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The Socialist

To Organize the Slaves
of Capital to Vote Their
Own Emancipation

Ninth Year—No. 415

Seattle, Washington, Saturday, March 27, 1909

Price Five Cents

MANAGER AULT'S REPORT

Seattle, March 19, 1909.

To the Stockholders of the Trustee
Printing Company, in general meet-
ing.

Comrades:—

When I assumed the management of the Trustee Printing Company in September, 1907, its affairs were in a serious state owing to the practical ending of all payments on stock and the absence of any other sufficient income to keep the paper going in the same size and style it had followed from the time of its return to Seattle. Creditors were on every hand urging the immediate payment of their claims and it was only by making the rashest promises and using my utmost powers of persuasion that I was enabled to continue the publication of the paper for the next two or three issues, at which time we received a loan of \$150.00 from Comrade Voils of Skamokawa, which enabled us to pay some of the most pressing claims and get our breath for the next round of the fight for the privilege of doing business that has since continually raged between us and our creditors.

Just about this time the fight for free speech on Seattle streets came up and a great deal of the time of the manager was necessarily given to that fight. This kept me from the work of the paper, and the business of the company suffered to some extent on that account, as I was attempting to handle all the detail work of the office at that time.

The Trustee Printing Company has at no time had an adequate system of bookkeeping installed, and because of insufficient labor no attempt has been made to this time to install one. For this reason I am not able to make such an itemized and detailed report as I would like, with the time I have at my disposal to give to report making.

From the beginning of the month of September, 1907, at which time Comrade Wagenknecht made his report to the board of trustees, until the month of April, 1908, when things got settled in the office and work could be done systematically and without interruption, the accounts of the company are not in such shape as to be easily accessible for reference, as during this time the totals for each month have not been figured up, so I am presenting here a statement of receipts and expenditures for each month from April 1, 1908, to March 1, 1909 (including everything, job printing, advertisements, subscriptions, etc.).

Month	Receipts	Expenditures
April	\$516.77	\$494.14
May	574.55	610.04
June	956.16	529.54
July	317.35	586.69
August	419.47	506.02
September	362.74	472.16
October	590.43	743.61
November	668.81	576.02
December	923.63	662.25
January	421.15	465.25
February	542.02	517.19

These figures would tend to show a surplus of receipts over expenditures of some \$300.00, but the deficit from the month of March, 1908, cuts that down nearly \$100.00 and the balance went to me as wages. No separate account has been kept of my wages for these months, as I got what was left after all the other bills were paid. Two hundred dollars or \$250.00 for eleven months can not be called exorbitant, however. This is not all my wages, as some items are entered on the books.

At the time of taking charge of the business of the Trustee Printing Company I found a total indebtedness of \$1,070.48, most of it in the shape of accounts immediately due and payable. To offset this, there was due the company about \$278.27, of which some was "bad." Our assets in the shape of machinery, books, literature, etc., exclusive of the paper and mailing list, were about \$1,400.00.

At this time we have a total indebtedness of \$1,749.46, with assets (excluding the paper and mailing list) to offset of:

Accounts due	\$ 653.35
Paper stock	136.75
Printing plant	1,542.20
Files, etc.	100.00
Office furniture	100.00
Literature in stock	210.00

Total \$2,742.30
Of the cash accounts due, some \$200.00 is "bad" and about \$200.00 of the balance is due from the state and local party organizations and cannot be paid immediately.

Our debts are divided as follows:

Overdue	\$ 272.04
Due	368.37
On long time	1,109.95

This statement, hastily prepared and incomplete though it is, will show you the really excellent condition the company is in financially. Were it not for the fact that a great deal of the money due us cannot be collected soon, and for the further fact that Dr. Brown, who was for a long time president of the board of trustees, went

ANNOUNCEMENT

Friends of "The Socialist" have been disappointed at our failure to appear for the past two weeks and they will be more disappointed at the reduced size we are compelled to adopt at this time. The paper will remain this size for several weeks and may be reduced still more if that course is necessary to enable us to pay off some of the outstanding indebtedness and accumulate a surplus to do the work necessary.

A reference to the report of the manager in another column will show the really excellent condition of the paper and the Company, and if it were not for the interference of those who have claimed to be friends we would be having no trouble. But our creditors are much alarmed at the reports emanating from the office of the "P.-I.", and are hotly pursuing their claims for payment of their accounts.

When we called for Five Hundred Dollars—now some three months ago—we had carefully worked out the exact amount we needed to continue the business to the best advantage and to carry the burden of our indebtedness which had accumulated to that

time. Of this sum of Five Hundred Dollars asked for, only about Two Hundred Dollars has been received. The balance, Three Hundred Dollars must be raised before we try to get out the paper in the regular form.

