

Five Socialists on Trial in Chicago

Continued From Page One.

one of the leaders of the Bull Moose party in 1912, and Berger's opponent in the congressional fight in 1910, when Berger was first elected to congress, gave a vivid picture of Berger's early life and the terrific struggle which he fought to reach his present position as a national political figure, and an internationalist from the Socialist viewpoint.

He declared that the Milwaukee Leader had tried to keep within the law during the war, and pointed out that Berger had contributed liberally to the war saving stamp fund, to the Red Cross and other auxiliary movements launched by the government.

Cochens stated that over 5,000 young Socialists in Milwaukee, readers of Berger's paper, had joined the national service. He pointed out how the Leader had accepted government advertising to boost Liberty Bond sales and other activities.

He declared that no matter whether Victor Berger be permitted to take his seat in congress, to which he has just been elected, his work in that body eight years ago will serve him as a main theme for his ideals and the working class of America in whose interest he has devoted the many years of his active life.

Court Room Crowded.

All day long throngs of persons gathered in the corridors to the court room, eagerly waiting until some person gave up his seat. There is no attempt to keep the public from this trial, as was the case last summer in the I. W. W. litigation. Spectators may also come into the courtroom. Last summer you could not get into the court if you carried a bundle of toothpicks.

The government started off its case against the five National Socialist Party officials Thursday afternoon by putting on the witness stand a former office boy and later circulation hustler for the Chicago edition of the American Socialist, in an effort to prove that the Socialists, particularly William P. Kruse, National Secretary of the Yipsels, and J. Louis Engdahl, editor of American Socialist, are guilty of conspiring against the

government in war time.

The witness, Arnold Schiller, is now in the army service, stationed at Camp Robinson, Long Island. The youthful printer, Fleming, had started to drag into the case the whole whimsy about German agents, and German gold. This caused laughter in the court room, many of the spectators having recently read the list of German agents, so-called. The name of Berger, Hillquit, Germer and Bill Hayward do not appear among the galaxy of kaiser lovers.

Judge Landis ordered the reference to German agents in connection with the U. P. S. L. stricken from the record, and told the jury to forget it. Several reporters at the press table conferred among themselves as to whether they could take a chance and print the German agent story, anyway.

Underground Railway Hoax.

The proposition of building an underground railroad between the United States and Mexico to transport conscientious objectors into Central America again came up through the ex-Socialist office boy.

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After knocking the testimony of the former office boy and now a soldier at Camp Grant, into a cocked hat and showing up glaring discrepancies in his relations with Kruse and others, the defense considered it had scored a victory.

William Mandelbaum, bookkeeper for the Chicago Arbeiter-Zeitung Publishing Co., owned by German agents, was called to the stand. He told how Engdahl came once a week to the print shop to "make-up" the American Socialist, and also testified to orders for various literature, all of which was admitted by the defense.

Miss Anna Campbell, a clerk in the National Office from July, 1910, to August, 1918, was the second government witness. Miss Campbell identified many circular letters sent out by National Secretary Germer, Kruse, Tucker and others connected with the National Office.

Stodman objected to the admission of letters against the five defendants written prior to May 18, 1917, the day of the passage of the draft act, but Judge Landis over-ruled him.

Letters Written Before U. S. Entry Into War Admitted.

Consequently, one letter written by Debs was read to the jury under date of February 14, 1917. In that letter appeared this statement:

"No self-respecting Yipsel will enlist in the army and navy under any consideration." It went on to advise that Yipsels held many meetings and food the country with literature. The letter concluded with this remark:

"We must fight the war to a finish even though the finish may mean facing a firing squad."

In a letter identified by Miss Campbell as having been written May 24, 1917, Walter B. Dillon, state secretary of the party for New Mexico, appeared the sentence, "Better jail than become a licensed murderer" read to the jury a letter written by Kruse in 1917, after we had entered the war, suggesting a secret organization in connection with the Y. P. S. L. to maintain the life of the Young People's Socialist movement if it was driven underground by oppressive legislation. The organization was to take the character of teaching non-Socialists why they should not go to war.

The fourth witness, a sailor, James A. Freiberg, formerly a Yipsel, identified a letter he received from Kruse in August, 1917, in which the Yipsel secretary expressed the hope that Freiberg would escape the draft.

Free Speech on Trial With Five Socialists in Chicago

(Special Correspondence)

Chicago.—Freedom! How much of it was there in the United States during the great world war just ended? That is the question that will be settled in the trial of the five Socialist spokesmen, Victor L. Berger, Adolph Germer, J. Louis Engdahl, William F. Kruse and Irwin St. John Tucker, now on trial here.

The results of this historic trial will determine America's position among the nations in her maintenance of civil liberties during the progress of the war. In no country has there been such a wholesale persecution of social and national rights as the American people find themselves confronted with in the opening of the Chicago trial.

United States Prosecuting Attorney Charles F. Clyne showed that the government realizes free speech is on the verge of being strangled by the laws that were examined a question as follows:

"Do you believe that anyone, under the guise of free speech, should be permitted to violate the laws of the United States?"

This indicates that the government will seek to bolster up its suppression of free speech, by trying to show that the Socialists have violated laws; in this case the espionage act.

Attorney Seymour Stedman, for the Socialists objected to this question by the government; the objection was over-ruled by Judge Kenevas Mountain, who said that the Socialists had violated laws; in this case the espionage act.

On the other hand, the lawyers for the Socialists questioned each juror as to whether he thought the federal constitution, with its free speech provision, should be nullified during the war. In reply to this question, the prospective jurors had many and varied answers to make. Some of them didn't know there was a free speech provision in the constitution; some felt that it was being wrong during war times, while others staunchly upheld the right of free speech, in war as in peace.

The trial of the five Socialists in Chicago finally got under way on Monday morning, Dec. 9, just nine months after Berger, Germer, Engdahl, Tucker and Kruse learned they had been indicted, last March 9. It starts one month after the world war was terminated by an armistice.

Chief Prosecutor Edward Stedman, who has served Socialism in America in the numerous court attacks that were made upon it during the war, the Socialists in Chicago are represented by William A. Cunnea, Henry F. Debs, Irwin St. John Tucker, and Swan M. Johnson. Clyne, for the government, is being supported by his first assistant, Joseph B. Fleming.

The first day's examination of prospective jurors indicated that the panel was evenly divided with respect to farmers, or men of British ancestry. This caused considerable comment.

"This is a criminal case," said Prosecuting Attorney Clyne, in beginning his examination of the first juror, Y. Debs on Dec. 9. He answered that he had no doubt it could. I asked on what terms, and he replied, \$12. I told him we would like to secure the hall and would pay for its use before the meeting. He replied, "I would be glad to do that, but I would bring the matter before the board on Monday evening, Dec. 2."

On Tuesday morning he called by phone and told me that the members of the board had voted to have the hall for the use of the hall for a lecture by Mr. Debs. I asked on what grounds your body refused, and made such discrimination, but your president evaded this very pertinent question.

On behalf of the Socialists and many others who desire to hear Mr. Debs on the subject of "Peaceful, Economic Reconstruction," I ask you to reply to this letter in writing, and give your specific reasons for having the hall for my use. This is not a request for discrimination. This, with the understanding that my letter and your answer, and also a reply to your answer, if the occasion requires such reply, be given the local papers for publication, to the effect that the citizens of Salem and the public generally may know the situation and pass judgment fairly and righteously. If the papers do not wish to publish the correspondence, then we assume that you would be willing to have it printed in leaflet form and distributed.

It was our purpose to make Mr. Debs' meeting a bi-county occasion, in which the Socialists of Columbiana and Mahoning counties would all take a lively interest, by reason of his brilliant and earnest qualities as an orator and his world-wide reputation.

You will, therefore, understand that your turnout is necessarily quite extensive in its scope, and will be brought before our County Commission at a meeting in East Liverpool 8th inst., at which time it is expected to make final arrangements for the Debs' meeting.

Very truly yours,
CHARLES BONSALE,
Chairman.

We Want to Talk to You a Minute

AND HERE'S WHAT WE'VE GOT TO SAY. The year 1919 is just around the corner. Suppose we all agree to greet it with a clear conscience. What do you say? Are you with us?

HERE'S THE IDEA. It's a GREAT idea! We think so much of it that we intend acting upon it ourselves. And we feel assured, positively assured, that every reader of the OHIO SOCIALIST will join us.

LET'S START THE NEW YEAR RIGHT

There's but one way to start the New Year right, and that is by starting some one you know on the road to becoming a Socialist. There is just one best way to do that and that is to put your hand into your pocket, take out a dollar or a half and with it pay for a subscription to the OHIO SOCIALIST for some relative, friend, shopmate or neighbor.

