grown,  
"A man must reap as he has sown."  
Only a dim-eyed weary soul,  
Toiling to earn a paltry dole  
Slaving all day, and half the night,  
Her life one bitter, endless fight.  
But lo, an answer is to hand:  
'Because supply demand.'

Only a baby born—to love—  
With a soul more pure than saints  
above,  
Condemned to suffering, grief and  
pain,  
Till dust returns to dust again.  
The law says with impartial air,  
"The child its parents guilt must  
share."

Only a harlot and a slave—  
No peace for them except the grave.  
Only an infant and a sot—  
Cast them aside, it matters not.  
Leave them to sin, work, drink and  
die—

Why should we trouble—you and I.  
Only four souls once pure and white,  
Now sunk to depths of blackest  
night;  
Once raised to heaven, now thrust to  
hell;  
Once fit with gods—now fiends—to  
dwell.

Souls such as these for pity cry.  
Shall we not listen—you and I.

A Book that Should be Read.

"Those who maintain that existing social inequalities are natural and proper and the result of the recognition by society that intelligence, or abilities, or superiority of any kind, deserves due to be rewarded, are if they only knew it, going back to natural justice, to the law of the strongest, that prevails in the animal world.

After all that has been said about justice, I have never yet seen a statement of the real principle that underlies it, not a truly philosophical or fundamental definition of justice. The true definition of justice is that it is the enforcement by society of an artificial equality in social conditions which are naturally unequal. By it the strong are forcibly shorn of their power to exploit the weak. The same reasoning which defends existing inequalities would logically condemn all civil justice. As a matter of fact and history, the enforcement of justice by society has always been resisted by the strong and denounced as an outrage upon their right to reap the fruits of their superior physical and intellectual power. Thus the claim that the superior intelligence of certain members of society justifies the social inequalities that make up most of the world does not differ in that respect from the claim of the physically strongest men in a barbaric race to seize and possess the handsomest woman and the finest oxen."—Applied Sociology, pp. 22-23.—By Lester F. Ward, price \$2.75.

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FARMERS AND CITY WAGE WORKERS

One common danger confronts the workers of the world. The present capitalist system is as much a menace to the workers who earn their bread upon the farm as it is to the workers in the factory, mill or mine. These two sections of the working class—the city worker and the agricultural worker, the wage-earner and the farmer—must join forces and work together, or capitalism will crush them both.

Heretofore the wage-worker and farmer have not worked together. They have been inclined to regard each other as having conflicting interests. The farmer has had to hire help, and he observed that the labor wages went up; so he concluded that the wage-earner, on the other hand, getting higher prices for his wheat, his cattle and hogs, and corn, which increased the cost of living. So the wage-earner sometimes concluded that the farmer was his enemy.

It is true the labor union is the organized effort of the wage-earner class to keep wages up. It is also true that farmers are interested in receiving higher prices for the wheat, corn, cattle, hogs, etc., that they raise.

But it is capitalism that defeats both. It is capitalism that prevents the raise of wages at the same time keeps down prices of the farmer's products. On one and the same day the meat trust puts down the price of cattle to the farmer, puts up the price of meat to the people and reduces the wages of the toilers.

The trust is the common foe. It is not the labor union that keeps down the price of the farm products. It is the trust. It is the meat trust, the sugar trust, the railway trust, the elevator trust, the farm machinery trust, etc. If it were not for the private monopoly that stands between the producer and the consumer and robs them both, wages could be higher, and the returns to the farmer could be greatly increased—both at the same time. If it were not for the almost unlimited exploitation of the farmer by the railroad monopoly, the farm machinery trust, the cordage trust, the money trust, the coal, oil, sugar and all the other trusts, the farmer could pay his hired man more than he does and still have twice the returns for his own labor. It is not the labor union and the farmer who are enemies. They have one common enemy—the trust, the monopoly—the capitalistic system.

Let us consider how capitalism works the game. It robs the farmer in one way and the wage-earner in another. But it gets them both all the same.

**How Capitalism Robs the Farmer**

The farmer—the worker "whose feet know only the fields' rough floor, and yet sends lordly steps down echoing corridors"—the farmer, for his produce, and whatever necessities of life the farm does not produce. At every one of these points capitalism is grinding the farmer. By seizing and monopolizing all the land possible, capitalism is making it more difficult every year for those who would earn a living by farming to get hold of land. 300,000,000 acres of rich farm land are already monopolized by capitalists, railway companies and the like. And from now on this will become more and more serious, because the free land is all gone. Henceforth to get land those who start in farming will have to buy. The price is going constantly higher. The beginners will be compelled to borrow money to buy. And so the money powers will grind them in both ways.

