

# The Ohio Socialist

Official Organ of the Socialist Parties of Ohio, Kentucky, Virginia, West Virginia and New Mexico.

No. 58

Published at  
Cleveland, Ohio

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5, 1919

Address all mail to  
R. D. 2, Brecksville, Ohio

\$1.00 A Year

## Liebknecht and Luxemburg Brutally Beaten to Death by Guards

### Story About Attempted Escape Branded As Lie By London Correspondent

The story sent out of Germany and spread broadcast by the press of this country in regard to the death of Karl Liebknecht and Rosa Luxemburg said that the former had been shot while trying to escape from his guards and that Rosa Luxemburg had been beaten to death by an angry mob of people. This story is branded as a lie by the correspondent of the London Daily News, who says that both these champions of the workers were beaten to death by the military officers and guards who arrested them.

The story as printed in the London paper follows:

"When in my last message describing the scene at Liebknecht's grave I tried to give you a hint of some deeper horror which was accountable for the extreme nervous tension among the mourners, and which had a close connection with the death of Liebknecht and Rosa Luxemburg, I had only the thinnest thread on which to found my suspicion that behind these two deaths there was being deliberately hidden a terrible truth which must ultimately come out."

"An hour ago I chanced on some one who has given me what in all solemnity he assures me is the story of what actually took place. Apart from the fate of the two victims, it has very grave bearing on the wider condition of Germany and the relative power of the old military regime and the present government.

"My informant claims to have been an eye-witness to the incident which he describes. He was staying, he says, at the Eden hotel, where the terrible affair took place, and he returned there on the night of the tragedy at 10:30, to find an armed guard at the door. The sentry told him that Liebknecht had been arrested and that it was intended to beat him to death.

"In the immediate neighborhood of the hotel nobody was to be seen. Thus the story circulated in the official report about the 'inflamed crowd' was false, and the crowds existed only in the imagination of the military authorities who spread the report.

"When he entered the hotel he found a group of eight military officers and half a dozen civilians. There was an air of expectancy about them and in about 15 minutes Rosa Luxemburg appeared, accompanied by the 'Krimi' which he describes. A few minutes later Liebknecht came down the stairs, after having been questioned by the military. He was guarded by armed soldiers.

"At the moment Liebknecht was passing the narrator of this affair, an officer of the guards cavalry suddenly sprang toward him, shouting, 'Is that fellow still alive?'

"The officer then joined the military escort, which left the hotel with both prisoners. In about 15 minutes he returned and said Liebknecht had been beaten to death with the butt ends of rifles. The blows were struck from behind, and at the second blow Liebknecht collapsed.

"Again, the story circulated about Liebknecht's attempt to escape appears to have been invented by the



## "BOLSHEVISM IS TREASON"

"Bolshevism is treason."

A startling headline and a little advertisement published by the Educational Welfare Association in one of the Cleveland newspapers conveys this startling information.

This association is carrying on a campaign to make the workers believe that all is well with them while they go wearily from place to place hunting for jobs.

But this time it is right.

Bolshevism IS treason.

It is bold, unashamed, stark, glaring treason.

It is treason against that conception of industry which means that the few amass great fortunes and the many get just enough to live.

It is treason against an industrial system that periodically sends millions out on the streets to starve or get a living as best they may, because the few are unable, momentarily, to make profits for themselves.

It is treason to an industrial organization that means long hours, low wages and constant industrial conflict.

It is treason against the idea that the government of nations exists for the purpose of "struggling for economic advantages so that the few who own the industries of the nation may make more profits or secure the opportunity for investment of the profits made at home in foreign countries.

It is treason against the idea that a few great landlords should own millions of acres of land and exploit the workers thereupon, or that

the bankers should take from the producers of the soil the bulk of what they produce through their mortgages.

It is treason to the industrial order that makes the capitalists and their managers the czars and kaisers of industry, who hire and fire as they see fit.

It is treason against an industrial system that produces ten thousand new millionaires in a war in which the workers bear the brunt of sacrifice and suffering.

It is treason against all that the capitalist class and the capitalist system stands for.

In war time we do not call using our weapons against the enemy treason, but the capitalists have become so accustomed to loyalty to themselves and their system on the party of the workers they exploit and rob that naturally they look upon an attack upon them by these workers as treason. They consider it their God-given right to grind down and oppress the workers, and hence their hysterical cries of "treason," now that the workers are turning against them.

The capitalists are the enemy of the workers. We cannot commit treason against the enemy. Treason for workers is disloyalty to the working class. It is the worker who supports the capitalist class and the capitalist system that is the traitor, for he is supporting the masters in the struggle to prevent the workers from achieving their freedom.

The Bolsheviks are traitors to capitalism—and proud of it.

The worker who is not a traitor to capitalism confesses himself a willing slave.

## Wilson "Plot" Story Exploded

New York.—The widely heralded story that an organization of Spanish anarchists had planned to kill President Wilson when he landed in Boston has been proven to be the product of the imagination of officials who are trying to stir up sentiment against the working class movement.

Seven of the fourteen Spaniards arrested, and held illegally without a warrant or charges of any character, were released after a few days, and the remaining seven were released last Thursday.

They were immediately rearrested on a warrant issued by the Department of Immigration. This warrant alleges that the seven men are "undesirable aliens," their undesirability consisting, it is believed, in that they believe in sabotage.

Following a heated parley between Harry Weinberger, the attorney for the men, and Judge Knox, on the constitutionality of the further detention of the men and on their being examined without the privilege of attorney, the Spaniards were taken into custody by a squad of men from the Department of Immigration on Ellis Island.

The men were examined during the day in order to determine whether in the minds of the Department of Immigration officials, they should be deported or permitted to remain in this country.

## Williams Denies Charge of Wholesale Killing in Russia

Washington.—Albert Rhys Williams, who testified before the Overman committee which is investigating the Soviet government of Russia, presented quite a different picture of conditions in that country from that which the committee received from various agents of capitalism who had testified before the committee. He told the committee that the men at head of the Russian government abhorred murder and blood shed and were sincere idealists who were striving with all their strength to erect a new sort of social organization in that country.

Taking up the question of bloodshed and wholesale killing during the progress of the revolution, Williams flatly denied the statements circulated by the capitalist press. He pointed out that there were one hundred and eighty million people in Russia and that in proportion to the population few people were killed in comparison to the number who have died in civil wars which did not go as deep as the Russian revolution, in other countries.

Williams' Testimony.

"How many people were killed in Russia up to the time you left?" Senator Wolcott asked.

"According to my own careful estimate, and the estimate is generous, I would say between 40,000 and 50,000."

"Other witnesses have testified of great numbers dying of starvation, many of them in the streets; of hundreds being led to prisons to be killed, and of great numbers who were killed in other ways. These statements do not harmonize with what you say." Senator Wolcott said.

"I am sure that you can call many reliable witnesses to verify all I have said." Major Wardwell, the Red Cross, Mr. Humphreys of the Y. M. C. A., Miss Dorothy, and many others, I can name if you wish to call them."

Mr. Williams added that in judging the Bolsheviks people should remember what the Russian masses had suffered under the czar, how there was hardly a family whose men had not

## John Reed "Not Guilty"

Philadelphia.—John Reed and William Kogrman, who were indicted for "inciting to riot" in connection with the strike held here last summer, were declared "not guilty" after three hours' deliberation on the part of the jury.

The case grew out of a meeting arranged by Philadelphia Socialists, at which Reed was to speak. The meeting was to be held in Moose Hall. When the crowd arrived they found the building locked and a cordon of police around the door. Barred from the hall the Socialists tried to hold the meeting on a nearby street corner. It was while speaking on the corner that Reed was arrested.

## Russiari Workers Unite

Social revolutionaries have joined forces with the Bolsheviks, their former opponents, to oppose allied interference in Russian internal affairs, it was reported in a wireless dispatch received from Moscow.

The dispatch said that social revolutionary members of the old Constituent Assembly had arrived in Moscow for the purpose of negotiating with Premier Lenin. They issued a manifesto admitting the charge that the Bolsheviks had accepted money from Germany was false. The manifesto concluded:

"Allied interference in internal Russia is becoming more definite. Although we do not agree with the Bolsheviks on many points, it is our duty to call all citizens, workmen and peasants to cease civil war and unite against the common enemy."

