

# THE MONTANA NEWS.

VOL. II.

HELENA, MONTANA, WEDNESDAY, JULY 6, 1904.

NO. 42.

## The Interesting Side of the Chicago Socialist Row

Comrade Walsh: I went up to see Edwards about the cartoons (those already used), and while my reception was frosty, no violence ensued, and he promised to take the matter up with you direct. I have not been able to see Comrade Freyer as yet.

In regard to Knocke, as an editor I think he would make a good one, but think you had better get further information on the subject, as I would, perhaps, be a poor judge.

Now, as yet, the smoke of the battle here has not cleared away, and a complete statement is out of the question at present, but I will try and give you the facts up to date, and you can glean the present state of affairs from them. I am sending you at this time a copy of the Omaha statement, and an address by Teller county locals, which together will give you an exact quota of the state of affairs here at present, as regarded in a broad fundamental way, sheared of technicalities.

Further as to the foundation or the statement by the other side that we are anarchists, it has some grounds to stand on, as follows: Some of our side have made the statement that they did not believe in "political action": they meant that they did not believe the co-operative commonwealth would be brought about by votes alone, but that when we had a majority of votes, we would then have to use the police powers of the government, so acquired, to take possession, as indicated, by the majority vote, and they missed the point, made clear in the manifesto, that this is political action, and that as they favored this line of action, they were not anarchists, as the other side claimed they were; as they had misstated their own position. There were only a few who fell into this error, and the other side took it up, and made capital out of a quibble of words.

The real fight began when the other side found themselves in a majority at a county central committee meeting. They passed a motion suspending the regular order of business in order to take up the national platform.

There was a committee out to draft a new platform, to be presented with the old one, for the rank and file, at a mass meeting called for that purpose. They decided that it was wrong for the Cook county central committee to have monkeyed with the platform question, and at that time were about to vote, when the split occurred.

It has been a standing rule of the Cook county committee to con-

vene at two and adjourn at six, and the other side claimed that this rule was done away with when they suspended the regular order of business. At six o'clock the secretary held the gavel on an appeal, from the chair on a minor matter, and at six he let the gavel fall, and declared the meeting adjourned as per rule, and our delegates left the hall.

Thomas J. Morgan took forcible possession of the minutes, and reconvened the meeting, and as our man had left, the opposition after six o'clock proceeded to change the call for the mass meeting, making it one to indorse the national platform, and fired the platform committee, business manager of the Chicago Socialist, county treasurer and county secretary, and filled the positions with their own men, some of whom were not eligible on constitutional points. They appointed a committee to take possession of the office, etc., but our men got there first and took party seal, papers, etc.

Then matters hung fire until the mass meeting, which they packed with German singing societies, and had a prizefighter as door tender, who made us show our books, but who let in any one vouched for by the opposite side whether party members or not. The most bitter feeling was shown in speeches; they were armed and gavel rule prevailed; they did not permit our new platform to be presented and 85 of us voted against their resolutions; we were, of course, in the minority. Then at the next meeting of the ward branches came two sets of minutes from the two county secretaries, and we were informed if we did not accept theirs, that by that act we placed ourselves outside the party. They had the branches packed with "sleepers" who had not been to a meeting for months and months and carried most of the wards. Their object was to capture the county convention, which they did, and there passed a reform county platform, which was made to look like 30 cents by the one the democrats passed a short time later. At our county convention we were branded as anarchists, disruptionists, etc.; anything, in fact, but Socialists.

They had expelled or suspended or reorganized those branches that did not accept their minutes and this denied the 28th ward representation, and the 21st, and unseated some delegates who had been suspended from the party under charges.

Many of us resigned from the party, proposing to fight on other lines, to be decided on later, and they expelled seven and suspended

one, dropping the charges against the rest.

Then came the state committee fight, which involved the national office and the quorum. In this fight we were clear constitutionally, but they decided against us on "general principles," but we were down and out, as the Chicago Socialist is closed to us and the referendum denied us, we formed the revolutionary, Socialist, educational society, with the constitution of a political party, and any time we change our name, we can become such at once.

As soon as our statement to the public is out I will send you one, which will be more complete and accurate than the foregoing, and their side you can get from the Chicago Socialist of a few weeks ago; you must have seen it.

Now, history is still being made, and a few days ago we got proof of what we had long suspected, that Morgan was a police agent. Some S. L. P. men were holding a street meeting, when they were arrested, and their permits taken away. Morgan and Steadman appeared to prosecute, but when they found it was not our bunch, they abjectly apologized and said "you ain't the fellows we are after," and said they would see that the permits were returned, which they were.

The S. L. P. men went to the city hall to see what was what, and were shown a letter of a dictatorial nature, in the extreme, ordering the chief of police to see that all outstanding permits were taken up, and the owners arrested if talking for Socialism, unless they were O. K'd by the men who sent the letter—Morgan, Steadman and Edwards. Morgan was largely responsible for the hanging of those men in '87, and events prior to that time were just like they are now, so if some day you read of a bunch of us looking through a rope circle, you will know something about it.

These men here can never be part of the Socialist party with us, because they have unmasked, and we can't therefore work for the Socialist party movement in this city, unless the other states line up and throw down the platform, when with the "sleepers" gone back to their holes, we may work in again and use the axe, as they have shown us how. This is all for this time, as I don't like writing and am played out.

I trust I have given you the facts, that is the main thing.

Yours truly,

Chicago, Ill., June 27, 1904.

H. L. SIGGINS.

## Local Omaha's Stand

## On the National Socialist Platform Adopted At Chicago, May 6, 1904

It may be said that the good features of the platform offset the objectionable ones and therefore we should overlook the bad for the good that is in it. If the platform committee gave us a pig and we find after the porker comes into our possession that he is owned by a colony of cholera microbes, surely for the few sound spots in his anatomy they wouldn't ask us to keep him to please the parasites that inhabit him; neither are we going to adopt a middle class platform to extend the life of a class of leeches because it condescends to mention the fact that the working class is the only class that has a right to be.