TAKE THIS SERIOUSLY—PLEASE

You know of some one who ought to become a Socialist. Some one to whom you have talked and who has expressed himself favorably upon the subject. Or you know of some one whose opposition to Socialism you have been unable to overcome by argument. In either case, the presentation of an OHIO SOCIALIST subscription will work wonders and will place to your credit the merited praise of having begun the New Year right.

DECIDE NOW! And decide favorably. Send in that subscription for your friend or relative TODAY. Make it a HOLIDAY GIFT. Use the blank below and upon receipt of the subscription we will send the person you subscribe for a holiday postal card telling him who presented him with the subscription and that it is presented with the sincere hope that he will also start the New Year right.

THE OHIO SOCIALIST
R. D. 2, Brecksville, Ohio.

I have decided to start the New Year right by presenting an OHIO SOCIALIST subscription to

Name

Address

City

Enclosed find the sum of \$..... for this subscription.

Sent by

Address

Frame-up Against Socialists Revealed in Chicago Trial

(Special Correspondence)

Chicago.—For more than a year the government lawyers in Chicago with a staff of secret service men that covered the nation at their call, have been framing their case against the five indicted Socialists, Victor L. Berger, Adolph Germer, J. Louis Engdahl, William P. Kruse and Irwin St. John Tucker.

The frame-up was shattered in a few short hours by the triumphant cross examination by Attorney William A. Cunnea, for the Socialists, of the government's star witness, Arnold A. Schiller, Thursday afternoon in the "Chicago Socialist," the party publication in Chicago, who is now a soldier.

Under a carefully and withering cross fire of Attorney Cunnea's questions, the witness admitted that the government had framed a case to discredit Socialism were exploded into thin air.

The Sub-Rosa Conscientious Objectors Limited to uninhabited regions of Mexico was exposed as a fiction.

The famous "code," which was to aid draft evaders in their wanderings, and which was an office boy who was charged originally from the secret archives of the German imperial government, was set forth as a scheme that might have been clipped from any "Wide Awake Column," for young folks in any daily paper.

It was shown that the allegedly notorious anti-draft stickers had been put out by a member of the Young People's Socialist League, but that the leagues in Chicago would accept no responsibility for them, and refused to pay for them.

That Schiller, who charged Kruse with anti-draft activities, had in fact attacked Kruse and sought to defeat him for re-election because he, Schiller, thought Kruse was "yellow" and not a "red revolutionist."

Another "Harry Orchard," in the big labor cases that have been tried in this country have all had their "Harry Orchard" and their "Ortie MacManis." The biggest case of persecution growing out of the war involving the political organization of the workers, has produced a similar character.

Schiller is 24 years old. In question put by Cunnea he said that he had attended school up to 14 years of age. Since then he says he works for eight or nine different employers but had a hard time remembering them, although on the previous day he had glibly cited dates, told of conversations and placed incidents without effort.

"I like Kruse as I sit here now," Schiller contended, with considerable bravado, as he denied having any bitter animosity toward the National Young People's Socialist League Secretary.

Attorney Cunnea then brought out that Schiller remembered very distinctly the date of President Wilson's "Flag Day Address" utterance. This "Flag Day Address" was delivered on June 15, 1917, the same day the espionage act, under which the indictment is drawn, was signed by the president, and the same day the government claims that Irwin St. John Tucker, one of the defendants, wrote his answer to the flag day address, which appeared in the June 23rd issue of the "American Socialist."

Schiller claims he was present in the room, in Kruse's office, when Tucker wrote his reply, and that he heard it discussed. This is the kind of testimony the government is using as the foundation for its conspiracy charge.

Witness Coached by Prosecution.

After establishing that Schiller was ignorant of other dates, Attorney Cunnea, by skillful questioning, brought out that Schiller's entire story was the result of clever and careful coaching by First Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Fleming, and his numerous office assistants. This coaching had taken place during numerous visits to the Department of Justice offices in Chicago, Schiller, as a soldier at Camp Grant, Rockford, Ill., being provided with a special pass to make the trips. The first interview was supposed to have taken place in May, 1918.

Finally Schiller's story was put

down in typewriting, and he signed it, then he was given a copy of it and told to read it on numerous occasions so he would not forget it.

"Do you know Thomas Levisch?" asked Cunnea, breaking in on the witness at one point.

"Not very well," replied Schiller, taken by surprise, and then Cunnea went on to show that Schiller and Levisch belonged to the same Yipsel Circle, the Maplewood League, in Chicago, and that Levisch was the one who had provided the "Don't Register" stickers, that Schiller admitted having stuck up around Chicago on the night before Registration Day, June 5, 1917.

The defense brought out that Schiller, on one occasion, had come to Chicago to overstay his leave, that he had come to the offices of the Socialist Party in Chicago, and that he had been urged to return by Germer, Kruse and others "and get straightened out." Instead he was arrested and taken back to camp by a guard, and court-martialed in February. For some reason his sentence was cut short after he had served part of it, and then his visits to the government lawyers began, while he remained in the military camp.

Then Attorney Cunnea made the witness admit that on Wednesday night, two days previously, after again going over his story with the government lawyers, he had called on a girl friend, Hattie Gussie, before reaching home at midnight.

"Where does Hattie Gussie live?" asked Attorney Cunnea, but the witness with the brilliant memory could not remember. All he could think of was that the young lady lived on "Hancock street."

"Didn't you tell Hattie Gussie that you would like to see Kruse dead?" asked Cunnea, but the witness denied that he did, also that he wished Kruse were dead rather than alive.

Schiller then gave his testimony of the previous day and stated that he had never seen Kruse, Tucker, Engdahl and Germer, all together at once. He said, "At no time did I see them all together."

He suddenly remembered that Duncan Smith was the editor of the "Chicago Socialist" in the summer of 1917, where he had tried to leave the impression the day before J. Louis Engdahl, one of the defendants, editor of the American Socialist, was also editor of the Chicago Socialist.

Schiller also admitted that he had failed to communicate to any of the men on trial, his claim that Bosler was a German agent, and that this alleged fact didn't make any difference to him, Bosler and he were pals just the same.

Impossible for Y. P. S. L. to Furnish Aid.

The defense brought out that there were no Yipsel organizations south of St. Louis, Mo., so that it would have been impossible for them, as Schiller declared, to furnish "shelter" for the hordes of draft resisters who were to start on the exodus across the Rio Grande. The famous map introduced into the case by the government, and which was to guide the resisters on their wanderings, was shown to be the kind of a map that can be bought at any stationery store.

The "code," Mr. Schiller, questioned Cunnea, "didn't come out of your reading of 'Captain Kidd and the Hidden Treasure' or some such stuff. Or perhaps you have been reading the 'Wide Awake' column of the Daily News?"

Schiller denied, however, that "Captain Kidd" had inspired him in his many fictions.

Start 1919 with 1919 paid Salem Socialists Aggressive

Salem, O., Dec. 4. To the Board of Education, Salem, Ohio, Gentlemen:

On Nov. 29, 1918, I asked Mr. L. B. French, president of your body, if the High School auditorium could be secured for a public meeting of the Y. P. S. L. on Dec. 15. He answered that he had no doubt it could. I asked on what terms, and he replied, \$12. I told him we would like to secure the hall and would pay for its use before the meeting. He replied, "I would be glad to do that, but I would bring the matter before the board on Monday evening, Dec. 2."

On Tuesday morning he called by phone and told me that the members of the board had voted to have the hall for the use of the hall for a lecture by Mr. Debs. I asked on what grounds your body refused, and made such discrimination, but your president evaded this very pertinent question.

On behalf of the Socialists and many others who desire to hear Mr. Debs on the subject of "Peaceful, Economic Reconstruction," I ask you to reply to this letter in writing, and give your specific reasons for having the hall for my use. This is not a request for discrimination. This, with the understanding that my letter and your answer, and also a reply to your answer, if the occasion requires such reply, be given the local papers for publication, to the effect that the citizens of Salem and the public generally may know the situation and pass judgment fairly and righteously. If the papers do not wish to publish the correspondence, then we assume that you would be willing to have it printed in leaflet form and distributed.

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Very truly yours,
CHARLES BONSALE,
Chairman.

Start 1919 with 1919 paid Railroad Men Start Nation Wide Movement

(Special to Ohio Socialist)

Louisville, Ky. Dec. 14. The federated railroad unions have booked a monster mass meeting for Sunday night, Dec. 15, at Macaulay's Theater, for the purpose of launching a nation wide movement to oppose railroad magnates who are acting as if the railroads be turned back to private management, now that the war is over.