On May 1st we will issue a Special Edition to consist of four pages, regular size, that will be devoted to International Labor Day. On that day Socialist Workingmen and Women the world over lay aside their tools in honor of the solidity of labor that is to come. On that day hundreds of wage agreements between unions and bosses expire and new adjustments take place. All these things "The Socialist" will cover. We will have cartoons from each of our cartoon editors, one or two good special articles are in preparation, there will be no controversial matter, and the advertising space will be cut down to the lowest possible notch.

This issue of the paper will be such that you will want to distribute thousands of copies. After the date of publication there will be none left. In order to get in time you will have to order in advance. Bundle orders will be accepted at regular rates.

Now, comrades, is your chance. If we receive enough orders for this issue, to clear the handsome surplus we ought to, we will continue from that time on in the regular four-page size, with an eight-page edition thrown in occasionally.

Let us all pull together now for the greater and better "Socialist." Send in your orders for International Labor Day Edition. Send in your donations. Send in subscriptions. Buy Stock. Order Job Printing. And patronize the Advertisers.

out of his way to scare our creditors into throwing us into bankruptcy, we would have only the most rose colored report to make.

Our book department, handling the literature we have in stock and that of other publishers, has not been pushed to the limit and consequently we have not much to report from that source. There has been a steady sale of our books, but in no great quantity. It is impossible at this time to give exact figures.

The job printing end of our business has saved the life of the paper time after time, when all else had failed. During the past few months we have succeeded in securing the printing of the International Shingle Weavers' Union, which amounts from \$75.00 to \$200.00 per month. We are today issuing the first number of the "Bundy Recorder," the organ of the new Postal Clerks' Union, and we have on the hook an order for 2,000 copies of their by-laws from the Barbers' Union. Other unions, such as the Brewers, House-movers, Tailors, I. W. W., etc., have all their work done in our shop and our friends among the unions are constantly increasing. For the same reason as before stated, we cannot give the definite figures as to what proportion the job printing pays to our total business, but it is now our chief source of income.

"The Socialist" has been our greatest trial. At the outset, and at all times, the entire effort of the company has been directed toward making it possible to issue "The Socialist" in proper form and regularly. But the present manager has been so anxious to firmly establish the company on a paying basis, that he has at times neglected the paper, and the consequence has been a decline in the income from that source, and a consequent lack of influence on the part of the paper. The circulation has remained stationary, possibly falling off a little, for many months, and for lack of time to do it, but little has been done to change this condition.

Now, a paper without readers is of no use, and I realize, at this late day, that many things could have been done to keep the circulation up to the mark, which would have been just as profitable, as many of the things that have been done. This could not be seen at the time, though.

The advertising patronage of the paper is at present at a very low ebb. In order to save expense, and at the same time to maintain our standing, quite a lot of advertising has been run over the time contracted for and after having been ordered out. This will not be continued from now on.

There will undoubtedly be some dissatisfaction because of the incomplete nature of the financial report. Owing to the fact that the Board of Directors are all busy men, and the man-

ager of the company has not sufficient time in connection with his other duties, I recommend that a special auditing committee, to consist of one or more stockholders, be elected to go over the books carefully from the time the company began business and prepare an itemized and detailed report. This committee to also take a complete and official inventory of the property of the company and prepare and install a system of bookkeeping by which the accounts of the company may be kept in proper order without the expenditure of too much time. This committee should be given power to go to the root of all questions coming under its scope and should be required to report to a special meeting of the stockholders, called at a time set by this meeting.

Plant:—While our plant has been increased by the addition of a cylinder press and a paper cutter, we are still in need of some other machinery. We need immediately a wire stitcher. It will cost in the neighborhood of \$100. We need also a folding machine. This machine will cost about \$600. Both these machines can be bought for about one-third cash and the balance in monthly payments. We also need quite a lot of type and other composing material. Additions to the plant should be made this year aggregating \$1,000.00 to handle the increasing business we are getting and to put us in a position to publish that daily newspaper into which the paper is bound to develop.

Literature:—We have in stock about 2,000 copies of Vincent Harper's "Terrible Truth About Marriage," 2,000 copies of "Haywood's Testimony," 500 copies of Darrow's Speech to the Haywood Jury. These are being sold slowly. An effort is now being made to advertise the "Terrible Truth" and get it into circulation. We have also in type three books which should be published. They are "The Historical Achievement of Karl Marx," by Kautsky, "Revolutionary Socialism and Reform Socialism," by Titus, and "Anarchism," by Bang. These will be saleable if printed. The reason they have not been printed has been because of lack of cash to carry on the advertising campaign and to pay for the paper and binding.

