

DO NOT JEOPARDIZE OUR STATE TICKET BY FAILING TO RETURN TO THE STATE OFFICE IMMEDIATELY THE SIGNED STATE NOMINATING PETITIONS WHICH ARE IN YOUR HANDS. IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT THIS BE DONE AT ONCE. HAVE THE CIRCULATOR SWEAR TO THE AFFIDAVIT AND RETURN THEM TO THIS OFFICE. MORE PETITIONS WILL BE SENT YOU IF YOU LACK ANY NECESSARY NAMES ON PETITIONS. YOU CAN'T VOTE FOR SOCIALISM IN NOVEMBER UNLESS YOU DO THIS WORK NOW. UNLESS YOU DO THIS THERE WILL BE NO CANDIDATES NOMINATED. DO AS REQUESTED AT ONCE!

The Ohio Socialist

Official Organ of the Socialist Party of Ohio

Entered as second-class matter Feb. 21, 1917, at the Postoffice at Cleveland, Ohio, under act of March 3, 1879.

CLEVELAND, O., WEDNESDAY, JULY 31, 1918

108 S. 1.00 A Year

No. 27

CAUGHT, A TARTER

By JOHN M. WORK

It is our opinion that the gentlemen who are endeavoring to deprive Eugene V. Debs of his liberty have caught a tartar—and that after a bit, their chief concern will be how they can gracefully let go. Deprivation of free speech can be carried to a certain degree without arousing a great deal of antagonism. But it ought to be evident even to these gentlemen that there are limits beyond which they can not go without jeopardizing the political fortunes of their superiors and also the industrial system which they uphold. When the so-called sedition law—under the terms of which Debs has been indicted—was passed, we gave a little history of the former alien and sedition law, in force in the early days of the republic. You will remember that a number of men, chiefly editors, were prosecuted under it—and that it became so hateful to the people that the Federalist party, which passed the law, was put out of existence altogether. May the same fate overtake the Democratic and the Republican parties—which joined in passing the present sedition law.

On the same day when Debs was arrested, he was also nominated as the Socialist candidate for Congress in his home district—the fifth Indiana district—of which the chief city is Terre Haute, where he lives. If the people of that district are real patriots—men who stand for the best interests of the United States and humanity—they will elect him to Congress by an overwhelming majority. And if the people of this nation as a whole are real patriots, the Socialists will have a majority in the next Congress. However, that may be, it is up to us to meet these insidious attacks upon the constitutional rights and liberties of the people by piling up the campaign funds with which to reach the masses with the truth and elect as large a congressional delegation as possible. Every local and branch should get busy on this at once. Eugene Debs is loved by millions of men, women and children in our country. His arrest should be a signal to reconsecrate themselves to the great cause of Socialism which is to emancipate the human race.

Suppression of Free Speech Menaces Future of Democracy

By NORMAN ANGELL

"Why Freedom Matters" is the title of a pamphlet sent out broadcast over the United States by the National Civil Liberties Bureau in a campaign to make clear why war-time restrictions on free speech and free press menace the whole future of American democracy. The pamphlet in part reads: "Most of us are aware, of course, that the old historic guarantees of civil liberty are suspended; that freedom of speech, press and assembly has been very greatly curtailed, and in certain respects, altogether suppressed. "These things are not so much unknown as disregarded. The average citizen would justify his indifference with regard to them in some such way as this: "In the midst of a great war conditions normal to peace necessarily disappear. Great powers are given to the authorities. Being human, those authorities make mistakes, and doubtless individual hardships may be caused. The curtailment of freedom of speech is fully justified by the fact that there is only one thing we should now want to talk about; that is how to beat the Germans. All discussions of personal right and freedom can wait until when that task is accomplished. These special measures, which deprive the individual of his freedom, will be strictly limited to the period of the war. There will be no danger of our not being able to assert our freedom when it is over. Such measures are necessary if we are to concentrate everything in the winning of the war; and there is not the slightest danger that the power given to the state will have the result that it has had, say, in Prussia. "Their gravity does not arise from the individual hardship they inflict, but from the fact that the habit of subservience to state authority in the matters of opinion which they set up, tends to destroy in the individual that capacity for private judgment in politics by which alone, in the last analysis, a democracy is able to rule itself. The destruction of the right of private judgment involves finally the destruction of the capacity for public judgment. The habit of irresponsible power on the one side and docile subservience on the other must finally make impossible that moral atmosphere in which alone the general interest for self-government can survive and develop. "Unless the temper of freedom, which these measures tend to powerfully undermine, can be maintained and developed, that better world order which it was the object of the war to bring about cannot be established and made permanent. "It is very doubtful indeed whether we realize the real service of discussion which we have no particular desire to see kept free and which just at present we keenly desire to see suppressed. "But note that our principles of government are such that there is not now, in theory at least, and very nearly in fact, in all the millions of Europe one man physically able to kill, whose life and conscience belong to himself. From Archangel to Madrid, from Glasgow to Vladivostok, there is not one to whom an impersonal entity known as the state may not suddenly come and say 'You shall leave your wife and children, and the tasks to which you have devoted your life immediately and put yourself obediently at my orders. The task which I assign to you is to kill certain men; as many as possible, whether you think them right or wrong. Kill or be killed. "These millions find themselves as much bereft of freedom as were the slaves of antiquity. With this difference—the slavery of Biblical times, for instance, made you a slave to a person, a human being, to whose ordinary human sentiments you could appeal. But in the modern world you may at any moment become the slave of an abstraction, a machine.

"Our bodily security from inquisition, torture or religious massacre has come only as the result of a better general understanding of certain broad truths; and that better general understanding came as the result of freedom of discussion in a certain sphere of ideas. Yet we do not realize that if we are to save our children from a moral and physical servitude which will end, as the military servitude of millions of youths in our own generation has ended, in mass-murders as horrible as the religious massacres of the past, it will only be through certain modifications of ideas, through an understanding which in its turn cannot come save through the very largest freedom of political discussion, a freedom which we are now busy abolishing. It is this fact that our security depends upon understanding, and our understanding upon free discussion, that I shall attempt to make clear. "Usually when we speak of the past struggles of the people against tyranny, we have in our minds a picture of the great mass held down by the superior physical force of the tyrant. But such a picture is, of course, quite absurd. For the physical force which held down the people was that which they themselves supplied. The tyrant had not physical force, save that which his victims furnished him. In this struggle of people versus tyrant, obviously the weight of physical force was on the side of the people. This was as true of the slave states of antiquity as it is of the modern autocracies. "Do we realize all that this means? It means that tyranny has been imposed as freedom has been won; through the mind. "The small minority imposes itself and can only impose itself by getting first at the mind of the majority—the people—in one form or another controlling it through keeping knowledge from it, or by controlling the knowledge itself, as in Germany. It is because the minds of the mass have failed them, that they have been enslaved. Without that intellectual failure of the mass, tyranny could have found no force wherewith to impose its burden. Physical force does not act of itself, but only as the human will behind it may direct, and whether that force—the sword—is to be an instrument of suicide or salvation, depends not upon the sword itself, which, for all our romanticizing, is but a metal, but upon the human minds that will its use.

Teachers Endorse Bakers' Stand

The National League of Teachers' Associations, representing 20,000 teachers, which held a convention recently in Pittsburgh, sent a strong telegram to Secretary of War Baker, praising the latter for his refusal to commit the country to permanent universal military training and service until the close of the war shall have indicated what military policy should prevail. The telegram read as follows: "The National League of Teachers' Associations, representing 20,000 teachers, in convention at Pittsburgh, desires to express its warm approval of your courage and statesmanship in refusing to be stampeded into the endorsement and adoption of a permanent system of universal military training and service at this time. The American people are in this war, as Lloyd George has said of the English people, to put an end to that monstrous evil everywhere and it is heartening to feel that under the leadership which we now enjoy we are in no danger of losing the chief end of the war before the war is more than well begun. We are well aware that your moderate and sensible position has cost you some newspaper abuse, but we believe that your course is well understood and is silently approved by the great American people."

Notice to Readers

This paper is paid for. If it opens your eyes to some economic facts help on the work by contributing to the Ohio Socialist Propaganda Fund. This fund supplies the means of sending the paper to workers who, like you, are looking for economic light.

Work to Elect Indicted Socialists

(Special Correspondence)

Chicago, Ill., July 28.—All of the five Socialists named in the indictment against the National Socialist Party, returned by the federal grand jury here in March, will be candidates at the fall elections, four of them being candidates for congress. Victor L. Berger, editor of the Milwaukee Leader and member of the National Executive Committee of the Socialist Party, will be a candidate from the Milwaukee district that he has already represented in congress. J. Louis Engdahl, editor of the Eye Opener, has been nominated from the Seventh (Illinois) district, located on Chicago's northwest side, including the 15th, 27th and 28th wards that were carried in the judicial elections last fall. This district has close to 100,000 votes and a population close to half a million.

WOMAN—COMRADE AND EQUAL

By EUGENE V. DEBS

A leading London weekly sometime ago brutally said: "Man's superiority does not wince, she does not complain nor give way to useless despair, but rushes into the breach. The woman who hesitates to put her feet into cold, placid water, throws herself into the perils of the roaring, surging mastodon." Sardou, the analytical novelist, declares: "I consider women superior to men in almost everything. They possess intuitive faculty to an extraordinary degree, and may almost always be trusted to do the right thing in the right place. They are full of noble instincts, and, though heavily handicapped by fate, come well out of every ordeal. You have only to turn to history to learn the truth of what I say."

Lester F. Ward, the economist, the subtle student of affairs, gives this testimony: "We have no conception of the real amount of talent or of genius possessed by woman. It is probably not greatly inferior to that of man even now, and a few generations of enlightened opinion on the subject, if shared by both sexes, would perhaps show that the difference is qualitative only. I am glad to align myself with a party that declares for absolute equality between the sexes. Anything less than this is too narrow for Twentieth Century civilization, and too small for a man who has a right conception of manhood."

Let us grant that woman has not reached the full height which she might attain—when I think of her devotion to duty, her tender ministries, her gentle spirit that in the clash and struggle of passion has made her the savior of the world, the thought of her makes me deem womanhood, gives me the vision of a race so superior as to cause me to wonder at its glory and beauty ineffable. Man has not reached his best. He never will reach his best until he walks the upward way side by side with woman. Plato was right in his faith that man and woman are merely halves of humanity, each requiring the qualities of the other in order to attain the highest character. Shakespeare understood it when he made his noblest women strong as men and his best men tender as women.

Under our brutal forms of existence, beating womanhood to dust, we have raged in passion for the individual woman, for use only. Some day we shall develop the social passion for womanhood, and then the grass will disappear in service and justice and companionship. Then we shall lift woman from the mire where our fists have struck her, and set her by our side as our comrade and equal and that will be love indeed. Man's superiority will be shown, not in the fact that he has enslaved his wife, but in that he has made her free.

