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## A CHALLENGE TO THE AMERICAN WORKERS

### Debs' First Day In Federal Authorities Grab Him And Hurry Him To Prison

By DAVID KARSHNER.

Moundsville, W. Va., April 14.—Eugene Victor Debs will sleep tonight, not in a cage like a wild beast, as he slept last night, his first night in the West Virginia State Prison, but in a little room in the hospital of the prison, for "Our Gene" has been appointed a hospital attendant, and he has a separate room to himself, with a white iron bed, newly clothed, a table and a chair.

Shortly after 11 o'clock this morning Debs was taken from his cell, No. 51, in the second tier of the south wing, to the prison baths. He was examined by Dr. O. P. Wilson, the prison physician, and then donned prison underclothing and the prison uniform. But when I saw Debs late this afternoon the prison suit was not unbecoming to him. It was well fitting and contained the tiniest check. It is the kind of a suit that anybody might purchase at a cheap clothing store.

Warden Joseph Z. Terrill explained that he had at first thought of placing Debs in the prison library because of his knowledge of books and literature, but he did not do this because he thought that he might be too much subjected to curiosity. As hospital attendant Debs will have a room entirely to himself. The room is of a good size, larger than most rooms of the Bronx apartments. It is on the ground floor. There are two ample windows one facing the south, and one the east. There are no bars at his windows. The door will be open at all times, and Debs has full privilege to come and go as he pleases. He has full and complete access to the prison yard and the lawns.

When Engdahl, Wagenknecht and myself went to the prison today we were led by Warden Terrill through the turntable. He took us through long winding corridors to the hospital section. As we passed the prison druggist was making little pellets. He was a convict "in" for murder. He looked at us as we passed with a furtive look, then went on filling the capsules.

We walked up one flight of stairs. The warden opened the door of a freshly painted room, and there was "Our Gene" quietly sitting in a low rocking chair, smoking his pipe and reading a book. At first he did not look up.

"Mr. Debs, here are your friends back again to see you," said the warden. Gene put his book aside on the bed and disturbed the big gray cat that was sleeping by his side.

Greetings were over and the warden then told Debs that he had free access to the prison library. "We have a rule here, Mr. Debs, that prisoners must be checked up on the books they take from the library, but we will waive that rule for you. I know you appreciate the value of good books."

"Indeed I do," said Debs, thanking the warden. We talked a few minutes and Debs told us that he slept "like a log last night," and now felt "as chipper as a young goat on a tin roof."

He laughed good naturedly as he looked at his prison garb and asked us how we liked his new suit. Debs had come to the penitentiary in a new blue serge. He was still wearing the vest of it. He wore his own collar and tie.

"I have met many fine men in here," said Gene to us. "In the cell right next to mine last night there was a man whom I met at McKees Rocks, Pa., many years ago. He was telling me his story." We walked down the hall with Debs, and Gene assured us that he had had three good meals, and "that everything was all right," his usual expression in cases of extreme adversity. The warden made it plain to us that he did not wish our visit to be of length. We carried a moment while Debs said that he had received a number of telegrams from his comrades in all parts of the country.

Just before we entered the prison we met three messenger boys, and all of them owned up they had just delivered messages for Debs. The warden insisted that Engdahl, Wagenknecht and myself take dinner with him. We did so. The warden was interested to learn something of Debs' history.

Warden Terrill told us that twenty-five years ago he was a telegraph operator on the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad when Debs was organizing the railroad men in the American Railway Union. "I remember when Debs went to prison at that time," he said. The warden admitted that he had never seen Debs, but added, "he has a wonderful mind, and a fine brain."

As we talked with the keeper of the great liberator in his private apartments on the top floor of the prison overlooking the Ohio valley and the river that flows at its feet Terrill's little girl romped and played on the floor. The name of Debs was mentioned frequently and finally the little brown-eyed baby looked up in her father's eyes and asked: "Daddy, who is Debs?" The prison warden blushed. "Ask these gentlemen here, my dear, they seem to know better than I." In turn the three visiting men explained to the little girl who Gene Debs is and told her that some day she could say she had lived in the same house with him.

"I don't know what you gentlemen may think," said the warden, at one point, "but I want you all to know that I have had no instructions from any one, none from the governor, nor from Washington, to show Mr. Debs any special favors or consideration. What I am doing is purely my own affair."

The warden seemed to want to impress us with that view of the matter. We had all hazarded the guess that in the case of Debs unusual consideration would be policy, and that this consideration very likely came from high authority. The warden denies it.

While we were all talking in Debs' room the warden spoke about Gene's new job as hospital attendant.

"I am going to do whatever you think is best," said Debs. "I want to earn my board here at any rate," he added, and the tall, classic frame of the great Socialist and humanist bent almost double with silvery laughter.

The book that Debs had been reading was John Reed's "Ten Days That Shook the World." I had presented Debs with my own copy of that book.

Before we left, the warden permitted us to leave with Debs a box of cigars, a cake of chocolate, and a bag of apples and oranges. In the corridor we passed several convicts painting the banisters. Debs patted each on the back. It was a spontaneous movement of his. He could not refrain. The warden smiled.

In spite of this kindness, in spite of this manifestation of official consideration for Our Gene, let our Socialists not relax one iota in their efforts to get Debs out of prison and all of the men and women out of prison who were convicted under the most atrocious law that ever disgraced this republic. The main point to keep in mind is that Debs is denied his liberty. He is a prisoner behind bars. He cannot come out of jail for ten years unless the organized power of the working class forces the capitalist class to swing the lever of that automatic turntable through which Debs passed Sunday night.

Debs knows this as much as any. It is liberty that Debs wants, and in getting liberty for himself he demands it for every breathing being. I am reminded of Debs' classic statement, printed and stated so many hundreds of times. Shall we write it again: "While there is a lower class I am in it. While there is a criminal class I am of it. While there is a soul in prison I am not free."

### Debs And Hurry Him To Prison

#### Usual Formalities Not Observed To Prevent Final Speech In Cleveland

By J. LOUIS ENGDAHL.

Moundsville, W. Va., April 13.—"Gene Debs is in prison! He is caged in a steel cell, with a door of heavy metal bars."

It is Cell No. 51, in the south wing of the West Virginia state penitentiary here at Moundsville.

This thing happened tonight, at 10 o'clock, on the night of Palm Sunday, with Easter one week distant, and as an admirer of Debs said on his departure from Terre Haute, Ind., his home, last Saturday, "We are ready for another crucifixion."

"It will never happen. They will never do it. They won't put Debs in prison."

"This is what the millions over the land have said for so these many months since his indictment, and even since his conviction and sentence. But tonight we said "Good night" to him through the bars that constitute the door of his dark door in this human hive they call tiers of cells.

Debs tonight took his place—a convict—among a thousand other convicts, criminals of all grades, and shades and brands, and the words that he uttered in the court room at Cleveland, Ohio, during his trial, came back to us, who were with him: "As long as there is a criminal class I am of it, as long as there is a slave class I am for it, as long as there is a soul in prison I am not free."

Only a few moments before, as they

led him through the turntable cage door, the latest prison ingenuity to bar the "inside" from the "outside," Arthur Baur, Gene's brother-in-law, a brother of Mrs. Debs, who had come with Gene all the way from Terre Haute, uttered the anguish of an outraged working class when he exclaimed:

"My God, how can they do it, why do they do it?"

Yet Debs' last message to the workers of the nation perhaps best answers why they did it. This message was:

"Tell my comrades that I entered the prison doors a flaming revolutionary, my head erect, my spirit untamed and my soul unconquerable."

It was on the trip here, at East Liverpool, O., that he remarked that today, was April 13, the anniversary of the Battle of Lexington, the beginning of the American Revolutionary War in 1776; that it is also the anniversary of the Ludlow Massacre during the great Colorado coal strike.

For half a century the world has known of "Gene Debs, of Terre Haute, Ind. Now, if this world would reach him through the mails it must address him "Gene Debs, 1818 Jefferson Ave., Moundsville, W. Va., which is the address of the penitentiary of this state.

