

# The PARTY BUILT

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## THE DEMOCRATIC DILEMMA.

A. W. Ricker.

Our Democratic administration is up against some necessary decisions which neither the deacon-like poise of Bryan nor the classical English of Wilson can stave off much longer.

The Mexican problem is perplexing, but not nearly so much so as the high cost of living and the multitude of unemployed workers.

Although the tariff schedules are now in force, the cost of living has not been lowered. Prices are still high, despite the fact that times are hard.

The new currency and banking law, though not in operation yet, is still a law, and if it is to be the panacea for industrial ills, which its authors promised, the country should by this time have at least some psychic benefit from it.

There is, however, "nothing doing" in the prosperity line.

The Wall Street market goes up one day and down the next. The banks are accumulating cash, which is a bad economic symptom. The report of the bank deposits of the city of Chicago made March 4 shows \$527,000,000 on deposit, which is the highest point in the history of the local banks. The Chicago Tribune says: "The change in the bank statements is due, of course, to two prime causes—satisfying return of confidence, but decrease in business." The Tribune is right in the latter statement, but in what way it shows the return of confidence we fail to see.

From an economic standpoint prosperity is not measured by the amount of money which banks accumulate, but by the demand for loans to be used in business. In good times people invest money in business; in hard times they hoard it in banks or otherwise.

State laws that guarantee deposits, together with more stringent banking laws, have made the national and state banks safer institutions for the deposit of money than in former years. People now hoard money in banks instead of burying it, but when they store it in banks, instead of putting it into business channels, they are hoarding it nevertheless.

Prosperity has apparently taken to the woods, so to speak, and the administration seems unable to coax her from her sylvan retreat.

Some weeks ago the writer addressed himself in these columns to "the part which the railroads are playing in the present industrial depression."

He took the position then that there would be no marked improvement in business until the railroads were granted increased freight rates.

The railroads hold the key to the situation. If they are assured more profits, they will build new lines, new terminals, new bridges and new tracks. They will order new rails, new ties, new cars, engines, etc.

Within 90 days after the roads were assured such an increase they would place orders which would start the unemployed toward the factory gates or out along the railroad tracks.

If, then, it is all so easy, why don't the administration grant the increase?

Because the increased rates will bear heavily on the farmers and the farmers have about 40 per cent of all the votes in this country.

Increased rates will also add to the general cost of living. We can have prosperity all right (a chance to work), but we must pay for it in good hard cash. We cannot have it unless we do.

The Democratic Party faces the uncomfortable alternative of paying the price in some form. If there is no increase in rates, the railroads will not build or buy and the industrial depression will continue. If there is an increase, the consumers will howl and the opposition will say the Democrats are the tools of Wall Street and the "interests" just like the Republicans.

Of course there is government ownership, but that is Socialistic. Wilson and Bryan do not believe in Socialism or anything approaching it. The Democrats believe in competition, not co-operation.

Soon, however, the force of circumstances will compel action. Wilson must yield to the railroads or not. If he does, he will hear from the back districts this fall. If he don't, he will hear from about everybody else—for this country cannot continue to sustain an army of a million unemployed men without creating a social uprising.

Of course, we Socialists know that no permanent

## NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, SOCIALIST PARTY, 1913-1914



J. STITT WILSON  
ADOLPH GERMER

GEO. H. GOEBEL  
WALTER LANFERSIEK  
Executive Secretary

JAMES H. MAURER  
VICTOR L. BERGER

good can come from increasing freight rates. With increased income, the roads will issue more bonds, which will soon place them in the same position they are today. They will then require further increases of rates to meet added interest on bonds.

The only solution of the problem is public ownership. We must acquire the roads at a price which would be equal to the cost of building and equipping. This means that we would pay by many millions less for them than they are now rated in stocks and bonds. It would mean that the stockholders and bondholders will have to accept so much on the dollar for their holdings and lose the rest.

When railroad values are squeezed to their legitimate basis, rates may be greatly lowered and still pay such a surplus as to provide for future repairs and new equipment.

### THREE-MONTH REPORT.

Submitted by the Secretary of the Jewish Federation.

Our membership has been growing steadily all this year, though not as rapidly as we wanted. Our sale of dues stamps amounted to 2,097 per month on an average for the last three months, as against 1,803 in the third quarter, 1,915 in the second, and 1,410 in the first quarter of the year. The economic depression, which struck the big immigrant cities, is undoubtedly responsible for the comparatively slow growth of our organization, but we have no reason to feel discouraged, as an increase in membership of about 48 per cent is by no means a poor showing.

New branches organized in St. Paul Minn.; 16 A. D. Brooklyn, N. Y.; Stamford, Conn.; New Britain, Conn.; Norfolk, Va. and Malden, Mass.

Our efforts have been more successful in the field of propaganda and agitation. We brought over from Russia one of the most prominent speakers of the revolutionary movement, Dr. Max Goldfarb, and his agitation tour, nearly completed, has proven a big success. Over 15,000 people attended to the 40 meetings arranged up to date, and the good results of this efficient tour will surely show themselves in the very near future. Our sale of literature was very successful for the last months. We took in, in cash, \$1,058.41 for literature during December, January and February, as against \$394.16 for the preceding three months. The best "seller" proved to be our "Year Book," which we published and almost sold the entire edition of 10,000. The Year Book contains some valuable Socialist contributions, different information, and, besides, a very well elaborated revolutionary calendar.

We also published the translation of Eugene V. Debs' booklet on "Unionism and Socialism," Amer-

inger's "Uncle Sam," and Hillquit's "Socialism Summed Up," each of these in 10,000 copies, the retail prices being respectively: 5, 5 and 10 cents.

At present we are preparing a big edition of a 160-page book, devoted to the History, Activities and Problems of the International. We intend to put up a strong membership campaign in connection with the 50th jubilee of the international organization of the proletariat.

Starting with February 1 we begin to publish, semi-monthly, a 12-page paper, "The Jewish Socialist," which has a satisfactory circulation and pays its way. The paper is of the size of the P. B. and resembles the P. B. in many ways, but, on the whole, our publication has a broader program.

We are taking up the "fight" against the "has-beens" in our movement, who are so many, and we hope to get back our runaways. We believe that the future will be better than the past and we are quite cheerful.

Fraternally,  
J. B. SALUTSKY.

### WIN IN SERVIA.

The Balkan wars have not only greatly increased the strength of the Bulgarian Socialists, but of the Servians also. In the recent municipal elections the Socialists managed to secure control of fifteen towns.

### GOOD WORK AT SEATTLE, WASH.

Comrade Franz Bostrom writes the National Office as follows: "The Socialist Party secured 20,000 signatures to the petition initiating an eight-hour law on election day in Seattle. Every name is that of a registered voter. We had comrades stationed at every one of the 281 polling precincts in the city. This is our answer to those who claim that we are direct actionists."

### UNIONS SUPPORT PARTY.

The changed attitude of the French labor unions toward the Socialist Party will undoubtedly play a big part in the coming general elections. The unions were formerly dominated by Syndicalists who bitterly fought the party. The unions have now turned to the use of the ballot as a weapon in their struggles. The railwaymen's unions are pushing an active propaganda among the other unions to have them make a test case of the reinstatement of the railwaymen whom the government refused to reinstate after the big railway strike of several years ago. The prospects are that some of these unions will solidly vote the Socialist ticket for the first time. The unions are making a special fight for a Saturday half-holiday and a ten-hour day for women and young people.

## Executive Department

### NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

VICTOR L. BERGER, 980 First St., Milwaukee, Wis.  
ADOLPH GERMER, 505 Farmer's Bank Building, Springfield, Ill.  
GEORGE H. GOEBEL, 14 Bridge St., Newark, N. J.  
JAMES H. MAURER, 1355 N. Eleventh St., Reading, Pa.  
J. STITT WILSON, Ridge Road, Berkeley, Cal.

### EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

WALTER LANFERSIEK

Address all mail to departments and not to individuals. Make remittances payable to the Socialist Party.

Address all communications to  
SOCIALIST PARTY, Madison and Halsted Streets, Chicago, Illinois

March 21, 1914.

## Official Business

### COMMENT.

#### On National Committee Motion No. 2.

(1) That the National Executive Committee and the Executive Secretary be, and are hereby, instructed to observe scrupulously the autonomy of state organizations affiliated with the National Socialist Party, which autonomy is defined and protected by Section 4, Article X of the national constitution of the Socialist party.

(2) That any moneys which have been or shall hereafter be paid to the national party organization by or in behalf of any organization or individuals not affiliated with the recognized and central party organization of the state of Washington, be at once returned to the remitter.

(3) That in compliance with the request of the State Executive Committee of the Socialist party of Washington, a sub-committee of the National Committee, consisting of Comrades N. A. Richardson of California, S. W. Motley of Idaho and Floyd C. Ramp of Oregon, is hereby authorized to proceed to the state of Washington and investigate the facts and circumstances connected with the factional party troubles in that state and report the same to the National Committee at its next regular session.