## Italian Workers Prepare For Dictatorship of The Proletariat

### Caroti Tells of Preparation of Workers to Take Control of That Country

Arthur Caroti, Socialist member of the Italian parliament, who some years ago made a tour of this country and made a speech before the Italian workers here, gives the following picture of conditions in Italy in a letter to the New York Call:

as much as it should. War and poor transportation have played their part to cripple Italy's horticultural and agrarian trade. The big market of middle Europe has been closed for years on account of the war and will be closed for years to come. France has shifted her trading with Italy to Spain.

The only wealth of Italy is labor. We have many millions more of working people than we need. But this wealth is wealth that eats. How shall they be fed? How shall they be employed?

The working class, owing to the high cost of living, was little spared during the war. Workers have a small buying power. The industrial class fears to produce commodities for market which may not buy a fair amount; it also fears the grip of taxation. There is a tendency among the industrialists to stop working and to close the factories.

Overproduced War Material.

Some of our industrial class have overproduced war commodities or commodities of war time. The sudden end of the war has left them with a superabundance of war materials. They hoped that the government would adopt a policy of free exportation, while the government did its best to sabotage it, either because of the pressure of the industrial countries allied to it—which tend to favor their own industries—or because it feared a lack of commodities in that domestic market and a consequent skyrocketing of prices. And the industrialists react by closing factories or by the reduction of hours all work and wages.

And all this while millions of soldiers are leaving the army and preparing to return home.

Gloom hovers over Italy. What should be a sensible policy, for a bourgeois government to follow? Our bourgeois divide themselves into two distinct classes. (Continued on Page Four)

Italy Economically Defeated.

Italy has won a military victory, but it comes out of the war economically defeated. Against a national wealth of about twenty billion dollars, there is a total indebtedness of about eighteen billions; two-thirds of the creditors are foreigners.

Italy has no raw materials to export; the materials for the basic industries of modern civilization—iron and coal—have to be imported. So need cotton. Wool is inadequate to the need. Agriculture is in sunny a climate as that of Italy does not yield

## Launch League for Release of Political Prisoners

Chicago, Ill.—"National League for the Release of Political Prisoners," is the name chosen for the organization launched here to carry on a national campaign until all war prisoners now incarcerated or in danger of incarceration in the nation's bastilles, for principles sake, are unconditionally released.

The name was chosen at the first meeting of the immediate action committee organized as the result of a call sent out by the National Executive Committee of the Socialist Party. The committee endorsed the suggestion of holding a national convention on May 1, in Chicago.

Credentials were handed in at the first meeting of the committee from the People's Council of America, New York Bureau of Legal Advice, National Jewish Workmen's Committee, Western Districts; Fellowship of Reconciliation; Workers' Defense Union of New York City; National Civil Liberties Union; 27 state organizations and eight foreign government federations of the Socialist Party; the Socialist Labor Party, Peale Zion, and the Industrial Workers of the World.

William Bross Lloyd was chosen chairman and Alfred Wagenknecht, secretary. Invitations will be sent to

the National Nonpartisan League, the various organizations affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, as well as a large number of other bodies of forward thinking citizens who will take an interest in the great struggle for real democracy in America.

A sub-committee chosen to arrange details of representation and other matters connected with speeding up the arrangements for the conferences, has taken action as follows:

"That the basis of representation shall be one delegate for every 300 members, each organization, however, entitled to at least one delegate.

"That all delegate bodies, such as Central Labor Unions, Trades Councils, Socialist Party Central Committee, each be allowed one delegate.

"That the immediate need was for affiliation of sympathetic organizations; election of delegates to the May 1st convention by these organizations, call for finances, publicity for rank and file of all these organizations, and the convention details.

"That we suggest to the immediate action committee that representative of the league be sent to all the large industrial centers, to stimulate effect of correspondence by personal appeal, and to secure affiliations."

## Lima Socialists Win Memorial Hall Case

On the 13th day of January, 1919, application was made to the county commissioners of Allen county for the use of Memorial Hall for a Socialist meeting.

That was the third application for its use and for a third time its use was refused on the sole ground that it was to be used for a Socialist meeting.

Our State Constitution says, "All political power is inherent in the people. Government is instituted for their EQUAL protection and benefit." Some people forget that we have a constitution.

Mandamus proceedings were brought after the second application had been turned down and Judge Klinger of the Common Pleas Court decided in favor of the applicants but declined to issue a peremptory writ owing to the "nu" ban being on at the time.

After the third refusal the county commissioners were again mandamus used. This time the alternative writ was made peremptory by Judge Klinger and the county commissioners were ordered to grant the use of the Memorial Hall to the relator for a Socialist meeting.

The county commissioners filed a petition in error in the Court of Appeals of Allen County, Ohio, and the case was argued in that court, Jan. 17, 1919.

The scene in the court room was one never to be forgotten. The county

(Continued on Page Three)

## The Capitalist System is Easier Ended Than Mended

## BABSON WARNS WALL STREET

We are sitting on a keg of powder. It is well enough for prominent men to give out optimistic interviews, but such talk is largely for effect. The statistics which they give may be true but they don't tell the whole story. Fundamental economic conditions are bad and it is useless to deny it. We could give many reasons for this statement but shall mention only two basic causes:

1. This composite plot shows clearly that a period of trouble and depression is ahead. It cannot be side-tracked. We can prepare for the action and prevent it from becoming disastrous but to stop it is impossible.

2. The industrial classes in many parts of the world are at the point of revolution. Insiders well know that the uprising of the masses in Germany was a vital factor in ending the war, and the disturbances in that country are likely to become worse when peace terms are imposed. We know something of the terrible conditions in Russia, but little is being told us about the bad industrial conditions in Italy, France, Spain, Japan, Holland and Great Britain. In all these countries strikes are numerous, as outlined more in detail on a later page. On account of the law of equal and opposite reaction, things are not as bad in America as in Europe. There has been less suppression in America. The idea, however, that these convulsions can take place in Europe without some reaction in America is absolutely foolish. The United States is destined to have great labor troubles unless employers immediately adopt different methods. These troubles will start with the textile industry, the copper industry, or possibly the steel industry. The coal and electrical industries will also be affected. America may see the darkest period of its history in the coming days.

What does this mean to clients? It means that business will be jolted, the earnings of the masses will be cut down and their purchasing power will be greatly curtailed. As people cease to buy, manufacturers will cease to produce, and many workers who have not quit voluntarily will be laid off for lack of orders. The vicious circle will again be in evidence. The prices of certain basic commodities, such as steel, copper, and other metals, will continue to decline and may not be such an extended decline in the manufacturing costs, which so largely enter into the cost of living. Owing to interference with production through industrial unrest, the shortening of hours and general efficiency, prices of manufactured goods may for a while continue relatively high.

During the past years the influence of the farmers in this country has been mostly on the side of conservatism. Although the farmer doesn't know it he really is a capitalist and his interests should be allied with the conservative group. When, however, the trade routes of the world are again freely opened, American farmers are going to get a decided shock. Wheat will drop to a dollar a bushel, while corn and other cereals will fall correspondingly. The prices of farm products will drop much more rapidly than the farmer's expenses. This is going to make it ugly, and socialism will appear and compete with some of the propositions which farmers will be making a year or two from now. The farmers of the western states will unite with the industrial workers of the eastern cities in attempting most dangerous legislation.

The foregoing illustrates in a marked way the reason for our attitude on securities (we omit this and

one other paragraph on advice of investors).

Our mercantile and labor services are constantly advising clients how to shape their business to prepare for these startling events. Different lines of industry must use different methods of insurance. Those who recognize conditions and prepare an outlet for their people's desires may get by. Those who try to dam the flood will be washed away. Our government has said so much about democracy that the masses are now determined to have it, and have it apply in every way, as well as in politics. Pessimistic employers and merchants, instead of attempting to block the masses in their endeavors will at once get busy to devise means whereby they can reach their goal without bloodshed and the destruction of property. A Word on the Building Situation

As above suggested, the coming industrial unrest must be prepared and made less harmful. We endorse the government's campaign for the stimulation of public works, the building of homes and construction of all kinds. Reaction must come, and the only hope in the situation is to give the masses as much help as possible so that the reaction will not be so severe. The building industry may become such a buffer. Construction work, both public and private, should be encouraged by every employer. It is a check to anarchy, Bolshevism and W. W. W. in this country. Every client should use his influence with his local community, his representatives to the state legislature and congress to push public works with all possible speed. Clients also have an opportunity to perform personal patriotic service by building at this time.

Prices will be lower later but it is a good deal better to build now and head off anarchy than to wait until too late for the sake of saving 20 percent.

