

# The Ohio Socialist

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## Charge U. S. 'Framed' Rebellion In Russia

### Debs' Freedom in Hands of Supreme Court Judges

Verbal arguments in the appeal of the case of Eugene V. Debs, convicted of violating the Espionage Act, and subsequently appealing it to Congress, were made before the Supreme Court last week.

The appeal hinges entirely on the question of the constitutionality of the Espionage Act.

Replying to contentions that the act interferes with the freedom of speech, the government brief said:

**Government Confesses Error.**  
The government confessed error, which means that the defendants were illegally convicted in the first two appeals to the United States Supreme Court from convictions under the Espionage Act have been successful. Both cases arose in South Dakota. One was that of William J. Head, a Socialist organizer who, in the summer of 1917, circulated a petition for the repeal of the Conscription law, and expressed the opinion that the Conscription law was unconstitutional, that the war was caused by the money interests in the east and that "we were all damned fools for supporting it."

The other case was that of Emanuel Baltzer and 26 other Socialist farmers of Russian and German extraction, who sent to the Governor of South Dakota and others a rather incoherent petition protesting against the allowance of credits for volunteers in determining draft quotas, demanding a referendum on the Draft law; urging the governor to advocate payment of war expenses by taxation instead of loans; and demanding "immediate action and answer, and, if we fail to get it, we demand your resignation and will spell sure defeat—*you, your party, and your little nation, J. P. Morgan, as we have the people with us.*"

Decision in the case of Eugene V. Debs may not be rendered for a month or more, as the court has taken from four to six weeks after the hearing before handing down its verdict in similar cases in the past.

### Socialists Show Why Labor Party Should not have Support of Workers

In passing the Espionage Act and subsequently appealing it to Congress, the brief said, "clearly yielded to temptation under the exigencies of war to strike down and destroy the free speech and free press clause of the constitution, in order as it was believed, that the war-making powers of the government might be more effectively carried into execution."

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#### RESOLUTION ON THE PROPOSED LABOR PARTY.

The murderous war, the great mass slaughter and deprivation of the workers of the necessities of life has caused the workers to lose confidence in the former mighty rulers of the world. Like a great, powerful tide the revolutionary movement grows higher and broader in the old world and in sweeping the rubbish of the criminal capitalist system before it.

The exploiters of the world are trembling before their exploited victims. To avert the consequences of independent, revolutionary working class action the exploiters are making an effort to control the rebellious spirit of the workers through a new method.

In every country they are able to find individuals who are ignorant of the working class and who frequently ally themselves with the ruling capitalist class and become its ready tools. Their action before and during the war prove beyond doubt

that these men are doing the work of the capitalist class. These mis-leaders of the workers notice that they are losing the confidence of the workers. They know that the workers are beginning to realize the necessity of independent working class political action and that sooner or later they will take such action independent of them.

If the workers resort to independent political action spontaneously, without the consent or even contrary to the wishes of their leaders, these leaders will be swept aside. And so they are taking preventative measures by organizing a labor party that will free the workers from oppression and exploitation under the capitalist system.

The declaration, which is in the form of a resolution, declaring opposition to the new party and urging and demanding that the National Executive Committee take similar action, reads as follows:

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# A VOICE OUT OF RUSSIA

By GEO. V. LOMONOSOFF

(From The Dial)

Americans have always pictured Russia as some fairyland such as India or Tibet. Formerly it was the land of the czars, the whip, and the Cossack, and now it is the land of the still less comprehensible Bolsheviks. Yet there is a great likeness in character between Americans and Russians; for instance, devotion to land, love of liberty, natural humor, and a carefree attitude. But there is a great difference, owing to historic reasons, between the mode of life of the United States and that of Russia. First of all, the white pioneers went into the forests and prairies of this country one by one or in small groups and settled immediately as individual farmers. The Russian people migrated a thousand years ago from the Carpathians to the east in masses. They occupied lands for "arrets" (groups). During that thousand years they grew accustomed to cultivating the land by communistic methods. But the American farmer is first of all an owner, whereas the Russian peasant is a communist—and here lies the reason of the success of Socialist teaching in Russia. Second, in America material and spiritual advantages are distributed among the population more evenly than in Russia. Until the very outbreak of the Revolution the law distinctly divided the Russian "subjects" into two uneven parts; 3 per cent. of the population were the so-called "privileged" classes and 97 per cent. the so-called "tax paying" people. All comforts and necessities of life, including education, were the privilege of the 3 per cent.; admittance to high schools and universities, to state service and officers' rank was totally closed to the 97 per cent. It should not be forgotten that 85 per cent. of the population were freed from the state of slavery only fifty-eight years ago, and naturally they still bear much malice to their former masters. But even among the 3 per cent. of the privileged there was not full content; the capitalistic class and the Intelligentsia were deprived of political power, which was monopolized by court adventurers. Discontent was universal. It was already evident in 1905, but not being sufficiently organized, it was crushed.

The war precipitated the climax. It is well known that the war found Russia inadequately prepared. Nevertheless we performed the self-imposed duties more than honestly; we performed them with self-sacrifice. And this did not fail to react; owing to the undeveloped state of our economy we were ruined by hunger and poverty by the third year of the war.

This did not happen at once. We passed three stages in falling down the slope. The first stage passed with the cry: "The war will end soon!" Owing to this belief the factories and shops continued to work according to the usual peace program and met the demands of the consumers at the expense of the army's needs. Russia had everything in abundance; moreover the cessation of exports created

a surplus of goods. The heart of the country did not feel the hardships of the war. It is true that 12,000,000 youths and men were torn away from their families, but the tears for them dissolved in the ocean of apathy and plenty brought about by the flow of money into the villages. The last is of such great importance that we must go into details of it. We know what enormous expenditures a modern war requires. Russia did not have enough gold, and attempts to raise internal loans were unsuccessful, owing to the ignorance of the masses. Therefore only one way was open to us, to print paper money. The sudden increase of its amount in circulation did not fail to show results; the ruble began to fall in value and prices of commodities began to increase accordingly. Inasmuch as the peasant was getting double prices, the peasant sold everything, grain, cattle, linen, grandmother's dresses. "The village is growing rich," shouted the newspaper.