Workers of many nations have already protested the conviction of this

man, who was the center of the little group that arrived on this Palm Sunday night at this battle, that promises to take a prominent place in American working class history. There was Debs, his brother-in-law, Alfred Wagenknecht, director of organization and propaganda, National Office of the Socialist Party; David Karshner of the Call, the New York Socialist daily; the writer, and of course, United States Marshal Charles W. Lapp and U. S. Deputy Marshall Thomas E. Welch, in charge of Debs. There are no high walls around this prison, but guards sit in turrets at

intervals with loaded rifles in their hands ready to frustrate with a deadly bullet any attempt on the part of an inmate to win the open. The grass grows fresh and green and free upon the wide lawn, but the heavy gratings are upon every window.

"Don't think that I hold anything against you, for your part in bringing me here," Debs was explaining to the United States marshal as he ascended the steps and entered the place to which a federal judge has sentenced "Our Gene" to spend the next ten years of his life because he

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DEBS ON WAY TO PRISON.

### Ruling Class Throws Down Gage Of Battle By Imprisoning Debs

In putting Eugene V. Debs behind prison bars the capitalist class of the United States has thrown down the gage of battle to the workers. They have said, as clearly as if the words themselves had been uttered: "The revolt of the workers elsewhere may be overturning thrones and hurling the exploiters of the workers from control of industry and power, but we are certain that you are so meek and tame and thoroughly hypnotized that even this outrageous act will not stir you."

The ruling class of this country knows that Eugene V. Debs is loved by the workers as no other man in the working class movement is loved. It knows that he has won the loyalty and devotion, of hundreds of thousands of men and women who have heard him raise his matchless voice for the freedom of the workers. It knows that no act that it could commit would arouse such bitter resentment and opposition as sending Eugene V. Debs to prison.

During the weeks since the supreme court rendered its cowardly decision upholding the conviction of Debs without daring to affirm the constitutionality of the Espionage Law, workers by the tens of thousands have met in protest meetings against the imprisonment of Debs in all parts of the country. These protest meetings brought out greater numbers of the working class than have ever gathered for similar demonstrations. The workers showed in an unmistakable fashion that the threat against Debs touched them to the quick.

The war is over; the patched up peace treaty is about ready for ratification. Other countries, which have not posed as the highly developed democracies, are freeing the men and women incarcerated because of their opposition to the war. But in the United States the most loved leader of the workers is hurried to prison with a brutal callousness to the opinions of the workers that has never before been equalled.

Debs would be the last man to make an appeal because of what might happen to him because of the action of the ruling class. Those who know him, however, fear that his imprisonment will not leave him much of life. He is 63; only a year ago he was compelled to remain in a sanitarium for many months because of the breakdown of his health; recently he has been ill a number of times.

It will be easy to imagine the effect of the brutality of the prison regime upon a man of the temperament of Eugene V. Debs. Each day there are ugly acts committed in those dark and noisome places in which many are thrown because of their opinions by our beneficent democracy; which are outrages to the soul of every person who has not become callous through seeing these cruelties constantly repeated. In this atmosphere Debs, who has nothing but love in his heart for even his lowliest brother, is to live for ten years.

Can this country permit this thing to be? By the capitalists that this crime may be committed against them without rousing them to action.

The capitalists have issued their challenge. They have thrown down the gage of battle. They are leering sneeringly into the faces of the workers, sure of their power, sure that they can send Debs to prison—and possibly to death—without being hurled from their seats of power.

Debs is in prison by order of the capitalist class, but it is the workers who have the power to open the prison doors.

The workers do not need to resort to violence; they do not need to cause bloodshed.

Let millions of workers make the demand that the prison doors be opened, let millions voice their denunciation and protest at the dastardly crime committed against them, let the capitalist class feel that this act of theirs has caused the germination of that power which is sweeping the ruling classes of Europe aside like so much debris which incumbers the road to a better world, and the prison doors will open, and not only Debs, but all other champions of the working class will go free. The ruling class itself will open the prison doors to stem the rising tide.

The gage of battle is at our feet.

Shall we take it up?

We must take it up. We must answer the ruling class with great demonstrations of protest; we must gather by the tens of thousands in every city and town; we must arrange great demonstrations; we must agitate and propagate until the whole working class rises up and demands "freedom for Debs" and folds its arms and stops the machinery of capitalism until the prison doors open.

## Lawrence Workers Stand Firm for Victory Fifteen Thousand Cleveland Workers in Great Demonstration for Debs

Lawrence, Mass.—After eight weeks of determined struggle the mill workers here are continuing with unbroken ranks the strike to prevent a reduction of their wages because of the reduction of their hours from 54 to 48 per week.

The present situation is set forth in the following bulletin issued by the strike committee as "Victory Bulletin No. 6":

**THE SITUATION TODAY.**  
The eighth week of our struggle is drawing to a close. Our spirit is unbroken. We stand together more firmly and enthusiastically than ever. Nothing can daunt us!

The hope of victory grows brighter as we prove our solidarity, courage and power to the masters. They can now see plainly that we mean what we said at the beginning of the strike—that we would stand out a year rather than give up 48-54!

Spring orders are coming to the mills. Soon they must begin work. They cannot operate without us.

Meanwhile more workers are coming out all the time. Last week the loomfixers of the American Woolen Co. came out. There will be more to follow.

Money for our struggle continues to arrive in increasing amounts. This week the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America have sent thousands of dollars. Our Lawrence fellow workers who have been speaking before amalgamated locals in New York report the greatest interest in our battle among the New York comrades. Likewise, the Socialists of the whole country continue to send support.

**OUR ONE BIG UNION.**  
About eight thousand workers have already paid initiation fees into the union treasury.

Ten thousand union books containing the preamble are in the hands of the printer. Have you got your name down so that you may get one as soon as they arrive? We expect to have to order more immediately.

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### Martens Demands Russia Property

Serving notices on the former Russian Ambassador to the United States, Boris Bakhmetief, and other agents of the Czarist regime to immediately abandon any pretense to authority in this country, L. C. Martens, representative of the Russian Soviet government, demanded that the Russian Embassy in Washington be delivered to his charge.

The demands, which will be followed by legal proceedings should the Czarists refuse to yield, also call for the surrender of all property in the United States belonging to the Russian government.

Legal steps will be taken to put a stop to the indiscriminate squandering of Russian property by discredited former Russian agents. Martens is prepared to prove the Russian government is being robbed methodically by unscrupulous ex-officials. A formal statement, detailing specifically the bare-faced fraud will be issued immediately.

When word was received at Socialist headquarters in Cleveland on Saturday afternoon that Eugene V. Debs would arrive Sunday to surrender himself to the federal authorities, the entire party machinery was set in motion to arrange a great demonstration on the eve of his departure.

Comrade Carl Haeker, who was in charge in the absence of C. E. Rathenber on speaking tour, took charge of the arrangements. A circular was drafted and rushed to the printer, an automobile was requisitioned, and all Saturday night the presses were kept running turning out the circulars, which were rushed by automobile to the homes of the comrades in charge of the work of distribution in various parts of the city. By 8 o'clock Sunday morning 30,000 circulars announcing a mass meeting on Market Square had been distributed from house to house, to the Saturday night theater crowds and wherever people gathered.

The results were beyond all expectations. Many great audiences have gathered at Market Square during the period that the Socialists have been using that place for their mass meetings, but the crowd Sunday afternoon, gathered as the result of twenty-four hours work, was the largest by all odds that has ever appeared upon the square.

Beginning as early as 1 o'clock, every street car which reached the junction of Lorain and W. 25th St.

brought its load of workers eager to show their loyalty to Debs and to demand his freedom. When the meeting was opened, at 2:30, the square was one packed mass of humanity.

Tom Clifford presided at the meeting. Addresses were made by M. A. Toohy of Toledo, David E. Williams of North Congregational church, and James Corrigan. All the speakers were loudly cheered. The more radical their protest and demands the greater was the storm of applause and approval from the great audience.

