

No Legislation For Labor

Labor Completely Ignored By Congress—Socialist Active and Makes Good.

(By National Socialist Press)

Washington, D. C. Aug. 24.—A resolution to investigate the Taylor system and other systems of shop management is the only labor measure enacted by the democratic House. And failing to pass any labor bill is the record of the republican Senate.

Diligent search through the Congressional Record as well as inquiry among members of the Labor Committee of both houses discloses the fact that the extra session of the Sixty-Second Congress, just closed, failed to pass or advance any of the important labor bills before the National Legislature these many years.

The following labor measures have been buried in the committees of Congress:

- A bill to regulate the issuance of injunctions in labor disputes.
- A bill to exempt labor unions from the operations of the federal anti-trust laws.
- A bill to provide for the pensioning of the veterans of industry.
- Bills to prohibit the common carriers from transporting goods made by child and convict labor.
- Bills to provide for employers' liability and workmen's compensation.
- A bill to grant American seamen their constitutional rights.
- A bill to grant employees of the Federal Government their constitutional rights.
- A bill to prohibit enlisted men from competing with civilian workers.
- A bill to establish a Department of Labor.
- A bill to regulate the employment of women in the District of Columbia.
- A bill to prohibit the employment of child labor by the Federal Government.
- A bill amending the extradition laws to prevent kidnapping.
- The resolution to investigate shop systems was enacted by Congress at the eleventh hour after a bitter fight. The republicans thrice blocked the consideration of this measure by raising points of "no quorum."
- That measure was passed only after its author, Representative Wilson, of Pennsylvania, permitted Minority Leader Mann to strike out all the derogatory references to the Taylor system which were part of the original resolution. Wilson, Redfield and Lawrence were appointed on the committee.
- Wilson, who is the chairman of the House Labor Committee, only reported one other measure favorably. That measure is a bill by Representative Hughes, of New Jersey, providing for the eight-hour day on all Government work. This bill Wilson reported so late in the session that it is the very last measure on the House calendar.
- The various labor measures mentioned heretofore are in the custody of the Labor and Judiciary Committee. The chairman of the first committee is a Gompers democrat and Clayton, the chairman of the other committee is a Southern democrat.
- Although the House Committee on Reform of the Civil Service has heard a great deal of testimony this summer regarding the persecutions of postal employes by the department, it has nevertheless failed to report the Lloyd bill either favorably or unfavorably. This bill simply gives Government employes the right to organize or petition Congress.
- As usual, Labor is completely ignored by Congress.

BERGER'S RECORD.

Here is the legislative record of Victor L. Berger, the first and only Socialist Representative, during the

extra session of Congress, just closed:

He introduced bills and resolutions to—

- Recall the Federal troops from the Mexican border.
- Provide for the calling of a National Constitutional Convention.
- Investigate the McNamara kidnaping outrage.
- Abolish the Senate, the President's veto and the Supreme Courts power to invalidate laws.
- Erect a Postoffice at Waukesha, Wisconsin, which would properly house the workers employed therein.
- Limit the employment of women in the District of Columbia to eight hours a day and prohibit night work.
- Amend the extradition laws to prevent kidnapping.
- Provide automobile for official use of District of Committee so that it may properly do its work.
- Prohibit the employment of children under the age of sixteen years by the Federal Government.
- Provide old age pensions for the veterans of industry.
- Provide for appointment of a commission to investigate the matter of old-age pensions.
- Congress has not acted on any of the foregoing bills. They are all in the committee rooms, excepting the resolution to investigate the McNamara case. This resolution was given a hearing by the Committee on Rules at which considerable testimony was heard. The stenographic report of these hearings have been printed by Congress and Berger has distributed about three thousand copies of these reports.
- As a result of these McNamara hearings the Senate Committee on the "Third Degree" has also taken up the kidnaping case. It also admits that McNamara's extradition was irregular.
- All bills received a great deal of publicity in the public press. Especially is this true of Berger's bill against the Senate and for old-age pensions.

BERGER'S VOTING RECORD.

Berger voted for the direct election of Senators by the people and for federal control of these elections.

Voted for campaign publicity bill.

Voted for the Canadian reciprocity bill.

Voted for the Farmers' Free List bill.

Voted to admit Arizona—with its "recall of the judiciary" clause, and New Mexico.

Voted for the reduction of tariff duties on wool and cotton.

He made a speech in favor of the wool bill and pointed out for the first time in Congress the Socialist position on the tariff. The speech created a sensation. Over 300,000 copies of that speech have already been distributed.

Berger also made a short talk on old age pensions. This speech lasted about ten minutes and is preliminary to a speech he expects to deliver at the next session.

OTHER ACTIVITIES.

The Socialist Representative called President Taft's attention to the case of Engineer Lough who was unjustly imprisoned in Panama. The President pardoned this workman.

Berger appealed to Secretary Nagel, of the Department of Commerce and Labor to admit into this country Theodore Malkoff, a Russian political refugee, who had been detained at Ellis Island. Nagel granted Berger's re-

quest.

Letter-carriers of several cities complained to Berger that they were compelled to wear uniforms in hot weather. Berger secured an Executive order permitting these workers to decide what clothing they shall wear in summer.

Berger's office is continually supplying workmen and their organizations information regarding Governmental affairs, various official publications, and careful answers to all sorts of requests. A secretary and two stenographers are thus kept busy all the time.

The greatest service Berger has rendered to the cause of the working class is that through his prominent position here he was able to give a great deal of publicity to its grievances and to its demand for industrial emancipation.

The Socialist movement has received more publicity in the last four months than in any other period in its history in this country. The workers have learned even from the capitalist press that Victor L. Berger is their only Representative in Congress.

Washington, Aug. 21.—Because of his successful efforts in their behalf Socialist Representative Berger has just received the thanks of an American workman who had been freed from a Panama Jail and a Russian political refugee who had been released from Ellis Island.

Engineer Lough, who served five months in the penitentiary for a crime of which he was innocent visited Berger's office immediately upon his arrival in Washington. He thanked the Socialist Representative and the Socialist press for their efforts in having him liberated.

Lough was "convicted of involuntary manslaughter because of an unavoidable accident on the road he was employed. "My trial was a farce," he said. "I was denied a jury trial and permission to establish a defence. Most of my evidence was ruled out by the judge."

"Judge Collins who presided in my case has since quit the bench and is now in Chicago," continued Lough. "In that city he recently made a

speech showing that justice in the zone is a joke. He stated that all Panama judges are told what to do with the prisoners before their trials begin.

"Since leaving Panama, Judge Collins must have been conscience stricken because he wrote to Panama appealing for my pardon. But it was Collins who gave me a year in a filthy penitentiary."

Asked as to the conditions in the Panama penitentiary, Lough said: "There are about 150 men in the prison. Most of them are negroes and mixed Spaniards. As a rule they are filthy and diseased and I was not only compelled to associate with them but we lived twenty to a room."

"The prisoners are cruelly treated and many of them are beaten until their backs are a mass of stripes. Each prisoner has to wear ball and chains weighing about 25 pounds. The men are employed on the public highways building and repairing roads."

Lough had just finished his fifth month in the penitentiary when word came from Washington that he had been pardoned by the President. Berger submitted a strong statement regarding Lough's case to Taft last June.

From Washington Lough is going to Kentucky where his family lives. He does not intend to return to Panama.

Theodore Malkoff, the revolutionist who took part in the capture of the Russian battleship Potemkin, has at last been admitted into this country. That he be allowed to enter after Berger had made a strong appeal in his behalf before Secretary Nagel of the Department of Commerce and Labor.

The Ellis Island authorities refused to admit Malkoff and were about to deport him when the New York Socialists interceded in his behalf. They secured counsel and notified Berger to use his influence here. The Socialist Representative first secured a stay of the deportation order and later at his request the Washington authorities reversed the order of the Ellis Island officials.

MODIFY WATER POWER GRAB.

