

THE PARTY BUILDER

OFFICIAL NATIONAL BULLETIN OF THE SOCIALIST PARTY OF AMERICA

No. 49

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THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING.

The Executive Committee met October 4, 5 and 6, with all present except Comrade Germer, who is detained in Colorado, on account of the strike there.

The financial situation was gone into thoroughly and in detail, and upon the secretary showing that the debt is being paid off gradually, the report was approved.

The Lyceum was thoroughly gone into, and the budget of probable cost of operation, submitted by the Lyceum manager, was carefully examined. The report of the committee on this matter will be found on another page.

The comrades will be glad to hear that Comrade Goebel has recovered his usual health. The Executive Committee has assigned him to work in the South for ten weeks in the early spring.

WHAT THEY ASK.

The following are the demands made by the strikers of the copper district of Michigan.

First, a minimum wage of not less than three dollars a day for all underground workers.

Second, an increase of thirty-five cents per day for all surface workers.

Third, the eight-hour day for underground workers, which already obtains in every other copper producing section of North America.

Fourth, the employment of two men on all machines.

Fifth, the recognition of the union, giving to the workers the same right to speak through their representatives that the stockholders have.

It will be seen from reading the above that every demand the miners have made is just. It is to prevent the men from having the reasonable things they have asked for that the state of Michigan is spending hundreds of thousands of dollars on soldiers, and the counties big sums for strikebreakers serving as special police.

RUSSELL BACK.

Chas. Edward Russell, who has spent the summer in Europe, recuperating his health, is back in New York city and is ready to throw himself, mind, body and soul, into the campaign where he is a candidate for mayor. The Socialists expect to give New York a campaign such as it never has had. A campaign conference was held recently to which delegates from the unions were invited, and a large number sent delegations. This insures a line-up of organized labor for the Socialist ticket such as the party has never yet had. On Sunday, September 28, 3,000 volunteers covered the city of New York with several million pieces of literature. This flying squadron will be kept on the job, supplied with as much literature as the party resources will be able to furnish. With such an organized campaign and such a campaigner as Russell, the Socialists will expect New York City to roll up a record-breaking vote.

DEBS ILL.

From press reports we learn that Comrade Debs has had to give up his lecture dates and go to a sanitarium for treatment. Authentic information is not at hand. Debs has never quite regained his customary strength after the strenuous campaign of last fall. We join with several million comrades in hoping that he will soon be himself again, prepared to make the welkin ring once more with his stirring message.

HARRY QUELCH DEAD.

Harry Quelch, editor of London Justice, one of the best-known of our international Socialist papers, died at his home near London, September 18th. Quelch was born January 30, 1850, and joined the Socialist movement in 1883, after listening to a speech by H. M. Hyndman. He has been a delegate to every national congress held since 1884. He also served two years as president of the London Trades Council.

Jack London's story, "The Sea Wolf," will soon be seen in the moving picture shows. The scenes are being produced on an island of the Pacific Ocean at a cost of \$55,000. Viola Barry, daughter of J. Stitt Wilson, will play the only woman part in the story.

TRIED TO BUY THEM.

At the twentieth convention of the Polish National Alliance, held recently in Detroit, Mich., an attempt to bribe and buy the Polish voters at the last presidential election was exposed by the probing of Socialist delegates.

The Polish National Alliance is a fraternal and benevolent association, having upward of 1,600 branches, with 110,000 members, composed mostly of workers and farmers. Each month brings them several thousands of new members. Although Polish Socialists belong to this organization also, the cheap politicians have had the control and management of the association in their hands for a number of years, and the Socialists could not do anything, being in the minority. The growth of class conscious education among the workers in recent years has its effect on this organization, especially along the educational lines. The Alliance has established a college in Cambridge Springs, Pa., which cost \$175,000 and besides that \$7,000 was appropriated for educational purposes, aiding Polish students in different colleges and universities of the country. The Alliance publishes one daily and one weekly paper, also have a large library for which an additional \$3,000 was voted at the last convention in Detroit, Mich. At that convention there was a good number of Socialists as delegates and they together with the progressive elements in the Alliance, especially with the "Sekel Pelski" (systematic organization) attacked the politicians, criticising severely the president, Zychlinski, and vice president, Philip Ksycki. At the floor of the convention a letter was produced revealing the fact that these officers had tried to get \$5,000 from the Roosevelt presidential campaign committee for backing Roosevelt. This letter reads as follows:

Polish Daily Zgoda.

D. Cara, National Pub. Co.,
315-17 C. & A. Bldg., Cleveland, O.

Dear Sir:—In reply to yours of the 17th inst., where you ask if our paper is in a position to support the candidacy of Theodore Roosevelt, will say yes, on the following conditions:

We agree to give the full support of our columns and pledge our full support of Theodore Roosevelt's candidacy for President of the United States during the entire campaign. Such pledge and support no other candidate shall receive, except that we reserve the right to accept daily advertisements from any or all candidates for President. For such pledge and support we are to receive five thousand dollars, of which sum \$2,500 is to be paid to this office August 15, 1912, and the balance, \$2,500, to be paid not later than October 16, 1913.

The Polish Daily Zgoda is published by the Polish National Alliance, with a membership of 95,000, of which number 99 per cent are voters.

We have the names and addresses of every one of our members listed. The list is open for inspection at any time.

(Signed) PHILIP W. KSYCKI, Adv. Mgr.