The crowd was body and soul with Debs and ready for anything in order to rescue him from the clutches of those who were depriving him of his freedom. At the end of the speeches the crowd was called upon to form in line and march to the federal building and the Public Square. Headed by a band playing the Marseillaise the procession started and soon stretched out over almost the entire distance of two miles from Market Square to the Public Square. While the head of procession was leaving the eastern end of the high level bridge the rear guard was at Franklin Ave., on W. 26th St. A group of mounted policemen headed the procession and cleared the way.

The announcement that the crowd would march to the federal building caused the authorities to become frightened, expecting that the workers might storm the structure through

which Debs had passed only a few hours before to prison. The doors of the building were locked and policemen, mounted and on foot, guarded every entrance when the procession arrived. The crowd, however, contented itself with marching by with shouts for "freedom for Debs," "Hurrah for the General Strike" and "Down with capitalism and its tools" and then going to the Public Square for a continuance of the meeting.

Soon the situation at Market Square was duplicated. The Public Square was filled with a great mass of people. They climbed on the Tom Johnson monument and perched on the arms and shoulders of the bronze figures and even had the temerity to use the roofs of the recruiting and Liberty Loan sheds as points of vantage, from which to watch the proceedings and listen to the speakers.

Although there was a grim determination about the crowd which would not permit of any interference, both the meetings and the demonstration was without any disorder and there was no excuse given for the authorities to bring into play the machine guns which have been installed about Market Square and the Public Square, according to current gossip.

On Thursday night the Socialists held another great demonstration and would march to the federal building caused the authorities to become frightened, expecting that the workers might storm the structure through

# Tom Mooney Must Go Free

I visited Tom Mooney in the penitentiary at San Quentin yesterday.

As I sat waiting for him (he was working in the iron factory, a mile away) the high walls and watch tower, with its machine guns, the whispered conversation of a convict talking to a woman evidently dead to him, the atmosphere of repression, force and melancholy made my heart sink.

I was overwhelmed with the conviction that Fickert, with his Oxman, is victorious and, so far, we are failures.

I couldn't help asking myself "will Tom Mooney ever be free?"

Tom Mooney finally walked in, passing the warden and guards near the door.

He looks well. His frank, open handsome brown eyes and friendly smile, though a trifle sad, gave me hope. There he wrote Rena a flesh.

We saved him from the gallows; surely, we can free him from the prison.

During our hour's talk he did not complain. He is a brave warrior—I came near saying, but that is not the word for a man confined in the penitentiary.

When he was in the penitentiary, he was constantly writing pamphlets, addressing envelopes, etc., but now he can do nothing, nothing but slave in the iron foundry.

"What they do here is to silence a man. A man can do nothing, write nothing. Why do you write Rena (his wife) 16 letters a week? Never went out of the penitentiary," he said.

How I felt it. The penitentiary is next to the tomb for a burial.

"Well, how about the Mooney conviction?" I asked him.

"It was fine," he said, his face brightening. "The test is with the

mass of the working people. This is an economic fight, and only the working people can save me. I leave my case with them."

"But they must look it that the Governor doesn't commute my sentence to 17 or 15 years, instead of giving me my freedom," he added.

As he talked I wished I could fly everywhere, speeding up the workers, how well he would perform the task, were he free and another in his place; but he must mold iron in the prison, while his heart is with the toilers in New York, Chicago, in every corner of the country.

So we, who are free, must act, and act now.

We must make the general strike a success—so stupendous that even Governor Stephens may hear.

While waiting at the ferry to return home, I got into conversation with the ticket agent. He was enthusiastic about the penitentiary. He would lead you to seek it for a health resort. "You ought to see the fine beds and you just ought to see the steaks. I never saw such good ones," he said triumphantly.

"But the death cell and the gallows," I replied.

He looked at me in astonishment. "Why, the dirty, low-down rascals, I see them taken there—Why, hanging is too good for them."

"Look at this," he said, holding up Mooney's picture. "Did you see Mooney over there? This is his picture. They circulated about 300,000 of them. His sentence was commuted to life imprisonment a little while ago by the Governor."

"What did he do that for?" I asked.

"Well, what do you think? There was an uproar all over the world about Mooney" (his tone indicated

that he did not expect me to believe such an improbable story), "and the Governor thought he'd better."

Even he had learned that an uproar had saved Tom Mooney from the gallows.

But how much of an uproar will it take to save Tom Mooney from the penitentiary?

On the way home I got to thinking of his warning about the commutation of sentence.

Undoubtedly, that will be the program. How like Governor Stephens! Governor Stephens was determined to hang Tom Mooney.

The fear of a general strike "made him think he'd better commute his sentence," to quote our ticket agent.

But, if he is not informed in no uncertain terms that nothing short of complete freedom will satisfy the working people of this country, Governor Stephens will commute his sentence to 17 or 15 years.

Tom Mooney says he would rather be dead.

Be on your guard! Do not get stamped at the last minute!

Be assured that, when the general strike is organized, ready to be pulled off at a certain moment, Governor Stephens will commute Tom Mooney's sentence!

Governor Stephens means to shatter our forces at the last moment. He thinks that never again will we be able to reinforce them, and Tom Mooney will remain in the penitentiary nearly a quarter of a century.

Never! We must be prepared for that blow.

We must not let our forces be shattered by a cowardly commutation of sentence at the last moment. Be prepared! The slogan is "Freedom for Tom Mooney or a general strike."

# Open Forum for Discussion of Party Problems

## WHAT SHALL WE DEMAND?

BY J. H. PALLO.

For the reason that the following article was written previous to the formulation of the Left Wing Program no mention is made herein of it.—Editor.

Now is the time for all revolutionary Socialists to prepare and organize for the next convention of the Socialist Party. Those who have learned something from the revolutionary struggles in Europe, and acclaim the uncompromising methods of Bolsheviks and Spartacists, must see that the spirit of Liebknecht and Lenin prevail.

If we cannot defeat the tactics of our compromising office-seekers (demonstrated by Meyer London, Van Lear and others); if we cannot destroy the middle class reform movement within our party (into which Milwaukee Socialists, especially, have degenerated under the leadership of Mr. Berger); if we cannot stop the policy of compromise between the several reform parties (the Non-Partisan League and the Labor party), we must at least be able to show a strong and determined opposition.

The debate on all vital questions which may come before the convention should be opened in the Socialist press at once. The projects of various declarations and resolutions should be drawn and discussed in advance so that the standing of candidates may be tested, and membership may have some means of finding out whom they shall send to the convention.

Now is the time to open the bitterest criticism against all divergencies from Marxism within the party, and also against the Comintern-led unionism and "down with the politics" slogan of I. W. W.

The sharp struggle between the capitalist and the proletarian classes of Europe, and the reactionary capitalist "reconstruction" at home, prove beyond any doubt that socialism in America and everywhere else cannot be inaugurated through the ballot box only. We are in a dream world, we will ever be allowed to peacefully expropriate capitalists and establish Socialist society. We must prepare for a revolutionary situation, a situation in a class society when the oppressed masses are entirely dissatisfied with the existing social conditions, and are economically forced to change them.

Such a situation may take place during the coming economic crisis, which will be the severest American workmen have ever seen. No capitalist "reconstruction" of any kind can avoid it. As long as workmen are deprived of the right to their labor, sooner or later, according to success of imperialistic policies, all kinds of commodities are bound to accumulate to such an extent that it will be detrimental to the interests of capitalists to allow workmen to continue production. "Guns and ammunition, clothing, shoes, and food, and fuel, and stoves, and warehouses will be overstocked with food and clothing. The starving masses will not listen to the promises of the Socialists, to wait till the next election day. As in Petrograd, Moscow, and Vienna, they will demand food and clothing at once. The bourgeoisie charity will not be able to satisfy the people. Then the millions of workmen, who are now ignoring our revolutionary teachings, will be forced to change their minds in regard to what the rightful owner of the accumulated wealth, and who shall rule the country.

Only during such a situation the proletarian dictatorship may be established, provided there is a party which is uncompromisingly leading to that end. Only through proletarian dictatorship and after a complete breakdown of the strong and complicated capitalist political machinery, capitalism in America, as in any other country, may be abolished and Socialist society established.