The farmers must have machinery. But the International Harvester trust is monopolizing that business and charging excessive prices. The farmer must store and market his produce. But the elevator trust over-charges for storage, the railway trust over-charges for transportation—at least ten times what it costs; and the meat trust takes all the profit on cattle raising. The farmer must have clothes, sugar, oil, nails, wire, lumber, etc. But every one of these is controlled by a trust and every one of them compels the "horny-handed son of toil, to divide up, so as to make more profit for the trust.

No wonder the farmer works hard and gets but little to show for it. No wonder his wife is a slave and his children often driven to work in the fields and denied opportunity for education.

But let the farmer understand distinctly what it is that oppresses him. Let him understand that it is neither the wage-worker or the labor union. It is capitalism, the private monopoly and distribution.

Is the labor union responsible for the rise in price of such things as coal, meat, etc. It is not the labor union. That cry is simply an excuse of the capitalists to put up prices and then lay the blame on the unions. It is unquestionably true that the big corporations sometimes goad the workers into a strike for the purpose of having an excuse to raise prices. At any rate it is true that a coal strike or

a meat strike enables the coal or the meat trust to enormously increase profits at the expense of the people. And at the same time a systematic effort is always made to stir up the prejudice of the people against the workers by laying the blame on the unions, where it does not belong.

So it is capitalism that prevents the improvement of the farmer's condition by robbing him of the products of his toil.

But at the same time that capitalism is exploiting the farmers in the ways above suggested it is also exploiting the laborer.

**How Capitalism Robs the Wage Worker**

Capitalism knows no god but profit or dividend. It must make profit. To do so it must keep wages down, make the hours of labor as long as possible and the prices of the resulting products as high as possible. To accomplish these things capitalism must not only control all opportunities of labor, but must also control the market. Capitalism has already done this. A comparatively few men today own all the means of employment—the mines, mills, factories, forests, railways, etc. And because these few capitalists, in solid compact and agreement, own and monopolize all the opportunities for labor, therefore it becomes more and more impossible for labor to live except upon terms which they shall dictate. Hence wages are what they determine them to be. Hours of labor and conditions are the same. The workers are at the mercy of the capitalist class, who own the means of their employment, the things without which they cannot labor or live.

And, by force of the innate and natural desire of the capitalist class to secure more profit and greater dividend, there is a constant pressure upon the workers to force wages down to increase hours of labor, to increase woman's labor and child labor. And capitalists are compactly organized in order to enforce these things. Before such conditions the wage-workers are helpless unless organized.

The labor union is the conscious and organized effort of the workers to meet these conditions and protect their class from the increasing tyranny and the ruthless overriding of capitalism. It is the effort to unite the workers in a fraternity of mutual assistance in the presence of a great, threatening common disaster. They have organized to help each other. They have undertaken to keep wages up to shorten hours of labor, to prevent child labor, to secure better sanitary conditions. They have helped the sick and ministered to their brothers in hours of bereavement. They have stood together and raised wages or prevented the monopoly and trusts from decreasing them. They have stood for compulsory education and sought to raise the intellectual and moral standard of the workers. By the use of the union label they have enabled the public to have a means of knowing what goods are manufactured under fair conditions. They have made a stand against the brutal system that drives men to drink, women to prostitution and children to pauper home, through the reduction of wages to such a degree that the toilers cannot live proper lives.

In short, the labor union is the organized stand of the working class for justice, the stand they make against the conditions that would otherwise degrade workers and engulf us all.

**Why Farmers Should Stand by the Labor Unions**

Now all of this concerns the farming class. The labor unions are trying to keep wages from being pushed constantly downward to the starvation point. If the unions fail, if wages go down what then? Why the wage-earners are unable to buy as much meat or bread, or clothes, or fuel, or lumber, and the farmer's market is destroyed. A blow at the labor union is a blow at the farmer's market. There are 20,000,000 wage-earners in America. If you allow the wages of these men and women to be reduced ten cents today and another ten cents tomorrow, you have decreased their purchasing power and to that extent you have destroyed the market.