WILSON: I decline to vote, as I am a member of the Executive Committee. There are really three motions in one. I would vote "Yes" on the first, for that is what we are doing and seeking to do; but "No" on the last. It will be simply a big expense and no settlement of the row. The Executive Committee is keeping its hands off with the hope that Washington will settle its own trouble. As for No. 2, I was not in favor of accepting this money in the first place, though I consented to agree with the Executive Committee.

GARVER: I vote "no" because it is three motions in one, and while I am in favor of the first two, find a defect in the third. Ramp is no longer a national committeeman.

Again, no one else has had a chance to make nominations, and the seconds to this motion were evidently secured by private circularization. I believe motions should be made to the whole committee instead of to a few selected ones and opportunity given for amendments or substitutes.

MOTLEY: We cannot afford to disregard our party constitution by receiving money from any source as dues, except through the regular state organizations.

State autonomy must be maintained.

No committee of the party should be allowed to step beyond the powers granted them by the national constitution.

HILLQUIT: Inasmuch as Motion No. 2 is a reiteration of a provision of our national constitution it is superfluous, and inasmuch as it implies a charge against the National Executive Committee for violation of Section 4, Article X of the constitution, the National Committee cannot pass upon such charge indirectly and without hearing the parties. The motion for an appointment of the committee to investigate conditions in Washington seems to me very meritorious, but it should be made separately and the choice of the members should be left to the National Committee.

### COMMENT

#### On National Committee Motion No. 3.

Query by executive secretary: "Shall the motion, as made by Comrade Richardson (to cancel May meeting of National Committee), be entertained?"

STALLARD: I vote "no" on Motion No. 3 on the grounds of the motions being unconstitutional. No question of interpretation of the constitution is involved. The motion to set aside the constitution is a dangerous precedent to be established in the party. As any party or organization grows powerful the tendency toward official or ring control increases. This tendency is inevitable. The adoption of Motion No. 3 would be evidence that this tendency has developed to a dangerous degree within the Socialist party.

I am not a stickler for the letter of the law. Often the spirit of the law should prevail instead of the letter but in the present case no such question is involved.

CLIFFORD: The constitution is plain and likewise mandatory. This trifling with the constitution is becoming alarming. Since the National Executive Committee saw fit to violate the constitution in receiving dues from an "outlaw" organization, the way has been opened to indiscriminate disregard of our organic law. If this is to continue we might as well have no constitution, and simply

allow a few wise men in the party to outline our policies and programs. I vote "no" because the constitution says the National Committee "shall" meet each year in May.

RAPHAELSON: I vote "yes" on motion to suspend the next National Committee meeting because I feel that this would be the verdict of the membership if given a chance to vote.

SINCLAIR: I vote "yes" on Motion No. 3 because I feel that more good will be derived to the party through efficient organization by ridding ourselves of these debts and the best way, in my judgment, is to economize in every detail. I would gladly vote to eliminate some of the offices now being maintained by the National Office, such as the Information Department, until we are free from debt.

RINGLER: The motion by Richardson is undoubtedly unconstitutional. I do not believe the National Committee has the power to set aside any provisions of the constitution. Believe it important that the National Committee meeting be held, as these are undoubtedly important questions to be discussed in view of present conditions on the political and industrial fields.

MEITZEN: I favor abolishing National or National Executive Committee meetings entirely, except perhaps during national campaigns, but the National Committee must not assume illegal powers in order to do this.

AALTONEN: Please record me as voting "no" upon your query in regard to Comrade Richardson's motion. It is clear that the motion should not be entertained, as the constitution is specific in that point, and on the other hand it seems to me that there are many matters of great importance to come before the meeting of the National Committee which fully warrant the expenditure of the gathering. Furthermore, the meeting ought to be able to find ways and means to raise funds should it become necessary.

MOTLEY: I vote "no" on Motion No. 3 because the constitution provides for such a meeting. The constitution being adopted by referendum vote, the National Committee has no right to change it or set it aside. I shall, however, favor amending the constitution abolishing the annual meeting of the National Committee and restoring to the organization its full democratic rights in initiating measures for its own government.

GODDARD: I can see no better way to weaken our organization than for the National Committee to engage in the plainest of violation of the constitution, and in my judgment, absolutely no other activity of the party is so important to the upbuilding of the party organization as the coming meeting of the National Committee. This is especially true because the National Committee can take no affirmative action except in session, and several important matters demand immediate consideration. Just now organization is more important than propaganda. The membership established our constitution. Let no others change it.

LE SUEUR: The party should have the right to make and pay for its own mistakes. We should abide by the constitution.

DUNCAN: Important business pending requires more thorough discussion than correspondence method can give. The personal element is an important factor in committee's work. This can be had only by personal contact between the delegates from widely separated states and representing diverse views and interests; without this danger of factionalism and ill-considered action. Before electing new Executive Committee we should personally meet and know the nominees, their abilities and opinions. An Executive Committee representative of the party rather than one group would more readily solve the financial problem—another reason for the May meeting rather than correspondence.

### SECONDS TO MOTIONS.

Motion by Garver of Missouri to require the Executive Committee to reconsider its motion whereby it accepts dues sent in by a pseudo dual Socialist organization pending the next meeting of the National Committee, and that said moneys now on deposit be sent to the parties from whom they were received, has been seconded by Sadler of Washington.

Motion by Irish of Maine, that committee composed of National Committeemen from Idaho, Montana and Oregon be sent to Washington to investigate and report to the National Committee, and that all moneys be returned to Chas. S. Wallace, has been seconded by Sadler and Bostrom of Washington.

### COMMENT.

SADLER: Please record me as seconding motion of Fred E. Irish of Maine regarding affairs in

Washington. I do so for fear of any technicality with regard to Ramp of Oregon serving. Should none be raised, then you may consider this second as void, although you must understand clearly that I do not want any hitch with regard to the referendum.

### NATIONAL COMMITTEE MOTION.

By Reynolds of Indiana.

I move that the date for the meeting of the National Committee be postponed for two weeks from the regular time, subject to the action of the membership acting under Referendum "B."

COMMENT: Referendum "B" closes May 11. Therefore the date set for the meeting of this year (May 10) is impossible in any event. The result of the referendum should be known at least one week in advance in order to give notice to committeemen. If the referendum carries, ample time will be given to notify delegates, and vice versa, as the will of the membership will then be known and it is for the membership to say whether the National Committee meeting shall be held or not, and certainly not for the committee to decide.

### NATIONAL COMMITTEE MOTION.

By Garver of Missouri.

That the following rule be added to those governing the National Committee:

"Between sessions, all motions shall be sent to the executive secretary and published after receipt by him in the next issue of the Party Builder; and all motions seconded before such publication shall be held ten days before being sent out for a vote."

COMMENT: The more I think of it, the more I come to the conclusion that Motion No. 2 has been sprung upon the National Committee without time for discussion and calls for a new rule governing the National Committee. The private circularization of a few members in order to promote a motion is in no respect different from a caucus by a few at a convention which has been so much condemned in the past.

### EXPIRED NATIONAL COMMITTEE MOTIONS.

By Richman of the District of Columbia: That a committee of five be selected from the National Committee to investigate the Washington controversy.

By Motley of Idaho: That the action of the Executive Committee regarding the Washington controversy be reversed and a committee of three be elected to investigate and report to the National Committee at the May meeting.

### PROPOSED NATIONAL REFERENDUM.

By the State Executive Committee of Kentucky.

That the National Executive Secretary, National Executive Committee, Woman's National Committee, and General Correspondent of the Woman's National Committee, also the date and place of holding the national convention, as well as the location of the national headquarters, shall be determined by referendum of the entire membership.

All sections of the general constitution are hereby amended or stricken out that fail to give the above power to the party membership.

### COMMENT.

Previous to the 1912 national convention the above officials were elected by referendum vote of the membership. The Socialist party is supposed to be a thoroughly democratic organization, controlled by its members; to take the above power out of the hands of the rank and file and concentrate into the hands of the National Committee means less democracy. The membership should determine all affairs that involve the membership at large, such as the location of the national headquarters or the time and place of holding national conventions. To place all this power in the hands of the few (National Committee) is a concentration of power, and in no sense means democracy (the rule of the people.)

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CORRESPONDENCE

Motion by Wilson:

"Employees on the permanent or regular staff unable to work, due to sickness or accident, shall receive full wages for the first two weeks of their disability. For the three weeks following they shall receive one-half of their regular pay, and if the sickness or disability continues for a period beyond six weeks, they shall be allowed one-quarter of their regular pay for a period of not more than three weeks more."

COMMENT: I vote an emphatic "No" on Comrade Maurer's motion and move an amendment as indicated above.

(Submitted March 16, 1914.)

Motion by Maurer:

"Employees unable to work, due to sickness or accident, shall receive no wages for the first week of their disability. For the two weeks following the first week they shall receive one-half of their regular pay, and if the sickness or disability continues for a period beyond three weeks, they shall be allowed one-quarter of their regular pay for a period of not more than two weeks more."

Voting Yes: Maurer.

Voting No: Germer, Wilson.

Not voting: Goebel Berger.

No action.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE BUSINESS.**  
(Continued.)

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MOTION.**

By Germer.

"I move that the Executive Secretary, in the name of the Executive Committee, send a call to all locals and branches of the Socialist Party urging them to call meetings, if possible in conjunction with labor unions, protesting against the illegal detention of Mother Jones by the Colorado militia and against the use to which the troops have been put, said protest to go to President Wilson, Governor Ammons of Colorado and the respective members of Congress."