The above conclusions do not correspond with those which are embodied in the Socialist Party platform (adopted by national referendum, July 24, 1917). Its references to the class struggle are very misleading. The preamble of the platform speaks of it as follows: "This terrible class warfare is world wide and a grave menace to civilization. Its abolition is the most important and vital issue confronting the human race." Any reactionary preacher and a capitalist politician agree that the class war is a menace to civilization and therefore should be condemned and suppressed. Only revolutionary Socialists read with indignation such a condemnation. The class struggle is only a menace to capitalism, and a further existence of the latter is a menace to civilization. The class struggle is only a menace to capitalism, and a

further existence of the latter is a menace to civilization. The class struggle is the only means by which capitalism may be encouraged, developed and carried on vigorously, and when necessary, fought in a most violent manner. To be exact, the revolutionary Socialists believe that the class war, no matter how terrible it may be, is only a menace to a menace of civilization.

In another section the preamble refers to class struggle as follows: "The Socialist Party aims to abolish this class war with all its evils and to substitute for capitalism a new order of co-operation."

Do Socialists really aim to abolish the class struggle first and then to substitute something for capitalism? If not, why not tell this thing in the proper order? Besides the abolition of the class struggle is not the aim of Socialists, it is only incidental to their aim—the abolition of capitalism.

The platform naively clings to the unscientific and reactionary "theory of a democratic government," a bourgeois theory which entirely contradicts the Marxist conception that in a class society a real democracy is impossible. In spite of the fact that the government is becoming more and more autocratic, and that, as a result of the growth of a strong class-conscious labor movement, it will be a more perfect tool of oppression and resistance for the capitalist class, our platform takes for granted that it is possible for the working class "to capture the government and all its powers and use them in its own interests."

On this misconception is based the whole "immediate program."

If the Socialist Party is to become a real representative of the class-conscious proletarians, its "immediate program" must be considerably changed. In order to safeguard our program from being stolen by such radicals as Mr. Roosevelt was, and from reformers as Spargo's new party type, or the Labor party, or the Non-Partisan League, we simply must get rid of all the non-socialistic planks. For instance, let the Democrats fight for government ownership. Why should we worry about who distributes the profits? Let the various reformers fight for "a complete adult suffrage." Why should we make such a demand in a country where there are about half a million adults who are living entirely from our sweat and blood, while performing no socially useful labor? Why should we ask for a "democratic control of the government," knowing that the latter is only a veil for the capitalist class, and only may be destroyed but never controlled by the working men.

We must formulate our demands in such a manner that each one is a direct blow against the capitalist dictatorship. Each demand must be an "immediate demand" which is a realizable demand. We must demand that we want nothing less than a complete breakdown of the capitalist state. This is the only way to keep out of our party all kinds of reformers and compromisers of the treacherous Menshevik, Scheidemann, Liebert, Thomas and, if you please, Berger type.

In order to direct the attention of the working men to the fact that the present government is neither democratic nor responsible to the people, we must demand not only abolition of the senate, but also abolition of the presidency. The latter office is more dangerous to labor interests than that of a king or a kaiser.

We must demand that the executive power, consisting of various ministries, be chosen by the House of Representatives, and be made directly responsible to that body and the people; that social parasites and exploiters of labor are not allowed to participate in elections and in government.

The demand (in our Immediate Program) for a legal minimum wage based on the ascertained costs of a decent standard of life, means nothing more than the reactionary slogan of the American Federation of Labor, which is, "a fair day's pay for a fair day's work." This is not what the class-conscious working men want; they want the whole produce of their labor. Why not demand that the wages should equal the value of the products of the labor, and thereby teach the workmen to understand what they are entitled to.

Each one should be warned the most objectionable plank in our national platform. They must be stricken out immediately, otherwise our party may degenerate to the level of German, French and other traitorous "majority Socialists." Let the lesson of the revolutionary struggles in Russia and Germany be sufficient to make us re-

alize that a conglomerate organization by means of compromising literature and campaign speeches, is liable to become the worst enemy of the proletarians when the final struggle is going on, and no further compromise is possible!

Now, let us consider what kind of an educational work may be carried on with our national platform as a basis. None that is of any value to the working class. This may be proven by the steady stream of the members coming into and leaving the party. Most of them become members because they find some agreeable planks in our program. When they find out that the Socialist Party is not strong enough to push the planks through, they simply leave the party because they have not joined it in order to fight for socialism and never believed that there is much difference between the Socialist Party and other political parties. Why? Because our national platform and most of the state platforms and the campaign speeches do not expound any definite program, only a misty aim and an undetermined dissatisfaction with the present system. They are compromising and do not confine themselves entirely to the interests of the proletarians, the only class which is economically forced to fight for socialism and therefore the only class which will be true to socialism in the final struggle. Our national platform and a lot of other literature as it is proven above tends to prejudice against the class struggle. It ignores the fact that the capitalist class will not permit to abolish its dictatorship by peaceful means, such as elections and legislation, and that it is necessary for the working class to prepare now for revolutionary and severe methods of class struggle. It conceals the absolute necessity of the proletarian dictatorship, an entirely different institution from the present democratic government, in order to establish socialism.

Our duty at the present time is to prepare for the socialistic revolution. All our declarations, demands and activities must have a direct relation with our ultimate goal. Our immediate demands at the present time shall be nothing less than the following:

### Political Demands

1. Unlimited suffrage for all men and women who are 18 years old and have no legal impediment to voting through labor that is productive and useful to society. Complete disfranchisement of all who have acquired the means of living by exploiting the laborer.
2. Abolition of the senate and the presidency. Election of heads of the governmental departments by the House of Representatives, subject to recall at any time.
3. Direct election of all judges, and subjection of courts to the House of Representatives.
4. Initiative, referendum and recall.
5. Abolition of all federal and state laws and city ordinances obstructing freedom of conscience, free press, free speech and free assembly. Immediate release of all persons convicted, imprisoned or arrested on account of lack of aforesaid freedom.
6. Discontinuation of imperialistic policies and secret diplomacy. Immediate recall of armed forces from all foreign countries, and granting un-molested self-determination to all U. S. colonies. Demolition of the land by means of socially productive and useful labor.
7. Election of all officers of the created people's militia directly by the people.
8. Establishing of a regular and unrestricted social intercourse (mail, telegraph, travel, commerce, etc.) between the people of this and all other countries.

### Economic Demands

1. Immediate confiscation and social ownership of all land which is used for exploitation or speculative purposes or which is owned by persons or associations of persons, who have not acquired the title to the land by means of socially productive and useful labor.
2. Gradual expropriation with re-compensation of all small land (house, lot or farm) owners, who have acquired the title through productive and useful labor, until the private ownership of land is completely abolished.
3. Confiscation and social ownership of all railroads, telegraphs, telephones, steamship lines, warehouses, stores and all other means of communication, transportation, storage and distribution.
4. Confiscation and social ownership of all mines, mills, foundries, factories and all other social means of production.
5. Nationalization of banking and confiscation of all deposits of the exploitive class.
6. Determination of wages and the length of the work day by a duly elected national commission of labor representatives.

### General Demands

1. Free schools and all other educational facilities for the entire youth of the nation until their 18th birthday.
2. Free medical help, free hospitals.
3. Free administration of law and creation of public defenders.
4. Pensions for mothers, for invalidity and old age.

# The Railroad Stockholders

The bourgeois reformists are using big headlines to enunciate the fact that 8,000 labor exploiters own more than half of the railroads in the United States—or, rather, more than half of the "shares."

It seems from researches made by the capitalist interstate commerce commission that the gross amount of plunder gathered in every year by the railroad owners is divided into 97,475,776 parts, each owner of a "share" of railroad stock having the legal right to own and possess one of these "parts." There are 627,930 parasites who divide this plunder up among themselves according to the number of "shares" of stock they own.