The bargain with the Progressives was not accomplished, but a similar sale of Polish voters was settled with the Taft campaign manager, Mr. Pamm, but Mr. Pamm refused to sign any written agreement in this regard, but paid \$5,000 to the support of Polish college in Cambridge Springs, Pa., of which sum \$1,000 was paid to Mr. Ksycki as a commission on this advertisement.

It was during the quizzing by Comrade Bronislaw Kulakowski that the facts were slowly drawn from these officers of the association at the convention. The investigation conducted by Comrade Kulakowski was called "a third degree grilling," although the two gentlemen said that they promised under oath to Mr. Pamm they should not make these facts known.

The delegates became indignant and when the motion was made by Comrade Kulakowski to return \$5,000 to Mr. Pamm, they adopted this motion unanimously. It is said that the federal government will also be asked to investigate.

The Polish Socialists showed their countrymen how they were sold to capitalist parties, and as a result of the above investigation, the convention voted that the management of the association shall in future not accept any political advertisement in their papers, and one of the Socialists, Comrade Henry Anielewski, formerly of Milwaukee, was elected to the board of director of the Alliance.

New locals have been organized in the state of New York since the last report as follows: Newark, Wayne Co.; Canandaigua, Ontario Co.; Fort Edward, Washington Co.; Kingston, Ulster Co.

THE MONTHLY REPORT.

The financial report, printed on another page of this issue, continues to show an up grade. The membership for June, as shown by due payments, was 80,961; for July, 83,484; for August, 86,927; for September, 89,144. So the croakers may as well cease their croaking because there is no excuse for it whatever. The party is sound and it has increased 8,183 in three months. If we keep up this increase for the next five years we will have a membership of more than 250,000.

There is no doubt that the next three months will continue to show increases in the membership. If we can do so well in the three dull months of summer it will be no idle dream to hope for 100,000 members by January 1st. We have set that as our goal in this office.

We have introduced an innovation in the financial report. We have given the dues paid by each state for each of the past three months, with a column giving the dues for September of last year. This table is more interesting than formerly, as we are enabled to see the states that are paying dues, and where the falling off from last year's figures has been. In a number of cases the dues are practically what they were last year, and in several cases the falling off is plainly due to internal local conditions.

You will notice that the dues for September are \$927.65 less than for September of last year, and yet our total receipts from all sources are only \$34.57 less than for September, 1912. The difference was made up in three ways: First, the special assessment fund; second, increased sales of literature and supplies, and, third, the Party Builder this year has an income instead of being a dead expense, as formerly.

The item headed "Revenue Accounts" is the real test of the National Office business. This includes cash and book accounts and gives an accurate statement of the business done. This item was not given in September of 1912, as the present system of bookkeeping was not then in force; the books were kept in single entry. But comparing our total revenue accounts with the cash received last year in the same month, we find an actual increase of \$143.51 in the total business of the month over September of last year.

Thus we have seen that the membership is increasing in a substantial and solid manner, and the business of the office is the equal of last year. Could we ask for more?

Our literature business is increasing by leaps and bounds, and its character is changing somewhat. We are doing a greater amount of retail business than formerly. The Party Builder enables us to present our leaflets and books to the active part of the membership each week. We are frank to say that we aim to supply every demand for Socialist leaflets of a general nature, and we propose to do a large share of the Socialist book business of the United States. The Literature Department of the National Office should have the best stock of Socialist books in the country.

Please note that we paid creditors and organizers \$2,022.36 during the month and we had a bank balance of \$2,229.63 at the end of the month. We expect now to begin systematically to pay off all speakers.

THE CALUMET BULLETIN.

The striking miners in Michigan are publishing a daily bulletin for the information of the public. It contains the day's happenings in the strike region.

This bulletin is being sent to all state secretaries of the party, and will be sent gratis to any paper that desires to receive it. We suggest to the Socialist press that they send in their names for the mailing list of the Bulletin. Address Paul Fromholz, secretary Houghton County organization of the Socialist party, 405 Fifth street, Calumet, Michigan.

MAYOR LUNN FINED \$100.

The matter of cutting down a tree was referred to in these columns two weeks ago. Mayor Lunn has been fined \$100 by Judge Van Kirk, who considers the dignity of the court damaged to that extent. Mayor Lunn declares with all kinds of emphasis that he will not pay the fine.

NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY
ASTOR LENOX TILDEN FOUNDATION
500 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY, N. Y.

RECEIPTS

Special Voluntary Assessment—September.

Table listing receipts for the Special Voluntary Assessment for September. Includes entries for various local branches like Chariton, Iowa; Salzer, Centralia, Wash.; Minden, Mo.; etc., with corresponding amounts.

Table listing receipts for various local branches and individuals. Includes entries for Mike Wasilewicz, Racine, Wis.; Orval Henry, Sciota, Ill.; Polish Branch, Astoria, L. L.; etc., with amounts.

Summary table for September receipts. Total for September: \$517.85; Total for August: \$138.06; Total to date: \$655.91.

West Virginia Organization Fund, September.

Table listing receipts for the West Virginia Organization Fund for September. Includes entries for Finnish Branch, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Local, Redlands, Cal.; Herman Jacob, Utica, N. Y.; etc., with amounts.

Summary table for West Virginia Organization Fund. Total for September: \$74.50; Total to August 30th: \$915.37; Total to date: \$989.87.

Servian and Bulgarian Fund—September.

Table listing receipts for the Servian and Bulgarian Fund for September. South Slavic Federation (by E. Susnar): \$10.00.

Pat Quinlan Fund—September.

Table listing receipts for the Pat Quinlan Fund for September. Frank J. Milefehik, Jerome, Ariz.: 3.00.

