

# The Ohio Socialist

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## German Workers Gain Victory in Struggle for Industrial Democracy

### Bavaria In Control of Workers and Soldiers Council

Dispatches from Germany indicate that the struggle of the workers of that country to establish an industrial republic modeled on the lines of the Russian Soviet government, which was temporarily checked a few weeks ago when the uprising in which Liebknecht and Luxemburg were killed, was put down, is in full swing again.

According to these dispatches the shooting of the Bavarian premier, Kurt Eisner, was followed by the Workers and Soldiers' Council of that state taking over the government and establishing a dictatorship of the proletariat.

The interesting phase of this dispatch is the clause which states that the Spartacists, Independent Socialists and Majority Socialists combined in establishing this dictatorship of the proletariat, indicating that the rank and file of the workers who have been supporting the Majority Socialists, are moving toward the left and making common cause with the Spartacists.

Other reports say that similar movement are underway in all the industrial sections of Germany and that the Spartacists have been successful in taking control of a number of the smaller states.

The hopeful sign about the present uprising is the admission which is made even by the capitalist press, that the Spartacists are stronger today than they were at the time of the revolt in Berlin.

The same dispatches that announce the victories of the German workers in the struggle for industrial democracy bring the news that the constituent assembly in session at Weimar has completed the draft of the proposed German constitution. This constitution would make of Germany, not an industrial democracy, but a capitalist democracy. The provisions of this constitution, while throwing a few sops to the workers in the shape of provisions about hours of labor, minimum wages and other similar measures, which have appeared as part of the reform movement in every capitalist country, says nothing about changing the control of industry and the wage and profit system.

During the progress of events in Russia it was bitter experience which disillusioned the workers. They tried a coalition government and found their status was not altered a great deal; they tried the moderate Socialist government of Kerensky and it did nothing to change the status of either the workers or peasants. Then they placed the Bolsheviks in power and because the Bolsheviks have put into practice the measures which the workers and peasants desired, they have remained in firm control of the Soviet government.

The German workers are going through a similar process of disillusionment, only events are moving faster than in Russia.

It is no doubt due to the fact that the masses of the workers, following the decisions of the constituent assembly, see that there was no hope of the workers winning their freedom through the action of this assembly that is bringing these workers to the standard of the Spartacists. As their disillusionment continues the powers of the Spartacists will grow and it should not be long before Germany aligns itself with Russia and becomes the second industrial democracy.



RISING—AND NO SAIL IN SIGHT

### Swedish Toilers in Protest for American Political Prisoners

Politiken, the chief organ of the Swedish left wing Socialists, publishes a half-page manifesto calling on the party membership throughout the land to organize protest meetings against America's treatment of political and industrial prisoners. Through its underground channels Politiken has procured a mass of detail of specific cases of imprisonment of American workers, according to a cablegram by Bassett Digby in the Swedish Daily News.

The Swedish left Socialists are exhorting to do their utmost to cause the release of "American political prisoners."

### Scott Nearing Free

After two days of deliberation the jury in the case of Scott Nearing brought in a verdict of "Not Guilty" so far as Nearing was concerned. At the same time the jury found the American Socialist Society, which controls the Rand School, guilty on two counts. The judge set aside the verdict so far as one of the counts was concerned and reserved decision on the other point. Attorneys for the society claim that the verdict against the society cannot stand in view of the verdict acquitting Nearing.

The victory in this case is particularly noteworthy, inasmuch as Nearing is particularly noteworthy, inasmuch as Nearing.

Scott did not endeavor to hide his views or apologize for the statements made in "The Great Madness" for writing which he was indicted. On the stand as shown by the evidence printed in the latest issues of the "Socialist News" he did not only not retract what he said in his pamphlet, but he reassured his views and proved the truth of his charges by evidence from the writings of the supporters of the present social system.

Nearing boldly challenged capitalism; the jury declared him not guilty of violating any law. It is the bold course that wins.

"I notice that wherever the Ohio Socialist is read an active member is produced. All hail to our paper and all party owned propaganda,"—Herbert Knecht, Cambridge.