The interstate commerce commission dwells upon the fact that about 8,000 of these capitalist loafers own in the neighborhood of 50,000,000 "shares" of stock out of the 97,475,776. These gentlemen, all of whom abhor socialism, seem to be worried about the fact that the plunder among the stockholding plunder-bund.

The worker and Socialist knocks the whole subject aside with the simple statement that it makes no difference to him how the surplus wealth which is plundered is divided among the plunder-bund. The worker wants an industrial system under which he will be able to retain for his own use the social equivalent of the wealth he produces.

Socialism is that industrial system.

# Lawrence Workers Firm

(Continued from page 1.)

The union will open an office in a day or two. The name—The Amalgamated Textile Workers of America. Plans are being made to call at once a convention of textile workers from various centers, so as to make the Amalgamated Textile Workers at once a national organization. The Amalgamated Textile Workers of America and the Amalgamated Clothing Workers will be a power in the land.

RELIEF. For milk and medicine apply, in case of need, to 35 Jackson St. The soup kitchens and coffee houses are open as usual.

Due to the fact that scabs and even people who have no connection whatever with the mills took advantage of us, we have to reorganize some of our relief work. This may cause slight delay and hardship. Let all be patient, and necessary help will be given. We do not want to take the hard-earned gifts of our fellow workers to feed scabs!

### THE NEXT MOVE.

On Monday, March 31, at 2:30 p. m., the State Board of Arbitration and Conciliation will hold a hearing in the city hall. The mill owners and the grievance committee of the strikers have been summoned to appear. Our One Big Union will give you correct information about the result of the hearing. Do not listen to rumors or place too much confidence in newspaper reports. The strike committee will keep you informed.

### FELLOW WORKERS OF ALL NATIONALITIES.

We are making a just demand—all we ask is that our wages shall not be reduced! Such a demand cannot, must not be denied. We press on to victory! 48-54—The Amalgamated Textile Workers of America, Issued by Lawrence Strike Committee.

ing wrecked, that action was taken. Thank heaven! I was man enough to take up arms in defense of labor then, and whenever and wherever my voice, my pen or my physical strength is needed to help in the onward and upward push of the downtrodden working class, I promise you, fellow and sister workers, that I will not be found wanting.

I therefore welcome the attempt of the poor little Democrat to warn the workers against bolshevism and the socialism of myself and the other rank-and-file ones who fired Mr. Russell, Mr. Spargo, Mr. Benson, et al., from the party when they failed to measure up as men, but I repeat that I certainly resent my perfectly good name being soiled and sullied by appearing in a capitalist sheet.

Light on the subject of bolshevism is what we want, and the most publicity given the question the quicker the workers will get the truth about it. The editors of the Democrat, the Herald and the Journal, buried in the dark and musty files of a past generation think that labor still sleeps with the narectics applied to it through the columns supplied by the old Granny. Assorted press reports, and the assistance of fossilized editors, but the child is grinning through the bars of the cradle at the playmate it has found—socialism, bolshevism, spartacism—and when it is ready it will gently but firmly tell old Granny that it is old enough to know its own mind and will hereafter walk on its own feet.

And so, I will bravely carry the burden of the blot on my fair name because of this insertion in the Democrat since thereby the workers have had their attention called to the question that they are awakening. Knowing that they are awakening, I am content to let them judge me and my activities in the eyes of their growing class consciousness.

Workers of the world! Not of the United States alone, nor of Russia, nor of Hungary, nor of any other nation; workers of the world! Rise on your feet, face the rising sun of industrial liberty and for the first time in your lives breathe deep of the perfume of heaven!

Out of the east once more has come a star to lead you to freedom. The blazing dawn is gray the truth about red, melting into the soft radiance of silver and gold of love and happiness, of freedom and justice.

Slaves bend the back to the lash and the mind of the master; Freemen stretch their arms to the light and cover never. The Kept Press has had you, lied about you, is still lying to you, lied about you. Rise, throw the shackles from your mind and build up your own press.

FREEDOM IS YOURS IF YOU DEMAND IT!

# In Starving Petrograd

By ANISE, in Seattle Union Record.

I read  
In yesterday's paper  
The tale of Frazier Hunt  
Of STARVING Petrograd.  
Nine-tenths of all the people  
Are UNDERFED, he said,  
For Russia is  
RINGED-IN by armies—  
Shut off from her grain.  
The government enforces  
AN IRON LAW OF RATIONS,  
That gives to every man,  
According to the NEEDS  
Of his DAILY TOIL.  
All heavy workers  
And CHILDREN  
And MOTHERS OF  
GIVEN HALF A POUND  
Of BREAD each day,  
While the indoor workers—  
Office and professional folks—  
Get a quarter of a pound;  
And a small number of people  
(About one person in forty)  
Who do no work at all,  
But live on their money,  
Get only an eighth of a pound  
From the government  
And have to get the rest  
From high-priced speculators.  
But the government gives,  
Besides the general rations,  
ONE MEAL A DAY  
TO ALL the population,  
And tries to take  
SPECIAL care of CHILDREN  
With free school meals  
And text-books free.

could have swung the congress to the center and kept the international united, instead of allowing it to be split in two.

These are days when we need unity among the comrades in this country, as well as internationally. I would like to suggest to Comrade Ball and others that, in order that their work

may count for socialism and not for capitalism, they should try to be fair and honest with their comrades in the movement. Falschoods and malignance used against comrades are distinctly detrimental to the cause. Let us have a united movement, facing the foe, instead of stabbing comrades in the back.

# WHAT LIARS THESE NEWSPAPERS BE

(Apologies to Bill Shakespeare)

By WALTER B. DILLON.

This morning I picked up the paper and in great scare-headlines a glad-some sentence met my view, to wit: "LENINE PLANS TO ESTABLISH SOVIET GOVERNMENT IN BOSTON!"

With wild joy coursing through my veins, I breathed a prayer of thankfulness for the saviour of American labor and proceeded to read on so as to be able to be in full readiness to take my place in the proud procession, and to fittingly commemorate the demise of capitalism in that good old blue law state of Massachusetts.

And then—GOOD-BYE, fair dreams of happiness! One glance at the sub-headlines was sufficient to show me that it was only another Kept Press Lie. "Boston" was evidently the new way to spell "Berlin" in the favored imagination of the anti-Bolshevik who concocted the headlines. But perhaps he had been reading the Revolutionary Age, which I had circulated recently, published in Boston, and got so badly scared that he made Lenin jump the "big pond" and land right in our midst.

Anyhow, this raising my hopes so high only to dash them to earth again just naturally peeved me so bad that I am breaking right out into print, so bear with me, comrades, and I will

demonstrate to you by several pretty little pictures from life the utter incapacity for knowledge or truth possessed by the average editor of a capitalist newspaper when writing of anything favorable to labor.

The headline above quoted appeared in the Albuquerque Morning Journal, of Sunday, March 30, and dealt solely with the purported scheme of the Bolsheviks and Spartacists to call a general strike throughout Germany on April 18, while the Red Army of Russia struck at Germany's eastern frontier.

Invent readers of this paper might believe that this was a typographical error, but those who are well informed know that it was and is a deliberate and contemptible attempt to prejudice the reader against what is proving to be the greatest danger to capitalism that ever gained headway—the rise of the workers to political and industrial power—bolshevism!

There are none of us who will blame the editors of the Journal for we know only too well who pays their salary, and the pressman who ran it ought to be fired bodily from their union for this base betrayal of labor. This, by the way, is what will happen

to types or pressmen in Phoenix, Arizona, if the resolutions adopted by the Central Labor body in support of the Council of Workers, Farmers and Soldiers, is carried out.

In Butte, Montana, and in Seattle and in Portland, the types and pressmen would never have been guilty of this, either, for in these burghs they have learned that they belong to labor organizations and are NOT tools of capital. But Albuquerque union men have been whipped so bad by the Santa Fe with the able assistance of the Phelps-Dodges and coal barons, that they are not yet ready to stand erect like men, and I am a man! But give us time, boys, give us time; we are fast learning.