But soon, very soon, the Russian peasant learned a bitter lesson as to the value of money. As thunder from a clear sky came the news of our retreat from the Carpathians in the spring of 1915. It was found that in order to proceed with the war we lacked the most necessary commodities; it was found that our children and fathers were facing the most cruel and powerful enemy totally unarmed. This brought about a feverish mobilization of our industry.

The second stage ensued and ran under the motto: "Everything for the war!" We sacrificed our entire industry to the prosecution of the war. We did not merely cease to manufacture nails, candles, and agricultural machinery, but we even gave up 75 per cent. of our textile industry for war needs. And thus the so-called goods famine ensued. But the country did not have articles of necessity, and although goods were yet to be obtained in the cities nothing reached the village. Having money on hand, the peasant found that he could not purchase anything with it. He could not understand it at first, but when he realized it, he became very angry and refused to sell grain for the army and cities. "I don't want your money," he said to the agents of the government and to merchants who would come for the grain. "Give me gingham, nails, scythes, boots—and unless you give me these, you will not get my grain." During the czar's regime even flogging was resorted to, but the peasant was quite determined in his refusal to sell grain.

As a result of this the army and the cities remained without bread, and the cattle were partly consumed and partly starved by lack of hay. A shortage of foodstuffs began, and in addition to this many refugees from Poland and Lithuania fled in the fall of 1915 to the interior cities. Nevertheless we managed to push through the trying winter of 1915-16. And in the fall of 1916 the situation became still worse. Due to additional recruiting of soldiers a shortage of labor

occurred. The cultivated area suffered a decrease of 30 per cent. And then in November there was an acute shortage of locomotives on the railroads. We never had had many of them. And during the war, owing to the intensive usage, they were worn out and there was no means of repairing them. As a result of this, the railroads were totally disorganized. On the Don and in Siberia, for instance, grain and hay were rotting at the stations, while on the Roumanian front I personally witnessed how thousands of horses were falling of exhaustion and hunger. And the inhabitants had to sustain themselves upon the meat of these fallen horses. Conditions in the cities were not much better. Hunger and cold penetrated everywhere. The most timid citizens began to complain and protest. And what meanwhile was going on within the government? Dissipation with Rasputin and the placing of favorites in ministerial posts. All slightly capable ministers, in spite of public opinion, were driven out and in their places were put known thieves, cretins and traitors. A sort of madness, hopeless madness, enveloped Tsarskoye Selo and in the name of the weak-willed, drunken Nicholas, the Russian people were governed by his German wife and a clique of scoundrels. Loyal hands, desiring to uphold the prestige of the throne, assassinated Rasputin; but in answer to this followed orgies over his corpse the "provocation" of street disturbances in Petrograd, and the dispersing of the Duma. Then the moment came when all of us—from Lenin to Purishkevitch (the leader of the famous "Black Hundred")—understood that this sort of thing could not continue any longer, that the czar's regime had outlived itself. And it fell—fell painlessly and with ease, as a decayed apple falls from a tree.

In place of Nicholas II came the government of Prince Lvov, and the government of cadets—a revolutionary government without revolutionists. I shall never forget the comment about this government by former minister of the czar, Krievshein. "This government," said Krievshein after he was told of its composition, "has one great fault; it is too moderate. Two months ago it would have satisfied the country; now it is too late. It will not have power, and thus, sir, you will sacrifice your own newborn child—the revolution—and also our all-beloved fatherland, Russia." These words proved to be prophetic. The composition of the first provisional government was not in accordance with the sentiment of the country. And as a result, side by side with this government, sprang up the Soviets, backed by the confidence of the great masses of the people. Among the ministers of the first provisional government there were to be found no men with technical experience and state administration. Lvov and Miliukoff gave ministerial places to their party friends. The director of the imperial ballet was given the portfolio of the minister of finance; a physician, the ministry of agriculture.

and the United States was brought into the struggle.

The earlier war utterances of President Wilson were very similar in tone to the usual war speeches of belligerents, and seem to have evoked little discussion in Germany; but in September, 1917, came the first of his remarkable series of speeches, designed to break down the German autocracy. In it he stated that we had no enmity toward the German people, but toward their form of government, which was a menace to the peace of the world. Throughout Germany this was interpreted as a willingness to have peace without annexations or indemnities, on the basis of the status quo, if only the Germans would establish a decent, trustworthy government.

An answer to these demands should have been given immediately. To postpone the answer until the convocation of the constituent assembly was impossible. The provisional government realized perfectly well that a hungry, barefooted Russia, with its disorganized railroads, could not possibly wage war even as it had during the czar's regime. And the treaties signed by the czar and the Allies could have no moral significance for free Russia. Therefore the circumstances and the dignity of Russia re-

quired that the provisional government give to its Allies a friendly but firm repulse. It should have demanded immediate aid and should even have threatened separate peace. At that time we still had an army, and the Germans would have paid us high for a separate peace. But our youthful ministers and ambassadors, instead of taking such a firm course before the Allies and gave all sorts of assurances that Russia would never conclude a separate peace. Why then should the Allies have hastened with material aid to Russia? I do not blame them for it. "One's own interests are nearest." And meanwhile the army was diminishing and diminishing—hunger had driven the soldiers from the trenches.

State administration presented a similar picture. Its problems could not be postponed until the convocation of the constituent assembly. By force of events the provisional government was compelled to tolerate the self-appointed unlawful Soviets; more than that, they had to listen to their demands attentively and as a result proclaim Russia a republic. This measure undoubtedly undermined the prestige of the constituent assembly and the belief in its indispensability.

For this the provisional governments could scarcely be blamed. Their fault was that they had remained behind the current of life and the expectations of the people. And what were those expectations? The capitalists and the intelligentsia, approximately 11-2 per cent. of the population, were dreaming only of seizing political power. The peasants—75 per cent. of the population—were dreaming of the land. The soldiers—and these numbered about 10 per cent. of the population—dreamed of peace and of returning to their dear ones at home; and finally, the working men, who numbered about 10 per cent., dreamed of seizing control of industry.