**LETTER.**

Chicago, Ill., March 17, 1914.

To the Executive Committee:

Dear Comrades—I want to call to your attention some of the questions which will arise in case the referendum to cancel the meeting of the National Committee carries. These questions must be settled by you.

The referendum (B. 1914) closes May 11. I would call your attention to Section 11 of Article V of the national constitution which specifies time and manner of conducting National Committee referenda. This does not make any provision for acceptances of nominations, as under the constitution the National Committee does not elect any official by correspondence. In this connection I would refer you to Article XII governing the election of international delegates, which is the only election by correspondence provided for by the constitution. This allows fifteen days for acceptances and declinations. Shall this period of fifteen days apply in the election of the officials of the National Committee by correspondence?

Following the rules governing National Committee referenda, nominations for officials must stand open fifteen days. Allowing fifteen days for acceptances and two days for the preparation and printing of ballots, and twenty-one days for voting, the election would not close until July 4. This means that the new officials cannot take office on the first of June, and consequently your term must be extended to July 4.

The question also arises as to how nominations shall be made for the Executive Committee and the Woman's National Committee. The constitution provides that no two members of either committee shall be from the same state. Shall all nominations from a state be accepted and the one receiving the highest vote be declared elected, or shall only one nomination from a state be accepted?

The question also arises as to whether the Woman's National Committee shall hold their meeting in May, or does the referendum proposed by the state of California carry with it cancellation of their meeting?

It probably would mean a saving if your committee meets at the close of the voting, to-wit, July 1. As some or all of this committee may be re-elected and as the new committee undoubtedly would meet immediately after election, some duplication of expense would be avoided.

Fraternally submitted,

WALTER LANFERSIEK,  
Executive Secretary.

Walter Lanfersiek, Executive Secretary National Socialist Party, Chicago, Ill.

Dear Comrade—Flint Local has expelled George W. Starkweather and Louis B. Wright and suspended John A. C. Menton. Page 4 of enclosed Bulletin and the enclosed clipping will give you some idea of the situation in Flint.

In the Party Builder of February 21 there is an item headed "Menton for Mayor" that has been used by him and his supporters to mean endorsement by the National Office.

An item in the Party Builder commending Local Flint for its loyalty to party principles, in preference to unity for mere public office, might have a good effect on many of our members.

Yours fraternally,

JOSEPH WARNOCK,  
Michigan State Secretary.

New York, March 4, 1914.

Dear Comrade Lanfersiek—Yours of the 2d at hand and contents noted. I am enclosing you here-with a copy of my letter to you of the 9th of February, which evidently miscarried. It is now too late to have the matter referred to the Party Builder to the extent of printing a long letter. Hence I would ask you to merely state in your report to the National Executive Committee, and see that it is printed in the Party Builder, the main fact of my letter to you, to-wit: That the charges made by the Hungarian branch at South Bend against me are wholly unfounded, based upon a total misconception of what I said. I did not mention the Socialist Party in the course of my remarks to the Vehicle Workers' Union of South Bend, but spoke entirely upon the subject of industrial organization.

Hoping that you will find space for this short statement in the next Party Builder and in your next letter to the members of the National Executive Committee, I remain,

Yours fraternally,

FRANK BOHN.

**OFFICE OF U. M. W. of A.**

Walsenburg, Colo, February, 16, 1914.

Whereas, The striking miners of Colorado have received several shipments of clothing and shoes, donated to them by the Socialist party; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the union miners here in mass meeting assembled extend a hearty vote of thanks to the Socialist party; and, be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be printed in the local press, and a copy be sent to the Socialist party.

Unanimously adopted by mass meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. D. SHEELEY,  
J. C. JOHNSON.

We are instructed by Local Cleveland, Ohio, to advise you officially that H. A. Morgan, former secretary and organizer of the local, has been suspended from the party on account of shortage of about \$200 in his accounts, and request that same be published in The Party Builder.—O. G. Van Schoyck, State Secretary.

**MUNICIPAL PROGRESS.**

Every resident of Barberton, Ohio, who uses electricity furnished by the municipal plant will be given gratis a large electric porch light, which may be lighted, all night if desired, without charge.

\* \* \*

According to government statistics, the past ten years show an increase of 463.6 per cent in municipally owned electric light and power stations and only 160.5 per cent in "commercial" establishments in Nebraska.

\* \* \*

The municipal electric light plant in Lincoln, Neb., will cut its rate to 5 cents per kilowatt hour, nearly 4 cents per kilowatt hour cheaper than the charge made by private plants in neighboring towns. This is the second cut in rates since the installation of the plant in April, 1913.

\* \* \*

The net earnings of the municipal water and light department of Duluth, Minn., for 1913 were \$166,982.18, a gain of approximately \$10,000 over 1912, according to the annual report of the department.

**EUGENE V. DEBS ON MOTION PICTURES AS A SOCIALIST PROPAGANDA.**

Anyone doubting the great potency of motion pictures as an educational factor might have had their doubts dispelled had they seen the great crowds that thronged the Chicago theaters during the past two weeks where Frank E. Wolfe's five-reel photoplay, "From Dusk to Dawn," has been on exhibition. Besides playing four copies of the picture in the city, other copies have been exhibiting in outside cities and towns.

Among the hundreds of commendatory letters that have been received by Comrade Wolfe, the one most highly prized is one recently received from Eugene V. Debs, who saw the photo drama at Terre Haute last week. The statement is as follows: "I was thrilled by the startlingly realistic photoplay, 'From Dusk to Dawn,' by Frank E. Wolfe. The entire audience was gripped and held at truest interest. The class struggle in its most vital and dramatic aspects was flashed on the screen in a series of stirring scenes and harrowing exhibitions which can never be forgotten. This revolutionary drama ought to be presented from ten thousand stages and witnessed by all the workers in the world."

Wolfe declares the advertisements in the Party Builder have kept him inundated beneath a flood of correspondence that ranged from Alaska to Mexico, from Maine to Florida. The picture is being shown in many states, but the demands far exceed the supply.

"If I had ten different big features depicting the class struggle I could keep them all working. There is a growing demand for this sort of picture and my ambition is to produce more Socialist pictures—twelve a year if necessary," is Wolfe's comment on the situation.

**BOOKLETS.**

This list will help you to select some good booklets to read or distribute.

**Easy Popular "Ice-Breakers."** Parable of the Water Tank, Bellamy, 5c; Men and Mules, Ries, 10c; Socialism Made Easy, Connolly, 10c; Pop Weasel at the Country Store, Phiifer, 10c; Socialism, the Main Points, Benton, 10c; Political Economy of Jesus, Ricker, 10c; Gouged, Russell, 10c; The Farmer, Wright, 10c; Where You Get Off, Work, 10c; Merrie England, Blatchford, 15c.

**Easy Humorous Booklets.** How We Are Gouged, Baker, 10c; Life and Deeds of Uncle Sam, Ameringer, 10c; Socialism, What It Is and How to Get It, Ameringer, 10c; Socialism for the Farmer, Ameringer, 10c.

**Serious Booklets for Those Who Want to Know.** Class Struggles in America, Simons, 10c; Wasting Human Life, Simons, 10c; Socialism, What It Is and What It Seeks to Accomplish, Liebkecht, 10c; Communist Manifesto, Marx and Engels, 10c; The Socialists, Why They Are and What They Stand For, Spargo, 10c; What's So and What Isn't, Work, 15c; Should Socialism Be Crushed, Hunter, 10c; Spiritual Significance of Modern Socialism, Spargo, 10c; Principles of Scientific Socialism, Vail, 25c; The Truth About Socialism, Benson, 25c; The Common Sense of Socialism, Spargo, 25c; The Class Struggle, Kautsky, 25c; Industrial Problems, Richardson, 25c; The Sorrows of Cupid, O'Hare, 50c; Workers in American History, Oneal, 50c.

Any of the above booklets will be sent by mail, prepaid, on receipt of price. The whole list, amounting to \$4.50 at retail, is yours for \$2.50, prepaid. Ask for Workers' Combination, Address, Socialist Party, Madison and Halsted streets, Chicago, Ill.

**LEAFLETS.**

The National Office now has in stock some of the best leaflets we have ever published. They are written in such a manner that they are general, and will fit any community, and still each has a definite purpose and covers a special field.

Locals should use this manner of propaganda freely. It is the cheapest propaganda. It reaches the common man. The leaflet is short and concise, and if a man will read anything, he will read a well-written leaflet.

Examine the following list:

**What Is Socialism?** We have never had a plain, simple statement of Socialism; now we have it. It gives easy definitions, quotes some of the higher authorities. A telling statement.

**Regulation: A Failure and a Fraud.** The main answer to the Progressives to the question, "What about the Trusts?" is "Regulation." Roosevelt's followers do not believe in public ownership. This leaflet smashes into smithereens their pet answer.

**Municipal Ownership.** Shows that Municipal Ownership is only a step on the way. Some really astonishing facts presented. Holds out some great possibilities. And shows them where Municipal Ownership leads: to voting the Socialist ticket, and finally Socialism.