Job Printing:—This is a branch of the business that has grown greatly during the past few months. As I stated before, we have recently landed a couple of good contracts and we expect to further greatly increase the job printing end of our business in the very near future by a number of advertising schemes. Our stockholders can help immensely in this work. Every time you see a new store going up or hear a man say something about having to get some printing, recommend our company to him. We do the best possible work at reasonable

prices, though we are not the lowest in the city. Our reputation for good work is growing.

"The Socialist":—After all, this is the reason for our existence. All the work we do, all the schemes we undertake are for the purpose of making "The Socialist" the best paper in the country. The position "The Socialist" holds in the Socialist party of the world is probably higher than any other American paper. Nearer than all other American papers we follow the style of the European papers in openly discussing party affairs and criticizing actions of party members which are not in accord with the party dictates. This paper has probably had more effect on the party in this country towards making it a strictly proletarian organization than any other force.

It is the one paper in the country which has presented a free forum for the discussion of party affairs. All the others have been bullied by the widespread effort to suppress free speech in the Socialist press and have ceased to protest against the Opportunist Middle Class domination of the party.

There never was a time when there was more need for such a paper as "The Socialist" with a great national circulation. The paper is of no use to the party without readers. Plans must be made and carried out for extending the circulation far beyond what it is now.

The editorial staff has recently been increased in effectiveness by the addition of the active efforts of Comrades Jensen and Fliset. The improvement has been manifest. The editorial staff have great plans on foot and the paper will continue to improve—but we will leave that to the editor-in-chief to report.

The report of the special auditing committee, which I hope will be elected, will show us just how we stand in regard to stock. We should promptly dispose of all that is remaining in the treasury. Present stockholders who have paid out should take more and pay for it as they can. The company is in a most prosperous condition, with the brightest possible outlook, and nothing will so benefit it and the Working Class movement as hearty support by the stockholders.

Let us all pull together from now on to make this financially one of the soundest institutions in the city.

ERWIN B. AULT.

THE PROLETARIAN

By Emil M. Herman.

In these days of party controversy between Reformists and Revolutionists in the Socialist Party it seems to me that it would not be amiss to start

a discussion with a view of getting a clear definition of the term proletarian.

I venture to say that proletarian is one of the most misunderstood and misapplied words in the Socialist terminology.

Some may accuse me—in fact I know some will, regardless of my good intentions—of being intolerant, narrow, bigoted, autocratic; they may say I am too technical when I bring up so simple a matter as the definition of a word.

To all such I will merely say that logical and practical people use words to convey ideas and in order to leave the same mental impression upon all those of the same class interest it must convey the same idea to all concerned.

I will here state a few of the definitions heard and read:

1. A conception common among Socialists is that any one who works for a living is a proletarian.
2. Others say a proletarian is any one who works for wages.
3. A few contend that a proletarian is one who has been reduced to an unskilled wage worker.
4. Webster's dictionary defines proletarian to be: Mean, vile, vulgar; a common person.
5. In a foot note to the Communist Manifesto, Engels says: "By proletarian is meant, the class of modern wage laborers who, having no means of production of their own, are reduced to selling their labor power in order to live."

If the first definition is correct, then J. D. Rockefeller and all of his kind are proletarians, even though their work consists in working the wage workers.

A burglar is a proletarian, in fact, any one who works regardless of class affiliations, of what he works at or whom he works is a proletarian.

This is the conception generally indulged in by the reform ("constructive") Socialists and leads to the erroneous and utopian idea that Socialism is a sort of a brotherly love proposition and that all people will be equally benefited by the advent of Socialism, whereas, the fact of the matter is that Socialism finds its base in a fierce class struggle and operates in the immediate and ultimate interest of only one class in society—the proletarian.

If the second definition is correct, then any one who works for wages is a proletarian. According to this conception the general manager of a railroad or other corporation—regardless of what may be his income as a stockholder—is a proletarian because he works for wages.

Also preachers, doctors, lawyers and others who receive great remuneration for what labor power they sell are consequently enabled to invest some

of their wages in capital and as a result become exploiters of wage labor themselves, would be proletarians.

Obviously, this is incorrect as one cannot be both a capitalist and a proletarian, though he may be both a capitalist and a wage worker.

The third definition is as erroneous and utopian as the first in as much as it would exclude from the proletariat a great army of wage laborers, such as engineers, firemen, carpenters, bricklayers, in fact all that vast army of skilled mechanics who constitute some 45 per cent of the wage class.

The fourth definition from the standpoint of a class conscious wage worker hardly merits consideration. It is a clear index of the contempt with which the capitalist class and the Judas scoundrels in the wage class, who serve the master class for a mess of pottage, look upon those who in reality are the only decent, honest and necessary people in society.