As a result of the publicity given by the Socialist and labor press taking

(Continued on Page 4.)

McNamara Sends Labor Day Greeting.

By John J. McNamara.

Los Angeles, Cal., Aug. 18, 1911.

In the past few days I have received several communications from various labor and progressive publications requesting that I contribute a few lines that would be appropriate to Labor Day.

The first thought that presents itself is that I owe sincere and hearty expression of thanks to the labor press and to the rank and file of our great industrial army that supports not only our press but they support other sympathizers who uphold organized labor in its aims and aspirations.

I know of no more appropriate time to extend fraternal greeting to my valiant friends and sympathizers that their efforts in behalf of myself and my brother are appreciated beyond expression mere words fail to convey our feelings and our friends will have to catch in the thought the inward feeling.

Labor Day—the day set aside for the toilers who produce all wealth and retain none—this holiday is set aside for the workers. The thought of the day calls before our vision past celebrations, parades and renewed pledges to work honestly and faithfully in the interests of our common cause.

At first blush it would appear that one behind prison bars on the coming of labor's holiday, would be filled with bitterness, sorrow and despair. There is no bitterness, no despair because they have not in the past neither in the future will efforts to crush down labor be fruitful of any permanent results.

Sorrow there is, of course, but it is because of the separation of relatives, friends, and tried and true companions the possession of which is greater than all ease on earth. This sorrow is of course temporary; fortified by a clear conscience and secure in the belief that ultimately right and justice will

prevail, we need have no fear of the artificial terrors of our enemies.

A Labor Day thought is that it should be more than a mere celebration or a backward glance at what has been achieved or left undone. While we profit by past errors we should also look on labor day as the starting point for an improved civilization that will edminate industrial oppression and wrongs.

The soldier of industry has long suffered in silence. Since the American revolution the loss of flesh and blood and manhood upon the battle fields of the nation and the attendant evils sink into utter insignificance when compared with similar sacrifices on the industrial field.

In spite of the value to the nation of the industrial soldiers their slaughter and oppression has continued year after year; their honors are unsung no provision is made for their remaining dependants.

The concentration of capital and the practical elimination of competition have so altered the rules of the game whereby we struggle and compete with one another for existence that the industrial conflict is far more destructive than actual warfare.

Against the spirit of greed and avarice there is a genuine spirit of unrest throughout the civilized world, a feeling that no longer it is to be understood that property rights are sacred and that the person of the toilers has no rights that cannot be invaded.

I know of no better time to unfurl the flag of man against mammon than on Labor Day; it would be a most fitting celebration, a battle auspiciously started and sure of victory. Why not make our Labor Day celebrations, meetings of protest against an industrial and political system that compels millions to suffer and starve at a few may swindle and squander?

Plan Big Labor Parade

Mayor Alexander Refuses to Allow Union Men to March Past the Jail.

(By National Socialist Press.)

Los Angeles, Calif. —Burns finds it extremely good and easy picking in Los Angeles with a labor hating city administration that is playing in to the hands of the detective outfit the same as the county outfit.

The city council yielded to the importunities of Mayor Alexander and appropriated \$7400 of the peoples money and turned it over to Burns. He was given \$13,000 on a former occasion despite the fact there is no law that allows the city to pay rewards.

The money was paid to the blood hound on the ground that he had "conducted an investigation."

Dozen of persons with legitimate and pressing claims were turned down by the finance committee but the Burns deal was put through with great speed. There is deep indignation because of the action of the city administration and the Socialist and Labor papers are giving the action of the officials the widest publicity.

In order to avoid possible injunction proceedings, the finance committee made an announcement that the city would not be imposed upon any further in the Burns matter. A few minutes later the council met and passed the appropriation and Mayor Alexander hastened to pay the money to Burns.

Clarence Darrow met Burns and a bunch of operatives in the office of the district attorney yesterday morning and they exchanged some passages. Darrow recognized in the group of operatives Mills who was connected with the Pettibone case at Boise, The Chicago attorney called the attention to the fact that Mills was on the losing side in that case. Darrow said incidentally the operative was playing the same old game here and that he again held a losing hand.

The grand jury came in for a scathing arraignment again this week after making a futile attempt to force John Harrington of Chicago to give some information concerning the case Harrington who is a lawyer, has been making special investigations for the defense. He declines to answer on those grounds but prosecutor Ford insists on another inquisition and asks Judge Hutton to cite the attorney for contempt of court. Harrington laughs at the idea.

Darrow again declared the grand jury was not investigating anything but was continuing to act as the special agents of the Burns detective outfit. "It is the same old story of intimidation and browbeating," said the attorney. "They are trying to put us in a bad light and to discourage our witnesses. They will be kept in session until the trial begins. They will be used for the same old purpose."

Connors, Maple and Bender, the striking iron workers are still in jail awaiting bail. Bail for Connors is placed at \$20,000 for the others \$10,000 each.

Judge Willis, reducing bail from \$25,000 each said he had read the evidence against them and saw little reason for holding the men. He intimated the evidence before the grand jury was flimsy and unreliable but he held them on such excessive bail it will be difficult to get it.

Declaring that he feared that the slouts, thugs and roughts that hang around the offices of District Attorney Fredericks would start some rioting if the big labor parade passed the

county jail. Mayor Alexander revoked the permit which had been issued by Chief of Police Sebastian which allowed the workers to march up Temple street past the county jail where John J. and J. B. McNamara and a dozen other labor and political prisoners are confined.

A new permit which was issued allows the paraders to turn at Temple block and march southward on Spring street. This will allow labor's hosts to approach within 200 feet of their comrades who are confined in jail. The prisoners will not be allowed to look upon the marchers but they will hear their voices.

The plan as arranged by the workers was for the marchers to go quietly up Temple street hill and pass the prison with uncovered heads. The McNamara boys are in cells overlooking Temple street but they cannot see Temple block and no portion of the street where the marchers will pass is visible from the barred windows of their cells. The plan as rearranged is for the workers to remain silent during the march down Main street until Temple block is reached. At that point the cheering will be begun and for hours as the fifty thousand workers march in solid phalanx there will be one prolonged cheer sent up that will penetrate the innermost dungeon of the bastille.

In revoking the permit for the march Mayor Alexander admitted that all labor and Socialist parades that had been conducted in Los Angeles in the past had been peaceful and that no rioting had ever occurred. But he declared that the demonstration which might possibly be made would result in creating a public sentiment in favor of the accused Union men who were confined in the County Prison. He plainly said that some of the "thugs and roughts who hang around the District Attorney's office would be glad to do anything to start trouble and embarrass the administration as well as the workers."

This is looked on as a remarkable statement from Mayor Alexander who had just forced the city council to turn over to Burns \$20,400 of the peoples' money to support the very thugs and operatives which the says he fears. The mayor's exact words were, "I cannot permit you to do anything that is calculated to create sentiment in favor of the men under arrest." It was suggested to the mayor that public officials and Burns operatives who were living on the city's money were doing everything in their power to create a sentiment against the men. The parade is expected to be the biggest demonstration ever made by labor on the Pacific Coast.

According to a telegram received by Attorney Clarence Darrow the machine was well greased at Indianapolis when police detective James Hosick arrived there and surrendered himself to the sheriff. Within an hour after his arrival Hosick was arraigned on the indictment charging him with kidnaping James J. McNamara and had given bail in the amount of \$10,000. The bail, it is understood was put up by the Manufacturer's Association.

"We are not seeking to punish Hosick for the part he played in kidnaping our man. We merely want to try out the workings of the law in these affairs."

Attorney Joseph Scott said Hosick had been given latitude in the affair and had eluded the arresting officer

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THE REFERENDUM.

For the first time in the history of
Montana has the referendum been put
to use, and this marks an epoch in
the advance of democracy, the over-
throw of corporate influence in state
legislation, and foreshadows the ulti-
mate control of the state by the work-
ers.