The provisional governments promised everything, but asked for delay until the convocation of the constituent assembly. But the peasants and workers preferred to realize their desire to get the land and the means of production immediately by revolutionary means. "This is safer. At present the power is in our hands, and what will happen tomorrow, we do not know." Even the Allies would not agree to such a decision. Yet in spite of the fact that we had sacrificed for the Allies seven millions of our sons, they demanded that revolutionary Russia should participate more actively in the war.

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(From the Butte Daily Bulletin)

Socialism is the most powerful movement in society. It is the all absorbing question of the hour. The capitalists of the world are trembling as they see, it sweeping onward, growing more powerful with each victory. The philosophy of Socialism explains the historical developments of society; the Socialist Party is the active expression of those who are conscious of the development.

Capitalism must die, and those who would patch at this stage of the game will do so to carry its poisonous corpus farther to the new.

The Socialist Party must be the active living daily expression of the proletariat. It must spread the knowledge of Marx and Engels, the real expounders of revolutionary Socialism; it must enthuse and arouse the workers; it must be active every day, every hour, every minute; it must not be a simple voting machine; it must be a vital fighting organization of the wage earners of the country.

The spirit, the courage, the consciousness of Debs to speak of him in the kindest and most respectful terms. Debs is an example of the spirit of the left. The cowardly, unprincipled meanness of Spargo has called for his condemnation, not only from Russia, but also Italy and France. Spargo is an example of the schools or groups that have stood compromised are now leading the way to the left. To the revolution!

Now is the time, now is our day, let every real Socialist strive with all his and her might that the Socialist Party of America arise to the occasion and become the vanguard of the proletarian revolution. Away with all paliating, away with all those who desire office more than the freedom of the working class, and on with the class struggle. Educate, enthuse, act.

## The Socialist Party of the United States

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Even the Allies would not agree to such a decision. Yet in spite of the fact that we had sacrificed for the Allies seven millions of our sons, they demanded that revolutionary Russia should participate more actively in the war.

Consider the problem of the war. Was it possible to say to the Germans: "Wait, gentlemen. Do not shoot until the constituent assembly meets. When it meets, it will decide whether or not we shall go on killing you?" Even the Allies would not agree to such a decision. Yet in spite of the fact that we had sacrificed for the Allies seven millions of our sons, they demanded that revolutionary Russia should participate more actively in the war.

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## THE OHIO SOCIALIST

Official Organ of The Socialist Party of Ohio and Kentucky.

One Year \$1.00 BUNDLE RATES \$1.00 Per Hundred Six Months 50c

ADDRESS ALL MAIL TO SOCIALIST PARTY OF OHIO, R. F. BRECKSVILLE, OHIO.

Entered as Second Class Matter, February 21, 1917, at the Post-office at Cleveland, Ohio, Under Act of March 3, 1879.

EDITORS ..... Elmer T. Allison  
Alfred Wagenknecht

Published Weekly by The Socialist Party of Ohio at Cleveland, O.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 5, 1919.

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## WITH OUR EDITORS

### Carl Liebknecht and Rosa Luxemburg

They are dead but the revolution lives. It stays not a moment through their untimely death. Even while the capitalist press openly rejoices at the murder of this noble son and daughter of the revolution, the principles they enunciated and the tactics they employed are spreading over continents. Revolutions are not made by individuals but by social forces.

They died as they lived, flinging in the teeth of conservatism and compromise the truth of revolutionary tactics. And in so dying they died gloriously for the revolution and the truth. No nobler deaths can close nobler lives than theirs.

Farewell, Comrades, your lives were not lived in vain, and your death shall be a living inspiration to the proletariat of the world to erect as your monument the pillars of the new society upon the solid foundations of proletarian rule.

### AMERICA'S INDICTMENT

A tremendous exodus of America's foreign born population is certain in the moment shipping facilities are available. Evidence of this is seen in accounts from the daily press. A recent census of the industries of Akron, O., showed that 80 per cent. of the foreign born workmen plan to return to their native lands at the first favorable opportunity.

And in Cleveland Postmaster Murphy, in a recent interview is credited with saying that there were two main reasons given by the increasing number of War Savings Stamp purchasers who are cashing their stamps. The first was that the holders intended to return to the home land and the second was the necessity for obtaining ready money to meet living expenses.

The employers of Akron have instituted a series of lectures whereby they seek to enlighten the workers upon the beauties and benefits of American citizenship and thus offset the yearnings for the home land.

The reasons for the tender solicitude of these employers for the workers is not given but we herefrom venture a guess. They desire to see no decrease in the amount of labor power in the country. Much labor means cheap labor. No one knows this better than employers.

While it is true there can be many reasons why those of foreign birth should now desire to return to the home land—to find and meet the kith and kin whom the ravages of war have left them; to settle inheritances and in many instances TO AID THE PROLETARIAN REVOLUTION, still we believe there are other reasons which have a determining voice, especially with those who came from lands with which America has been at war; reasons which the smooth words of hired lecturers will not overcome.

To thousands of these residents the last few months have been months of terror. Suspicion has been heaped upon them. Anathemas have been hurled at them by the viper press. They have been hounded and bedeviled by voluntary would-be spy catchers and also by members of that now defunct semi-official and wholly officious organization known as the American Protective League. Because of an accident of birth they have been insulted, and in many instances outraged both privately and publicly. They have seen American Democracy put to the test and they were its victims.

This contingent of our foreign born population will have formed very decided views of that democracy, freedom, liberalism, which they were taught existed here. The land of glittering promises has become for them a land of shattered dreams and grim disappointments.

America's promises are seen for what they are—platitudes.

### OTHER EDITORS SAY—

Sometimes you year something about "the brains of the Socialist movement." We have never been able to locate any exact spot in which they are situated, but we believe that the heart of the Socialist movement of America still beats in the breast of Eugene V. Debs. And when Debs stood up in front of that jury of retired merchants and farmers in Cleveland, about to sentence him to live and die in a felon's cell, and declared his solidarity with the Russian Bolshevik government, his adherence to the class struggle, his sympathy and respect for the I. W. W., and when he turned to the judge with a magnificent gesture of superiority and said to him, "Your honor, it is true that I am opposed to our form of government"—the keynote of American Socialism for the coming year was sounded, and no manifesto of the National Security League, and no contrary testimony from our more prudent parliamentarians can change it.