Therefore, in stating our position upon the platform adopted at the Chicago convention, we wish to do so from behind a barricade of historic facts. As in military science, soldiers are taught the strategic positions over which to throw their battalions, so in the war of words, if we hope to win the battle, we must marshal our phalanx of facts and logic in such a way as will shatter into fragments every opposing force and opposition.

The writers and defenders of the platform declare it to be the first American expression of the class struggle. We hold it to have completely blurred the lines of class division, to have set aside the Socialist philosophy for literary diction and brilliancy of style, and in so doing abrogated the science which alone explains the laws which brought these delegates together, we claim they have resurrected from the grave the middle class philosophy of individualism, to which the organized growth of industry had consigned it, and with the effrontery born of a training in the schools of respectability, parade this spectre before our eyes under the guise of Socialism.

"The Socialist party, in convention assembled, makes its appeal to the American people as the defender and preserver of the idea of liberty and self government in which the nation was born."

The American people, the defender and preserver of the idea of liberty!

In the light of history, members of the platform committee, what does this mean to the working class? Is the materialistic conception meaningless to you? Have the "ideas of each age" ceased to be "the ideas of its ruling class?" If it has become meaningless to you, say so. If not, why mock us with your sentimental hypocrisy about the preservers and defenders of liberty when these ideas of liberty as well as morality and justice but reflect the economic interests of our masters. Liberty, beside being "something sweet to the palate of the flesh," is a relative term, like pleasure, which is only a relief from pain, find expression in its opposite, slavery. Hence the struggle of a class in its own interest means liberty for that class. No struggle of a class which is not waged in its own interests, though it may think so, is a struggle for liberty. The ideas which dominate it have fallen from above.

The revolutionary struggle of the American colonies for independence was economic in character and was waged entirely in the interest of the manufacturing and commercial classes. When England chartered the colonies, she intended them to follow agricultural pursuits; being herself a great manufacturing nation; she desired the colonies to furnish the raw material for the same, but she reckoned without her host; the colonies soon became her rival, having developed in less than two hundred years an annual export and import trade of \$40,000,000. These figures are based upon the report of 1790. As the colonies produced more than the home market could consume, they radiated out into the world's market. This brought them into competition with the British capitalists, who, alarmed at their new rival, went to their home government and demanded the enactment of laws repressing the rising manufacturing industries of the colonies; act after act was passed against the manufacturing interest of the colonies.

Act 5, George II, CXXII, was passed in 1731 at the instigation of the wardens and assistants of the company of felt-makers of London, to prevent the inhabitants of the American colonies from exporting hats of their own manufacture to any place whatsoever.

In 1750 a law was enacted declaring the iron industry of Pennsylvania a public nuisance. Following these laws came the navigation acts, sugar acts, tax against molasses, which crippled the rum industry, the principle commodity used in the slave traffic; then came the stamp act and the tax upon tea. These repressive laws aroused the manufacturing interests of the colonies. The Boston Gazette of April 29th, 1765, has this to say: "Whose natural right is infringed by the erection of an American windmill, or the occupation of a water mill on a man's own land, provided he does not flood his neighbors. A colonist cannot make a button, a horse shoe, or hob nail, but some sooty iron monger or respectable button maker of Britain shall bawl and squall, that his honors worship is most egregiously maltreated, injured, cheated and robbed by the rascally American republicans." At the same time that these acts were being passed, repressing the manufacturing interests of the colonies, Great Britain, according to Bolles, was giving bounties to encourage the agricultural industry; thus showing that the conflict going on was not between the agricultural interests and the British government, but between the manufacturing and commercial classes of the colonies and the British capitalists.

This attack of the home government upon the manufacturing and commercial interests of the colonies brought these several little states for mutual protection together in 1774 in the continental congress. Here it was resolved in the name of liberty and of property to boycott English made goods. They met again in 1775, and finally in 1776 the "immortal declaration" was penned. Then followed the years of sanguinary strife, the peace treaty and the institutions of America came into being in the name of liberty. Liberty for whom? Not for the black slave of the south; certainly not for the white redemptioners of the north, but liberty for the master class of America to go on their way unhampered by the British government; in other words, liberty meant free trade, not only in merchandise, but in human flesh and blood.

Our class, whether black or white, were not considered by the founders of "our" institutions, and the platform that hurls such nonsense broadcast not only insults our intelligence, but outrages the memory of the victims degraded by them. "Our institutions" of liberty were called into being by the exigency of a mixed association of slave-driving agriculturists and labor fleeing capitalists. In 1776, when the world was fired with the torch of liberty sent flaming from Philadelphia by its authors declaring that the inalienable rights of man to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness was a sacred heritage, hundreds of thousands of our class were groaning under the yoke of the slave driver. Thousands of the white workers of Europe were being purchased by the ship load by the class whose interests brought the revolution. Thousands were being sold into bondage for debt, or placed in dungeons for the same offense; apprentices were enslaved to pay the obligations of absconding masters. The Boston News Letter in 1718 states that in the previous year there had been eighty burials of Indians and negroes in Boston. This loss, estimated on basis of thirty pounds, amounted to 2,400 pounds. If white servants had been employed instead at fifteen pounds for the time of each, the town had saved 1,200 pounds. A man could procure 12 to 15 pounds to purchase the time of a white servant, that could not pay 30 to 50 pounds for a negro or Indian. The white strengthen and people the country, others do not." The foregoing quotations tell you in what estimation your class was held by the ruling class of the colonies. It tells you also that Boston owned white vassals as well as negro and Indian slaves. Indentured servants, says Weeden, page 695, Vol. II, were a constant factor in the social system. "They were coming into the country under one or another form of service. In 1746 Robert Galton advertises in Boston, with various goods, a few boy servants indentured for seven years, and girls for four years. In 1750 a number of Irish servants are to be sold; the men are mechanics, the women fit for either town or country. Unexpired service under indenture was offered for sale like any other article of value."

Washington, the father of his country, says Hart, many years after 1750, writes to an agent inquiring about buying a shipload of Germans. The treatment of these redemptioners was as heartless as that meted out to the slaves. "The courts whipped, imprisoned and fined erring servants." The fine imposed and his board during confinement was paid by his master. The victim, if not able to pay this upon his release from prison, which of course he never was, his master was given the privilege of selling him to any English plantation. By an act passed by Rhode Island in 1645 runaway servants are to be returned to the colonies from which they escaped. Under these conditions we can readily see how impossible it was for the redemptioner to hope to be other than a life long slave.

