





SIMPLE STUDIES in SOCIALISM

A BRIEF HISTORICAL AND EXPLANATORY OUTLINE.

By WM. H. CUSACK, Chicago Ill.

(Continued.)

REWARD OF GENIUS.

It is often remarked that Socialism will not reward genius. This is one of those ridiculous conclusions which always spring from false premises.

In speaking of genius and its reward Louis Blanc said: "Genius should assert its legitimate empire, not by the amount of the tribute which it will levy on society, but by the greatness of the services which it will render."

DISAGREEABLE WORK.

It is asked by many "Who will do the dirty and disagreeable work under Socialism?" This question is usually accompanied with a smile, but we will take it seriously.

Prof. Ely (Socialism and Social Reform) says in this connection: "It can hardly be questioned that under Socialism the inventive powers of men would be stimulated to provide machinery to do disagreeable work, and to render work now disagreeable as agreeable as possible."

As in proportion as you make men valuable, machinery does disagreeable work. However, most of this kind of work could be made attractive by making the hours of labor much shorter than those of other pleasanter occupations.

When closely examined, most of these difficulties are found to be more apparent than real, and exist mainly in the imagination. It is quite reasonable to assume that with the advent of Socialism, snobbery will vanish, and all useful and necessary work will be honored, no matter how dirty it might be.

SOCIALISM AND THE FAMILY.

The capitalist class, its press, and its keys, because they cannot defeat Socialism by rational argument, become

frantic and misrepresent and slander it in a petty and disgusting manner. One of the favorite slanders they resort to is that "Socialism will break up the family."

"It is still by many believed that Socialism tends to subvert the family and the Christian ideal of marriage. Some of the leading Socialist writers have indeed enunciated theories at variance with these institutions.

The Encyclopedia Britannica says in part that Socialism "enunciates no special doctrine on the relation of the sexes," and that "Socialists generally advocate the equality of the sexes and the emancipation of women; they object to the mercenary element so common in marriage; and they abhor prostitution as one of the worst and vilest of existing evils."

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Prof. Ely (Socialism and Social Reform) says that "no Socialist has claimed that there is anything higher than the pure monogamic marriage of man and woman resting upon love."

Herr Paul Gohre in his book, "Three Months in a Workshop," tells us that "instead of bewailing the obvious decline of the old Christian ideal of the family, and inveighing against Socialism, we ought rather to co-operate in putting an end, definitely and forever, to the economic causes of which the present situation is the inevitable result."

In this book, Gohre clearly shows that the traditional form of the family no longer exists. He narrates the terrible plight of the worker's family under the present system.

On every hand we see evidences of the disintegration of the family. The "shetowns" of New England, and the "hettowns" in the mining districts show how the worker's family is torn asunder. In speaking of divorce it is well to note that according to government reports one marriage out of every twelve in the United States terminates in the divorce court.

add the following, taken from an address delivered before the World's Fair Labor Congress in Chicago by Mr. Ethelbert Stewart, on August 30th, 1893. He says:

"Everyone that has gone through the cotton mill towns of New England and the South has seen house after house locked up, and little faces peering out at the windows. The mother has gone to work in the mill and left her baby in the house. The father is working somewhere else, probably in another State. I submit that a family is pretty well disintegrated when this is its normal condition—the everyday life of the family.

Plainly, then, it is the present system which is breaking up the family. Socialism cannot be charged with the "sins" of capitalism.

SOCIALISM AND RELIGION.

And they shall build houses and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and eat the fruit of them. They shall not build, and another eat.—Isaiah LXV, 21, 22.

The Encyclopedia Britannica states that "On religion as on marriage, Socialism has no special teaching." Again, it says: "the ethics of Socialism are closely akin to the ethics of Christianity, if not identical with them." This is the position taken by the Christian Socialists. However, it must be remembered that the term religion is altogether too flexible to be treated carelessly.

However, churchism is fast exposing itself, and the world is about to retire to history. As Emerson tells us: "There will be a new church, founded on moral science."

Ingersoll said: "I belong to that great church that holds the world within its starlit aisles; that claims the great and good of every race and clime; that finds with joy the grain of gold in every creed, and floods with light and love the germs of good in every soul."

John Stuart Mill declares that "the world would be astonished if it knew how great a proportion of its brightest ornaments, of those most distinguished even in popular estimation for wisdom and virtue, are complete skeptics in religion."