Woman is made the slave of a slave, and is reckoned at only for companionship in lust. The hands and breasts that nursed all men to life are scorned as the forgetful brute proclaims his superior strength and plumes himself that he can subjugate the one who made him what he is, and would have made him better had customs and institutions permitted. How differently is woman regarded by the truly wise and the really great! Paolo Lombroso, one of the deepest students of mind that time has ripened, says of her: "The most simple, most frivolous and thoughtless woman hides at the bottom of her soul a spark of heroism, which neither she herself nor anybody else suspects, which she never shows if her life runs its normal course, but which springs into evidence and manifests itself by actions of devotion and self-sacrifice, if fate strikes her."

COMING

ROSS D. BROWN

Locals, don't miss this splendid speaker. Arrange a date for him. He will repay you big. He is a surprise to all who have heard him. Comrade Ross D. Brown, the noted colored speaker, will speak for Local Cleveland Aug. 3 to 10. When can your local give him a date after that time? Make your arrangements immediately. Notify the state office at once when you can use him. Don't delay, don't lag behind. Take a date for Brown. State office will furnish advertising.

A TERRIBLE CRIME ARE YOU GUILTY?

Were You One Who Forgot TO PAY DUES Before Aug. 1st? If You Are

Look at your dues book this minute. Do you owe for July? For June and July? For May, June and July? Do you owe?

IF YOU DO, YOU ARE GUILTY If you owe you are the cause of a delay in our onward march toward Socialism, Delay no longer PAY UP QUICK

NOTE—If you do not know where to pay your dues, send them to this office together with your dues book and we will remit to your local secretary. State Secretary, Socialist Party of Ohio, 1291 Cook Avenue, Lakewood, Ohio.

I. W. W. TRIAL REVEALS MINE HORROR

SURVIVORS OF SPECULATOR FIRE TELL OF TRAGEDY

Chicago, July 18.—The tragedy of the fire in the Speculator mine, Butte, which was one of the principal causes of the great strike in that camp last summer, once more grimly overshadowed the courtroom in Chicago where 101 members of the I. W. W. are on trial. Survivors of this appalling disaster related in unstudied but forcefully effective words their own personal experiences of this dread time. Martyr Shea, a sturdy Irish miner, took the stand to tell of the hell of smoke and flames in which he and 28 of his mates were trapped for 36 hours. The Widow-Maker Shea was describing the work he was doing on the night of the fire and something of the grim humor of these men so insured to peril was shown when he said that he was using a "widow-maker." "What is a widow-maker?" asked Vanderveer, chief counsel for defense. A—"Well, they call it that because it is run by one man." Q—"Well, it is run by one man?" A—"Yes, and it's not very safe for one man so be working in those mines alone!" Later, Shea told the jury the story of what he and his fellow workers endured. The simple tale was so effective that one cannot do better than to quote: "I noticed smoke on the slope and mouth," said Shea. "The smoke got so thick, I couldn't see the other men. I got suspicious and went down the drift. Then I met Stueben, the nipper—he lost his life that night—and he told me there was a fire in the shaft, so we climbed up the manway 200 feet to the 2400-foot level. There were 15 of us. On the 2400 level we met 14 more men also running from the fire. But the shaft being on fire, we couldn't get out. So we went into a drift and there we stayed for 36 hours." Q—"How wide and how high is a drift?" A—"About six feet wide and eight high." Q—"What did you do in that drift?" A—"Well, we put up a partition to keep out the gas. We built it with odd timber and our clothes, clay and everything we could find to pack it up tight." Q—"And did you have any air in this thing you bulkhead out?" A—"No air at all." Q—"What became of the other men on that level?" A—"They died."

Q—"What did you do in the drift?" A—"Well, we had no air and no water; and after 36 hours of it we couldn't stand the suffering any longer and we went out. We didn't know whether the fire was out or not; we had to take a chance on our lives. Only 15 of us were able to walk to the hospital."

The Bulkhead of Death The next witness, John Muzevich, a Butte miner for fourteen years, confirmed Shea's account of the fire and also testified to some interesting features regarding the construction of the Speculator mine. It seems that there were openings connecting the Speculator with the workings of the adjacent mine, the High Ore. These connecting doors, however, had been bulkheaded with cement by the Company and so the way of escape was barred. Nineteen men were found by one of the bulkheads, said Muzevich. They had evidently run there thinking to find the way open to safety. Q—"How many men did you find there, by the bulkhead?" A—"Nineteen. All dead." Q—"How were they when they were found?" A—"Ah, those men—nobody could look at them. It was very few men we could get to go down to those fellows. They couldn't stop the gas. They worked with their hands. It was in the dark you know. They were scraping. Their fingers were all worn out, working to save themselves."

Q—"Suppose the door had been open, could they have got through?" A—"Oh, yes. If it was open they could have got through to High Ore." Q—"They could have got through to High Ore and saved their lives?" A—"Sure!" And so was the greed for profit shown to be the cause of this wholesale murder, for the widening and orphaning of innocents. Joe Kennedy, ex-secretary of the Metal Mine Workers' Union of Butte, gave further evidence regarding the strike, the unsavory activities of the gunmen and the abnormally high cost of living in the camp. Once a Deputy Now an I. W. W. George Taylor, for sixteen years a resident of Fernwood, Idaho, and a logger, described conditions in lumber camps. His testimony tallied exactly with that of all other lumberjacks who had preceded him; rotten bunkhouses, stale straw bunks, no bathing or laundry facilities—the whole dismal list of the brutal living conditions which the unorganized loggers had to endure, was once more reiterated. Then came a surprise for the court: Q—"During the spring and summer of 1917—during the period of

the lumber strike—what were you doing?" A—"I was a deputy sheriff." Q—"For what county?" A—"For Benewah county." Q—"What were your duties?" A—"To see there were no disturbances of any kind; to keep the peace." Q—"Did you have a hard job?" A—"No, sir." Q—"Was there ever any disturbance?" A—"No, sir." Q—"Did you ever see any man abused or threatened, or any man beaten?" A—"No, sir." Q—"Was the strike still on when you were laid off as deputy?" A—"Yes, sir." Q—"Why were you laid off?" A—"Well, the sheriff said he didn't need me any more as there was nothing for me to do! There was no disturbance of any kind." Q—"Did anybody ever try to make you join the I. W. W.?" A—"No, sir." Q—"Are you a member of the I. W. W. now?" A—"Yes, sir." Ira E. Worly, of Plentywood, Montana, testified that he had been farming all his life, had operated threshing machines and had employed I. W. W. crews during the harvest. He said he had received as good service from them as from any other workers. Questioned as to the finding of rocks or pitchforks in machines, the witness stated that he had never seen or heard of such occurrences in his vicinity. Once his machine had caught fire but it was because of a hot box and sparks from the engine. The prosecution did not see fit to offer any cross-examination.

Worly, W. W. Buttons in France. Ed Williams, a colored longshoreman, mounted the stand clad in the khaki uniform of a foreman in a Labor Company attached to the Quartermaster's Department of the United States Army. He said that he was a member of the I. W. W. "Is that your button?" asked Vanderveer, pointing to the breast of Williams' khaki shirt. "Sure, sir!" answered the witness. "I always wear it. I wore it in France." Williams is now stationed at Baltimore, he said, in charge of a company of men, all enrolled in the Federal service, handling army supplies. "How many men are in your Company?" asked Vanderveer. "Seventy-four," said the witness. "And how many of them are I. W. W.'s?" "Seventy-four!" replied Williams blithely.

Autocracy in the Senate

In the senate of the United States—that stronghold of autocracy—an amendment making government control of the railroads after the war indefinite as to time, instead of fixing a time to return them to the private owners, was defeated by a vote of 61 to 10. An amendment to reduce the outrageously high war profits of the private owners—for doing nothing—was defeated by a vote of 52 to 23. It may be that these amendments will fare better in the lower house, but they can not be adopted without the concurrence of the senate. And, if adopted, they would be totally insufficient. It is true that one of them would save the nation about \$173,000,000 a year. But it would still allow the private owners to skin the people to the tune of about three-quarters of a billion dollars per annum. The other amendment, providing for an indefinite time, might make it easier to secure public ownership, because the roads would not go back to the private owners without further legislation by congress; whereas, the way the matter now stands, they will automatically go back unless congress later passes a law which will prevent it. Senator Hiram Johnson's speech in favor of public ownership caused the vote on this amendment to be virtually a vote for and against public ownership—with public ownership beaten, 61 to 10. There should have been a substitute bill for immediate public ownership. Why Johnson or La Follette did not introduce such a bill is a question. If such a bill had been introduced, the vote on the above mentioned amendment shows that it would have had as much chance as the proverbial snowball in—war. But that is no reason for neglecting to introduce it. Not to do so amounts to the advocates of public ownership acquiescing in the railroads taking what may come to several billion dollars of additional profits out of the people. But then—the people voted for just the raw deal they are getting when they voted the Democratic and Republican tickets. The people are learning in the school of experience—where the tuition is mighty high. —Milwaukee Leader.

NEWS of the International Labor Movement

From Socialist Committee on Information, 811 E. Street, N. W.,
Washington, D. C., Julian Pierce, Chairman

QUEENSLAND WORKERS RETAIN CONTROL OF GOVERNMENT

Work of Laor Government and Future Policies Outlined by Prime Minister
T. J. RYAN

(Continued From Our Last Issue)
Development Program
The great problems arising out of the war, which are even now upon us, require the adoption of a bold policy of development, in the hands of a government which has the courage and capacity to carry it out. Queensland has limitless natural resources, which up to the present time have been scarcely explored, much less developed. She has room in her vast territory to provide homes for millions of people, and if we are to be prepared for the great influx of population which after the war inevitably makes toward these shores, it is imperative that a government should be placed in power pledged to a definite policy of development of these great areas and resources.

During our term of office it has been the policy of the government to resume land suitable for purposes of closer settlement, and to have it surveyed and designed ready for selection. That policy will be vigorously proceeded with, and in connection therewith a policy of railway construction will be pursued to give accessibility to markets.

Railways
Since attaining to office, the government has been faced with great difficulties in carrying out its policy of railway construction, but in spite of this fact it has succeeded in adding 437 miles to the total length of railway lines in the state. Four new railroads with a total length of 200 miles have been authorized since the government came into office, and two of these are already in process of construction, whilst arrangements have been made for a commencement of operations on the other two routes during the current financial year. Surveys have been made of two railroads to open up the upper and southern Burnett districts, which comprise an area of over two and a half million acres of rich, fertile lands; and further action is also contemplated with regard to vast areas in other parts of the state.

The government attempted to acquire the Chillagoe and Edithvale railroads at a price which was most satisfactory to the government, with the dual object of opening up the great mineral resources of the Cairns hinterland and preserving in the district the population which at present is fast diminishing. By rejecting the bill brought forward by the government, the legislative council prevented the ratification of the agreement with the debenture holders. It is intended, however, to reintroduce the measure.

Government Lands To Be Leased Instead of Sold
The government amended the land act to provide for the adoption of the leasehold system with regard to future alienation of crown lands. The area available approximated 9,000,000 acres for the year 1917.