When the market begins to fail, prices tumble and hard times come again. And then, of course, every capitalist newspaper and every trust hireling declares with great bluster that the labor union is the cause of it all. And many of the farming class believe it. The wily politician knows that if they can only keep the workers of the farms arrayed against the workers of the cities neither class can protect themselves. So they try to make the farmers believe that their hardships are all due to the "damned labor unions."

This is untrue. And the farmer is beginning to see it. The wage earners everywhere are learning new and important lessons. They see that there is only one way to succeed, and

that is to unite the workers of every class into one common organization. It should be plain that this movement must unite all the elements that are suffering from the private ownership of the means of production and that it must not attack the individual capitalist, monopoly or trust, but must unite upon a program that shall strike at the roots of the system that breeds, nourishes and perpetuates the monopoly and trust. The wage-workers are beginning to see clearly every where that the private monopolization and manipulation of the railways, factories, mines, elevators, mills, etc., is destroying the working class and at the same time undermining the republic. They are now organizing their forces to put an end to capitalism.

**City Labor and the Farmer**

The farmer should be interested in the fact that, owing to the tendency of the population to gather in the cities it is inevitable that many of his children should find their way to the city life.

The invention of labor-saving machinery has its effect on the farm as well as in the city. The use of this machinery makes it possible for one man to do the work which formerly required fourteen men on the farm. This, added to the hardships of farm life and labor, leads the majority of those who are raised on the farms to find their way to the city. This being the case, these farmer boys and girls who enter into the same conditions as those who were raised in the city are compelled to take up the same fight for a living. The strikes and boycotts of the union movement are undertaken for the benefit of all wage-workers, whether they come from the city or the country, and in the degree that these efforts succeed benefits follow to all members of the working class.

One of the principle lines of effort under taken by the trade-union movement is directed towards the reduction of the hours of labor. There are many reasons for this. In some cases the nature of the employment furnishes a sanitary reason, as in industries where poisonous chemicals are used in the process of manufacture. In other industries the excessive toil and terrific muscular and nervous strain are of such character as to destroy human life and actually reduce the age limit of those employed. The reduction of the hours of labor in these cases is a matter of common humanity adding years of useful life to those who benefit thereby, and reducing the number of mental, physical and moral wrecks to be taken care of by society. Another reason for this effort to reduce the working hours is the effect of labor-saving machinery. This machinery employs 15,000,000 horse-power in this country alone, which means that for every working person there is the equivalent of seventeen other persons' energy employed alongside of him. We need not tell you that the average life has not been improved in its condition or in its supply of necessities and comforts seventeen times. On the contrary, this immense increase in productivity has been made the reason for the displacement of workmen and the creation of the vast army of tramps that infest our land today. Mark Hanna said truly, "there are two men for every job," and Mark Hanna usually knew what he was talking about. There is but one way under present conditions to make any possible opportunity for those who have been displaced, and that is to shorten the hours of those employed and thus make place for some of the unemployed. This is one of the efforts of the labor union in the interest of those who do the work, and who must have an opportunity to work if they are to have an honest living.

Another reason for this effort towards a reduction of hours is the immigration which is being forced upon this country through the agency of the great steamship lines, undoubtedly at the solicitation of the employers of labor in such industries as coal mining, iron mining, etc. These floods of human beings, with minds and hands like yours, should be a blessing to as great a land as the United States, if they were properly employed and the product of their labor used to educate their children. But when their cheap method is used as an excuse for lowering wages, and their ignorance and previous hardships are made an excuse for long hours of labor in this land, they are made a curse to themselves, their children and to the rest of the working population of the country. The reduction of the working hours, compelling the employment of more men, would raise the price of labor by increasing the demand somewhat; would give more leisure to those who work, more time to think, more liberty for life, and this would be felt not only by the factory slave, the prisoner of the mine, the mill, the machine and the shop, but the benefits would flow out across the land to all who live by labor.

Perhaps the greatest menace of our time is the growing tendency to limit

the provisions for the proper education of the child. This speaks in two ways, each of which supplements the other. In the first place the perfection of modern machinery is such that it makes it possible for a child to do the work, by the aid of machinery, that formerly required many men in its performance. This furnishes a reason for poor parents who are thrown out of employment, or whose already scant income is reduced by the introduction of machines, to send their children to the machines, and enlarge their family income. On the other hand, there is a growing tendency on the part of the owners of wealth of all kinds to refuse to pay taxes necessary for the erection, maintenance and proper equipment of sufficient schools for the education of the children. The fight recently carried on in Chicago by the teachers themselves has proven this, and in every other city similar conditions exist.