**Socialist Songs.** A leaflet to be used in public gatherings. Long needed. It is said, "Let me write the songs and you may make the laws." All the old favorites.

**Why the Negro Should Vote the Socialist Ticket.** No comment needed. It is good. And a negro wrote it.

**Are Socialists Practical?** A record of concrete things accomplished by Socialists in Legislatures. Facts. Facts. Facts. The best answer to the boob who says "What have Socialists done?"

**Join the Party.** What's the use saying anything about it? 1,000,000 vote the ticket. 100,000 in the party. We need it.

Most of the above are recent ones. A complete set of leaflets sent on request. Can we do more? We put it up to you. Prices of above leaflets are \$1.60 per thousand; \$1.00 per thousand for 5,000 or more, you to pay the freight.

**SOCIALIST PARTY,**  
Madison and Halsted Sts., Chicago, Ill.

**AN ORGANIZATION SUGGESTION.**

Comrade J. E. Snyder, who is now in California, writes the Party Builder as follows: "I believe that if you would take hold of the routing of speakers that there are perhaps a half-dozen comrades who would go out on organization tours for the collections or with whatever terms you could make with the Socialists in each locality. They could also boost the Party Builder as they go and add to the growth of the party in that way. In working locally for states we have to push local papers, but I would like to see the Builder grow, as it is the real organization stuff."

↓ TAKE ↓  
THE CORRESPONDENCE  
COURSE IN SOCIALISM  
A thorough & systematic  
preparation of lessons in  
Socialism, for classes &  
individuals. Prepared  
by Al Lee, Educ. Direc.  
THE RAND SCHOOL OF  
SOCIAL SCIENCE  
140 E 19th ST NEW YORK  
↑ SEND FOR BULLETIN ↑

## Information Department

CARL D. THOMPSON, Director

**PURPOSE**—To collect, classify and make available all data and information on economic, political and social problems. To assist elected officials with such information as they may need in the discharge of their duties. Address all communications to

SOCIALIST PARTY, Information Department  
Madison and Halsted Street Chicago, Illinois

### GOLDSTEIN AND COLLINS.

#### We Call Their Bluff.

We have been receiving an unusual number of inquiries of late from different parts of the country where David Goldstein and Peter W. Collins have been holding forth against Socialism. They seem to be making a tour of the country under the auspices of the Knights of Columbus, a Catholic fraternal organization.

Occasionally they attempt a debate, and occasionally they indulge in boastful declarations of what they would do to the Socialists if they could only get them into public discussion. For example, Fred Warren of the Appeal to Reason has written us that newspaper reports have been sent him to the effect that Peter Collins has said that he had offered \$500 to have him (Warren) meet Collins in a debate on the subject of Socialism. In order to nail this report, Warren has published a letter, in which he publicly stated his willingness to meet Collins, naming the date, and offering to deposit \$500 as a guarantee for his appearance, provided Collins will make a similar deposit.

This bluff about the Socialists being afraid to debate in view of the notorious willingness and even anxiety of the Socialists to meet any and all comers in a fair and square discussion of the principles of Socialism is amusing. Only last week the Intercollegiate Socialist Society, in an editorial in its magazine, was bemoaning the fact that it was unable to get anyone to debate with its members on the subject of Socialism. They had tried everyone they could get hold of, most had refused point-blank and other had accepted tentatively and afterwards backed out; and always there was a dearth of public speakers who would undertake to meet the Socialists.

And yet Mr. Goldstein and Mr. Collins try to make it appear that the Socialists are afraid to meet them! We call their bluff!

There are plenty of Socialists aching for the job. Within the last week we have received letters from the following prominent Socialists who are willing and anxious to meet either Goldstein or Collins at any time or place mutually agreeable for a debate on the principles of Socialism:

Fred Warren, of the Appeal to Reason, Girard, Kan.

W. R. Gaylord, former state senator, Milwaukee, Wis.

Frederick G. Strickland, national organizer of the Socialist Party, Dayton, Ohio.

Henry Faulk, Austin, Tex.

W. H. Madison, Sedan, Kan.

And to that list we could add any number of others, so the comrades everywhere may understand that if these gentlemen really want to debate, there will be plenty of good timber at their service. They may

"Lay on, MacDuff, and cursed be him that cries, 'Hold, enough!'"

However, in arranging debates with these men, we warn the comrades concerning their methods:

1. In the first place, they often fail to appear when arrangements are made for them to debate.

The comrades therefore should be very particular, when making or accepting arrangements with them, to put them under bonds to appear and to stay until the debate is finished. Recently, at Duluth, the local of the Socialist Party had arranged for a debate between Collins and the writer, and at the last moment the Knights of Columbus, who were backing Collins, backed out of the debate entirely and Collins did not appear. We understand that similar things have happened before. Therefore we warn the comrades to require a deposit of these gentlemen, or the organizations that are backing them, to guarantee their keeping their engagements.

2. In the next place, look out for the jesuitical trick of packing the hall. On a number of occasions the backers of these anti-Socialists have arranged for debates and have had the hall packed and the stage monopolized, so that the Socialists and their friends could hardly get into the building. Therefore, be sure to arrange that the Socialists shall have one-half of the seats in the audience and one-half of the stage.

3. Again, look out for absurd and impossible conditions. They try to get some underhanded and unfair advantage, either in the statement of the question or in the conditions imposed. As, for example, in the debate between Comrade McCrillis and Collins, held recently in Dubuque, Iowa, Collins insisted that he have his own wording of the question for the debate, that he have the negative side and yet that he should be given the closing speech, a condition that is unheard of in debating! And, finally, he insisted upon the provision that there should be no literature distributed. In other

words, Collins wanted a debate, but he wanted every conceivable advantage for himself and wanted even to bar the Socialists from the distribution of literature. We trust that the Socialists will not be so simple-minded as to consent to such unfair and absurd conditions. If these men cannot meet Socialists in a fair, honest fight, let them be exposed to the world.

4. And, perhaps most important of all, these men are unwilling to debate Socialism. They want to drag the discussion onto the religious field. They want the question worded in all sorts of awkward, backhanded fashions. For example, Collins wants to debate the subject, "Resolved, That Peter Collins told an untruth when he said Socialism is opposed to religion and the labor movement." Goldstein wants to discuss the question of Socialism, free love and atheism, etc.

Now, we are not concerned with religious discussions. What we want to discuss is Socialism. It is an economic, social and industrial question and not a religious question. Therefore, we shall challenge these gentlemen to debate the subject, "Resolved, That the welfare of the people of this nation demands the inauguration of Socialism," or some such wording of the question as that.

Of course, if there is no other way to get these gentlemen into a debate but to give them every possible advantage, our speakers may be willing to accept the handicaps just for the sake of showing them what we can do with them under the limitations which they impose. But the Socialists everywhere prefer to debate the question of Socialism, and especially its economic, social and industrial phases.

### OUR CHALLENGE.

We propose that the comrades everywhere shall publicly challenge Peter Collins, David Goldstein, or any other representative who wishes to take up the battle, to debate with a representative of the Socialist Party, to be chosen by the local organization of the party, on the following subject and under the following conditions:

Subject: "Resolved, that the welfare of the people of this nation requires the inauguration of Socialism." And if they will not accept this wording of the question, which is our challenge, they may present an alternate wording for our consideration.

Time of the debate: The opening speaker on the affirmative side shall have 40 minutes, the negative 40 minutes; rebuttal, affirmative 20, negative 30, affirmative 15.

Conditions: Tickets to be distributed at least ten days before the date of the debate. One hundred dollars to be deposited by the representatives of the Socialists and \$100 by the representatives of the opponents, in a local bank, as a guarantee that both speakers will be present in the hall at 8 o'clock on the night of the debate and will stay until the debate is finished. Should both be present, then the money so deposited shall be returned to the respective parties to the debate. Should the Socialist representative fail to make his appearance, as above provided, they shall forfeit the \$100 so deposited to the opponent. Should the opponent fail to make his appearance, as above provided, then the \$100 so deposited by him shall be forfeited and paid to the secretary of the Socialist local of the city in which the debate is held or to a guaranteed representative of the Socialists.

In this discussion there shall be no limitations—each speaker shall handle the subject in any way that he sees fit.

These are the conditions of a real debate—a fair and square discussion. If Mr. Collins or Mr. Goldstein, or anybody else, will meet these conditions, they will have no trouble in finding plenty of Socialists willing to debate. In fact, we have a whole regiment begging for the chance already.

Meanwhile we are busily at work preparing leaflets and pamphlets suitable for occasions of this kind.

### BOOK REVIEW.

"Labor and Administration," by John R. Commons. Published by the MacMillan Company, New York. 1913. Cloth, 431, pp. Price, \$1.60.

This is a collection of miscellaneous essays, written by Mr. Commons at different times for various magazines. The essays deal with a number of subjects, but bear more particularly on various phases of economic and social research conducted by Mr. Commons in connection with his work in the University of Wisconsin and the progressive political movement in that state under the leadership of LaFollette.