All lands acquired by the crown under the Closer Settlement Act may be offered for selection on perpetual lease, and for every person who has selected land prior to the passing of the act may convert such land to that tenure if he so desire.

The great importance of this alteration will be appreciated when it is borne in mind that the unselected balance of Jimbour, comprising 31,584 acres, and Cecil Plains, recently purchased by the government, comes under the benefit of this amending act. The latter estate, which comprises an area of 120,000 acres, has been subdivided into 208 portions in areas ranging from 140 to 1,280 acres, and will shortly be opened for selection. One-third of the area (40,000) acres has been reserved for soldier settlement.

Water Conservation
The government recognizes that there can be no successful scheme of land settlement without adequate water conservation and irrigation, and it intends, therefore, to co-ordinate the land settlement policy and water supply and conservation activities under one head, with competent experts. This action will ensure the adoption of a comprehensive system of water supply.

Markets to Eliminate Middleman
As a concomitant of a sound policy of land settlement, it is necessary to provide suitable markets for the producer, in order to secure for him an adequate return for his products.

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State Coal Mines.
A start has been made with the development of State coal mines, and satisfactory tests have been made at Bowen and on the Dawson valley, where large seams of high-class coking coal have been located. It is intended to proceed with the development of these fields by the establishment of up-to-date coking works without delay.

The great scarcity of many necessities used in manufactures and for domestic purposes, and their consequently high prices, have impressed the government with the necessity of encouraging the manufacture and production of such commodities. For example, in consequence of the shortage of iron, the government has been unable to test the salt pans on the Queensland coast, with the view of producing salt locally and supplying it to the public at a much lower price than the imported article can be sold at.

War Profiteering
Like a vulture, the profiteer is preying upon the people in his distress. War has ever furnished a great opportunity for him to ply his trade, and the present world conflict has opened up to him a field of unprecedented possibilities. He has wronged huge fortunes from the people in the hour of their misfortune. Instances of selfish disregard and greed are found in almost every balance sheet that has been published since the commencement of the war. For example, the shipping companies in England increased their profits from 20,000,000 pounds (\$97,330,000) in 1913 to the astounding figure of 135,000,000 pounds (\$657,970,000) in 1916, representing an increase in dividends of from 10 1/2 per cent in 1913 to 67 1/2 per cent in 1916, and this immense

sum was obtained by the exploitation of the necessities of the war.

Butchering Establishments
State butcheries have been opened in the principal centers of population which it has been possible to reach with supplies arranged by the government from the meat works. Up to the present time, the meat works have been in a state of chaos, and arrangements for the opening of six others will shortly be complete. These shops are supplying 4,600 families daily, and during the last financial year showed a profit of 6268 pounds (\$30,494.22).

State Fisheries
The government has assumed control of the Metropolitan Fish Market, which is run in conjunction with the receiving depots at Wynnum, where the curing and smoking of fish are carried on. New market buildings are in progress, and when completed it is intended to inaugurate a system for augmenting the supply and carrying out the distribution of fresh and cured fish on modern lines.

State Insurance
Under the provisions of the Workmen's Compensation Act of 1916, a state insurance office was established, which undertook the transaction of the whole of the business appertaining to workers' compensation through the state.

The entry of the state into this branch of insurance has been most successful. While the benefits obtained under the old law have not been increased by fully 75 per cent, no increase in premiums to employer has resulted. Compared with the provisions of the old law the maximum payment of compensation has been increased from 400 pounds (\$1,946.80) to 800 pounds (\$3,893.60) at death; from 400 pounds (\$1,946.80) to 750 pounds (\$3,648.75) in case of total incapacity, and the weekly payments from one pound (\$4.87) to two pounds (\$9.73) per week.

The state fire and miscellaneous accident insurance office was established pursuant to the provisions of the insurance act of 1916. This act reduced the gross premiums hitherto paid to insurance companies by 20 per cent, the immediate result of which has been a saving of 50,000 pounds (\$243,320) per annum to the insuring public. As a result of the successful operations of this office, it has been deemed further to reduce the rates the coming year.

The state insurance office has extended its operations in the direction of life insurance, and from the progress made there is every reason to believe that this branch of the business will prove equally successful. The whole of the insurance enterprises have been set up without expense to the state.

Public Curator
The office of the public curator has been established and has made good progress. The business of the office continues to develop rapidly, and there is every indication that its establishment will supply a want long felt by the community generally.

Associated with this office is the public defender and official solicitor, whose duty is to defend indigent persons in necessary circumstances and to provide for the defense of persons unable to obtain other legal aid.

This office assists persons in respect of claims for compensation under the Workmen's Compensation Act, and an amount of 30,000 pounds (\$146,100) has been collected in claims through this medium. To soldiers it also renders gratuitous services where they are or may be established.

It is the intention of the government to base the selling price to the public on the cost of production plus the cost of distribution. In order to carry out this project the state will eventually supply meat from cattle and sheep raised on its own buildings, thus supplying the public with this important food essential at a minimum cost, without interfering with the private sheep and cattle growers.

The adoption of this proposal will bring within the reach of the majority of the people of the state an important daily food necessity that existing conditions threaten to make a luxury. The advent of Queensland beef into the world's market and the natural disposition of growers to take full advantage of the opportunities thus offered, have led to the raising of the cost to the consuming public. Moreover, the cost of beef has not only been raised, but under the present system there are reasons when a sufficient supply of it is not obtainable. The government's proposal to establish a system of state reserves, as set out in this scheme will ensure a plentiful and cheap supply of meat to the people of the state and prevent the workers from being robbed of any advantage accruing to them by increases in wages.

The educational development of the state has shown marked improvement during the present administration. Continued attention has been given to lighting, ventilation, class room arrangement, and the general principles of hygiene. An improved style of architecture has been adopted in the building of "model schools." Schemes for the extension of the agricultural branch of education have been promulgated, and the principle of the agricultural school recently established at Nambour will be extended. Increased medical and dental attention has been rendered to scholars, and gratuitous treatment has been given to children whose parents are in necessitous circumstances. Considerable advance has been made in technical education, and preparatory trade schools have been established to insure training in carpentry, plumbing, and other useful trades. Secondary education has been given an impetus, and high schools have been established in several centers. The number of scholars attending technical schools has greatly increased, and it is now possible for a child to proceed in his education from the primary school to the university at a minimum of expense to the parent.

The Workers' Education Association enables persons over eighteen years of age to continue their education in branches of learning directly connected with citizenship. The policy of the Labor administration ensures that the same facilities for education shall be available for every child in the community.

OUR PLATFORM

OHIO FOR THE WORKERS
THE NATION FOR THE WORKERS
THE WORLD FOR THE WORKERS

We, the Socialist Party of Ohio, reaffirm our adherence to the principles of International Socialism. Our whole aim and purpose is democracy, both political and industrial. We believe that neither can truly exist or long survive without the other; and as no man, or class of men, should own or control the votes of other men, neither should one man, or class of men, own or control the means of life of others. "A house divided against itself cannot stand."

Immediate Demands
First. The taking over by the State of the coal mines of Ohio as a war measure. The elimination of profiteers in this basic necessity to avoid further fuel famine.

Second. Similar appropriation of other natural resources and public utilities to end profiteering and protect the homes of the men in the trenches from the grasping hands of the exploiters.

Third. War is rapidly shifting to the shoulders of women the burden of industrial service; we therefore advocate their immediate political enfranchisement and laws requiring equal pay for equal work.

Fourth. We recognize the warning in President Wilson's recent statement, widely quoted as follows: "The men in the trenches, who have been freed from the economic serfdom to which some of them have been accustomed, will, it is likely, return to their homes with a new view," etc. The boys who come home will deserve economic freedom. Therefore we urge the immediate enactment of timely and intelligent measures to pave the way for industrial democracy.

profit was shown in 1916 after deducting a war profits tax of 115,000,000 pounds (\$559,640,000). Another shipping company which has its line of steamers trading in Australian waters, increased its profits from 534,000 pounds (\$2,598,710) for the six months ending September, 1915, to 1,724,000 pounds (\$8,383,340) for the corresponding period in 1916.

The profiteer is busy at his calling in Australia. Recently an instance was quoted in the Commonwealth Parliament where taking 255 cases, the profits (including any amount set apart for reserves) from 1914 to 1916 increased from 3,958,885 pounds (\$19,156,406.25) to 5,479,595 pounds (\$26,669,345.56).

The Profiteer in Queensland
In Queensland the profiteer has not been ashamed to raise his head and statistical reviews give abundant evidence of how the profiteering capitalists are exploiting the public. It is the intention of the government to seek legislative power to control monopolies and to control the activities of capitalist profiteers whose actions the cost of living has been forced up to such an extent that the ordinary citizen finds it difficult to exist, not to mention the soldiers' wives and dependents who are left with a pittance while their bread winners are fighting at the front. These enemies of our country support our opponents in parliament, and provide large sums of money to carry out a propaganda of slander and misrepresentation in the press and on the platform to bring about the downfall of this government.

In these circumstances it is not surprising that the government's proposal to increase the taxation on incomes over 3,000 pounds (\$14,590) was rejected by the capitalistic representatives in the legislative council.

Government Control of Cost of Living.
One of the first acts of the government was to deal with the profiteer problem. As far as foodstuffs were concerned, our efforts were so far successful as to reduce the minimum cost of living in Queensland below November, 1915, and November, 1916, by 12.6 per cent.

Cattle Stations and Meat Markets
The government has, however, with the object of controlling the cost of living, acquired large station properties, and inaugurated a system of state butcheries. The success which has attended our operation in this direction, and a comprehensive scheme for the supply of meat for the people of Queensland who can be reached by the various railway systems of the state has been approved by the cabinet. The proposal provides for stock depots at suitable points on the principal trunk lines of the state, on which will be erected abattoirs and the necessary yards, refrigerating plants, an insulating cold stores, from which meat will be consigned to various towns and railway stations for sale and distribution by private shops, or by state shops in the larger cen-

ters where they are or may be established.

State Sawmills
The establishment of state sawmills has not only had the effect of keeping the price of timber within reasonable limits, but to a large extent has met the requirements of the Department of Public Works in its extensive day labor operations. The purchasers of timber, from these mills, for the erection of workers' dwellings, are allowed a deduction of 5 per cent.

Industrial Arbitration
The question of dealing with industrial problems has been given special care by the government during its term of office.

By virtue of the Industrial Arbitration act of 1916, a court of conciliation and arbitration was established, and this court has been successful in dealing with the many cases that have come before it for determination. The court, whether in the making of awards or in the settlement of agreements and disputes, has been characterized by absence of delay in its operations. A more contented spirit exists between employer and employee, and the latter is at last given a greater share of the fruits of his labor. Queensland during labor's tenure of office has been singularly free, in comparison with other states, from industrial trouble, from serious outbreaks, and from strikes. That efforts were made to extend to the state the recent industrial upheavals in the south.

