

Correspondence of the National Executive Committee During September

(Continued from First Page.)

before the tour commenced. In fact, the contract was secured at a time when the trip could not well be abandoned, and the final rates made by the railroads were nearly 40 per cent higher than the first estimate.

Aside from the railroad mileage, averaging about \$2.25 per mile, we pay the Rex manager \$10.00 per day and \$45.00 per day for the sleeping car. All together the western trip will cost about \$14,000.00.

The contributions to the "Red Special" fund amount to about \$14,000.00, and considering the amounts gathered by the train, we will be enabled to pay out on the western trip, but have no available funds for the advance payment on the eastern trip.

It is the united opinion of the train crew that the train will gather more than enough each day to pay its expenses in the thickly populated east, but it cannot do this, and most stop, unless we sign the eastern contract and that within a few days, and make the first and largest payment of, approximately, \$5,000.00. For the eastern trip we will have a contract secured by a bond covering the entire cost.

Now this initial payment is the great difficulty we have to face. I have secured by wire a favorable vote of the National Executive Committee upon the proposition of securing loans, if possible, to meet the same. Such loans to be repaid as soon as possible, perhaps before election. A note for the amount, payable at a definite time, will be given if desired.

Acting upon the authority of the National Executive Committee, I am addressing this letter to you and a few other comrades, and respectfully request your consideration of the project and the question of your granting a temporary loan. Kindly let me know at once whether you can render this immense service to the cause, and, if so, what amount you can send me before the 20th inst.

Fraternally yours,
(Signed) J. MAHLON BARNES,
National Secretary.

Chicago, Ill., Sept. 10, 1908.

To the National Executive Committee.
Dear Comrades—I herewith report the action taken upon the motion by Comrade Work, submitted under date of September 2:

"I move that the National Executive Committee meeting set for September 19 be called off."

Affirmative—Floaten, Hillquit, Simons and Work. Other members of the Committee not yet heard from. The majority having voted in the affirmative the motion is therefore adopted. There will be no meeting of the National Executive Committee on September 19th.

Letters of the members are herewith submitted:
Comrade Floaten, Leadville, September 5th: "I will vote 'yes' on the above motion with the understanding that if we are needed you will know it and will call us."

Comrade Hillquit, New York, September 8th: "You will please record me as voting in favor of Work's motion to postpone the contemplated National Executive Committee meeting of the 19th. But I do this principally in view of the fact that you have the power to call a meeting of the committee at any time when required on your own motion. I believe we ought to have one meeting before election, anyhow, perhaps in the early part of October."

Comrade Simons, Leadville, September 5th: "You can count me as voting 'yes' on the proposition to postpone the National Executive Committee meeting. I do this because I take it that this is your wish and that you are on the spot. Otherwise I should think it a mistake. But I am not where I can judge well."

Chicago, Ill., Sept. 23, 1908.

To the National Executive Committee.
Dear Comrades—I deem it advisable to bring to your attention an incident connected with the Publicity Department of the Socialist special train, and at the same time, to remove any possible misunderstanding existing among the publishers of the party press regarding arrangements made.

On several occasions, dating back to the December meeting of the National Executive Committee, 1906, Comrade Simons, member of the National Executive Committee and editor of the Chicago Daily Socialist, and I have come into conflict upon the subject of publishing party news or reports.

Comrade Simons has asked for results or reports before the same could be prepared for mailing, and was refused upon the ground that he would probably use them in his capacity as editor or publisher. He then based his claim for them upon his rights as a member of the National Executive Committee, assuming responsibility for such use as he made of them.

I contend that Comrade Simons in the position here taken mixes his portfolios of editor and member of the National Executive Committee inexcusably and to the disadvantage of other party publications.

Relating to the Publicity Department of the Socialist special train, numerous applications were considered for places for representatives of papers and book houses, and it was finally decided, and in agreement with the National Executive Committee, that a publicity department and a literature department should be established. That the men respectively in charge should not be connected with any publication or book house but wholly responsible to the National Office, to the end and for the express purpose of holding an even hand between the several claimants. Comrade Otto McFeely was therefore appointed publicity agent.

On August 23d the press was informed of the plans for equal and free service, according as they filed applications for the wire or letter reports from the train. It was also suggested that the name of the correspond-

ent and "The Workers' Press Association" be used in connection with these reports.

From the first the arrangements for the publicity proposition had in view the avoidance of favoritism or even the appearance of favoritism for any publication.

A project of such magnitude needed the hearty and enthusiastic support of every paper. Aside from the question of justice the wisdom and necessity of such a policy is at once apparent.

Comrade Simons, I believe, thoroughly understood this and accepted the appointment as one of the speakers on the train as far as San Francisco.

Immediately the train started the Chicago Daily Socialist began to carry the name of Comrade Simons at the head of the column, with exclusive stories or reports from the train. Upon the fourth day out I sent the following telegram:

"A. M. Simons, On Red Special:
"Please inform Comrade McFeely that contrary to appearances in Daily Socialist he holds the position of publicity agent."

I received a letter in reply from Comrade Simons in which he stated his position as follows:

"I want no misunderstanding on this point. I propose to write anything that I please while on this trip and to send it as I please to be used where I please, and that it is absolutely no one else's affair besides my own where or how it is published."

I consider a question of party policy here involved, which, regardless of the past, should be decided for the future, and upon which I shall ask your judgment in next meeting of the committee. All communications upon the subject will be presented at that time, or earlier by correspondence, if so desired.

LETTER OF COMRADE A. M. SIMONS, MEMBER OF NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Chicago, Sept. 23, 1908.

To the National Executive Committee.

Comrades—Although I have been a member of the Socialist Party from its foundation and have been subject to many and vicious personal attacks both from within and without the party, I have never published a single word in personal defense. Nor shall I do so now. But there are some statements in the communications recently addressed by the National Secretary to the National Executive Committee that are so false and malicious that to permit them to go unanswered would be to permit the creation of an impression that could not but be injurious to my future usefulness to the cause of Socialism.

It is with no pleasure that I am forced to take this action. These charges came without warning and at a time when I supposed I was working in close co-operation with the National Office, and while I felt that I had been personally insulted I had no intention of carrying that personal difference into party matters. I especially felt that to do so in the midst of the most crucial campaign ever entered upon by the Socialist Party would be criminal. I still think that for a National Secretary, whose only duty is supposed to be to work for the cause of Socialism, to choose such a time to start a personal fight is to betray the cause that has been entrusted to him.

I am surprised to learn from the communication of the National Secretary that I have been quarreling with him for over a year. I was not aware that any such state of affairs existed.