The chapters on the idealistic conception of history, the class conflict and labor and municipal politics are particularly interesting. In his chapter on the class conflict, Mr. Commons presents a rather trite line of argument, the evident purpose of which is to show that there is no hope of a Socialist party in the United States, but that the real leadership in the coming political changes is in the hands of the middle class, which, he thinks, will be the determin-

ing force. Very clearly this middle class represents the political activities of the Progressive Party and Mr. LaFollette.

The discussion of various phases of trade union efforts is interesting and suggestive. There are also chapters on the work of the Bureau of Efficiency and Economy of Milwaukee, in which Mr. Commons gives full credit to the Socialists. He says it is "significant that the first official attempt on the part of an American municipality to install a complete system of business administration was made by the Socialists of Milwaukee during their brief control of the city council and mayor's department in 1910 to 1912. The plan was ambitious and comprehensive. It had to overcome all of the obstacles and rule-of-thumb traditions of subordinate employes that have blocked this kind of work in every city where it has been attempted."

### QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

#### Loss of Life in the Civil War.

Q. How many lives were lost in the Civil War?  
A. The Civil War cost the North 359,528 men, of whom 67,058 were killed in action, 224,586 died of disease and the balance succumbed to various causes. Full details may be found in Heitman's "Historical Register," volume II, page 285.

The South lost 315,979 lives. For further data upon the losses of the South see the Annual Cyclo-pedia for 1865, pages 81-85.

The total loss of life was 657,507.—Edward B. Krehbiel, Department of History, Leland Stanford Junior University.

#### Measurement of Electric Current for Street Lighting.

Q. Will the consumption of electric current at the arc 7.50 amperes at 70 volts or the equivalent in watts, measured at the arc, equal 2,000 c. p.?

A. At the time the so-called 2,000 c. p. open flame arc lamps were replaced by the enclosed arc lamps, it was found that the 7½ amp. lamp, which takes a little bit more current than the old 2,000 c. p. lamp, was about the right size with which to replace the old lamp, and this is the standard set up for its replacement.

As you understand, there is a 6.6 lamp on the market, furnished to a great many cities, but this does not come up to the requirements. It would seem that, under the conditions, the 7½ amp. lamp could be accepted in place of the old lamp. However, it must be admitted that the old so-called 2,000 c. p. lamp, which was operated by direct current with positive carbon above, gives a much better light on the streets than it is possible to obtain from the arc lamps which replaced them. It is a fact also that the alternating current lamps take a little bit more current than the old lamp. But the old 2,000 c. p. lamp, machinery and equipment for operating have become obsolete.—C. W. Koerner.

#### School Buildings and Equipment.

Q. What literature will aid me in securing the best information of new school buildings and equipment?

A. There is no better or more complete source of information on school buildings and equipment than the United States Bureau of Education Bulletin, 1910, No. 5, whole No. 444—"American School Houses," by Fletcher B. Dresslar, copies of which may be secured from the Bureau of Education, Washington, D. C.

Another valuable book is "Modern School Houses," by Professor A. D. Hamlin and others. This contains 150 pages of illustrations of recently constructed school houses, supplemented by authoritative articles. This may be ordered from The American City Bureau, 93 Nassau street, New York City. Price, \$7.50.

### PLEASE RETURN OUR MATERIAL.

The Information Department sends out hundreds of sheets of material every week, in reply to inquiries on all sorts of subjects. Much of this material is typewritten in our office, at considerable expenditure of time and energy, both in its collection and in its copying. We cannot continue to make repeated copies of the same information, every time some one asks for data on the same subjects. So we have carefully stamped much of this material, "DUPLICATE—PLEASE RETURN." We estimate that 35 or 40 per cent of this material comes back.

Who is holding out the remaining 60 or 65 per cent?

For instance, we have several copies of a very valuable table on the cost of free text books in 100 different cities. It took us months to compile this table, and there is no other place in the country where you can secure the same information. We have lent all of our copies of this table, with urgent requests for its return, and none of them have come back. Now, in one day, we have two requests for this table, which we cannot fill.

It is our pleasure and our privilege to supply the comrades throughout the country with the best available information along all lines within our scope. If you have some of our "please return" material on hand, will it not be your pleasure to send it back to us?

### "UNIVERSAL SUFFRAGE."

In France 27.9 of the population have the vote; in Germany, 21.2; in Portugal, 19.0, and Great Britain, 16.5.—Socialist Annual, 1914.

## Woman's Department

WINNIE E. BRANSTETTER, Director

### WOMAN'S NATIONAL COMMITTEE

Gertrude Breslau Fuller, 209 E. Reliance St., Pittsburgh, Pa.  
 Alma M. Kriger, 403 S. Main St., Butte, Mont.  
 Lena Morrow Lewis, Fairbanks, Alaska, Gen. Delivery.  
 Bertha Howell Maily, 140 E. 19th St., New York, N. Y.  
 Anna A. Maley, 140 E. 19th St., New York, N. Y.  
 Gertrude Reilly, 306 Shippen St., West Hoboken, N. J.  
 May Wood-Simons, 115 Auer Ave., Milwaukee, Wis.

This department has charge of propoganda and organization among women. Its purpose is to make Socialists, unionists, and intelligent voters of women, and to secure their active membership in the Socialist party.

Address all communications to

SOCIALIST PARTY, Madison and Halsted Sts., Chicago, Ill.

### OFFICIAL BUSINESS.

March 4, 1914.

Dear Comrade:—I beg to inform you that the preparing committee of the international congress will hold its meeting April 20 at Berlin. All nationalities are invited to send representatives. Material for this meeting will be sent to the correspondents of all nations about April 1. Our meeting will last about two days. At the same time a great public meeting will be held which will give an idea of international solidarity to the representatives.

Yours fraternally,

KLARA ZETKIN.

The vote upon report of the Woman's Committee to the international conference, to be held in Vienna in August, is as follows.

For Theresa Malkiel—Simons, Maily, Reilly.

For Simons—Maley, Kriger.

Not voting—Lewis, Fuller.

Theresa Malkiel is therefore elected as reporter.

Motion by Kriger:

"I move that Comrade Anna Maley's plan of work be printed in pamphlet form and that it be distributed by means of the state and local women's committees and correspondents throughout the locals of the United States. I would suggest that 10,000 of these be so printed and used."

Motion closes March 1.

### WHEN WOMAN IS A CITIZEN.

The last query is disposed of in the following manner:

A woman is an American citizen—

If she was born on American soil.

If her father was such before she was 21 years of age.

If her husband is a citizen.

If she has been naturalized in the same way as a man.

### WHAT IS THE REASON FOR THIS DIFFERENCE?

According to a decision of the Supreme Court, officers named in the state constitution can be elected by male voters only. Other officers whose positions have been created by the legislature can be elected by both male and female voters.

### AUSTRALIA SHOWS INCREASING VOTE.

Seventy-one and one-half per cent of the women in Australia voted at the last federal election. A noteworthy article on "The Effects of Woman Suffrage in Australia," in the issue of Votes for Women for Jan. 23, 1914, says:

"The most striking effect of the woman's vote has been the steady upgrowth of a sense of political responsibility in both sexes. Twenty years ago the public holiday on election day was regarded by many of the voters as an opportunity for amusement. They would occupy it in long fishing excursion without a thought of their duties to the state. Since the women have entered into the heritage of full citizenship, a change has come over the electorate, and much fuller polls are recorded.

"Of course, in a country where the population is scattered over an immense area, and where traveling is exceedingly difficult, the guardian of the home and children is often unable to go to the polls; this accounts for the fact that the percentage of women voting in the country districts is smaller than that of men; in the towns the percentage of women is often the larger. The following table refutes the oft-repeated assertion that women are regardless of their political responsibilities. Far from relaxing in their energies, as time goes on they show themselves more eager, at each successive election, to avail themselves of the privilege of the vote.

### Federal Elections in the House of Representatives.

Date	Males.	Females.	Total.
1903	56.47	43.50	50.27
1906	57.36	44.81	51.48
1910	68.12	56.93	62.80
1913	78.22	71.54	74.88

"These figures speak for themselves. Increased political interest and growth of political energy are no small gains to the community.

### STATE LEGISLATURE REFUSES TO RAISE AGE OF CONSENT ABOVE TWELVE YEARS.

The recent session of the state legislature of Mississippi has placed itself on record as being unqualifiedly opposed to woman's suffrage. Their reason for taking this stand is that women are unfit mentally to exercise the ballot, their lack of knowledge of the world, business and politics making it impossible for them to have reached that high stage of mentality necessary to elect a state legislature such as they have in Mississippi.

Conservative papers throughout the South are lauding this group of men as "Saviors of the Great South." They are spoken of as chivalrous fathers who would protect womanhood of the South even against herself.

Another bill was presented to the same legislature urging upon them the importance of raising the age of consent of girls from 12 years to 18 years. This bill was also voted down, but the "Saviors of the Great South" were not quite so eloquent in explaining their vote upon this bill.

We appreciate their modesty in this matter and understand that that chivalry which would protect the wives and mothers of the commonwealth of Mississippi from the knowledge of the real purport of this bill, the limitation of negro prostitutes of immature age, does not extend to the innocent victim of a brutalized and degenerate element in the South, which looks upon the colored working woman as legitimate prey.