Education
The educational development of the state has shown marked improvement during the present administration. Continued attention has been given to lighting, ventilation, class room arrangement, and the general principles of hygiene. An improved style of architecture has been adopted in the building of "model schools." Schemes for the extension of the agricultural branch of education have been promulgated, and the principle of the agricultural school recently established at Nambour will be extended. Increased medical and dental attention has been rendered to scholars, and gratuitous treatment has been given to children whose parents are in necessitous circumstances. Considerable advance has been made in technical education, and preparatory trade schools have been established to insure training in carpentry, plumbing, and other useful trades. Secondary education has been given an impetus, and high schools have been established in several centers. The number of scholars attending technical schools has greatly increased, and it is now possible for a child to proceed in his education from the primary school to the university at a minimum of expense to the parent.

The Workers' Education Association enables persons over eighteen years of age to continue their education in branches of learning directly connected with citizenship. The policy of the Labor administration ensures that the same facilities for education shall be available for every child in the community.

Warning him that these are times when kings must stick together, and that the Bolshevik movement, which is threatening all the potentates of Eastern Europe, would engulf them unless unity was secured. Emperor Charles of Austria wrote a letter to King Ferdinand of Roumania, which caused the latter to conclude peace with the Central Powers.

This is a bad season for kings. Crowned kings are good targets for American spell-binders and paragrappers, but they do not include all the kings. The money kings, the cotton kings, the food kings, the copper kings, the copper kings, should not be forgotten. They, like the crowned species, have held their places by tyrannical measures and have waxed fat on injustice.

Holding the workingman in supreme contempt, they have made him labor long hours, denied his children proper education and compelled his family to subsist on the barest necessities. Owing the stores of food, fuel and the common requisites, by price boosting, they have brought thousands to lower standards of living.

When the common man asks for more bread or fewer hours, they crush him. When he seeks greater liberties, they term him a disturber, and if the hand be at war they link him with the enemies of the country. A king is a king, be his name Hohenzollern or Morgan. Liberty and kings cannot flourish together. The rulership of wealth in America has corrupted courts, defiled our legislation and dishonored our officials. If we would be free we must not forget that—

We are fighting for democracy. While we are getting the Kaiser let's experiment on our American brands. Let us give them work more arduous than coupon clipping. This is a time when kings must stick together. Let's put them together where they'll do the most good—Indianapolis, Cal.

INNOCENCE
The culprit had hired the young town lawyer to defend him against the charge of stealing a book cabinet. After the first conference the young student of law who was just beginning court practice, said to his client: "Now, Bill, I'm convinced that you didn't steal that book cabinet. If I thought you did I'd advise you to plead guilty. However, just leave it to me and I'll prove to the court that you are innocent. In the meantime I'll take a retainer of ten dollars and you can pay the rest when—"

"Ten dollars!" said Bill. "I ain't got no ten dollars!"

"At this startling news the young lawyer seemed downcast, but suddenly he brightened. "Well, I'll tell you what I'll do," he said. "I'll try to get you out of this scrape, and then we'll call it square if you send the cabinet around to my office. I need one baby."

Forgetfulness in regular dues payments means a monkey wrench in our party machinery.

It's better to pay dues ahead than to be behind.

Proletarian Science

A Course in Economics Arranged for
Study Classes
By W. E. Reynolds
(Written especially for the Ohio Socialist)

PRICE

Capitalism is NOT an abstraction. Capitalism IS at concrete FORCE. We of the working class have to STRUGGLE against this force. Did you get it? Struggle AGAINST this force.

Progress is made by human understanding of forces. Natural forces, such as the wind, the rain, electrical phenomena, the tides, the river currents, steam, gas explosion, the law of gravity, the various laws of physics—all these forces used to be the natural enemies of mankind. Mankind gradually learned to USE these forces. He used the wind to pump water for him, to turn his mills to grind his grain and to force his ships across the bounding main. He used the water POWER to run his machinery, to generate electricity, and to irrigate the desert. He used the law of the generation of steam to turn his machinery, or to turn gasoline into gas for the same purpose. All progress consists in mankind's adaptability, in man's ability to USE natural forces for his benefit, instead of being a victim of these same natural forces.

The same is true of the SOCIAL forces. If we UNDERSTAND them we can use them for our benefit and thereby make PROGRESS. If we do not understand them, we are at their mercy—and we FAIL to progress.

A knowledge of the law of value, which is a basic social force, will be a big help to any one and a bigger help to any group of workers who are compelled by the very nature of the make-UP of capitalist society to STRUGGLE against the encroachments of organized capital.

This lesson has to do with a part of the law of value: A very important, yet a very hard and difficult part to understand, the relation of "price" to "value."

We have used the term "value" all our lives. So, too, with the term, "price," yet not one in ten thousand, even amongst the so-called educated and intellectual classes, know anything at all about the REAL meaning of either.

We have found value expressed in TWO principle forms. USE VALUE meaning the utility, or usefulness of an article, and EXCHANGE VALUE meaning the value-in-exchange of a commodity. Exchange value is there, but not a THING-IN-ITSELF, but a RELATIONSHIP between things. One particular FORM of this RELATIONSHIP of exchange value is expressed in the word "Price." It is not the intention of the author to make this series of lessons too difficult—in fact it has been my aim to keep them really and truly "beginner's lessons," but in dealing with this question of price I hope my readers will bear with me if I point out a few of the difficulties encountered, and to be encountered by every student after an intelligent expression of this vital subject.

Go out on the street and ask the first ten persons you meet, what is meant by the term "price." You will get ten different and confusing answers, or you will get a rubbishy mess of capitalistic fol-de-rol meaningless and worthless insofar as any real benefit to the student is concerned. Look up the word "price" in any dictionary you may pick up, and in all the books you can get your hands on, and you will find the same old definition: "A definition, to be exact and scientific, must be all-inclusive; that is, contain all that is necessary, and all-inclusive, that is, exclude or keep out all that is not necessary."

The author of *Shoe Talks* (on page 18) defines price as "the money name for what commodities exchange." Marx defines price (value price and profit, page 50) as "exchangeable value expressed in terms of money." Again Marx, in speaking of a particular price, i. e., wages, mentions it as "an indirect expression for the value of labor-power."

We are taught that values are determined by the necessary amount of social labor-time embodied in the production of a commodity under certain specified conditions of production. Now upon inquiring into price, we find that prices are determined by values another. Values are determined as above stated. How are prices determined? Ah—here is where your average economist is strangely silent! He will tell you that the FLUCTUATIONS of price are determined by supply and demand—but fluctuation is one thing and price is another thing! Are prices determined as values are determined? Here we must not confuse the law governing the fluctuation of prices with price itself. What IS price?

Many economists make the confusing mistake of substituting the law governing the fluctuation of price with price itself. Allow me to illustrate the difference with a thermometer. In the thermometer we have a certain substance which we call mercury. This mercury expands in hot weather and contracts in cold weather. Now the conditions of weather which CAUSE the mercury to expand or contract is an entirely different thing than the mercury itself. So, too, the law which governs the expanding or contracting of prices is a different thing than price in itself.

We are told in the law governing the FLUCTUATIONS of price that supply and demand causes prices to fluctuate, now above and now below value. (This is confusing—what was really meant was AVERAGE value.) If price is the monetary expression of value (and it IS) we cannot accept the orthodox definition that "price fluctuates above and below value." If the orthodoxists are right we are confronted with this logical absurdity, which is value fluctuates above and below value! This is the cream of absurdity.

"The sum total of prices equals value." Therefore the AVERAGE price of a given commodity is its VALUE. But still we are seeking the answer to the question "what is price?" We know that the laws governing the fluctuation of prices is not an answer to the question. We have heard a great deal of such matters as the law of the diminishing rate of profit, but that is no answer to this momentous question.

In making a study of any subject the student will do well to learn to analyze; to separate the subject into its component parts; to find out what is the main part and what is or are the subordinate part or parts. If we were to diagram "value" we would fix up a chart something like this:

Use Value.
Relative Value.
Exchange Value.
Relative Value.
Equivalent Value.

SOMEWHERE under the sub-bracket, of relative value, or equivalent value we will have to place that pestiferous word "price," but where, oh where?

We are tempted to dodge the question, right here. We have noticed how reputed scholars of economics are discreetly silent upon the question of price, but being of the make-up of those mortals who rush in where angels fear to tread, we will hazard a definition of price. We are tired and heart sick of those who camouflage and PRETEND to know, when they do not. We want to keep up our prestige as one who knows what the speaks, when he speaks of economics—but above it all is our opinion that it is a crime to teach a student something AS A FACT when the teacher is in doubt about the fact. We have altogether too many "economic savants" who have taught us faith for facts. Let us at least make an honest effort to arrive at the truth—even if it causes us some unpleasant admissions. We are sick of leaders, we were led by the Appeal. Yes, led, but where? Then we had the New Appeal, but he it said to the credit of the rank and file the New Appeal, no longer leads! Finally the bitter truth has been forced home upon us—these papers are printed only so long as they can exploit us. They would lead us—gladly—so long as it was PROFITABLE for them to do so. Otherwise, well, read the New Appeal today. I only use that paper's name as a sample. The thoughtful reader can easily substitute many others of like character.

All of this, however, does not yet tell us the answer to that question, "What IS price?"

I have devised a sort of catch-ascatch-an-answer to the question but I hereby reserve the right to get a better one whenever I can find it. If you, dear reader, can improve upon it, PLEASE confer with the writer at once. In my humble opinion, Marx was right, but not specific, when he defined price as "exchangeable value expressed in terms of money."

According to my understanding, value has to do with the abstract and price with the concrete. We estimate the VALUE of the entire wheat crop at so-and-so much money in a lump sum, but we express the price of wheat in units of so much money per bushel. My definition of price is: Price is the exchangeable value of commodities, at a particular time and a particular place, (this particular place and time to include all the conditions under which the commodity is offered for sale.)

When man gets so "so-in-the-rut" that he cannot learn more about any subject, he is ready for the undertaker, and I am no exception. The comrade who can aid me in formulating a better definition of price than the above is the comrade I am looking for.

What do YOU know about "Price?"

\$5.00

For Whom?

A comrade has donated \$5.00 to the State Office to be offered as a prize to the boy or girl under thirteen years of age who will write and mail to The Ohio Socialist the best article on Socialism before November 1. We have decided to print all the articles submitted and the winner, consisting of Marguerite Prevey of Akron, Jesse Jason Rufner of Seville and Walter Bronstrup of Cleveland, will decide which is the best. The boy or girl writing the best article gets the \$5.00 and two contestants tie, the \$5.00 will be divided equally between them.

Here's a chance for our young rebels to show their ability and knowledge of Socialism. The work of the Socialist movement will in time develop upon our youngsters. They should every one get into training for the days to come. Send in your articles now.

WELFARE ASSOCIATION MEETING

A conference of members and friends of the International Brotherhood Welfare Association and all those who are interested in kindred movements and the welfare of the workers will be held at Detroit, Michigan, on the 14th, 15th and 16th days of July.

The trend of affairs is changing rapidly, and it is felt that a conference of this sort at such a critical time in our history will be very helpful.