Attempts have been made in the
past to apply the referendum and
likewise, attempts have been made
to initiate legislation, but each time
ended in failure, however, a beginning
has been made and once the people
get a taste of Direct Legislation, and
know the power they possess through
the Initiative and Referendum, politi-
cal corruption and machine politics
will be near an end.

The percentage of signatures re-
quired to put the Initiative and Refer-
endum into operation is too large. A
total of five per cent of the voters
in the state, exclusive of what county
they may reside in, is large enough,
and will obliterate the cumbersome-
ness of the present law. To secure
such a change will require an amend-
ment to the state constitution.

When the amendment to the con-
stitution relating to the Initiative and
Referendum was submitted to the peo-
ple of Montana, in 1906 the Socialist
party and the Montana News opposed
the amendment, on the ground that it
was not a good measure, and that if
the amendment was defeated a better
measure would be enacted. The
Montana Federation of Labor sup-
ported the amendment. Time has
demonstrated that the Socialists were
correct in the stand they took.

On the other hand the law passed
by the legislature of 1907, making the
Initiative and Referendum operative,
is a good law and was supported by
the legislative committee of the Mont-
ana Federation of Labor, if our mem-
ory serves us right, the bill was draft-
ed by Alexander Fairgrives then pres-
ident of the Montana Federation of
Labor.

After trial has been given the
working of the law, it is found that
very little improvement can be made
on it at present, as it is very elastic
and protects any attempt to invoke
the Initiative and Referendum from
being knocked out by the courts on a
mere technicality. Any improvement
to be made on the Initiative and Refer-
endum law in Montana must first be
made through a constitutional amend-
ment, before the law is simplified.

It is much more difficult to initiate
a measure than it is to invoke the
referendum, yet if a successful effort
can be made to apply the Initiative,
it will clear the way towards getting
a constitutional amendment through
the next legislature amending the In-
itiative and Referendum law.

An effort should also be made to
keep up a continual agitation to ex-
tend the principles of Direct Legis-
lation to constitutional amendments.
At present constitutional amendments
can only be submitted to the people on
a two-thirds vote of both houses of
the legislature.

As the constitution of Montana will
have to be amended considerably be-
fore the principles of the Socialist
Party can be enacted into law to any
great extent. It would be well for the
Socialists to keep up an agitation for
an amendment to the constitution to
allow the people to initiate constitu-
tional amendments.

The educational work accomplished
by invoking the referendum on the
Donohue Military law is of immense
value to the working class movement.
It has aroused a great spirit and agi-
tation against militarism and has
shown the workers the power they
possess in political action.

An act of the last legislature will
be on the ballot at the next election
for the voters to approve of or dis-
approve. This will keep the voter in
mind of how the old party legislature
tried to job him, and will turn the
voters thoughts to the Socialist Party.
It will damn the old party politicians.

The Montana News force feels
proud of the fact that the News was
the first paper to make known the
evils of the Montana military codes,
as well as being the paper to suggest
and launch the attempt to invoke the
referendum. Especially when the
records at the State Capitol in the
office of the Secretary of State show
that only in the communities in which
the Montana News circulates were
signatures demanding the referendum
secured. This shows the power and

influence that the Montana News has
in the state.

With this feeling of satisfaction for
the work accomplished, we realize
that had it not been for the active
work done by those who circulated
the petitions, the signatures would
have never been secured, and appre-
ciate their work very much.

Power and Happiness.

Political tendencies move slowly to
the obliteration of the wire-puller,
but industrial trend is toward the en-
hancement of the wire-stringer. As
the coal supply diminishes, the power
demand increases, and gradually the
size of the power units grows, and the
number of them dwindles.

Twenty years ago to transmit power
more than four or five miles was re-
garded as economically wasteful and
commercially unprofitable. Today it is
the cheapest way. From the greatdams
that cross the country's rivers' holding
back their floods until power can be
extracted from them, a wheel of wires
extends in every direction, over the
spokes of which flashes the juice that
no one wholly understands, but that
does swiftly and silently what coal
once did with heat and smoke and
crackle of fires, accompanied by the
hiss and whistle of steam.

Billions and billions of dollars are
invested in the industries that have
to do directly or indirectly with the
production or consumption of electri-
cal energy, yet the business is in its
infancy.

Within our day we are likely to see
the establishment of power systems
which transmit their mighty strength
through the ether without wires.
Already we have the wireless tele-
graph and the wireless telephone, and
a thousand other forms of electrical
magic that would seem sorcery to an-
other age. The future of electricity
no man can pretend to foresee; it is
beyond the dreams of the most im-
aginative seer.

In all this there is a greater meas-
ure of comfort and of happiness for
mankind, provided mankind, in the
bulk, has wisdom enough to hold that
progress for its own, preventing the
hogging of all the benefits by the few
who have today seized most of the
natural and the man-made resources
for themselves. For if the control of
electricity goes to the pounderbund,
it will mean serfdom, not liberty;
misery, not happiness, for the public.
Material progress must be accom-
panied by intellectual watchfulness, if
it is to accomplish what it should be
destined to accomplish.

THE EVOLUTION OF
ACCIDENT INSURANCE.

The principle of systematic compen-
sation for losses due to industrial ac-
cidents has been known in Europe
for over a century, the earliest exam-
ples being found in the mining indus-
tries, especially in Germany and
Austria.

As these industries were the first
to be operated on a large scale with
large numbers of employees whose
life and safety depended on the care
and skill of the manager and of the
fellow workmen, and in addition had
a higher danger rate, it was but nat-
ural that attempts should be made to
provide in a definite manner for the
relief of the distress of employees
caused by accidental injuries or other
physical disability.

The industry of navigation possessed
similar characteristics and also devel-
oped at an early date comparatively
well defined systems of relief for dis-
ability arising from the operation of
vessels.

The next industry to be operated on
a large scale and which had at the
same time a high trade risk was that
of railway transportation, and in the
States of the present German Empire
we find early efforts to make provi-
sion for railway employees on a more
liberal scale than that prevailing in
the manufacturing industries.

With the development of large scale
industries and the more frequent use
of power machinery, together with the
increase in the size of industrial estab-
lishments, there was an increase in the
trade risks of the industries so affect-
ed.

Previous to the system of large scale
production, a comparatively simple
system of compensation for industrial
accidents prevailed in practically all
countries of the world and was based
on the idea that a workman suffering
an injury from industrial accident
should be compensated by the person
or persons at fault in causing the
accident.

In each case, however, the person
liable was supposed to have commit-
ted some fault, and it was necessary
for the plaintiff to begin suit and to
prove such fault or negligence accord-
ing to the rules of evidence prevailing
in the courts of each country.

In 1884 Germany adopted a compre-
hensive system of accident compensa-
tion. Austria followed in 1887, and

since then practically all industrial
foreign countries have done likewise.

(This article is an extract from "The
Twenty-Fourth Annual Report of the
Commissioner of Labor", a copy of
which may be obtained gratis from
the Bureau of Labor, Washington,
D. C.)

A WORD OF EXPLANATION.

In as much as certain parties in
Butte have circulated the story not
only in Butte, but over the state, that
I deliberately printed the referendum
petitions wrongly worded in order to
have the referendum petitions thrown
out by the courts. I take this oppor-
tunity of making a few statements.

The parties responsible for the cir-
culation of the foregoing story are de-
liberate and malicious prevaricators.

The wording on the petition that
they base their falsehoods, is under the
word "WARNING" on the referendum

The paragraph in the petition under
the title of "WARNING" is an exact
copy of what appeared on the peti-
tions for Initiative measures sent out
by Howard O. Smith, as Secretary of
the Montana Federation of Labor,
three years ago, and I received copies
of those petitions from O. M. Partelow
the present secretary of the Montana
Federation of Labor and returned the
petitions to him after copying the
"WARNING" from the petitions.