The labor unions have made it a part of their program to try to secure legislation which shall provide in city, state and the nation for an efficient limitation of child labor on the one hand and for the compulsory education of children on the other hand. Surely, any intelligent man who wishes to maintain the present standard of civilization will want to help any such efforts as these. Certainly he cannot afford to antagonize such efforts.

**Wage-Workers and Farm-Workers Must Unite**

Capitalism is crushing both the farmer and the wage-worker. They must unite against it. The wage-workers are using less and less the strike and boycott, and are more and more uniting and concentrating their political power. They see that the strike, to be successful, must be made at the ballot-box. So they are carrying the struggle against capitalism on to the political field. And there they have the advantage, because they have the numbers. They want the people who use the means of life and labor to own them. They seek the public necessities. But to secure that they must first get the power of government out of the hands of the capitalist class. And to do that they must unite politically. This they are doing. And today the wage-workers are organizing

and disciplining an independent political party of the working class, to wrest the legislatures, the courts, the municipal councils out of the hands of the millionaires and use these powers to establish the public ownership of public necessities. This will put an end to capitalism.

This is the New Trade Unionism and with this the farmer should at once heartily unite.

Here is the common foe. In various ways before this the agricultural class of America have grappled with modern capitalism. The Grange, the Alliance and the Populist movement were all efforts of the farming class against capitalism. All were unsuccessful. And the reason for the failure of those efforts was the fact that the very nature of the case made them farmers' movements—and there are not enough farmers to win an economic or political battle. Exactly the same is true of the American wage-earning class, and about forty per cent. of the voters in the agricultural class. Neither class could ever win alone. They can never win until they unite. They must unite. For sooner or later every class struggle becomes a political struggle. The capitalist class long ago took its interest into politics. And because the working class has not taken its interests into politics the capitalist politicians have everywhere simply used the workers politically. They divide the workers on false issues and by false promises keep them divided. They play one part of the working class against the other; vote half Republican, the other half Democrat, and in either case always get men into office who favor the monopoly and trust, while professing great friendship and devotion to the "dear people."

It is in the way, by keeping the workers on the farm and the workers in the industrial centers from coming to understand each other, that the capitalists prevent them from uniting. And so long as they are not united neither can escape from the present oppression of capitalism.

And, when thus informed upon the principles and the program which is uniting the workers of the world, the farmer should find his place in the union and enter with us in the struggle that shall give us at last the Co-operative Commonwealth.

HOW WE LIVE

Pierced by the pintrust.  
Chilled by the icetrust.  
Roasted by the coaltrust.  
Soaked by the soap trust.  
Doped by the drugtrust.  
(W)rapped by the papertrust.  
Bullied by the beeftrust.  
Lighted by the oiltrust.  
Squeezed by the corset trust.  
Soured by the pickletrust.  
Pierced by the pintrust.

The railroad, steamboat, telephone, automobile and flying machine have to do down all the geographical boundary lines. With the disappearance of natural boundary lines nation from nation become absurd. Modern inventions have made nations, to be cherished in the breasts of sentimental patriotism an artificial sentiment, to be cherished in the breasts of the ignorant because of their ignorance, and to be blantly paraded forth by the capitalists for selfish end

**A Union Man NO LONGER**

**BUCKS**

at

**BUCK'S STOVES**

because they

**ARE FAIR**



LOCAL DEPARTMENT

A MINER PROTESTS AGAINST STATE INSURANCE LAW

Mr. Editor: As one of the miners of this State, I am grieved to see such a bill pass the legislature as the one passed on March 4, 1909—the act to create a State Accident Insurance and Total Permanent Disability Fund for coal miners and employees at coal washers in Montana. One per cent. to be deducted from our gross earnings and one cent per ton on the tonnage of coal mined and shipped or sold locally to be paid by the company into the same fund under the supervision of one head—the State Auditor.

If this act of compulsion by the State taking one per cent of our gross earnings were going to better our conditions in and about the mines, I should say: let it be. But with my 20 years experience in the mines I fail to see it. Hence its weakness.