THE LIBERATOR.

Before the war we increased our navy; during the war we increased our navy; now that the war is over and the League of Nations is in sight we are going to increase our navy. When and under what conditions may a navy be decreased? Why not?

HOWARD BRUBAKER.

The reconstruction plans of the capitalist class consists of schemes whereby to obstruct the workers' rise to power.

Mooney's cell door will open only at the magic touch of united labor.

### Time for Referendum Local E. Liverpool News Letter

By D. J. MORGAN.

Chicago.—An extension of two weeks in the time for filing nominations in "Referendum A, 1919" has been given by the National Office of the Socialist Party to Socialist locals. This means that Socialists will have until Feb. 23, instead of Feb. 9, to make their nominations for National Executive Committee members, delegates to the International Socialist Congress and an International Socialist Secretary.

This is the start of the second referendum for the election of National Executive Committee members under the plan of selecting three committee members from each five districts, making 15 members in all.

At least some of the party members are mystified as to the duties of the International Secretary of the Socialist Party. He is chosen to sit as the American representative in the International Socialist Bureau, which attends to the affairs of the International Socialist movement between the meetings of the International Conference.

Locals have already nominated for International Secretary, both Arthur Henderson, Secretary of the British Labor Party, and Hjalmar Branting, spokesman of the Majority Socialists of Sweden, in the Swedish riksdaag. Henderson and Branting can represent the Socialists of Great Britain and Sweden in the International Bureau, but not the workers of the United States.

# OUR PARTY PAGE

Live News of Interest to all Party Members.

### Ohio Locals, Your Attention!

The call for Socialist speakers has been unprecedented. The State Office has in fact, found it impossible to fill all applications made. Locals that have held meetings during the last two months write the State Office that even at an admission charge of 25 cents, the halls are far too small to hold the crowds that seek information about Socialism.

These active locals now demand a speaker once a week. Many of them prefer Sunday meetings. We would like to remind these locals that there is only one Sunday in each week and not seven. The State Office will do its best to provide speakers for preferred days, but we cannot perform the impossible.

#### COMPLY WITH THIS REQUEST.

This is mainly written however, to make a request of all locals. If you desire a Socialist speaker, you are now asked to file your application with the State Office. Write nothing else in the letter except an application for the speaker and write on one side of the paper only. These applications will be filed and a speaker will be sent you as soon as possible. Locals that fail to do this, locals failing to make note of this official request in their official paper, must not be disappointed if last minute calls by them cannot be filled.

#### SPEAKERS SCHEDULED FOR OHIO.

The State Office has been in correspondence with numerous Socialist speakers and to date we report the following results:

LILITH MARTIN, who toured the state during the municipal campaigns of 1917, will begin a tour of Ohio after May 1. Her specialty will be organization work, and she will make especial efforts to interest the women in the cause. She is an experienced organizer and her services will be much in demand in Ohio.

W. R. SNOW, who is now in Pennsylvania, has suggested that his Ohio tour begin in about six weeks. Comrade Snow has lectured and has been engaged in organization work in many states and comes well recommended by the Socialist Party of Illinois. Locals desiring Comrade Snow for a meeting must apply AT ONCE.

SCOTT NEARING will be ready to fill speaking dates beginning about May 1. Just when his Ohio tour will start we cannot foretell, but locals desiring a Nearing meeting must file their applications with the State Office NOW.

H. L. A. HOLMAN, of Texas, has just been engaged by the State Executive Committee for a tour of the state. Joseph W. Sharts of Dayton says that Holman has a breezy southwestern way of lecturing and he makes friends wherever he goes. Comrade Holman is ready to begin work this minute. Do you want him for a meeting? Apply now.

DENNIS E. BATT, associate editor of the "Proletarian" of Detroit, comes to this state for a meeting at Cleveland on February 23. He has promised to fill fourteen dates in Ohio, following the Cleveland meeting. Comrade Batt is a very instructive lecturer and we recommend him to all locals. Terms are ten dollars per lecture and expenses. Make application for him at once if you desire his services.

CHARLES BAKER is now on tour in Ohio. His meetings, since Jan. 16, have been uniformly successful. He reports audiences starved for information about Socialism, and crowded halls. His prospective dates will be found in another column.

THURBER LEWIS is now making a special organization trip for the State Office. His dates will be found in another column. As soon as this trip is finished he will be open for speaking engagements and further organization work. Thurber Lewis is the son of Tom Lewis. He is eighteen years of age, and is usually advertised as the "boy orator." His knowledge of Socialism, his insight into the foreign Socialist situation, his ability to tell his audiences about these in a lucid and entertaining manner, has won him high commendations from many locals in the state. Applications for Thurber Lewis meetings should be made right away.

TOM LEWIS, now residing in Cleveland, can fill Sunday dates and an occasional week-day date. He needs no recommendation.

List of Ohio comrades, resident in the state, who can fill occasional dates, will be printed in the Ohio Socialist as soon as it has been revised.

#### APPLICATIONS NOW ON FILE.

We have now on hand the following application for speakers:

Local Montpelier applies for Tom Lewis to do organization work in that city for one week.

Local North Star desires a speaker, Chas. Baker preferred.

Local Belmont County applies for an organizer for a week's work.

Local Niles applies for a Scott Nearing lecture.

The locals of Columbiana County ask to have Chas. Baker give them the week of April 28 to May 4.

Local Canton wants a speaker every Sunday afternoon.

Local Portsmouth applies for an organizer to work in the southern part of the state, in the vicinity of Portmouth, for three months.

Local Youngstown asks for the services of Charles Baker for one week.

Locals in Guernsey County apply for an organizer to help get 1,000 members for the county before fall.

Locals Youngstown, Akron, Cincinnati, Toledo, and others need speakers every Sunday.

Local Opperman applies for a speaker.

Martins Ferry and Warren apply for Nearing meetings.

Kenmore asks for Tom Lewis.