This great body of the population, in company with numbers of free laborers, were denied the rights of citizenship under the constitution of the several states that formed the American republic. Property qualifications was the basis of the elective franchise, also for the holding of office. Out of a population of 200,000 inhabitants in Connecticut, in 1775, only 4,335 were voters; thus showing that more than 30,000 of her male population of voting age were disfranchised. Connecticut had no other constitution than her colonial charter until 1818; Delaware, in 1831, abolished religious and property qualification, except the paying of taxes; Virginia had a property qualification for voting until 1830; South Carolina's constitution of 1790 provided that a freehold of five hundred acres and ten negroes, or a real estate valued at a hundred and fifty pounds sterling, free from incumbrance, was a necessary qualification for voting; Maryland had a property qualification for voting and office holding until 1810. In 1821 New York abolished the freehold qualification and substituted requisites of taxation, service in the militia or fireman. The latter part of the eighteenth century found Vermont without a property qualification; Rhode Island had her colonial charter until 1842. Dr. Jameson states in the New England Magazine for the month of January, 1890, that in Massachusetts, from 1780-89 inclusive, only sixteen per cent of the male inhabitants over twenty-one years of age were entitled to vote, while but three per cent actually voted. Bradford, in his history of Massachusetts, page 349, gives a draft of a constitution agreed upon by the convention of the state of Massachusetts Bay held February 28th, 1778. Under section 3 of this constitution no person is qualified to hold the office of governor unless he is possessed in his own right of a five thousand dollar estate within the state; the lieutenant governor shall possess \$2,500, \$1,250 to be in real estate. An estate of \$2,000, \$1,000 to be in real estate in the state and an estate of \$1,000 divided in the same way shall qualify a man to hold the office of senator or representative. Section 5 of the same document makes \$300 over and above all charges the qualification for voting for the afore named officials. Massachusetts in 1820 abolished freehold or property qualification for voting. An ordinance for the government for the territory of the United States, northwest of the Ohio river, enacted in congress July 13th, 1787, provides that representatives must hold in their own right, in fee simple, 200 acres of land within that territory; that a freehold in fifty acres shall be requisite for voting. It also provides that a member of the council of five appointed by congress shall be possessed of a freehold in five hundred acres of land.

These historic facts lay bare all of the Yankee gush about American liberty and portrays the conditions of our class under those glorious free institutions. Like their black brothers, the white laborers, without voice or vote, were never deemed part or parcel of the people; they had no part in the affairs except to fight the battles of the commercial and agricultural classes. The public opinion of those days, as now, was not of their making; the liberty of the colonies and the institutions that arose upon the soil of its realization were to them only means of exploitation. As a class they were still in their swaddling clothes. The conditions necessary to bring them to their feet had not yet arrived, but the elements were at work. The industrial

(Continued on page four.)

## THE MONTANA NEWS.

ISSUED WEEKLY.

J. H. WALSH . . . . . Editor

Entered at the Post Office for transmission through the mail at second class rates.

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Any subscriber not receiving the News regularly should notify this office at once. It only takes a one cent postal card. Our mailing list is practically perfect, and many errors are carelessly made at certain postoffices, and our readers can assist us greatly in promptly notifying this office of the same.



### Socialist National and State Ticket

- For President—  
Eugene V. Debs of Indiana.
- For Vice President—  
Ben Hanford of New York
- For Presidential Electors—  
W. N. Holden, of Silver Bow.  
J. F. Maybe, of Park.  
Joseph Hoar, of Silver Bow.
- For Governor—  
George O'Mally of Silver Bow.
- For Lieutenant Governor—  
John W. Frinke, of Deer Lodge.
- For Congressman—  
J. H. Walsh, of Fergus.
- For Chief Justice of Supreme Court—  
C. M. Parr, of Silver Bow.
- For Clerk of Supreme Court—  
John Peters, of Carbon.
- For Secretary of State—  
H. Lynch, of Fergus.
- For State Treasurer—  
Erik Olson, of Cascade.
- For State Auditor—  
W. C. Phelps, of Lewis & Clarke.
- For Attorney General—  
E. O. Jackson, of Silver Bow.
- For State Superintendent of Public Instruction—  
Mrs. R. Anna German, of Silver Bow.

Every fellow with a pull of three votes or more is now smiled on by the democratic officeholders.

There is only one real labor ticket, and that is the Socialist ticket. It and it alone stands for the laboring class, the wage-worker, and not for the rich.

The Montana News is now located at 22 Park avenue, Helena, Montana, and comrades should note this when sending correspondence.

Heinze says Lawson of the Anaconda Copper Company is not to be taken seriously. Of course not, not when he's telling the people the truth of the gigantic copper robbing corporation. But why doesn't Heinze say something about the serious part of his selling out to the Amalgamated, eh?

From the reports of the Chicago trouble, it appears that the crowd now in control of the Socialist machinery are a ranker set of opportunists than ever the populists were, even when they walked into the Bryan fusion camp with their crown of thorns and cross of gold. An article in another place in this issue will throw some light on the matter and condition of affairs in the Socialist ranks of Chicago.

Comrades: We need your help. We need your co-operation if you expect to make the Montana News a force in the Socialist field. All you need to do is to subscribe for the paper, which is less than two cents per week. If the comrades over the state will subscribe and hustle a few new names, the fight can be carried to a fierce conflict. The moving from Lewistown to Helena was a great expense, more by many dollars than we figured on, and as we desire to add a few new features, subscriptions must come first.

### Why The Montana News Moved to Helena.

In accordance with our announcement, in the last issue of the Montana News at Lewistown, that we would move the plant to Helena, the paper this week is published at the Capital city, and will continue the publication weekly from the same place.

The move has been made to better facilitate ourselves in the publication of the only Socialist paper in the state. At the capital, where the political pot boils the strongest, is unquestionably the proper location for a Socialist paper with a state circulation, consequently the Montana News plant has been moved to Helena.