Not satisfied with lying to me about Lenin coming to Boston, the Journal editorially adds insult to injury by attempting to make me believe that the Hungarian Bolsheviks and the Russian Bolsheviks are entirely different, absolutely, Mabel. If you don't believe it read this specimen of mental acrobatics crossed with capitalist delirium—some offspring:

"The new Bolshevik government in Hungary has issued an order making work compulsory for all men and women that only those working manually or mentally have a right to live in a So-

cialist state, except that those incapable of civilization and those who can be found, will be taken care of at the expense of the state.

"This is a different sort of program from that of the Bolsheviks of Russia, where everybody quit work and expected the government to supply them with the necessities and even the luxuries of life."

Now, comrades, I leave it to you; considering that I have painstakingly issued copies of the Russian constitution issued by the Soviet government, which COMPELS all able-bodied men and women to work or deprives them of the right to eat, and further considering that others have brought this matter to the attention of the editors of the Journal, I ask you this question:

Is the editor of the Journal attempting to prove his incapacity for labor under the ruling of mental weakness to the end that he can be excused when the workers of Albuquerque take over the reins of political and industrial government, or was he so badly riled at the news from Hungary that he held the truth about it inadvertently?

I will accept your collective judgment in this matter and will pass on

to another specimen.

Some uncouth person or persons riled the Herald, also, by scattering in the holy precincts of the Capitol building at Santa Fe, ay, in the very seats of the legislators, some literature in nature "preaching bolshevism of the most virulent and dangerous type" and the particular literature which scandalized the pure and undegraded natures of the legislators was "the most evil type of this character of propaganda."

The Herald mentioned no names, but the Weekly Democrat scribe editorialized at length, considerable length, and made free use of my name therein. Now, I am perfectly willing to advertise my wares, especially to let the workers of this city and state know that I am a full-fledged, fighting son-of-a-gun of a Socialist and Bolshevik, and Spartacan, and any other thing that bids fair to overthrow capitalism and institute socialism—democracy, pure and undefiled—but I certainly must resent having my name appear in any paper professing to champion democracy who is stabbing democracy to its very vitals.

If there is anything I hate worse than a rattler, it's a hypocrite, and Rockefeller's mines in danger of be-

## THE OHIO SOCIALIST

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### Socialists Win In Battle Of Wits

April 6, 7 and 8 were days of the most successful events for our great cause of industrial democracy in Cambridge.

Comrade Thurber Lewis was scheduled to speak here April 6 and 7. An ordinance of this city requires permission from the mayor for a meeting on the street. The mayor was approached and we were requested to secure a hall for our meeting of Sunday. We were assured by the mayor that we could hold our meetings on the street at any other day or night of the week. We decided to comply with his request, and being granted permission for a street meeting on April 7, we proceeded with arrangements accordingly.

Our Sunday meeting, held in the labor hall was a decided success. The meeting for April 7 was advertised to be held on the street at 8 p. m. When the hour arrived a large crowd had gathered and the automobile from which Comrade Lewis addressed the street from our meeting a number of politicians, corporation lawyers and a few industrial lords, stool pigeons and others had congregated. It soon became evident that it was their purpose to have the meeting broken up.

In opening the meeting I urged all to be calm, peaceful and quiet. Comrade Lewis then faced the huge crowd, while a few hecklers on the extreme edge of the audience, from shadows and automobiles, hurled forth an occasional "stop it" or "take it down" or "stop him etc." It was also noticed that a small crowd of politicians, across the street were disappearing, leaving their tools and pawns there to break up the meeting. Failing in this attempt, it is evident that they phoned to police headquarters and demanded that the police stop us. Comrade Lewis had spoken about 20 minutes when the police ordered the meeting discontinued. The chief states he was acting under instructions of the mayor. We discontinued the meeting and in company with a number of comrades, followed by a large crowd of sympathizers, visited the mayor's office, demanding the protection of the police so that we might continue, without molestation. After a lengthy conference we were informed that a decision would be given the next day as to whether we would be allowed to hold our meetings for that night. The hour being too late for the continuation of the meeting at the time, we decided to adjourn to the labor hall and decide upon a plan of action for the maintenance of free speech in Cambridge.

Next morning Comrade Lewis and myself approached the mayor and thoroughly explained the situation, and insisted that the constitutional rights of free speech be upheld and that the police be ordered to protect our meeting and maintain order. However, we were given no assurance of protection and were advised not to hold a street meeting. In reply to the mayor's statement that his force of police was insufficient to cope with a serious disturbance, we assured him that we could secure a hundred men who were willing to be deputized to help maintain order in our meetings. A large number of our friends responded to the city. Our offer was, of course, not accepted. After a meeting of the comrades we decided that our constitutional rights of free speech were not to be trampled upon so easily by a few politicians, lawyers and stool pigeons, who are plain evidence of the real instigators of the antagonism, the mayor and police officers being only the tools. We advertised a meeting for Tuesday, April 8, at 8 p. m., and long before that hour hundreds of workers gathered at the meeting place, a number of politicians, lawyers and stool pigeons, and others of their class began to assemble, but true to their cowardly spirit remained far in the back ground or hid themselves in the surrounding buildings, and automobiles, where they might urge willing tools to break up our meeting.

It was evident that a large majority of the crowd was in our favor. We then informed the mayor that we intended to hold a short meeting on the street, after which we would adjourn to the labor hall. At the appointed hour we proceeded to the street. We addressed the huge crowd for a short time and then adjourned. The crowd that followed filled the hall but we had a clever trick up our sleeves which out-generated and gave the plutocrats of Cambridge the surprise of their lives and from which they will not recover soon. The hall, three stories high, faces the main street, six large windows facing the street were raised to the full height. Comrade Lewis stationed himself at the largest window, where his voice carried plainly to the crowd on the street.

Comrade Lewis' remarks brought forth tremendous and frequent applause from the crowd in the hall and from the crowd on the street below. A few on the street insisted that the police arrest the speaker, but true to their cowardly nature, none had the courage to swear out a warrant.

At the street the audience rapidly increased until fully two thousand people had congregated, and aside from the applause, contrary to the newspaper reports, no other demonstrations were made; all listened intently.

Just as one other demonstration against our meeting was made by someone on the roof of a building across the street from the hall, who hurled a cabbage head at Comrade Lewis, which struck the window sill. Comrade Lewis barely noticed it and continued with his speech. A good collection was received and several applications for membership were made, while a score or more expressed their intention of attending our meetings and becoming members. After the meeting Comrade Lewis, in company with several comrades, went to the stairs and made their way through the large crowd. We leisurely walked to the hotel while the crowd followed.

It is evident that the opposition to our meeting attempted to incite a demonstration against us, but they failed miserably in their efforts. Only a large number of people followed us to the hotel after our meeting, but later many people assured us that their purpose in doing so was to offer protection if it was necessary, and that it appeared to them that the police intended to break up our meeting. We were assured that our membership will now be largely increased. The courage and grit displayed by Comrade Lewis actually made the plutes vince, while the courage and determination of the comrades held the plutocratic supporters at bay.

It is safe to say that our efforts have been prohibited in Cambridge for many years, even before the war. It is certain we have a fight on hand, but we are gaining power and the fight is now on in earnest. The lawyers, politicians and the various bourgeois fraternities are all working together to prevent our meetings, they are well organized and are well trained in wielding the economic club over the workers' heads whenever they attempt resistance. To break this ring, which keeps the workers in the dark, is our duty and purpose in this fight. We have been operating effectively against the workers in this city for many years. I have felt the sting of the serpent but I haven't the slightest regrets to offer. I am familiar with the life of an agitator for a great and noble cause, and I would not trade my position for any other. I cease my work for socialism and the spirit of the comrades here is the same.

Yours for industrial democracy,  
HERBERT KNECHT.

### Showing The Way

By the disregard of the law when it suits their pleasure and when the opportunity to get by with it presents itself, the capitalist class and their henchmen, often times government representatives, are showing the working class of this country how to stage a violent revolution where no consideration of legality may be tolerated.