The "WARNING" which appears on
the referendum petitions printed by
the Montana News, was drafted by
one of the best constitutional lawyers
in Montana and at the request of those
who were officers of the Montana
Federation of Labor at that time.
The lawyer who drafted the "WARN-
ING" is a man whose advice to repre-
sentatives of organized labor has al-
ways proved correct, and had his
advice been taken by the labor legis-
lative committee in the past, there
would have been no necessity of the
railroad unions having the railroad
liability law amended by the last leg-
islature.

Before the petitions were printed
a proof was taken to the office of
the Secretary of State and there ap-
proved, before the referendum peti-
tions were printed.

Nearly three weeks after referen-
dum petitions were sent to O. M.
Partelow, the Silver Bow Trade and
Labor Assembly had new petitions
printed with the wording under head
of "WARNING" slightly changed, and
these petitions were sent out by O.
M. Partelow, Secretary of the Silver
Bow Assembly.

Neither the Montana News, the
Machinists union or the Federated
Railway Trades of Helena were noti-
fied of this conflict in petitions, al-
though all three were sending peti-
tions over the state.

After my attention had been called
to the petitions and letters being sent
out from Butte, I took a copy of the
petition sent out from Butte and a
copy of the petition printed by the
Montana News, to the Secretary of
State and asked him if either petitions
were acceptable to him, or if he would
receive and certify to either petition.
The Secretary of State replied that
both petitions would be accepted by
him, and that the petition printed by
the Montana News was the most ex-
plicit of the two, but that the meaning
intended to be conveyed by both peti-
tions were identical.

The Secretary of State further
stated that the wording on both peti-
tions under the heading of "Petition
for Referendum" were alike, and cor-
rect.

However, as a controversy had
arisen and in order to remove any
friction, that might retard the pro-
gress of securing the referendum, the
Montana News printed more petitions
with the wording under the head of
"WARNING" to correspond with the
Butte petition.

The referendum law gives a copy
of forms that can be used, and pre-
faces the form with the following
qualified sentence:

"The following shall be substan-
tially the form of petition for the refer-
endum to the people in any act passed
by the legislative assembly of the
state of Montana."

After giving an example of forms
to be used when attempts are being
made to invoke the referendum, the
following appears:

"The forms herein given are not
mandatory, and if substantially fol-
lowed in any petition, shall be suf-
ficient, disregarding clerical and mere-
ly technical errors."

The petitions printed by the Mont-
ana News were in accordance with the
law and were substantially correct.

The report circulated from Butte
is to the effect that a lawyer in Butte
of high legal standing had given as
his opinion, that the petitions printed
by the Montana News could or would
be invalidated by some court.

The Butte lawyer, whoever he
is, who gave this opinion has no higher
legal standing than the lawyer who

drafted the wording at the head of
the petitions sent out from Helena.

It is safe to say that no lawyer in
Butte, either of high or low legal
standing, would jeopardize his stand-
ing in the legal profession by issuing
a statement as an attorney, over his
signature that the petitions printed by
the Montana News were illegal, or
would not stand a test in the courts
of the state.

Instead of raising a controversy, or
turning loose their mud batteries on
me, if the parties who have been cir-
culating their falsehoods around the
state had been desirous of securing
the referendum against the militia law
invoked, they would have called my
attention to what to them was an ap-
parent error in the wording on the
referendum petitions. This would
have been a more honorable course
instead of the cam. sign of knocking
they have carried on.

Petitions were sent out, from Butte
to some 80 places, (approximately 70
of these places had already been cov-
ered by petitions from Helena.

Petitions were sent out from Hel-
ena to 145 places in the state.

The work of these few character
assassins, in Butte, who claim to be
Socialists, has had a very detrimental
effect in securing signatures for the
referendum, and had they shown the
spirit of solidarity, and abstained from
knocking the Montana News and the
petitions sent out from Helena, with-
out the least doubt there would have
been enough signatures received for
the referendum to have given us the
necessary 15 per cent in 15 counties to
have made the militia law inoperative.

While the work of securing signa-
tures was under way I abstained from
starting a controversy, and it is with
reluctance that I now make this state-
ment, but have been advised to do so
in order that the facts might be
known.

While I do not care what any per-
son might say, or opinions held by any
person about me, it will say that there
has been a steady campaign of slan-
der, falsehoods and character assas-
sination carried on against me for the
past three years, by a few sore-heads,
and when brought face to face with
me, these character assassins have nev-
er yet been able to sustain a single
assertion they have made against me.

Had I been desirous of preventing
the militia law from being submitted
to a vote of the people, I never would
have started the agitation against the
militia law or started the referendum.
JAMES D. GRAHAM.

Machinists Elect
Socialist Officers

By Lois Kopelin.

Washington, Aug 26.—Progressive
unionism won a decisive victory to-
day when William H. Johnston was
declared elected president of the In-
ternational Association of Machinists
with a majority of 1,979 votes over
his opponent, James O'Connell, the
present incumbent.

The election of Johnston to the
presidency of this union is undoubtedly
a protest of the rank and file of
labor against the Gompers type of
leadership. O'Connell was a promi-
nent member of the Civic Federation,
while Johnston is a Socialist, and
stands for the independence of labor
on both political and industrial fields.

Never in the history of the machin-
ists' union has there been such an
aggressive and bitter contest for the
presidency. Both sides issued a great
deal of campaign literature. O'Con-
nell, on one hand, pleaded for "con-
servatism," denounced Socialism, and
injected the religious question in the
campaign.

Johnston, on the other hand, called
on the rank and file to take an in-
ventory of their organization, and see
how little O'Connell accomplished
during the eighteen years he had held
his high office. He urged them to
stand for industrial progress and in-
dependence from entangling alliances
with the capitalist class.

Wilson Re-elected.
D. Douglas Wilson, the editor of the
Machinists' Journal, was unanim-
ously re-elected. George Preston, the
international secretary, was also
re-elected.

Every one of the international Vice
presidents were re-elected. T. C. T.
Nicholson, of Sale Lake city, and
James Sommerville, of Canada, are
the new members of the International
Executive Board. Arthur E. Holder
heads the Law Committee.

Three Socialists were elected as
delegates to the convention of the
American Federation of Labor. They
are R. F. Lamb, Thomas Van Lear and
P. W. Buckley. J. J. Keegan was also
elected as a delegate.

President-elect Johnston is a mem-
ber of the Socialist local of this city.
He was twice the Socialist candidate

for Governor of Rhode Island.

His election to the presidency is the
third blow that the Gompers cabinet
has received from the progressive
unionists. First was the action of
the miners regarding John Mit-
chell's connection with the Civic Fed-
eration. Second, the defeat of Treas-
urer Lennox, of the A. F. of L, as
secretary of the Tailors' union.

Johnston in Accord With Party.
Johnston is in thorough accord with
the labor union policy of the Socialist
party. Here is part of an answer he
recently made to one of his critics
during the campaign.

"Workingmen should and must go
into politics if they would conserve
their constitutional rights, and while
there should be the heartiest co-op-
eration between the trade union and
the working class political movement, yet
the two movements must remain separ-
ate and distinct, each working in its
separate sphere for the uplift and
final emancipation of the working
class.

"In modern industry men are em-
ployed regardless of their nationality,
their political or religious belief. The
purpose and function of the trade
union is, therefore, to unite into one
harmonious whole all those so em-

ployed. This can best be done by re-
fraining from discussing partisan poli-
tics, devoting our time to uniting the
workers into one great industrial
brotherhood, at the same time en-
couraging the political education of
our members, to the end that political
scabbery may disappear."

WAR WHAT FOR?" By George

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on economics by any living American
author. It is a book that fairly bristles
with sharp points that puncture the
hide of capitalism and makes this old
monster squirm and hunt cover. No
"Dare-Devil Dick" writer ever imag-
ined such "blud curdling" episodes
as Kirkpatrick describes as true his-
tory, the history of the befuddled,
the betrayed and slaughtered working
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but misery and death, or if they sur-
vive, long hours of grinding toil to
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CLASSES.