We have now come to the fifth definition, which gives us as concise a definition of what constitutes a proletarian as it is possible to arrive at and demonstrate the clear, analytic and perceptive faculties of those master minds—Marx and Engels. I am well aware that this definition excludes from the proletariat many an one with an income less than that of the average wage worker, for instance, the peanut vendor, the cigar stand owner, some boot blacks, the small farmer and many others who if they were wise would cast their lot with the wage class, while on the other hand it includes in the proletariat many an intellectual prostitute who betrays his class for "thirty pieces of silver," such as: preachers, lawyers, politicians, etc., who own no capital.

A proletarian is necessarily a wage worker.

A wage worker is not necessarily a proletarian.

One cannot be both a capitalist and a proletarian.

One can and may be both a capitalist and a wage worker.

EMIL M. HERMAN.

The Tacoma Socialist Party Platform is a bird. The famous "Whatcom Platform" of nine years ago was nothing to it. No suggestion even of the class struggle. No recognition of even a working class, let alone a wage working class. It would make a fine platform for Bryan or Hearst. Change "Socialist" Party to Democratic Party and no radical Democrat would object to it. And President Barth, of the State Executive Committee, is running on this platform for the city council and calls himself a "Revolutionary Socialist"! No wonder he is opposed to the present Local Seattle. In our May Day issue, we hope to contrast this thoroughly Bourgeois platform with the thoroughly Proletarian one which Local Seattle had. The real Revolutionary Socialists in Tacoma ought to get a move on unless they want to be called Democrats.

UNMASKED!

At last Mills, Brown & Co. have thrown off their masks. Behold, they all belong to one company, they all shake hands like brothers, they all unite under one motto, "Admit everybody to the Party who signs the pledge, no matter what his past record."

That is exactly what started this last conflict in Seattle. Mallory, who now heads the "Independent Socialists," who was one of the most active supporters of Walter Thomas Mills, wanted to get back into the Seattle Local. Brown and Parks and others led the fight to get him and all the other Mills Fusionists back into the Party. Local Seattle said, "No, let them wait till they have proved their sincere rejection of their Fusionist tactics; we have taken them back twice in years gone by, only to have our charter withdrawn on account of their condoning Fusion; we will not make the same mistake the third time; let them wait."

For the last six months, Mills, Mallory, Brown, Parks, Burgess and others have been fighting the regular organization in separate detachments. Mallory's "independents" have met in Arcade Hall and Mills has addressed them. They are open defenders of the Mills policy. Brown and Parks, on the contrary, pretended to be very "Revolutionary" and would have nothing to do with the Mills crowd. Then Burgess, who, because the State Secretary had exposed his indebtedness to the Party Treasury, had all along secretly encouraged Parks, came out openly against the State organization in alliance with Brown. But they claimed to be strictly "Revolutionary" and quite apart from the Mills "Independents."

Now that pretense is laid entirely aside, Burgess makes his Headquarters in Dr. Brown's office, and sends out anonymous invitations signed "Committee," addressed to "Dear Comrades," asking them to meet at "Room 8, Union Block" (Brown's office) "for the purpose of making all proper arrangements for the holding of a mass meeting of all Socialists in this state on the 11th day of April."

Another and larger invitation has been issued under the sounding title, "Manifesto," signed by D. Burgess and two others, non-members of the Socialist Party, calling themselves a "Committee representing a large number of dissatisfied members of the regular Socialist Party, the so-called Insurgents and Independents."

This "Manifesto" calls for a "meeting of all Socialists in Washington" in Arcade Hall, April 11. It closes with a definite statement of its purpose, namely: "THAT ALL WHO ARE WILLING TO SIGN THE PARTY PLEDGE MAY BECOME MEMBERS, WHICH IS NOT NOW PERMITTED IN SEATTLE."

That declaration of purpose un-masks this whole conspiracy in Seattle, led by Mills, Brown & Co., to restore the old Fusion crowd to the control of the Party in Seattle and through that, of the Party in the State. They have been foiled completely in their attempts to disrupt the Party from the inside. The Referendum of the state membership has decided "to table indefinitely" the whole Seattle controversy and thus let Local Seattle manage its own affairs, without involving the other Locals. The State organization has thus expressed its confidence in Local Seattle.

Besides this State Party Referendum, the State Committee has adopted the recommendations of a Special Investigating Committee, consisting of J. G. Brown, Folsom and Ferris, who most emphatically pronounce against the entire Mills, Brown, Burgess cabal to undermine the Revolutionary and Proletarian character of the Washington Socialist Party.