Many subjects will be discussed in order that labor shall learn how to act in one homogenous body, thus making for an ideal democracy for our own country as an object lesson to the world in the fight to make the whole world safe for democracy. The meetings will begin on the anniversary of the Fall of the Bastille, and we believe it is fitting to observe the anniversary of Liberty Day in an effort to gain those liberties which we have, so far, not yet attained.

Your attendance and co-operation are cordially invited.

All communications and inquiries should be addressed to the Mid-Summe Conference Committee, at 816-1/2 Chestnut St., St. Louis, Mo.

German Socialists number millions. It was partly on account of their increasing numbers and power that the Kaiser wanted war. He wisely calculated that his Social Democrats would join with his Junkers in the howl for victory and glory and forget for a while their grievances and their Marxian "class consciousness."

THE OHIO SOCIALIST
Published Weekly by the Socialist Party of Ohio
Subscriptions \$1.00 a Year
Entered as Second Class Matter, February 21, 1917, at the Post Office at Cleveland, Ohio, under act of March 3, 1879.
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1291 Cook Ave., Lakewood Ohio,
Cleveland Post Office
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WEDNESDAY, JULY 31, 1918

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Ada, Ohio.

WITH OUR EDITORS
We here make so bold as to place before you special thoughts for especially active minds. Where no credit is given The Ohio Socialist Staff is guilty.

Suppose you had made a killing of \$120,000,000 in extra war profits in a trustified killing business, and after having salted it down, a government investigating committee called on you, stirred up the brine of your pickling and informed the wide world that you were more of a hog than the hogs you killed. Wouldn't you immediately try to drag a red herring across the path of public opinion by saying: "The Packing Industry stands alone as the one industry which has fully measured up to war needs, day in and day out"—wouldn't you?

CAUGHT RED HANDED AGAIN
He was a jolly fellow, of the extreme sociable type and full of fun. He compelled a smile even when you saw him at a distance, a smile that was but the fore-runner of the hearty laughs you were bound to enjoy in his company.
"What's the smallest living thing," he'd ask? "What is?" you'd answer. "A nit on a gnat," he'd reply, and then he'd laugh with you, long and strong.
"What's the smallest piece of machinery in the world?" he'd ask? "What is?" you'd reply. "The dynamo on a firefly's back," he'd answer, and then he'd help you to laugh by laughing many feet of it himself.
Then there entered into that brain of ours an idea which we pass on to you. It was hatched out of the jolly fellows reference to small things. For after all, isn't that what's the matter with you? Are not you up to your neck in small things? Don't you do small things, say small things, waste your entire life in a small way? Don't you?
Days pass, weeks pass, months pass, years pass, lifetimes pass and hundreds of thousands of people never do or say a thing except talk about the weather and look for clouds and such like. The world is chucked full of people who can't see anything larger than a family squabble, a meal, washing dishes and a movie. To be so occupied with small things that the large things go by unnoticed, that's a crime against humanity.
Let's give some of our time in taking part in the Onward March of the human race. This is not synonymous with giving a beggar a penny or inducing a drunkard to take a week's respite. It means to join the Socialists in the fight for an equal opportunity for all and robbing privileges for none.
Attention away from the sporting page and the fashion sheet for a while. Minds, hearts and acts upon the biggest thing in the world, the emancipation of the wage slaves and land slaves.

There may be nits on gnats, but it's more important to find out whose on your own dear back.

SPEAKING OF SMALL THINGS
We say "again" because this is only one of many instances. You know that the daily press lies, falsifies, misrepresents. Everybody knows the capitalist press for what it is. However, let's add more proof of guilt.
Congressman Gordan furnishes the evidence this time. To lie about Socialism and Socialists may be forgivable! But to falsify a real live democratic congressman's utterances, that ought make you prick up your ears.
The Cleveland Plain Dealer is the culprit this time. And it such a conservative, respectable sheet too! In quoting congressman Gordan upon the conscription law, the Plain Dealer omits two sentences from a paragraph of his speech, thereby changing its purport and making out of Gordan a fierce anti-war howler. Gordan caught the Plain Dealer red-handed and proved the falsification.

Support the Socialist press is the panswer. If we are to win the battle a Socialist press must be built, the faith told in which will overcome the perniciousness of the lies of the plud press.
Naming it the "Plain Dealer" was an error. The "Crooked Dealer" would have been better. Even its name is a lie!
The government reports that food prices have gone up 63 per cent since the war began. How about the price of your labor power, the brain and brawn you sell the boss. Are you getting 63 per cent more for it than you did before the war? If not, why not find out why you're not?
Don't be a loafer. You are going to be dead a long time. Postpone your loafing until then. If you're not dead already, if you are still alive, then show some life by striking a blow for industrial democracy today.
You perish as a Socialist if you fail to partake regularly of Socialist activities just as your body perishes if you don't eat.
Capitalism is hell, but directions say take it.
And you'll take it and we'll all take it until Hustie Tribe increases.
Help in the increase by hustling yourself.
There's never a job scarcity in the S. P.
Pay is wonderfully high.
"The World for the Workers."

Pay Your Dues Get a Subscriber
Give a Dollar
For Debs and Free Speech

ROSES IN JAIL

By VERNE LA VERNE.
(Now in jail for a political offense).
Into the gloom of our prison home, lit by the fires of shame,
At the end of a long and weary day, a bunch of roses came;
Roses red as the sins of men who rot in our filthy cell,
Swept down the gaunt, gray corridor and knocked at the gates of hell.
And twenty men stood up aghast, and twenty men grew pale,
And cursed a God who dared to send roses into jail;
Roses red as their scarlet sins I held with trembling hands,
And every soul in that dirty hole wished I were dead and damned.

"Red roses in this reeking den—my God! It cannot be!
They bloom not for the slaves of vice, but only for the free;
In filth and shame we must repeat through lonely, bitter hours—
Roses for us! Great God!" they cried, "we give you back your flowers."
"These roses are our friends," cried I; "they speak no word of blame;
The scarlet blush upon their cheeks shows their Creator's shame;
We are men of force who have felt the blow of His stern avenging rod;
Let us keep them well, for their blushes tell of the sins of Almighty God."

"Roses for bums, roses for thieves, roses for drunks!" I cried;
"A rose for the man with a wooden leg and a rose for the man who lied;
Roses for men who curse and kill, and a rose for that 'pple there;
But for human woes I will give no rose to a God who 'ces not care!"
We took our roses one by one and crawled in our loathsome beds,
And through the night red roses bright stood guard beside our heads;
And one man loved its innocence, and one man loved its smell,
And one man thought of the world outside and one man thought of hell.
And one man cursed an awful curse, and one man tore his hair,
And one man's moans and one man's groans rang through the poisonous air;
And one man dreamed of his wife and child, and one of the flowers that nod,
And all men thought of their blood-red sins, but no man thought of God.

But one man there would have no rose to watch beside his bed;
"Such innocence is for I am not in," I said, "I am in hell!"
"My sins are black, my sins are red, and I bear them all alone;
But I cannot bear the sins of God who sits upon His throne."
Out go the lights, the brazen gong beats now against our ears,
And each man covers up his head to drive away his fears;
And the trembling night brings nameless fright, and it covers our dirty den
To hide the hell of our prison cell from the eyes of God and men.

Twenty men in a putrid den, and by each man a rose;
The stars on high in God's great sky were shining, I suppose.
At the midnight hour I held the flower aloft in the reeking air,
And looked in the face of Almighty God and cried, "Do you care? Do you care?"

"Roses for bums, roses for thieves, roses for drunks!" I cried,
"And a big red rose for the loving soul who weeps by the bars outside;
And a tiny bud for the little babe who shows that our love is true—
I have roses for men, Almighty God, but I have no rose for you!"

"Do you care? Do you care?" cried a million men in my dreams at the midnight hours,
As they scaled the sky to the God on high and beat down His throne with flowers;
And crazy Bill smoked another pill, and Pete hatched another plot;
And I laughed and cried, and turned on my side—I was dead, but I knew it not.

Twenty men in a living hell, and every man was dead,
But they moaned and groaned like things of life, and one man moved his head;
Twenty men hear the judgment gong ring out in a murky den,
As with heavy eyes they all arise to die and be damned again.

Twenty roses upon the floor, killed by the poisonous air;
Twenty men in an iron den, and a God who does not care.
'Tis spring, they say, in the world outside, and where sweet flowers nod,
Red roses bleed for the sins of men and blush for the sins of God.
—The American Liberal.

Two Times Two Are Four

By HARRY S. WITTNER
Settle yourself comfortably in your chair, light your pipe or cigar and prepare to listen to a short but interesting tale.
We will not go far. In fact, we shall remain exactly where we are, in the United States of America, merely traveling back about 40 years in time. It is the year A. D. 1875.
Mr. Jones, a plain, every-day Yankee, is a small coal dealer. Two of his competitors, Brown and Smith, are nearby. It is true, but there is no cut-throat competition and business continues prosperously for all three merchants. Each tries to out-do the others in the matters of quality, service and price in order to enlarge his business, so that such competition as there is, really is a benefit to their customers—to society.
Ten years pass and Jones has built up a large business and amassed a fortune to which he is undoubtedly entitled as the result of actual time and energy spent in business. Similarly Brown and Smith. They all work hard amid ever growing competition, and in time all become heads of big corporations. All have served a purpose in society and are entitled to their fortunes as a reward.
The coal business grows and grows and though competition becomes keener, due to a limitation of the field of activities, it has not as yet, become a disturber of the peace.

Twenty years pass and find Jones, Brown and Smith fighting each other tooth and nail. The United States west of the Mississippi is almost entirely developed, and the three merchants employ large sales forces and advertise extensively to capture old markets from each other. And this advertising expense must be covered, so up goes the price of coal, and you and I pay. And so, where formerly competition kept down the price of coal, it has now reached the stage when it actually increases the cost to the consumers.
Now Jones, we may state, is a clear-headed business man and always has been. One day he got a brilliant idea. He immediately called up Brown and made an appointment with him. "Brown," he yelled, "I've got an idea. Come out to lunch and talk it over."
They lunched together, and by the time that luncheon and discussion was over Jones and Brown had combined their resources and founded one big corporation.

What has happened? Clear-headed Jones has discovered that competition has become wasteful, that it is foolish for them to fight each other when by combining their resources they can produce better and cheaper. Combining their resources? Exactly.