### Biased Senate Committee Intent Upon Making Case Against Russia

The Senate Judiciary Committee, which is conducting the investigation of the Russian workers' government, after giving many days to opponents of the Bolshevik government, who were permitted to freely pronounce their criticism, called as witnesses John Reed and Louise Bryant, who were in Russia during the great part of the revolutionary period. In place of permitting these witnesses to discuss Russian affairs with the same freedom that was granted the opponents of the Soviet government, they were hedged about with instructions and rules and often limited to "yes" and "no" answers, when explanation was necessary for a complete understanding of the subject matter under discussion.

The flagrant injustice of the hearing took two forms. First, Miss Bryant was allowed to offer no testimony of her own, a privilege heretofore allowed to and over-encouraged in witnesses, and was silenced every time she attempted to speak. "Never mind

that, answer 'Yes' or 'No' to the question," was the phrase continually repeated throughout the proceedings.

Second, the senators made every effort to trap Miss Bryant into unguarded replies. They skipped with astonishing briskness from point to point, throwing the attention of the audience into confusion.

Almost from the beginning Senators King, Nelson and Wolcott dropped the mask of common courtesy. They forced out the words "Miss Bryant," with evident distress. To then the witness was not a woman, but a prey, and they left her with hungry teeth. The bovine Major Holm put his awkwardly phrased questions in roars. Even the stenographer joined in the badgering.

"Didn't he maintain an information bureau for the Bolsheviks?"

"No. He maintained a Russian information bureau for the Red Cross."

Reed Dominates Hearing.

Reed and his wife, between them, dominated the gathering. All eyes in

(Continued on page two)

## Destination Withheld From American Soldier's in Expedition to Invade Russia

### Returned Soldier Says People Lived Better Under Bolsheviks and That Latter Avoided Bloodshed

The office of the Russian Socialist Daily, "Novy Mir," in New York was recently visited by a soldier of the American army who had just returned from Archangel. His experience no doubt is of interest to every one who has been watching the drama which is being played in far distant North Russia. His story shows that not only is there no necessity for holding Allied troops in Russia, but that their being there is becoming a tragic farce, greatly damaging the reputation of America.

"I am a Russian," began the tale of the soldier. "I found myself in the American army, as many natives of Russia with 'first papers' or without them. I lived in the state of Michigan and when the draft came I was taken in. I was placed in the 339th Michigan regiment and with this regiment I went to Europe to fight the 'democracy, freedom and justice.'

"When once you are in the army you become a small part of a machine which works as is prescribed; one loses his will, has to do whatever one is ordered to do. So it was in my case.

"The regiment went abroad. Already before the departure I had a hunch that we would be sent not to France but to Russia. I shared my apprehensions with some other soldiers, but they merely laughed at me.

"On our arrival in England we received our equipment and my fears doubled; the warm winter clothes we got augured nothing good. Again we started, and now my apprehensions proved to be true. We were sent, not to the south, but to the north, to Scotland. There we were put on a ship and departed. We traveled for seven days and when we saw the coast, we discovered that snow was on the mountains (early in September). Now it was clear that our destination was not France but Russia.

"Well, we could not help it. We had to wait and see what the future held in store."

"We landed at Archangel. We

found there English and French soldiers. Before we landed we were told that we came to Russia not to fight her, but merely to safeguard the Allied ammunition stores. Yet no ammunition was found there; the Bolsheviks had carried away with them everything to the south—they cleared the place of everything till the last shell and cartridge. Only empty stores have remained.

"What are we to do here, then?" we began to question ourselves and our officers. The officers were silent. Others said: "The future will show."

"The first day passed quietly. The plan was to organize a military parade through the city. Rain torrents caused the parade to be postponed. We scattered around and stood under awnings in order to protect ourselves against the rain.

"I found myself under a cover of a storeroom which was in course of construction and started a conversation with the workers busy at it. 'How are things going?' I asked them. They did not only not retract what he said in his pamphlet, but he reassured his views and proved the truth of his charges by evidence from the writings of the supporters of the present social system.

"Nearing boldly challenged capitalism; the jury declared him not guilty of violating any law. It is the bold course that wins.

"Later I convinced myself of the

truth of their words. The English indeed had seized everything there in a dictatorial manner ruled the territory occupied by the Allied troops. The population hates them, as one can hate foreign invaders. Their attitude of the Russians toward the Americans is considerably better.