This organization represents 5,000 union men.

Attorney M. L. Clawson of Indianapolis, Ind., has been secured as principal speaker for the meeting. It is understood that strong resolutions will be sent to the president and congress and that an organization will be started to carry this protest throughout the United States.

Brethren, let us all be thankful for now we can preach ALL of the ten commandments, including the one which saith, "Thou shalt not kill," and also, brethren we may NOW hear in mind the new commandment of our Lord Jesus Christ who said, "Behold I give you a new commandment, that ye should love one another."

Who does the future belong to? Oh, boy, do you have to guess? Some doings and all coming our way. Get in with the living.

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inghamshire, England, but declared he would not be prejudiced against Berger, because he was born in Austria, not against Germer, for being born in Germany, nor against Kruse, because his father was German and his mother Danish. He had been a farmer in England. He believed in the constitution.

Mr. Franklin said he had never read a book on Socialism and didn't remember ever having read a Socialist platform of any kind. He is British on his mother's side. He was not a member of a labor union, nor related to anyone who was. Asked if he thought free speech ought to be suppressed during war time, he answered:

"I think it ought to be in a way. I don't think the minority ought to have any right during the war period."

Mr. Robertson, the painter and decorator, added to the list of Canadians, with parents born in England. He admitted being prejudiced against any one trying to get the United States out of the war. Robertson was thereupon excused for cause, the first to leave the jury box.

Henry M. Arnd, who lives at 3814 Sheffield Ave., was called to take his place. He said his information on Socialism was very vague. His parents also hailed from Great Britain. He would not be prejudiced against anyone for writing articles against war profiteering.

The defense lawyers used their first peremptory challenge to Mr. Franklin, whose place in the jury box was taken by Frank Strickland, another farmer, of Peru, Ill., who was born in this state, but his parents had come here from Ireland. His farm was near Cherry, Ill., the scene of the order mine disaster of several years ago. He was not prejudiced against organized labor.

He declared that the United States had a right to enter the war, and no one had a right to think anything else. This immediately resulted in his being excused for cause, and his place was taken by J. J. Jacobson, who lives at 4217 North Kildare Ave., Chicago, who is not very much in sympathy with Socialists. Judge Landis joined in the effort to find out where he stood in order to keep him on the jury, but his prejudice against Socialism was too apparent, and he also was dismissed for cause, and his place taken by A. D. Kennedy, 67 years old, of Woodstock, Ill., who had retired from business for two years. Previously he had run a general store for 20 years, and before that he had been a saloonkeeper, for 12 or 13 years, and before that a farmer. His father was born in New York state.

"I might have read something about this case in the newspapers," he admitted, but denied ever having read anything about Socialism.

"I don't know anything about Socialism," he said. "I worked too hard. I was too busy to read."

Mr. Sheldon, the real estate man, in Woodstock when Gene Debs was confined in the jail there for contempt of court, because of his part in the great A. R. U. railroad strike. Kennedy remembered Debs having spent a forced visit in Woodstock, but does not remember ever having discussed the matter with anyone. He declared he could give the Socialists a fair trial.

The defense then used its second peremptory challenge in getting rid of Mr. Evans. His place was taken by Roy F. Barnes, a young barber, at 2407 Lincoln Ave., Chicago, whose residence is at 2862 Broadway. He runs an "open shop" now, after some trouble with the barbers' union of the "Organized labor is all right when it is run right," was his philosophical way of putting it.

He believed in free speech, if it was exercised lawfully. He had some feel-

ing against those who were opposed to the war.

"The minority must and should remain silent," he said.

"The defense used its third peremptory challenge in getting Strickland out of the jury box and court adjourned for the day before anyone else was sworn in his place. The indications are that the trial will last about three weeks. This will carry it over the holidays.

"Said a local coal dealer: "We can't give you immediate delivery unless you have sickness in your family." "Alas," replied the poor man, as he gloomily left the office of the black diamond merchant, "every one of my tribe is freezingly healthy."

"The next day the mut again appeared before the coal merchant, a look of triumphant joy upon his face. "My wife is dying of influenza," he shouted exultantly, "we had no fuel yesterday, and she developed a high fever last night."

"In that case," replied the dealer gravely, "we will send you some coal at once."

"How happy I am to live in a civilized community," soliloquized the man, as he left the office humming, "Work and pray, live on hay, you'll get pie in the sky when you die.—Reading Labor Advocate.

The Siberian Bolsheviks are trying out their oratorical artistry on the American expeditionary force. On two occasions recently, English-speaking Bolsheviks appeared in No. Man's Land and made speeches urging the Americans not to fight. Great red banners, inscribed in English are also strung along the Bolshevik bank of the river.

William Blackstone—The liberty of the press is essential to a free government.

Turgot—There is no injury which men will resent so deeply as that of being threatened into silence.

CLEVELAND SOCIALISTS PAK HALL TO WELCOME RETURNED PRISONERS

Continued From Page One.

The speaker then reviewed the developments in industry during the war and the reconstruction plans of the capitalists of the country, urging the necessity of a strong, working class organization in order to reconstruct industry so that it will yield, "food, clothing, homes to live in, education and recreation and the opportunity to earn these under conditions that would bring joy to the workers," closing with an appeal for support for the Reconstruction Organization Campaign launched by Local Cuyahoga County, which resulted in a collection of over \$300.00.

Following the speeches the meeting was adjourned until 7 o'clock, supper being served by the women members of the party. The evening program consisted of songs by the Liedertafel, violin selection by Comrade Hollas, songs by Miss Marie Bolt and speeches on "A Day in Jail" by C. E. Ruthenberg and "Prison Experiences," by Alfred Wagenknecht. Dancing followed till midnight.

The celebration will be long remembered in Cleveland as one of the finest affairs held under the auspices of the Local Socialist Party.

Many comrades from other cities were present, to extend the best wishes of their locals.

THE OHIO SOCIALIST

Official Organ of The Socialist Party of Ohio and Kentucky.

One Year \$1.00 BUNDLE RATES Six Months \$1.00 Per Hundred 50c

Address all Mail to R. D. 2, Brecksville, Ohio

Entered as Second Class Matter, February 21, 1917, at the Post-office at Cleveland, Ohio, Under Act of March 3, 1879.

EDITORS Elmer T. Allison Alfred Wagenknecht Published Weekly by The Socialist Party of Ohio at Cleveland, O. WEDNESDAY, DEC. 18, 1918. 108

WITH OUR EDITORS

"Repression is invariably the first ingredient in the recipe for revolution."

And now we are told that lack of union among the anti-Bolshevik elements in Russia has developed to a very dangerous degree! All of which proves of course that the Bolsheviks won't last much longer!

An advertisement in a window on Third Ave., Seattle, Washington, reads: "Vaults that are fire, burglar and mob-proof." Vaults that are mob-proof! Now what can they mean by that?

As proof that it was a war for democracy we read in a daily that "after the Civil War the United States threw away its opportunity to become a real world power. After the Great War—what? Are we going to drop back to the position of a second-rate power—are we willing to learn?" If anyone should ask us we'd say we have learned. We have learned from the very pages of these misinformers that Germany started the war because it hankered to graduate from class two to class one as a world power. The cost of the lesson has been mighty dear? Shall we have to learn the lesson over again? Does this sanguinary daily intimate that the United States ought follow in the footsteps of imperialistic and autocratic Germany of yesterday?

"THE RED FLAG ROAD"

We stole the caption because it sounded good. And now listen to our story.

You've heard of the Red Flag. You may never have seen one but we are sure you have heard about it. A Red Flag is a piece of cotton, wool or silk that's been dyed red and in appropriate size is then hoisted to enjoy the breezes that blow.

There is a certain class of people in this land that go mad at sight of the Red Flag just as a bull does at sight of a red rag, and they chase it around with mouthings and ordinances.

The sport began in New York some weeks ago and seems to be traveling westward. The city fathers of Youngstown, Cleveland, Detroit and other cities have seen red and with heroic mien are chasing the Red Flag around and around.

We feel sorry for the Red Flag, folks. Poor, inanimate thing! Can neither talk nor defend itself while it's being banished and disgustingly discussed by those whom people have deemed wise enough to run cities.

Passing ordinances that the Red Flag shall fly no more is acting much like the fellow who cut off his little finger to make his hand quit stealing. The Red Flag is only an appendage. The real stuff is a matter of brains. And when brains accept the Red Flag as the insignia for Industrial Democracy then, whether the Red Flag flies or not, the trick is done.