#### AND AGAIN WE SAY

Locals desiring Socialist speakers must file their applications with the State Secretary: "Request that the State Secretary be given leave of absence for two or three months to begin his duties as director of organization and propaganda at the National Office and that Mrs. Wagenknecht be assigned as temporary secretary during the interval."

Voting "yes": Scott Wilkins, Wm. Patterson, Jos. W. Sharts, Tom Clifford, M. J. Beery, Lotta Burke, Voting "no": J. P. Baker.

Comment by J. P. Baker: "I very much appreciate your desire to work for the national organization in the capacity you have stated, but I think it is getting too much of Ohio at this time to make a change. Of course, I know we can not hold you against your will, but I feel you should stay with us this present term of office. You are well liked by the whole state organization and you are getting results, which will amount to something by the end of the year. But if we have to change managers every two or three months, even though they be of the best, we will never get any place. Stay with us for the year and look to higher aspirations afterward."

By Jos. W. Sharts: "Am sorry for the state movement because you are going to take that national job, but, of course, a man ought to take the larger field of operations as long as he has any reserve energy left."

#### "OHIO SOCIALIST" "SOCIALIST NEWS"

A co-operative arrangement has been worked out between the "Ohio Socialist" and "Socialist News" through which the plan adopted by party referendum in 1912 and referred in 1917 will be put into effect. Under this plan the circulation of the "Socialist News" will be limited to Cuyahoga County and the "Ohio Socialist," on the other hand, will not be sent into Cuyahoga County.

All the subscribers for the "Socialist News" outside of Cuyahoga County will receive the "Ohio Socialist" and

### What the Red Army is Doing

No question about it comrades, we will have to hand it to the Red Army! One would think by the results of their skirmishes after subscriptions that they were veterans in these activities. Here is the "Ohio Socialist," seven months old as a weekly, and already able to walk on its hind feet and hold up its head like a regular Bolshevik! That a great deal of credit is due the tireless efforts of the members of the Red Army goes without saying. Without their work in the field we would undoubtedly have been crawling in our long clothes yet.

Such is not the case, however.

The Red Army has kept us so busy keeping up with the flood of subscriptions and other work that we have some what less time giving them the notice which is so deservedly theirs. Especially the last three weeks: A few weeks ago we thought we were establishing a world record by securing a hundred subscriptions a week. Well, we've established several records since then. We climbed up to a hundred and fifty, and then hit the two hundred mark and then the Army got right on business and boosted the weekly list to five hundred! That means, if it is kept up, that in a year we shall have twenty-five thousand subscribers, which means at least a hundred thousand readers. Is that a goal worth striving for? We think so. We also know that the Red Army thinks so too and in that knowledge we are assured that their activities in the interest of our party paper will continue throughout the coming months.

Owing to the increasing number of comrades who are devoting their time and effort in increasing our list of readers we are compelled to give credit in this form to save space. The following comrades sent in subscriptions last week:

Local Battle Creek, Mich. 4. A. B. Hollenbaugh, Tiffin, O. 5. Tom Lewis, Cleveland, O. 2. E. G. Showers, Mansfield, O. 2. E. B. Elbush, Columbus, O. 2. J. F. Potts, Elkins, Va. 1. Emma Carpenter, Drakes Br., Va. 1. B. Blumenberg, Grand Rapids, Mich. 1. R. Jackson, Muskegon Heights, Mich. 1. J. F. Dennison, Warren, O. 3. F. B. Hamilton, Piqua, O. 4. Horace C. Shank, Hamilton, O. 1. H. P. Potts, Richmond, Ky. 2. John W. Louich, Tacoma, Wash. 1. D. A. Hastings, Cheyenne, Wyo. 1. Geo. Vasich, Youngstown, O. 3. Luther McIntyre, Ashley, W. Va. 2. Rex Wolfe, Midvale, O. 5. E. P. McLevitt, Steubenville, O. 7. Joseph Wilnecker, Toledo, O. 7. J. Meyer, Davenport, Ia. 3. Chas. Peterson, Davenport, Ia. 2. J. C. Schiefer, Marion, O. 3. Harley Tilton, Derwood, O. 3. P. H. Head, Carrollton, O. 2. W. A. Riley, Akron, O. 1. Local Portage Co., O. 1. Bernard Kehm, Niles, O. 5. J. A. Hess, Midland, Ky. 2. Local Hubbard, O. 6. Local Columbus, O. 6. Local Conti, O. 2. Carl Guillot, Canton, 5. Local Dayton, O. 4. Curtis Cannon, Huntingdon, Tenn. 3. Wm. Davis, W. Fork, Ark. 1. A. Abram, Akron, O. 4. Wm. Pelleur, Seattle, Wash. 6. J. S. Albert, Van Wert, O. 2. Hogan O'Brien, E. Liverpool, O. 19. Edward Peterson, Niles, O. 2. C. H. Watkins and E. C. Glatfelter, Dover, O. 3. H. J. Miller, Havener, N. M. 5. N. R. Collins, Cuy. Falls, O. 6. F. W. Somewhere, U. S. A. 2. Peter Hanek, Warren, O. 2. H. L. Franklin, Fairmount, W. Va. 4. Local Bellairs, O. 5. D. Cocklin, Beetho, O. 4. Local Youngstown, O. 8. F. D. Lowe, Riverside, Va. 9. Local E. Liverpool, O. 3. Mike Doda, Steubenville, O. 1. G. Cartleman, Cincinnati, O. 1. K. W. Fry, Lima, O. 3. A. Labash, K. C., Kans. 1. Pearl Plafair, Irwin, Pa. 2. H. J. Sims, Bethel, O. 1. G. C. Steubenville, O. 1. Frank Bender, Pleasant City, O. 2. H. Thumm, Youngstown, O. 15. N. A. Riley, Akron, O. 1. C. R. Swope, Girard, O. 1. Lotta Burke, Cincinnati, O. 1. W. Schulz, Cincinnati, O. 1. F. Sweth, Toledo, O. 1. Geo. Althman, Columbus, O. 1. F. Holloway, Akron, O. 1. H. Ruemmel, Norwood, O. 1. Local Hamilton, O. 8. F. W. Daywell, Warren, O. 7. E. B. Bok, Grand Rapids, Mich. 4. F. E. Ashe, Carrizozo, N. M. 7. Alice Burkhardt, Judsonia, Ark. 2. C. G. Glatfelter, New Philadelphia, O. 4. Robert Henkle, Washington D. C., 2. Local Massillon, O. 6. Local Piqua, O. 2. J. H. Steele, Nenana, Alaska. 1. Bessie E. Davis, Bay City, Mich. 4. Frank Hotinck, Hammond, Ind. 5. C. Case, Hamilton, O. 2. Local Columbus, O. 1. H. F. Oberholzer, Huntington, W. Va. 1. C. Raymond, Youngstown, O. 2. Local Cambridge, O. 8. Edwin Blank, Lima, O. 1. Karl W. Fry, Lima, O. 1. Fred Berger, Lima, O. 2. R. P. Conklin, Lima, O. 5. S. C. Stair, Walters, Okla. 5.