Thus Local Seattle has defeated all the attacks made upon it and is now prepared to go ahead with its work.

But Dr. Brown is a good advertiser and bluffer and Burgess, always an endless letter writer, makes an excellent tool for Brown's purposes. So now they abandon all concealment and form an open alliance with the "Independents" and "Insurgents." They call a "Mass Meeting" for the express and avowed purpose of admitting all who sign the Party Pledge, THAT IS, ALL THE OLD MILLS CROWD IN SEATTLE.

That is the whole fight in a nutshell. Every one who accepts that invitation, issued by expelled party members and by organizations opposed to the Socialist Party in Washington, will deliberately ally himself with a movement aimed to get back into the party those whose Fusion tactics have twice destroyed Local Seattle and who are now in open alliance with Walter Thomas Mills; for Mills was advertised on their regular program to speak for the "Independent Social-

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ists" at Arcade Hall on March 21st and Dr. Brown on April 11th.

It is well to have all masks off. The Party in Washington is now up against an open and united foe, including all pretended and self called "Revolutionists," like Brown and Burgess, who have gone over to the Middle Class Mills outfit and combined in a straight contest to restore to the Party Membership all the Fusionists who are willing once again "to sign the Party Pledge" which they have twice violated in the past.

Here is a Public Meeting to organize a new Party in this State, as they have failed to get sufficient support from the old Party members. For without doubt such a new organization is contemplated, so as to make a showing with the National Executive Committee. We say, let it come, let us have an open fight, let the enemy appear for what they are, let every one who is against the Revolutionary and Proletarian position of Local Seattle, endorsed over and over again by the State Socialist Party, take his place where he belongs and make his consistent fight for a Mixed Class Party, an Opportunist Party, a Reform Party, such as Walter Thomas Mills represents. There are abundant elements for such a Party in present society. But let them not be permitted to masquerade as "Revolutionaries" nor to use the Proletarians as Monkeys to pick mealy bourgeois chestnuts out of the fire.

The "P.-I." still rejoices over false reports from Brown, Day and other "Independents" and "Insurgents" in Seattle. Their last lie declared the Seattle "Socialist" had suspended publication. Here is what the "P.-I." says (on Tuesday, March 23): "The suspension of the Seattle Socialist, the organ of the Socialist Party in this city, seems to indicate that this impossible political organization has entered upon the days of its decline in this community; it is perhaps well that it should do so."

Considering that the "P.-I." has been organizing the Brown "Insurgents" in Seattle and publishing their lies in the most malicious manner, the above crocodile smiles are rich. But the following crocodile tears are still richer. The editor concludes thus: "No man of gentle breeding will be inclined to overlook the misfortunes which have overtaken the Seattle organ of Socialism; but if it may be considered as a mere symptom of decadence, and so suggesting the final passing of an influence not in harmony with what we have long regarded as the sanest and safest political system in the world, it will not be welcome to good citizens."

Ah! how gently we are consigned to the grave! It is consoling to read one's own obituary written by a "man of such gentle breeding." With what a loving touch he kills us.

But we have been dead and buried several times before. So we don't feel as bad as we ought to about ourselves. Only we do feel a few pangs of pity for our Capitalist "man of gentle breeding" when he discovers that "the boy lied" who wrote the story and that the "Seattle Socialist" is still very much alive and doing business at the identical old stand where for nine years it has represented "that impossible political organization" which has become in the State of Washington the strongest State Socialist organization in the U. S. in spite of Fusionists, Reformists, Opportunists, Capitalists, secret and open foes, within and without.

"The Socialist" has always been in financial difficulties. A thousand times it has been near dead but never died. So now, its debts are troublesome, because supposed friends, like Dr. Brown, have done their best to frighten its creditors. The hard times hurt, too. But we commend to every one the able report of our financial condition as presented to the regular meeting of the Stockholders of the Trustee Printing Co. by the Business Manager, Erwin B. Ault. We are confident the friends of "The Socialist" will rally to its support now as they have done so many times before in its extremity. "The Socialist" cannot die, because the things it stands for are imperishable and those who are behind it, from one end of America to another, will never die either.

MORE "P.-I." CHARGES

The "Post-Intelligencer," Republican organ in Seattle, now owned by the "Standard Oil," continues to be the organ of the "Independent Socialists," Mills, Brown, Burgess, Parks, Day & Co. On Thursday morning, March 25, the "P.-I." reiterates the charge that the Seattle Socialists and Secretary Krueger are afraid to meet certain charges made against them by the "Independents," because they have had said charges dismissed without trial. Some foolish Socialists seem to agree with the "P.-I." This in face of the fact that the accusers have absolutely refused to present any evidence supporting their "charges," to two investigating committees appointed by the State Committee, as provided by the State Constitution.