THE SLOVAK FEDERATION.

Perhaps most of our readers do not know just who are the people represented by this Federation. The Slovaks were the original inhabitants of the country which is now known as Hungary. The Hungarian invasion overran the country several centuries ago and drove the Slovaks away from the best lands. What was once the Slovak nation became the Hungarian. There are still living in Hungary about 2,500,000 Slovaks. The Slovak population of the United States numbers 1,500,000 scattered throughout the country, principally in Pennsylvania, where they work in the iron and coal mines. The Slovak Federation was organized in 1904. A translator-secretary was assigned to them by the National Executive Committee, June 1, 1913. His name is Paul Bruchtel, who has been in America nine years and a citizen three years. The Federation has at this writing a total of 30 locals, principally in Chicago. Comrade J. F. Schippel of New York is now on a speaking tour, this week in Pennsylvania. As a result of his work, two new locals have asked for charters. The Federation publishes a weekly paper at Chicago, Romast L'udu (Equality of people). A new paper will be started in New York the first of the year to be known as Hlas Slabody.

The month of September is now history. We went through with an increase of receipts over August. Now October. The latter month in 1912 was the banner one in the history of the party. The dues reached the sum of \$6,398.80, which showed a party membership of 127,976. From that time on the membership began to fall off till we reached the low water mark in June with dues of \$4,048, showing a membership of 80,960. The dues for September total \$4,455.70, showing a membership in good standing of 89,114. This does not include the dues of the Italian Federation, whose secretary was absent on the closing day of the month. The addition of the Italian Federation would bring the membership to nearly 90,000. There is great activity now in the foreign federations. Each secretary promises an increase for next month. A like activity all along the line will soon put our membership to the 100,000 mark. Let us strive for it.

WHO BUYS THE LITERATURE.

Comrade John Lindren of Chariton, Iowa, orders a thousand assorted leaflets, ten kinds. Comrade Irene Benton orders 400 books for Granada, Minn. The comrades of Negaunee, Mich., are going to do some propaganda stunts. They order 5,000 "Most Frequent Objections to Socialism Answered," and 2,000 each of "Children of the Poor," "Francis Willard on Socialism," "Madam, How Will You Feed Your Family," "To the Union Man's Wife" and "Wives of the Toilers." Comrade Robert Hooper of Esmond, N. D., says: "I received the two dozen copies of "Truth About Socialism" and sold 16 of them in an hour. Send me another dozen." Local Utica, N. Y., orders 10,000 of Thompson's new leaflet, "Have the Socialist Made Good." Local Teague, Tex., gets our 400 book combination. Watertown, N. Y., gets 5,000 of "Have the Socialists Made Good." Mrs. Chas. Waddell of Bloomington, Ill., invests in a thousand leaflets for women. Newark, N. J., gets 15,000 assorted leaflets for the campaign. Local Omaha, Neb., invests in two thousand leaflets. Local Springfield, Mass., orders our 400 book combination. Glen Campbell, Pa., is going after the natives with our 400 book combination. Jos. Framm of Havana seems to hold the belt for speed in selling Socialist books. He writes: "I sold 17 copies of "Wasting Human Life" in 4 minutes." The statement of National Office cash receipts for September shows a total of \$7,391.02. Compared with the August cash total of \$6,919.25, this is a gain for the month of \$471.77. Compared with the receipts for September, 1912, which were \$7,630.09, we are exactly \$23.97 behind last year (campaign year). But note the dues for September, 1912, were \$5,384, nearly \$1,000 in excess of September, 1913. The loss in dues was almost made up in receipts from literature and the Party Builder. If the same rate of gain is maintained in October, we will not fall far short of that banner month of the party. We do not present these figures merely to show result in dollars—far from it—but dollars in this case are the register of work done. More dues mean more members of the party, a stronger organization. More money for literature means more propaganda. More subs to the Party Builder means a better informed membership. Let us all loyally go to work, not alone to make October better, but each succeeding month. Dinuba, Cal., places an order for 2,500 assorted leaflets. Comrade R. L. Bales gets our 400 book combination for Cincinnati. Comrade O. M. Thomason of Minnesota, who has been speaking in northern Indiana, has been in and out of the National Office during the last week, each time taking out a batch of books for sale at his meetings. "Wasting Human Life" and "Truth About Socialism" are his favorites. Comrade M. E. Acker of Milwaukee gets 200 copies of "Usurped Power of the Courts" and a set of sample leaflets. Elizabeth, N. J., local orders our 400 book combination. Warren, Ohio, comrades are getting into action. They order 50 copies of "Wasting Human Life" and 50 of "Truth About Socialism." Comrade Jos. Roussee in ordering two dozen "Truth About Socialism," says: "This is the best book I have ever found with which to make converts to Socialism." Albany, N. Y., sends an order for 10,000 assorted leaflets for house to house distribution. Comrade C. H. Linder of Rochester, Pa., one of the "always on the job" comrades, orders 5,000 leaflets, "Join the Party" and "Madam, How Will You Feed Your Family," also 12 copies of "The Truth About Socialism." Schenectady orders 20,000 of "The Most Frequent Objection to Socialism." Schenectady is "regular" these days. In addition to sending in nearly 1,000 subs to the P. B., the boys in Lunville have used 10,000 "Should Socialism Be Crushed," 1,000 "Truth About Socialism" and many thousand of our leaflets. They are sowing the city with Socialist literature. Comrade J. A. Rogers of Ada, Okla., orders a supply of leaflets. Dayton, Ohio, comrades take our 400 book combination in a double dose—800 books in all. Comrade John W. Elliston of Indianapolis was the first to score on the \$10 offer advertised in the P. B. Howell, Ind., comrades are stocking up on books. They get our 400 book combination. Howell is a country local. Mrs. S. C. Graft of Boone, Iowa, orders 14 copies of "Truth About Socialism." Comrade L. S. Melinger of Dawson, Pa., secretary of the local and also chairman of the county committee, orders our 400 book combination. Local Hattiesburg, Miss., gets our 400 book combination.