Spend the money now and then charge 20 per cent for insurance, good will or something else. Clients who already have plans for building and who have suspended the same on account of high prices should again ask for bids. Clients who in any way contemplate building should at least have plans drawn. Mind you, we are not pretending that now is the cheap time to build. On the contrary, it is an expensive time to build and we frankly say so. But it is much better to build now at a high cost and save the business than to wait for lower prices and run the risk of anarchy.

What is Happening Around Europe is over, but the great class war apparently has just begun. Because of the strict censorship of news the real social conditions in Europe and elsewhere are not generally known. Working class unrest has expressed itself in revolutionary form throughout all European nations. The statesmen at the peace conference in Paris are really more deeply concerned over the outcome of the labor and Socialist conferences at Berne, Switzerland, than they are in their own activities in Paris. While the peace conference is discussing formulas for a League of Nations, the labor conference at Berne, is discussing the possibility of having their working class constituents at home take over the ownership and control of industries. Strikes are widespread throughout England, Ireland, France, Italy, Spain, Portugal and Sweden. There are all sorts of signs of economic rather than political trouble. In Argentina and Chile, violent labor uprisings have recently occurred. Given below are some specific instances which serve to show the trend of the times.

Babson's Report.

## The International Delegates

By JAMES ONEAL

The resolution being adopted by some locals regarding the three delegates elected to attend the Berne conference, reveal a general misunderstanding of the situation. It is feared that they may commit the party to policies upon which it is not agreed or compromise it in some way.

It may be pointed out that this conference has adjourned and the National Executive Committee decided that if the three delegates could not get to the conference in time but one should go abroad. Another conference may be held while this representative is in Europe, but it should be borne in mind that he has neither the power nor the inclination to commit the party to any policies in conflict with those declared by the party if he should attend a conference while abroad.

His mission is mainly one of establishing contact with the movement abroad, to impart information to European comrades regarding the Socialist Party of the United States, to acquire all information possible regarding the various divisions in the European movement, and to make a report of his findings upon his return.

It may be pointed out here that the party frequently protested against the refusal of passports to American delegates to attend the proposed Stockholm conference. Now that the way is over and passports have been granted to two delegates, there are comrades who protest that passports should not be used. Our first protest was directed against the discrimination of the State Department and now that the government has lifted the ban, some of us erect one of our own.

Party members will concede that the Stockholm conference would probably have not been any more satisfactory to these members than the recent Berne conference, yet no one

## A Letter Not Published

Cleveland, O., Jan. 27, 1919.  
Editor Plain Dealer,  
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Sir:

Noting that you are devoting considerable editorial comment to what appears to you to be "the specter of anarchy and all that is evil in society," namely Bolshevism, I should like to say a few words as to my conception of what Bolshevism really is. First, Bolshevism denotes maximum socialism as distinguished from Menshevism or moderate socialism. That we are and have been steadily evolving toward that form of society pointed out by Karl Marx's scientific exposition knows as socialism cannot be seriously denied by any one. Then Menshevism and Bolshevism are but relative periods of social development.

The intellectuals, so-called, have always been in favor of an orderly evolution from capitalism into socialism and it has been this aim that has been constantly striven for by the orderly

process of education that has been carried on by different socialist groups throughout the world but unfortunately, due to the persecution that has been the lot of those who have been the forerunners and torch-bearers of the new and inevitable order of society, they have at times been driven to the position of having to appeal for the support of the masses, and have been forced to set forth immediate practical demands calculated to attract these masses to their standard.

All Socialists, whether you term them "Bolsheviks," "Spartacists," or what not, have in their campaigns pointed out the inevitability of the downfall of the capitalist system, a system based upon profits, a system which denies to the workers the right to work—regardless of the need for the things which may be produced, and for which raw material exists, unless profits be forthcoming to the owners of the means of production. Capitalism in its development, brings

In England at least 250,000 of various trades have recently been on strike. These strikes are not over isolated disputes, but have as their base the fundamental principles of privileges which working classes are to receive henceforth. All of this has occurred notwithstanding the fact that only portion of England's military forces has been demobilized. What will be the situation when some 4,000,000 more men return to look for jobs? The strike at Belfast, Ireland, is a direct repudiation of parliamentary action and is quite in sympathy with the Sinn Fein government recently elected.

Reports from Italy indicate that an explosion may take place at any time. The labor leaders of Italy are calling for the abolition of monarchical and for a Soviet government. The sudden return of the Italian delegate Orlando, to Rome because of the resignation of the Italian cabinet is significant of serious trouble in Italy. When President Wilson recently conferred with the Vatican, he was afterward rebuked by the Italian workers for refusing to address one of their labor conferences. They retaliated by darkening the city and cutting off transportation for two days. Here we see the weapon of direct action is being used in Italy.

In Portugal the recent attempted overthrow of the republic of the monarchist party, indicates that the working classes of Portugal are demanding power and have broken with the present regime. Seeing this dissension, the monarchists took the opportunity and attempted the restoration of the Portuguese royalty. In Spain the working class labor riots are frequent. While no recent reports have been received, there is bitter class feeling in that country which may burst into flame at any moment. In Japan trouble is imminent, as is further indicated by the rapid withdrawal of Japanese troops from Russia. The rice riots of a few months ago show the temper of the people, who are beginning to revolt against the imperialistic designs of their leaders.

At this moment the allies are confronted with the very serious and pressing problem of demobilizing their armies. French labor groups are demanding that their members be immediately released from army service. British labor groups are also persistently demanding the demobilization of the workers. The reason that this demand is not complied with is not because they need any longer fear the German army, but because of the more genuine fear of sending back these millions of soldiers to the homes, factories and workshops from which they were conscripted during the war, to find panics and unemployment.

On the other hand to keep millions of soldiers resting on their arms with no immediate prospect of using them, tends to disrupt army discipline and precipitate mutiny. The longer they remain resting on their arms, the worse this situation becomes. If they are released and sent back to civilian life and do not find conditions and opportunities such as all the promises of war guaranteed, then there is going to be trouble on a scale such as we have never known before! People in the United States have little conception of what is really involved. The conditions which exist abroad may be duplicated here, but we cannot hope entirely to escape from the suffering which they produce. We cannot hope to have prosperity in America while there is revolution and anarchy in Europe.

Babson's Report.

about its own downfall, for with the development of capitalism the world market into which the surplus products, or that part of labor's production over and above which he receives in the form of wages, becomes ever smaller due to the nation's which before have been buyers becoming themselves sellers, necessitates the disposition of this surplus product in the home markets. This is impossible because the workers receive in wages only an equivalent of part of their production, and in general are able to purchase back only this relative part of their products. The surplus then constitutes what bourgeoisie economists term "over production." When this state exists there ensues a period of economic and social stagnation which necessitates a readjustment of the whole structure and fabric of society. Depending upon the sharpness of this period, depends the nature of the readjustment it amounting, at certain periods, to a complete evolution of the economic and with this our social structures.

During these periods intense and bitter suffering is caused to millions of workers and their families and they will occur with ever increasing frequency until the system of capitalism has been replaced by Socialism, a system of society in which the workers shall own and democratically manage the means of production and distribution thereby insuring the worker the full social product of his labor abolishing the system of profits.

Realizing and guided by a philosophy which teaches the ultimate collapse of capitalism in favor of the new order, socialism, the Maximilists or Bolsheviks have inaugurated the new order of maximum socialism without temporizing with the reforms of the moderates or Mensheviks who, in their program, would attempt to patch up or find a compromising ground upon which the upholders of the present capitalist system could harmonize with the coming order of socialism. The Maximilists say this is impossible and will only drag the conflict with its inherent ills over a period of years while the establishment of maximum socialism now while causing much intensity and bitterness between the old order and the new, will, as soon as it is realized that the new order has come to stay, work unfathomable blessings upon all humanity. There can be no compromise, say the Bolsheviks.

The persecuted of the past become the dictators of today, but unlike their persecutors, they do not persecute their opponents physically. All they insist upon is "law and order." The workers are the Bolsheviks. They control. They have established a new order of society. They have formulated their constitution, made their laws and set up the authority of the majority. Those who of the old order, now in a hopeless minority, attempt to defeat this majority by espionage and disobedience of the laws of the constituted government, will suffer the disciplines of a most lenient and humane government and so learn the lesson they have taught to the workers by barbarous and cruel action, such as Siberian exile and Jewish massacres.