No more unjust and absurd position could be taken than to expect the Socialist Party or any other body to occupy its time and attention with trial on "charges" for which no evidence is adduced. Anybody can "charge"

anybody else with anything under the sun, murder or rape or arson. On the "P.-I." theory and the "Independents" theory, it is necessary for any man "charged" with murder by any other man to prove to the world that he is not guilty of murder, even though the accuser brings forward not a single shred of proof except his bare accusation.

In this case, for instance, a few Mills Socialists charged Secretary Krueger with being a "Defaulter" and a "Gambler." Not a bit of evidence is produced against him. In fact, the accusers absolutely refused to submit any evidence, when asked to do so by the investigating committee. Yet, they demand that Krueger be suspended from office because some people have the nerve to "accuse" or "charge" him with crimes, for the express purpose of getting him out of office. No Capitalist court, outside of Russia and Colorado, would dream of proceeding in any such tyrannical manner.

Then the "P.-I." crowd cry out that Krueger is afraid to meet the charges because he demands some sort of proof before trial. Such a way of "charging" and "trying" is even worse than the arrest and trial of Moyer, Haywood and Pettibone. For the authorities in Idaho called a Grand Jury and heard the testimony of Orchard and others, tending to fix guilt on the accused men, before the indictment was issued.

Secretary Krueger and Local Seattle are as innocent as babies of these charges of embezzlement so falsely and slanderously brought against them. "The Socialist" is in position to know this. But even if guilty, they should be counted innocent till some show of proof is produced by their accusers. That a man should be expected to prove his own innocence of every "charge" made by irresponsible enemies who refuse to back up their charges, is the rankest tyranny. Yet these "Independent" and "Democratic" Socialists backed up by the "P.-I.", are howling that Local Seattle and Secretary Krueger are "afraid to meet charges" because they refuse to submit to such unheard-of methods.

Luckily, the Referendum of the Party in the entire State and the State Committee itself, have both decided to treat such un-Socialistic, undemocratic and even uncapitalistic methods with the contempt they deserve. In truth, it should be made a crime, punishable with expulsion from the Socialist Party, for any member to bring charges against another member for which he refuses to bring proof.

THEODORE THE PHARISEE

Roosevelt's last word to America before he sailed for Africa was aimed at Socialism. It is an editorial in "The Outlook," Lyman Abbott's weekly, whose staff now includes the late strenuous President.

If this attack were not the work of Theodore the Great, it would certainly entitle him to the name of Teddy the Little. It seems incredible that the man who recently loomed so large as the antagonist of the Trusts and Champion of Honesty should be capable of so petty a piece of criticism as this jaunty attempt to dispose of Socialism. He actually quotes with approval David Goldstein's "Nation of Fatherless Children," which all well read people know to be unworthy of critical notice. He confounds as "Advanced Socialists," Prof. "Carl" Pearson and Annie Besant, with Gabriel Deville and Geo. D. Herron. He makes the stale, unscientific bourgeois objection to Socialism, that it will destroy the family. With prudish hypocrisy he even insults the virtue of his readers by announcing, "It is difficult even to discuss the revolting position of the Socialists in a reputable paper." This amazing Pharisaism from a public man living in America at the beginning of the 20th century when the millions of youth and beauty, who should be united in wedlock, are condemned by universal poverty to prostitution and "race suicide!" And when bourgeois "morality" is known by all practical observers to be a hideous mask not concealing but revealing the most revolting sexual corruption.

But Roosevelt's greatest ignorance is shown by his total failure to recognize the evolutionary tendencies inherent in Scientific Socialism. He is like poor Don Quixote using outworn feudal weapons to combat the oncoming of the Capitalist Era of Production. The mighty mills of the Co-operative Commonwealth will grind these insignificant Theodores to powder as the windmills of Cervantes' story upset the romantic Knight of La Mancha.

Roosevelt would better confine himself to the African lions. They are ancient and easy prey. But the American Lion of Socialism is another story.

Vale, Theodore.

"SIMPLE, FAIR, PRACTICAL"

The Socialist, Seattle, Wn.
Dear Sir: I notice in a recent paper a challenge I think Socialism ought promptly to accept.
Christians claim that "Socialism, political Socialism, is impossible without Christianity." That Socialism is simply and purely a parasite.
Now this writer suggests this simple and practical test: "That Socialism take one of the cannibal Pacific islands, of which there are several left, or an untouched section of fertile Africa (let Millionaire "Wiltshires" and the "Appeal to Reason" furnish the literature and reasons, and the Socialist army the men and women missionaries) and demonstrate to the world

the actual and practical value and sufficiency of Socialism to create, manufacture, the ideal citizen and commonwealth out of the raw material with no help from the Capitalist or the Christian."