A German Citizen—Yes, he was anti-German, anti-kaiser, anti-autocratic, anti-imperialistic, anti-capitalistic—told us some years ago that in the country he gave up in order to enjoy the unlimited democracy of the United States, the government put the ban on red as part of the color scheme in the attire of all workmen. Red neckties, red handkerchiefs, and, we believe, red hair also, were taboo and every workman caught with anything red upon his person was forthwith jailed. One of the results of the banning of red in Germany was an increase in the Socialist vote from about 400,000 to about nine times that.

Today Germany flies the Red Flag as THE flag. We know what is meant by this passing of ordinances making it an offense to fly the Red Flag. The city fathers see beyond the Red Flag and fear the day of Industrial Democracy. Hauling down the Red Flag will not delay its advent. Attacking the Red Flag will not defeat it. Only one thing will defeat Socialism and that is to prove to the majority of workers that its principles are wrong. This our heroic councilmen are too cowardly to do and so they satisfy themselves by chasing the Red Flag around the room.

Keep it up boys! If we had the price we'd pay you for it! In the meantime the march down the Red Flag Road will continue, Red Flags or no Red Flags. And when we arrive at the destination, it's dollars to doughnuts that we won't find a soul that favored banishing the Red Flag in the year 1918.

There follows an editorial which appeared in the Youngstown "Vindicator." This editorial is really too fair—so fair that it almost robs the Socialist of his sting.

THE RED FLAG

Did not council act hastily and without due consideration, in passing under suspension of the rules, Monday night, an ordinance forbidding the use of the Red Flag in Youngstown? The Red Flag has for years been the distinctive emblem of Socialists the world over. It is the emblem of the Socialists in France and England, without whose support the war could not have been won and who are now among the most ardent backers of President Wilson. Against the selfish forces of reaction which are now scheming to rob us of the fruits of victory the Socialists in Europe are setting themselves like a powerful bulwark. Let us take care lest we offend these men. Among them are some of the most thoughtful and farsighted statesmen of our time, and we want their help in securing the new and better world order which we in America, especially, have been encouraged to expect from the war.

Council evidently passed the ordinance under a misunderstanding. It shares the common belief that the Red Flag stands for riot and anarchy and the overthrow of organized government. As used by the established Socialist parties in Europe it stands for no such thing; they are as respectable and order-loving as Republicans and Democrats and no one in Europe would dream of suppressing them. Of course, the revolutions in Germany and Russia have brought excesses which no one condones, but these same revolutions have contributed more than battles to the central powers' defeat and have saved millions of American lives. The riots in New York and other states, caused by the carrying of the Red Flag, have generally been started not by those who carried it but by onlookers whose misconception of liberty and patriotism led them astray. In matters like this, repression never has accomplished its purpose and never will; men's convictions grow and draw strength from opposition and attempts to suppress them can only do harm. Council's action is part of the campaign which is just beginning in this country, to curtail men's rights, and is only another proof of the saying common in Europe, that Americans enjoy less freedom than British and Continentals.

There is one thing that council cannot do. The red necktie has, like the Red Flag, been an accepted sign of Socialism, and the Socialists of Youngstown at their meetings and when they appear before council are justified in wearing it as a sign of protest.

If your little Red Dues Card looks sick, you're lingering on the Red Flag Road.

Also, there are no loafing corners on the Red Flag Road.

You either march along abreast the rest or you drop out and are left behind.

Smile and pay up. The best is yet to come!

OUR PARTY PAGE

Live News of Interest to all Party Members

GET NEXT TO A DUES STAMP—PAY UP

WEST VIRGINIA Official Organization News

H. L. Franklin, Acting State Secretary, 1353 Adams Ave., Huntington, West Virginia.

Greetings from W. Va.

In extending greetings from the comrades of West Virginia to those of Ohio, and Kentucky, we greet you with the true spirit of International Socialism. While for the past eighteen months we have been as a man traveling in the wilderness inhabited with wild and vicious animals when overtaken by darkness would build a fire and make up camp for the night, while retaining in his memory his course set, he would await the rising of the sun to take up his journey. And so it has been with the comrades of West Virginia, being small in number and surrounded with ignorance as to the ideals and principles of International Socialism to avoid distraction force the organized movement took up camp at the outbreak of the war and have only kept the fires of the organization burning, awaiting the return of favorable conditions to re-enter the field of education and to bring to the issue of the Ohio Socialist the entire organized movement will catch the spirit—world revolution in governments and take their place in the great procession that is marching on to victory for Industrial Democracy.

A Slogan for the Mountaineer Socialists

Along with many other comrades, I just lately received from Oliver Wilson, Treasurer, a certificate of membership in the International Socialism. You have an earnest, sincere comrade as State Secretary. I may locate permanently at Wheeling, W. Va. and, if called in the future, will serve you in any capacity you may name. Fraternally, EDWIN FIRTH.

I was very much pleased to receive this certificate, and said to myself, "I shall keep this as a memento—some day it will be a great satisfaction to me to be the possessor of such a certificate," but, as I thought more about it, I began to wonder whether I was worthy and asked myself how well I had kept the faith. In the frame of mind I am taking stock of my courage and my devotion to the cause of Socialism, and the lines of the old hymn come to me as a fitting prayer.

Well, I can truthfully say that I did not exactly take to the woods, but since Comrades Firth, Howes, Greene and Bias were indicted and sent to prison I must confess that I have been camping on the edge of the timber that I might dart under cover at the first sign of danger.

But now, comrades, though some of us may not be satisfied that the world is yet hardly safe for democracy, especially in this country, let us let us let us "come out of the woods," go back to our old habits and take up the work left off (if we can) of spreading the gospel of Socialism.

They sure threw a scare into the Socialists, which was the purpose of the "Big Noise," and it was not all so far as our of our Huntington comrades can testify. So let not our strong, bold spirits who, unafraid, stayed on the job, point the finger of scorn at their comrades who were not so steady on their feet. I am not going to call any comrade a coward or reproach him because he refrained from speaking out boldly his honest convictions at all times and places; but now that the war is over, "come out of the woods," go to the work you are in, and if you are a mighty poor Socialist.

What about your local, is it going good and strong, or has it missed having a legal meeting because it lacked one of having a quorum? O, my comrades, if you are true-red from your very soul, if your local has kept up its meetings and your nose is not needed in the counting for a quorum, it ought to be there, nevertheless, where it will send the battle, till every man in your town is captured for Socialism. You and I need the local and our local needs us.

H. F. OBERHOLTZER, Member S. E. C., 5th Dist., W. Va.

A Word from Ex-State Sec'y Firth

Comrades of West Virginia: It was with a great deal of regret that I placed my resignation before the Socialist membership of West Virginia. Feeling that my efforts were feeble and less efficient than the secretaryship of others might have been, still I looked forward to a renewal of the comradeship I formerly enjoyed with the loyal Socialists of West Virginia. But the loss of my position in Huntington, when I went to jail, and the consequent hunt for a job when I got out, took me to Nitro, W. Va., a government reservation. The temporary outlook for work here and the nature of the general life in such a place made my continuation as State Secretary impracticable and impossible.

To the Socialists of West Virginia I feel an undying gratitude. In my hour of need you helped me in a hundred ways, when almost every man brought an appeal for aid from other sections of the country.

We have passed through the fire and, in the main, stood the test, and my greeting to my fellow workers

A HINT SHOULD BE SUFFICIENT

Remember—A good way toward building up your local and putting pep in the movement is to get every member and prospective member to subscribe for the Ohio Socialist. Try it. Get busy with that sub list. The world is moving fast and if you will get readers for the Ohio Socialist we

will all go along together, don't let the organized movement run off and leave your local. Keep up to date by reading and getting others to read the paper that puts pep in the movement. It's the Ohio Socialist.

Start 1919 with 1919 paid

GIVE THEM A CONSTITUTION

Comrades, wouldn't it be a good idea to give to each prospective member a state constitution and platform before you get his application? You know they pledge themselves to be governed by both while a member of the party. Take this up at your next local meeting and have your secretary order a bundle. The State Office has a supply for the benefit of the members, 29 for \$1.00. Platforms will be sent free while the supply lasts. Which local will be the first to start right for intelligent membership?

WEST VIRGINIA STATE AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- Executive Committee Members: Executive Committee Members at Large, C. W. Kirkendall, Sistersville, First District. (Ex) Howard Boston, 1114 10th St., Moundsville. J. M. Snyder, 1405 8th St., Fairmont. J. B. West, Mannington. Second District. (Ex) S. Dayton, Belmont. (Ex) E. L. Smith, Martinsburg. Third District. P. R. Garrett, Harrisville. (Ex) J. W. Wright, Weston, (chairman). J. W. Flint, Weston. Fourth District. (Ex) H. F. Oberholzer, Huntington. H. L. Franklin, Huntington. Sixth District. George E. Glass, Heizer. C. W. Harper, Charleston. (Ex) M. F. Link, Ronceverte.