Information Department

111 NORTH MARKET STREET, CHICAGO

PURPOSE

To collect, classify and make available for the members of locals and officials of the Socialist Party all possible data and information on economic, political and social problems. To assist the Socialists elected to office with such information as may be required in their official capacities on Municipal, State and National Problems of Administration and Reconstruction.

CARL D. THOMPSON, Manager

FLORENCE MAY SWAN, ETHELWYN MILLS, ELEANOR SPAETH, Assistants

POSTAL BANKS.

What They Are and What They Ought to Be. By Dr. Karl F. M. Sandberg.

(We have received many inquiries about the present postal savings bank—as to their methods, value, shortcomings and how the Socialists might use them. The following is submitted by Comrade Sandberg, who is a member of the special committee appointed at the last national convention to make a study of the money question. Comrade Sandberg sees great possibilities in the postal banks and believes they offer the entering wedge for the solution of the money question.—Editor.)

While the postal banks, as now operated, are of only very limited use, they still form a splendid foundation for a full government banking system and ought to have the support of every Socialist. All that is needed is to extend and perfect their operations. I shall try to explain their advantages and defects as at present operated and also such changes as we Socialists ought to advocate in order to make them what they, from our standpoint, ought to be.

To us the all important advantage is that they are a Socialist institution. They fulfill one-half of the financial plank of our platform, collective ownership of the banking system. How much cause you may find for criticism, this fact still remains, and compared with that, all other considerations are insignificant. No matter how awkward and inconvenient their methods they ought to be the only banks patronized by us. A further advantage is their absolute safety. Compared with this a little less interest should not be complained of.

Their defects and shortcomings are many, and already well understood by the postal functionaries as well as the people. The local postmaster is not trusted with the funds received, but must transfer the full amount to others, 5 per cent to the Treasury Department in Washington as a reserve, and 95 per cent to some private bank designated by the post office department. This leaves him without any cash to pay withdrawals, except such as may come from new deposits. The amount of deposits received is limited to \$100.00 in a month, and \$500.00 all together. Any person whose deposits run higher is barred.

The changes we Socialist ought to advocate are:

1. Removal of the maximum limitation on deposits. A bank to serve all must be without any such restrictions.

2. Removal of all limitations as to depositors, so as to accept also firms, corporations and public bodies. Public banks must serve all.

3. Opening of checking accounts.

The check system is the most perfect and convenient medium of exchange and should be immediately adopted by the government. The government through its banks should also be the only one to issue checks. Checks are a kind of money, and on the issuance of money the government has a constitutional monopoly.

4. Removal of all requirements for redepositing in private banks.

Redepositing frustrates the entire object of the postal banks, makes them mere collecting agencies for private banks, helping these to get the people's money at a lower rate of interest.

Without it a great amount of money would be in the hands of the postal banks and with the introduction of the check system the usefulness of this money would be manifoldly increased. The government would not need to borrow on interest-bearing bonds. Were all the savings of the workers held by the postal banks the capitalists would also be deprived of the largest part of the funds whereby they exploit them, the very deposits of the workers themselves in the capitalist banks.

These changes have been framed into a bill, which is now in the "Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads of the House of Representatives," Washington, D. C. A letter to your congressman, asking for a copy of House Resolution 8472, and another to the committee, urging the passage of the resolution, would aid in making the postal banks more adequately meet the demands put upon them.

There is no single piece of social machinery that will bring quicker progress towards the co-operative commonwealth than the government ownership and operation of the financial system. For this reason the Socialist should use the postal banks in preference to any others and work for the extension of their field.

PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION.

As every one knows, the present method of representation in municipal councils and state legislatures and the national congress is very unjust and unfair, especially to minority parties. The Socialist party stands for proportional representation. This would be fair to every part, small as well as large, and now that the agitation for commission form of government is going on, not only in the cities, but is actually being urged by the governors of at least two states as a method of organizing the state government or legislative body, the subject of proportional representation is more than ever of importance.

In this connection it is interesting to note what the situation is with reference to the national congress. This has been figured out very carefully by Comrade W. J. Ghent, who has submitted to us the following figures, showing how the United States Congress would be made up if the members were elected by proportional representation:

Party	Vote	Representation Earned	Actual
Democrats	6,297,150	182	290
Progressives	4,125,886	119	16
Republicans	3,485,039	101	127
Socialists	901,062	26	0
Prohibition	209,500	6	0
Socialist-Labor	30,344	1	0
Scattered	3,526	0	0
Total	15,052,507	435	433

1 Independent, 1 vacancy in April, 1913.

Congressional quota, 34,603.

Comment by Comrade Ghent: "Dispatches from Washington in May gave 18 representatives as acting independently as Progressives, though the Congressional Directory gives but 16 Progressives and Progressive Republicans. The Independent is William Kent of California.

It might also be contended that under the popular election of senators, we are entitled to six members of the upper house, though this contention would involve the question of representation by states instead of by numbers."