Jones and Brown put their scheme into execution. They combine their interests and the coal corporation of Jones, Brown & Company is born.
Let us see how conditions now differ. Formerly Jones and Brown were separate interests fighting each other in the industrial field and using up their individual resources in trying to capture each other's markets by large advertising campaigns, etc.
Now, Jones and Brown combine. While their financial power has doubled itself, their expenses are cut in half, for now there is advertising for only one firm—Jones, Brown & Company, while formerly there were two firms, Jones & Company and Brown & Company.
If there is less advertising and a smaller sales force, etc., there is less expense, and if there is less expense they can sell coal cheaper than they could formerly.
The co-operation of Jones and Brown enabled them to sell coal cheaper. Co-operation is replacing competition and is proving its value to all the people—to society.
The combination spells the end of Smith, Jones, Brown & Company persistently undersell their competitors, and in a short time Smith and the rest of the smaller dealers are forced out of business. Jones, Brown & Company, in a comparatively short time, have developed into what is known today as a trust or monopoly.
Thus far we have found that a trust is a source of benefit to the people—a factor for good, but at this point a change takes place. The change comes when the last of Jones, Brown & Company's competitors drop out and they are left in the field alone. They become all-powerful in the coal business.
Power, great men tell us, is a dangerous element. A meeting of the board of directors of Jones, Brown & Company takes place at which it is decided to increase the profits of the company, so the price of coal is raised from \$8 to \$10. There is nothing to prevent them. What is the conclusion?
Now let us take a glimpse into the private lives of Jones and Brown. Thirty years before they were active, deserving members of society. The money they came into possessed by them at this time they were undoubtedly entitled to as the just reward of their efforts.
But at the present time their status is different. From useful members of society they become burdens upon a manna to society. Let us examine how. We will all agree that to earn money, to rightly receive a reward, one must perform some service in return. The situation, then, is this: To justly receive a reward from society, whether in the form of wages, salary, fee or profit, one must give in return labor power of brain or muscle.
Now, the question is, do Jones and Brown, heads of the coal trust, in their present capacities, give a fair return for the vast incomes they derive from the business? Suppose you were Jones.
A 9 o'clock in the morning you wake, rise, breakfast, dress, read the morning paper, lounge about, have a smoke, kill time in any number of ways, then jump into your machine and are driven down town to the office. Mr. Earl, the general manager and superior brains of the business, makes a nuisance of himself by asking you advice on one or two matters. After few such insignificant formalities, you suddenly discover that it is time for luncheon. You go to lunch, return in a couple of hours, bluff some more, and then you are notified to your club. For this you receive anywhere from fifty thousand to half a million a year.
Surely this situation alone is open to question. But, you say, Mr. Jones has superior brains and directing ability. Perhaps, and very likely, but where is the proof of the pudding? Mr. Jones and his partner should suddenly decide to spend a year in Europe, would Jones, Brown & Co. shut down until they returned? Indeed not!
As a matter of fact, the firm of Jones, Brown & Co. would continue in business even if Mr. Jones and Mr. Brown should shipwreck and drown.

It is curious, also, to note the almost "supernatural" power of these superior brains" of Mr. Jones. Jones has a nephew who is confined in an insane asylum. Jones pities the young man and bequeaths his entire holdings of stock in the coal trust to him—practically makes him the boss of the business.
Here a fact presents itself which is of great importance. It is the case of the inventor. The law allows the inventor a reward on his invention for 17 years after it is patented. After that he possesses no further rights and the invention which is regarded—becomes what—that is still our secret.
We have agreed that to earn a reward one must give something in return. Someone must first produce the things we would like to have before they can exist. In the great universal order of things each individual being, in order to live, shares in the production of things and also in the reward. If he is able to and does not help in the production, if he does not aid in turning out the world's wealth and still continues to live, then he is living on the wealth turned out by his brother beings; therefore he is a parasite.
Mr. Jones and the rest of the stockholders of Jones, Brown & Co. do practically nothing and receive a million a year for it. That million represents so much wealth which has already been produced by others, and therefore, when Jones and the rest appropriate the control of that wealth and do not return services in proportion, they are thieves.
Now, to take up where we left off. We found that at a meeting of the board of directors Jones, Brown & Co raised the price of coal from \$8 to \$10. From \$10 they raised it to \$12 and so on. Then there is a howl about the price of coal and that "damned coal trust." A movement is set on foot to "bust" the trusts. Laws are passed and the naughty trusts are haled into the courts and fined some 2 or 3 millions of dollars—but, after an energetic anti-trust campaign, trust activities and the most obvious results each year force us to admit that "trust busting" is a dream.
And after all is said and done, why bust the trusts? We have seen that by concentration and co-operation they produce better and cheaper, therefore it is certainly nothing else but first class, healthy insanity to "bust" them and go back to expensive and had production which we must all pay for in the end.
But the ravaging cannot go on forever. Therefore, what are we going to do about it? Upon close thought the remedy should be the most obvious thing in the world.
What happened to the invention when it became a "social necessity"? It simply became "social property," or, in other words, the common property of the people through their government. So with the trusts, the great invention of modern business. Let them become the property of all the people, exactly the same as any other invention that becomes a common necessity. The same forces govern in both cases.
Furthermore, those in charge of trust activities, being guilty of theft, are criminals. Experience has shown that big thieves cannot be "jailed," and what is more, it would be useless, for their "tools," the trusts, remain to be operated by other thieves. The obvious conclusion, therefore, would be to take away their "tools." Take the trust out of private hands that have no further right to them and make them the common property of the people to steal.

So our secret has leaked out! Up to this point you have remained in your chair, quietly puffing away, listening interestedly, perhaps. Here, however, you may become excited—doubtful. The remedy may seem a little "strong." You may lose control of yourself and jump up and cry, as many others have done, "impossible." In answer, we say "keep cool. Sit down and light another cigar. It remains, then, to show if the remedy is a remedy. It is really the simplest part of our story.

One fine morning Mr. Jones is notified by the government of the people that they have taken possession of Jones, Brown & Company, coal corporation, to be operated in the interests of the people, whereas Mr. Jones and the stockholders, thieves, etc., retire from business. What is the result? Formerly Jones, Brown & Co. had to pay out enormous salaries and dividends each year, found it necessary to sell coal at \$10. Now these expenses and really unjust claims are eliminated. The employees of Jones, Brown & Co. can be paid decent living wages and coal can be sold at \$5 a ton or less. Profits become not only useless but senseless. It would be nonsense for the people to make a profit on themselves. And as for Jones and Brown, their "tools" for Jones and Brown, their "tools" for law-abiding citizens and in time take their places in society.
This, then, is our secret. If the people, through their government own the institutions which are necessary for their existence, and to assure they have every conceivable right and claim, the problem of the necessities of life has been solved; for, once owning these "tools of production," it becomes merely a matter of taking these necessities and paying for their production without the enormous salaries and dividends which they are continually paying at present.
And we have no doubt whatever that, be you ever so little prone to sudden unnoticeable, your cigar will drop to the floor, your eyes will open wide in surprise, and you will gaze at us in wonder and sink down in your chair when we tell you that this is one of the aims of Socialism. It is not a matter of adding a word of caution. Socialism is not to be confused with government ownership as a step in the direction of Socialism. The two are widely different. The great root of the trouble, which is the paying of enormous salaries for nothing, remains under government ownership, and dividends are paid as before, possibly with a little mitigation. But the root of the evil, the dispensation of wealth without the return of services rendered, is still present.

Yesterday prepared the turmoil of today, today foreshadows the tomorrow coming. The ruling ideas of every age are the ideas of its ruling class. Today, we have the "everybody-must-work" order, and truth does it forecast the TOMORROW, when a victorious, proletarian, working-class will enforce that same mandate, except that TOMORROW there will be NO EXCEPTIONS on account of wealth. ALL who are able bodies will be forced to render UNTO society the equivalent of that which they receive FROM society.

Before man had an alphabet, he expressed his ideas by pictures. That still draws pictures and carve statues to express certain ideas. Man's early conception of justice was a picture of a statue of a blindfolded woman. Wonderful, isn't it?
Most courthouses cover the statue of the blindfolded woman with a coat of imitation gold! Significant? Rather!

A chattel slave was property. What is a wage-slave?
Everything that can be known belongs to science. What excuse then, have the religionists for their activities? Ignorance?

Science consists of knowledge, classified into its co-ordinate and subordinate parts. Theology (religion) consists of guess-work about the supernatural. Supernatural can be defined as, "that which does not exist."
Can THOUGHT be separated from THINGS?

Feelings, passions and emotions, under the guidance of monomaniacs and epileptics has been the dynamic engine which pulled the social train in the past. It is the glory of the future—after the spread of universal education, that the world will be guided by intellect rather than emotion. Feelings, passions and emotions will still drive the social train, but intellect will be the engineer.

One reason why the religionist has been so successful in fooling the people, is that all his promises were to be fulfilled AFTER YOU DIE. Then, of course, you are too dead to know how you have been filimflammed, and no one here can prove absolutely that you WERE filimflammed.
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Verily, I say unto you, "man has not yet ceased to be an animal and is still under the control of external nature and not under the control of his own mind, or he wouldn't stand for what he stands for!"
Most of our school education of today consists of the mere acquirement of independent items of knowledge. This is STATIC and leads to mental stagnation. In addition to acquiring the items of knowledge one should get a sense of proportion—of relationship; one should be taught to classify and this is the basis of REAL organization, to be able to grasp the true relationship of facts to each other and to all other facts. This is truth, dynamic and ever progressive.

There is not, properly speaking, A science of mathematics, A science of biology, A science of astronomy, A science of sociology and so on. These are all co-ordinated and subordinate branches of THE one science, one homogeneous system, true cosmology or the UNIVERSAL SCIENCE.
Society has been and is suffering from a multitude of ills. It has been the custom of society heretofore to call in a lot of quack, metaphysical and theological doctors, who have universally prescribed a doctrine of "bear your ills in patience, and even if you cannot be happy here and now, after a while, when you are too dead to know how you shall have many happinesses granted to you." There is a new doctor in society now. He is advocating UNIVERSAL DISTRIBUTION OF ALL THE CLASSIFIED KNOWLEDGE IN EXISTENCE. We predict that society will show a very great improvement after receiving a few doses of this great remedy. Organize that study class NOW.

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How would you like really to live? How would you like to work two hours a day?
If you should see a dozen milk carriers following each other in a block, you would be astonished; but it is not uncommon to see a dozen milk wagons on the street.
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Earn \$2,500.00 a year.
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\$750 a year means shoe leather instead of rubber tires.
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\$750 a year means the kind of vacation you usually take on Sunday when you sleep until two o'clock and then walk around the block to refresh yourself for the next week's grind.
\$750 means "liberty steak" and shoddy. It means that Sammy and Mary must go working for small wages because they never had a chance.
It means instead of a Life you hardly get a living. For the Public Health Service reports that \$1080 is necessary to preserve health and sustain a normal standard of living.
If you earn \$2500 and only get that about \$750, what becomes of the rest? John D. Rockefeller has an income from one billion dollars a year. One per cent of the people of this country own over seventy per cent of the wealth.
You are Robbed!
You, who do the work, get almost nothing, and they, who do nothing, get almost everything.
Rockefeller and his class vote to continue this.
What do you vote for?
The Republican Party stands for continuing this robbery.
The Democratic Party stands for continuing this robbery.
The real issue is that you should have an opportunity to live;
That you should receive what you produce;
That this robbery should cease.
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He hangs out a flag from his home and his office.
He always stands up at "The Star Spangled Banner."
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Then sneaks these same mothers for clothing and food.
But if you cry "traitor," this smooth speculator
Will think you are one of a lunatic brood.
Yet Benedict Arnold was only a piker
Compared with the man who amid all the strife,
Will seize on the chances to force huge advances
In things that a nation depends on for life;
He did his foul work in the day of secession.
He poisoned our boys in the conflict with Spain—
High up on a gibbet we ought to exhibit
This traitor who holds up a nation for gain.
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Gleanings From the Log of an Agitator

Written for the Ohio Socialist by
W. E. Reynolds

Yesterday prepared the turmoil of today, today foreshadows the tomorrow coming. The ruling ideas of every age are the ideas of its ruling class. Today, we have the "everybody-must-work" order, and truth does it forecast the TOMORROW, when a victorious, proletarian, working-class will enforce that same mandate, except that TOMORROW there will be NO EXCEPTIONS on account of wealth. ALL who are able bodies will be forced to render UNTO society the equivalent of that which they receive FROM society.