Rather than deprive this brutal male voting element of his right to prey on the offspring of a slave race, they would leave the bars down against the protection of their own children.

Perhaps they are right and the mothers of the South are too old-fashioned to vote. It is quite probable that if they could that they would protest against the non-passage of this very important bill by refusing to return these men as representatives of the commonwealth of Mississippi.

### ILLINOIS WOMEN TAKE NOTICE.

Women may vote in Illinois:

I.—In Chicago and other cities, villages and towns:

Mayor.  
 Members of city council.  
 City clerk.  
 City treasurer.  
 Municipal Court judges.  
 Members of school board where mayor does not appoint.

II.—In the county:

Members of board of assessors.  
 Members of board of review.  
 School district officers.  
 Supervisor.  
 Town clerk.  
 Collector.  
 Surveyor.  
 Highway commissioner.

III.—In the state:

Board of equalization—who levy certain taxes and equalize the rest.

Trustees of state university.  
 Clerks of Appellate Court.  
 Sanitary district trustees.

IV.—In the United States:

Presidential electors.  
 And upon all question submitted to a vote of the electors of the city or political division of the state.

### THEY MAY NOT VOTE FOR—

I.—County officers except as above specified, i. e.:

Judge and clerk of County Court.  
 Judge and clerk of Superior Court.  
 Judge and clerk of Circuit Court.  
 Clerk of Probate Court.  
 Clerk of Criminal Court.  
 County treasurer.  
 Coroner.  
 Sheriff.  
 Justice of the peace.  
 Constable.  
 Recorder of deeds and registrar of titles.  
 State's attorney.  
 County superintendent of schools.

II.—State officers:

Governor.  
 Lieutenant governor.  
 Secretary of state.  
 Treasurer of state.  
 Auditor of public accounts.

Attorney-general.  
 Senator.  
 Representative.  
 Judges and clerks of Supreme Court.  
 State superintendent of public instruction.  
 III.—United States:  
 Senators.  
 Representatives.

### The Open Forum

I believe the great majority of the party members would be in favor of an "Open Forum" as suggested in the Party Builder of March 7 by Comrade Powers. A permanent "Open Forum" would make the Party Builder even more interesting, would stir up more interest in party affairs, and would be of great educational value to us all, by reading of different plans, ideas and viewpoints on matters of interest to all party members. By all means let us have a permanent "Open Forum."

Fraternally,

A. SHARPE.

Rochester, N. H.

Alliance, O., March 14, 1914.

To the National Headquarters of the Socialist Party, 111 N. Market street, Chicago, Ill.:

Dear Sirs—I have been thinking for some time we ought to have more free speakers, instead of having to charge admission so much. The majority of our meetings held (or at least I find it so here in this city of about 16,000) in our local hall are attended by very few persons, generally only the dues paying members. I really think it is money wasted, and time, too, to hire speakers to come and talk to a bunch of Socialists. The outsider is the one we want to reach, and I find that it is pretty hard to sell tickets to non-Socialists.

Couldn't we devise some plan to lay by a fund at the National Headquarters (assessing each local in some way to make up the fund) and let the National Headquarters send out some of our best speakers all over the country, in every city and village? I know of some small towns that have never heard a Socialist speaker and don't know what Socialism is. I think the time is ripe right now to do something. Of course, we Socialists are gaining, but we can do more if we get more free speakers out on the city squares on Saturday and Sunday nights to talk to the masses. Let us hear from others. I am just a factory worker and have a family to keep, but if we can get a number of free speakers out, I've got \$1 to spare every month for the cause. Enclosed find 10 subscribers to the Party Builder.

Yours for the Revolution,  
 CHAS. BOWERMASTER.

Somerville, Mass., March 10, 1914.

Editor the Party Builder:  
 Dear Comrade—I must sincerely endorse Comrade John M. Powers', of Local Cataldo, Idaho, suggestion in the Party Builder of March 7 concerning an "Open Forum," and would like to add that now, since we have a party-owned paper, it should be used not only to build the party, but to teach the new members, as well as many old ones, what Socialism really is. In other words, the principles of Socialism, what it is and how to get it, should be set down from one place for the whole movement. That is from the National Headquarters and the medium is the party-owned organ. As it is now, many are at a loss as to what Socialism means and how to bring it about when one paper in one part of the country says it is one thing, and another in another part of the country says it is something else, and even some of our platform speakers contradict each other.

Yours for more enlightenment on the road to the industrial republic,

FINGAL STENING,  
 One of the rank and file.

### WHAT A STATE SECRETARY THINKS.

Dear Comrade:—I herein enclose to you check for one dollar (\$1.00) as payment for the ten-leaflet package to be sent to the enclosed list of names as per the arrangement upon these blanks. This money was donated by Comrade Axel Wahlenberg of Suffield, Conn., and the names have been carefully selected by him. I am suggesting to the comrades in various localities in this state that they use this method to reach the non-Socialist in their respective localities. I think that this is one of the best plans of reaching the non-Socialist in new communities, thereby creating sentiment that we can crystalize later by the aid of speakers, etc. I shall from month to month send in a list of names for other localities. I would like to have you send me a number of blanks like the enclosed, so that I may have some of them on hand to use. Trusting that you will give this order your immediate attention, I remain,

Yours in the cause,

S. E. BEARDSLEY,  
 State Secretary-Treasurer, Socialist Party of Connecticut.

### WANTS MINIMUM WAGE.

Charles Baker, Socialist councilman of Hamilton, Ohio, has introduced a resolution calling upon the city solicitor to draw a bill providing for an eight-hour day and a minimum wage of \$2.50 for all city employes. Mayor Hinkel also sent a message to the council asking them to pass a resolution asking the Miami Valley Conservation Board to employ men living in the vicinity at union wages in carrying on the flood prevention work. Such a resolution was unanimously passed by the council, and other cities in the valley will be requested to take similar action.

The  
Future  
Belongs  
to the  
Youth

## Young Peoples Department

J. A. ROGERS, Jr., Director

To reach the youth with the message of Socialism and to bring them into the organized Socialist movement thru Young Peoples Socialist Leagues. Address all communications to

SOCIALIST PARTY, Young Peoples Dept.  
Madison and Halsted Streets Chicago, Illinois

In  
That  
Future  
Lies  
Socialism

### REACHING GIRL WORKERS.

With the papers running daily stories telling of the terrible trials and hardships of working girls, it seems strange that the young women of the country do not rise en masse in revolt. Why do they not realize the impossibility of alleviating these conditions as long as the present system continues to exist? Why do they not come into the Socialist movement through the Young People's Socialist leagues? They undoubtedly would if we could but reach them.

There is a big field among girl workers for the Young People's Socialist leagues to carry on propaganda. In the larger cities their conditions become so unbearable that they occasionally unite and strike. When these strikes of working girls occur, the Y. P. S. L. should throw all their energies into the struggle. The young Socialists should do every possible thing in their behalf. Then when victory is won you have made a vast number of friends who will eagerly join your organization if you ask them to do so.

You will not only win the approbation of the strikers, but you will also prove to other young workers the value of your organization. The Young People's Socialist League will also get much advertising among the interested public.

There is a strike of more than 500 girls now on in Toledo, Ohio, against the General Electric Company. A committee representing the ministers of the city interviewed the girls.

"Wages paid in some instances are almost unbelievable, and the struggles made by some of these girls to live honest, self-respecting lives on the bare pittance allowed them and under the most stringent economical conditions are heroic to say the least," was the comment of one member of the committee.

"I was greatly surprised that 530 girls should go out on a strike in mid-winter when labor was so plentiful and work so scarce, but when I learned from them how they had worked nine hours a day for \$6, \$5 and in some instances \$4 a week, and had fought desperately to eke out a bare existence on what the company paid them, I was firmly convinced that no other course was open to them," continued another member.

A large number of girls declared that it would be absolutely impossible for them to meet their expenses were it not for the fact that they lived at home and were not obliged to pay any board.

Many others, whose homes are not in the city, told pitifully of how they were accustomed to a breakfast of coffee and toast prepared over a gas heater in their rooms, and that after their day's work come home in the evening and wash their light wearing apparel, handkerchiefs and other articles in their efforts to economize.

"And what is it all for?" asked one girl of the committee. "Just to increase the dividends and add to the capitalization of one of the richest and most prosperous electrical corporations in this country," she added.

Girls in the exhaust department told of working in rooms with the temperature up to 80 degrees in front of small gas ovens of 360 degrees Fahrenheit. "Many a night I have left that factory with my clothes wet with perspiration. All of us girls require two complete outfits of clothing on account of the intense heat.

"The burned gas odor in the rooms at times is so stifling that it is nauseating. When we have complained and asked that the windows be opened, we were told that the draft reduced the temperature of the blaze, and that the product in consequence of the cold air was always of an inferior quality. Our work is admitted to be the hardest and most disagreeable in the entire factory, yet we have been reduced to \$1.50 per day, and the proposed cut would allow us \$1."

If the message of Socialism was given to these girls, there is little doubt but that they would willingly join a Young People's Socialist League.

Where men and boys are exploited under the present system, women and girls are even greater victims. If a girl understands the future which lays before her, she will be anxious to join an organization which intends to make that future a better one.