He has tried at various times to make it appear that I was in some way asking him to confer a favor upon the Daily Socialist by giving it the news which he is in duty bound to give to any party member, but he states what he knows to be a deliberate falsehood when he alleges that I demanded that news as a member of the National Executive Committee. In order to relieve him of all responsibility in the matter I told him once that henceforth when any reporter came to the National Office for news that he could consider that I came in my capacity as a PARTY MEMBER, with a perfect right to demand knowledge concerning party affairs. I was then somewhat surprised to hear him say that if I demanded it as a member of the National Executive Committee, why, of course, he must give it, or words to that effect. I at once corrected him and emphasized the point that it was not as a National Executive member, but simply as a member of the Socialist Party that I insisted that he had no right to keep news from me. After this warning, to have him attempt to make use of the very thing which I was careful to warn him against indicates a rather poor memory, or something worse.

Whether the Daily Socialist has ever been given an advantage over the party organization because of my occupation of two positions I leave the readers of the paper among the members of the National Executive Committee to judge. I would only call attention to the fact that the Daily Socialist has given more publicity to the "Red Special" and done more to push the campaign for its financing than any other two Socialist papers. I have repeatedly sacrificed the paper to the party at a time when the Daily was in desperate needs of every resource possible.

I have always maintained that the Socialist Party has no secrets, and have insisted that when a party meeting was held that the membership were entitled to know what took place as soon as possible. On no occasion has the National Office ever been asked to in the slightest degree assist in the securing of this news for the Daily further than to occasionally answer some questions.

On numerous occasions the Daily Socialist has made several proofs of an article given out by the National Office and has forwarded it to other Socialist papers.

In fact, I have never seen any signs of the absurd jealousy which the National Secretary has so carefully sought to suggest and foster between the Socialist papers of the United States.

As to the definite incident on the "Red Special." If there was any such "understanding" concerning publicity as he intimates, I most certainly did not understand it and would most assuredly have protested as a member of the National Executive Committee against any such silly and suicidal policy as he now says was adopted. I might say that I have since learned that this policy which has been pursued by the National Secretary toward Socialist papers has led to a restriction of publicity and resources

for the "Red Special" which quite largely accounts for the difficulty experienced in raising the necessary funds. I shall be glad to present evidence on this point at the meeting of the National Executive Committee, if this matter is considered of enough importance for further consideration then.

I should certainly consider that any Socialist (or capitalist either, for that matter) paper that would place a correspondent upon the train would have been doing a great favor to the organization. I cannot conceive of any Socialist paper whose management would be so contemptibly small as the National Secretary seems to think they all are and to object to the "advantage" which would accrue to any such paper. I should most certainly welcome any such reports in any other paper. For example, if the New York Call should be prevented from having a correspondent, or securing special reports from any speaker who might be on board during the eastern trip, by any action of the National Secretary, I should consider that he was false to the work for which he is elected.

Holding this point of view it would have been impossible for me to have had any such "understanding" as he claims when I went on the train.

I found on my first day's trip that Comrade McFeely, who was the regular publicity agent, had many times as much work before him as any human being could do. Being a newspaper man I volunteered to assist him—or, to tell the exact truth, I accepted his urgent invitation, which was extended before I had time to volunteer. Together with Comrade Lapworth, also a newspaper man, we divided up the work. I agreed to cover what is commonly called "feature stuff," and the others each took some special field. I want to emphasize the fact that there was never anything but the closest co-operation between Comrade McFeely and myself, and never the slightest disagreement on this subject of any kind whatever. But to have sent all the stuff in under his name would have been to send out lies, and I do not care to indulge in that sort of work—in fact, no one ever suggested or dreamed of such a thing.

The statement that the Daily Socialist published "exclusive stories," which is the whole point of the National Secretary's accusations, is a barefaced falsehood, which might have been charged up to ignorance a few weeks ago, but of which he knows the truth now, and did when he wrote the communication to the National Executive Committee, because I had already informed him that the reports were sent in duplicate to the New York Call, the only other daily paper that was receiving reports from the train at that time.

Judge then of my surprise in receiving the telegram which the National Secretary quotes. Its "Smart Aleck" phraseology made it entirely unintelligible, as, of course, I had been unable to see the Daily Socialist, and had no idea whatever to what he referred. I showed it to Comrades McFeely, Lapworth and others on the train and none could make even a guess at what was meant. I naturally judged that it had something to do with my writing, and sent in a statement that I did not consider that I was working under any censorship, in the terms quoted by the National Secretary. He does not have the fairness to add that I also asked that if this was not satisfactory I be wired so that I could return at once. Neither does he state what he knows to be true, that I then stopped all writing save one other article written at the urgent solicitation of several of the workers on the train and which was duplicated and sent to nearly all the Socialist papers.

Following this telegram came an abusive letter, of whose character the National Executive Committee can judge by consulting the files at the next meeting of the committee.

To this I replied, stating that I could only account for such actions on the ground that overwork had made the National Secretary nervous beyond the point of self control, and that seems to be the most charitable explanation of the present rushing into mimeographing. But this scarcely excuses such character assassination as makes up the communication to the National Executive Committee.

I might state that neither as editor of the Daily Socialist nor as a passenger upon the "Red Special" did I ever ask for or receive any "favor" that is not freely granted to the capitalistic press. The correspondents of that press were upon the train. They visit the National Office and are always informed that there are no secrets in the Socialist Party.

Finally, I wish to again express my regret that this controversy has been forced upon me and before the party at such a time. Notwithstanding the statement of the National Secretary, I was unaware of any quarrel with him in the past, have always supposed that we were in agreement as to policy and were co-operating as to work until this sudden, hysterical outburst. Whenever he concludes to go back to the work for which he is paid he will not find me lacking in support, nor sulking because of his attacks. The cause of Socialism is too big for such babyish actions on the part of those who are supposed to be grown men. Fraternally,
A. M. SIMONS.

National Headquarters, Socialist Party,
Chicago, Ill., Sept. 30, 1908.

To the National Executive Committee.
Dear Comrades—I herewith submit some further correspondence between Comrade A. M. Simons, member of the National Executive Committee, and the National Secretary, also a question relating to the terms of service of the National Organizers now afield.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Chicago, Ill., Sept. 26, 1908.

J. Mahlon Barnes, Chicago, Ill.

Dear Comrade—I am very sorry that the attack which you have made upon me to the N. E. C. compels me to request that you at once forward the inclosed statement to the members of that committee. I am sorry because I have no heart for a personal fight with you, because I had never supposed that you were an enemy. I am sorry because I think such a fight will injure the Socialist cause at this time. I am sorry to learn that you have permitted yourself to be driven into such a mess of misrepresentation and malicious charges merely, as it seems to me, to gratify an exaggerated idea of the importance of your position and a false idea of the duties that devolve upon you. That seems the kindest possible explanation to make.