Local Bellairs, O. 5.

D. Cocklin, Beetho, O. 4.

Local Youngstown, O. 8.

F. D. Lowe, Riverside, Va. 9.

Local E. Liverpool, O. 3.

Mike Doda, Steubenville, O. 1.

G. Cartleman, Cincinnati, O. 1.

K. W. Fry, Lima, O. 3.

A. Labash, K. C., Kans. 1.

Pearl Plafair, Irwin, Pa. 2.

H. J. Sims, Bethel, O. 1.

G. C. Steubenville, O. 1.

# NEWS AND VIEWS—A WEEKLY SURVEY

Edited By C. E. Ruthenberg

## The British Strikes

Reports from Great Britain tell of a series of great strikes sweeping over the entire country. That these strikes are the expression of a movement that has a greater goal than merely to increase wages and shorten hours of labor is indicated in dispatches that reach this country from two different sources.

Paul Wallace Hanna, European correspondent of the New York Call, in a news article written before the wave of strikes began, gives the reason why the British workers are resorting to industrial action. We quote the following from this article:

Direct action on the industrial field will be enormously stimulated by the general elections which have just returned a big Tory majority to parliament.

That is not the opinion of one or a few men. It is the opinion of the best judges in Great Britain—labor, conservatives and radicals.

The view that the election was "a government trick was first given me four days ago, before the result was announced and when it was still believed that labor had captured at least 100 seats."

George Lansbury, editor of the Labor Herald, believes that not more than one-half of the electors went to the polls and that a still smaller proportion of the soldiers ever received ballots. And the ballots sent to the soldiers, like all others, contained only names, without party designations, so that the average soldier did not know whether Smith was a Tory or a Sinn Feiner. Moreover all labor newspapers had been barred from the camps and prevented from reaching France, so that no Tommy could tell anything about the issues at stake.

More important than all else, however, is the spreading distrust of parliamentary action that pervades the ranks of the working class.

The correspondent of the Christian Science Monitor confirms the above view in an article written since the industrial movement began. This writer says that what the workers are aiming at is "control of industry." This quotation gives the gist of his comment:

The conclusion arrived at by the present writer, during a personal tour of the Clyde a few weeks ago, is that the discontent fomented by the irreconcilable is more political than industrial in character, and if the present demands were conceded, there is no justification for the hope that peace would be restored. Rather would the movement thrive and grow impudent with the success attained and steps be almost immediately taken to formulate further proposals. The leaders of the movement declare quite openly and candidly at their own party conferences that they are hostile to the present government, that their ultimate object is the control of industry, first having reduced industry to a condition that it no longer pays the employer to carry on.

The hope of the ruling class that with the end of the war the workers of Great Britain would meekly return to the old conditions under which they were oppressed and exploited is being blasted by this militant industrial movement. That this movement will grow and develop and become something akin to a revolution is very probable.

## Placing the Blame

In Cleveland a combination of crooked politics, crooked lawyers and the criminal element has created a situation in which crimes are committed with impunity. Pocket picking, hold-ups, burglaries and murders are daily recorded by the newspapers but arrests are infrequent, prosecutions few and convictions rare.

The stench arising from this conditions has grown so strong that something had to be done. So there have been investigations and pages of publicity.

## International Labor News

EDITORS: Louis P. Lochner, Scott Nearing, Santeri Nuorteva, Alexander Trachtenberg

## Bloodless Revolution

Correspondents Describe Changes Taking Place in the Organization of British Industry.

London, England.—The introduction of the works committee into British industry is producing a more fundamental change than has occurred in England since King John signed the Magna Carta. The workshop committees are making no effort to disturb either the king or the parliament. Nevertheless they are setting up a new government, more powerful and more vital in many ways than either of these long established institutions.

The system of works committees, which is being established throughout the United Kingdom, as the basis for this new form of industrial organization. These works committees constitute a new government, local, district, and national, always subject to the national parliament, but having wide authority in the direction of industrial processes.

The works committee is the local government. It is composed of equal representation from the workers and from the employers. These organizations, which have been so powerfully constituted outside of the regular agency of government are now made jointly responsible for the conduct of industrial affairs.

The jurisdiction of the works committee is limited only by the boundary of the works. Within the bounds, the committee is supreme. Questions affecting each establishment are settled by the committee. If the works committee is unable to agree, the district council decides. If district councils are unable to agree, the national industrial council acts.

The plan depends upon the existence of organization on both sides. It pre-supposes trade unions, just as it pre-supposes manufacturers' associations.

There is nothing compulsory about this method of economic organization. Neither the workers nor the employers are compelled to organize. Whether organizations are formed, they are asked to function jointly through the works, district or national council.

The system of industrial organization which is being adopted in England has not yet found its way into all of the industries. It is still in the

But the crime wave continued. The public officials grew desperate. At last they hit upon a way to exonerate themselves and satisfactorily explain the existing conditions.

The explanation of the situation appeared in one of the afternoon papers last week. According to the story published it is not criminals of the ordinary sort who are responsible for the existing conditions, but a band of anarchists who hope "by starting what at first would appear simply to be a crime wave of more than usual proportions, they would gradually lead up to creating a state of absolute anarchy, in which no one would be safe on the streets."