"But let us return to what followed. A few days after our arrival in Archangel, we received orders to march south. 'Where?' was the answer. 'To the front.' So we got a front here too, and we came here to fight and not to safeguard something.

"The order is given and we have to obey. We were loaded into freight trains and then we started. I do not remember how long we were on the way. Days there are short in the day, nothing can be seen from the train. Finally we came to the station Obozerska. We saw Bolsheviks. Later we found that the Bolsheviks were retreating to the south and not because they feared our forces, but merely because they wished to avoid slaughter.

"At one place, south of the station Obozerska, we, instead of meeting the bayonets of the Soviet troops, came across a train loaded with proclamations in English, French, Italian and other languages. In these proclamations the Bolsheviks explained the nature of the intervention and advised us to get home. The proclamations were speedily distributed. Later our

officers got wise about it and seized them, burning them immediately.

"During the whole of my stay at the front I observed the new Bolshevik methods of warfare. The Bolsheviks did not harm us, although on several occasions they could have shot us down as many partridges. Once, while we were crossing a river, a man came forward from the Bolshevik side with a white flag and speaking in English he told us that we were being misled, that we ought to leave the Russian territory and the Russian people at peace. 'You have come here to fight, and not we to fight you; we have done no harm to you; so go back to your home.'

"There were also such instances; we are surrounded on all sides by the Bolsheviks so that there is no way out of it. We are doomed, we think. But it is not so. They would keep us thus a day or two and then let us go free, unharmed. Only once they treated us to a machine gun and field gun fire—and indeed, at that time, there was no way out of it. There are no trenches, because one cannot dig in the frozen ground. Everywhere are marshes, and one stands almost waist deep in water. We hid behind barricades made of logs. But, of course, it is a poor defense. When a shell strikes such a barricade nothing but splinters remain.

"During this 'meeting' I was wounded. I was sent to England and thence I came here."

### Chicago Paper Declares Archangel Expedition Failure

The Chicago Tribune of February 10 publishes a letter from its correspondent who has been in North Russia, dated Vard, Norway, Feb. 1 (by cable from Norvik, Feb. 8). The following excerpts from his letter are of great interest.

"After two months spent in investigating the conditions in North Russia, where American troops are serving under allied dictatorship, I can state the following facts:

"First—The North Russia allied expedition has developed into a pitiful failure. It has failed to inspire confidence and loyalty and give real assistance to Russia. It has become a cesspool of jealousy, hatred, mistakes and shattered illusions. The different allies distrust one another and the Russians distrust the entire expedition.

"Second—The American troops were put under an absolute imperialistic command, being handled in a way that was against every tradition of the army and country. They were put to doing a king's business and to do whatever task was assigned to them by the British. American men and their ideals of right and fairness were entirely submerged through the un-American leadership.

"Third—The entire expedition suffered from a complete lack of spiritual leadership. Instead of being an ordinary soldier's job, this expedition required sympathetic understanding. It always has been more political than military. The original leaders thought themselves to be great soldiers and great diplomats, but they proved to be neither.

"Fourth—The expedition has lacked spiritual significance. Europe's war-tired men, sent here from the French battle fields, failed to appreciate the great revolution or sympathize with the unrest and the new birth that Russia is going through. Most of the allied soldiers, especially since the signing of the armistice, hated the job, despite the Russians, and have no concern with the future of the country. The expedition, lacking this spiritual significance in men's minds, has become a mere fighting job to collect Russia's debt to Europe.

"Fifth—There is no enthusiasm even among intelligent Russians in the north to assist the allies and fight the Bolsheviks. Everywhere there is growing disgust against the expedition, especially against the British.

"Sixth—The beautiful faith of the Russians for America is breaking under the manhandling by our forces

under the foreign command. The American forces have been led by an American colonel when they should have had a major general. Within our own forces we lacked the right leadership, permitting the Americans to be placed under the limited control of foreigners.

"I have come out of Russia to write this. The censorship that has crowded back into its hole in most of the world still wears the iron heel of war days in the north. The American public has been fed pretty stories of the gentle glories of this 'help Russia' expedition, but the facts are that a mess has been stewed and has been kept for the cooks themselves.