All Socialists, whether you term them "Bolsheviks," "Spartacists," or what not, have in their campaigns pointed out the inevitability of the downfall of the capitalist system, a system based upon profits, a system which denies to the workers the right to work—regardless of the need for the things which may be produced, and for which raw material exists, unless profits be forthcoming to the owners of the means of production. Capitalism in its development, brings

## HELP! HELP! HELP!

SOCIALIST PARTY DECIDES TO PURCHASE NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS AND CALLS UPON ALL MEMBERS TO AID—INITIAL PAYMENT MADE—OWNERSHIP CERTIFICATES TO BE ISSUED—ENDORSEMENT UNANIMOUS

We say—endorsed unanimously. We mean that every Socialist to whom we have spoken about the purchase of a headquarters for the National Socialist Party has, with extra emphasis, endorsed the move.

We must have a home of our own. We must cease paying rent. Landlord capitalists have fed upon our national party treasury for years, and are now feeding upon it to the extent of \$3,000 a year. This must stop! And it will stop we hope, upon International Labor Day, when we expect to move into our new national headquarters where, in security and in a more satisfactory environment, the Socialist work will be carried on with more efficiency than ever before.

The sum needed to make the purchase, to pay for alterations and for moving is \$40,000. A call is to be issued to the Socialist Party membership within a week or ten days, to invest in ownership certificates in any amount they can afford. Every party member can afford to invest one dollar. But many can give five dollars, ten dollars and more. Every comrade will be asked to be as generous as possible in his investment, so that our new national headquarters, the home we'll own, may be paid for in full in the shortest possible time.

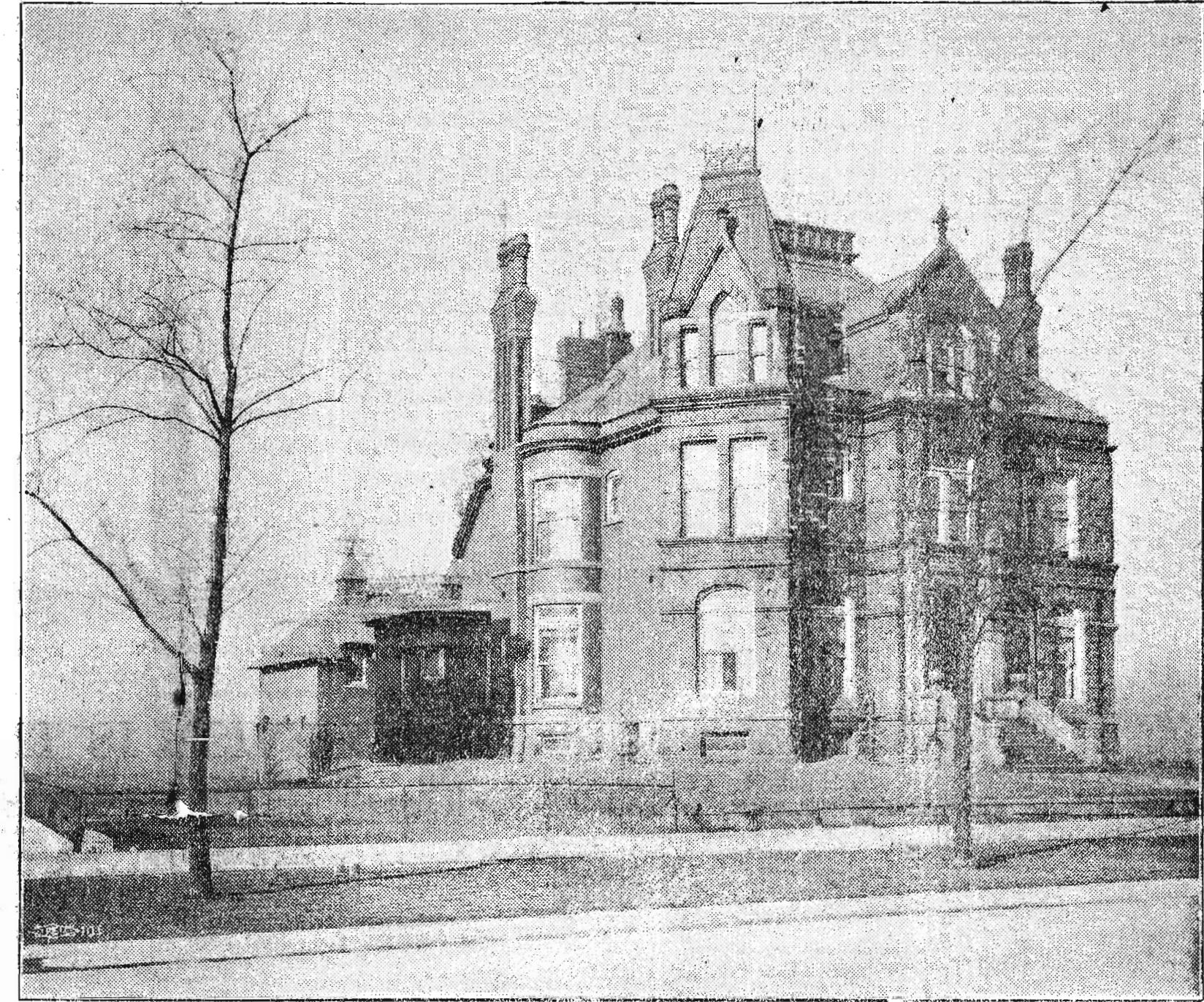
An initial payment of one thousand dollars has already been

made. It now becomes the duty of every party member to forward his "I'm with you, comrade," in the shape of an order for an ownership certificate in as large an amount as he can afford.

The new national headquarters will house all of the National Office Departments and room to spare. The translator-secretaries of all foreign Socialist federations will occupy nearly the entire second floor of the building. The administration offices of the National Party will occupy the first floor. The literature shipping rooms will be located in two well-lighted rooms in the basement. Negotiations are now under way to have a printing establishment in the large building in the rear of the main structure.

Comrades who have seen the property agree that it is a splendid investment. The price being paid by the Socialist Party constitutes about half its original cost. The loyal co-operation of all party members will "swing the deal" in a hurry, and this former rich man's palace will then be used to enrich workers' lives.

Every party member, every local of the party, a part owner of our national headquarters—this is the call which will go forward from the Department of Organization and Propaganda, Socialist Party, to all the comrades within a very few days.



## New National Headquarters of the Socialist Party to be Bought for the Party by its Members

This property is in the heart of Chicago and is located at 220 Ashland boulevard. It is a typical brown stone mansion, magnificent in architecture and substantial in construction. It is well adapted for an administration building for the National Office, Socialist Party. The main building contains 17 large rooms; six on the first floor, nine on the second floor, and a hall that will seat

200 people and an ante-room on the third floor.

The lot has a frontage of 112 feet and is 200 feet deep. This gives plenty of room for expansion. The grounds not now occupied will permit the erection of buildings 90 by 112 feet and 50 by 110 feet. The building in the rear is spacious and can be used for a printing plant until we can construct a larger building for this purpose.

## News From State Locals

### KENMORE HOLDS GOOD LEWIS MEETING

Comrades of Green County are becoming affected by the activities in other parts of the state and will now show that they too are in the race for a bigger and better party of the workers. The matter of forming a county organization is under way, being pushed by several well-known leaders of the movement there. One part of the new activities is to have each applicant for membership pay three months' dues or a dollar, which also gives them three months' subscription to the Ohio Socialist. This method, it is thought, will supply needed funds to push the work. All power to them.

MORE ROOM FOR LIMA SOCIALISTS

Just as Judge Klinger said in his verdict in favor of the Socialist using Memorial hall, persecution makes a cause grow. So we find that after a few weeks of persecution by the county commissioners, the Socialists of Lima have grown to such numbers that larger quarters are necessary. This is the word received from Local Lima this week. So, again we say, "Kill us some more."

### RUTHENBERG AT COLUMBUS

The sentiment in favor of Socialism is fast growing in and about Columbus. We had Comrade C. E. Ruthenberg with us Feb. 23 with the largest crowd we have had for several years, and as he spoke and made the following points he was applauded by almost everyone in the house. He first spoke on anarchy for the poor, pronouncing it the chief cause of the social ills of the country and among other things said that "Liebknecht in autocratic Germany got four years for treason, but Debs in democratic America, charged with the same offense, got ten years," then he asked if a member of the working class differs with the capitalist class to the extent that they may call it treason, how much better off is he in DEMOCRATIC America than in autocratic Germany?

That the upholders of the old order realize the hopelessness of again saddling their bondage on to the patient and formerly-unreasing peasant is evinced by their appeal to the capitalistic government to let them aid in forcing the upholding of what amounts to a takable term. The people of Russia and Socialists the world over have endorsed as their will and desire, the Socialist Republic.

Respectfully,  
J. W. MATTHEWS.