Skepticism in religion is as old as the hills. It is a fact that the more intelligent and progressive a people become, the more "irreligious" they become, that is, in the church sense. The church has seen fit to dabble in politics, and the most orthodox never let an opportunity go by without slandering and maliciously misrepresenting Socialism and the Socialists.

The Christian church has been prating about universal brotherhood for nineteen hundred years, and has opposed every movement that aimed at bringing about this very ideal. The history of the church is sufficient to convict it of insincerity.

In closing this chapter, we might say with Arthur Morrow Lewis, who says in part: "We now feel at liberty to ask the church, what it has meant by this two thousand years of cant about the brotherhood of man. What a slim measure your mountain has brought forth after all these centuries of labor. Nay, gentlemen, you are not in earnest. You have forgotten your mission, if you ever had one. The world is weary of your pretenses. It no longer fears your fulminations. You have had your chance, and you have always brought ridicule upon the best there is in your faith, and now progress requests you to step aside, and give room to earnest men and sincere women, who really believe in, and labor to realize that doctrine of human brotherhood which you have preached so long in sniffling tones, and which in your hearts you have always

METAL POLISHING

A DEADLY TRADE THAT THOUSANDS OF MEN DIE AT.

Every Breath They Draw While at Work is Filled with Millions of Particles of Metallic Dust, Which Clog the Lungs and Ruin the Constitution—Buffing No Better.

We had known that there was something the matter. The moment we got over our wheels in the mornings and the wheels got to turning at the rate of 2,000 revolutions per minute—toward us—the fine dust of abrasive from the wheel and metal from the article we were holding against it began to spout in our faces.

Men could not stand steady to work at the business. They would work a week and then lie idle for a week. Breathing dust all day long gave them an oppressed, stifled feeling and splitting headache, with thirst, and they drank a good deal. Everybody knew that there was a great deal of discomfort attached to the business, but no one knew that it was equivalent to slow suicide till the investigation of which I have spoken.

When the results of that were made known and realized there were many who thought that the business should be stopped altogether. It seemed brutal and uncivilized to allow it to go on attracting boys in, only to strangle and slaughter them before they even reached middle age.

Practically, in polishing, every article is different and needs different treatment. The workman must study before he begins just how he is going to do each job, what wheels he is to use, etc., and how he is going to get at different corners.

In polishing the baser metals—iron, brass, copper, etc.—the principal abrasive used is emery, which comes in many different degrees of fineness, some as coarse as granulated sugar and some as fine as flour, called "four emery." It is very black, sharp, hard.

When a man stands over one of these emery wheels holding an article to be polished, the particles flying up from wheel and metal are red hot on account of the great speed of the wheel and the severe friction. These particles burn their way into the flesh of the operator, perhaps in the lungs, perhaps in the face.

Each splinter sticks till a little festering sore forms around it, when it becomes dislodged and falls out. The metal polisher may be recognized on the street by his pimpled face, caused by these particles. The pimples look bad and cause some discomfort, but the real damage is done by the red-hot splinters that enter the lungs. I believe that the most deadly metals are brass and copper. I never worked on them, but the results of my investigations prove that this is so, and when one considers that after being a metal polisher for years a man's lungs and digestive system are lined with brass and copper, it is easy to be sure that considerable verdigris must form.

Some of these men working on the baser metals have their stomachs washed out, and the washings show the terrible conditions that might reasonably be expected. As a result such men never return to the work.

It might be imagined that the men working on the baser metals would receive more pay than those employed on gold and silver, where the effect on the health is not so bad; but this is not the case. They earn only from \$2.50 to \$3 per day, while those handling gold and silver earn from \$2.75 to \$3.50 per day.

The buffing process is practically all the same, no matter what the metals. The buffs are woolen cloths sewn together in the shape of a wheel. Tripoli despised."

PRIVATE OWNERSHIP.

Another "argument" against Socialism is that it would abolish all private property. This is proved false when we recognize the fact that Socialism only demands that the means and machinery of production and distribution, etc., shall be owned and administered in common. No one cares to have a common ownership of tooth-brushes, or clothing, or anything that is necessarily private. Private ownership of tooth-brushes could not be used as a means of labor exploitation. Socialism will socialize only those things upon which the people in common depend. Just because the Post Office is collectively owned, the people have not abandoned private ownership of letters and other matters sent by mail. Socialism will abolish private property in so far as it enables one to gather an income through the toil of others without personal exertion.