The only other one I can see is that you have for some reason unknown to me set about a personal attack for the purpose of getting rid of me. If the latter is the case your trouble might have been spared. If my holding of the position of member of the N. E. C. stands in the way of effective work for Socialism I am willing to get out without a fight, and that seems to be the only possible object of your communication to the N. E. C.

It seems to me a much more honorable, not to say comradely, thing for you to have done would have been to come to me and discuss the facts before starting such a disgusting squabble. To have begun at the beginning, it seems to me that common decency would have inspired the sending of a much different telegram.

However, you seem to insist on fighting all this out before the public, and I cannot very well avoid stating my position.

Yours fraternally,
(Signed) A. M. SIMONS.

National Headquarters,
Chicago, Ill., Sept. 30, 1908.

A. M. Simons, Chicago, Ill.
Dear Comrade—I received your letter of the 28th, together with a communication addressed to the National Executive Committee. In accordance with your request said communication was sent out immediately.

This acknowledgment of your letter has been delayed by the consideration of more weighty subjects.

I note that you express sorrow on a number of points, most of which are erroneously predicated, especially those upon the supposition that this is a fight and that I am your enemy.

You deplore the time of the submission of the subject. It seems you disagree, as usual, with your own opinion, and, as customary, take both sides of the question. I hold, quoting your own words, "that the members are entitled to know what took place as soon as possible."

The character of your reply is of the kind expected, but you will kindly notice that this did not deter me from performing my duty as I understood it.

Your repeated use of the terms "misrepresentation" and "maliciousness" and "deliberate falsifier" and "character assassin" have nothing to do with the issue. I have come to know that all those whom you have described as "falsifiers," etc., are not such.

The question is one of party policy, decided upon by the National Executive Committee, and to the making of which, as a member of that committee, you contributed.

The comradely discussion, as you suggest, was out of consideration, having been tried too frequently before, and was, in particular, the unsafe course in the light of representations made in your letter regarding previous conversations. A larger supply of characteristic adjectives or your ever ready "I will assume the responsibility" would have been the only result.

After your letter, received on the 4th inst., and considering the conflicting nature of your communications, I do not wonder that in your letter received the 14th you should say, "Perhaps we can let the matter drop."

Fraternally yours,
(Signed) J. MAHLON BARNES,
National Secretary.

Regarding the continuance of National Organizers in service following election day it has been the custom since the campaign of 1894, and obedient to a National Quorum motion, passed at that time, to route the speakers home as soon as practicable after election day.

Question: Shall the same course be pursued this year? Fraternally submitted,
J. MAHLON BARNES, National Secretary.

LETTER OF COMRADE B. BERLYN, MEMBER OF NATIONAL COMMITTEE OF ILLINOIS.

"Comrade—In the proceedings of the N. E. C., the statement is made by you that Local Cook County had appropriated moneys in its possession from the convention special assessment and, as far as you were informed, had not returned them to that fund.

"In April session of Local Cook County Central Committee the secretary states that a note fell due within a few days and that he did not have the money to meet it. After discussion he was authorized to use the special assessment fund in his possession with the understanding that all monies received would be reserved to make good that loan. The secretary informed me that that money came in sufficiently before the note was presented and that he never touched that fund, but turned over to the State Secretary all moneys received from the sale of special assessment stamps.

"I saw the State Secretary and he showed me his accounts, which show that all moneys received had been turned over to the National Office, but that a large number of stamps were still in the hands of locals, not sold or returned."

DEBS LITHOGRAPHS, 42x56 INCHES

The St. Louis comrades, in arranging advertising for their Debs meeting, had this lithograph produced and are using it for local advertising. They secured a few more than required and some have been placed with the National Office for disposal. The lithograph is taken from a bust photograph and is a wonderful likeness. It must attract attention. Remember the size—nearly six feet high by three and one-half feet wide. Sold only in lots of ten. Ten for \$2.00.

Estancia, N. Mex.

Comrades wishing to do effective propaganda work among women should send for some of the new leaflets published by the National Woman's Committee of the Socialist Party. Write either to the National Office, 180 Washington street, Chicago, or myself. Price, per 100, postpaid, 25 cents; per 1,000, express, collect, \$1.50. Remember that we need your further financial assistance. Those of you who have been so anxious for woman's co-operation in your struggle should "dig up" and help the Woman's Committee to interest the 7,000,000 female wage slaves in the program of Socialism.

WINNIE BRANSTETTER,
Cor. Sec'y of National Woman's Committee
of S. P., Estancia, N. Mex.

TO TRADE UNIONS AND TRADE UNIONISTS:

National Headquarters Socialist Party, 180 Washington Street, Chicago, Ill., Sept. 19, 1908.

To the Trades Unionist and Trade Unions:

Fellow-workers—Greeting: A question has been raised in your midst which deserves a straightforward answer.

Brother Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, having lately entered the political arena, editorially in the Federationist for September, asks the question of the Socialist Party, "Where Did You Get the Money?"

You are well aware of the fact that the Socialist Party is the only political party which publishes its every financial transaction.

Previously a list of all contributions up to August 15th was published and circulated, and a complete report up to September 1st is herewith supplied.

This report is the sufficient answer of the Socialist Party. But we now respectfully request you to make further reply by assisting in financing the only political party which is composed of, and stands for, the working class and working class interests alone.

Now, capitalism and the wages system, viewed from any standpoint, is indefensible. It presupposes and justifies the eternal enslavement of the working class by conceding property rights, in the means of life, to the master class. Millions of willing workers, idle and starving in the most bountiful country in the world—these be its fruits today.

What is this working class? The millions who produce all wealth, and who by the same token of right, should own all wealth.

In the above declaration there is no evasion, thought of compromise, or shadow of turning.

The Republican and Democratic parties have each in turn and according to their opportunities served faithfully and only the employing class. Both have been weighed in the balance and found wanting.

The greatest good to the greatest number is the keynote of popular government. We know these friends of labor, fulsome of promise before and fruitless of performance after election. It is time for the workers, the greatest number to rule and enjoy the greatest good that government can bestow.

Brother Gompers and the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor, in their appeal for funds, said: "Every union is in a position to make some financial contribution."

Fellow-workers: If funds may be subscribed for the "Friends of Labor" surely you are justified in contributing support to the party of your own class. In any event, we ask you to use this letter as a subscription blank and give every member, so desiring, an opportunity to subscribe. A big Socialist vote will bring a crop of labor legislation new to the history of America and will fortify the unions beyond compare with any other policy.