This has in it such thrilling possibilities and is so simple, and fair, and practical (the church has tried it often) that I long to see it tried. Charleston can furnish all the missionaries you will need.

Yours in the good work,
G. M. TERRELL
P. S.—This is a case where "Labor can get all it produces," and if it fails to produce will get soup.

Editor's Note. Christianity falls in such cases, as Socialism would, because no race or tribe be created or recreated from savagery to capitalism in a generation. Our correspondent is not serious, though many an Utopian Socialist will think his proposal reasonable. The Scientific Socialist knows Socialism is no mere system to be introduced and experimented with by "missionaries." Socialism cannot be adopted by those unfit for it. It is the outgrowth of certain economic conditions and is inconceivable without those conditions. Socialism is the child of Capital, not of Savagery, nor of Barbarism, nor even of Feudalism. In the age of Jesus Socialism would have been impossible. In any age prior to the age of Machinery, Socialism was impossible. The savages without machinery could not possibly become Socialists. Nor with it either, unless a miracle transformed them into civilized men in a day, overleaping centuries of development.

This novel proposition serves at least to make evident the necessary historic setting of Socialism. If any of our readers don't see what this note means, write and say so.

The applicants or aspirants for the State Secretaryship of the Socialist Party in Washington are as thick as sea gulls around a fish wharf. But it might be well for them to remember that the present sturdy, efficient, honest, proletarian secretary is not yet a dead salmon, even though \$65 a month would be a sweet morsel for any hungry bird. But really, comrades, it's not a question of who gets the place, but who fits the place. And no faithful and efficient servant of the Socialist Party should ever be dismissed because the envious assail him, especially when their attacks are utterly false and malicious, as in the present case.

A REPLY TO SIMONS

Referendum "A," or Motion of Local Portland, Ore., Regarding Election of National Executive Committee.

By Kitty Spargur Hulse.

Before me lies a clipping, a brief editorial from the "Chicago Daily Socialist" of March 13th—an unlucky date, as the superstitiously inclined will observe. In this editorial the editor of the C. D. S. characterizes the present referendum as "ridiculous" and "foolish." He also thinks that "many locals that seconded it did so as a joke."

The Local to which I belong was one of those who seconded it, and I wish to assure Comrade Simons that we did not do so as a joke. We knew exactly what we were doing when we seconded it, and I have reason to believe that it was the same with the other Locals who did so.

The editor of the "Daily Socialist" says that "the employees of the national office are bookkeepers, stenographers, expert routers of speakers," etc. I think that the present members of the National Executive Committee would probably cut a sorry figure trying to perform the duties of the national office. Perhaps. Yet does Comrade Simons think it would be impossible to find, amongst the 40,000 members of the Socialist Party, seven stenographers, bookkeepers, expert routers of speakers, etc., and also possess the executive ability which is an indispensable qualification of members of the National Executive Committee?

It would be ridiculous and absurd to accuse Comrade Simons of entertaining such a suspicion.

Comrade Kerr says, in the "International Socialist Review" for February: "If this proposition carries, no one can serve on the National Executive Committee WHO IS NOT WILLING TO GIVE UP HIS PREVIOUS OCCUPATION AND WORK EIGHT HOURS A DAY FOR \$90 DURING HIS TERM OF OFFICE. THIS WOULD EXCLUDE ALL BUT PROLETARIANS, UNLESS IN CASE OF AN ENTHUSIAST WILLING TO ERVE ON THE SAME TERMS AS A PROLETARIAN." (I must add, in justice to Comrade Kerr, that he seems to look with some degree of favor on the proposition. At any rate, he evidently does not consider, as does Comrade Simons, that it would be "ridiculous and foolish" to exclude from the Executive Committee of a Working Class Party all except real Proletarians or enthusiasts willing to serve on the same terms as Proletarians.)

In my judgment, if they are not enthusiasts, they have no business on the Executive Committee; and why they should ask or receive better terms than the Proletarians passes my comprehension.

National Committeeman James F. Carey, of Massachusetts, says: "A Working Class Party whose National Executive Committee consists of two lawyers, two professional writers, one millionaire (so-called), one minister, and one business man, is a subject for humorous reference for those militant workers outside the party; and should those militant workers decide, as they eventually will, to go into politics on the basis of class interests, the intellectual front our party would present would be awesome!"