With this issue, which will be a few days late, we simply renew the old work in the cause of the proletariat at a new central location. And let us here impress upon our readers that the Montana News is not a new venture in the newspaper field, but has been in the ranks of the newspaper fraternity for nearly two years. Its obscurity in the past has been due to its advocacy of a political faith that as yet is not popular with the average bourgeois of the northwest country, and further, possibly, by its isolated location previous to the move to Helena.

However, the News has not been brought here to make of it a campaign sheet for the coming fall election; but on the other hand has come to this city to be centrally located that it may be in the best position possible to carry the news of the great class struggle now raging in this country, to the wage slave, and point out to him the remedy and relief of the cursed inconsistencies of the present competitive system that drives men to desperation and suicide, while women and young girls are forced to prostitution for the mere necessities of life, and last, but not least, while mere babes are grinding out their little lives among the buzzing wheels and whizzing belts of the factory; and all this while the parasite class revels in luxury.

The country of today is in an unrest, a turmoil, a strife; and all this while overproduction stares us in the face on one side, while on the other side we meet the tramp and two million idle laborers asking for a job. When we see all this even in our own immediate neighborhood, when we see crime, prostitution, vice and bribery to an unlimited measure, when we see both of the old party conventions controlled by the one power—King Dollar; when we see the churches deriving their support from wealthy deacons who draw their ill-gotten money from rent of houses in the tenderloin districts; when we see countless thousands of children murdered day by day, inch by inch, under a cunningly devised system concocted in behalf of the one class against another class; when we see these conditions, we are constrained to ask what are we to do to relieve ourselves from the same?

Socialism tells the story; Socialism solves the problem; Socialism demands to every laborer the full product of his toil. Today the laborer receives 17 per cent of the wealth created by himself, while the rich man under the present system rakes off 83 per cent of the wealth and does no useful work whatever. Socialism will place the little children of the factories in the public school where they rightly belong, by giving to labor the full product of its toil. Today we have two classes of non-producers—the tramp and the millionaire—both live from the labor of the working class; both these classes will be eliminated through Socialism.

The Socialist movement is a revolutionary movement, and this paper can do but little other than to spread the news of the natural economic development; the ushering in of Socialism or the co-operative commonwealth does not necessarily depend upon the Socialist party, but to a great extent upon the economic development of the country. At the present the developments are striding at a rapid rate toward the co-operative condition. No better example of this economic change can be seen than with the Rockefeller oil business, the railroad mergers, the forming of gigantic trusts and the late establishment of the retail grocery trust, which is being arranged preparatory to the passage of the parcel post bill now pending in congress. These are the natural developments that must precede Socialism or the establishment of a Socialistic condition.

Realizing that the present system, which is supported by both old parties, is a system of injustice and inequality, where slavery under a system exists in a more cruel form than did that of the black man before the war of the rebellion, we as wage slaves cast our lot with the class of which we are members and join the ranks of the class conscious revolutionary Socialists to do battle for humanity, to overthrow the present system of exploitation that robs the laborer of 83 per cent of the wealth he creates, and to further assist in ushering in the co-operative commonwealth when justice shall reign supreme; when equality is a fact and not a farce; when every person will be judged according to his ability and not as now according to the number of dollars he possesses; when justice shall reign in our courts and other official positions in behalf of right, and not as now in behalf of the dictates of the dollar bribery; aye, when equality is established as declared by the constitution.

With the assistance of the Socialist comrades over the state every effort on the part of the management of the Montana News will be exerted to place in the hands of the many readers a Socialist paper worthy of the name of the cause it espouses, and with the support of the laboring class, the News will be the most widely circulated paper published in this state.

Let us be up and at them, comrades! the battle is raging and the firing line will not be closed until the 8th day of next November, when the revolutionary spirit of the Socialist party of world-wide affiliation will be represented by an avalanche of white ballots that will shake the throne of plutocracy from dome to pit and sound the coming of the co-operative commonwealth, wherein every laborer will receive the full product of his toil.

Workmen of the world, unite, you have nothing to lose but your chains; you have a world to win!

#### A Clark Wage Slave Objects.

The Montana News, published at Lewistown, announces that its next issue will be issued from Helena, where it intends to make its headquarters in the future. The News is the Socialist organ in this state, and ever since it has been published its main endeavor has been to array class against class in this state, and to stir up hatred between individuals who by right should be the best of friends. The Independent, in a spirit of fraternalism, would like to be able to extend a hearty welcome to the News, but it does not feel that it can honestly do so, and instead would suggest that it could find a more fitting field in which to express its views in Butte, rather than in this city, where all classes of citizens are getting along very nicely these days.—Helena Independent.

You bet, they draw the line

comes to comparing Socialism with demorepublican graftism. However, an error in the above is the statement that the News arrays class against class. This is something the News could not do even though it so desired. Conditions of the economic field make classes. The News, however, recognizes the class struggle and preaches the only solution for the elimination of the present "class arrayed against class"—Socialism. Suffice to say the News cannot heed the good advice of W. A. Clark's wage slave in regard to moving to Butte, because Helena is just the place, being the capital, for the only Socialist paper in Montana. And while we come to Helena, it is not our intention to advocate a policy or system that perpetuates the class struggle; neither is it our intention to disturb the peaceful tranquility of the "citizens" of Helena. The

Montana News will be a state Socialist paper, ever advocating the cause of the proletariat. The News, however, in common with all other Socialist publications, is here to advocate the cause and spread the doctrines of Socialism, the only power that can eliminate the class struggle.

The Argus of Lewistown has quite a bawl coming on the city council because they saw fit to submit a list of printed matter to bid, and on which bid the Montana News won the largest share. Well, Mr. Argus, this is only a sign of what you will have in the future to go up against. In the event that a democratic president is elected this fall, which is not only possible but probable, the graft of printing the federal land notices will crawl across the street, then all that is needed to make the grafting paper on the corner climb a tree is the submitting of the county printing to bid in an honest way as was the last city printing. People are getting tired of paying big taxes that the Argus may rob the county on extortionate rates. And if you think that your rates to the county are not an absolute steal, you might spend some space in telling the taxpayers how it is you can bid to do work so cheap for the city and charge such awful high rates for the county work. For instance one job: Bid to the city submitted by the Argus \$2.50; same thing for the county, \$15. How do you taxpayers of Fergus county like this? The city council let a fair, square bid for some printing and the News won most of it, and no honest person, outside of a grafter or robber, a foot-pad or sandbagger should have any kick coming. It is one of the first acts by the city fusion council that has been on the square, and it looks as if that is the reason that the Argus is kicking. Well, the world do move, and it will be hard on the fossilized, grafting lickspittles when another step or so has been taken.