Resolution of Soldiers, Sailors, and Workmen's Council of Dayton Ohio, Feb. 24, 1919

Whereas, the problem of the unemployed Soldiers, Sailors and Workmen has become of such vital importance, and has reached a stage where concerted action by the people of the State of Ohio is necessary, it is resolved by the members of the above named council:

That a conference for the purpose of considering the means to be adopted for the relief of the unemployed Soldiers, Sailors and Workers now in idleness, and to obtain such legislation from the law making bodies of the state and nation as will regulate the hours of labor, so as to divide equitably among all, the work now being done by a few, in both private and public works; shall be held in Columbus, Ohio, on Sunday, March 9, at 10 a. m., at such hall as may be secured.

All labor, organized and unorganized, all working class movements, whether political or industrial, and every association of the unemployed are invited and urged to send their delegates to the end that a general effort be made to bring before the public the truth concerning the unfortunate state of hundreds of thousands of the real American people.

We ask the aid of the press in spreading before the people of Ohio, the place, date and purpose of this conference.

JAMES J. BUTLER, President.

E. R. ESLER, Secretary.

### GERMAN BRANCH GROWS

A communication from Comrade Julius Zorn states that the LaSalle Club of Cincinnati is growing in numbers and making progress in many ways. Interesting educational meetings are held regularly.

GIRARD REORGANIZES

Another local that has been rejuvenated through the efforts of Comrade Thurber Lewis is Local Girard. After many months of silence the comrades are making their voices heard in the growing chorus of live and happy Socialists. Comrade Secretary E. L. Eichler made an application for a charter containing eight names, and a stamp that another speaker will be desirable in a short time. He refers to Comrade Lewis as "the boy wonder," which he truly is.

The speaker stated that if the working class of this country expect to free their political prisoners they must organize in the industrial field. He entered a plea for support of the Soviet government as they were only giving the capitalists some of their own medicine and compared the revolution in Russia to the one in this country, only said the percentage

of lives lost was not so great. Comrade Ruthenberg stated it appeared to be evident that the reason the allied troops are not withdrawn from Russia is because the capitalists of France, loaned the czar of Russia a large sum of money and now the workers in the Soviet government are inclined to think they should not pay that back, as it was used to pay Cossacks to murder the workers on Bloody Sunday in 1905, and now they need that money to help to establish a government by and for the workers, a real industrial democracy. The workers of this country should organize both politically and industrially and get the industrial kaisers off their backs so as to be able to help the German comrades if they called on them as the Russian comrades did on the German

## THE OHIO SOCIALIST

Official Organ of the Socialist Party of Ohio and Kentucky, Virginia, W. Virginia and New Mexico.

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

Address all mail and make all checks payable to  
SOCIALIST PARTY OF OHIO,  
R. F. D. 2, Box 55, Brecksville, Ohio

Entered as Second Class Matter, February 21, 1917, at the Post  
office at Cleveland, Ohio, Under Act of March 3, 1873.

EDITORS Elmer T. Allison  
Alfred Wagenknecht

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

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5, 1919 108

## CAPITALISM ON THE DEFENSIVE

The Socialist Party of the United States is no longer on the defensive. The attitude of the party in the recent trials of the cohorts of capitalism is no longer ours. Rather is capitalism put to it to defend itself against Socialism. A hundred instances might be cited to prove this. The vain shoutings of pulpiteers and politicians; the savage attacks of the capitalist press, the caution advised by the more far-seeing among the upholders of capitalism all show plainly that fear and panic are in the camp of the enemy.

But first among the multitude of indications that capitalism is on the defensive is that of the terrific sentences imposed upon the officials of the party in the recent trials. No better proof is needed to show that it is capitalism that is on the defensive and not Socialism. A system sure of its justness can afford to be lenient to an opposing one.

American capitalism is but repeating the history of ruling classes of the past in the hour of their death struggle. Panic, savagery born of fear, a reliance upon force, and an absolute lack of vision, grip capitalism today as it has gripped ruling systems of the past in the hour of their swift decay, when they sought to retain in their palsied hands the scepter of power.

The Russian revolution sounded to ears that can hear, the swift passing of the capitalist system of production. Today, the skies of Europe are afire with the holy fires of revolution. Comrades have passed from darkness of capitalist exploitation into the light of Industrial Democracy.

"The hour of the people has come." It is coming in America and the savage attacks of American capitalism upon the Socialist Party but hasten its appearance. Fill the jails with Socialists and protestants against a decaying industrial system—what will it profit you, masters? A thousand will rise where but one stood before. For every year of sentence imposed upon us a thousand shall rise because of it.

American capitalism is fighting with its back to—oblivion!

## LET'S OWN IT

The day the National Executive Committee of the Socialist Party paid the first thousand dollars on the purchase of a National Headquarters marked the birth of a new era in American Socialism. It marked the hour of the fruition of an idea that has been growing these last few months and years in the minds of the rank and file as well as in the minds of party officials—the idea of party ownership and control of all our means of organization and propaganda. The purchase of a National Headquarters pressages the acquisition of better facilities and equipment for carrying on the work we must do. It is the beginning of a more systematic order and economical means of carrying on the fast increasing work of the party.

By purchasing these headquarters the Socialist Party flings in the face of the capitalist press the lies it has been so freely printing of our demise and burial. Let every comrade prove by adding his bit to the purchase price that the Socialist Party of the United States is the liveliest corpse the lick spittles of capitalism ever attempted to put under ground.

Fred S. Wertz, government attorney for the northern district of Ohio, has just been named for another term by President Wilson. Here is what Wertz said of Socialist School Board Member A. L. Hitchcock, before any charges were placed against him: "Means can be found to remove him from the board. This is no time to dilly dally over the niceties of legal technicalities." Cleve-Plain Dealer, April 11, 1918. Means were found. Hitchcock is now serving ten years in prison. No comment is necessary.

A League of Capitalist Nations formed to maintain capitalism, or a League of Nations of the World's Workers for the purpose of advancing the interests of Labor—which will you have, worker?

"It was new, strange, irresistibly becoming and stirred the hearts of onlookers with a desire to have one exactly like it." Mrs. Wilson's new Paris hat. Some lid! Aside from that, it is just the old story of pomp and show of differentiation that parades in these times of misery, pestilence and world suffering.

"If we have any large amount of unemployment, we will have a period of industrial unrest and there is no one who can tell where the social upheaval would land us, whether we would have a repetition of the French revolution or of the Russian Bolsheviks or whether good or evil will come out of the struggle."

SECRETARY OF LABOR WILSON.

## BUNDLE BRIGADE GROWING

Among the group of "Jimmie Higgins" in the Socialist movement, there are none more deserving of praise and credit for the great work they do than the comrades who make up the bundle brigade. These inconspicuous workers who give of their Sundays and evenings to the distribution of papers and leaflets are doing a work that is absolutely necessary to the further spread of Socialism. Publicity is the great need of the hour. The minds of the workers are ready now for the seed to fall. Comrades everywhere should at once take up the problems of distribution of leaflets and papers.

That more comrades are realizing the good that flows from a house to house distribution of Ohio Socialists is evidenced in the increasing number of orders for bundles. Here are a few of the latest:

Local Columbus is taking 50 or 100 a week. Local Toledo sends out 200 copies weekly. Local Warren takes 200 copies weekly. Comrade Fred Hockley is waking up the workers in Richmond, Ind., with a hundred a week. Comrade Dr. M. S. Holt of Weston, W. Va., orders 300 copies of the last edition and he hits the nail on the head when he writes, "The only way to combat the damnable lies of the capitalist owned papers is to distribute Socialist papers."

Local Battle Creek, Mich., takes a bundle of 100 weekly. Comrade Wm. Caton of Covington, Ky., orders a weekly bundle of 15 and so does Comrade Geo. M. Crocker of Sheridan, Ind. So, comrades, again we say organize a distribution squad in your local and order a bundle for weekly distribution. Results in Socialist sentiment, Socialist votes and working class consciousness will result. Try it.

## A CORRECTION.

On the subscription lists sent out to readers of the Ohio Socialist with the letter entitled, "A Call for Ten Thousand More," the word bi-weekly was used. Semi-weekly should have been the word used as we are endeavoring to make the Ohio Socialist a "twice-a-week" paper. We are quite sure, however, that no one was misled as to our meaning.

I think the Ohio Socialist is the best Socialist paper published since the days of the American Socialist. Please

## ORGANIZATION MEETINGS

State Organizer Baker's Meetings. Comrade Baker will make the following route: March 6, Barberton; 7, Cuyahoga Falls; 8, Massillon, meeting to be held at 20 W. Main St., 9, Canton; 10, Salem; 11, Leetonia; 12, East Liverpool; 13, Hubbard; 14, Warren; 15, Girard.