October Financial Statement. RECEIPTS.

Table with columns for names and amounts: Elizabeth (Huntington) \$3.00, Buckhamon \$6.00, Sistersville \$3.00, Deeds \$3.00, Martinsburg \$6.00, A. L. Bauer, Two Books \$20, Dr. M. S. Holt, Literature \$2.50, South Slave Federation \$1.00. Total \$52.70.

EXPENDITURES.

Table with columns for names and amounts: 1,000 July, August and September Bulletins \$35.00, Dr. E. L. Smith, expense in attendance S. C. meeting, Fairmount, Aug. 6, \$13.30, Postage \$3.51, Secretary's Com. \$7.50. Total \$59.31.

GENERAL TREASURY.

Table with columns for names and amounts: Balance Oct. 1, \$8.55, October receipts \$7.70. Total \$16.25. Secretary's Com., donated \$7.50. Total \$23.75.

DEFICIT NOV. 1, \$11.25

H. L. FRANKLIN, Acting State Secretary.

Financial Statement, November, 1918.

RECEIPTS.

Table with columns for names and amounts: Elkins \$6.00, Belmont \$3.00, O. A. Davis, M. A. L. \$1.00, Sistersville \$10.05, Elkins \$6.00, H. F. Link, M. A. L. \$1.00, O. A. Pope, M. A. L. \$1.00, N. C. Courtney, M. A. L. \$1.00, P. T. Ballard, M. A. L. \$1.00, Luther McIntyre, M. A. L. \$1.00, Cedar Grove \$1.50, Floyd Asbury, M. A. L. \$1.00, Charleston \$3.00, Hungarian Federation \$2.00, Lithuanian Federation \$4.05, Fairmont, 300 State Bulletins \$10.00. Total \$59.80.

EXPENDITURES.

Table with columns for names and amounts: Dues stamps \$15.00, Postage \$2.43, Secretary's Com. \$18.52. Total \$35.95.

GENERAL TREASURY.

Table with columns for names and amounts: Receipts over expenses, Nov. \$23.85, Deficit Nov. 1, \$11.25.

Cash Bal. in Treasury, Dec. 1, \$12.60, Stamps on hand \$23.90, 1,000 State Constitutions \$48.25, Three sets local sec'y books \$9.00, 50 "Think or Surrender" by Kirkpatrick \$5.00, 500 membership cards \$5.00, 1,000 application for membership \$2.00, 500 "How to Organize a Local" \$2.00, 50 "How to Conduct a Local" \$1.00, Miscellaneous books and leaflets \$5.00.

Cash and resources, total \$64.80. H. L. FRANKLIN, Acting State Secretary.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO EXPENSE OF TRIAL OF STATE SEC'Y. FIRTH & OTHERS

Table with columns for names and amounts: Contributions to Expense of Trial of State Secretary Edwin Firth, Complete list of contributions to the trial cost of Comrades Firth, Howes, Greene and Bias, v. State. Moundsville, \$2; Charleston, \$4.50; Belmont, \$5; Moundsville, \$5; National Office, \$150; Buckhamon, \$5; Sistersville, \$5; M. F. Link, \$15; Eccles, \$5; Wellford, \$5; C. M. Buthe, et al., \$5.50; Dr. E. L. Smith, \$7.30; Morgantown, \$10; D. B. Harper, \$5; A. L. Bauer, \$5.80; Elizabeth, Huntington, \$10; Weston, \$6; J. W. Lyons,

Xmas and Our Political Prisoners

Don't let us forget our political prisoners this Christmas, comrades. To be in jail at any time is unpleasant. To be in prison at Christmas time of all the year is much worse. We can make Christmas more pleasant for them by sending them some little thing which will convey to them our comradeship and esteem and will prove a bright ray that will lighten up the gray walls which confine their bodies but not their spirits.

Special rules apply to the receiving by prisoners of Christmas packages. We should take advantage of these rules and send our comrades something for the holidays.

At the Atlanta (Ga.) Federal prison we have three Ohio comrades, Comrades C. A. Townsley, A. A. Henney of Columbus and A. L. Hitchcock of Cleveland, former member of the school board. Remember them these holidays and write to them and if possible send them a package of something good to eat. They can only write one letter a week so don't expect them to answer your letters right away. However, it is not you who need to hear from them, it is they who very much desire to hear from you. Here are the rules governing the sending of Christmas packages to prisoners at Atlanta. Read them carefully and send your comrades a package of Christmas cheer. Address Box 1733, Atlanta, Ga.

Rules. The rules governing the receiving of articles by inmates of this institution will be modified from December 20, 1918, to December 31, 1918, both days inclusive, as follows:

That during the period above stated Christmas packages of candies, fruits, chewing gum, cigars, tobacco in reasonable quantities, received for inmates from relatives and friends, will be delivered in addition to those articles regularly allowed. Cigars and tobacco must, however, come with revenue stamps unbroken, otherwise they will not be delivered.

Those who do not expect packages from home or friends may order them through the usual channels here. Packages of fruits, nuts and candies for delivery during this time.

Paper shell pecans may be ordered at a special price of 40 cents per pound for medium and 60 cents per pound for large ones.

Packages intended for Christmas delivery should be sent early, as the mails during that period are more or less congested and deliveries correspondingly slow.

FRED G. ZERBST, Nov. 20, 1918.

At the Warrensville Work House we have three comrades, Willard Bennett, Comrade Lesco and Harry Wagenknecht. For these comrades we request that our packages sent them be mailed to the State Office. We will personally deliver them.

At the Cuyahoga county jail we also have some comrades. They are: Comrades E. Curtis Ilkhenans and Walter Pierce. We will also deliver packages to them, which are sent us at the State Office.

Remember our political prisoners this Christmas!

THANK YOU—BELMONT

Frank Stidd, for Belmont County local, returns \$37.44 to the State Office that county's share of campaign fund collection. The best meeting of the state office will make good use of this refund. Comrade Stidd also writes that they are ready for a Baker date as soon as our state organizer is routed.

Start 1919 with 1919 paid

THAT TEN AT A TIME EPIDEMIC

It's Albert C. Holloway this time. The letter is short but effective. "Here's \$5—send sub cards" is all he says. We must admit that our Socialist lawyers in this state are not above lending Jimmy Higgins a hand. Edwin Blank, Allen Cook and Albert C. Holloway, of Lima, Canton and Akron respectively know that subs make Socialism grow.

Don't start 1919 owing for 1918.

Dover heard from! H. L. Ricker writes: "You know, when fellow reads the capitalist press for a week and then gets the Ohio Socialist, it is like going a week without eating and then sitting down to a table containing an abundance of the food you like. You'll get more subs from me. Shall revive the local, too."

Start 1919 with 1919 paid

\$1; G. H. Buthe, \$5; Elkins, \$5; J. R. and J. W. Foley, \$2; M. F. Link, \$13; Sistersville, \$2; Fairmont, \$4; Luther McIntyre, \$1; H. F. Oberholzer, \$5; G. W. Gillespie, \$3. Total, \$29.22. Total Paid Out of Firth, et al. Trial Cost Fund.

To the U. S. Court Clerk \$29.50

To Comrade Firth for personal benefit \$25.00

To H. F. Oberholzer, on \$49.05

note for trial cost \$22.00

Total paid out \$286.50

Balance on hand \$5.50

Balance to H. F. Oberholzer on note \$27.05

Respectfully submitted,

H. L. FRANKLIN, Acting State Secretary.

HERE'S AN IDEA

Local Ashtabula raised the monthly dues to 30c and gives 5c from each month's dues to the financial secretary as collection fee. By doing this they hope the financial secretary will interest himself in keeping all members in good standing.

An order for 120 dues stamps from Columbus spells encouragement. With Comrade Van Schoyck as financial secretary, after the "bads" and Comrade Eubanks after "nuts," Columbus is bound to see "red."

FOUR TEN SPOTS

Our eyes opened wide when we picked a money order for \$40 out of an envelope that hailed from the town in which we were boarded free for ten months. S. W. Katz is the guilty party and the whole four tens constituted an investment in Ohio Socialist sub cards. Ten dollars of it came out of the local treasury and the balance was subscribed for by members of Local Canton.

STUEBENVILLE TO SPRUCE UP

E. P. McDevitt, the secretary, writes the State Office that Local Stuebenville is about to brush the dust from its good intentions and enjoy a transposition into action. Tom Lewis is asked for.