The question might be asked: did the Montana miners stand by and allow such a bill to go through? I can say without fear of contradiction that the majority if not all did not know that such a measure was in existence and those who promoted it took good care not to have it known. If anyone had hinted to me that the operators had their fingers in it I have taken it all in and digested it as the bill to my mind indirectly holds the miner liable for all injuries he may receive while in their employment. But the question is: will the act make the company have better airway, better roadway? Will it make safer methods of digging coal in 10 feet veins? Will it make it safer for those men who go down with their lives in their hands every morning to produce a little more for these people who own the mines when he—the miner—gets only the necessities of life and these by severe struggle?

When we get hold of a State mining law book published in 1910 and find it contains the above mentioned law, what can we expect with all the advanced ideas of coal mining that there should be room in a State book for such a tommy-rot of a thing?

What we want is a law to prevent accident and hold those liable who in all reason ought to be. Then, if a miner or mine laborer is unfortunate enough to meet with an accident, give him what he is entitled to and that is—half of his earnings before the accident. Then and only then, will the operators see to the safer conditions in and around their mines and many of those horrible disasters will be avoided.

With best wishes for the News I remain yours truly. A Bridger Miner.

The Labor Day issue of the Montana News will be a hummer. Every socialist local and propagandist should order a bundle for distribution. Extra copies in bundle at the rate of one cent a copy. Send in your orders at once.

The Woman's Portion An address delivered in Carnegie Hall New York City, February 27, 1910 by Franklin H. Wentworth, under the auspices of the Women of the Socialist Party, has been printed in pamphlet form and can be purchased for ten cents from the Socialistic Corporation Publishing Association, 15 Spruce St. New York, N. Y.

Everyone who is interested in extending the Socialist Propaganda among women should send and get a copy of this speech.

NOTE TO FARMERS All classes of labor as well as business and commercial institutions are organized into associations to advance their welfare. The farmers are the class that is not organized for mutual protection. Even the hearts of the field as well as the human that preys on the farmer is organized self protection. It is time that the farmers were organized into unions to secure the benefits and protection that can only be got by force of numbers.

Organize a farmers union in your district. Further particulars can be had by sending a letter of inquiry to Union Farmer, Box 908 Helena Montana

Men cannot be politically free so long as they are economically bound.

The capitalists do not mind socialism as an abstract principle. But they do not like socialism one little bit when applied.

The world for the workers and not for the human parasites who live off the labor of the workers. That is an aim of socialism.

Are you satisfied and content to be robbed? If you are your place is at the heels of your master.

IDAHO NOTES

Editor Montana News Am very anxious to see the Socialists of Idaho go to work.

We now have the greatest opportunity to organize and accomplish something than ever before. Yet we remain idle and indifferent while the time to hold our state and county convention is near at hand.

Why not each county start an organizer, one or more in each county. Make a house to house canvass as far as possible, distributing literature, taking subs, get pledges to be paid monthly or otherwise that can be secured.

Am satisfied there is not acouty in the State of Idaho but what can we employ and pay one or more workers in each county by systematic work.

Let us either go to work in earnest or get out of the field and let others who do something have the field.

Would suggest we push the subject of Direct Legislation more than we have been doing.

There are probably seventyfive per cent of the voters in favor of this principle when it is explained to them.

Why not circulate petitions all over the state, get voters to pledge to support no Legislative candidates, either State county or national who will not pledge himself in writing or under oath, to work and vote for Direct Legislation including the Imperative Mandate or right of recall.

We can exert a power far beyond our voting strength if we only try.

The State of Oregon has set us an example, along this line.

The labor union of Washington are organizing the Direct Legislation League. Why not the unions and laboring people of Idaho and other states fall in line?

Let us wake up comrades! Speak out your sentiments and let us have something doing.

Yours for action George W. Harrington

The unemployed capitalist will always have with him. If you want to do away with the unemployed, abolish the capitalist mode of production.

The Socialist Party is of the working class. It stands for the interest of the working class first, last and all the time.

Present society is the product of revolutions. The future society will be the product of the social revolution.

Discontent with present conditions on the part of the workers means that present conditions will be done away with by the workers when that discontent becomes clarified and intelligently directed.

Old institutions break down and new institutions grow and thrust the old aside. The feudal age passed away and the capitalist age came, capitalist age came. The capitalist age will pass away before the age of socialism.

The rulers of today look upon revolutions with pride. But they do not want any revolutions to come now that will destroy their power. But the very organization of capitalist society renders inevitable the coming of a revolution.

The socialist party is the working class party. It stands for the interests of the working men and working women. Get into the socialist party and help along the work of capturing the political power that it may be used for the abolition of wage slavery.