Yes of course. Anarchists now, Bolsheviks tomorrow and then the Socialists will be too blame. Such is the utter rot that the people are asked to swallow. Thus do the supporters of things as they are try to explain away the rottenness of the present social order.

Bribery, corruption and crime are the logical product of a social system in which the ruling class maintains itself and the system of exploitation by force and violence. The world has been engulfed in blood and force has reigned supreme. Is it to be wondered at that individuals are practicing on a smaller scale what capitalism practiced on a grand scale?

## Not Our Goal

The Cleveland News is one of those newspapers which stands for the unhampered control of industry by the capitalists and belongs to the rear guard even when an advance is made in the interest of the capitalist class. Thus this newspaper has not yet learned that government ownership of certain industries may be to the interest of the capitalists. It hasn't learned, as the shrewder capitalists have, that it is better to have the railroads, telegraph and telephones owned by the whole capitalist class through a government it controls than by individual capitalists.

The Cleveland News is therefore still opposed to government ownership. In order to make point against government ownership it recently printed an editorial proving beyond doubt that the government may oppress the workers and compel them to submit to bad working conditions and pay them low wages, as well as private employers. It points out Mr. Burleson's records in dealing with the postal employees, and, more recently, his treatment of the employees in the telephone and telegraph industry. It quotes Miss Julia S. O'Connor, president of the Boston Telephone Operators' Union, as saying that the government is "an autocratic and unfair employer of the wage workers."

The editorial is noteworthy, not as an argument against any change in the control of industry, for which purpose it was printed, but as an argument against government ownership and bureaucratic management of industry. Government ownership, as this editorial so ably emphasized, may make the lot of the workers worse, for they have to deal with a more powerful and resourceful employer—the government. It is more than likely that the needs of capitalism, such as the necessity of increasing the income of the government to meet the interest charges on the great war debt, will compel the capitalist to consent to the government controlling certain great industries and, as pointed out above, the economic advantage of such an arrangement is an argument for it in the minds of some capitalists. The workers, however, need not strive for such a development. It will come without their effort for it does not lead to their emancipation from exploitation.

## New Bremen Dishonored by Uniformed Soldiers

Descendants of Huns Attempt to Impeach Their Ancestors by Violation of Civil Laws.

New Bremen, O., Jan. 24.—Eugene V. Debs was billed to speak here tonight. About 7 o'clock a bugle call was sounded and about thirty discharged soldiers assembled on the main street of the town.

Most of them had been brought from Minster, Ohio, a neighboring town, and paraded up and down the street carrying banners, inscribed, "What is Debs?" "What is a Socialist?" etc.

The soldiers participating in the demonstration, the heroes (?) in khaki, who never saw a battlefield nor faced an armed foe, nor heard the shriek of shrapnel or the whine of the machine gun, except in a training camp, true to the traditions of their ancestors, permitted themselves to be herded and led by a Lieutenant Boesel, son of Julius Boesel, banker, and commanded in chief by a Dr. Dins of Minister, Ohio, to violate the laws of the State of Ohio while in the uniform of their country's army, and to show their undaunted courage by threatening unarmed men, women and children.

But most of those soldier boys were duped. The dirty, contemptible sneaks, the bankers and business men who dare not do their own dirty work, the scoundrels otherwise, indeed those young boys to do it for them.

Three-fourths of the boys showed by their looks that they did not enjoy the game. Then manhood rebelled at being asked to make criminals of themselves in behalf of others.

Remember those rowdies in the United Kingdom as the basis for this new form of industrial organization. These works committees constitute a new government, local, district, and national, always subject to the national parliament, but having wide authority in the direction of industrial processes.

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The system of industrial organization which is being adopted in England has not yet found its way into all of the industries. It is still in the

But the workers' goal must be industrial democracy, not government ownership; they must establish control of the shops and factories by the workers themselves, not by a bureaucracy at the seat of the government. The Cleveland News editorial is not an argument against the goal the workers are striving to reach, but merely points the way that they must not go.

## Robins on Creel

Colonel Raymond Robins, who was in Russia up to about six months ago, and who has been repeatedly urged to tell the American people the facts about conditions there, has at last broken his silence. He has given the public his information about the work of the Soviet government, but some new light is thrown on the work of the Department of Public Information, headed by George Creel, through which the infamous Sisson documents were published.

Colonel Robins was stirred to speak by an eight-page article by George Creel, lauding the work of his department, which appeared in a recent issue of Everybody's. To correct some misstatements in this article Robins sent the following letter to Senator Johnson:

The enclosed clipping from the last page of George Creel's eight pages of self-laudation in February's Everybody's Magazine suggests that Mr. Creel is unable to relate facts. The facts are:

The President's speeches were printed on the Bolshevik government's presses by special permission of that government. They were distributed under government frank and posted on the dead walls of Petrograd by the Bolshevik posting service.

Mr. Sisson fled from Petrograd March 4, 1918, shouting that the Germans would take the city within a few days, in collusion with the Bolsheviks. The American Red Cross was feeding starving children and evacuating war supplies from Petrograd under Bolshevik protection in quantities until May 11, 1918.

The Allied military missions were helping to train the Bolshevik Red Army, April 1, and the American Ambassador was seeking, with the concurrence of the Allied Embassies, the co-operation of the American Railway Mission with the Bolshevik government weeks after Mr. Sisson had fled in terror from Petrograd.

Mr. Bullard and all the American members of the Committee on Public Information in Russia, fled from Moscow, May 5, reaching Archangel and suffering from the worst case of "buck fever" in my observation.

Think of the paid agents of Germany publishing and posting President Wilson's speeches and evacuating war supplies from Petrograd in the fight against German imperialism.

## The Prinkipo Conference

The proposal of the Supreme Council at Paris that all the factions in Russia meet in conference with the Allies at Prinkipo is naturally looked upon with suspicion by the Soviet government. Pravda, central organ of the Bolsheviks, points out that the declaration of the Allies in regard to non-intervention is in contradiction to the facts in the case, since Allied armies have seized Murmansk, Archangel, and a great part of Siberia.