N. P. Adresen.

There are two opposing classes, One of workers, one of drones; And the few control the masses, Feudal kings, but lacking thrones, "Divine right of landed titles!" Is the motto they support. Workingmen, remove your bridles! 'Else, ere long, they'll own the earth. Vote to make conditions better Than they ever were of old, Vote to break each single fetter, Help to smash the "calf of god," You admire the present order Of corruption and sin? If you don't then cross the border, Help the Socialist to win.

Plan Big Labor Parade

(Continued from page one.)

and gone to Indianapolis in order to evade the indignity of going back over the same route a prisoner. Hosick disappeared the day Governor Johnson honored the requisition for his removal to Indiana and no trace could be found of him until he arrived in Chicago on Friday.

Chief of Police Sebastian aided Hosick in his effort to avoid the arresting officer and had Hosick decided to leave the country the Chief undoubtedly would have been a party to the plot.

The mystery of the disappearance of George H. Shoaf, the correspondent for the Appeal to Reason of Girard, Kansas, has deepened as the days go by. On the night of Aug. 13th Shoaf disappeared from the home of his cousin Mrs. Lucy Bormann at 1026 West Ninth street. He left the house at 10 o'clock intending to return to his room. At midnight after every body in the apartment house had retired Mrs. Bormann and others in the building heard the sound of a terrific fall in the hall way. Nothing was discovered to indicate a struggle at the time but in the morning Shoaf's battered derby hat and a bludgeon was found in the lower hall way at the foot of the stairs.

The police were notified and by a strange and unusual coincidence James Hosick, the man who is held on a felony charge of kidnaping Shoaf's friend and fellow worker, was put on the case. With Hosick was detective Zeigler. The men spent half an hour in the vicinity then threw the hat and weapon into the property clerk's room and abandoned the case. The next day Zeigler left for a vacation trip and then Hosick disappeared on his secret trip to Indianapolis to answer to the indictment for kidnaping John J. McNamara.

Shoaf had been working on a theory that H. G. Otis had hired a man to bring about a small explosion in the Times building to create public sympathy for the paper which had lost its vast prestige of influence and was losing its grip on the labor haters of the community. Shoaf declared

the small explosion started the big gas explosion which wrecked the old fire trap and cost the lives of 21 workers. He declared he was working the plot out and had the full evidence in his possession. He told a friend he was going to take the papers in the case to his cousin for safe keeping. Shoaf's friends and relatives believe the Socialist writer had been watched and that he was killed in order that the papers might be destroyed and that his lips would be forever closed. Captain George C. Shoaf, chief of detectives of the police department of San Antonio, Texas, as taken charge of the case. He says he is convinced his son was killed by a notorious detective who has long been a tool of the labor haters of this country. The man under suspicion has a bad record. He can be found any day that Capt. Shoaf wants him.

The following greeting is from J. J. and J. B. McNamara and a dozen other labor leaders in the county jail, political offenders against capitalism: "We are in prison, behind steel bars. You are out in the open sunshine. We are here because we are what you are—workingmen and none knows the day when you maybe forced to join us—when you may by virtue of the fact that you are toilers, offend the masters who hold the key to the prisons. The only solution is the workingman's ballot. It is the strong right arm of the working class. Capitalism controls the courts, the jails, makes the laws and enforces them; makes the conditions under which you toil and takes from you what you create. Labor is in the overwhelming majority. Standing together labor can make the laws, abolish the jails and bring in an era of economic freedom, the right of man to what he creates. To you, our comrades who have left to you a measure of liberty we say, vote as you strike; vote together for yourselves for your wives, for your children and for the children of all the ages to come. Show the world your final supremacy over all thugs.

The capitalist system is hard on the capitalists. It keeps them on the hustle to keep what they have got and it keeps them in fear of the coming of Socialism.

There are many little chaps who imagine because they get a couple of thousand dollars income that they are in the plut class and that Socialism will hurt them. Let not these little chaps be afraid. They are but imitation plut and Socialism will benefit them.

Socialism will free the worker from the fear of the anger of the boss. It will free him from the fear of losing his job. It will free him from the necessity of bowing to the men who control his job. It will make a free man of him.

The plunderers who live off of sweated labor like to go to church and hear sermons preached to wage slaves about being patient under suffering and resisting not evil. No wonder Rockefeller and his gang hug religion of that brand and get control of Sun. day-schools.

REFERENDUM INVOKED

Donohue Militia Bill Will Be Submitted to the Voters at the Next Election.

The infamous Donohue Military law passed by the last legislature will be submitted to the voters of Montana at the next election for their approval or rejection.

Enough signatures to the petitions demanding that the law go to a referendum have been filed with the Secretary of State, but not enough to annul the law pending the result of the referendum.

The law requires that 15 per cent of the voters in at least 15 counties sign the petition for referendum before the law is made ineffective pending the referendum, but 5 per cent of the voters in two thirds of the counties in the state can demand that the law be submitted to the voters, the law still being in force pending the referendum.

While 18 counties have filed petitions demanding the referendum three counties have less than five per cent and the remaining 15 upwards of five per cent, some counties having nearly 20 per cent.

The counties filing with the Secretary of State petitions for the referendum containing signatures of over 5 per cent of the voters are as follows: Broadwater, Carbon, Cascade, Custer, Deer Lodge, Gallatin, Jefferson, Lewis and Clark, Lincoln, Missoula, Park, Powell, Ravalli, Silver Bow, and Yellowstone.

Petitions containing the signatures of less than five per cent of the voters in the county were received from Beaverhead, Chouteau and Madison counties.

On Monday August 28th. the State officials conceded that the referendum would be invoked and prepared the legal papers in anticipation that enough signatures would be received,

On Wednesday the 30 inst. it became evident that the Clerk and Recorder of some counties were holding back the referendum petitions, either intentionally or unintentionally, and if something was not done promptly, the attempt to invoke the referendum would end in failure. The Clerks and Recorders who were delinquent were notified and their attention called to the fact that they were violating the law, which resulted in the petitions being forwarded to the Secretary of State immediately.

A total of 7,079 signatures were received on the petitions and certified by the Clerks and Recorders of the various counties as being the signatures of qualified voters. While we have been unable to check up all the signatures that the Clerks and Recorders have disqualified, yet, from investigations made we find that approximately 1,500 signatures were thrown out by the Clerks and Recorders, or seventeen and one-half per cent of the total signatures received on the petitions, enough to have given us the 15 per cent required by law to have suspended the militia law pending the referendum. 1,250 more signatures in six counties would have given the required 15 per cent in 15 counties.

This is the first time that the referendum law has been put in use, although the referendum law has been in force nearly five years.

The petitions on file at the office of the Secretary of State show that only in the communities in which the MONTANA NEWS circulates have signatures been obtained, and further that in proportion to the number of MONTANA NEWS circulated in the community were signatures secured.

WORKINGMEN'S INSURANCE.

By Wm. R. Shier.

What guarantee have injured wage-earners that the money promised them under Workingmen's Compensation Act will be paid?

In view of the fact that some states have already passed such acts, and that other states contemplate doing so the question is one of timely interest to American Socialists.

It is not sufficient for the law merely to state the amount of compensation that shall be paid to workingmen or their families for injuries incurred during employment. It is necessary that the law should also provide some scheme to protect injured workmen against the insolvency of their employers.

The British Workmen's Compensation Act, for example, provides that injured employes shall receive half wages during the period of their disability, but does not require employers to furnish a guarantee that the money will be paid.

We can make his clear by a concrete example.

Take John Smith. He is a carpenter working for Mr. Jones, a building contractor. He falls from a roof and breaks both legs. He is permanently disabled. The law states that Mr. Jones must pay John Smith weekly a sum equal to half the wages he was receiving at the time of the accident.

Now supposing Mr. Jones should become bankrupt or for any reason whatever go out of business. Then what would happen poor Smith? It is quite clear that the weekly payment due him under the compensation act would not be forthcoming.