(To Be Continued.)

and paraffin are used on them for cutting the metal. These wheels revolve at the rate of 3,000 revolutions a minute, always toward the operator, and the lint from the wool can be seen adhering to everything in a polishing room, walls, ceiling, etc., and it only takes one sweep of the hand along the walls of any polishing room to get a handful of lint which is finer than the finest wadding.

"Coloring up" the metals is like the buffing process, but the buffs in this case are made of cotton flannel, and rouge is used upon these, just as oil is used upon an oilstone. Though the abrasives used here are not as sharp-cutting as emery, pumice stone or even paraffin, they are just as deadly, because the lint, combined with the rouge, forms a cloud of dust which clogs all the air passages.

A man engaged in "coloring up" changes all his clothes when he goes to work, even to his underclothes and shoes, for fear that he may carry off some of the precious particles. In Tiffany's polishing room there is an iron matting on the floor to protect the dust there from disturbance. Twice a year walls and ceilings are swept down, all the dust collected and sold to an assayer.

The dipping process to remove the "fire" is also deadly. The articles needing the treatment are dipped in nitric acid, and the acid fumes penetrate all through the factory. I have seen factories so full of these fumes that the men had to put their heads out of the windows in order to breathe.

A stranger to the trade might expect that lunch time would bring some relief to the men, but in that he would be greatly mistaken. Lunch in these hell holes (some of which are underground) is among the most deadly of all the contrivances for shortening men's lives.

In nearly all factories the men are only allowed thirty minutes for lunch. Can any one picture a man taking a bath, changing his clothes from head to foot, going out, getting his lunch, and returning to his lathe in thirty minutes? Of course that is impossible, so the men take half a wash, sit in filthy polishing rooms where the dust has not yet settled from the morning's operations, and there eat lunches which in most cases they have brought to work with them. It is no uncommon sight in a polishing room to see men eating sandwiches turned red by the rouge, or black by the grease that is all about them. These lunches have been in a factory filled with smoke and acid fumes for five hours before they are eaten. Just to give an example of the condition caused by this terrible atmosphere I will mention that I have seen polishers spit red three hours after leaving the factory. It looked as though they were spitting blood, but the red was caused by nothing else than the rouge vapor they had been inhaling all day long. Another testimony is given by men's underclothes; I mean the underclothes of those who work upon the baser metals. When these underclothes are washed they turn green, and the longer they are worn the greener they become.

In the days when I was working at the trade the fumes often made me feel so ill that in spite of trying to hold out I would be compelled to go to the foreman and inform him that I had to go home. When I got out in the street the fresh air would revive me and then I would be ashamed to go home and say I was ill. I wasn't ill. There was nothing the matter except that the fumes choked me.

Matters have recently been growing worse in the trade. For instance, when I worked, sixteen years ago, they did not then use acids to remove the "fire," and the man that was finishing was away from the lathe ten hours on a twenty hour job, stoning and scraping the fire away. To-day a similar job takes only fifteen hours, but the man is at the lathe all the time. The acid process is a comparatively new wrinkle.

Matters are worse, also, because more of the shops are underground than was the case twenty years ago. Under any conditions the underground rooms would be bad, but, as used for metal polishing, they are simply murder shops.

One would think that such conditions would only have to be exposed to secure instant remedy, but that is not the case. The masters are opposed to exhaust fans because they cause expense to install and operate them, even though provision has been made to guard against the fans stealing any of the precious dust by making them gather it into boxes. But the masters find that they can preserve all the dust by keeping the windows and doors closed, and the fact that this hastens the murder of their men does not disturb them.—A. Hellthaler, in "The Independent."

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PLATFORM

Adopted at the National Convention of the Socialist Labor Party, July, 1904, and Re-adopted at the National Convention, July, 1908.

The Socialist Labor Party of America, in convention assembled, reasserts the inalienable right of man to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

We hold that the purpose of government is to secure to every citizen the enjoyment of this right; but taught by experience we hold furthermore that such right is illusory to the majority of the people, to wit, the working class, under the present system of economic inequality that is essentially destructive of THEIR life, THEIR liberty and THEIR happiness.

We hold that the true theory of politics is that the machinery of government must be controlled by the whole people; but again taught by experience we hold furthermore that the true theory of economics is that the means of production must likewise be owned, operated and controlled by the people in common. Man cannot exercise his right of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness without the ownership of the land and the tool with which to work. Deprived of these, his life, his liberty and his fate fall into the hands of the class that owns those essentials for work and production.