Let us tell you how we can prove that the Ohio Socialist stands ace high. We prove it by the kicks we receive when an issue misses a subscriber. The kicks we have received within the last week have knocked us dead were it not for the fact that that kind of a kick is a boost. One subscriber writes that he did not feel quite sane all week because his last paper failed to reach him.

M. A. Toohy, Application cards, 200. What's up? Watch Toledo's initiation stamp sales and you'll find out.

Barsky put Comneat in the front rank this week by a \$5.50 dues stamp order.

Subscription Getter's College, John Rehm, principal. If we could that's what we'd do. And John Rehm could teach thousands how to get subs for Socialist papers. The Springfield list is one of our largest. Rehm lives in Springfield.

NILES ON THE SOCIALIST MAP

"Niles will be on the Socialist map from now on for we intend leasing a hall for a year so that we can have meetings every Sunday. John McKeown will be our first speaker, Sunday, Dec. 22." So writes Aldo Fard. We answered by assuring him that Niles has been on the Socialist map for many months, and well he knows it. Niles is one of the busiest, best and most enterprising locals in the state.

Edw. Dull of Hamilton forwards \$20.35 for the Debs' Defense Fund, and writes that he "hopes the comrades in the state are prepared to go further if need be to defend our fellow comrade."

DUES STAMP SALES INCREASING

We report for the week only and we are praying that every week from now on will show a gain in dues stamp sales. Many of our members-at-large are following our suggestion of paying dues ahead for the year 1919 and we have also had letters from several local members stating that they have paid a year's dues in advance.

But it is not only advance dues that we are concerned about. Something very akin to nausea overtakes us when we think of the hundreds of members in our locals who are in arrears with their dues. Our heart sinks and our temper rises and who knows but what we will yet be led to say bad words upon this subject—unless—well, you know your duty.

"Enclosed find another blow at capitalism," writes C. E. Landon of Piqua. He fired six subs.

A total receipt of \$205.60 and an expense of about \$75. That's the way Local Niles does business. It was a Debs' meeting. The best meeting of its kind ever held in Niles," says Edw. Peterson.

A newsy letter from Herbert Knecht of Cambridge assures us that, Guernsey county will be among the most active as soon as the epidemic abates. Referring to gags in general, Comrade Knecht writes: "There is one feature that some gents fail to recognize and that is that the heart of a revolutionary Socialist never beats a retreat!"

CINCINNATI \$36.60

Most of it for dues stamps, too. Local Cincinnati held its city convention on Dec. 1. Watch next issue for an account of it. That's taking time by the forelock, isn't it? To hold a city convention now. Good idea though. Municipal elections coming on. And while Cincinnati has already acted, it's at least high time for other locals to think about it.

Glad to again hear from our comrade, Burl S. Brown. He has just returned to Upper Sandusky from Camp Sherman. He promises the Ohio Socialist some special articles which are now in the course of preparation. Comrade Brown was, before being drafted, principle of schools at Vermilion.

Don't start 1919 owing for 1918.

HEAR EUGENE V. DEBS

Canton, Auditorium Dec. 22 at 2:30 P. M.,

Massillon, evening Dec. 23

Don't Put It Off—ORDER NOW—VICTORY EDITION Dec. 31st. \$1.00 per Hundred.

"Free Them"

Sunday January 5th- The Day

Sunday, January 5th, is the day upon which every Socialist Party local should hold a meeting in protest against the continued incarceration of political prisoners. The war is over. Peace treaties will soon be signed. It becomes our solemn duty to raise our voices in behalf of those who, while this country was at war, advocated opinions contrary to the opinions of those in administrative control.

Amnesty for political prisoners is in common usage in European countries, even in those which were most autocratic before they walked down the Red Flag Road. It is high time that these United States differentiated between prisoners who commit a felony and those who, as Anatole France says, "Honor their country by suffering prison, exile and outrage."

The National Office of the Socialist Party has issued a call to all organizations to arrange public mass meetings on this day. This is the day before the Debs' case comes before the Supreme Court for hearing, and it may not be far from the day when Debs joins the hundreds of his comrades who still occupy prison cells.

We demand amnesty for all political prisoners. Not the Socialists alone. We speak for the anarchists, the Industrial Workers of the World, the Menomites, the Russellites, the conscientious objectors or any other pacifist group that has suffered persecution. Only then will we be free to speak when everyone is free to speak. Only then will we have free speech.

Begin preparations at once. Let there arise from every corner of the nation the unified demand—FREE THEM!

LETTERS

From the Land of Devil-May-Care

Written for the Ohio Socialist by W. E. Reynolds.

Awgwan Province, Devil-May-Care-Land, Dec. 15, 1918.

Dear Sir: Things are whoopin here in Warwhop Valley among the Awgwans. I spent part of last week visiting at an agrarian peasant's home.

The family was a typical family of Gogs who had nothing but ambition hogs and hope. It was slaughter week and many fine fat porkers were killed.

The fine fat hogs were split in halves and taken to the market place and there exchanged for tokens of rattlemoney. These Gogs seemed especially anxious to trade these tokens for a receipt of some kind. I think they called these receipts "Magogs." It seemed a strange proceeding to me as I expected to see the Awgwan family have a fine dinner of roast pork, after having gone to all the trouble of raising the pork, but they seemed to prefer the pieces of paper instead of the dinner.

One of the Gogs remarked to me that "Hogs were great plaster lifters." I knew hogs rooted up pasture lands but didn't know they rooted up plaster. The Awgwan Gogs then informed me that he meant that hogs were good to trade for a kind of gage that was popular there. The full name was morgage.

"I wouldn't trade a hog for a morgage. I'd eat the hog first, and then I'd trade the mortgage." But these Devil-May-Care folks are such phunny phools!

All the pork we had to eat was what they called the awful parts like liver and kidneys. The Awgwans hardly ever kill a beef but prefer to raise them and send them to the big killing houses in the far off cities of All-fooliland. They raise the beef, but do not eat it. They milk cows and send the cream as a peace offering to the Magogs and the skim milk they buy a kind of butter substitute called margineole. This is a white sickly looking substance that looks like an over ripe bar of Ivory Soap just getting over the inferiority of the Magogs. At the market places they buy a kind of butter substitute called margineole. This is a white sickly looking substance that looks like an over ripe bar of Ivory Soap just getting over the inferiority of the Magogs.

When the Scissors (this is the name of the saw while the men Gogs are known as Scissor Billings in Awgwan). Well as I was telling you, when the Scissors go to the market place to trade their metal tokens for oleo the gate keeper of the market place, who looks after the butter-cream and the oleo as they affectionately call it. These Gogs are so used to being fooled that they like to fool themselves.

When the Scissors (this is the name of the saw while the men Gogs are known as Scissor Billings in Awgwan). Well as I was telling you, when the Scissors go to the market place to trade their metal tokens for oleo the gate keeper of the market place, who looks after the butter-cream and the oleo as they affectionately call it. These Gogs are so used to being fooled that they like to fool themselves.

It looks like butter but it tastes like axle grease that has been boiled in spoiled butter and slippery cold bark. All the Gogs, which, as I told you before, were the lower class people of Devil-May-Care-Land, like oleo or at least they pretend to like it and if any Gog should try to tell the people that the people who raise the cows which give the milk, which raises the cream out of which butter is made, should eat the butter, he is set upon by the people as an agitator and an undesirable citizen and is treated as a scoundrel and labeled "dissolal." All the Awgwans and all the All-fools pride themselves on their loyalty but they do not tell you WHAT they are loyal to, but as each one tries to get as many pieces as he can he can and as each piece is stamped "In THIS God we trust," one can easily see that their loyalty is to

Follow suit, please. For instance, there's J. S. Case, member-at-large. He sends \$5 to square up dues and press stamps. He starts 1919 with 1919 paid.

Don't start 1919 owing for 1918.

Follow suit again. Walter Dearolf secures a new member-at-large for us. There are Socialists everywhere you turn. All you need is application cards and enough lung power to show them the need of organization.

Start 1919 with 1919 paid

F. W. Goll has been re-elected secretary for Local Lorain. We wonder if the Lorain comrades really appreciate the services of this tireless worker for our cause. We know of no local secretary in Ohio who is more thorough and painstaking in his duties.

Member-at-large George Allen will begin 1919 with 1919 paid. Try it on yourself.

Among the Live Ones

Canton is coming to, in other words is waking up. Comrade Carl Guilloid is on the job and not soldiering either. Ten subs from him this week.