When the workers will unite politically their votes will sweep them into power. Then will come the application of the socialist remedy for present ills, the public ownership and democratic management of the means of production and distribution.

Slavery consists in subordinating the individual labor to the will of another for the economic profit of that other. When a wage slave submits his labor power to the dictates of a boss for ten hours a day and gets in return but a bear living, is not that slavery.

The capitalist declares to the Socialist "Thou shall not steal," and the Socialist declares unto the capitalist "Thou shall not steal!" The reason is that the capitalist and Socialist each has in view a totally different definition of what can be stolen.

"The dreamer that nations dream, come true," says Lowell. All America is dreaming of socialism.

Socialism will abolish rented shacks and build homes.

RESOLUTIONS PASSED ON CONVICT LABOR BY UNIONS

Resolutions on Convict Labor Passed by Unions. (Continued from Page 1.)

has been subsidized for the purpose to hire or pay wages to others than convicts, is a mere subterfuge, as in our last experience of the kind, armed guards in large numbers were found loafing in the immediate vicinity.

And we hereby resolve: That we, the Butte Miners' Union, in regular session assembled do deprecate the suggestions of our governor, and do condemn in unqualified terms the means recommended of building roads in the state of Montana.

(Signed) JERRY EGAN. DAN MULHOLLAND, Pres. AL McCLELLAN, Sec'y.

At the last regular meeting of the Helena Typographical Union No. 95 resolutions were adopted protesting against the employment of state or county prisoners upon road work in Montana. The resolutions are directed to the board of prison commissioners and are as follows:

"We the members of the Helena Typographical Union No. 95 of Helena Montana, tax-paying citizens of the state do most emphatically protest against any action of the prison, of this state, favoring or favorable to the employment of state or county prisoners upon the highways of the state, or in any other capacity. We, the workers know that their employment in this class of work will drive many workers out of this field of employment, that the employment of state or county prisoners in this work brings such prisoners into direct competition with free workers; that it will debar many men from earning a possible livelihood.

"Thousands of free workers are now idle in the state of Montana. To employ prisoners in any capacity that enters into the competition for jobs will increase the number of unemployed; idle men, no work for free laborers, and those depending thereon produces business depression produces bankruptcy, and this adds to the number of the unemployed in a community.

"Today free men are seeking the privilege of work in order that they may live. We, the free workers demand that your board protect those free men seeking employment, give employment to free men, rather than to attempt to take from them by the employment of prisoners, the small wage paid to them for this class of labor so necessary to maintain them and their families.

MAKE PROTEST ON ROAD CONSTRUCTION ISSUES

At the regular meeting of the Helena Trades and Labor assembly resolutions were unanimously adopted protesting to the prison board against the employment of convicts on the public highways or in any other way. The protest of the assembly was based upon the ground that it was unfair to work convicts in any vocation where they would compete with free labor.

Did Socialists do any of these things, or were they done by Capitalists?

Who hires thugs to stir up riots during strikes?

Who fixes the assessors?

Who bought the Pittsburg Councilmen?

Who benefited by the Harrisburg Capital steal?

Who corrupted the Senate with Sugar-trust stock?

Who fixes the Congressmen?

Who fixes the judges for liquor licenses?

Who puts up the money to buy votes?

Who bribes councilmen to grant franchises?

Who murders thousands of people a year on railroads by shoddy equipment and overwork of employes?

Who murders and maims over a hundred thousand people per year in mills and factories by lack of safeguards and overwork of employes?

Who commits perjury to escape taxes?

Who violates child labor laws?

What is the essence of Anarchy? Lawlessness.

If you answer these questions by saying Capitalists do these things, then they must be the Anarchists by their actions, regardless of their endeavors to apply the term to a discontented working class who have been the victims of their lawlessness.—Free Press.

The parasites praise the exploited so long as the exploited submit in patience to exploitation. But when the exploited object the parasites call them undesirable citizens.

No Socialism will not hurt anyone who is willing to work. Nor will it hurt the healthy person who does not want to work. Socialism will do the latter person a tremendous amount of good in spite of himself.

SOCIALIST COUNCIL AT WORK.

(Continued from Page 1.)

failing to take out licenses for his cars. It was under this suit that a warrant was taken out and served yesterday on His Highness.