Organizer Lewis' Meetings. State Organizer Thurber Lewis' tour will include the following points: March 5, Loveland; 6, 7 and 8, Hamilton; 9, open; 10, Miami; 11, Benetton; 12, Carmont; 13, Belmont; 14, Mad River; 15-16, Xenia.

## Debs Will Speak For You

Comrade Debs will fill dates in the northern judicial district of Ohio. Locals desiring a Debs' date should notify the State Office at once. Several locals that have not been able to accept a Debs' date heretofore should now accept the opportunity presented. Apply for a Debs date and revive Socialist sentiment in your city.

Local Ashtabula has applied for a Debs date some time between the 11th and the 23d. He will speak at Cleveland March 12, 3919 Lorain Ave., Evening.

Please note: Comrade Debs will not be able to speak at overflow meetings.

## GEORGE KIRKPATRICK SPEAKS

George R. Kirkpatrick will fill these dates in Ohio in March: Dayton, March 24; Columbus, 25; Bellaine, 26; Toledo, 27. Comrade Kirkpatrick's recent meetings in Ohio were among the most effective propaganda meetings ever held in this state. Comrades are urged to make it a special order of business to attend these meetings.

## OBITUARY

Local Hamilton mourns the death of Comrade Carl F. Wentz, who died Feb. 22. Besides many friends and loving comrades the deceased leaves a wife, two brothers and a sister.

Comrade Wentz was several times a candidate for public office on the Socialist ticket and served as secretary to the Civil Service Commission during 1914-15 when Socialists controlled Hamilton City affairs.

The funeral was held at Socialist Party headquarters and an address was delivered by Comrade Henry Hinkel. The hall and casket were trimmed in the international colors.

Comrade Wentz' active service to the party in Hamilton have been much appreciated and great regret is felt at his early death, he being but 28 years of age. The Ohio Socialist extends sympathy to the bereaved.

## SIGNS OF THE TIMES

The month of January was the biggest month for dues stamp sales in the history of the party in this state. But it stands to be outclassed in the near future. We say this because of the large orders of supplies the locals are sending in. Martin Ferry, for instance, orders five hundred application cards and an equal number of membership books. Looks like they are going after them, doesn't it?

## MIDDLETOWN TOO

Local Middletown is back on the firing line also. Comrade Baker's meeting there was fruitful in effected reorganization work. Secretary Earl Otterbein is on the job with a subscription blank and a book of dues stamps ready to convert a new comrade or to keep the old ones on the "paid up list." He remits \$3.75 for sustaining stamps.

## WHAT HAPPENED AT FINDLAY!

State Organizer Chas. Baker's route took him to Findlay on the 24th and 25th of February. Local Findlay is one of the places where the mob suppressed civil rights during the late war. Advocates of law and order paraded the streets under the leadership of the sheriff with ropes in their endeavor to make the world safe for democracy. Anyone differing so much as a hair's breadth in opinion with the gang was promptly threatened and intimidated. Result—democracy died a sudden death, or what looked like death, until Charley Baker hit town. Finding no preparations for a meeting he at once started the ball rolling by engaging the city hall, ordering hand bills, printed which he as promptly distributed. And they are some hand bills too, believe us! If any had doubts as to what Charley came for they received a quick disillusionment by reading the display type.

Results were great. A local of eleven members was organized and nine more applications were received. Local Findlay is again on the Socialist map and ready to do its full share in the upbuilding of the international solidarity of the workers.

## HOLMAN AT YOUNGSOWN

Comrade H. L. A. Holman held a most successful meeting at Youngstown on Feb. 23. The Youngstown comrades were very much pleased with the manner in which Comrade Holman handled his subject "Organic Law."

## JENERA SOCIALISTS READY FOR WORK

Comrade Baker found the comrades at Jenera ready to take up the fight. Jenera is another place where my law was enforced. Comrade Baker had a good meeting, however, and says that another meeting will start the ball rolling in great shape.

## SEVEN CERTIFICATES FOR LEETONIA

Local Leetonia is the first local to remit for Industrial Freedom Certificates. A remittance of seven dollars shows that this local is among the live ones. Other comrades are remitting in every mail. A number from out of state are among the first.

## A BOOST FROM KENTUCKY.

Find enclosed money order to pay for names for one year subscription to the Ohio Socialist, and will do what we can any way at any time to assist the cause.—H. O. Davis, Norwalk, O.

## Let Every Worker's Voice be Heard in Nation Wide Demand for Free Speech, Free Press, Freedom for Mooney and Political Prisoners

The Socialist Party is waging a war for the restoration of our constitutional rights of free speech, free press, free assemblage, the release of our unjustly convicted fellow worker, Tom Mooney, and for freedom for all political prisoners.

## Let "free them" be the demand of every lover of freedom and democracy.

To carry on the fight for the return of these rights, the Socialist Party of Ohio has issued "Industrial Freedom Certificates." They sell for one dollar each. The funds thus raised will be used to carry on meetings, print literature and agitate for these until they are granted. All local secretaries have received a number of these certificates. If you are a member of the Socialist Party go to your local secretary and hand him a dollar and get your certificate.

## Protest Against Their Longer Confinement. Buy an Industrial Freedom Certificate

## KENTUCKY

### Official Organization News

FRED E. STEVENS, State Sec. 434 W. Market St., Louisville, Ky.  
E. B. AUSTIN, Asst. State Sec. 231 Broadway, Louisville, Ky.

Louisville, Ky., Feb. 14, 1919.

State Executive Committee Meeting.

State Executive Committee met on Feb. 13, 1919. Members present, Boston, Stevens, Goodman, Rasmussen and Stark. Absent, none.

Minutes of last meeting approved.

The Acting State Secretary reported that no ballots were cast on Committee Reference No. 1, and that therefore the dues remained unchanged.

R. M. Rasmussen was elected state chairman.

E. B. Austin, Jr., was elected assistant state secretary.

On the counting of the state ballots the following were found elected:

Fred E. Stevens, State Secretary-Treasurer; A. H. Lee, S. C.; M. L. Ament, S. C.; R. M. Rasmussen, S. C.; H. Flaggberg, S. C.

Comrade J. L. Stark was authorized to sell a desk, belonging to the State Office, to the Consolidated Organization of Expressmen for \$18.

The applications for membership at large of Arthur W. Calhoun, Lexington, Ky.; G. V. Meek, Henrietta, Ky., and Mary Miller, Henrietta, Ky., were read and accepted.

A resolution was adopted offering support and encouragement to the Louisville American of the Union Press Association. This paper is owned and controlled by organized labor and only representatives of a labor union can become a member of the board of directors. This paper will be an excellent opportunity for the working class to express itself.

The resolution adopted by the City Central Committee of Local Boston Socialist Party of Massachusetts Jan. 14, 1919, was endorsed and the assistant state secretary was instructed to write to the above mentioned, C. C. C. and also the National Executive Committee, informing them of said action.

The above mentioned resolution was also ordered printed in the January report of the State Office in the Ohio Socialist.

The meeting then adjourned.

## RECEIPTS.

A. M. Calhoun M. A. dues	\$1.00
A. M. Calhoun to O. S. 3 m.	.25
A. Tepper, M. A. L. dues	.50
Louisville dues	15.00
Ohio, 1000 applications	2.00
One polo party button	.25
J. Blanton, M. A. L. dues	1.00
J. A. Blaszczyk, O. S. 1 year	.25
Subs to O. S.	1.00
Bradford dues	.00
G. V. Meek, M. A. L. dues	1.00
Mary Miller, M. A. L. dues	1.00
Frank Lavanier donation	10.00

Total \$38.50

## EXPENDITURES.

Postage	\$1.00
National dues	12.00
Referendum ballots	3.50
October Bulletin	3.10
Ohio Socialist Subs	3.50

Total \$23.10

January receipts \$38.50

December balance 11.38

Total \$49.88

January disbursements 23.10

Total \$26.78

Stamps on hand, Feb. 1 126.78

FRED S. STEVENS, R. M. RASMUSSEN, Auditing Committee.

REDACTED

# NEWS AND VIEWS—A WEEKLY SURVEY

(Edited By C. E. Ruthenberg)

## The Next Industrial Republic

The Constituent Assembly of Russia, which met after the workers and peasants had seized the reigns of power and established the Soviet government, was allowed to debate until the sleepy guards told the delegates that they were tired and told them to go home. The German Constituent Assembly has had a longer lease of life, but there is every indication that its work will be of no greater importance than that of the assembly of Russia.