We hold that the existing contradiction between the theory of democratic government and the fact of a despotic economic system—the private ownership of the natural and social opportunities—divides the people into two classes: the Capitalist Class and the Working Class; throws society into the convulsions of the Class Struggle; and perverts government to the exclusive benefit of the Capitalist Class.

Thus labor is robbed of the wealth which it alone produces, is denied the means of self-employment, and, by compulsory idleness in wage slavery, is even deprived of the necessities of life.

Against such a system the Socialist Labor Party raises the banner of revolt, and demands the unconditional surrender of the Capitalist Class.

The time is fast coming when in the natural course of social evolution, this system, through the destructive action of its failures and crises, on the one hand, and the constructive tendencies of its trusts and other capitalist combinations, on the other hand, will have worked out its own downfall.

We, therefore, call upon the wage workers of America to organize under the banner of the Socialist Labor Party into a class conscious body, aware of its rights and determined to conquer them.

And we also call upon all other intelligent citizens to place themselves squarely upon the ground of Working Class interests, and join us in this mighty and noble work of human emancipation, so that we may put summary end to the existing barbarous class conflict by placing the land and all the means of production, transportation and distribution into the hands of the people as a collective body, and substituting the Co-operative Commonwealth for the present state of planless production, industrial war and social disorder—a commonwealth in which every worker shall have the free exercise and full benefit of his faculties, multiplied by all the modern factors of civilization.





OFFICIAL

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. Paul Augustins, National Secretary. 28 City Hall Place, N. Y. City.

PENNSYLVANIA S. E. C. The State Committee of the S. E. C. of Pennsylvania met February 14, at 1500 Lebanon street, Pittsburg, with Weber as chairman.

Minutes of last meeting approved as read. Communications were received from P. Augustins, enclosing due stamps offered; from Robert Richardson, application for charter for Section at New Brighton; from A. Mullen, Philadelphia, order for due stamps vote on seat of State Committee and State Secretary.

NEW HAVEN LECTURE. On SUNDAY March 7 Mr. G. M. Wallace will deliver a lecture on "Labor Unionism." The lecture will be in Union Hall, Orange street, at 3 p. m.

BROOKLYN LECTURES. The following lectures will be held at Section Kings County, S. L. P., headquarters, 762-4 Broadway, Brooklyn.

BUFFALO LABOR LYCEUM LECTURES. The following public lectures by Socialists and non-Socialists will be held under the auspices of the Labor Lyceum of Section Erie County, S. L. P., every Sunday afternoon, 3 o'clock, at Florence Parkers, 227 Main street.

LECTURES IN ST. LOUIS. The Socialist Labor Party will give a series of lectures this winter at their headquarters, 1717 South Broadway, second floor, St. Louis. Lectures begin at 8:30 p. m.

SLAVONIAN AND CROATIAN PAPER. The members of the S. L. P. are hereby notified that the "Workers' Struggle," 3446 St. Clair avenue, Cleveland, Ohio, is being published by the South Slavonic branch of Section Cleveland, and that it is a strictly S. L. P. publication in the Slavonian and Croatian languages.

GILLHAUS IN CHICAGO. August Gillhaus, national organizer for the Socialist Labor Party, will speak in Chicago as follows: SUNDAY, March 7, 9:30 p. m., at Clearmont Hall, 1730 N. Clark street.

CHICAGO COMMUNE CELEBRATION. A grand commune festival in commemoration of the Paris Commune will be held under the auspices of the allied Branches of the Socialist Labor Party (Section Cook County), at Workmen's Hall, 12th and Waller streets, Chicago, SUNDAY, March 14, 1909, at 3 p. m.

OPERATING FUND.

Table with 2 columns: Name and Amount. Includes Ed. Wenzel, A. C. Wirtz, Geo. Miller, L. B. New York city, Section Rochester's Members, P. Donohue, Per E. Moonelis, F. H. Joss, J. D. Crowley, W. Schweitzer, P. J. GIMIN, D. A. Seannel, J. R. Ryan, Phillip Klein, J. McAlister, B. Reinstein, E. Hauk, W. C. Vincent, S. Yelen, M. Lauth, F. Repechlagler, P. F. W. Schultz, Jos. Maloney, R. Goldstein, J. Kleinberger, O. Eiderer, Carl Swan, M. Seawall, H. Spetzel, H. Keff, E. S., K. A. Jenson, H. Lightbourne, N. Van Kerkvoorde, Francis Tiddy, L. Gintner, Colorado Sp'gs, Col.