I am not one of those opposed on principle to "intellectuals." What Socialist can repudiate the debt the party owes its intellectuals? And yet there is a plainly evident tendency among them now to prevent the Pro-

letarian members of more limited opportunities for education and culture, from participation in the party management. They need to be reminded of Dietzgen's words: "There must be no groping in the dark between noble science and common understanding." They might also profitably reflect on some words of Emerson's: "What we do NOT call education is more precisely reflection on these words of "Ouida" also might do them no harm: "There is no aristocracy so pitiless, so merciless, as the aristocracy of the intellect."

In every union in the land may be found evidence of the fact that clerical and executive ability are to be found in abundance outside the ranks of the "intellectuals."

Comrade Barzee, our National Committeeman from Oregon, says: "If the Socialist Party be a non-propertied working class movement, the party would present itself better to every one if the management were assumed by members elected from its own class. The selection as it may suit the members, the propertied class members who are allied with the party can certainly afford to give the proletariat every opportunity to so present the party to the voters."

The average Proletarian is suspicious of the savior who comes to deliver the message of freedom from industrial bondage, with soft white hands, "pug" hat, "boiled" shirt and broadcloth suit of latest cut. Perhaps that "submerged memory" of his that psychologists tell us about, struggling to "elevate" itself above the threshold of consciousness, reminds him vaguely of the intellectual leaders that have led his class to their undoing in the centuries gone by. In his face, in his attitude, may be read the unvoiced query of Carlyle's "Millions of gaunt figures with haggard faces, starting out to ask their washed upper classes this question: 'How have you treated us? How fed us, how led us, while we toiled for you? This is the feeding and leading we have had of you; emptiness of pocket, stomach, head and heart. Behold, there is NOTHING IN US! Nothing but what Nature gives her wild children of the desert—strength grounded on hunger.'

If the intellectuals are wise, they will heed the writing on the wall. To quote Carlyle again: "Misery will now be its own helper and speak for itself."

The Proletarian, what we uncultured Western members of the Proletariat call "the Pure Dope," we must have with us. HE HOLDS THE BALANCE OF POWER. But he will never enter the fold until the party management assumes some semblance of a Proletarian character, also the shepherd who goes forth to bring him in. Therefore, I say: "Give the poor Workingman a chance, even in the councils of the Socialist Party."

OF SUPREME IMPORTANCE.

Comrade of Washington: There is one topic of supreme importance to all Americans and especially to us Socialists. It is that of the universal diffusion of knowledge and a general advancement along educational lines.

While it is true that the public schools of Washington are second to none, there is still room for improvement.

As the law now stands, parents may take the child from school at fifteen years of age, regardless of the school work that has been accomplished. And more than once have I known parents to declare a child was fifteen when the school records showed him to have only been fourteen.

To Socialists the reason, an economic one, is very evident, and the boy must be thrown upon an already congested labor market to compete with the father for his job, and to be ground into profit for the master class.

At present not one child in twenty complete the seventh grade. In fact, as a whole, from the most reliable figures now at hand, they do not pass beyond the sixth grade.

At first sight many of you may question this statement, but an examination of school records will, I think, bear out the statement.

At present I have in mind children (of foreign parentage) who have been taken from school in the second, and many others in the third and fourth grades. Solely because they arrived at the ripe(?) age of fifteen years.

What is needed is a law compelling all children—of normal mental and physical health—to complete the eighth grade, or remain in school until eighteen years of age. Parents would then have an interest in the child's progress and in its attendance, that many of them do not now have, or at least do not exhibit.

If you who may read this will each drop a postal card, or better still, a letters to the senators and representatives of your respective counties, asking their support of this or a similar bill, there is no doubt but it would pass. The Hon. William Bishop, of Jefferson county, now has such a bill before the lower house.

CHARLES A. THOMPSON,
Roslyn, Wash.
Jan. 25, 1909.

STRIKE IN CHINA.

HONG KONG, China—A crew of men employed in railroad construction went on a strike recently with the usual result. Their wages were several weeks past due and they decided to quit. When they gathered before the office demanding their money, a detachment of soldiers appeared on the scene and attempted to disperse the workers who were demanding their hard earned wages. In the fight that ensued 3 soldiers fell and 25 wage-slaves were wounded. The workers were finally dispersed minus the wages.

Here is an acid test for the real Socialists in Seattle. Of all the forty or fifty of them who went to jail in the great fight for Free Speech, only one of them belongs to the "Independents" who are lighting the present Seattle Local. While practically every prominent member of Local Seattle as at present constituted has been in jail for his principles. If you meet a "P. I."

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Socialist, "Independent," "Insurgent" etc., ask him if he ever went to jail in the Free Speech Fight. D. Burgess staid carefully away from Seattle during that famous fight, while Ada Gatchell came all the way from North Yakima to spend the night in that horrible "Woman's Cell."

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