This is a serious defect in the British law. In many respects the British act is a model, but it should not be endorsed by Socialists as a whole, for its scope should be greatly extended and some provision made that guarantees working people the compensation due them, no matter what hap-

pens to the employer.

The British act, however, permits, and therefore encourages employers to take out accident insurance in private insurance companies. Under this arrangement the insurance company assumes the liability of the employer. This is a commendable provision so far as it goes, but it does not compel employers to take out such insurance, nor does it protect the workers against the insolvency of the insurance companies. If any of these companies go bankrupt, the victims of industrial accidents within their jurisdiction have no redress.

A big improvement upon the British system is to be found in France and Belgium. In these countries the government has established a state guarantee fund to protect the insured persons against the insolvency of the employers or the insurance company. In France all employers, whether insured or not, must contribute a certain tax to this guarantee fund, while in Belgium these contributions are only exacted from employers in case of failure on their part to carry accident insurance. The Belgium law also requires that in case the employer does not take out ordinary insurance he shall deposit with the government, the capitalized value of the due.

In Holland, Italy and Finland the government, in addition to establishing the individual responsibility of employers, makes it obligatory for them to take out insurance either in recognized private companies or in a state institution or to furnish a guaranty, in the form of a cash deposit with the government, sufficient to cover their responsibility. In Holland a state insurance exists which does a considerable part of the insurance, but private companies are allowed to compete with it.

In Hungary, Luxemburg, Norway and Austria a central state institution conducts the insurance of employes subject to law, the insurance in those countries being compulsory, while in Germany the organizations conducting the insurance are composed of em-

ployers engaged in the same or similar industries, and membership in the proper association is compulsory for all employers engaged in the proper association is compulsory for all employers engaged in that industry.

Compulsory insurance should be a feature of all compensation acts. And employers should be compelled to insure their work people in a state institution instead of in private companies, for the reason that governments seldom, if ever, go bankrupt, while private companies, at some time or other, usually do. Moreover, it is part of the Socialist program to restrict the sphere of private enterprise in every possible way.

All classes of labor as well as business and commercial institutions are organized into associations to advance their welfare. The farmers are the class that is not organized for mutual protection. Even the beasts of the field as well as the human that prey on the farmer is organized self protection. It is time that the farmers were organized into unions to secure the benefits and protection that can only be got by force of numbers.

Organize a farmers union in your district. Further particulars can be had by sending a letter of inquiry to Union Farmer, Box 908 Helena

If you are opposed to the State Scab Herding law, sign the demand for a referendum on the same.

WAR—WHAT FOR? Is a handsome, gold-stamped, high-grade cloth-bound, double-backed book, printed in easy, open type on high quality paper, 8x5 inches in size. The book contains 352 pages; 12 chapters; 13 intensely interesting full-page pictures (three powerful half-tones); several literary photographs of hell; trenchant discussion of every phase of war, militarism, and social struggle; more than a dozen strong passages for school and entertainment declamations; over 300 citations and quotations from authorities; bibliography; numerous suggestions for promoting the propaganda against war and capitalism; an abundance of material for lectures on war, militarism, the class struggle, capitalism, socialism, and the history of the working class. A book of this size, stock, binding, and richness of illustration is usually sold at \$1.50 to \$2.00. Can be had from the Montana News for \$1.20 postpaid.

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Montana News Helena, Montana.

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The Montana News is the only paper in the Rocky Mountain states that advocates the right of labor at all times and in all places. Regardless of what the grievances may be we stand by the strikers in the struggle of the union against the corporations. In more than one instance we have turned public opinion in favor of the strikers, and in more than one city and camp have we made the union label respected. The Montana News is supported exclusively by the workers and the profits from job work of the labor organizations of Montana, Wyoming, Idaho and Utah.

Perhaps your union has not required the assistance of any paper in times of trouble, but rest assured, should you organization ever become involved in a strike; the Montana News will be found on your side and ready to give all the assistance that press and pen can do to win the strike. A labor press should be built up, and we need your assistance will you send us your order for the printing of your union? Why support print shops whose paper attack you or treat your cause with silence and indifference when you are involved in a strike?

The capitalists know the power of the press and control the papers accordingly.

Should your union require anything in the line of printing give us a chance to bid on same. Ask us for our prices. We may charge higher than scab shops, but we pay all express charges on packages sent out. Remember we are the headquarters for Union Printing in the Northwest and the shop that has made the Union Label respected.

No work leaves our shop that does not bear the Union Label. None but Union men employed.

Hoping to be favored by the patronage and support of your union.

Fraternally, MONTANA NEWS

WANTED-A RIDER AGENT. In each town and district to ride and exhibit a sample Latest Model "Hedgehorn" bicycle furnished by us. Our agents everywhere are making money fast. Write for full particulars and special offer at once. NO EXPERIENCE REQUIRED. We will receive and approve of your bicycle. We ship to anyone anywhere in the U. S. without a cash deposit in advance, prepaid freight, and allow TEN DAYS' FREE TRIAL during which time you may ride the bicycle and put it to any test you wish. If you are then not perfectly satisfied or do not wish to keep the bicycle ship it back to us at our expense and you will not be out one cent. We furnish the highest grade bicycles for FACTORY PRICES. It is possible to make at one small profit above actual factory cost. You save \$10 to \$25 middlemen's profits by buying direct of us and have the manufacturer's guarantee behind your purchase. DO NOT BUY a bicycle or a pair of tires from anyone at any price until you receive our catalogues and learn our unheard of factory prices and remarkable special offers to rider agents. YOU WILL BE ASTONISHED when you receive our beautiful catalogue and study our superb models at the astounding prices of this year. We sell the highest grade bicycles for less money than any other factory. We are established with \$1.00 profit above factory cost. Orders filled the day received. We do not regularly handle second hand bicycles, but usually have a number on hand taken in trade by our Chicago retail stores. These we clear out promptly at prices ranging from \$2 to \$6 or \$10. Descriptive bargains lists mailed free. COASTER-BRAKES, equipment of all kinds at half the regular retail prices. \$10.00 Hedgehorn Puncture-Proof \$4.80 Self-healing Tires A SAMPLE PAIR TO INTRODUCE, ONLY. Notice the thick rubber tire "A" and puncture strip "B" and "C" also rim strip to prevent rim cutting. This tire will outlast any other make. SOFT, ELASTIC and EASY RIDING.

News From Milwaukee

The judges of Milwaukee—the infallible judges, whom it is less majestic to criticize, for criticizing whom Mayor Seide is now being sued for slander—these paragons of legal sanctity and legal knowledge have at last been caught in a blunder.

And what was the blunder? Drawing larger salaries than they were entitled to under the law! It is certainly a curious coincidence that their mistake was such a profitable mistake. Or was it a case of economic determinism?

At any rate, the Socialist District Attorney is going after these judges who have so strangely proved themselves fallible, and he hopes to recover from them \$29,000 which will be a tidy little saving for Milwaukee.

Meantime, the Socialists can justly claim that whatever mistakes they may be charged with, nobody charges them with making the mistake of overdrawing their salaries.

Milwaukee Socialists have expected that the "interests" and the Merchants and Manufacturers Association would put up a large amount of money to beat the Socialists in the next city campaign. It was hardly anticipated, however, that they would start in nearly eight months before election.

But here they are! The so-called "Tax Payers League" has a big advertisement in all the Milwaukee capitalist papers, showing up the alleged inefficiency of the Milwaukee administration in the collection of garbage.

This ad contains figures which are supposed to prove that a great deal more garbage was collected in 1909, under the democratic administration, than in 1910, under the Socialist administration, and that the collection cost a great deal less before the Socialists carried the city.

These statements are a pretty good disproof of the stupid old proverb, "Figures can not lie." The fact is, that these "statistics" about the garbage collections in 1909 are pure guess work.