Table with 2 columns: Name and Amount. Includes California, Los Angeles: J. Haller, J. Kolash, B. Leograini, J. Jensen; Connecticut, West Haven: J. Marek, M. Stodel, H. Gunn, C. Sundberg; Massachusetts, Pittsfield: H. Schmalbus; New York, New York City: 13th and 16th A. D.'s, S. L. P., M. Salomon; Ohio, Cincinnati: H. Slomer, J. Isack, M. Eisenberg; Virginia, Richmond: H. Muller, A. McCulloch, O. Biersch, L. Buttiger, T. Hoffens; Washington, Hoquiam: G. Reuter.

Table with 2 columns: Name and Amount. Includes Boston Workingmen: Ad address on "Feudal Property" will be given SUNDAY, March 7, 3 p. m., at S. L. P. Headquarters, 1165 Tremont street, Boston, Mass. All are invited.

Table with 2 columns: Name and Amount. Includes BOSTON WORKINGMEN: Ad address on "Feudal Property" will be given SUNDAY, March 7, 3 p. m., at S. L. P. Headquarters, 1165 Tremont street, Boston, Mass. All are invited.

Table with 2 columns: Name and Amount. Includes LECTURES IN ST. LOUIS: The Socialist Labor Party will give a series of lectures this winter at their headquarters, 1717 South Broadway, second floor, St. Louis. Lectures begin at 8:30 p. m.

Table with 2 columns: Name and Amount. Includes SLAVONIAN AND CROATIAN PAPER: The members of the S. L. P. are hereby notified that the "Workers' Struggle," 3446 St. Clair avenue, Cleveland, Ohio, is being published by the South Slavonic branch of Section Cleveland, and that it is a strictly S. L. P. publication in the Slavonian and Croatian languages.

Table with 2 columns: Name and Amount. Includes A. Rothstien, O. K. DYE WORKS, Cleaning, Repairing, and Pressing, 309 E. 7th St. Los Angeles, CALIF.

NEW JERSEY S. L. P. CONVENTION

MEETING HELD SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28TH—MATTERS PERTAINING TO AGITATION AND ORGANIZATION RECEIVED MUCH ATTENTION—"THE WORKERS ARE READY, LET US GET BUSY" THE KEYNOTE OF THE DISCUSSIONS.

Newark, N. J., March 1.—The State convention of the Socialist Labor Party of New Jersey was held in Newark, Sunday, February 28th. Delegates were reported by Burgholz and Gerold, the Credential's Committee, as follows: Essex County—Herman Hartung. Hudson County—Fred Gerold, D. H. Schoenleber. Passaic County—John E. Dietrich, Michael Butz, H. Diamond. Union County—P. Mesquelin, William Carroll, B. Burgholz.

REPORT OF THE STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE S. L. P. OF NEW JERSEY. The State Convention, Newark, February 28, 1909.

Comrades.—The State convention of 1908, held in this city, nominated presidential electors; adopted plans on organization and agitation to be carried out by your S. E. C. and we are now to give account of our stewardship.

The last convention changed the seat of the S. E. C. from Passaic county to Hudson county. The new S. E. C. organized April 12th; Hossack, secretary, Gerold, financial secretary, and Schwenck treasurer, they having been elected by referendum vote of the membership.

The first work of the S. E. C. was to get nomination petitions printed and circulated. The work of getting petitions filled was more difficult than heretofore but it was accomplished nevertheless.

This State being entitled to two delegates at the national convention, Comrades Katz and Oatley were elected as the New Jersey delegation, and ably represented the New Jersey membership in the national convention.

Your S. E. C. was not able to do much in the way of agitation but did what it could. Considerable local agitation was carried on in Paterson, Elizabeth, Newark, Plainfield and Jersey City.

The Party organization in New Jersey is not at present in as flourishing condition as we could wish. The panic dispersed many of our comrades and by financially crippling others rendered them more or less inactive.

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given to an earnest consideration of how we can best spread the Party's propaganda, and how best build up the Party organization. Year after year we have met and passed resolutions endorsing the Party press and literature; but resolutions alone, no matter how well they may be worded, produce nothing unless behind them there is the resolve to do the things set forth.

From the reading public which we already have it should be possible to procure material for the strengthening of existing Sections, and for the establishment of Sections in many places where none now exist. We do not recommend the getting in of members for the sake of membership; what we need is the clear cut revolutionist, to aid us in spreading the Party press and literature for the enlightenment of the working class.