Our candidates—the lovable, self-sacrificing locomotive fireman, Eugene V. Debs, who for his class braved the frowning walls of Woodstock jail, and Ben Hanford, tramp printer, if you please, and continuous member of Typographical union for twenty-nine years. These are the workers' candidates. Support them.

The great are only great because we are on our knees. Let us rise.

Fraternally yours,

J. MAHLON BARNES,

National Secretary Socialist Party and Twenty-one Years a Member of the Cigarmakers' International Union.

Report of Cash Contributions Received at the National Office for the Socialist Special Train From August 31, 1908, to September 19, 1908. First Formal Call Was Issued July 18, 1908. First Contribution Received July 21, 1908:

Table listing contributions from various locations including Chicago, Detroit, St. Paul, and others, with amounts in dollars and cents.

Table listing contributions from various locations including St. Paul, Detroit, Chicago, and others, with amounts in dollars and cents.

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SOCIALIST PARTY OFFICIAL BULLETIN

Table listing names and amounts for various individuals and groups, including D. B. McLean, Eugene, Ore., Henry Chappelle, Woodburn, Ore., K. L. Tamm, Newberg, Ore., etc.

Table listing names and amounts for various individuals and groups, including Finnish Local, Daggett, Mich., Collected by J. Nunnivort, Hancock, Mich., etc.

Table listing names and amounts for various individuals and groups, including Elizabeth Vincent, Girard, Kan., Isaac Goldman, Co., per Miss Wall, etc.

Table listing names and amounts for various individuals and groups, including Friend, Indiana, W. D. Watters, Elwood, Ind., Local, Pary, Neb., etc.

Table listing contributions from various individuals and organizations across the United States, including names, addresses, and amounts.

"The Socialist Program,"

Just published, 32 pages, contains the party platform and program, the latter divided under several heads, as follows: "General Demands," "Industrial Demands" and "Political Demands." Each separate subject or demand has been taken up and elucidated by Comrade A. M. Simons, and any comrade who desires to be able to meet opposition from whatever quarter it may come needs this pamphlet. Single copy, 5 cents; 100 copies, \$2.50.

Table of names and amounts, including: V. Grove, Rochester, N. Y. 1.00; W. T. Stafford, Rochester, N. Y. 1.00; E. V. Peterson, Lyons, N. Y. 1.00; ...

Table of names and amounts, including: Franklin P. Clark, Virginia, Minn. 1.00; Local, Adams, Ga. 1.00; J. A. Bohm, Brooklyn, N. Y. 1.00; ...

Table of names and amounts, including: R. H. Parker, Ft. Morgan, Colo. 1.00; P. W. Quackenbush, Ft. Morgan, Colo. 1.00; E. A. Smith, Fort Morgan, Colo. 1.00; ...

Table of names and amounts, including: S. Taylor, Gladwin, Mich. 1.00; Mr. Paul, Gladwin, Mich. 1.00; E. Rosenberg, Gladwin, Mich. 1.00; ...

Total receipts for "Red Special" Sept. 19.. \$23,593.01

To the Trade Unionists--Relating to the question of President Gompers of the American Federation of Labor, which was addressed to Comrade Debs and is as follows: "Where Does Your Party Get the Money?"

National Notes

A movement is on foot to start a Polish Socialist paper in Milwaukee. Such a paper is a real necessity, since we have a large Polish population and the Polish priests and newspapers are waging a constant and unscrupulous war against the Socialists.

Comrades of Price County, Wis., have adopted a new method of propaganda. They have inserted the Socialist platform as advertising matter in the leading paper of their county. Thus our platform reaches readers who would not look at a Socialist paper. This method of agitation, although somewhat expensive, is certainly effective.

Comrade Bertelli (Italian), National Organizer, while addressing 1,000 people at Boston on September 2d, was arrested. The English comrades immediately extended a helping hand and Comrade Bertelli held a "rousing" meeting the following evening amid the cheers of his hearers. There were no arrests.

Straw vote taken by Comrade Dan A. White at a meeting in Buckley, Idaho, September 3d, showed 64 votes for Debs, where four years ago there were only 16 votes in the whole town.

State Secretary Ringler of Pennsylvania reports: Frank H. Means has been expelled from Branch Beaver Falls for misuse of party funds.

National Organizer H. W. Wilkins reports as follows: "It is remarkable how large a number of miners in the coal fields of Illinois are saying: 'I am through with the old parties; Debs and Hanford get my vote this time.' An intelligent miner said to me: 'Up to now I have been a Republican, but this year I vote for Socialism and 80 per cent of the voters in this town will do the same.'"

"Pike County, Illinois, is the banner Democratic county of the state. A prominent Democratic lawyer, whom I have known for many years, said: 'I advertised far and wide to get a good meeting for Col. J. Hamilton Lewis, and could only get out 50 voters.' My afternoon speech there on August 29 was made to 300 farmers and many ladies. A wealthy old farmer of that county, who has been a greenbacker and Populist 30 years, said to me: 'If Pike County is an Index Debs and Hanford will get a tremendous big vote in November.'"

State Secretary Beardley of Connecticut reports that Local Bridgeport has expelled James H. Smith and John A. Allbright for political activity "along capitalist lines."

PLATFORMS.

Table of platform costs: Party Platform, in English, per 1,000, postpaid \$1.50; Platforms in Foreign Languages--Bohemian, Croatian, Finnish, French, German, Hungarian, Italian, Jewish, Lettish, Norwegian, Danish, Polish, Slovak and Swedish, per 1,000, postpaid 2.00

Report of Action by National Committee on Motion No. 29, Motion No. 30 Submitted

National Headquarters, Socialist Party, Chicago, Ill., Sept. 2, 1903. To the National Committee: Comrades—Herewith is submitted report of National Committee Referendum No. 16, Motion No. 29, by A. H. Axelson, National Committee member of Oregon:

Table with columns for state names and names of individuals. Includes entries for Alabama, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Utah, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming.

VOTING YES. Alabama Baldwin, Arkansas Hogan, Arkansas Le Fevre, California McDevitt, California Richards, California Cole, Colorado Buis, Connecticut McLevy, Illinois Berlyn, Illinois M. W. Simons, Indiana Reynolds, Iowa Work, Iowa Shank, Louisiana Van Brook, Maryland Culp, Massachusetts Hitchcock, Massachusetts Carey, Michigan King, Michigan Striton, Minnesota Williams, Missouri Schenkel, Montana McHugh, New Hampshire Murray, New Jersey Walker, New York Le, New York Spargo, New York Wanhope, Ohio Clifford, Oklahoma Ross, Oklahoma O'Hare, Oklahoma Hagel, Oregon Barzee, Oregon Axelson, Pennsylvania Schwartz, Pennsylvania Moore, Pennsylvania Maurer, Rhode Island Bondreau, Tennessee Voss, Utah Syphers, Washington Herman, West Virginia Gillespie, Wisconsin Thompson, Wyoming Hastings, Total, 43.