Comrade Martin Hendrickson, who is agent for a Finnish Socialist paper printed in Boston, was in Spokane this week. He was in Oregon during the recent campaign and says that the returns show that the Socialists polled at least 8,000 votes and perhaps as high as 9,000. In Multnomah county, which is practically only the city of Portland, the Socialists polled 1,500 votes, or almost a third as many votes, as the democrats. The total vote of the county is 18,000, so the Socialist vote is nearly nine per cent of the total. Comrade Hendrickson held two meetings with his Finnish comrades and took a number of subscriptions for his paper.—Spokane New Time.

## Grindstones Grindstones

Have You ever seen the Bicycle Steel-ball Bearing GRINDSTONES that we handle? They are Light Running, Durable and all of the Standards and Balls made of steel.

### Shovels Irrigating Shovels

We handle the famous X. Biedler Irrigating Shovels. Each shovel has a strap rivited on, which can be replaced if broken, and besides saves cutting the shoe sole in two

### FORKS HAY MANURE HEADER FORKS

Look our line of Forks over, we have them in all styles and sizes.

"If you don't see what you want call for it We've got it."

## Charles Lehman & Co.

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SUCCESSOR TO THE

JUDITH BASIN BANK

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Paid in Capital \$100,000.

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GEO. J. BACH, Cashier W. B. MINER, Assistant Cashier

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The Best Hotel in Fergus County

Rates from \$2 per day up

Fine Rooms

Bar in Connection

Excellent Table Service

W. A. SHAULES, Proprietor

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I guarantee you satisfaction. I have only the purest of drugs and an experienced pharmacist to dispense them. These two things assure ACCURACY AND PURITY

I am now fully settled in my new location and am prepared to give my customers every attention.

L. C. WILSON, Druggist

### The EAGLE CAFE

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Open Day and Night

DINNER FROM 11:30 A. M. TO 6 P. M.

Fine Dinners 35c

NONE BUT UNION HELP EMPLOYED

Under Socialism the labor fakir will go out of existence. That is the reason he usually argues that "all these changes in governmental affairs can be brought about quicker by boosting the old defunct democratic party, or organizing a labor party as a bob-tail to the democratic party. A net to drag the ignorant laborer into the left wing of plutocracy's cesspool.

Comrade P. H. Farrell of Billings forwarded six subscription cards to the Montana News since the last issue, and says in his letter that he expects to send more in the near future. These are the comrades who will make Socialism a fact in the near future.

The labor fakirs are springing up all over the state at present, with Helena as headquarters.

## Millinery

Our Line of Millinery is now Complete with all the latest styles of Hats and Trimmings as well as a large stock trimmed Hats ranging in price from \$1.00 up  
**Dry Goods** Our Stock of Dry Goods and footwear is complete and prices low  
**Fruits and Confectionery**  
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## Debs Turns Mitchell and Labor

### Fakirs to a Fine Italian Brown

Some time ago I said that John Mitchell, president of the United Mine Workers, and Francis L. Robbins, president of the Pittsburg Coal Company, understood each other perfectly in reference to the settlement of the threatened coal strike which reduced the miners' wages; and that Mr. Robbins and the operators had the assistance of Mr. Mitchell in enforcing the reduction and were able to predict it with accuracy long before it was finally agreed to by the rank and file of the miners. Mr. Mitchell denied it over his signature and Mr. Robbins, according to the Pittsburg Labor World, said it was a "contemptible lie."

The Pittsburg Dispatch of June 7th has an extended account of an incident that may not be corroborative, but it is certainly significant and, like the proverbial straw, shows which way the wind blows. Mr. Mitchell has gone to Europe and it is not my purpose to attack him in his absence, but simply to put this incident on record for future reference.

The article in question is headed with a five-column cut of an elaborate banquet scene, the guests consisting of mine owners, mine workers and capitalist politicians. At the table of honor are Mr. Mitchell and Mr. Robbins, with Patrick Dollan, district president, between them, as the central figure and toastmaster of the evening.

Mr. Dolan's boast is that he has never read a work on economics, and he proves it daily in his works. In a recent action for libel brought against a local paper by a couple of organizers for the Socialist Labor party, Mr. Dolan testified for the defendant. In answer to a question he said that Socialism and anarchy were one and the same thing. Asked how that was, he said: "They are both against the flag." If the rear-most straggler in the rank and file were as far advanced as Mr. Dolan, his leader, the darkness would be complete and the cause of labor all but hopeless.

Such a leader is conclusive evidence that there are vast stretches between his followers and daylight.

What Mr. Dolan does not know about labor makes him hate Socialism and fits him to preside at a banquet where workers are used as dummies to renew allegiance to the reign of their masters.

The Dispatch article has the following double column headlines: "Miners start a boom for combine leader.—F. L. Robbins approved for United States senator at dinner in honor of labor officials.—Their graceful compliment."

The account in part follows:

"In the presence of the recipient of the honor, coal operators and organized coal miners of western Pennsylvania formally proposed Francis L. Robbins, president of the Pittsburg Coal Company, for the United States senate at a banquet last night at the Henry hotel. The banquet was in honor of John Mitchell, president of the United Mine Workers, and District Secretary William Dodds, to wish the two godspeed on a European tour they are about to make in the interest of their organization. Even Mitchell joined in the tribute to Robbins, which was taken up by others."

"Although hailed as the next senator from Pennsylvania, Mr. Robbins confined his remarks to a eulogy of Mitchell and Dodds."

"Mitchell and Dodds were presented with diamond mementoes of the esteem of the operators and miners."