Under the old Rose administration practically no records were kept of the collection of garbage. The old method of record-keeping was very simple. The collectors were notified that at a certain time their loads would be weighed, and they were instructed to make these loads as heavy as possible. All the other loads collected were multiplied by these "samples" to get the total weight of garbage collected during the year.

Since the Socialists have had control of the Board of Public Works, however, they have kept exact and careful other work done in every city department. Consequently no correct comparison can be made between the old and the new systems of collection.

But the significant feature of all this is, that the Tax Payers League is already sending money freely against the Socialist administration. This is a pointer which shows what they will do from now on. It means war to the knife. They are determined to get back the Milwaukee administration into their own control, no matter what it costs. The Tax Payers League—sometimes nicknamed the Tax Dodgers' League—at least furnishes a splendid example of class consciousness.

The city inspectors working under the Socialist health commissioner of Milwaukee have done excellent work this year. Never before were the streets of Milwaukee so thoroughly inspected. A visitor to Milwaukee recently called upon one of the factory owners. While he was in the office, a city factory inspector passed upstairs. "See that man?" growled the irate manufacturer. "Since the blankety blank Socialists were elected, that man comes to this factory fifty times a month!"

Last week, these city inspectors accused one of the big manufacturers of Milwaukee of violating the elevator ordinance. This is the man, by the way, who is now suing the Socialist-Democratic Herald for calling him a labor skinner, etc. The state factory inspectors testified that the elevators were not unsafe. But the evidence presented by the city inspectors was so strong that even a capitalist judge fined this big employer fifty dollars and costs.

Now is not this a moral which workingmen should take to heart? The state inspectors are appointed under civil service rules, by the republican state government. The city inspectors are appointed, also under civil service rules, by the Socialist workingmen's administration. And that is the reason that they are so much more concerned for the safety and health of the workers. Can anything else be expected? Why imagine that our enemies will care for our lives and limbs?

E. H. THOMAS.

LABOR DAY AND CAPITAL DAY.

By John M. Work.

Labor day comes on the first Monday of September.

Capital Day occurs on the Tuesday following the first day in November.

On Labor Day, we workmen pat ourselves on the back and tell ourselves that we are the people.

On Capital Day, millions of honest workmen vote for capital's interest and against their own, while the capitalist laughs gleefully and says, "What an entertaining and accommodating damn fool labor is anyway."

It is to the interest of the capitalists to keep on exploiting the workers out of most of the value of their labor.

It is to the interest of the workers to put an end to exploitation.

Exploitation of the worker by the capitalist is the core and essence of capitalism. It must continue so long as capitalism continues.

The capitalists are numerically weak. Their own votes are not sufficient in number to continue exploitation one hour.

Exploitation is continued by the votes of the workers themselves. The workers walk up to the ballot box on election day and vote the capitalist tickets.

Therefore, the capitalists have control of all the public powers.

When they use these public powers to oppress labor, why should labor complain? Labor voted for oppression.

When a capitalist judge issues an injunction against labor, why do you growl? You voted to have him do it.

When a capitalist governor or president orders out the troops to shoot down workmen and assist the capitalists to win a strike why do you swear at him? You voted to have him do it.

When your employer drops you from the payroll, why do you whine about it? You voted to have him do it.

When the periodical hard times come and your wife and babies cry for bread, why do you object? You voted to have the hard times come.

The United States is a popular government. All statements to the contrary notwithstanding, the people rule. Their will, as expressed at the ballot box, is approximately carried into effect.

You get what you voted for! So long as the workers continue to vote for exploitation, bullets, injunctions, blacklists and hard times, they will surely get them.

When they quit voting for their enemies' interests and begin to vote for their own, all these outrages will dissolve like the mist before the morning sun, and Socialism will begin.

There is no other way. The republican and democratic parties get their campaign funds from the capitalists. They are run in the interest of the capitalists.

The Socialist party gets its campaign funds from the working class. It is run in the interest of the working class.

The republican and democratic parties stand for the continuation of capitalism and consequent continuation of exploitation, military oppression, injunctions, blacklists, poverty, child labor, and all the rest of its miserable retinue.

The Socialist party stands for the abolition of capitalism and the consequent abolition of exploitation, military oppression, injunctions, blacklists, poverty, child labor, and all the rest of the wretched retinue of capitalism.

The howl which we hear in favor of the annihilation of the trusts is the dying wail of the middle class. The small capitalists in the middle class want to smash the trusts so that they can exploit labor themselves, instead of letting the big capitalists get the lion's share of the swag as at present.

Does it make any difference to you whether the bandit who robs you carried a rifle or a pistol?

No?

Well then, it doesn't make any difference to you whether the republican or democratic party wins. No matter which of them wins, you have to hold up your hands and be stripped of the bulk of the value of your labor.

The tariff question, the money question, the publicity of trust affairs, the smashing of the trusts, these are merely squabbles between the capitalist robbers as to how they shall divide the booty they steal from the working class.

None of these issues touch the interests of the workers. The only thing that can bring permanent relief to the working class is the collective ownership and control of the means of production and distribution used for exploitation.

To accomplish this, the working class must capture the powers of government.

Then the benefits will go to those

who do the necessary and useful mental and manual labor.

This can be accomplished only by voting the Socialist ticket.

So long as the workers vote the capitalist tickets, election day will be Capital Day.

When they vote the Socialist ticket, election day will become a magnificent Labor Day.

That time is not far away. It is steadily approaching. Every time a worker finds out what's what, he begins to vote the Socialist ticket.

Thousands of workmen have found it out of late. Thousands more are finding it out right now.

At the present rate, we shall not have to wait long until labor will emancipate itself by making election day a Labor Day.

WHAT WOULD YOU DO?

By Clyde J. Wright.

(Not written for the working class.)

Mr. Capitalist, my space is limited therefore think fast.

If you were a wage earner, and only getting \$400 per year, and had a wife and four children, and had no mill to work in, and was willing to work, and couldn't get a chance to work all of the time, and if you foresaw your chances to get work growing less and less—

If you had tried the courts and found that a man without money could not get the same consideration as a man with money—

If you had asked the owner of the mill for better wages and discovered that the law gave you no right to say what share of your product you should get for producing it—

If you discovered that the very nature of the system was to make it impossible for the many to own any of the means of their own employment—

If you discovered that the very nature of the system was to compel the means of producing everybody's necessities to be owned by a very few—

If you discovered that the very nature of machinery was compelling monstrous factory systems too big for the man who owns them to use them too perfect to return to individual tools—

If you discovered that perfected machinery privately owned knocked out ninety-nine men entirely and created unemployed men to beat down the wages of the last man of the one hundred who retained his job—

If you discovered that every law enacted embodied but the one idea, that of protecting and building up the corporations—

If you discovered that law had deserted you, your wife, your babies, and had denied you an equal opportunity among men, denied you enough wages to live like other people, rendered you a tenant to live in another man's house, forced you to go from place to place in order to find work, made "life" come and a home uncertain—

If you saw yourself kidnapped because the rich wanted you kidnapped; saw your proposed laws declared unconstitutional because the rich wanted them declared unconstitutional; saw yourself enlisting to face bullets because you needed to eat when you would be too cowardly to face bullets unless you were starved to it—

If, as a last resort, you banded together with other wage workers, and found that the law did not even allow you to desert the rich when the rich needed you, but permitted the rich to desert you when you needed a job—

If you discovered that the very nature of private ownership was to compel your daughters to work in sweat shops, your wife to work in factories and your brothers to become tramps—

What would you do, Mr. Capitalist, on Labor Day?

That's all—WHAT WOULD YOU DO?

No Legislation For Labor.

(Continued from first page.)

this news service, the attempted water power grab in Alabama has been modified by the House. No Northern capitalist paper published a single line regarding this steal before it was final passage.

The original bill backed by the Alabama delegation—including Majority Leader Underwood—proposed that the Government grant the Birmingham Water, Light and Power Company for a period of fifty years all power rights resulting from the building of a dam on the Black Warrior River. The company was to pay the Government only \$1 per horse power

per year.