We would suggest that the comrades everywhere should prepare themselves thoroughly on the subject of proportional representation. Pamphlets may be secured through this department. The best single book on the subject is "Proportional Representation—A Study in Methods of Election," by John H. Humphreys. (May be secured from National Office. Price, \$1.50.)

EXTRAVAGANCES OF THE RICH.

The pastor of the First Methodist Church in one of the Iowa cities writes that he is in great need of information to help him in the preparation of some Socialistic sermons. He asks especially for information on the extravagances of the rich in their expenditures on poodle dogs, etc.

Our reply: (1) You will find an article on "Dogs and Babies," by Richard Barry, in Pearson's Magazine about two or three years ago. Unfortunately we neglected to put on the date at the time we clipped the article.

(2) A series of articles on "The Passing of the Idle Rich," occurred in Everybody's Magazine February to April, 1911. They were written by Frederick Townsend Martin.

There are other magazine articles on this subject, and I suggest that at your public library you get "Readers' Guide to Periodical Literature" for year back and in that way you can locate other material.

(3) "The Menace of Privilege," by Henry George, published by Grosset & Dunlap, New York, also contains material along the line of your inquiry. You can get this from any good publishing house.

A SOCIALIST FRATERNAL SOCIETY.

To these comrades who are inquiring for reliable and trustworthy insurance organizations for workmen and women, we take pleasure in calling attention to the Workmen's Sick and Death Benefit Fund. This organization is a bona fide Socialist workmen's organization. It was formed in New York City twenty-eight years ago by a small group of Socialist refugees from Germany, who had been driven from their homes by the "blood and iron laws of Bismarck."

We would suggest to the comrades that before embarking in any of the capitalistic or reform fraternal organizations they investigate this one. Address William Meyer, National Secretary, 1 and 3 Third Avenue, New York City.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

Bebel and the Military Bill.

Q. In order to help solve a controversy which arose in our local here yesterday, will you give us the details and facts concerning the action of the members of the Social-Democratic party in the German Reichstag, under Bebel's leadership, in voting for an appropriation for the army and navy?

A. You will find this whole matter carefully discussed and fully explained in an article in The New Review, September, 1913, issue, page 765 ff., by Hermann Wendel, member of the German Reichstag.

Strength of the Socialist Party.

Q. What is the present political strength of the Socialists in the various countries?

A. We have prepared with as great care and accuracy as possible an estimate of the total vote, membership and representation of the Socialist party in the national parliaments of the various nations, and the total will be found on the inside cover page of the report of this department for the first five months' work, copies of which may be secured without charge from this department. This shows a total membership of 2,919,634; vote, 10,627,125; parliamentary representation, 650, out of a total of 5,785.

On the inside back cover page of the same report will be found a list of the Socialist officials in the United States, so far as we have been able to verify their elections. This shows a total of 21 legislators in 9 states; mayors in 34 cities; 230 aldermen; 106 other municipal officials; 150 county officials; 126 school officials; grand total, 667.

In Reply to S. W.

A comrade with the initials S. W., has written three questions addressed to us care of the Party Builder, but has failed to place any address—not even the name of his city—upon his letter. While it is the purpose of this department to reply by mail to all inquiries within our scope, and not to publish our answers in the Party Builder as some newspapers do in special columns, we will make an exception of this case, and print herewith replies to the questions of the comrade. Any other comrade writing us, we hope, will be sure to put his address on the letter.

1. The twelfth census of the United States, 1900, gives the following figures. The publication of the 1910 census is not yet completed: Population, 10 years old and over, 58,224,600; all occupations, 29,287,070; agricultural pursuits, 10,428,219; professional service, 1,264,536; domestic and personal service, 5,693,778; laborers (unskilled workers), 2,640,420; servants, 1,565,440; trade and transportation, 4,778,233; manufacturing and mechanical, 7,112,304.

2. The Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C., sells all government reports. Many of these reports can be obtained without charge, however, upon application to the many respective departments issuing them.

3. The Congressional Record, issued daily, gives a full report of congressional sessions. It can usually be secured without charge by application to the congressman from your own district.

ORGANIZATION WORK IN WEST VIRGINIA.

By Anna A. Maley.

Between August 15 and September 25, I organized the following locals in this state: Rowlesburg, Farmington, Haywood, Fairview, Catawba, Kingmont, Quiet Dell, Jane Lew, Richwood, Worthington, Beverly, Valley Head, Williamstown. In addition to the organizations actually effected, we have a free speech case pending in the Marion County court at Fairmont, a stronghold of the Consolidation Coal Company. Much sympathetic consideration of Socialism has resulted from the brutalities of the companies. State Secretary Kintzer and Comrades J. H. Snider and J. Vern Johnston have been "thugged" in the parlance of the district. Lawrence Fleming, a traction company officer, Comrade Snider's assailant, has been fined and bound over to the grand jury, and application for a peace bond is pending in his case. The other assaults were made by unknown hirelings who made their escape.

The real fight by the coal and railroad barons of West Virginia is to defeat working class organization. They therefore resort to extra legal measures, gunmen, espionage and intimidation. Mad-drunk with long unquestioned power they are now prey for destruction by whatever gods there be.

Comrades, the time is ripe for the thorough organization of West Virginia. A conference of mine operators recently held at Huntington credits the Socialist movement with inciting all the organization agitation in West Virginia, and they pledged a million dollars to fight us. Shall we force them to raise it to two millions? Are we a bogey or a real power? What say you? Let us go after the hundred or more groups who are now ready to form Socialist party locals in West Virginia.