"First blood" cried Comrade W. B. Dillon, State Secretary of New Mexico, as he captures two wandering in No Man's Land. Somehow or other, our state secretaries just can't resist boosting the Ohio Socialist.

Comrade Victor Carlson of Youngstown is a new sub worker and we think he will prove a good one from the fact that he sends in two yearlies for a start. You can do that too if you try. Why not do so?

Back again with two is Comrade Edwin Peterson of Niles. We knew he wouldn't stay away long.

Comrade Mrs. Hitchcock, wife of A. L. Hitchcock, the Socialist school board member of Cleveland, who is a guest of Uncle Sam at Atlanta, sends us four subs. She reports Comrade Hitchcock as feeling fine and gaining in weight, and now that he has his violin will be able to enjoy life still more.

Don't start 1919 owing for 1918.

"Hoping I can do better next time. We sure have a dandy paper and must keep it going at all cost," is what Comrade C. R. Swope of Warren writes. He sends four new subs and two renewals. Thanks comrade, come again soon.

Now comes Comrade Zeelo of Cleveland with three dollars for three yearlies. Comrade Zeelo sends us one two or three most every week. He's a member of the Red Hundred and holds the color in fine shape.

Another Red Hundred member keeps the pledge. Comrade Emma Stripling hands us a new yearlie.

"I will do what I can in the future to send you more donations and subscriptions," writes Comrade J. W. Ellison, agent of the Ashtabula branch of the Marine Firemen, Water-tenders and Coal Passengers. He sends a half yearly sub and \$150 for the Debs' fund.

Still on the job is Comrade Catlin of Youngstown. Two half yearlies he mails us.

Our Piqua list still grows and grows. Comrade C. E. Landon adds six more to the list this week. Every little bit added to what we've got makes our chances better.

Cincinnati will keep in line if Comrade Garteman has his way. These Red Hundred members sure have the recipe for getting subs. Three more Comrade Garteman sends in.

Start 1919 with 1919 paid

Three renewals and a new one are the contribution of Comrade E. C. Wolfe of Mt. Vernon. One new one a week means a big list in a year, comrade.

Comrade Henry Henkle of Hamilton was among the first to pledge support to the Ohio Socialist. He's been busy ever since making that pledge good. Two half yearlies from him this week.

Another State Secretary boosts us a bit. Comrade Jennie McGehe of Colorado sends three dollars for three yearlies. We surely appreciate the help from other states and the comradeship which accompanies this assistance.

"We are entering upon a new period of activity," says Comrade Walter Conradi of New Bremen, who sends us one more.

One dollar for the defense fund and fifty cents for a subscription is the contribution of Comrade W. J. Gilmore of Dola.

Don't start 1919 owing for 1918.

If Lorain doesn't keep up with the procession it will not be the fault of Comrade F. W. Goll. But we believe it will. His efforts are getting results as witness three subs from him today.

This is what Comrade H. L. Franklin, State Secretary of West Virginia, says on his list of ten, "Accept this bunch. I'll be back soon with some more. Used to be a worker for the Appeal but since it lost its reason it's the Ohio Socialist for me. Stick to your colors, comrades, and victory will be ours." We advise the West Virginia comrades to get the spirit of their state secretary and to begin to put in double time for Socialism. The sooner the better.

From Wise, Va. comes three yearlies. Comrade D. B. Dale is responsible. Each and every week there are a few new boosters who raise their hands and say, "I'm with you, count me." We are always glad to see them. Thanks Comrade Dale.

Our Kentucky comrades are not to be left behind when it comes to getting subscribers. Read this from Comrade E. L. Davenport of Central City. "Received the sample copies, handed them out and here is the result." He sends five dollars for as many yearlies. We are sure there are other comrades down in old "Kentucky" who can do just as well. Try.

Press stamp sales are looking up in Bellaire. Comrade Stidd sends in the names of seven subscribers. Keep them going, Comrade Stidd. We are counting on you.

"Received a copy of your paper and you will notice I am not wasting any time in sending my sub. Enclosed find dollar for same. Giving you full credit for the noble stand you have taken during the crisis." I went bond for Comrade Germer at Grand Rapids." Thus writes Comrade Adrian Luyendyk of Zeeland, Mich.

A bunch of six half yearlies from Comrade Blank of Lima shows he is still running strong as ever.

Another booster from Lima is Comrade Russell H. Calkins. Four from him proves there is plenty of material in Lima to make good Socialists out of.

Hope, don't lose it. That's about all we workers possess outside of our poverty.

The Impending Crisis

By EDWIN FFRTH.

Most prophecies find their proper resting place in the waste baskets of oblivion and derision. The prophecies of Socialists in the past, concerning the coming of the co-operative commonwealth, were based on scientific principles of evolution and economic development, but in their enthusiasm in the absolute sureness of the realization of their ideals, these prophets were prone to permit their desire for working class emancipation to outrun the slow but sure march of historical events.

But the war has opened a new book of theory and action to the proletariat of the world. The heel of the master class of Russia and Central Europe has driven the workers of those regions to the successful physical revolt. This impression has made on the thought processes of the workers of the world will never be effaced. In spite of all efforts of those opposed to real and genuine democracy—industrial democracy—the revolutionists of Russia and Central Europe hold firm and czar, kaisers, kings and emperors are fleeing in all directions and tens of thousands of parasites, who never had first hand acquaintance with work are now learning a living and never see the full triumph of the Social Revolution in Europe, but the most powerful shackles of capitalism have been broken there, never again to be forged.

But what of America? Are the American people the revolutionists of a Socialist form without the pressure of the desperate oppression that engulfed the peoples of Europe and forced them to rebel? There are some who contend that the American people will rise to the occasion and exhibit the intelligence and patience necessary to intelligently and peacefully accomplish the great work before us; there are more who contend that with our political liberty in this country we will, with a great amount of antagonistic working class backing and pulling on the political and industrial fields, stumble forward through the last days of capitalism without any great social upheaval, the great majority content that we will follow the way of all flesh and go forward on our stomachs.

Regardless of which of these opinions is most correct the duty of the Socialist Party is still plain and vivid—namely, to educate the masses of the future and that is to foster and promote revolutionary political education to go hand in hand with revolutionary unionism. The mission of the Socialist Party is to carry on a systematic educational propaganda for the purpose of instilling in the minds of the proletariat a knowledge of and faith in the principles of International Socialism. Whether the great change shall be brought about on the floors of congress, state legislatures and municipal halls, or by the unions and various workers' organizations on the economic field itself, need be of little concern to us. Being solely interested in Socialism and not office-holding we are not dogmatic as to the exact manner that working class triumph shall be achieved.

The summer is past, the harvest is ended, and we have not complete Socialism but the year of falling throne has not yet begun. The cause of the coming of many new class-fetters now all the earth, the bright star of the people's desires shines brightly in the east. Co-operation and solidarity are more than ever the secrets of the future. The coming of the new era in the Socialist Party, in the revolutionary unions and the farmer's organizations is more than ever the watchword of the hour. There are no short cuts to a realization of our cause. We shall look for more from this comrade, for we know he has gotten so much momentum that he couldn't stop if he wished.

From all points come the same reports. People are inquiring about Socialism, what it means, what it will do for them, and they want to understand it and to grasp the significance of this movement which is sweeping the world. Comrade Litz shows us an example of this. He sends us a sub which was given him by a man who came to his home, stating that he wished to know what Socialism was and that he knew he could not rely upon the capitalist press to find out the truth. What is true in this case is true in many others. We should not make it our business to search out those with open and inquiring minds and get our literature in their hands. They are ready for it. Give it to them.

Start 1919 with 1919 paid

Comrade Pinkus of Davenport, Ia., is a new name on our growing list of boosters. Six subs the first time is good. We shall look for more from this comrade, for we know he has gotten so much momentum that he couldn't stop if he wished.

Our Akron Reds are rounding them up in great haste. Comrade C. Hallowsy sends in one and so does Comrade Kuttner.

Don't start 1919 owing for 1918.

Mayor Hamilton of Piqua forwards one. Comrade Hamilton is sending them pretty regularly nowadays.

Three from Comrade Allen Cook of Canton. Comrade Cook is among those who show up every week good and strong.

Start 1919 with 1919 paid

Comrade James Shafer of Hamilton, an old time booster, forwards one sub this week.

Mansfield local is waking up its members by sticking a press stamp on them. This method will prove effective. They will soon be more than awake, they will soon be doing things.

Don't start 1919 owing for 1918.

Comrade Wm. P. Williams of Englewood, Colo., runs across a copy of the Ohio Socialist in the State Office and gets the Socialist requires courageous Socialists. What do you think? and if you think right you'll order a supply of Socialist buttons—five kinds on sale at the state office and only 20c for ten of them.

