
**Official Letter to Directors
of the American Railway Union,
Dictated from Woodstock Jail,
Oct. 29, 1895**

by Eugene V. Debs

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Woodstock, Ill., Oct. 29th, 1895.

Official Letter to Directors.

Dear Sirs and Brothers:—

I am under the necessity of addressing you in regard to the finances of the order. Prior to leaving here it was agreed at a meeting of the Directors that each should keep, in the moneys advanced him, within the revenues that came to the General Union through his efforts. I have just had a financial statement made which shows that, including the amounts advanced on leaving here, a total of about \$1,100 has been advanced to the Directors and that not to exceed \$200 in all has been received by the General Union since their leaving here, as a result of their efforts.

Of course I realize the great difficulties under which the Directors are working and I have no complaint to make but under the circumstances I am compelled to ask that as far as possible each Director support himself during the next two or three months, or until the financial condition of the order is such that we can again meet our obligations. At this righting there is not only not a dollar in the treasury but I shall have to make a loan to meet the bills and expenses due on Nov. 1st [1895]. It is proper that I should say that Brother Elliot's work has brought very nearly enough revenue to cover amounts ad-

vanced him but others have not succeeded in having any money at all forwarded to the General Union. In this crisis I wish to help all in my power but I feel I must have the help of all in bearing the burden. I also take it for granted that members of the board expect me to see to it that the agreement above referred to is carried out. The prospects in the near future are very bright and I feel that we shall soon reach safe ground.

With best wishes, I am as ever,

Yours fraternally,

Eugene V. Debs.

Dict. EVD.

Edited by Tim Davenport

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