The value of this is two fold. It will destroy a little of the prestige of Milwaukee's king. And above all this suit, if successful, will put a big sum in the city treasury, just at a time when it is most needed. The deficit left by the former administration whether purposely, in order to cripple the socialists, or simply through Democratic incompetence—is the greatest difficulty the Social Democrats now have to face. Seventy thousand dollars would be a fine windfall at this time.

Mr. Beggs claims that a law of 1907 did away with this provision for street car licenses. But as this would seem that his claim has not much to stand on. But of course the final decision of our courts is always uncertain.

A still greater event of the Socialist administration has now taken place. The first step has been taken towards the Social-Democratic plan for municipal homes for the working people.

Quietly, without any flare of trumpets, this first step was made. Any one seeing a few engineers going calmly about their work would not realize that here the revolution was actually starting—a revolution which we hope is destined to peacefully transform plutocratically owned and governed America into a country which shall really belong to the American people.

These engineers are employed by the county board—a majority of which are Socialists—to plant 4,000 acres in the west side of city this tract will be reserved for the city of Milwaukee and will be used for the Social-Democratic plan which has already been outlined by your correspondent. This plan includes the system of park-ways which will make this city the most beautiful in America, the conservation of the river front for use and in the sanitary interests of the public, as well as for aesthetic reasons, the introduction of the zone system in vogue in the best European cities, and above all the creation of municipally owned homes for the people. This will be the crowning glory of this vast and grand project.

And therefore the engineers quietly at work on the west side of Milwaukee America than the arrival of Teddy are a greater event in the history of Roosevelt—although the press does say more about the smaller event.

Now if these great plans are to be successfully carried out, we must have the co-operation of the people. It is on the referendum, in the last instance that our party must rest for its support.

It is of the utmost importance that the people of Milwaukee shall be educated along these new lines in their civic duties and opportunities. The socialists have started to use the Common Council chamber as a center for this sort of public education. The chamber, which so long resounded only to the undignified squabbles of self-seeking aldermen, is now being used for lectures on various public questions. This week an expert lecturer there on city platting, and what has been accomplished on these lines in the cities of Europe. Next week the Health Commissioner of the city will lecture on sanitation. The first thing to be done with the people is to make them want things—to get them discontented with the miserable conditions to which the meek and patient Americans have so long tamely submitted.

Among other matters under consideration by our Socialist City Attorney, is the long work day of the boot-blacks in Milwaukee. In the shoe shining parlors of this city, which are mostly run by the Greeks, the hours extend from seven in the morning to ten or eleven in the evening, with almost no stop for meals. Often when the boys are down stairs at their lunch the boss pounds on the floor to call them up to work. An intelligent and human employer, who would like to better these conditions in his shop if he could do so without incurring loss from competition of his rivals, brought this matter to the attention of the socialist officials at the city hall. The District Attorney is now ascertaining whether these hours can be shortened by a city ordinance. If not, a bill for this purpose will be presented in the next legislature.

An almost unheard of thing has happened in the Milwaukee County Board. The Board has called for an audit of the books. An audit has not been had for years. The Socialists are determined to dig every thing out and explore every dark corner of every department of the government of Milwaukee.

SPIES IN UNION AT BINGHAM.

E. G. Locke, the secretary of Bingham Miners' Union of Bingham, Utah has forwarded a letter to headquarters making the request that Jimmie McParland of Mollie Maguire infamy be notified that his cheap hirelings have been uncovered in Bingham and that there is room for a few more degenerates who are willing to sacrifice the last remnant of manhood and honor to place their names on the payroll of a Pinkerton agency.

The following special in the Salt Lake Tribune describes the exposure of the Judas, whose cowardly heart almost ceased to beat, when he realized that his infamy was discovered.

Bingham, June, 25.—A. W. Johnson a spy employed by the Pinkerton Detective agency to keep tab on the doings of the Western Federation of Miners here, who had been a member of the local order No. 67, since November, was exposed tonight when the regular meeting of the union was held. Immediately after the exposure it looked as though he would be severely dealt with, but calmer members reasoned with the infuriated miners and when quiet had again been restored Johnson admitted that he was in the employ of the Pinkertons, and that he had been instructed in several matters pertaining to the doings of the organization. He was told, he said, to look at conditions at the Boston, and endeavor to find out whether shift bosses were "shaking down" or not. He said that he received 75 cents

per day for this work. He also admitted that when he took the job he did not realize what he was doing. Johnson was scared stiff. During his recital he trembled like a leaf shaking in a windstorm. Before he was escorted to the door by the miners, he said that two other men in the employ of the agency were somewhere about and that one Antony Trotsda was at present in Salt Lake. Johnson was given instructions to make a quick exit out of town, and before the door was closed on him he said he would follow our instructions.—Miners Magazine.