Don't start 1919 owing for 1918.

Locals Monthly Report

Local	New	Good	On
Membs.	Stand.	Roll.	
Akron	172	220	
Alliance			
Alpha			
Amherst			
Ashtabula			
Ashland			
Berberton	2	8	
Bellevue			
Belmont Co.	4	94	116
Bethel			
Bluffton			
Bowling Green			
Crooksville			
Byesville			
Cambridge			
Cincinnati	340	655	
Chicago Junction			
Clark Co.	1	42	150
Conneaut	1	7	32
Continental		6	6
Convoy			
Crestline			
Creston			
Crooksville			
Cuyahoga			
Cuyahoga Falls			
Dayton			
Derwent	12	22	
Deshler			
Demarest			
Dover			
Dunkinsville			
E. Liverpool	1	16	30
Elyria			
Edgerton			
Elmwood Pl.			
Fairview			
Findlay			
Fremont			
Galion			
Germanstown			
Grand			
Greenfield			
Grovel Hill	10	10	
Greenwich			
Hamilton	143	273	
Harrison Twp.			
Hubbard	2	23	34
Ironton			
Jenera			
Kenmore			
Kent			
Lancaster			
Letonia			
Lima			
Lorain			
Lorain Gr. Br.	10	10	
Mad River			
Mansfield	2	52	88
Marion			
Marysville			
Massillon	46	74	
McLuney			
Middleton			
Middletown			
Midvale			
Mogadore			
Montpelier			
Mt. Healthy	10	13	
Mt. Vernon	18	18	
Newark			
New Bremen	19	38	
New England			
New Philadelphia			
New Richmond			
Niles	4	93	114
North Baltimore			
North Star			
Norwalk			
Norwood			
Opperman			
Paris			
Piqua			
Pomeroy			
Portsmouth			
Portage Co.	18	69	69
Reading			
Rehoboth			
Rootstown			
Roseville			
Salem			
Saltville			
Sandusky	1	25	42
Schenes Co.	41	75	
Shalersville			
Steubenville			
Sidney			
St. Marys			
Struthers, S. Slovac.			
Uniontown			
The Plains			
Toledo	5	176	382
Toronto			
Troy			
Troy			
Van Buren Twp.			
Van Buren-Beverson Branch			
Van Buren-Carr			
Wadsworth			
Wapakoneta	11	14	
Warren			
Wauseon			
Wayne Twp.			
Williamsburg			
Willshire			
Winchester			
Xenia			
Youngstown	75	83	
Zanesville	3	33	41

An Appreciation

Comrades Baker, Ruthenberg and Wagenknecht desire to thank the many comrades and locals that have sent the state office congratulations upon their release from prison and best wishes for multiplied success in their Socialist activities. All three comrades shall try to prove worthy of the trust placed in them by their fellow comrades.

Portage County Local to the front! Eighteen new members admitted in November.

Don't start 1919 owing for 1918.

A BUTTON STORY

A comrade wrote us the other day (we will not mention his name nor the name of his local so as to save the feelings of his fellow members) that he was the only member of the local that wore a Socialist button. Wm. Richards, organizer of Local Youngstown, Ohio, has ordered 200 of the "little red lapel buttons."

We may be mistaken, but at those rare times when we snatch a moment or two for reflection we feel convinced that to get Socialism requires courageous Socialists. What do you think? and if you think right you'll order a supply of Socialist buttons—five kinds on sale at the state office and only 20c for ten of them.

Our "Victory" Edition How Many?

We must caution you. Don't do as so many have done in the past—order a bundle after the edition is off the press. If you desire to do your part in circulating our "VICTORY" edition then ORDER NOW. Orders placed after December 25th cannot be filled.

You'll want a good-sized bundle of this edition. And we now speak to both locals and members. This will be THE VERY ISSUE to place into the hands of the workers. Liebknecht, Trotsky, Lenin, Debs and others will speak through this issue and besides, we'll picture them to you from the latest photographs taken.

All ready orders are arriving. Toledo, 200; Abington, Va., 100; Conneaut, 500; Galion, 600, and many, many smaller orders are now on file. But this is only a start. We want your order at once. Every party member can spare a dollar for a hundred. Every local can spare a five or a ten spot for 500 or a thousand.

THIS IS THE SECOND LAST CALL. TAKE HEED! ORDER TODAY. ONE HUNDRED COPIES—\$1.00.

Gleanings

FROM THE LOG OF AN AGITATOR
By W. E. REYNOLDS.

A welcome change from pictures of the war which have been fought a little bit overlong in the movies.—From a movie writeup.

But I didn't expect them to admit it so soon.

The war between capital and labor is on. Now it's up to congress to keep the American army out of it. Keep your eye on your congressman.

The senate ought not to kick at one-man government. It helped to create it.

They tell us we do not understand the situation in Europe and that we must not discuss it. It looks to me, just an ordinary citizen of the "Free Peoples," that if we don't know enough about it to be allowed to talk about it, we do not know enough about it to fight about it.

They tell us we are a Free People, but we know better. No people are really free in any land where capitalist masters and wage slaves.

Some names that will go down in history—Liebknecht, Scheidemann, Kerevsky, Trotsky, Spargo, Lenin, Hohenzollern, Haywood, Gompers, Wilson, Debs, Walsh, Hyndman, Ramsey, McDonald, Asquith. Amuse yourself by trying to put them in two groups. One group will be honored and the other antedated. Can you group them?

Over here—contented wage slaves a la Gompers. Over there—wage slaves in rebellion a la Lanne and Liebknecht.

Over here—the espionage act. Over there—the RESULTS of former espionage acts.

Over here—disfranchised women. Over there—unfranchised women.

Bourgeois—taker of wealth others create. Proletaire—maker of wealth bourgeoisie take.

When the Yanks have learned to Parle Yod, they'll know their place in the class line too.

Merry Christmas! That is as merry as a poverty-stricken debt-ridden wage-slave may be.

You can tell the character of a home by the kind of books in it. Some homes contain no books except the Bible and a mail order catalog, and the catalog is read by far the most.

Have you ordered some new scientific books from the State Office lately?

"Governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed," says the Declaration of Independence, but you will notice it says JUST powers. All just powers may come from the consent of the governed but nowadays a heap of power is exercised without the consent of the governed.

Governments derive their strength from the ignorance, cowardice and misdirected activity of the governed. This is true of all class government.

Pity the poor war profiteer—he is jobless now.

After reading all about America's wonderful financial strength it is a rude shock to hear the before Christmas pieces of the Plute Press for plea, for the poor kiddies, we can abolish poverty for year instead of ameliorating it at Christmas time—before we die that we will have to pay more attention to working class organizations and less attention to the billionaire.

When grandfather came here he found a forest of standing trees. When we got here we found a forest of smokestacks and factories. We can MAKE food and shoes and clothes a hundred times easier than grandfather could, yet grandfather OWNED his shoes when he got through making them, while I only get wages for making shoes, and we are no better off than grandfather was. Can anybody but a Socialist explain this riddle?

The suppression of free speech is the first act of scoundrels in suppressing a free people.

Political freedom must be followed by Economic Freedom before the world can have an industrial Democracy and all the Government Bureau of control and suppression are but milestones showing how far we have progressed in the wrong direction.

America has promised 20,000,000 tons of food to Europe, so says the announcement. I was not consulted about the matter or I would have told the committee or person or whoever it was that promised in the name of America, that there were a heap of hungry kids right around the corner here at home.

Let us hope that the occupation of the American army of occupation is some other occupation than keeping the German working class down and preserving the property rights of the Prussian aristocrats, who have no occupation.

The parliament of Toulouse, France,

burned 400 women as witches on the public square in a single hour. This is a sample of good Christianity as the Bible plainly states, "Thou shalt not suffer a witch to live." People who believe the Bible never had a chance to study it.

I'd much rather send my children to a pest house than to a Sunday school. At the pest house the worst that could happen would be death by contagious disease, while at the Sunday school the least that can happen is intellectual death.

How much happier and wiser the world would be if parents would only teach their children all that they KNOW about God in place of what they have been taught or what they believe. What does any one know about God? Nothing. This much and no more should be taught children concerning God. Do not lie to the little ones.

Blackstone said, "The husband and wife are one and that one is the husband." Well all the states denying suffrage to women in effect say the same thing.

All creeds of all churches which accept the Bible as authority are founded on a lie. The doctrine of original sin is a lie.

The church has no monopoly on the morals of the masses although it claims to have.