VOTING NO. Colorado Miller, Florida Pettigrew, Idaho Rigb, Montana Selby, Ohio Caldwell, South Dakota Knowles, Wisconsin Berger, Total, 7. NOT VOTING. Arizona Galentine, Illinois Colliys, Illinois Stedman, Kansas Willets, Kansas McAllister, Kentucky Dobbs, Maine Hunter, Minnesota Maattala, Missouri Behrens, New Jersey Kearns, New York Fieldman, North Dakota Lampman, Ohio Prevey, Texas Clark, Texas Payne, Vermont Dunbar, Washington Burgess, Wisconsin Heath, Total, 18. Motion is therefore adopted. COMMENT. ALABAMA (BALDWIN)—"I vote yes on this motion, although I see no reason why there is any necessity for submitting such a motion to the National Committee. These motions can be just as well adjusted by the Executive Committee, thereby saving both time and expense and no more liability to mistakes being made. It appears that there are members of the National Committee who delight in stirring up things whether those things be of importance or not. ILLINOIS (BERLYN)—"I vote in favor of appointing Comrade Wagenknecht to position of National Organizer because he is recommended by the state organization of Washington. I have a firm conviction that any comrade employed by the National organization should at least have that. I do not think that outside influence should be allowed to govern the action of the Executive Committee. Under state autonomy provision of the constitution, no state is compelled to accept a party organizer or lecturer who is not satisfactory to the state organization. If an organizer or lecturer is on the list, whom all the organized states refuse, then there is no work for him except in unorganized states. WILLITS (KANSAS) voted neither "yes" nor "no." "I know nothing of the party referred to."

MARYLAND (CULP)—"I am voting yes on this motion, not because I am sure the Executive Committee made a mistake, nor because impossibilists of Washington have shown themselves capable of appreciating such an action from the so-called opportunists, which, in fact, I do not believe they could do, but because I believe that impossibilism will kill itself most effectually by permitting it to exhaust itself by ineffective wind jamming within the party. "So long as a majority of the comrades anywhere want that kind of thing they are not ready for anything else, and so rapidly as they get away from impossibilism, so rapidly will the impossibilist lecturer be without a job. In other words, his own experience will have to be his educator and if he can't learn by experience and observation he will merely eliminate himself. "The impossibilist is like the most of the proletarians—cannot learn except through his stomach. WIS. (THOMPSON)—Comrades: In voting to have Comrade Wagenknecht put on our list as National organizer, I would like to say to our officials that I have always, and am still, eager to see every comrade sustained who will work for Socialism and will not

exhaust his time and the party's money fighting other Socialists. Comrade Wagenknecht has been one of a group of comrades in our movement who have fought bitterly against pretty nearly every other worker in our party who has not agreed with them. They have been particularly fierce and relentless against me. For years they have lost no opportunity to open an attack upon those who had a different view of tactics. I deprecate this spirit. I think the party is greatly injured by it and our cause fearfully retarded. I should like to see it stopped. I want to see every comrade who wants to help us and can do something for the cause sustained in his work. I don't want to see us biting and snarling at each other and tearing each other to pieces. But I believe a better spirit is beginning to prevail in our party. And while I feel that Comrade Wagenknecht has been of this number who have fought, persecuted and injured others and so hindered rather than helped, I nevertheless want him to have every possible chance to show us what he can do for Socialism. Those who are now demanding that Comrade Wagenknecht shall be made a National organizer have just finished a campaign that has driven one or two others out of the field. It is this I regret. But in spite of that I say, as I always have, let us sustain every comrade that can do something for the cause, and so I vote to give Comrade Wagenknecht a trial. NOTE.—The votes of Comrades Hunter of Maine and Payne of Texas were received too late to be counted.

Chicago, Ill., Sept. 29, 1903. To the National Committee. Comrades—Herewith is submitted National Committee Referendum No. 17, Motion No. 30, by Howard H. Caldwell, National Committee member of Ohio: MOTION NO. 30. "I move that the National Secretary be instructed to furnish printed matter to the amount of seventy-five dollars to the ten congressional districts having the best chance of electing a congressman this year. Such printed matter to be selected by the candidate or congressional committee of each district named by the National Executive Committee." Vote will close October 20, 1903. Fraternally submitted, J. MAHLON BARNES, National Secretary.

MINN. (WILLIAMS)—"Dear Comrade Barnes: We are more in need of good organizers than anything else. We have scores of so-called organizers, who go to a town, give a lecture in hall or street, then complacently fold their arms till train comes due to take them to the next lecture stop. Never a question asked of the comrades about how their local is getting along. Never a single suggestion to them about how to solve this problem, or get over that difficulty. Their conceit makes them oblivious of such practical things as the details of organization. Their lecture is delivered. What more is needed? "I was in one city this summer which had several such visits by 'organizers' (some of whom are on the list of National organizers) during the last year, and there had not been a meeting of their local in nearly a year. Nothing was of importance except their lecture. So busy working their jawbone that they never think of suggesting how the rank and file can work for our cause. "There are hundreds of towns where, like this one, they had a 'local' but no organization. "We have some National 'organizers' on the road who have never been known to attend a business meeting. "But here is an organizer who knows how to organize—how to knit together a band of workers to work for Socialism. Shows those how to work for our cause who are not speakers. "We have lots of spellbinders. Let us employ this comrade to do some organizing." NEW JERSEY (KEARNS)—"If Comrade Wagenknecht has the endorsement of his state organization, I vote 'yes,' otherwise 'no.' OREGON (AXELSON)—"I certainly got surprised to find so many favorable comments on my motion, and am almost afraid that I made a mistake in making it. Generally when one is in the right very few will acknowledge it. However, I hope the measure will find favor before the tribunal. At any rate, and whether my motion carry or not, I feel assured that the motion was timely and in voting yes I only emphasize my own opinion in the matter. I am yours for everything in sight and more, too." WISCONSIN (BERGER)—"I vote no because Wagenknecht has created trouble and injured the movement wherever he went, and besides he knows very little about Socialism outside of a few stereotyped phrases."

National Notes The "Red Special" started west on schedule time, surrounded by cheering thousands, at 9:10 a. m., from La Salle street depot, Chicago, Monday, August 31. President Gompers of the American Federation of Labor, in the September number of the Federationist, asked the question of Comrade Debs, "Where Does Your Party Get the Money?" This notwithstanding the fact that a copy of the published report of contributions up to and including August 15th was mailed to the office of Mr. Gompers on August 22d. As a result of a conference with Comrades Floaten, Simons and Work of the National Executive Committee a telegram or letter, according to their location, was sent on August 29th to the party press and sympathetic labor papers, suggesting that they avoid abuse in replying to the Federationist editorial. Straw vote taken by Comrade Dean A. White at a meeting in Buckley, Idaho, September 3d, showed 64 votes for Debs, where four years ago there were only 16 votes in the whole town.

