
Open Letter to Readers of the *Appeal to Reason*, September 5, 1908

by Eugene V. Debs

Published as part of the article "On To the Coast" in *Appeal to Reason* [Girard, KS],
whole no. 668 (Sept. 19, 1908), pg. 2.

Dear *Appeal*:—

The meeting at Denver last night [Sept. 4, 1908] can't be described. The great Coliseum was packed and jammed and the surrounding streets filled with cheering, shouting Socialists. The scene can never be forgotten. Thousands could not get near the speakers. Have just left Colorado Springs, where we had a splendid meeting, notwithstanding the crowd, through a misunderstanding, was at the wrong depot. Five minutes after the arrival at any station the "Red Special" has a crowd. We are thoroughly organized and take full advantage of every minute. We are ready to drop off at a minute's notice and make a speech of half a minute to a hundred people, or of two hours to 20,000 people.

We are now up in the mountains and from far up the rock-ribbed sides of the Rockies can be seen the fluttering handkerchiefs of Socialist miners and prospectors and their wives from cabin doors and windows. It is great, thrilling, inspiring.

Marvelous transformation! The miracle is working out all around us and before our very eyes, and the Socialists seem to spring from the soil to join in the exultation. The grand old mountains all about us are smiling their benediction upon us and the green-plumed pines along our iron highway seem to sway in gladness and join in the applause.

E. V. Debs.

Edited by Tim Davenport

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