"Secretary Dodds started the Robbins movement. Dodds is secretary of a district of 37,000 organized miners. He formally proposed Mr. Robbins for United States senator. The coal president was cheered for several minutes. He said he attended the banquet to do honor to two friends."

"The presence of operators and miners," said Mr. Robbins, "defines the proper relation between capital and labor, employer and employed. One thing has led up to the present state of affairs; Miners recognize that conservative men must be placed at the head of their organization." \* \* \*

"If the future shows a change it will be because labor does not continue to put conservative men at the head of their organization."

"The only menace to organized labor now is Socialism, and Socialism must be relegated to the rear."

"Mr. Mitchell then spoke and among other things is reported as saying that:

"He believes harmonious relations between organized capital and organized labor can be obtained without labor surrendering any of its rights or capitalism surrendering its rights."

The foregoing appeals strongly for comment, especially the statement of Mr. Robbins, coal baron and labor leader, that Socialism is a menace to organized labor, but I will only say that Mr. Robbins knows quite well that Socialism is a menace only to the class suggested by his name and that this prompts him to assail it while he places diamond decorations upon the "conservative" leaders of his coal-digging wage-slaves.

The fact that Mr. John Mitchell, labor leader, sees nothing wrong in accepting a diamond badge from the rich and designing exploiters of his poor and pilfered followers; that he evidently has not the least conception of what such a testimonial really symbolizes may serve sufficiently in mitigation to shield him from merited contempt and condemnation.

EUGENE V. DEBS.

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President Mitchell, the labor fakir at the head of the U. M. W. A., who advises that politics be kept out of the unions and that coal miners accept a reduction in wages, is still drawing his fat salary. Roosevelt's re-election means a fat cabinet position for Mitchell.

Ten enterprising farmers of Lewistown have purchased the imported Persian stallion Siberian. Those interested are: Ed. Jack and Terry McDonnell, Wm. and L. Ackley, John Clegg, Joe Glancy, Peter Anderson, Wm. Medigar and A. B. Long. This stallion will make the season at A. B. Long's. Farmers will do well to see this horse before breeding.

Quoting from the Johnstown Democrat, under date of July 2, the Press reproduces the following:

"It is a republican administration that is shooting down men in Colorado because they are unionists. And it was the union labor vote that put Peabody in office. Chickens come home to roost."

And it was a democratic administration that shot down men in Idaho because they were unionists. And it was the union labor vote that placed Steunenberg in the gubernatorial chair. Also it was a democratic administration, under Grover Cleveland, that shot down men in Chicago during the A. R. U. strike. And it was the wage-slave who elected Cleveland. "Chickens come home to roost."

What's the difference? Both the democrats and republicans stand for a system that exploits labor, and hence the perpetuation of the class struggle. The Socialists, as a party, are alone for international peace, and the elimination of the classes.

While you are talking about the deportation trouble and the forceful process of official resignations in Colorado, you might remember that it is not a precedent as many believe. The same thing occurred in Illinois a few years ago when southern negroes were brought north to take the coal miners' places. Officers were ordered out of the country at that time.

Leaders in the democratic organization, such as August Belmont, banker, broker and financial bamboozler; W. A. Clark, mine owner, capitalist and multi-millionaire; and leaders in the republican organization such as Fairbanks, Payne, David Rose, et al., are paragons for the wage-slave to conjure to. Surely their interests are identical.

It is certainly an edifying spectacle to see union men in this state wallowing in the political morass of the old party corruptionists, notwithstanding that their organizations declare unequivocally for Socialism. The unionist who aligns with either of the old parties is either ignorant of his economic welfare or a pure labor fakir, looking for political sinecure. The forming of initiative and referendum clubs, and other reform antics of these acrobats, with the avowed purpose of bobtailing with the left wing of capitalism—the democratic party—bespeaks in glowing terms their political history of the past. At the advent of the fall campaign these union politicians may be heard moralizing and philosophizing on the wisdom of the "pure and simple" voting for Joe Toole and again aligning with a capitalist party. The union-Toole boosters chirrup that they "don't want any Colorado in Montana, and as long as Toole is in the chair we won't have it, etc., etc."

This paper is not inclined to prophesy as what Mr. Toole would do or not do in the case of labor troubles in this state, and as Socialists we can see no corresponding benefits arising from the strike; the point we wish to make is this, first, that Mr. Toole being a democrat, is identified with a system that robs labor of 83 per cent of its toil, and second that in case of labor trouble in the state of Montana, Governor Toole would be as ineffective in preventing the landing of the national guard within the confines of this state as was Governor Altgeld in Illinois during the A. R. U. strike.

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Mondays	Tuesdays		Mondays	Tuesdays
Wednesdays	Thursdays		Wednesdays	Thursdays
Fridays	Saturdays		Fridays	Saturdays
Lve 8:00 a. m.	Lve 9:50 a. m.	Lombard	Arr 3:37 p. m.	Arr 5:30 p. m.
Arr 12:01 p. m.	Arr 12:30 p. m.	Dorsey	Lve 12:37 "	Lve 2:00 "
Lve 12:55 "	Lve 12:55 "	Dorsey	Arr 12:12 "	Arr 1:32 "
2:27 "	2:00 "	Lenapp	11:18 "	12:35 "
3:07 "	2:26 "	Martinsdale	10:56 a. m.	12:00 Noon
3:47 "	2:53 "	Twodot	10:29 "	11:20 a. m.
4:27 "	3:24 "	Harlewin	10:00 "	10:45 "
5:05 "	4:40 "	Ubet	9:28 "	9:30 "
6:45 "	5:26 "	Moore	7:52 "	8:35 "
Arr 8:10 "	Arr 6:17 "	Lewistown	Lve 7:00 "	Lve 7:30 "

RICHARD A. HARLOW, President

Helena, Montana

Henry H. Rogers, president of the Amalgamated Copper Company, has taken steps to prevent Everybody's Magazine from publishing a sensational account of the corrupt stealings of this mammoth trust. Victor Lawson, mining broker and banker closely aligned with the nefarious workings of the copper company, has entered upon a series of articles exposing their methods. Rogers has succeeded in using a federal court flunkey, and secured an in-

junction stopping the publication of the magazine on the ground that the American flag is desecrated for advertising purposes by the publishers of Everybody's. Mr. John Adams Thayer, the publisher, will fight the matter to a finish. It is stated that Rogers has effected an agreement with Lawson and that further exposures will cease.