In the measure that we push our political agitation, in that measure will the industrial organization appear, and the unity of the workers for their final emancipation be accomplished. The workers are in a receptive condition, opportunities to reach them confront us on every side, all that is needed is for us to bring them the light.

In closing a word should be said with regard to our Party press. We are glad to be able to say that our press has weathered the severe stress of the industrial depression. Our State, though, has not done as much in the past year to safeguard our Party press as we could wish.

Our best efforts should be given to help place our press on a secure footing. Day by day the influence of the Party's official organs is being felt in the ranks of the S. P., the walls of ignorance and prejudice, reared by pure and simple business interests within the S. P., are toppling, and we are confronting the rank and file who gladly take up the cry that not to capitalist ordained millionaires but to itself must the working class look for emancipation.

We of the S. L. P. should be particularly busy in bringing our press and literature to the notice of S. P. men. Trusting that your deliberations today will result in hastening the onward sweep, in an ever-widening current, of the movement which we all hold so dear, we remain

Fraternally, The New Jersey S. E. C., S. L. P. George P. Herrschaft, Secretary.

The report of the secretary was received and the convention adjourned to give the committees time to work.

At the afternoon session the committees reported. The recommendations of the Committee on Rules, as to time limit in speaking, and the granting of the privilege of the floor to non-delegates, were adopted.

Organization. The Committee on Organization recommended that a fund be created to send Comrade Rudolph Katz to Passaic, Bayonne, Trenton, New Brunswick, and other unorganized towns. The committee reported that Comrade Katz was willing to undertake this work as the State Executive Committee might direct.

There are many readers of Party papers in places where we have no connection whatever and we should make an endeavor to get in touch with them and thus extend the Party organization. This was adopted.

Party Press. The Committee on Party Press and Literature recommended that the S. E. C. endeavor to procure a man to look after the interests of the Party press in the State, the S. E. C. to finance the same by allowing such agent commission and by helping financially. They further recommended that comrades, who for any reason cannot get subscriptions, should contribute to the Daily People Operating Fund as their means will permit.

In support of the agency plan they called attention to a letter from the Cleveland Volksfreund and Arbeiter Zeitung bearing upon the importance of this feature of Party press work.

The convention adopted the recommendation with instructions to the S. E. C. to consider the possibility of combining it with the plan of organization.

The Committee on Ways and Means recommended that the Sections and branches do their utmost to at once furnish the S. E. C. with funds to carry on certain immediate work, and the new S. E. C. is later to develop plans whereby the Sections may make a concerted effort to raise funds for the S. E. C.

The Committee on Resolutions reported that as there is no State or national campaign this year it did not see the need of drawing up any resolutions. The convention concurred in this report. The auditing committee reported finding the books of the financial secretary

and the treasurer correct; a balance of \$12.91 in the treasury, and 96 due stamps on hand.

Comrade Katz, N. E. C. member, gave a report of the January meeting of the N. E. C. He said that the work of the session was well handled and that there was practically unanimous action on all matters. He remarked that it was now clear that there had been a widespread direct actionist conspiracy to kill the S. L. P., in the hope that the conspirators would come into possession of the Party's plant; but that owing to the wideawakeness of the national editor the conspiracy had been smashed, and instead of the Party being killed it had laid the conspirators away in the graveyard of the Socialist movement.

Katz urged the delegates to see that their respective secretaries place in the hands of the thinking members of the working class the address to the workers that was adopted by the N. E. C. at the recommendation of New Jersey and Michigan. He declared that at this time the most important work before the Party is that of propaganda, for which work the Party is well equipped. Agitation, he said, must precede organization, and the prime means of agitation is the printed page—newspapers and pamphlet literature.

Newark was selected as the seat of the S. E. C. and as the place for holding the next convention. A motion to elect the officers of the S. E. C. from among the membership at large, instead of as formerly, from the membership at the seat of the S. E. C. was carried unanimously.

Under good and welfare several good suggestions were made, among them the regular holding of discussion meetings to interest new people; also plans for pushing the Sue books; Comrades Burgholz and Zeirer have sold \$15 worth in one shop by collecting installments in advance of the delivery of the books. The discussion under good and welfare brought out the fact that the consensus of opinion was that it is our fault if the movement does not grow more rapidly. The workers are more ready to listen than we are to carry the message to them.

The convention was harmonious, and it did us all good to be there. It is to be hoped that the delegates will carry back to their Sections some of the spirit that was manifested, and that as a result we shall see some good work under way from now on.

The work of the convention being completed it adjourned sine die.

Secretary.

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