(Continued on Page Two)

### France Enslaves Russian Troops That Refuse to Fight Soviet Government

The correspondent of the New York Call, Paul Wallace Hanna, sends this interesting story of the treatment accorded Russian troops by the French government in the "war for democracy".

Between 30,000 and 40,000 Russian soldiers are held today in slavery by the Republic of France.

The crime of these slaves is that they refuse to make war against the Soviet Republic of Russia.

Every known method of coercion has been used by the Clemenceau government to break the will of these "obstinate" Russians whose steady reply to their persecutors is:

"We cannot make war on the Bolsheviks without knowing whether they are good or bad for Russia. Let us first return home and judge for ourselves."

These Russian slaves of France are at present engaged at hard work, and without compensation, under the tragic sun of French Africa. Late reports show they are dying in great numbers of hardship, privation and the diseases caused by the unaccustomed African climate.

Some 25 leaders of the "rebellious" Russian soldiers are held in miserable confinement on an island near Bordeaux.

Friends of the Russians have made repeated appeals to Clemenceau for mercy, saying:

"Can't you see that this cruel policy will make Russia the eternal enemy of France?" Such appeals were forthwith placed in virtual imprisonment.

With the fall of Kerenski, the symphony of the Russian soldiers fighting against Germany on the French front. When news of the revolution reached them they joined in the general rejoicing of free men everywhere. They even committed the further offense of attempting to form soldiers' councils among themselves.

This conduct made them the objects of suspicion and hatred by whom they

### Labor Begins Campaign To Repudiate Alliance

(Special Correspondence)  
Chicago—Radical elements in the American Federation of Labor have started a campaign to repudiate the Gompers-Hussell "American Alliance for Labor and Democracy" organized for the purpose of putting the Socialist Party out of business under cover of the war mania.

This anti-alliance movement has received its most recent impetus by the resignation of Frank P. Walsh from "The Alliance."

Walsh's friends announce that he quit this government inspired labor-chloroforming organization, because he disagreed with its policies, especially its close co-operation with the National Civic Federation in its anti-labor agitation, the incitement of imperialistic sentiment against Russia and opposition to the Tom Mooney Defense movement.

After several weeks of consideration Judge K. M. Landis denied the motion made by the defense in the case of Victor L. Berger, Adolph Germer, J. L. Engdahl, Irving St. John Tucker and William Kruse. Following his usual course Judge Landis assumed a position of fairness during the trial and then imposed extreme sentences by giving each of the defendants twenty years on each count on which they were convicted.

It was evidently the intent of the prosecution to railroad the five men to prison at once, for the judge refused to permit the defendants to remain free on bail while the papers were prepared for the appeal to the higher court, and it was only by filing these papers at once that bail was permitted, and then it was made almost prohibitive. In order to temporarily free the five prisoners it was necessary to schedule a half million dollars worth of property. The necessary amount of bail was secured, however, and the defendants will continue their work, limited however by the conditions made by the judge of the appellate court, that they must not engage in such activities as those for which they were convicted. What this will mean in practice only experience can tell.



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\$1.00

BUNDLE RATES  
\$1.00 Per Hundred

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## KILLING THE SOCIALIST PARTY

Do you remember the repeated assurances we received a few months ago that the Socialist Party was on its last legs; that members were deserting it by the thousands; that its principles were being repudiated; that we were but a corpse awaiting burial?

Well, we've been buried—under an avalanche of orders for dues stamps, supplies and literature, though, and not by the venal capitalist press and the masters it serves. A very lively corpse we are, comrades. A corpse that places orders for 12,616 dues stamps in one month in Ohio alone, must be very red of cheek, sturdy and kicking.

Mind you—12,616 dues stamps sold in one month in Ohio to the membership! This constitutes the largest dues stamp sale, to our knowledge, for any one month in the history of the Ohio Socialist Party.

Here are sales per month in comparison:

	1917	1918
October.....	6,514	5,205
November.....	6,523	4,610
December.....	6,815	6,757
January.....	3,479	12,616

Other states show equally encouraging increases. During the month of January, 1919, New York sold 17,066 dues stamps; Wisconsin, 13,277; Illinois, 10,202; Pennsylvania, 8,362. Ohio ranking third in sales.