Let us reach the girls.

### CHICAGO RE-ORGANIZING.

The Chicago Young People's Socialist League is now re-organized. Instead of having one league for the entire city, there will be eight branch leagues working together through a central committee.

Chicago is a city over twenty-two miles in length. The league had its headquarters located in the central part of the city, but because of the vast

area to be covered, work could not be carried on in a proper manner.

The league formerly maintained a headquarters which cost between \$130 and \$150 a month to maintain. This drained all the resources of the organization, and they were finally forced to abandon it.

It is thought that the new form of organization will secure far greater results than the old. It is thought that each of the new leagues will soon have 100 members or more. Everyone seems to agree that it will result in building up a real young people's movement in Chicago.

### NATIONAL CONVENTION OF Y. P. S. L.

At the last national convention of the Socialist Party, held in Indianapolis in May, 1912, the following resolution regarding Young People's Socialist organizations was passed:

Whereas, A fertile and promising field for Socialist education is found among the young people, both because it reaches persons with unprejudiced and unbiased minds, and because it yields the most valuable recruits for the Socialist movement; and

Whereas, If we can gain the ear of a majority of the youth of our country, the future will be ours, with the passing of the present generation; therefore, be it

Resolved, That we recommend and urge our locals to form, encourage and assist Young Socialist Leagues and Young People's Clubs for the purpose of educating our youth in the principles of Socialism, and that this education be combined with social pleasures and athletic exercises; and further

Resolved, That we recommend to the National Executive Committee to give such aid and encouragement to this work as may seem to it best calculated to further the spread of Socialism among the youth of the United States.

### GOOD PROGRESS AT CHELSEA.

The Young People's Socialist League of Chelsea, Mass., has been in existence only three months, but during that time it has increased its membership from ten to seventy. The league organized with ten charter members and by hard work on the part of the organizers added fifteen more. On Monday, February 23, they celebrated Washington's Birthday with a big entertainment, at which more than 200 young men and women were present. Thirty-five new members were secured at this affair. The league is conducting a class in Social Science and is also running a course of lectures.

### NOTHING DISCOURAGES BUFFALO.

Last fall the Buffalo Young People's Socialist League lost their headquarters through a fire and have been having a hard fight to keep up the struggle. The league has had no hall to meet in since that time and have been constantly changing their place of meeting. In fact, this was done so much that many of the members never knew where the league was meeting. The league had also incurred a debt of \$80. The rental of halls absorbed all the ready money the organization could gather together, to say nothing of the old debt.

However, during the past four months affairs have been assuming a more rosy hue. Two successful dances and entertainments have been run. The league is preparing for another similar affair in the latter part of April. The local is now beginning to give the league its support, seeing that the young folks are able to take care of themselves.

The league is again meeting in new permanent headquarters.

With the organization again on a good financial basis and the Socialist Party local lending its assistance, it is expected that Buffalo will soon have the largest league in the nation. Twenty-five new applications will be received at the next meeting, and if things continue in that manner they will far surpass present expectations. A debate will be held at the next meeting between two teams of four people, consisting of league members. They will discuss the question, "Resolved, That the public ownership of street railways will benefit the people." A good musical program will take place in connection with the debate and it will be followed by a dance. Watch out for Buffalo.

### ZIMPFER FOR CONGRESS.

F. P. Zimpher has been nominated by the Socialists of Columbus, Ohio, as candidate for Congress. Zimpher was formerly a Socialist alderman of Columbus and was defeated for re-election by only 42 votes. A vigorous campaign will be inaugurated, and it is expected that the Socialists will figure prominently in the election results.

### BOOK REVIEW.

"Lincoln, Labor and Slavery," by Herman Schluter, Published by Socialist Literature Company, 140 E. 19th street, New York City, 1913. Cloth, 237 pp. Price, \$1.10, postpaid.

This book has a two-fold purpose: First, to throw light upon the position taken by the working class and the international labor movement regarding chattel slavery; secondly, to indicate the attitude taken by one of the most famous characters in the struggle for the emancipation of the negro, Abraham Lincoln, towards the labor question and the working class.

The position of the early labor movement in relation to the agitation for the abolition of chattel slavery; the economic antagonism between the North and the South and the inevitability of the conflict resulting therefrom, and the position of the international labor movement in relation to the War of Secession, are considered from the standpoint of the working class.

The United States is indeed under the heaviest obligations to the workingmen, especially to the workingmen of England. The attitude of the English working class during the gloomiest period of the North American Republic constitutes one of the brightest pages in the history of the labor movement. For it was the working class, and the working class only, which then opposed, in England the war which the ruling classes of that country, with the government at their head, were about to declare in favor of the seceding southern states against the northern states of the union.

The volume contains the famous address of the International Workingmen's Association to Abraham Lincoln; discusses the draft riot in New York and other phases of the working class history during the war period.

Organized Labor: Its Problems and How to Meet Them," by A. J. Portenar. Published by the MacMillan Company, 1913. Cloth, 134 pp., \$1.00.

This little volume is a discussion of various phases of the present organized labor movement in America. It is a study of certain radical tendencies, such as syndicalism, sabotage and the like, which are rejected by the author; a consideration of the possibilities of a more industrial form of organization, of the possibilities of arbitration and the strike, and particularly of co-operation as a possible relief for the labor situation.

In a chapter on "Related Things," the author discusses the program of Socialism and the Socialist party. This also he rejects, on the ground that it does not provide, in his opinion, for the proper development of individuality in allowing to each person the absolute ownership of that which he has constructed or purchased; the results of his own personal labor. In other words, the author seems to have stumbled into the very common misconception concerning Socialism with regard to private property. His solution is Henry George's single tax.

### GOVERNMENT OWNERSHIP OF RAILROADS.

The following books will be of interest and value to those who are studying the question of the government ownership of the railroads:

1. "Public Ownership of Railways," Carl D. Thompson, 1013. Published and for sale by the National Office of the Socialist party, 10c.

2. "Stories of the Great Railroads," by Charles Edward Russell. Cloth, 332 pp. National Office, \$1.

3. "Government Ownership of Railways," by Anthony Van Wagenen. Cloth, 256 pp. National Office, \$1.25.

4. "The Railways, the Trusts and the People," by Frank Parsons. Cloth, 544 pp. National Office, \$1.50.

5. Encyclopedia of Social Reform, Bliss. See articles on Public Ownership, Railways, Railway Problems.

6. Debaters' Handbook on Government Ownership of Railroads. Published and for sale by The H. W. Wilson Company, White Plains, N. Y. Cloth, 179 pp., \$1.00.

7. "American Railway Problems in the Light of European Experience," by Carl S. Vrooman. Cloth, 376 pp. National Office, \$2.00

8. "History of the Great American Fortunes," by Gustavus Myers. Vols. 2 and 3—"Great Fortunes from Railroads." National Office, \$1.50 a vol.

9. "The Story of New Zealand," by Frank Parsons. Contains chapter on railways; also many references. Published by C. F. Taylor, 1520 Chestnut street, Philadelphia. Cloth, 830 pp.

10. "Newest England," by Henry D. Lloyd. Chapters III and IV on railways; also many references. Doubleday, Page & Company, Garden City, New York. Cloth, 386 pp.

11. "Government Ownership of Railways." Speech of Hon. Thomas M. Patterson in U. S. Senate, February 27, 1907. In Congressional Record.

12. Magazine articles:

(a) "Railroad Revolution," series of articles by Charles Edward Russell, in Pearson's Magazine, February to October, 1913.

(b) "The People or the Railroads," series of articles by Alfred Henry Lewis, in Hearst's Magazine, beginning January, 1914.

(c) "New Zealand's Altruistic Railroads," by Charles Edward Russell, in Pearson's Magazine, September, 1912.

**The Literature Department**

The receipts for literature and supplies on the morning of March 14 had reached an amount equal to the receipts for the entire month of February. If the present rate of orders continues through the month, our receipts will exceed \$2,500, which means that the department will earn a profit.

We must sell about \$1,800 worth of literature, buttons and supplies each month to pay the department expenses, which may be itemized as follows: Printing, postage, purchases of stock, express and freight, wages, our share of rent and light.

The Literature and Party Builder departments occupy one-third of the National Office space, and are therefore charged with one-third of the rent.

When you read in our monthly report under the head of "Revenue Account" that our receipts exceed \$1,800, you may know that we are paying our own way. If the receipts are less, then the department is living in part on the dues.

Eighteen hundred dollars per month is \$21,600 per year.

We are estimating it low when we say that the people of this nation buy annually not less than \$100,000 of Socialist literature.

Our problem is to handle the literature which Socialists want and to sell it at an attractive price. Then it is our duty to create new markets for literature by propaganda. We are doing this by such means as the 10-leaflet packet. A comrade sends us a quarter and ten names of people who are friendly to our movement. We not only send the leaflet packet, but advertising matter and later a sample of the P. B.

Actual experience has demonstrated that we get replies from a percentage of these people. Sometimes it is a P. B. sub, sometimes a book order. Later on, the P. B. reader or book subscriber will become a party member. Occasionally a person likes the leaflet packet so well that he sends a list of names. Thus we forge the links of an endless chain.