The twentieth annual report of the Commission of Labor is a public document issued by the Labor Bureau at Washington D. C., dealing with convict labor in the United States. The report contains the convict labor laws of thirty-eight states, besides giving the work that convicts do in the various states. There are over eighty occupations or trades that the convicts compete with and so keen is this competition that certain trades as far as wage labor goes has been wiped out of existence. That is to say that certain articles manufactured in the United States are only made by convicts.

The twentieth annual report can be got free by any one desiring it, by writing to the Commissioner of Labor, Washington, D. C., and requesting a copy.

Every workman should secure a copy of this document and study up on convict labor.

POCKET LIBRARY of SOCIALISM. 1. Women and the Social Problem, May Wood Simons. 2. The Evolution of the Class Struggle, W. H. Ross. 3. Incomplete Marriage, Robert Blackford. 4. The Origins, A. M. Simons. 5. Socialism in Literature and Art, Clarence S. Darrow. 6. Single Tax vs. Socialism, A. M. Simons. 7. Wage Labor and Capital, Karl Marx. 8. The Man Under the Machine, A. M. Simons. 9. The Union of the Working Class, Charles H. Kerr. 10. Socialism and Socialism, Charles H. Kerr. 11. Socialism Today, Edward Bellamy. 12. After Capitalism, What? Wm. Thurston Brown. 13. National Prohibition, Walter L. Young. 14. Socialism and Farmers, A. M. Simons. 15. How I Acquired My Millions, W. A. Corey. 16. A Christian View of Socialism, G. H. Stoddell. 17. Ten Railroad Men, Eugene V. Debs. 18. Fumble of the Water Tank, Edward Bellamy. 19. The Real Religion of Today, Wm. Thurston Brown. 20. Why I Am a Socialist, George D. Herron. 21. The Trust Question, Charles H. Kerr. 22. Science and Socialism, Robert Riva La Costa. 23. The Art of the Book, William Thurston Brown. 24. What the Socialists Would Do, A. M. Simons. 25. The Policy of Being "Good," Charles H. Kerr. 26. Intemperance and Poverty, T. Twining. 27. The Relations of Religion to Social Reform, Brown. 28. Socialism and the Home, May Wood Simons. 29. Trusts and Imperialism, Garfield Williams. 30. A Sketch of Social Evolution, E. W. Nord Macfar. 31. Socialism vs. Anarchy, A. M. Simons. 32. You and Your Job, Charles Jacobson. 33. The Socialist Party of America, Platform, etc. 34. The Prison of Intellectuals, Franklin H. Westworth. 35. The Philosophy of Socialism, A. M. Simons. 36. An Appeal to the Young, Peter Froelich. 37. The Kingdom of God and Socialism, R. H. Webster. 38. Day Lessons in Socialism, W. H. Lottgewart. 39. Socialism and Organized Labor, Ray Wood Simons. 40. Industrial Unionism, William E. Trautmann. 41. A Socialist's Catechism, Charles E. Cline. 42. Civic Ethics in Money and Social Reform, C. H. Reed. 43. Our Bourgeois Literature, Upton Sinclair. 44. The Sub-Jack London. 45. Confessions of a Druse, Joseph H. Hill Patterson. 46. Women and Socialism, Ray Wood Simons. 47. The Economic Foundations of Art, A. M. Simons. 48. Useful Work vs. Useful Toil, William Morris. 49. A Socialist View of Mr. Rockefeller, John Spargo. 50. Marx on Communism, translated by A. M. Simons. 51. From Association to Nationalism, George D. Herron. 52. Where We Stand, John Spargo. 53. History and Economics, J. E. Sinclair. 54. Industry and Democracy, Lewis J. Duncanson. 55. Slavery, Free and Proletarian, Peter Froelich. 56. Economic Evolution, Paul Lafargue. 57. What to Read on Socialism, Charles H. Kerr. 58. Slavery, Free and Proletarian, Peter Froelich. 59. Why a Workmanman Should be a Socialist, Webster. 60. Proof that Babe for Socialism in America, Spargo. Price five cents each. The sixty books complete in a strong box, or sixty books assorted as desired, sent postpaid for \$1.00. Order From The Montana News.

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