To the comrade still "bringing up the rear" this article is especially addressed. Get into line. March abreast the rest. Keep step. Pay up!

## FIRST FRUITS OF DEMOCRACY

The war against the central powers having been won and democracy thus enthroned, the world has been made absolutely safe for her without further doing or ado! She may wonder at will and where she listeth without fear of vile attack or assault. That's what the war was about. If you don't believe it, ask Mr. Wilson! He will give you an answer in the affirmative a mile long and as smooth as soap.

Take America. Gee, whiz, no one would say that America was unsafe for the fair lady. Why, folks, she was born here, grew up here, has never been out of our sight. We have all known her since the day of her birth. She's the patron saint of every city and village. Everybody's her friend and her photo is enshrined in the hearts of all.

True, it is at times just a bit hard to lay ones finger on any particular spot where Democracy is perfectly safe (unless it would be in Mr. Wilson's pocket) yet we know she is safe because we are told so and if we are not to believe what we are told, what in the world are we to believe, we'd like to know!

But even though we try to believe all we are told, doubts will arise. They keep cropping up in spite of a most abiding faith in "what the papers say." Take the unemployment problem. One would think that with world spilling over with democracy a bit might be spared for the industrial field and thus put people to work and allow them to retain the value of their products. The only reason we can think of why this isn't done is that it would interfere with special privilege. And you know privilege and democracy don't mix.

The present state of the unemployed makes us hazzard a guess that democracy as related to industry is a myth.

Then there's the question of deportation. Who are being deported? Billionaires made by the war? Profiteers made culpable by preying upon the slaves of the shops and through over fat contracts with a needy government? Corrupters of public officials? Not much. Who do you think owns this country anyway? Workers, union men, creators of wealth are the victims of deportation. And for the reason that they attempt to create a speaking acquaintance between democracy and industry.

Democracy is great thing—until workers seek to apply it to industry. A great thing to howl and holler about but never to trust in the hands of the masses! And for a mighty good reason. The moment democracy enters the door of industry, Mr. Capitalist will have to sneak.

Yet if any worker believes that he will willingly do so let him read the following taken from capital's mouthpiece, the Wall Street Journal. Capital has no intentions of allowing democracy to pass the threshold of industry.

### WALL STREET SPEAKS ITS MIND.

"Our laws are all too inadequate to deal with that public enemy, the labor agitator. We have a fussy public opinion which would wring its hands in anguish if we TOOK THE LABOR LEADER BY THE SCRUFF OF HIS NECK, BACKED HIM UP AGAINST A WALL AND FILLED HIM WITH LEAD. Countries which consider themselves every bit as civilized as we are, do not hesitate about such matters for a moment."—Wall Street Journal.

### Some Objections

Dear Comrades: At our last business meeting a motion was made insisting me to write to the State Office protesting against the exemption of Local Cuyahoga County from taking the Ohio Socialist as was stated at the meeting. Other locals might start a paper and they ask exemption from taking our paper, too.

Another motion was made that we ask for exemption of the wives and daughters of comrades who do take the paper as it forces them to send the paper to some one who is as able to pay for the paper as we are ourselves.

They ask that a copy of these motions be printed in the Ohio Socialist.

Yours fraternally,

FRANK STIDD,

Secretary Local Bellaire.

We believe that if the comrades of Bellaire understand that the Socialist News and the Ohio Socialist now contain practically the same matter with such changes as adapt each to its particular field and that the saving thus made is fully equal to the amount that would be received through the sale of press stamps, they would not have any objection to the plan.

As to their second motion. Comrades should remember that the present plan of having each member sup-

### We Invite You

You are invited to the meetings listed below. If you live within reaching distance you will never regret having attended them. Take your family with you. Don't go alone. You will reap more satisfaction from the meeting if you can say afterward: "WE enjoyed the lecture."

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### Cincinnati Meeting.

C. E. Ruthenberg will speak at Rittikerhoff hall, evening of March 2.

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### Kennon Meeting.

C. E. Ruthenberg will speak at Kennon hall, evening of March 2.

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### Youngstown Meeting.

Dennis E. Batt will fill a date here on March 2.

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## RESULTS OF KATTERFELD MEETINGS

Comrade L. E. Katterfeld's meetings in the early part of February were excellent in the results obtained. Here is how Comrade Herbert Knecht sum up the results at Byesville.