Loudest to prate of law and order and the sacred privileges of the ballot, these same representatives of exploiters of the workers seek every opportunity to disregard and set at naught the provisions of the law, when such do, by some peculiar circumstance, favor the workers or stand in the way of the attainment of the desires of the master class.

Unnumerable instances may be cited in proof of this. There is a law against murder, but the tools of the lumber interests at Everett, Wash., turned a barrage of rifle bullets against a ship load of workers murdering and wounding half a hundred men. They were never apprehended and never will be unless by a tribunal of the workers. Twelve hundred miners were deported into the desert from Bisbee, Arizona. There is a law against deportation but it is not made for the workers. The cases against the persons who committed these crimes were discharged by the court—the court of the capitalist class.

Yes, there is a law against deportation, but it does not prevent the capitalist class from kidnapping the spokesman of the workers and carrying them away at their pleasure. When outrages like this are perpetrated by the agents of the law, of the government, then and there is sown the seed of hatred for that government, for the laws it enacts, and for those who represent it in public office.

The ideology of the ability for endless blundering on the part of those who uphold the present economic system is beyond comprehension. Capitalism, in its decline and desperation causes the very developments it seeks to prevent. Served by a visionless, ignorant and corrupt officialdom, capitalism gallops headlong to its final dissolution amidst the wreck of its own making.

These crimes against the working class can serve but one end—to shorten the life of capitalism, and its misdeeds are the millions of workers know the extent of these crimes. Never the less, the judges of it. Their verdict may be held in obedience awhile, but it will be given. And when it is given the foundations of capitalism will crumble to dust.

### The New Aristocracy

Already the changing economic order is developing its new social manifestations. Witness the opinions emanating from an ex-grand duke of Russia. Mr. Grand Duke is now private citizen of no country in particular, he, having terminated his citizenship at the same time as his graft upon the workers of Russia. Both by compulsion, tra-la-la.

Although the former aristocrat has at last given up hope of re-dedicating his existence to the work of riding softly on the back of the Russian worker, he states for the benefit of the world at large "that there must always be an aristocracy of brains, of gentlemen." Of course he is the first candidate for a place in this clique that is to retain its identity in the new world aborning. Great stuff!

Every revolution in history has left a bunch of these precious birds stranded high and dry on the rocks from which no tide returns to float them again. Time was when capitalism was young, that the landed gentry of England held in scorn the rising class of traders. Even in new America we have passed an epoch wherein this same phenomena presented itself. After the black men and women of the south were freed, southern gentlemen and gentlemen were added to the morbid habit of attempting to retain the same vestige of social standing by referring to their past as slave holders, whom an unfortunate war had bereft (very unjustly) of their means of making a better showing among the parasite element. Too bad.

An aristocracy of "has-beens" will no doubt arise and flourish perhaps for half a generation after the shroud has been wrapped about this capitalist system and it is laid to final rest in the bosom of time. But we are unable to believe that men and women of either brains or gentle breeding will make themselves eligible for it. Never the less, this melancholy clique should be numerous enough in the present aristocracy which cumbers the earth is noted for the vacuum which occupies the inside of their individual headpieces. We are living in a great age. Watch it change.

### The Peace Conference confers and confabs while Bolshevism, Socialism—The Rule of the Workers, develops a monumental momentum setting at naught, like chaff before a hurricane, the mighty deliberations of the so-called wise men of the world. Pity the poor dippy-mats.

When Westenhaver sentenced Eugene V. Debs to ten years in prison, he pronounced the death sentence upon capitalism in these United States.

Gene Debs is in prison. He is in there for us. Are we out here for him? WE ARE!

## ANNOUNCEMENT

### Special Story Next Week

Next week we'll tell the story in detail of Debs' hurried trip to prison under federal guards. How the authorities attempted to dodge Socialist Party officials, how they were followed in a high powered auto thru Cleveland and around the two hundred mile trip by eight trolley lines from Cleveland to Moundsville, W. Va.

We'll tell you how Debs met this sudden assault, what he said and how he acted. A vivid story in detail of the near-kidnapping of Eugene V. Debs the best loved man in America, by the officers of the government of the United States.

A big story for a big issue of the Ohio Socialist. Order copies for distribution, 50c per hundred.

## Every Local, Every Booster, Called Into Action!

May 1st is drawing near. Only a few days more and we shall have passed another historic landmark on the road to proletarian democracy. We have mailed to every Ohio Socialist booster an every local and Ohio our plan for securing 5,000 subscriptions on this day. We are not overestimating the possibilities of this day. What, with the many meetings to be held on May 1 we should be able to secure even more than 5,000 subscriptions.

What will be your response, comrades? We want to hear from you immediately. We want your order for a supply of special May Day subscription cards to sell at these meetings. We want your order quick. Don't miss the best opportunity of the year to help make the Ohio Socialist a twice-a-week paper. Five thousand subscriptions secured on May 1 will be a mighty step toward that goal. Help us do it. Locals and comrades may order these cards on credit for this occasion.

WE WANT YOUR HELP TODAY  
—RIGHT NOW!

### The Statistician

General Survey of the Condition of Ohio Locals as Reported by Them for February, 1919.

No. of Rank	Local	G. S.	On Roll	Pct.	Last Month
1	Galion	5	35	1000	1000
2	Grove Hill	10	10	1000	1000
3	Troy	7	7	1000	...
4	Marysville	5	5	1000	800
5	North Star	5	5	1000	...
6	Mt. Vernon	22	23	956	955
7	Ashtabula	13	14	923	...
8	Youngstown (Slavish)	19	109	915	895
9	Middletown	32	36	888	...
10	Zanesville	31	36	861	868
11	East Liverpool	21	60	850	845
12	Van Buren	21	25	840	...
13	Kenmore	44	53	830	...
14	Hubbard	28	35	800	800
15	Seneca County	52	67	776	...
16	Warren (English)	201	201	772	...
17	Dayton	201	263	765	764
18	Niles	75	98	765	754
19	Garfield	42	56	750	...
20	Wadsworth	12	16	750	750
21	Columbus	114	153	745	740
22	Youngstown (Scandinavian)	14	19	737	747
23	Mansfield	32	37	729	...
24	New Bremen	32	47	727	706
25	Hamilton	183	267	723	676
26	Clark County	23	32	719	...
27	Cuyahoga County	2099	2789	716	729
28	Massillon	53	74	716	671
29	Canton	50	71	704	671
30	Belmont County	161	235	685	753
31	Toledo	275	417	651	615
32	Cincinnati	399	643	621	586

### A COMBINATION THAT WINS

The hall at Neffs was packed Friday night to see our play and hear Comrade Holman. Many had stated that the audience was well pleased with the play and with Comrade Holman. Giving a play with propaganda meeting is certainly a good way to get out a crowd. We are thinking of putting on the play in many places in the county.

Comrade Holman is a very good speaker. This is not only my opinion, but of all the comrades. He is a very entertaining speaker also.

Yours for the revolution,  
FRED WALCHLI.

### FROM A SOLDIER—

Dear Comrade: Here is a list of fourteen subs as a protest against the imprisonment of our Comrade Debs, from a soldier that has seven months' service in France and has returned to fight for a better cause.

Please send some sub blanks in a hurry.

Yours in the good work,  
GUY S. BUTTS,  
Sidney, Ohio.  
Formerly 323d Machine Gun Branch,  
83d Division.

### MINERS DEMAND PRISONERS RELEASE

Byesville, O., April 1, 1919.

Be it Resolved: We the miners of Guernsey county assembled in our annual mass meeting hereby demand the release of a new trial for Tom Moorey and political and religious prisoners now serving sentence and also under indictment.

Be it also Resolved: That we ask the International Executive Board to comply with the general strike the Fourth of July, if so requested by the committee elected for that purpose at the Moorey congress held in Chicago, Jan. 14.

DAVID WATKINS, Chairman.  
G. W. EUBANKS, Sec'y.

### PIQUA TRIES NEW PLAN

Word comes from Local Piqua of a new plan of organization work that is getting good results. The local has employed Comrade Wagner as organizer. His preliminary work consists of making a house-to-house canvass for the purpose of ascertaining the sentiment of the people toward socialism, and also the economic and political conditions of the community. Dues collecting is also a part of this work as well as securing applications for membership. Very encouraging results are forthcoming.