I must now leave this field, but here is five dollars to help finance my successor. The time is propitious. Act now and in another year West Virginia will be on the firing line helping our weak states of the South to organize. Come forward with your mite for the West Virginia organization fund.

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TO NATIONAL COMMITTEE.

Chicago, October 6, 1913.

To the Members of the National Committee:

A motion is now before your committee proposing to continue the Lyceum Bureau. Considering the very serious predicament which the existence and present administration of the Lyceum Bureau has placed the National Office financially, the N. E. C. desires to place plainly before the N. C. the following data concerning the past activities and present status of the bureau, in order that a mandate from you to continue the same may not be placed upon us without due consideration of the perplexities that face us in the National Office.

1. It is known to the members of the N. C. that at the close of the first year of the bureau's existence there was a deficit.

2. For the second year Comrade Katterfeld enthusiastically declared that by making the work much more extensive, great profits could be made in the conduct of the bureau; and he was given an absolutely free hand to command every agency to make the Lyceum a success.

Accordingly 34 organizers were sent forth as advance agents. These 34 organizers put in 900 days of advance work, at a net cost of \$5,284. They secured only 99 contracts that were carried out.

A very large office force was then employed, running up to 10, 12 and even 20 clerks, to push all phases of the work. The wages of the manager of the Lyceum and his assistants made a total of \$11,870. The advertising, printing, etc., to launch the course cost upwards of \$10,000. Postage, expressage, etc., amounted to over \$5,000.

As a result of the work of these organizers and this office force the Lyceum courses were put on and carried through in only 335 places, a total of some 1,658 lectures, with an average attendance of 250.

There were 45 lecturers who served in all 1,929 days, an average of 43 days each, at an expenditure of \$20,261.

At the close of the year there was owing to these organizers and lecturers, and to printers and publishers (including the small deficit from the first year), \$15,812.

In brief, 34 organizers at a cost of \$5,284, office help at a wage bill of \$12,000, and advertising and printing at a cost of \$10,000, were required to organize 1,658 lectures, with a net deficit of \$15,000.

3. At the May meeting of the National Committee, the sum of \$2,000.00 was appropriated to the use of Manager Katterfeld to secure, if possible, 600 contracts by October 1st. The amount Comrade Katterfeld asked for was doubled in order to render every assistance again to bring success. Comrade Katterfeld at this time pointed out that one main cause of the deficit last year was the small number of courses placed, and insisted that not less than 600 locals could be run on a profitable scale. Yet that money has been spent and only 435 contracts have been secured. With the usual proportionate cancellations the number will fall below the 400 mark. Comrade Katterfeld's enthusiastic promises and prophecies have not materialized.

Moreover, the business of the Lyceum Bureau, in handling subscriptions and concluding the necessary conduct of last year's work has compelled the employment of an office force for the last four months. This force and the force required to secure the new contracts has incurred a still additional deficit.

Notwithstanding the fact that the National Office has been paying off some of this indebtedness each month, the total liabilities of the Lyceum Bureau on October 1, 1913, are \$21,432. The assets of only \$2,342 cannot be realized upon.

Surely this is a very serious situation. Such administration of the bureau does not inspire us, and, indeed, compels the N. E. C. to proceed with the greatest caution.

Comrade Katterfeld is again ready to present a rosy aspect to the present possibilities of the Lyceum indicating in a most detailed budget for the present contracts, if carried out, a net profit of \$4,200.

The N. E. C. cannot see the profit. On the contrary we are convinced that another deficit is inevitable, though, of course, smaller than last year. We have already pointed out to Comrade Katterfeld a possible leak of \$2,000 which he had omitted to consider, and which he now concedes.

Considering the failure of the Lyceum Department to fulfill past promises, and considering further that never in the history of our party have we ever been thrust into such a financial loss and embarrassment, the N. E. C. cannot accept Comrade Katterfeld's persuasive figures and rosy predictions.

We cannot dare take any steps in the same direction that has created the present great deficit. If the experience of the past was not so painfully before us, we might be inclined to recommend action once more on Comrade Katterfeld's proposal.

4. After the most prolonged and thorough discussion of the Lyceum Bureau, at the May session of N. C., it was most emphatically concluded that if by the extra expense and continuance of the bureau, 400 contracts by September 1, and 600 contracts by October 1, were not secured, then the bureau must be forthwith discontinued. This effort has again failed and accordingly the bureau is automatically discontinued since October.

But now another motion is before you to re-open the bureau. We beg to say that the present motion before the N. C., as offered by Comrade Nagle of Oklahoma, was admittedly framed by Comrade Katterfeld, and again recites the rosy and more promising aspects of the situation and leaves the N. C. without the information on the more embarrassing aspects of the administration of the bureau which so seriously confront the N. E. C. in the form of pressing creditors, and unpaid organizers and lecturers.

The N. E. C. feels bound to carry out such successful propaganda and organize such lecture courses as shall prove effective in building up the party and educating the workers to their great mission, but we also feel bound to safeguard the movement against the deadly and disheartening effects of huge deficits and pressing creditors.

We sincerely hope that our comrades on the N. C. will appreciate the responsibility which you have placed upon us as you render unto us your mandate on this important matter.

In the meantime the Lyceum Bureau stands discontinued unless re-opened by a majority vote of the National Committee. The facts which we daily face are now before you.

Respectfully submitted,
VICTOR L. BERGER,
GEO. H. GOEBEL,
JAMES H. MAURER,
J. STITT WILSON,
Executive Committee.

Please note letter of Comrade Germer submitted herewith at request of the above committee.

WALTER LANFERSIEK.