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Will think you are one of a lunatic brood.
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Compared with the man who amid all the strife,
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In things that a nation depends on for life;
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He poisoned our boys in the conflict with Spain—
High up on a gibbet we ought to exhibit
This traitor who holds up a nation for gain.
—Berton Braley

It's better to be safe than sorry. Pay dues today.

THE CONVERSION OF JOHN ERWIN

By JESSE JASON RUFNER
CHAPTER TEN

Summary of Previous Chapters

John Erwin, pastor of the village church of Leora, in order to arouse his congregation to activity decides to hold a revival and calls in his evangelist friend "Bob" Chalmers to assist him.

John Erwin, a landlord of many acres, is the main support and pillar in the church, a conscientious and grasping man. Among his several tenants are Bill and Sally Long and their brood of youngsters.

His daughter, Lucy, a sincere church worker is secretly in love with Mr. Malcom, the blacksmith, a hearty, sharp-tongued and sincere friend of the poor, who is in love with Lucy, too too diffident to speak of it.

Miss Malcom was in a quandry. She thought she had mortally offended the Reverend Robert Chalmers in her 'Story of the Cross.' Perhaps she had been too rash and had not taken fully into account his mental idiosyncrasy. After all, what right had she to sit in judgment on other people's theories? In fact, what right had anyone so to do? Still, if she were to be instrumental in this great new philosophy of hers, must she not use drastic means? Whom better try it out on than this young preacher? Was it not merely to get her ideas along these lines that he had begged her to tell the 'Story of the Cross'? He had said: "Whatever you and I may believe, we surely have a right back on the spirit of sacrifice, on the cross which has borne the burdens of the race." Why that "we"? Was he too, founding in the dark as she had been? What a fighter he would make, and the Socialist movement needed fighters; men who would stand up and keep all thought of self in the background, risking, giving, sacrificing for the greatest cause on earth, the Brotherhood of Man.

In the city she had met many young radicals, men who saw the way so clearly themselves, they had forgotten the long hard road they had traveled before they had pulled out of the mire of bygone religions and superstitions. They were like butterflies that had suddenly emerged from a narrow chrysalis and were mocking at the worms that had not yet evolved. She realized that much more good they might do by reason instead of ridicule. Here was one who once conscious of his strength, with social conscience awakened, would life instead of lead. Could she do it alone? It was a tremendous task but she certainly should try. Adroitly she drew Ned Shane's opinion of Chalmers and gathered together bits of his sermons from him.

"Chalmers is a mighty cur's preacher. He ain't none of your high-and-mighty kind who walks around as if he were an adult, but wastes time on just folks. He's a regular man, if he is a parson, and a darn good feller. He ain't like of preacher Simmers what used to preach here. Why that feller went around with a face longer than the moral law, and every kind in this town took for tall timber when they saw him comin'. He allus wore a doxology face and looked like he'd lost his last friend. He give me the shivers and I allers had urgent business in the back yard when I saw him comin'."

"Why Mr. Shane," laughed the nurse, "you do not seem very fond of religious people. Don't you think you ought to go to church and try to do differently? You surely should try to be a Christian, should you not?"

"Well, I s'pose I had, but I get so disgusted with some of 'em, I don't feel as if I ever wanted to be like 'em. Just s'pose I did and got to be just like the rest of 'em, who'd do things for just common folks? The little Allie Perkins and old Mike Sloan who gets roarin' drunk and I go fetch him home every Saturday night 'fore he gets so polluted Mandy is afraid of him. If I was a church member of course I couldn't do that."

"Why couldn't you do that if you were a Christian, Mr. Shane?"

"Well, I s'pose I could if I was just a plain Christian—but a church member! Lordy, I wouldn't dare walk on the same side of the street with him in this burg. Then if I was a church member I would have to find out if anyone was really 'worthy' before I helped 'em any, like old Phemie Gibson says, and if they wa'n't I'd have to call the meetin' together and pray for 'em and send a committee to investigate 'em and another to give 'em good advice and by that time they might be dead, starved to death more'n likely. All the Christians I ever knew was just that kind, a fancy lot of specimens picked out of the common herd who was so busy building mansions for themselves in a secluded part of heaven that they hadn't even taken time to look up their titles. None of that for me. I don't want to go to that sort of a place."

"When I was just a kid I owned a yaller dog. I called him Bruce and he was the humanest body you ever did see. You ought to have seen his eyes. Someone poisoned him and I had to bury him," Shane paused as he recalled the scene. "Of course, being just a kid, I thought old Bruce had a soul and I'd see him some day. But Mother said no. That dog was a lot humaner than John Erwin or old Jonas Radcliffe and I'd a deal rather put up where he is at than with them. I don't care much where they are, I ain't got much use for their kind and I don't want no more dealin' with them than I got to have."

"Then one time I got acquainted with a preacher over to Stringtown. They got two churches over there. One of 'em believes in hell and 't'other don't. Well, anyhow, this feller preached in the buildin' what he did and he mad me promise to come to church and I went. That started the devil of a rumpus, you see an old aunt of mine belonged to the meetin' house what did believe in Hell, and she saw me and wouldn't speak to me for a year because I heard a preacher who didn't believe in hell. I thought I'd square it up the next Sunday so I drove over to her church," Shane chuckled to himself at the recollection, "but I didn't go in. I just turned old Kate into the meetin' house shed when both them churches broke loose to onct. I guess they was tryin' to see which could make the most racket."

Chalmers arrives and in conversation with Rev. Crane is told to speak gradually of such subjects as might offend the rich members of the church. Chalmers replies with the story of his poverty-stricken childhood and struggle for life. With his meeting with the nurse at the hospital, Eulalie Malcom, his daughter, of a once wealthy and high minded man, who scrupulously honest to remain rich, who became a beacon light in his life, he had never since met her.

Chalmers meets Shane and strikes a friendship with him, recognizing his strength of character. Shane, who is not a church-goer, is influenced to assist in getting a crowd of non-church attendants to hear Chalmers' sermon.

It was all a sort of jumble until they came to the chorus. Then a woman over to my aut's buildin' yelled out, soprano, I guess you call her, 'Will there be any stars in my crown?' and two or three solemn men's voices over to the other buildin' answered her, 'No not one, no not one.' Well, I thought to myself if they was goin' to quarrel like that right out loud and on Sunday to boot I guessed I'd go home. I never did believe in competition nor any other kind of hell anyhow, so I backed old Ka- out quiet like and darned if she didn't streak it back home just as if she felt like I did and blushed if I don't believe she did. Hosses know a lot more than we give 'em credit for."

"It allus seemed to me the earth was big enough for all of us, if there was a God he knowed all about it, just what made us the way we was and all, and if there wasn't, I wasn't such a terrible speck in the universe that I mattered much anyhow. What do you think, Miss Malcom?"

"I am afraid I feel a lot like you do about such things, Mr. Shane. I used to beiong to church but like you I never could be satisfied with the results of the church's teachings. Some way the church never got to the bottom of things, then I could not guess the reason, now I think I understand. Still there are many sincere Christians, who at least try to conform to the teachings of Christ, yet, somehow they do not seem to make the world very much better. They seem to be satisfied in just being good themselves, they are not concerned in bettering conditions so others may have an opportunity to be better. In fact they are content to drift with the tide. Their efforts are purely negative and they do not leave the world much if any better than they found it. I did not think seriously along those lines until through altered circumstances my viewpoint changed and I saw things from the common level instead of from the heights. I am no longer a church member, but I am sober and working for better conditions for all humanity, I believe in order to be spiritually fit, one must be mentally and physically fit. I believe in order to do the best there is in us we must not be bowed down by physical and mental starvation. Environment makes the man. Socialism would produce the environment. I believe you will be interested in some books I have, Mr. Shane. Would you care to read them?"

"Hold on there, I thought Socialists believed in dividing up and sort of raising Cain generally. You don't look very obstreperous."

Miss Malcom laughed heartily. "No, Mr. Shane, all the Socialists I ever knew were quite respectable and I never knew one who advocated 'dividing up', on the contrary they are very much opposed to it. Most of us have divided up now with the fellows that won't work until we have little left to divide. There is nothing of any value but the earth and the fullness thereof plus human labor, and the workers have always been forced through their own stupidity to divide with the shirkers. It matters little if those shirkers are millionaires or bums. Look at the thousands of office buildings in every large city that are filled with men who are doing little of any real service to the race, still what a tremendous load they are on the backs of the men who must do the really useful work of the world."

"Now you are saying things," said Shane, "I never see one of those white shirt fronts but I feel like presenting him with a pair of overalls and setting him to work. Some time folks will wake up to them fellows and there will be something doing. Would the Socialists make them work? Maybe the rest of us might set down one in a while and rest a spell then. That reminds me I've rested too long now and must meander over to the shop. Won't you go along over to hear Chalmers preach tonight, Miss Malcom?"

"I am afraid I cannot leave my patient. I am much obliged to you for the invitation just the same. Here are those books I spoke of." The nurse went into the house.

That afternoon, Chalmers went over to Shane's. Miss Malcom was very glad to see him. Chalmers could hardly restrain himself he was so anxious to question her about the past but dared not let her suspect it.

"I suppose you are very angry with me, Reverend Chalmers," said the nurse. "I really cannot help it if you are. I feel very strongly along those lines and I haven't much use for preachers."

Chalmers gasped. Those were almost the same words Shane had used. "Pray, why haven't you, Miss Malcom?"

"Well, in the first place, preachers must always follow a set rule. They dare have no initiative, they dare not go against prevailing methods."

"Not all preachers are like that, Miss Malcom," said Chalmers coloring hotly.

"Oh yes they are, they are obliged to do in your heart and know is right and see how soon you will be obliged to resign. You've not to preach along ordained lines and in an ordained manner."

"Please illustrate, Miss Malcom," said Chalmers, as he idly turned the pages of a book.

Well, then, suppose there is a big mine near here and it is unsafe, then suppose the men strike for better conditions—you know they should have them—and you as a minister might

aid them in getting them but you dare not do it because the men who own that mine belong to your church and pay you your salary, so instead of going after those mine owners as you should, you go to the employees and try to persuade them to give up the strike."

"No, no, Miss Malcom, you misunderstand me, I would do no such thing. I would tell those mine owners they must grant better conditions or leave the church."