The Literature Department of the National Office exists not as a commercial institution primarily, but as a means of propaganda.

Its purposes are the purposes of the National Office, but we do want to see it self-supporting and there is every reason to believe it will be this present half of the fiscal year.

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Fourteen thousand dollars worth of literature so cheap as is ours makes some bulk. Shipping had to be suspended Thursday, Friday and Saturday, but the blockade is cleared out now and the channel of business is moving.

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Ten thousand Assorted Leaflets to J. H. Snider, Fairmont, W. Va.

Five hundred Public Ownership of Railways to Local Allegheny, Pittsburgh, Pa.

One thousand New Leaflets to Fred S. Martin, Sioux City, Neb.

One hundred Where You Get Off to F. G. Strickland, Dayton, Ohio.

Our \$5.00 Book Offer to John Dalton, Titusville, Pa.

Fifteen thousand Francis Willard on Socialism and Madam, How Will You Feed Your Family? to N. A. Smith, Rockford, Ill.

One Pocket Library of Socialism to W. H. Lockwood, Turlock, Cal.

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Five thousand Assorted Leaflets to Dr. Edw. D. Foss, Muskegon, Mich.

One hundred Where You Get Off and one hundred Public Ownership of Railways to Claude G. Veal, Muncie, Ind.

One hundred Wasting Human Life to Henry Foulk, Austin, Tex.

One dozen Gold Plate Buttons to A. G. Livinghouse, LaPorte, Ind.

Twenty-five Wasting Human Life to W. T. Beals, Okanogan, Wash.

One hundred Public Ownership of Railways to Fred B. Chase, Boston, Mass.

Five thousand "Have the Socialists Made Good?" to F. A. Walsh, Marion, Ohio.

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OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF THE SOCIALIST PARTY OF THE UNITED STATES.

Walter Lanfersiek, Managing Editor

Published every Saturday by the Socialist Party, National Office, 111 North Market street, Chicago, Ill.

Entered as second-class matter, November 20, 1912, at the postoffice, Chicago, Ill., under the act of March 3, 1879. Advertising rates, 75c per inch, column wide.

No. 72 Chicago, March 21, 1914

CIRCULATION REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING MARCH 7, 1914.

Table with 2 columns: Description (Last week, Taken off, New subs) and Amount (18,039, 216, 448, 18,271).

On the three days preceding the moving of the office our clerical force got ready 15,000 circular letters and 50,000 pieces of other circular matter; stamped 15,000 envelopes, folded the same number of Party Builders, and then stuffed them all in envelopes. The job was accomplished by working late into the nights.

Finally at 10 p. m. on Wednesday night the last envelope was finished and we were ready to move.

This is the largest sample copy work we have ever done at one time. It was made necessary not alone because we were preparing to move, but because the sample copies were going out to states where spring elections are to be held.

Attractive book bargains have been advertised direct to each party member.

What the effect of this circularization on the P. B. will be, we, of course, cannot at this time even predict.

We have done our part and done it most thoroughly by going direct to the membership with a sample of the paper. If our present subscribers will now help a little by an encouraging word or suggestion, we ought to receive many new subscribers and thus come in closer touch with that portion of the membership who are more or less irregular in attendance at local meetings.

When we are settled in our new headquarters and have a day or two to get our breath, so to speak, we will begin on other names sent us by local secretaries and keep it up each week till we have completed the lists.

A glance at the circulation figures at the top of this column will show you that we are going in the right direction these days. Keep up the good work.

OUR SUB HUSTLERS.

- J. F. Mabie, Butte, Mont., 21 subs. Fred Cammer, Rochester, N. Y., 15 subs. Chas. Linguist, Detroit, Mich., 10 subs. A. J. Horning, Greensburg, Ind., 6 subs. Chas. Hennig, Manchester, N. H., 6 subs. Wm. G. Pierce, St. Louis, Mo., 4 subs. Chas. Rottenberg, Brooklyn, N. Y., 4 subs. G. W. Hill, Prescott, Ariz., 4 subs.

Comrade Oscar Anderson, of Local Velva, N. D., says: "I will bring a proposition up at the next meeting of our local that all members who pay up for a year in advance will get a year's subscription to the Party Builder FREE, to be paid out of the local funds. I am sure the proposition will carry. If you publish this in the Party Builder, it may be an inducement for other locals to take it up."

"It is the best thing the party ever did when it started the Party Builder."—T. B. Fisher, Columbus, Ohio.

"We are trying to induce all members of the Third Ward Branch of Rochester, N. Y., to subscribe to the Party Builder."—F. Cammer, Rochester, N. Y.

"These are the first subscriptions I ever tried to get, but you may expect to hear more from me in the future, as I have come to realize that this paper is very essential to our organization."—F. M. Wolf, 417 S. Second street, Aberdeen, S. Dak.

"I desire to keep in touch with the world movement along Socialist lines. I find nothing so far that reaches out and grasps the world-wide movement along all lines as does the Party Builder. Can get condensed vital facts from it better than from propaganda papers alone. It gives the cream of what is happening and figures to substantiate; can tell the inquiring more about Socialism than any other paper."—J. J. Newton, Nugent, Tex.

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Following is a partial list of bookings for the next few weeks, and more coming in every hour:

- Thursday, March 19—Lyric Theater, Sterling, Ill. Thursday, March 19—Grand Opera House, Oshkosh, Wis. Friday, March 20—Orpheum Theater, Benton Harbor, Mich. Saturday, March 21—Melrose Park Theater, Melrose Park, Ill. Saturday, March 21—Racine Theater, Racine, Wis. Sunday, March 22—Racine Theater, Racine, Wis. Sunday, March 22—DeLux, 5133 W. Twenty-fifth street, Chicago, Ill. Monday, March 23—Plumb Opera House, Streator, Ill. Tuesday, March 24—Plumb Opera House, Streator, Ill. Wednesday, March 25—Princess Theater, Peoria, Ill. Wednesday, March 25—Majestic Theater, LaSalle, Ill.

- Thursday, March 26—Princess Theater, Peoria, Ill. Thursday, March 26—Peru Theater, Peru, Ill. Friday, March 27—L. Laudau, Granite City, Ill. Friday, March 27—Marlowe Hippodrome, Sixty-third, near Stewart Ave., Chicago, Ill. Saturday, March 28—L. Laudau, Granite City, Ill. Saturday, March 28—Empress Theater, 4109 Armitage Ave., Chicago, Ill. Sunday, March 29—Kedzie Theater, Twelfth and Kedzie Ave., Chicago, Ill. Monday, March 30—Washington Theater, Belleville, Ill. Monday, March 30—Crystal Stairs Theater, Joliet, Ill. Tuesday, March 31—Washington Theater, Belleville, Ill. Tuesday, March 31—Dreamland Theater, Michigan City, Ind. Thursday, April 9—Aurora Theater, Aurora, Ill. Friday, April 10—Aurora Theater, Aurora, Ill.

Bookings in Indiana, Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin under management of R. & M. FEATURES, 453 First National Bank Building, Chicago, Ill.

Urge your local theater managers to book this great play. Comrades in Iowa and Minnesota desiring information or bookings, address FRANK E. WOLFE, 1018 Ashland Block, Chicago, Ill.

UNEMPLOYMENT.

The United States census for 1900 showed that 6,468,964 working people, or nearly 25 per cent of all engaged in gainful occupations, had been unemployed some time during the year. Of these 3,177,753 lost from one to three months each, representing on the basis of \$10 a week a loss in wages of approximately \$200,000,000; 2,554,925 lost from four to six months' work each, representing a wage loss of approximately \$500,000,000; and 736,286 lost from seven to twelve months' work each, representing a wage loss of approximately \$300,000,000. Thus approximately \$1,000,000,000 was lost in wages in the year.

In 1901 the Federal Bureau of Labor investigated 24,402 working-class families in 33 states, and found that 12,154 heads of families had been unemployed for an average period of 9.43 weeks during the year. The New York State Department of Labor collected reports each month during the ten years, 1901-1911, from organized workmen averaging in number 99,069 each month, and found that the average number unemployed each month was 14,146, or 18.1 per cent.

The Federal Census of Manufacturers, for 1905, gives the "average number of wage earners each month and the greatest and least number employed at any one time. At one time 7,017,138 were employed, while at another time there were only 4,599,091, leaving a difference of 2,418,047. That is to say, nearly TWO AND A HALF MILLION WORKERS WERE EITHER UNEMPLOYED OR COMPELLED TO SEEK A NEW EMPLOYER DURING THE YEAR. These figures were drawn from the manufacturers' own record.—Program, National Conference on Unemployment, New York City, February 27 and 28, 1914.

SUGGESTIONS TO LOCALS.

One of the comrades, who evidently appreciates the material that the Information Department is putting in the Party Builder, has sent us a suggestion. We think it is of sufficient value and importance to reproduce it here, hoping some of the comrades may take advantage of it. If they do, we feel sure it will be well worth their while:

"In order to save reprinting at a later time the data now being given in the Information Department of the Party Builder, locals or members of locals ought to keep files. At least five files ought to be kept in each town. Then, when Socialists are elected to office, they will already have some information on hand to which they can refer concerning municipal government and other matters important to the business end of Socialist work.

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