National Secretary's Financial Report for the Month of August, 1903

Table of Receipts. National Headquarters, Socialist Party, Chicago, Ill., Aug. 31, 1903. RECEIPTS. National Dues from State Committees—Alabama 9.90, Arizona 25.00, Arkansas 25.00, California 200.00, Colorado 50.00, Connecticut 25.00, Florida 5.00, Idaho 30.00, Illinois 138.00, Indiana 56.25, Iowa 50.00, Kansas 85.00, Kentucky 10.00, Louisiana 20.00, Maine 22.00, Maryland 15.00, Massachusetts 101.75, Michigan 79.60, Minnesota 140.50, Missouri 125.00, Montana 31.00, Nevada 11.00, New Hampshire 11.50, New Jersey 100.00, New York 150.00, North Dakota 10.50, Ohio 105.00, Oregon 35.00, Oklahoma 90.00, Pennsylvania 158.75, Rhode Island 7.00, South Dakota 25.00, Texas 98.75, Utah 20.00, Vermont 4.50, Washington 61.00, West Virginia 15.00, Wisconsin 70.85, Wyoming 63.00. Total receipts \$2,288.85.

Table of Expenditures. Supplies 191.63, Literature 237.55, Buttons 325.90, Campaign fund 485.74, Socialist Special 12,938.00, Miscellaneous 7.23. Total receipts \$2,288.85. EXPENDITURES. Exchange 14.40, General expense 28.80, Express and freight 215.51, Postage 475.51, Telegrams and telephone 60.69, Wages—J. Mahlon Barnes 125.00, W. W. Rihl, 5 weeks 100.00, John C. Chase, 6 weeks 108.00, F. H. Sluck, 5 weeks 90.00, C. J. Wright, 5 weeks 90.00, M. Flaherty, 5 weeks 65.00, J. A. Gavin, 5 weeks 60.00, M. A. Boggess, 3 weeks 38.00, M. Hudson, 5 weeks 60.00, D. Fleming, 5 weeks 90.00, B. Yourez, 5 weeks 60.00, M. Schupp, 5 weeks 40.00, J. R. Oranhood 18.00, A. Lavin 49.50, J. L. Fiske 30.00, Edna Koop 11.00, John M. Work 33.00. Total expenditures \$11,077.43.

Table of Receipts and Expenditures. Extra help 20.00, Speakers—G. Bertelli 25.00, J. H. Brower 25.00, J. W. Brown 42.00, T. L. Buie 50.00, H. H. Caldwell 45.00, E. V. Debs 7.30, A. W. Drew 75.00, J. L. Fitts 55.00, G. H. Goebel 50.00, Ben Hanford 150.00, J. S. Ingalls 39.22, R. Korngold 10.00, Mrs. S. F. J. Linn 30.00, W. H. McFall 25.00, R. A. Maynard 40.00, A. C. Meyer 100.00, J. Melek 32.00, J. E. Morgan 90.00, J. Panken 6.10, C. H. Pierce 140.00, G. C. Porter 45.07, M. Prevey 40.00, S. W. Rose 28.00, C. H. Taylor 50.00, D. A. White 30.00, M. W. Wilkins 10.00, Jas. Williams 174.61, G. W. Woodbey 50.00, John M. Work 100.00. Printing Bulletin 93.00, Printing literature and supplies 1,122.40, Literature 244.43, Office equipment 77.00, Rent—August 100.00, Mailing tubes 3.90, National Executive Committee Meeting—A. H. Floaten 63.00, A. M. Simons 2.00, J. G. P. Stokes 55.00, John M. Work 33.00. Books for locals 154.00, D. & H. posters 122.38, Lighting 100.00, 10.71, Plate matter 100.00, Buttons 51.00, Electras 50.00, Throw-aways 18.00, Bowman Addressing company 20.26, Reporting convention account 100.00, Editing convention report 34.44, State Committee books 7.50, Installing electric lights 80.56, French translation 10.00, Vermont state committee 70.00, Socialist Special—Paintings 27.00, Decorating 48.85, A. E. Yerex, schedule manager 550.00, Band uniforms 61.50, Bandsmen expense 27.45, H. C. Parker 30.50, Otto McFeely 21.00, Postage 22.00, C. R. I. & P. Railway 656.25, C. & A. Railway 200.00, Union Pacific Railway 933.00, C. B. & Q. Railway 1,081.00, Sleeping car 1,350.00. Total expenditures \$11,077.43. Balance on hand August 1 487.73, Receipts for month 16,476.20, Expenditures for month 11,077.43. Total \$5,886.50. Fraternally submitted, J. MAHLON BARNES.

Unorganized States—Georgia 5.00, Mississippi 5.80, Nebraska 38.40, New Mexico 28.50, North Carolina 8.50, Virginia 6.50, Hawaii 3.00, Members at large 5.60. Total receipts \$2,288.85. EXPENDITURES. Exchange 14.40, General expense 28.80, Express and freight 215.51, Postage 475.51, Telegrams and telephone 60.69, Wages—J. Mahlon Barnes 125.00, W. W. Rihl, 5 weeks 100.00, John C. Chase, 6 weeks 108.00, F. H. Sluck, 5 weeks 90.00, C. J. Wright, 5 weeks 90.00, M. Flaherty, 5 weeks 65.00, J. A. Gavin, 5 weeks 60.00, M. A. Boggess, 3 weeks 38.00, M. Hudson, 5 weeks 60.00, D. Fleming, 5 weeks 90.00, B. Yourez, 5 weeks 60.00, M. Schupp, 5 weeks 40.00, J. R. Oranhood 18.00, A. Lavin 49.50, J. L. Fiske 30.00, Edna Koop 11.00, John M. Work 33.00.