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Guess the union miners didn't  
 get a swat in the jaw from Gov.  
 Toole when it came to firing Mine  
 Inspector Welch.

**Local Omaha's Stand on the National  
 Socialist Platform Adopted at Chicago**

(Continued from page one.)

revolution that was sweeping over England, brought about by the inventions of Hargreaves, Arkwright, Crompton, Cartwright and Watts, backed by the cotton gin of Whitney, was soon to arouse them to a knowledge of the fact that they were a class, separate and distinct from "the preservers and defenders of the idea of liberty," but before their historic role could appear upon the stage a battle between the agricultural and capitalist classes must transpire. Some claim that the capitalist class did not exist during the revolutionary days. This is an error. Not only did the capitalist class exist, but the revolution was of its making. So powerful was their influence that backed by the commercial slave dealers, they succeeded in dominating the constitutional convention in 1787. It was the merchant class, says Wright, who held the Annapolis convention of 1786, which resulted in the convention of 1787, that gave us the federal constitution. It is worth noticing, declares Andrews, that it was interstate commerce which brought about the Annapolis convention and the convention that framed the constitution.

No sooner were they successful in placing their party (the Federal) in power than it, and the class it stood for, fell crushed beneath the stroke of an economic thunderbolt. Cotton raising, owing to the crude method of ginning it, was very unprofitable. This problem was solved by the invention of Whitney; with the cotton gin, cotton became king, and the slave power, or agricultural class, became predominant in every institution of the United States, coming into power with Jefferson in 1801, and from that date until 1861 it was the dominant class of the country. The morals of that period were furnished by slave power. The Bible became the text book of the slave system. The preacher who has been the minion of the master class, preached the gospel, in its economic interests; the school, the press and the platform kept company to its baouu. In 1794, says Hart, "Jay appeared to suppose that cotton was not an American export, but since the invention of the cotton gin, in 1793, the cultivation of cotton by slave labor had grown more and more profitable and in 1820 that export was valued at nearly \$20,000,000. The planters of the northern belt of slave holding states did not share in this culture, but they found an increasing sale for their surplus blacks to their southern neighbors. They had therefore joined with members from the northern states in the act of March 2, 1807, to prohibit the importation of slaves." The federal party, the great champion of the manufacturing and commercial interests of New England and the middle states, which gave Adams 71 electoral votes in 1796 and 65 in 1800, sunk to only 14 votes in 1804. From the election of Jefferson in 1800 to the inauguration of Lincoln in 1861, the slave power or agricultural class ruled supreme. No sooner had this interest become predominant than the elements of dissolution set in. The hand tool was being supplanted by the machine using tool; human energy as a motive power was giving way before steam; the modern factory had made its appearance; the wage system was becoming a stern reality; chattel slavery was repugnant to its favorite children, the capitalist class; repugnant because its institutions shackled their advancement. The class conflict began anew; the morality of slavery was held to be immoral, its institutions to be in league with the devil, its constitution a covenant with hell. Liberty became the war cry of the industrial interests of the north. These sentiments were becoming crystallized in different political groups; abolition, free soil and liberty parties were springing up; phrase mongers like today were in evidence. The rights of man were sown broadcast throughout the land by the satellites of the coming saviors of man. But behind all of this sentimental verbiage lurked the cold economic proposition, capitalist liberty and rights of man were only synonyms for wage-labor; free labor versus slave labor was the issue; like the slave breeders of Virginia, who joined forces with the manufacturing class of the north, to put a ban upon the importation of slaves, because this competition reduced the prices of their human merchandise on the plantations of the south. Like those good Christian gentlemen, the capitalist class, purchasers of human labor power were desirous of freeing the great volume of human commodity stored up in the bodies of 4,000,000 blacks. "Either the plantations of the south," exclaimed Seward, "will be cultivated by free labor of the north, or the fields of New England will be tilled by the slave labor of Louisiana and Alabama." So the battle waged between the two systems; the slave power determined to drive the Mason and Dixon line to the borders of Canada, the capitalist class as determined to hurl it with its laws into the Gulf of Mexico. As the capitalists gained in power the others lost in prestige. Strength to one was weakness to the other. One's gain was the other's loss. Thus the pendulum swung. The sun-dial of time had registered 1860; the political cohorts under the banners of the republican and democratic parties have met, the first in solid phalanx, the last in a series of disintegrated groups. Lincoln, the champion of the capitalist class, was declared the victor. He was seated; the slave power revolted; the south was deluged in blood; Shiloh and Gettysburg furnished the shroud and Appomatox the grave for the corpse of chattel slavery.

The capitalist class did not seize upon the institutions of the slave economy. It abolished them. At Appomatox was interred the morals of slavery; its literature, religion and songs, and above its grave the institutions of capital have blossomed to decay. For already the proletarian hosts are marshaling for the fray. Not to resurrect the institutions of the fallen slave power or agricultural class; not to revive the institutions of the dying middle class; not to capture the institutions of today on the plea that they have been diverted from their mission; we come in the name of proletarian liberty, which means our own class interests. With Marx, we hold: our only ideal to be "the letting loose the elements of a new society." Our institutions we are bringing with us; our morality, our religion, literature, plays and songs, our ideas of social organization keep company with our class consciousness and class solidarity. Our economic movement will change to meet the changing forms of industrial development; our political party has come to conquer the powers of government that we may abolish it for an industrial democracy organized by and for the working class.

Backed by these historic facts, we again affirm that the platform, which appeals to the American people as the preservers and defenders of the idea of liberty, repudiates the Socialist philosophy; because these facts teach that the history of America has been a history of class struggles, between the rising manufacturing class of the colonies and the British capitalists, which culminated in the revolution. Between the commercial and agricultural classes for supremacy in the new government, resulting in a victory for the former in the constitutional convention and before the legislatures of the several states; between the two same interest, in 1800, which laid low the capitalist class for sixty years. And the conflict waged between them during the period leading up to the fall of the agricultural class, in 1860, and finally the struggles going on today between the victorious capitalist class and the awakening proletariat.