Tchitcherin, the foreign minister in the Soviet government, has sent a wireless dispatch to Jean Longuet, leader of the radical French Socialists, asking him to investigate the proposal of the Supreme Council. We quote the following from this dispatch, which incidentally throws considerable light on the present conditions in Russia and the influences

which have brought about the conciliatory attitude of the Supreme Council:

The fight conducted by the popular masses in Siberia is directed against the extreme reactionaries, and against the monarchists, and as long as these forces, aided by the Entente, dominate these regions, the people will continue to fight them. In those places where the power of the Soviet is established, there is complete tranquility, and civil war is nonexistent. On the other hand, where foreign governments are supporting reactionary domination, civil war is inevitable. If the powers of the Entente desire peace, the only way would be to intervene in the internal struggle, and this is the only thing that we desire. Arbitration by a third power to stop the fighting is impossible while this fighting is conducted against monarchist reactions.

The proposals of good offices to bring about arbitration is a strange thing, coming from the governments fighting against us and occupying certain portions of our territory. The military conditions are also unlikely—the proposition for the cessation of hostilities, which was never made when we were experimenting serious difficulties, is put forward when the reactionary force is now giving way, and the domination of Krasnoff is on the point of crumbling to pieces.

His defeat is decided, now that the help formerly offered by the Germans, and then by the Entente powers, is beginning to fail. In Siberia, the revolt of the workmen and poor peasants is growing every day, and the position of the reactionary group was broken up from the moment the Czechoslovaks departed. The stipulations requiring the withdrawal of armed forces directed against the territories whose autonomy would seem to be envisaged in the fourteen articles of President Wilson, seem to us not only vague, but apt to become a new source of conflict.

Although in reality the Soviets and Ukrainians only propose to fight against the directorate with their own forces—the Soviet and Ukrainian armies—we know that the Directorate is spreading false news—such as that the Russian Soviet troops are invading Ukraine.

The stipulation in question would thus become a new arm directed against the fraternal Ukrainian Soviet government, and this remark might apply to certain other regions. All measures thus indicated in the wireless message from Paris are thus in complete contradiction to the objects indicated. We bid you to make known to us the reported decision of the powers, and if it is possible, for you to study the documents in detail. Let us know it is not not your impression that the Entente have in reality annexationist views, as regards to Archangel, Siberia, Baku, Askhad, Rostov on the Don—to all those regions where their support is at present rendering possible a continuation of reactionary domination, which the proposals inferred from the Paris wireless would seem to require to be made permanent.

Secretary of Labor Wilson told the joint committee of the house and senate on labor that the philosophy of forcible revolution was gaining ground on the Pacific coast and that "We were able to meet this philosophy during the war, but if we are thrown out of employment, it will be difficult to persuade them that the advantage of the employer and laborer is mutual. Therefore, provide the men with an opportunity to work for at least five or six months from the signing of the armistice." That sounds very much as if the secretary was urging action because labor was aroused and showing its teeth, and that employment is to be provided not because the workers are entitled to the opportunity to earn a living, but to keep them quiet. Mr. Wilson couldn't have demonstrated more clearly that the way for the workers to get something for themselves

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## Demand New Trial

Continued From Page One. of the above entitled cause; that he resides at 4858 N. Monticello Ave., Chicago; that he is acquainted with Joseph Buckner, bailiff or deputy marshal of said United States Court and that he knows a W. H. Streeter, who is also a bailiff or deputy marshal and that said Buckner and Streeter, together with Mr. William Barber, had charge of the jury during the trial of said cause.

This affiant further says that on December 19, 1918, while Mr. Kennedy and I were talking in my room Mr. Ballou came in and said:

"Germer is a ——— liar I ever heard and he told nothing but ——— lies on the stand."

I asked him to tell one lie Germer told, whereupon he said he had nothing further to say on the matter, and didn't. This was after dinner in the evening.

On December 21st at the table in the Great Northern Restaurant, the jury were seated and located as follows:

J. T. Buckner  
Bartholomew O O Hendee  
Carlson O O Light  
Sheldon O O Joyce  
Wakem O O Ballou  
Hartford O O Streeter  
(Bailiff)  
Nixon O O Kennedy  
Staunton O O

Wm. Barber. Mr. Streeter at the table struck it with his fist to emphasize his remarks which were as follows:

"Germer was the ——— or a traitor this world over knew and those ——— are just like him."

It was generally reported that Mr.

Hendee had lost money in playing cards with Buckner his check for \$10. Mr. Wakem, Mr. Joyce and Mr. Sheldon were in games and the report was among the jurors that Mr. Buckner had gotten the greater part of the \$30 lost by Joyce and \$20 by Wakem.

During the deliberations of the jurors I asked Mr. Buckner for a copy of the Judge's instructions to the jury; there Mr. Buckner said, the Judge would not give them. Mr. Buckner was asked for a copy of the Bill of Rights and the Declaration of Independence, and replied these were not to be had. He was asked for a copy of the indictment which was given to them to the jury. We did not see a copy of the Espionage Act.

This affiant further says that he is ready to appear in open court and testify to the statements herein made.

(Signed) THOMAS C. NIXON.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 21st day of January, 1919.

(Signed) MAX MALEFF, Notary Public.

(Seal)

## Debs Ovation

Continued From Page One. viki movement is from those with gold. They tell of the bad, forget the good.

Mr. Debs continued: "You can get rich by capitalism but not by honest work. The hour is striking for a new reorganization of the world's forces. The time is here when man is to possess his own strength and get what he wants."

"Arnold was the ——— or a traitor this world over knew and those ——— are just like him."

It was generally reported that Mr.

support the parties of their oppressors—the Republican and Democratic party. It has always been in the lead in the fight for the workers' cause. It will continue in its position of uncompromising opposition to the capitalist system until this system is overthrown.

Events in Europe are proving that Socialism inevitably succeeds capitalism. There is no other road to freedom. Why should we falter and follow the paths that experience of the workers of Europe and Australia has proven leads nowhere?

The Socialist Party has urged the workers to take independent political action when the present leaders of the labor party movement were still asking them to follow the new organization proposed?

No a labor