Reply to Gompers' Attack on Eugene V. Debs BY A. M. SIMONS. Certain definite charges were made by Samuel Gompers against Eugene V. Debs, presidential candidate of the Socialist party. These charges were published in the American Federationist for September. No proof accompanied them. None will ever be presented, for the charges are absolutely false. The only thing which they prove is the character of Gompers. Two principal allegations are made in this attack upon Debs. Mr. Gompers says: "He (Debs) organized the American Railway Union and became its president in rivalry to the organization whose official he still was. He worked and plotted for the destruction of the organization of which he was a responsible official." The truth is that when E. V. Debs decided to form the A. R. U. he went before the convention of the B. of L. F. and after explaining his plans to them tendered his resignation as secretary-treasurer and editor of the official organ, which positions he had held for thirteen years. During this time there had never been a candidate nominated for a vote cast against him. The convention unanimously refused to accept his resignation, although its members thoroughly understood that he was about to undertake the organization of the A. R. U. On the contrary, they unanimously re-elected him. But he felt that he should not hold the office, and again tendered his resignation, insisting upon its acceptance. When the convention saw that he was determined to resign it voted unanimously to give him \$3,000 with which to take a vacation. A check for that amount was handed to him, but he refused to accept it, and the check remains uncashed to this day. Furthermore, within the last year a special official invitation to renew his membership had been extended by the B. of L. F. Finally he now has in his possession an official invitation from the governing body of that organization asking him to become the official guest of the B. of L. F. at its next grand lodge meeting. The men who have extended this invitation do not agree with him politically, and would not do those things did they consider him a traitor to their organization. Mr. Gompers says of the A. R. U. strike of 1894: "When a large number of men in the American Railway Union responded to Mr. Debs' call to strike, and many became blacklisted and victimized, he advocated and finally secured the abandonment of the American Railway Union, and thus left his men high and dry without the slightest organized protection." Had this statement been made by an official of the Citizens' Alliance it might be possible to plead ignorance as an excuse. It is but a variation of the frequent charge of the enemies of organized labor that strikes are called by union officials. But Mr. Gompers cannot plead ignorance. He was in an official position during that strike and played a part which he will not care to have recalled. Therefore he will not dare to deny that when he penned that statement he knew that Debs opposed that strike to the very last, and that it was finally decided upon by a unanimous vote of the whole governing

body of the organization. Far from deserting the men, Debs stayed and fought with them, even while a President, elected by the political party for which Mr. Gompers is now asking the support of organized labor, sent federal troops to shoot down the strikers. Mr. Gompers was at the head of a great labor organization at that time. Let him explain what assistance he gave in this hour of desperate need, when Eugene V. Debs stood fighting for the men who had trusted him until he was imprisoned and his organization disrupted and destroyed. Today thousands of those old A. R. U. men are fighting and working for the success of the Socialist party. Their action speaks louder than any words as to whether Debs betrayed them in their hour of need. Mr. Gompers makes another charge. He says: "When Mr. Debs was secretary of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and editor of its official magazine, that organization held one of its conventions in Cincinnati. He had given the order for the convention printing to a concern which had a contest on with the Cincinnati Typographical Union. A committee of Cincinnati union printers called upon Mr. Debs to ask him to use the influence of his position to urge the printing company to come to an amicable agreement with the union, or failing in that, to give the convention printing to a union house. Did Mr. Debs comply with that request? Not a bit of it. He insisted the committee and told them he wanted nothing to do with them or their union." This statement is a plain, malicious lie. No such incident ever took place. No such committee ever came to Debs. No printing was given out by him to any nonunion house. Let Mr. Gompers either produce some member of that committee or stand convicted of cowardly, malicious lying. Here are some facts concerning the actions of E. V. Debs in relation to the Typographical Union while he was editing the Journal of the B. of L. F. When he took editorial charge that journal did not bear the union label. In order to secure the label he reorganized the Typographical Union of Terre Haute, which had fallen into decay, and by so doing placed upon an organ of any of the railway brotherhoods. From the time he took charge of the publications of the B. of L. F. not a single piece of printing of that organization was ever put out that did not bear the union label. Not only did he reorganize the Typographical Union of Terre Haute, but he has either organized originally or reorganized every union now existing in Terre Haute, and for years he was invariably placed in charge of every strike called in that city, no matter what unions might be involved. It would be easy to extend indefinitely the story of the services rendered by E. V. Debs to the cause of organized labor. Hundreds of testimonials might be presented which have been tendered him by various organizations testifying to the success of his efforts in organizing the very unions which are now paying Mr. Gompers' salary. He has been given medals, special endorsements and votes of approval almost without number by local and national bodies besides for his services in these directions. It is not for E. V. Debs to justify his career as a unionist. It is for Mr. Gompers to prove his charges or stand convicted as a willful slanderer and traducer of one whose whole life has been devoted to the cause of labor. Chicago, Sept. 16, 1903.

SOCIALIST SPECIAL TRAIN STOPS AND EXACT TIME

SEPT. 25-FRIDAY Chicago-Leave 10:50 a. m., J. C. R. R. ... SEPT. 26-SATURDAY Indianapolis-Leave 8:00 a. m. ... SEPT. 27-SUNDAY South Bend-Leave 9:00 a. m. ... SEPT. 28-MONDAY Detroit-Leave 9:30 a. m. ... SEPT. 29-TUESDAY Toledo-Leave 8:00 a. m. ... SEPT. 30-WEDNESDAY Cleveland-Leave 9:45 a. m. ... OCT. 1-THURSDAY Erie-Leave 9:00 a. m. ... OCT. 2-FRIDAY Buffalo-Leave 9:30 a. m. ... OCT. 3-SATURDAY Rochester-Leave 8:00 a. m. ... OCT. 4-SUNDAY Syracuse-Leave 5:00 a. m. ... OCT. 5-MONDAY New York-Leave 6:00 a. m. ... OCT. 6-TUESDAY Boston-Leave 9:05 a. m. ... OCT. 7-WEDNESDAY Concord-Leave 9:30 a. m. ... OCT. 8-THURSDAY Providence-Leave 8:55 a. m. ...

New Britain-Arrive 3:45 p. m., N. Y. N. H. & H. ... OCT. 9-FRIDAY New Haven-Leave 11:45 a. m. ... OCT. 10-SATURDAY Bridgeport-Leave 8:00 a. m. ... OCT. 11-SUNDAY Trenton-Leave 10:00 a. m. ... OCT. 12-MONDAY Philadelphia-Leave 8:30 a. m. ... OCT. 13-TUESDAY Newark, N. J.-Leave 1:00 p. m. ... OCT. 14-WEDNESDAY Jersey City-Evening meeting. ... OCT. 15-THURSDAY Jersey City-Leave 5:50 a. m. ... OCT. 16-FRIDAY Reading-Leave 8:00 a. m. ... OCT. 17-SATURDAY Baltimore-Leave 6:00 a. m. ... OCT. 18-SUNDAY McKeesport-Leave 11:50 a. m. ... OCT. 19-MONDAY Pittsburgh-Leave 7:00 a. m. ... OCT. 20-TUESDAY Columbus-Leave 9:00 a. m. ... OCT. 21-WEDNESDAY Cincinnati-Leave 9:30 a. m. ... OCT. 22-THURSDAY Louisville-Leave 6:00 a. m. ...