"Well suppose you did then what would you happen to?" asked Shane. "You would lose your job to a preacher who would be docile enough to preach to suit the mine owners. Now is that not true? Can you think of one bit of good you can do in the church under the present system? You would be handicapped at every turn."

"Still, Miss Malcom, Christ is not to blame for that surely, if the church does go wrong as I grant it is apt too, still, you surely must acknowledge the church is helping the young, encouraging high ideals and making for a better manhood and womanhood for our young people. The boys and girls inside the church seem in some way better than those outside," defended Chalmers.

"Because the church stands for individualism," pursued the nurse, "or in other words, selfishness. You say to a young man, 'be good, keep your self clean and pure. Pray that you may be saved or may not sin—make the most of yourself. Be upright, be honest, be true.' Is it not so?"

"Yes, certainly, is not that as it should be?" inquired Chalmers, watching her narrowly. "What better could anyone advocate than that?"

The church has turned out some fine fellows."

"Along capitalistic lines, I grant you. You preachers deal with the individual as if he were in the world alone, as if he end and aim of his existence is to save his soul that it might dwell in eternity. You are not, you are very much soiled and only aim is heavenly happiness. You fence a man around with spiritual thoughts and ideals. What he does in hard every day life receives scant attention as long as he keeps it divorced from that thing you call soul. The very worst exploiters of labor are in the church. Your teachings as preachers have made them excellent judges of others while being utterly unable to see wherein they err themselves. For instance, in the city we men who relate to the lower end of the red light districts, yet they own department stores which pay such notoriously low wages to their help that unless a girl has some other means of support she cannot live honestly, so she becomes a candidate for the segregated district and that department store owner knows it, and while he sees the sinner very plainly, and is very anxious to legislate against the sin of prostitution, he is very careful not to look for causes but lays all the blame on the moral depravity of the fallen. He goes to church in the building paid for by the rape of the workers and listens to a preacher who is as much of a prostitute intellectually, as the occupants of the 'red light' are morally. Now, understand, I am not saying Christ is to blame for all this, he is not in any way.

"Christ belonged to the working class and as a proletarian and agitator was crucified by the ruling class who looked on him as the commonest of rabble. For three hundred and twelve years the crucifixion of the followers of Christ hid in caves persecuted and abused. At last through the machinations of Constantine, Christianity became 'respectable' and the Christian religion was stolen from the proletariat and became the tool of their oppressors."

"The religions of all ages have followed the prevailing methods of production and distribution, for instance, under feudalism religion was controlled by the feudal lords. In an autocracy the autocrats control the religious policies of the people. Under capitalism, the capitalist control the churches. As long as we allow private ownership of the means of life, this will continue to be so. The church as it stands today, is a servile tool in the hands of the ruling class. In fact, in the comparatively near future, machines will entirely supersede human labor power and unless we inroduce a different system of economics, the most of us will be obliged to get off the earth for we will be mere incumbrances—dependent on the lord of industry for the very means of life. Still, one part of society cannot fall and leave the rest intact. The final struggle may mean the complete destruction of the race."

"Then you think a man can do no good under the present system as you call it in the church. Ought not a man to stay in the church and fight things out on the inside, Miss Malcom?"

"The best way to find out is to try it. Stay in the church and preach collective goodness, go to the very bottom of things for causes. I'll wager you won't stay there long. You will soon see in contact with the inevitable 'class struggle' and it will dawn upon you. Suppose you try preaching collective ownership of the means of life, explain economic determinism and surplus values and the materialistic conception of history. You might do it. Your personality would have much to do with it and perhaps you might succeed for a time at least, but very likely should you tackle the present system of private ownership you would rush against a snag."

battles with himself if he shall go on his way fighting alone against social injustice or if he shall yield to the tug of the silken cord which binds the mental prostitute. He feels the loneliness of those who tread unbeat paths, yet his manhood and social consciousness prevail.

At Allie's bedside he discovers the identity of her nurse. She is the "Who-so-ever-girl" of his hospital experience.

Returning home from church one evening Ned Shane and Lucy engage in conversation which leads Shane to the climax of his life. He stumblingly but heroically proposes and is accepted.

"Doubtless, Miss Malcom, you will be surprised to learn that I have been thinking seriously along your lines myself, although I never have paid much attention to economics. I think I should like to get in on this fight, if you will let me. I have always preached the truth as it never changed, many times at utter variance with my ministerial training. Doubtless you are mostly right still you must convince me. May I call you, casually, while we are both in town? I should love to look over some of those books you have and decide," frankly, "you interest me. Please tell me I may come."

Suddenly the nurse was transformed from a determined Socialist lecturer into a woman, sweet and wholesome. The warm blood mounted to her cheeks as she held out her hand. "You may come," she said simply as they parted. Chalmers, mingling happy emotions with strange new theories, left the nurse to ponder and dream over this handsome

stranger, who nevertheless seemed not like a stranger. She marveled at the light in his eyes at parting. She hummed under her breath snatches of old love songs as she realized she too belonged to the great scheme of things in this old universe.

(To be continued)

Coalition Politics

While ex-Senator Root and the League for National Unity urge the laying aside of partisanship in districts "in which there are enough pro-German and pacifist and extreme Socialist votes to make it possible for a disloyal candidate to be returned by a plurality if the loyal vote is divided pretty evenly between the Republican and Democratic parties", Speaker Clark deplores the injection of discord into the governmental machinery and begs his hearers to elect a Democratic House. Republican spellbinders may be counted upon to deplore the injection of partisanship into the campaign and to beg their audiences to elect a Republican House. There may be a few districts in which the two parties will unite upon a coalition candidate, but the result may not be in every case what they anticipate. It is evident now that part of Berger's hundred thousand votes came from persons who resented being dictated to by holler-than-thou politicians, and who took the most effective way of rebuking such presumption. If there is any danger of the election of a pro-German or a disloyal candidate, by all means insure his defeat by consolidating the overwhelmingly loyalist vote. But Wisconsin, like New York City last fall, proves how easy it is to alienate votes by loose accusations of disloyalty.—N. Y. Evening Post.

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Those locals whose secretaries have mailed the State Office a list of their delinquent members are now receiving surprises in the way comrades are requesting stamps for their dues books.

Right here we wish to ask—Has your local secretary or your branch secretary mailed the State Office a list of YOUR delinquent members? If he has not, see that he is instructed to do so at once. LOOSE NO TIME IN THIS MATTER. SEND A LIST OF YOUR DELINQUENT MEMBERS TO THE STATE OFFICE TO-DAY. WE WILL HELP YOU DRAW THEM BACK INTO THE "REGULAR" LIST OF WORKERS. DO IT NOW!

AVAILABLE SPEAKERS

Terms for these speakers are \$5.00 a meeting and expenses. Locals can either write the state office for a speaker or write direct to speakers, selecting the one nearest to them whenever possible in order to save expense. There are probably other comrades whose names do not appear upon this list who could fill occasional speaking engagements. These comrades should send their names and addresses to the state office at once.

DON'T FORGET THIS

- Wm. FRANCIS BARNARD, 737 Prospect Ave., Room 406.
- CHAS. BAKER, 1291 Cook Ave., Lakewood.
- M. J. BEERY, Newman Building, Mansfield.
- MAX BOEHM, 180 Harbor St., Conneaut.
- LOTTA BURKE, 1417 Walnut Ave., Cincinnati.
- EDWIN BLANK, 66 Public Square, Lima.
- JOHN BRANSTETTER, 3111 Imperial St. Cincinnati.
- G. W. C. SCOTT, 1009 W. Lima St., Findlay.
- TOM CLIFFORD, 3517 Fulton Ave., Cleveland.
- THOS. DEVINE, 1527 Stratton Ave., Toledo.
- A. B. HOLLENBAUGH, 859 Columbus Ave., Fostoria.
- JOHN HOUSE, 746 Vine St., Coshocton.
- A. L. HITCHCOCK, 2066 W. 99th St., Cleveland, O. Public School Affairs.

- E. L. HITCHENS, 3918 Regent Ave., Norwood.
- JAS. T. MARSH, 2120 Maple Ave., Norwood.
- FRANK L. MARTIN, 107 Ft. Square, Marietta.
- JOHN R. MCKEOWN, Leavittsburg, Ohio.
- E. Z. MILLER, 1228 7th St., Lorain.
- WM. PATTERSON, 1727 Michigan St., Toledo.
- MARGUERITE PREVEY, 140 South High St., Akron.
- WM. F. POTTING, 229 W. 6th St., Martins Ferry.
- C. O. POWER, 333 East 20th Ave., Columbus.
- G. W. C. SCOTT, 1009 W. Lima St., Findlay (Colored Speaker)
- JOHN A. REHM, 207 W. Main St., Springfield, O.
- GEO. REUKAUF, 4468 Harrison St., Bellaire.
- HUGO RUEMMEL, 2754 Norwood Ave., Norwood.
- C. E. RUTHENBERG, 737 Prospect Ave., Cleveland.
- JOS. W. SHARTS, 127 South Main St., Dayton.
- ALBERT STORCK, 65 Dale Ave., Mansfield.
- M. A. TOOHEY, 1520 Oakwood Ave., Toledo.
- A. J. TOTTEN, 414 East Main St., Alliance.
- SCOTT WILKINS, 715 West Pearl St., Wapakoneta.

CROATIAN SPEAKERS

Walter Jokovich, Box 21, Yorkville.

GERMAN SPEAKERS

JOS. JODLBAUER, 2358 Ontario St., Cleveland.

HUNGARIAN SPEAKERS

M. ERDEL, 3038 West 20th place, Cleveland.
LEO FRANKL, 2308 West 41st St., Cleveland.
P. E. ROSENGARTEN, 319 A St., Lorain.

ITALIAN SPEAKERS

PETER SAMBUCCO, R. D. No. 1, Bellaire.

Pay Dues To-Day

CORRECTION
In last week's issue of the Ohio Socialist it was stated under the head of "Executive Committee Motions," that the State Executive Committee allow the sum of two dollars to each family of imprisoned comrades per week, etc." It should have been stated that the families of comrades Townsend and Henney shall be allowed the sum of two dollars per week, etc.

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THE STATE CAMPAIGN IS UPON US. WE MUST INCREASE OUR SUBSCRIPTION LIST. WE WANT TO MAKE THE OHIO SOCIALIST A POWER IN OHIO POLITICS. WE WANT THOUSANDS OF NEW READERS TO READ THE DETAILS OF THE DEBS TRIAL WHICH BEGINS SEPT. 9th. THE OHIO SOCIALIST WILL REPORT THIS TRIAL IN FULL. WE WANT NOT ONLY THOUSANDS OF NEW READERS BUT TENS OF THOUSANDS. EVERY BRANCH AND LOCAL, EVERY PARTY MEMBER SHOULD AT ONCE PUT FORTH EXTRA EFFORTS TO GET NEW READERS FOR THIS PAPER. THIS LIBERAL OFFER OF FREE BOOKS SHOULD SPUR YOU ON. GET ON THE JOB AT ONCE.

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