### LILITH MARTIN AT AKRON

Comrade Lilith Martin speaks at Akron April 22 at 9:30. Howard St. Women comrades are especially invited to attend this meeting. Bring a friend or two with you and help sow the seeds of Socialist thought in the minds of your women associates. Comrade Martin will interest women in the Socialist movement.

### READY TO ORGANIZE

A letter from Comrade P. R. Davis of Chesapeake states that a great deal of interest is being manifested in socialism in this locality. The comrades are ready to organize he says. Comrade Davis will do some preliminary work among the comrades until an organizer can be sent which will be soon.

### PROGRESS IN BELMONT COUNTY

Comrade J. J. Hoge, who is doing organization work in Belmont Co., has organized a local at West Wheeling, with five members, and another at Dilles Bottom, with 20 members, so writes Comrade Fred Walchli. Local Belmont Co. is alive to the possibilities and needs of organization and is "going after them" as these results show.

### BALL STARTS ROLLING IN RICHLAND COUNTY

Locals Mt. Vernon and Mansfield have started more thorough organization work in Richland Co. At a meeting held April 6 plans were formulated to put an organizer in each school district, and in each township also. These organizers to co-operate with the county organizer in building up a strong movement in this county.

Local Hamilton enjoyed its monthly social March 29. It was a grand success. Comrade Cabalane, if all the locals, says he, are advancing as fast as Local Hamilton we are in for a big year in Ohio. This live local is campaigning for a building lot upon which it expects to erect a headquarters. Comrade Fremont spoke there recently and had a good meeting.

## Your Local—Where and When it Meets

Your Local's Advertisement Will be Inserted Under This Heading at the Rate of \$2.50 for One Year.

<p><b>LOCAL AKRON</b> Socialist Party of Ohio Meets Every Friday Evening at 8 P. M. 50 South Howard St.</p> <p><b>LOCAL CINCINNATI</b> Meets Every Thursday, 8 P. M. Lectures Every Sunday, 8 P. M. SOCIALIST HALL, 1314 Vine St.</p> <p><b>LOCAL WARREN</b> Meets Every Thursday at 7:30 P. M. Labor Organization Hall, E. Market St., Near Second Nat'l Bank, Warren, Ohio</p> <p><b>Local Kenmore</b> SOCIALIST PARTY OF OHIO Meets Every Friday, 7:30 P. M. BITTKOFFERS HALL, Cor. 15th St. and Boulevard Kenmore, Ohio.</p> <p><b>LOCAL SANDUSKY</b> Socialist Party of Ohio Meets First and Third Wednesday, Each Month, 7:30 P. M.</p> <p><b>FUCHS HALL</b> Cor. Monroe and Fulton Sts.</p> <p><b>LOCAL TOLEDO</b> Meets every Tuesday evening, except the first Tuesday after the first Sunday. General party meeting first Tuesday of each month, 8 P. M., 213 Michigan St.</p>	<p><b>LOCAL COLUMBUS</b> Socialist Party of Ohio Meets Every Thursday, 8 P. M. Lectures every 2d and 4th Sunday of the month, 2:30 p. m. Hall, 50 1/2 W. Gay Street.</p> <p><b>SOCIALIST PARTY OF AMERICA, YOUNGSTOWN, O.</b> Meets every Friday, 8:00 P. M., at Bushnell Hall, 127 West Federal St., Third floor.</p> <p><b>LOCAL HAMILTON</b> Meets Every Friday Evening, 8 P. M. Lectures Every Sunday, 2:30 P. M. SOCIALIST HALL, 38 High St., Third Floor.</p> <p><b>LOCAL CANTON</b> Socialist Party of Ohio Meets Every Thursday at 7:30 P. M., at Socialist Headquarters, 328 Tuscarawas St., E.</p> <p><b>LOCAL NILES</b> Socialist Party of Ohio Meets every 2d and 4th Sunday of the month, 2:30 p. m. Study Class every Sunday, 10 a. m. Debate and social every Sunday, 7:30 p. m. MASONIC HALL, 164 N. Chestnut St.</p> <p><b>Branch</b> Meets Tiffin Every Wednesday, 8 P. M. No. 93-4 Washington St.</p>
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## WEST VIRGINIA

### Organizational News

H. F. OBERHOLTZER, STATE SECRETARY.

### FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR MARCH, 1919

Receipts.	
Slovak Federation	\$2.00
South Slovak Federation	6.75
Lithuanian Federation	3.37
M. A. L. Dues	2.50
Charleston Dues	3.00
Buckhannon Dues	6.00
Wellford	12.00
Kanawha Co. Supplies	.25
Buckhannon Supplies	.50
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$43.97</b>
Balance on hand Mar. 1	\$17.62
Surplus for March	\$2.06
<b>Bal. on hand Apr. 1</b>	<b>\$19.63</b>

### RESOURCES

Dues Stamps	\$51.80
550 State Constitution	47.50
25 Sec. Local Sec'y. Books	9.00
50 Think or Surrender	5.00
900 Application Cards	1.80
8 cards of 50 each	...
Assorted Badge Buttons	8.00
500 How to Organize	2.00
150 How to conduct a Local	1.00
Miscellaneous Books	5.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$125.30</b>

### The Debt Problem Solved

It seems that I unwittingly "April Fooled" you with the Debt Case Reported in our last bulletin. In reply to a letter to Comrade Firth concerning the matter, he writes me that we need pay no attention to the \$107.40 debt to the National office, for the expenses of our delegates to the St. Louis convention; that he would have the charge against our State Organization stricken off the books of the National Office. Our delegates, Comrade G. W. Gillespie, M. S. Holt and their accounts of expenses with the National Secretary, on the supposition that the funds were available to pay the delegates' expenses out of the National treasury. When it was found that such was not the case, Comrade Holt informed me that he would not ask the State Organization to reimburse him, and Comrade Gillespie's claim was satisfied by paying him out of the State Treasury, his hotel expenses less \$5.00. So you see, Comrade, it was through the generosity of the delegates and Comrade Holt that the St. Louis convention that we are released of this debt.

### The Election of State Officers

Nomination for offices of the State Organization of the socialist party closed on February 14, whereupon all the nominees were notified and dues were given for acceptance. The following is a list of all Nominees who reported their acceptance:

For State Secretary  
P. R. Garret, Harrisville; Jesse Bird, Barracksville; P. M. Camp, Charleston.

For State Committeemen-at-Large  
J. H. Snyder, Fairmont; M. S. Holt, Weston.

For State Committeemen  
First Dist.  
H. L. Franklin, Fairmont; J. B. West, Mannington; J. L. Dawson, Fairmont.

Second Dist.  
E. L. Smith, Weston.

Third Dist.  
J. W. Wright, Weston.

Fourth Dist.  
G. W. Gillespie, Huntington; H. N. Carricoffe, Huntington; O. E. Tracy, Sistersville; C. W. Kirkendall, Sistersville.

Sixth Dist.  
W. R. Bennet, Fayetteville; G. W. Harper, Charleston; H. P. Williams, Charleston.

### OBITUARY

We are in receipt of the following notice of the recent death of Comrade Elizabeth Donaldson of Columbus:

Mrs. Elizabeth Donaldson, 66, wife of Luther Donaldson, died of heart trouble Tuesday, at her home, 1131 Say Ave. She leaves her husband, one daughter, Mrs. Charles W. Dutcher, Glen Echo Drive, and a son, Thomas Bradshaw, Chicago. Mrs. Maggie Johnson, Prospect, O., is a niece. Funeral at 2 p. m. Friday, at the H. A. Fletcher chapel, 1122 N. High St. Burial in Green Lawn.

### GOING UP AT EAST LIVERPOOL

Socialist activities are on the jump in E. Liverpool. Recent meetings by Comrades Baker and Holman have proved winners. The comrades have cleaned the hall, were they meet weekly and plan more victories for the workers.