While the constituent assembly is still debating the movement of the workers to establish an industrial democracy in Germany is gaining strength and power. Already Bavaria is in control of the workers and soldiers council and the latest dispatches state that Saxony has followed Germany. Most significant of all, President Ebert has announced that he favors creation of a National Workers and Soldiers' Council as the lower house of the German government.

This suggestion is noteworthy, not because there is any likelihood of it being carried out, for there can be no compromise between the political government which the constituent assembly is shaping and the industrial government which is rising out of industry itself, but because it is an admission of the strength of the movement toward the same kind of industrial democracy that Russia has established. "Germany, the next republic," is being amended to read, Germany, the next industrial republic.

## A Ghastly Joke

The struggle over the League of Nations is under way. The president has thrown down the gauntlet. The opposition in the senate has unlimbered its big guns.

For the next six months or possibly a year we will be favored with the wonderfully polished speeches of President Wilson in support of his League and the thunderous opposition of Senators Lodge, Knox, Borah and others.

The newspapers will devote columns and columns of news and editorial space to the matter and the people of this country will be divided into two camps on the question. The League of Nations or no League of Nations! That will be the cry. All the instruments of publicity on both sides will be brought to bear to arouse the people to decide the issue. All else will be forgotten in the struggle over the question. "A League of Nations" will succeed "Free Silver," "No Imperialism," "A Full Dinner-pail," "Down With the Trusts," as the means of hypnotizing the workers.

What is it all about? The Nation sums up the situation in a recent editorial. Read it and learn what President Wilson's League of Nations really means:

But the League of Nations, we are told, is a reality—a reality that wins President Wilson handsome praise from the New York Times. The most pestilent and exacting liberal ought perhaps to be satisfied with this sanction. Yet despite the chorus of praise in the press, we venture to assert that what has been planned at Versailles is no League of Nations at all. What we have all along consented to call a League of Nations is in reality, of course, a League of governments, which is a very different thing from a League of Nations or peoples. But, waiving that point, what we have offered us at present is a memorandum of the peace conference is not even a League of Governments. The document read by President Wilson on Friday last is primarily the draft of a treaty among five governments, the memorandum of a working

arrangement having in view the organization and apportionment of the material results of victory. There is nothing new in this; it is what was to be expected as the outcome of the war, no matter which side won the military victory. We see nothing, however, that essentially differentiates this particular distribution of the exploiting power from other alliances of the same kind. It may be competent for the Times to say how the course of France in Morocco, for instance, or Austria, Bosnia and the Herzegovina, would have been moralized and improved under a "mandatory" system rather than under a "quiet gentleman's agreement," but we frankly decline the attempt.

In speaking thus plainly of the so-called League, we wish expressly to dissociate ourselves from all criticism based on grounds of narrow and exclusive nationalism. We are aware of the high hopes kindled in many liberal minds by the announcement of the League, and we admit that an overruling Providence may conceivably in course of time transform it into something widely different from what now appears about to be set up. But to admit the possibility of miracles is one thing and to reckon on them is quite another. Scrutiny of the proposed constitution fails to show that as now planned the League will incorporate a single new principle beyond those already tried and found wanting. Five great powers form their alliance, allowing four other un-named states to join them on sufferance. They enter into engagements not to make war except on certain specified conditions; and they declare that all members shall be reduced "to the lowest point consistent with national safety." (What armament ever exceeded this limit?) They undertake to "respect and preserve as against external aggression the territorial integrity and existing political independence of the states members of the league," and they provide certain machinery for the adjustment of disputes by means short of war. All this has been tried over and over again, and each time it has failed lamentably. Apparently we are simply to create more machinery to keep states in order, making no provision for removal of the political-economic causes of strife. If governments are to remain organs of economic exploitation, then the adding of machinery means little more than the strengthening of their hold over the peoples, and the fears of those who see in the proposed league only a new instrumentality for the maintenance of the economic and political status quo appear well founded.

This is the result of the war "to make the world safe for democracy." "A treaty among five governments, the memorandum of a working arrangement having in view the organization and apportionment of the material results of victory," is the constitution of what is called "A League of Nations." Capitalism is perpetrating another of its ghastly jokes on the workers.

## For Debs or Mooney

A vivid impression of the new alignment of the forces in the world is given by the dispatch which states that the Soviet government of Russia has offered to exchange an American citizen named Kholomatsky, condemned to death by that government, for either Eugene V. Debs or Thomas J. Mooney.

The workers of Russia do not consider nationality of any importance. Their enemies are not designated by national names, but are the capitalists of every nation. Their friends are the workers, no matter what their nationality.

That the capitalists are conscious of this new alignment has already been shown. The White Guard government of Finland received the support of the capitalists of the allied countries, although

it was upheld by German bayonets and England and France were making loans to the Ukraine at a time when the Rada was selling out to German imperialism.

The future struggle in the world will not be between national governments but between the workers and the capitalists.

The Russian workers are the advance section of the working class who are forming and developing the new lines of demarcation. In their effort to rescue either Debs and Mooney from the clutches of the capitalist class of the United States they have given a pointed example of the new class loyalty which is developing among the workers of the world.

## Well, Start!

The capitalists are growing hysterical about the danger of Bolshevism in this country. Thus Charles Picz, director-general of the Emergency Fleet Corporation, delivered himself of the following tirade, taking the Seattle strike for his subject:

That was not a strike in Seattle, that was a revolution. The men who started that attempt to set up a soviet republic had only one native born man among them. They meant to seize the government and to take over the industries of the city. They made no pretense of hiding this revolution either.

Since that time we have had our intelligence-department busy. We have received reports from them and we have reports and rumors from other sources that lead me to believe this is the time to start fighting the radicals.

I don't know where a Bolshevik begins and an I. W. W. leaves off or vice versa, but I know we are menaced and that while it is not a serious problem now, this is the time to take matters in hand and stop it from becoming one.

I shall ask that money be spent to fight this thing all over the country and in every shipyard.

We must stanch the snake now, before it strikes. Action is imperative and we have found that advertising is the one way in which to combat this propaganda. All you need do is to appeal to the reasonable working men.

They are sensible and will heed your reasoning. It is a shame that these sneaks and polecats should be permitted to contaminate the rest of the labor in the yards, for 85 or 90 per cent. of the men are absolutely as square as a brick and as fine as any men in the country.

"Action is imperative," "we must fight," is the constant cry of the capitalists. But how are they going to fight? The industrial conditions which yield them their profits are breeding the spirit of revolt. They do not propose changing those conditions. To do so would be to commit suicide as an exploiting class. The workers will not be satisfied with less than the abolition of the existing industrial conditions. What are the pharao capitalists to do? They may adopt a definite policy of suppression. But that won't help. It will merely mean that when the revolt of the workers bursts, its sweep will be stronger and the capitalists will receive less mercy.

What can they do but cry, "we must do something?" Well, start. Y—ready.

## The Agent of Capitalism

The character of the government of the modern industrial countries has nowhere been so clearly revealed as in the Chino-Japanese treaty, made public during the past week. The provisions of this treaty reveal the government of Japan as the agent of the capitalists of that country. In order to fur-

ther the interests of these capitalists the government sets out to wring from the Chinese concessions in building certain railroads. While the matter is phrased in diplomatic language it is plain that the Japanese government acted as the broker for Japanese capitalism and through the threat of the armed power it controls, compelled China to accept loans on which, of course, the latter is bound to pay heavy interest.

The government of Japan is not alone in playing this part. The government of every capitalistically developed country acts as the agent of its capitalists. For several decades the great powers have been engaged in the struggle to gain advantage for each of its own capitalist class, through a game just such as Japan is playing in China.

As the great powers complete their economic development and the problems of markets and foreign investment grow more acute because of the increased productivity of their industrial system and closing up of the possibility of lucrative investment at home, the imperialistic struggle of the governments acting as the agents of capitalism will grow more bitter.

The League of Nations is the attempt of a group of the great powers to control and divide the world between them for just such purposes as that brought to light in the Chino-Japanese treaty. Temporarily the league may prove successful in preventing a new war from arising from the conflict of interests because of the overwhelming power of the five great powers that control it. But new groups will form.

New alignments will take place and when such a new group believes itself powerful enough to challenge the control of the Big Five, we will have a repetition of what happened in Europe during the past four years.

Speaking about the future in the United States Secretary of Labor Wilson said recently, "If there is any serious unemployment, there will be a period of industrial unrest which may lead us to a repetition of the French or the Russian revolution." And the serious unemployment is here.