Medora-Arrive 9:25 a. m., B. & O. Ry.; leave 9:35 a. m. ... OCT. 23-FRIDAY Evansville-Leave 7:00 a. m. ... OCT. 24-SATURDAY St. Louis-Leave 9:00 a. m. ... OCT. 25-SUNDAY Decatur-Leave 10:00 a. m. ... OCT. 26-MONDAY Jacksonville-Leave 10:00 a. m. ... OCT. 27-TUESDAY Hannibal-Leave 7:00 a. m. ... OCT. 28-WEDNESDAY Galesburg-Leave 9:25 a. m. ... OCT. 29-THURSDAY Streator-Leave 9:00 a. m. ... OCT. 30-MILWAUKEE, WIS. ... OCT. 31-RACINE AND KENOSHA, WIS. NOV. 1-CHICAGO, ILL.

Proposed National Party Referendum Amendment to National Constitution Socialist Party

The following proposed amendment to the National Constitution was proposed and endorsed by Local Lima, Ohio, and was ordered to be brought to the attention of the party through the National Office and the party press: "Sec. — It shall be the duty of the National Secretary to issue a call for the nomination of a platform committee not later than May 1st of the year next preceding the holding of a National convention. The platform committee shall consist of five comrades, whose duty it shall be to draft a National platform for the party, which shall be submitted to a referendum vote of the party membership. This committee shall remain in office until such time as a platform has been adopted by a majority vote of the party. It shall be the duty of the delegates in National convention assembled to adopt said platform without change. "The expense of said platform committee shall be raised by a per capita tax. Adopted by Local Lima (Ohio), July 28, 1908. I. E. BOGARDUS, Secretary. 229 W. Vine, Lima, Ohio.

National Notes

While speaking on the streets at Walker, Minn., on August 31st, Guy Williams, state organizer of the "Public Ownership" (Socialist Party), was attacked and knocked off the box by a gambler. The chief of police, who stood only a few feet away made no effort to prevent the attack. The incident aroused great indignation among the law-abiding element in all parties, who raised a general demand for the arrest of the gambler without result. Comrade Williams has organized five locals with fifty members in the last few days.

The reports of the speaking engagements of Comrade Thompson on the Redpath Chautauqua circuit are most gratifying and pre-figures a larger opportunity for Socialist parties in this direction.

The state convention of Michigan Socialists was held at Grand Rapids, Sunday, September 27th.

The Socialist state convention of Delaware was held in Wilmington, Friday, September 25th, in the Labor Lyceum, 112 Jackson street, beginning at 8 p. m.

The receipts of the National Office for dues stamps for the month of August amounted to \$2,350.15. This breaks all previous records and shows that payments were made by 1,594 members in excess of the number recorded in any previous month.

Charters were granted since last reported to locals in unorganized states as follows: Good-Luck, Miss., 9 members; Kearney, Neb., 9 members; Caldron, Neb., 8 members; Hattiesburg, Miss., 7 members; Lawrence, Neb., 9 members; Melrose, N. M., 7 members; Moss Point, Miss., 9 members; Star, Neb., 6 members; Nonie, Alaska, 24 members.

On to Washington! is now the war cry of the Milwaukee Socialists. They report a splendid opportunity of electing two Socialist congressmen from the Fourth and Fifth Congressional districts. The Fourth District, comprising the southern part of Milwaukee County, and the Fifth District, comprising the northern part of Milwaukee County and Waukesha County. In the Fourth District the Social Democrats became second party in 1906, with our candidate for Congress only 2,432 votes behind the Republican candidate. In the Fifth District we became second party in 1904, with 6,605 votes behind the Republican candidate. In 1906 this was cut down to 5,078. But this year the Republican party is split into two bitter factions, eager to knife each other. Thus our chances for electing two Socialists on the floor of Congress are exceedingly bright. The two Social Democratic candidates in these districts are Alderman Meins and ex-Alderman Welch. Both are well qualified to make Socialist agitation in Congress.

State Secretary Graham of Montana held a large and rousing convention, commencing Tuesday, August 25th, and adjourning Friday, August 28th. It was the largest Socialist gathering held in Montana, more counties being represented than at any previous convention. A full state ticket was nominated, headed by Harry Hazleton of Missoula for governor and Lewis J. Duncan of Butte for Congress.

At the Taft Milwaukee (Wis.) meeting Thursday afternoon, September 24th, 2,000 cards were distributed bearing this inscription: "What have Taft and the Republicans done for the workingmen?" God knows. Ask the Social Democrats—they know, too! Comrade Ben Hanford, candidate for vice president, has again been prostrated by illness at his sister's home in Brooklyn, but is now recuperating.

State Secretary Ringler of Pennsylvania reports: Frank H. Means has been expelled from Branch Beaver Falls for misuse of party funds.

The "Red Special" arrived in Chicago from its amazingly successful western tour in the early morning of September 25th and left at 10 o'clock the same morning for the eastern trip. A throng of comrades gathered at the Illinois Central depot to bid welcome and good-by to the hustling agitators on board. The time for greetings was all too short. As the train pulled out the comrades on board and the comrades left behind, with hearts too full for utterance, waved a silent and affectionate farewell. The eastern route as against the western contains more than twice the number of scheduled stops. Many more stops than those scheduled may be made if comrades will wire the request in time to Comrade Debs on the advancing train.

A DEBS APPRECIATION

Executive Department, City of Terre Haute, Ind. James Lyons, Mayor.

Mr. John Cuthbertson, Crooked Lake, Mich. Dear Sir—Yours of the 24th inst received, requesting information without any political bias as to the standing of Eugene V. Debs in this community. In reply, will state that while the overwhelming majority of the people here are opposed to the social and economical theories of Mr. Debs, that there is not perhaps a single man in this city who enjoys to a great-

er degree than Mr. Debs the affection, love and profound respect of the entire community. He is cultured, brilliant, eloquent, scholarly and companionable, lovable in his relations with his fellow-man. At home he is known as "Gene," and that perhaps indicates our feeling towards him as a man, independent of his political views. He numbers his friends and associates among all classes, rich and poor, and some of the richest men here, people who by very instinct are bitter against Socialism, are warm, personal friends of Mr. Debs.

His personal life is spotless and he enjoys a beautiful home life. Few public men have been more persistently and cruelly misrepresented by the press of the country. When such men as James Whitcomb Riley, the "Hoosier poet," come to Terre Haute he is always the guest of Mr. Debs. If you care to use this letter in any way for publication you are at liberty to do so. Every word I have written, and I am not in sympathy with Mr. Debs' views on Socialism, I know would be heartily indorsed by the people of this city. Very respectfully, JAMES LYONS, Mayor.