"Many members, some readers for the O. S. M., knowledge of the fundamentals of Socialism. More determination among the members to organize the unorganized. A better understanding of organization work. Greatly increased interest in Socialism among the women of Cambridge. More light, more knowledge, and another stride toward the final goal in Industrial Democracy."

At this meeting a social with cats and music were among the good things to be had. Comrades Harry Wilson, Comrade Conway and Comrade Beulah Evans, are the recipients of much appreciation from the local comrades for their excellent music.

At Derwent Comrade Katterfeld spoke to the diggers of coal. And as a tribute to these miners who are now working about half time or less it must be said that they were generous in their support of the meeting. The Cambridge plus press refused advertising to the comrades even when double price was offered. O, very well. "We are going to stop trading with the enemy."

At Troy the mayor helped make the world safe for capitalism by influencing the county commissioners to refuse the hall to Socialists. He offered the excuse that there were 400 workers unemployed in that city and a meeting where they might discuss their grievances would be UNWISE. The meeting was held at the home of Comrade Geo. W. Louthan. The comrades organized with a membership of five. These five now have the opportunity to make socialism hum in Troy.

### SOME JAIL NEWS

Comrade Perley Doe sends up his change of address. For the next 18 months it will be the State Penn at Canyon City, Colo. We are not aware of the particular manner in which Comrade Doe has offended the state.

Comrade E. Curtis Ilkenhans of Youngstown was tried at Cleveland last week. He pleaded guilty on the understanding that he was to receive a six months' sentence and to have the time allowed which he had spent in jail awaiting trial. This left him just 24 hours to serve. Comrade Pearce of Canton got the same sentence. He is now free, having then but a few days more to serve.

Comrade Harry Wagenknecht of Cleveland is now free after waiting in jail nine months for trial. He was found not guilty of the alleged offense.

Comrade J. F. Critchfield of Boise, Idaho, is free after waiting in jail nine months for trial. He was found not guilty of the alleged offense.

Comrade Critchfield refused the services of a lawyer and pleaded his own case. He was indicted for violation of the espionage act, and was alleged to have said, in reference to the flag, that it was "a damned old rag, not worth any more than any other dammed old rag."

### GOAL SET AT 1000

The comrades of Guernsey county have set the goal for one thousand members here—so well pleased with Comrade H. L. Holman and his presentation of his subjects that he has been encouraged to fill the following dates: March 6, 8 and 9, at Cambridge hall, 50½ Gay St.; March 7, First Ward, corner Jenkins and Parsons Ave.

We feel confident that those interested in the subject of Socialism will feel well pleased to keep these dates in mind and hear these lectures presented in an able and scientific manner. E. B. Eubanks.

### MANSFIELD ENTERTAINS.

Local Mansfield, English branch, held a public entertainment on Jan. 16, which was a better success than expected.

The program consisted of singing, games, speaking (in English, Bulgarian and German), and dancing. The famous Y. P. S. L. "Red Orchestra" presented the music.

Luncheon was served by the women of the English branch and pies at 5 cent each made one think of the good old times.

A cake decorated with red flags and a picture of Debs was awarded to comrades writing the best poem on Comrade Debs. Willa Beery, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Beery, won first prize.

A good collection was taken which will be used to pay for our war prisoners' stamps."—L. L. Anliker.

Espionage Act—An act designed to imprison all members of the working class who try to tell the truth to the people.

### WOULD YOU LIKE A FARM HOME AND OWN YOUR OWN JOB?

THEN READ THIS: I have been in all the southern states bordering upon the gulf and I believe south-eastern Mississippi is the most desirable location for one with small means to build a farm home. The climate is very healthful, good water, roads and excellent schools; the people are sociable and hospitable; direct lines to market. Good lands for general and special farming and grazing at \$10.00 per acre on easy terms. No taxes, but gently rising as well, watered by small streams, plenty of rain, no long winters—can farm all the year. Fruits and early vegetables grown for northern market. This land will triple in value in the next five years. If you would like to join with a colony or more comrades to form a colony settlement, write for further particulars to J. F. DENISON, 416 1-2 Washington Ave., Warren, Ohio.—Adv.

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