According to the latest advices from Bohemia that country, which has furnished the soldiers to do the dirty work of capitalism in Russia, is now on the bring of a Bolshevik revolution. Maybe by the time the Czechoslovaks get out of Russia they will have no where to go.

The house of representatives killed the United States Employment Service when it refused to include an appropriation for that bureau in the sundry civil bill. That shows how interested the gentlemen in Washington are in the fate of the workers without jobs.

"Dayton Finances a Serious Jam," says a report from that city. We thought Dayton had a city manager and that consequently all its problems had been solved forever. At least that is what the supporters of that undemocratic arrangement have been telling us.

The strike at Butte, Mont., the strike of the copper miners was conducted by a Soldiers, Sailors and Workers' Council, which organized its own police force and managed every detail of the struggle. A sign of the times, isn't it?

The strike at Butte, Mont., the strike of the copper miners was conducted by a Soldiers, Sailors and Workers' Council, which organized its own police force and managed every detail of the struggle. A sign of the times, isn't it?

"Every boy, now, it seems, is imbued with the spirit of destruction. To fight, to destroy, to shoot

something or somebody, to kill—those seem to be the desires of the boy of today, whether he is aged five or fifteen," says a local writer in discussing military training in the high schools. She continues to say that this is the result of the education we have been handing out to the children. It is undoubtedly true. And capitalism will yet find that the training it is giving the children will bring about the destruction of those responsible for it.

In the testimony of Madame Breshkovskaya before the Committee on Judiciary of the senate, we find these two statements made under cross-examination: "Every day train loads of supplies and valuable things leave for Germany and Moscow" and "Transportation is paralyzed." Every day train loads of supplies and valuables are leaving for Germany and Moscow, although transportation is paralyzed. It seems that in trying to make a case against the Bolsheviks it is impossible to make the facts jibe even in discussing the simplest matters.

The American Defense Society is out with a hysterical appeal for \$50,000 for the fight against Socialism and Bolshevism. How modest! But fifty times fifty thousand would be equally effective in stopping the sweep of the workers' movement to wipe out capitalism. Money won't stop, but, unfortunately for the capitalists, that's the only weapon they have.

Speaking about the future in the United States Secretary of Labor Wilson said recently, "If there is any serious unemployment, there will be a period of industrial unrest which may lead us to a repetition of the French or the Russian revolution." And the serious unemployment is here.

According to the latest advices from Bohemia that country, which has furnished the soldiers to do the dirty work of capitalism in Russia, is now on the bring of a Bolshevik revolution. Maybe by the time the Czechoslovaks get out of Russia they will have no where to go.

The house of representatives killed the United States Employment Service when it refused to include an appropriation for that bureau in the sundry civil bill. That shows how interested the gentlemen in Washington are in the fate of the workers without jobs.

"Dayton Finances a Serious Jam," says a report from that city. We thought Dayton had a city manager and that consequently all its problems had been solved forever. At least that is what the supporters of that undemocratic arrangement have been telling us.

The strike at Butte, Mont., the strike of the copper miners was conducted by a Soldiers, Sailors and Workers' Council, which organized its own police force and managed every detail of the struggle. A sign of the times, isn't it?

The strike at Butte, Mont., the strike of the copper miners was conducted by a Soldiers, Sailors and Workers' Council, which organized its own police force and managed every detail of the struggle. A sign of the times, isn't it?

"Every boy, now, it seems, is imbued with the spirit of destruction. To fight, to destroy, to shoot

cities are Florence, Turin, Naples and Rome.

Only Milan, Bologna and other cities administered by the Socialists are above criticism. Moreover, only there have the populations less keenly felt the lack of food and heat.

Events follow each other with magazine speed.

## Williams Denies Charges

(Continued from Page One) of the czar probably won't exceed 45,000."

"Blames Allies for Starvation."

"How about the systematic starvation of people?" Senator Wolcott asked.

"I admit that food conditions did not improve to any extent under the Bolsheviks. It is certain that rations were cut down. They had to be. The present starvation is due to the allies, who have cut off from European Russia the food supply of the great Siberian granaries."

"What about looting?"

"It would be a miracle if in a great upheaval like this there had not been looting and a great deal of it."

"Well, was there looting?"

"Yes, most of those who have told these stories of what happened in that way came out of Russia on international sleepers. Why, there are hundreds of thousands of Americans in Russia, and so far as I have heard none of them have been killed."

"Hundreds of thousands still there, do you mean that?" Senator Wolcott asked.

"Hundreds then, perhaps thousands."

"Were some of these Americans thrown into jail?"

"Yes, some were."

"What of anarchy?"

"That is due to the plotting of the capitalists of the bourgeoisie. One of them has said that they would let the bony fingers of hunger crush the revolt."

## Baker Appreciated

Little late, but I just want to state that if you have any more in Ohio like Baker, better send them out into other states, for there is lots of room for just such live workers. Comrade Baker spoke here in Indianapolis about one week ago, and he faced a good crowd of workers, five of them plain clothes men from the city police department. These same police are much interested in the talk. All our comrades are in love with Baker since his visit and whenever he can drop in on us again, let him come.

W. H. Henry, State Sec. Ind.

## A Proletarian Dictatorship Vs Parliamentarism

By A. BILAN.

It is very evident that not only is the capitalist class convinced to it that parliamentarism is the highest expression of democracy, but also a large part of the working class has accepted this view and his great doubts whether a proletarian dictatorship is the way toward democracy. These workers believe that the capture of state power is possible through parliamentarism.

Let us see whether this can be done. It is customary to recognize as a parliamentary form of government a government in which a majority of the people's representatives rule, having not only all legislative power but the right to make final decisions which cannot be revoked—only their execution can be delayed.

Parliamentarism can exist as well in a democracy as under a monarchy; in an autocracy as in a plutocracy. Parliamentarism is a typical form of class government. As Frederick Engels says:

"The state is the result of the desire to keep down class conflict. But having arisen made these conflicts, it is as a rule the state of the most powerful economic class that by force of its economic supremacy becomes also the ruling political class and thus acquires new means of subduing and exploiting the oppressed classes."

The modern representative state is the top of the capitalist exploiter's state power. The parliamentarism is an

attempt to fight for their own demands irrespective of what the bosses say about it.

As long as the working class representatives are few in number they are merely disturbers of the peace of the gay bourgeois company, to whom nobody is willing to listen unless compelled to. If the bourgeois have enough confidence in their strength and the support of the trouble-makers is weak, they simply throw them out by the dictatorship of the capitalist class.

Things are different when the working class representatives appear in larger numbers. Their votes in such cases are often decisive upon certain legislative measures. This is the stage when the class struggle in parliament begins in real earnest. It is the time when all working class parties recognize participation in parliament to gain some certain reforms, to gain a larger share in state power. At this point there arises the question as to the limits of working class participation.

The working class is denied the possibility of gaining a majority of the seats in parliament as long as the constitutions drawn by the ruling class exist. Even if in spite of these instruments they should manage to capture a majority of the seats, that would mean that they would be in a position to take over the power of the state, to which the capitalist class would be compelled by force of circumstances, to organize itself as a class and by means of revolution to make itself the ruling class and to sweep away the old foundations of production.

Along with these conditions it will have swept the conditions for existence of class antagonism and of classes generally, and it will thereby abolish its own supremacy as a class."—Communist Manifesto.

Therefore, in our political struggle for capture of the state power, the supreme issue is not the preparation of the proletarian minds for the contrary expression of their will, by criticizing parliamentary actions outside of parliament, but the preparation of the workers for the "little finale."

Regardless of the fact that parliaments are "stink" warts we cannot cast them aside until we have gone through the various stages of their development and proved by their deeds to the working class that the most important battles of the political struggle are fought outside of the walls of parliament and that the expression of the people's will is made through mass action and that the capture of state power is the long march under the red flag of the international Socialist republic, through the dictatorship of the proletariat.

Parliaments, day by day, are growing more tedious for the outside masses. They are becoming uninteresting "business institutions" and it is not the business of the working class representatives to make the parliamentarism "swamps" interesting.

Where free press, free speech and freedom of assembly exists parliamentarism has played its part, just the same as has the capitalist system on the economic field. The best agitation and propaganda forces of the working class have to be employed outside of parliament in great mass meetings.

With the further development of democracy the people seek a direct expression and this opens a broad field for mass agitation. The discussions are transferred from parliament to the people's forums. These are no longer dry and uninteresting parliamentary discussions, but full of life and the people's will, which make