But possibly we have misunderstood your term, "American people." Do you mean the manufacturing class of the colonies who freed their trade from the shackles of British legislation? Do you mean the agricultural class whose interest gave birth to the democratic party?

Do you mean the capitalist class, in politics the republican party? Do you mean the wage-workers, who have given us the Socialist party? Or do you mean the entire aggregation? If all, what means our class divisions? Why not forego our separate existence and unite our fortunes in the welfare of the whole? If on the other hand, the American people signify the working class, why not be candid enough to declare it? Why lose us in a maze of phraseology? There is but one deduction to be drawn from your term, American people, namely, it means the entire population, and therefore attacks the scientific groundwork of the movement.

Further, you affirm, that to this idea of liberty both the republican and democratic parties have been equally false, because they struggle to maintain the present industrial system. Do you not know that the republican and democratic parties, as stated before, but politically reflect the idea of liberty portrayed in the interest of the capitalist and agricultural classes? That they are the offsprings of those interests and will die with them? Are they false to their trust for striving to maintain their existence and the classes which called them into being? And again you say, "Our American institutions came into the world in the name of freedom, that they have been seized upon by the capitalist class as a matter of rooting out the idea of freedom from among the people; that our state and national legislatures have become the mere agencies of great propertied interests." Ah! at last we have the definition of your "American people." It means all classes outside the "great propertied interests."

This is why in the third clause of the platform you define "working class" under the broad appellation "producing class," which practically takes in the entire agricultural and middle classes. The proletarian hide has, indeed, been stretched to the bursting point. At last the mask has fallen and divulged your middle class visage. No wonder you cry out against the "passing of liberty and the coming of tyranny." No wonder you cry out that your political institutions are being used as the destroyer of that individual property upon which your liberty and opportunity depend. And no wonder that from the labyrinth of your own middle class philosophy you cry out in one breath that the private ownership of the means of employment ground society in economic slavery and in the next gasp declare that Socialism comes so to organize industry and society that every individual shall be secure in that private property in the means of life upon which his liberty of being, thought and action depend. This medley of phrases, reduced to their final analysis, signifies that the liberty of being, thought and action of the individual depends, not upon the social ownership of the means of employment, but upon the private ownership of the means of life. Therefore Socialism comes to rescue the people from the successful assault of capitalism upon the so-called basis of their individuality.

Was ever the same quantity of error and contradictions marshaled together in like space before? Aye! not even the Kansas City platform could have as little meaning to the wage class as this pyrotechnical display of words.

So this creature, with its democratic and single tax tail thrown in, is called the first American expression of the class struggle. "Sane Marxian Socialism! O! what a fall was there my countrymen, then, I and you and all of us fell down whilst bloody treason flourished o'er us."

Wage-workers of the Socialist party, we appeal to you. Resent this insult offered to your class; sink this middle class document; bury it so far in the realms of oblivion that the trumpeters who have heralded its coming can never more recall it. Down with the revisionists' platform.

(Read "Industrial Evolution of United States," by Carroll D. Wright; "Industrial History of the United States," by Prof. Bolles; "New Manual of Constitution," page 357, by Andrews; "Constitution Studies," by Schoeler, pages 321-37; "American Politics," by Cooper, book 4, page 10; "Documentary History of New York," Vol. 1, page 516; "The Rise of the Republic," by Frothingham; "Formation of the Union," by Hart.)

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**The Class Fight**

BY A. T. HARVEY

The comrades are watching with interest the efforts of radical democrats to gain control of the party.

Bryan and Hearst are the chief disturbers, followed by a beseeching army of patriots, with eyes on the barrel. They will create considerable noise, probably steal a few more metaphors and go down to defeat before the solid phalanx of bondholders within the party. Should success crown their efforts therefrom would be like the spasmodic kicking of a galvanized corpse, unnatural and wholly unable to prevent the decomposition already set in.

The local potpourri of old party politics begins to thicken. Wage slaves and vassals of the local banks, who, because they pay taxes on property mortgaged for more than it is worth, consider themselves superior to the common laborer, are alike eagerly seeking the nominations for county offices. Amusing in the extreme are the antics of these self-seekers, professing undying faith in the worn out doctrines of the old parties, yet in order to gain the favorable opinions of men who are inclined to Socialism, they pretend to agree with their most rad-

ical utterances. Or after professing their love for labor, they say "Socialism is all right, but we can't get it." Like all of their class, personal success is the alpha and omega of their thought. Bryan, Roosevelt, Parker, Hearst may win or lose the presidency, but all that interests them is the chance of holding down a desk in the court house and feeding from the public crib. One of the most amusing of this bunch is the would-be democratic nominee from Whiskey gulch. With ease and agility he can agree with the radical utterances of men whose vote he is angling for, and in equally easy and more forcible manner damn the Socialists when in company where such sentiments are desired.

The dearest wish of his aching heart was a fusion of the Socialist and democratic parties, but alas for the hopes that have withered, the Socialists won't fuse. We are informed that several active supporters of his over in the hills have been promised undersheriff, in fact it is somewhat hard to meet a miner who is not lured by some such promise. He has even extended promises to residents of Lewistown, probably in blissful ignorance of the fact that all such promises leave him liable to prosecution under the laws of the state. But the ambition of the Scottish Chief is doomed to failure, as the powers that be are about to decide that the present able scab protector is entitled to renomination.

With the exception of the sheriff the assessor seems to have most competition. A hungry and willing bunch is working to secure the favor of the capitalist boss for this nomination.

The office of treasurer is one the gang is afraid to look for, as the bank will select the nominee for this important office and will brook no interference in the matter, but a few slaves are stretching itching palms toward the office, with their servile eyes centered on the master, each hoping to be the chosen one.

We understand a struggle rages for control of the democratic paper, with smiling Dave Hilger on both sides of the controversy, as usual.

Capitalistic anarchy in Colorado is having good effect here; it enables the most rabid old partyite who belongs to the working class to realize the truth of the Socialist contention that a class war is in progress within our society, and Colorado is giving evidence of it in an acute stage.