Branch Office No. 2
UNITED MINE WORKERS OF AMERICA
District No. 15

Walsenburg, Colo., October 2, 1913.
Walter Lanfersiek, 111 N. Market Street, Chicago, Ill.

Dear Comrade Lanfersiek:—Your favor of the 27th ult. has been received and replying will say that it is entirely impossible for me to get away to attend the meeting of the N. E. C.

on the 4th. I well realize the importance of the coming meeting, but the situation out here is so serious that it would be criminal for me to leave even for a day. As I told you in one of my previous letters, I have been placed in charge of the strike in this county and I have not quite completed systematizing the work. The finances are under my care and our first strike benefit will be paid on the 4th, so you see the condition I am in.

I notice what you say about the Lyceum matter. As one member of the N. E. C. I am opposed to plunging the party in a larger debt. When the National Committee decided to make an effort to get a sufficient number of locals to contract in order to conduct the Lyceum on a paying basis, it was done on the assurance that a sufficient number of locals could be secured; otherwise, I am sure the committee would have voted to discontinue it then and there. It was only with the positive assurance on the part of the Lyceum manager that enough locals would contract to conduct the Lyceum on a sustaining basis, and it is not treating the party fair to wed it to the fancy of plungers.

Faithfully yours,
(Signed) ADOLPH GERMER.

BOOK REVIEWS.

"The Regulation of Public Utilities," edited by Clyde Lyndon King, Philadelphia. Published by D. Appleton & Co., New York and London, 1912. Cloth, 400 pages, \$1.50 net.

This volume by Dr. King has been written as a sort of epitome of the reports and findings of the National Municipal League. As such it has considerable value and interest.

The first chapter, part I, deals with the Need of Regulation. The second chapter discusses the question of municipal ownership as over and against adequate regulation, and we are pleased to note that for the most part the discussion is favorable to municipal ownership. There is an occasional lapse into the usual capitalistic strain, but on the whole there seems to be a pretty general appreciation of the fact that municipal ownership would be superior to regulation.

There is a chapter on the Essentials of Franchise Making, which would be quite suggestive to city officials and others who are watching the development of franchises. The chapter is not quite as complete and definite as one might desire for technical work in this line, but for a general discussion it is helpful in pointing out the more essential elements that a franchise should have in order to properly safeguard the interests of the people.

There is a discussion of the sliding scale method of regulation as compared to gas; of telephone rates; of the street car problem in Greater New York, and "suggestions for a model street railway franchise," by Dr. Delos F. Wilcox and James S. Peters, which is of value to those who may be charged with the duty of drafting such franchises.

Part IV deals with the subject of the regulation of municipal utilities in the city through state commissions. The position here is rather vague at times, but on the whole the book seems to favor both a local or municipal commission and a state commission for the regulation of public utilities. In this discussion there seems to be an entire failure to recognize the fundamental, economic facts underlying the whole public utility question.

The chapter on the public utility law in Wisconsin, by Dr. Balthasar H. Meyer, who was at one time member of the commission, is very enthusiastic about the good effects of the law there, while, as a matter of fact, the Wisconsin effort to regulate municipal utilities through a state commission has been a most pitiable failure. It is not to be expected, perhaps, that one who is enthusiastic over his work, or those who have so recently written about it, would know or present in a book of this kind the facts which have been forced upon the common people, and especially the working classes. The Socialists have held from the beginning that the attempt to regulate public utilities would inevitably be proven absolutely futile, and the facts have been coming in very fast in the last four or five years to demonstrate the correctness of our view. These facts, of course, neither the National Municipal Review, Dr. Meyer or Dr. King seem to understand.

ROTTEN EGGS AND SPOILED CHICKENS.

Not very long ago, a capitalist firm in Butte tried to sneak in a carload of rotten eggs that had been rejected in another city. The shipment came originally from Iowa. Somebody "tipped off" the Socialist health department with the result that the carload of decayed food found its final resting place on the city dump.

CIRCULATION REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING
SEPTEMBER 27, 1913.

Last week	18,182
Off	50
	<hr/>
	18,132
New subs	595
	<hr/>
Total	18,727

Before you have read this report, the National Executive Committee will have adjourned. You will remember that we promised them 20,000 circulation for the October meeting. As this report is always one week behind, we must add the following week, which will bring our report to over 19,000. You fell a little short, but not much. During the month of September the rush of work in the literature department drew the attention and that of our force away from the P. B. We cared for subs coming in, but had no time to reach out for new workers and to ginger up the dead locals. A new list of local secretaries has just been stenciled and last week these were circularized. Unless we miss our guess, the P. B. list will go up faster in October than it did in September. A great revival in party work is apparent from our correspondence. Things are looking good; not so good that we can afford to set down and congratulate ourselves, but good enough to make us all want to work harder.

A. Benson places Flushing, Ohio, on the score board of the Party Builder with a list of 20.

L. B. Wilson, secretary of the local at Reading, Pa., is in with his weekly contribution to the Party Builder list. He has a total of 12 this time.

Brocket, N. D., comes with a list of 12 new ones through Comrade E. J. Lingren.

Ed. C. Stoddard, literature agent of Local Springfield, Mass., has done splendid work in soliciting. He sends a list of 105 new subscribers, all in a bunch.

Comrade Donald McRae sends another list of 12 from East Las Vegas, N. M.

T. J. Coonrad sends a list of 30 from Emmet, Idaho.

A great many yearly subscriptions are coming to the Party Builder at the 50 cent rate. We have never strongly urged 50 cent subscriptions, but evidently a number of comrades think the Party Builder is worth the price, even at 50 cents per year.

Redland, Calif., moves up another notch this week with a total of 6 through the efforts of Ray Everett.

Pine Lawn, Mo., sends another list of 11.

Butte, Mont., has agreed to make good on its promise. We have a list of 20 this week from Comrade H. L. Girron.

Comrades are agreeing to send us names of scattered Socialists in response to our request for same. Send all the names you like and we will get after them in this office, but remember do not send us names of people whom you can see yourself.

In the little town of Coushatta, La., you will find several subscribers to the Party Builder and every one goes by the name of Cannon. There are: V. D. Cannon, O. O. Cannon, P. L. Cannon, J. L. Cannon, J. W. Cannon and J. B. Cannon. This surely makes a battery.

Comrade J. Prause sends us a list of 20 subs from Rocky Mt., N. Car.

Comrade W. A. Cleveland sends a list of 24 from Swissvale, Pa. He says: "I am a little late with this list, but I will do better next time."

J. E. Perry gets on for a bundle of 10.

Comrade A. Pauly, organizer for Local Kings County, Brooklyn, N. Y., sends a list of 114 as a result of a norganized canvass for subs. Evidently the boys like the Party Builder for Comrade A. Pauly says at the bottom of his letter, "Let me have about a dozen more lists for additional subs."

Emanuel Sandberg scores for Lake Mills, Ia., with a list of 6.

Comrade J. J. Sholtes sends another list from Alliance, Ohio, among the number being a Democratic politician who Comrade Sholtes has headed our way.

Drouthy Kansas contributes a list of 7 from Lyons through Comrade Peter Major.

Flint, Mich., swells its list by a total of 10 through Secretary Catherine Cheney, who says: "This is just a start. I shall continue to get subscriptions."

"THE TRUTH ABOUT SOCIALISM."

"I have read it before and can truthfully say that it is one of the simplest, clearest and yet scientific presentations of the subjects that it has been my pleasure yet to read.

"Furthermore, its typographical appearance, with clear and readable type, adds to its value, and makes it much more valuable for propaganda purposes."—W. B. Killingbeck, Corresponding Secretary, State Committee of the Socialist party, Orange, N. J.

"Having read the matter it contains in the first printed form in 'Pearson's,' I may say that this publication by you meets the hope of many, myself included, that the articles would appear in a book. Now that we have it, my hope is that your sales may run to a million, and all opportunities I have will be improved to compass that result."—A. S. Edwards, State Secretary Socialist party, Manchester, N. H.

"I agree that the best that has been said of this work is none too good. It is electrifying, dynamic, inspiring, and will do much to awaken and impel the nation to effective action."—J. W. Slayton, Pittsburgh, Pa.

"I have read this book carefully and consider it the best explanation of Socialism that has ever been offered to the American voter. This book will fill a long-felt want as it is written in just the style that will make converts to Socialism. I can assure you that we shall push this book for all that it is worth in Connecticut between now and the fall elections, and then some more, after that."—S. E. Beardsley, State Secretary-Treasurer, Derby, Conn.

"I shall take great pleasure in recommending this very valuable work. It seems to me the best thing of its sort that has yet been published, and it ought to be pushed as much as possible. I am glad to hear that it has already reached a third edition, and hope that its sale will run up into the millions."—E. H. Thomas, State Secretary Social Democratic party, Milwaukee, Wis.

"Allen Benson is a very good author; he makes his writings attractive by his humor and at the same time very sharp in the criticism of existing wrongs."—A. Carlson, Sheridan, Wyoming.

"I shall be glad to recommend this book as one that is well adapted to meet the needs of the Socialist party in the South."—Ida W. Raymond, State Secretary, R. No. 3, Jackson, Miss.

"I have enjoyed every page of the book. Anything that I can do to give it a wider circulation I shall do gladly. Such work merits a wide circulation."—Ida Callery, State Secretary, Bonanza, Arkansas.

WANTED.

Electrician, who is a Socialist, to go to a medium-sized town in Minnesota to help in a Socialist administration. Address the Information Department.

A competent printer who is capable of doing all around work on Socialist paper, including typesetting and job work. Address Emma B. Denney, 716 East Locust street, Canton, Illinois.

The Milwaukee Socialists say that the non-partisan administration are making an effort to bring a body of I. W. W. organizers to that city during the winter in order to create a division in the ranks of labor and thus make the carrying of the city by the non-partisan an easy job. The Socialists and unionists are all quietly smiling. Milwaukee is about the last place on earth for such a move to be a success.

Everett, Wash., has been the scene for the last few weeks of a lively scrap in the public schools. Two prominent Socialists were teaching school in the county and one had his certificate revoked by the county superintendent, and the other was forcibly kidnaped from his place of boarding and was later tried on a charge of insanity. The attempts to dismiss these two teachers, however, caused a vigorous protest from the people and the two teachers are back on their jobs conducting their schools.

A new Socialist paper comes to our table this week called the Square Deal. It is published by Local Danville, Va., and is a credit to our Virginia comrades.

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**Workman's Sick and
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of the United States of America.

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Fifty thousand beneficiary members.
Amount saved in cash reserve, \$669,992.17.

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Few there are who ever got close enough to J. A. Wayland to hear his heart beat. Brewer was one of the few, and in this little sketch he has faithfully portrayed the heart throbs of this great man, whose greatness will grow with the passing years. Printed de luxe—Roycroft—style, in colors. Postpaid for 25c; 3 for 50c. Address "Friday" Harmon, Box 136, Girard, Kansas.