As amended the grant is for twenty five years. This reduction was bitterly fought by the democrats, who always pose as advocates of the conservation of natural resources. But otherwise the bill is practically the same as it was when first reported by the committee.

The building of the dam will cost the Government nearly three million dollars and will benefit no one excepting the Birmingham corporation. It is admitted that the improvement of the river will only result in 30 miles of 6-foot slack water.

PERKINS STORY CORROBORATED.

Your correspondent's exclusive story regarding George W. Perkins' threat to tell about the Steel Trust's contributions to both old parties as being gation committee's change of front has been corroborated by a capitalist newspaper.

The Pittsburg Gazette-Times has just published a story showing that Chairman Stanley dropped his jail threat against Perkins when he learned that the latter would disclose the fact that the democratic party was also a favorite of the steel trust.

I have been just informed that a correspondent of a string of eastern newspapers rewrote the National Socialist Press story published in the New York Call and wired it to his papers Saturday evening.

Not one of his subscribers published the story. But one editor sent him the following explanation.

"We cannot publish your story for the same reason the committee refused to make it public. It's poor politics."

The old party editor is right. It's poor politics to let the workers know that the corporations favor both republican and democratic parties. He knows his business.

The Effect of Old Age Pension.

By Will R. Shier.

Victor L. Berger, the Milwaukee Socialist representative, has introduced an Old Age Pension Bill into Congress.

This bill declares that all persons over 60 years of age, who have been residents in the United States for sixteen years, and whose average weekly income does not exceed \$6, shall be entitled to a pension of \$4 a week. If the income from other sources is over \$6 but under \$9, the pension will range from \$3 to \$1.

If enacted into law, this measure would have far reaching effects. It would remove the fear of old age from the minds of working people. It would brighten millions of homes in rural districts as well as in the cities. It would prevent much destitution and reduce the squalor, disease and crime that are the result of destitution.

It would necessitate an increase of taxes, but restrict the sphere of private benevolence. It would do much toward solving the unemployed problem by withdrawing large numbers of elderly people from the field of industry. It would enable the workers to command higher wages, firstly by relieving the labor market, and secondly by making it possible for them to bargain more successfully with the bosses.

Mr. Berger estimates that approximately three million people would be entitled to pensions under this bill. If only one-sixth of these quit their jobs upon receiving a pension, that would mean 500,000 fewer persons fighting for employment. That would make it easier for them to command higher wages. The less competition they have to meet, the more independent they can become. Furthermore, if the old members of a worker's family receive pensions, the worker himself will not be so hard pressed. He need not accept the first job that turns up, nor need he cling to a job that galls him because there is only nine dollars between him and poverty. He can insist upon better conditions, he can hold off for better terms, he can stand up for his rights more ably than he has ever stood up for them before.

A government pension is worth more than its face value to the working class. Its benefit extends beyond the amount of bread it will buy. It confers many indirect benefits that are not visible to the naked eye, not less among which is peace of mind. It may even enable organized labor, at times, to win doubtful strikes.

Politically, the party that championed old age pensions will inspire the gratitude of large numbers of working people, gratitude that will be expressed in the form of votes. The Socialist party is fortunate in being the first to introduce such a measure into Congress.

Socialists, trade-unionists, and all public-spirited citizens should cooperate to bring public opinion to bear upon Congress in behalf of this

Montana News Prospectus.

The Montana News will be issued hereafter by the UNION PRINTING and PUBLISHING COMPANY, from its offices at Helena, Montana.

The said company is incorporated under the laws of the State of Montana. Authorized Capital Stock \$10,000 Shares \$5.00 each

Object of Corporation.

To print and publish at the City of Helena, Montana, a weekly newspaper to be devoted to the interest of the working class of the State of Montana and the Northwestern States, and for the purpose of transacting, carrying on and conducting a printing and publishing business in all its branches.

Need of Local Paper.

The working class movement must have a powerful local press before it can hope to influence the government or the state as a party. Such a press can be a power in the Northwest as the expression of a working class remarkably aggressive and devoted to freedom and justice. Without a paper of protest against the horrors of a system of profit and plunder it would have been impossible to expose the Donohue Militia bill passed by the late legislature!

There is tendency to reaction in the state at present. Franchises are being given away lavishly to the exploiters of the working class—street cars, electric lines, electric lighting, and gas—with no provisions to allow the public to own these necessities in the future; whereas, ten and twenty years ago such franchises contained specifications for the transfer of such property to the commonwealth.

Blows at Labor.

The last legislature in Montana appropriated \$10,000 for the purpose of bringing in labor to compete with the laborers already here.

Montana employers are even advertising in Europe for men to work in the state, while we are already overworked with idle men.

Little Revolutionary Reading.

There are only 9,000 subscribers to Socialist papers in Montana. We must have at least 50,000 persons reading Socialist papers before the spirit of protest can be aroused or the workers make their impress upon the state and municipal governments.

There are 80,000 voters in Montana, and a population of about 375,000. Cold figures tell the tale of work to be done.

Purposes.

The News will fight the battles of the workingclass through all present evils and obstacles of exploitation.

It will point out the emancipation from exploitation in the abolition of the private ownership of the industrial machinery.

It will direct the workers to co-operate production.

It will expose the outrages of capitalism which we encounter at our door.

It will enter the arena and struggle with strong and self-interested opponents to construct better laws, institutions, and opportunities.

It will at all times inform the populace of malicious laws passed and enforced by our law making bodies.

It will also be a center from which the Initiative and Referendum will circulate.

Plans of Operation.

The News will henceforth be a Socialist party paper, but not a party-owned paper. It will be handled exclusively by the Union Printing and Publishing Company. This company will own its own machinery, equipment, linotype, motors, and presses, and is pleasantly and commodiously situated at 19 Park Avenue, Helena, Montana. It makes a specialty of union job work, bills constitutions, by-laws, letterheads, and whatever organized labor may require in the way of printing. We support you; you support us. Labor withdraws its support from its enemies and co-operates with its friends.

It will issue special editions dealing with the local issues in any town or community at the minimum cost, so that any such point may have all the advantages of a local paper, and scatter it by the thousands.

Advertising.

The News will carry a special line of high class advertising, covering a widespread territory. It has applications from and companies, book firms, library associations and other enterprises of a general character to advertise on a large scale, and will give special attention to this valuable feature in the future. The News is an unusually able medium as a publicity organ because of its extended circulation, entering almost every state and territory in the United States, crossing the borders of Canada and Mexico, and going also to many foreign countries. It is read by the buyers, the chief consumers, the workers, who are 90 per cent of the population.

Policy and Program.

The News will stand for the constructive program of Socialism. It will work for the industrial revolution through the conquest of political power by a new class, the workers. It will take an aggressive part in all political and municipal activities. It will encourage and serve in every way the organization of the workers both Politically and Industrially. It will be first to serve the unions in time of trouble and to reprove them for errors that obstruct their progress. It will be labor's staunchest friend when in trouble no matter what the cause. It will be the fearless advocate and labor leader of the Northwest, and the rallying center for the activities of the Socialist movement.

Financial Support.

If you want to help in this grand world movement of labor you want to put some money into it and be a part of it. You want to take several shares of stock and get your union and neighbors to take some. You can pay \$5.00 down for each share of stock or you can pay \$1.00 a month for five months, or for as long as you please, and every \$5.00 you pay will give you an additional share of stock.

This method is a sure winner so far as a solid support for Socialist enterprises is concerned. It is what has made the success of the Kerr Publishing Company, The Social Democratic Herald, and the Chicago Daily Socialist. Everybody's business is nobody's business, but definite system will make a paper in the west as successful as those in the east.

The News is 50 cents a year, one cent each in bundles.

Further information can be had by writing G. A. Brown, Box 1132, Helena, Montana, and send all money for stock to the above address. All subscriptions for the News and orders for printing should be addressed to Montana News, Helena, Montana.

measure. Resolutions are now in order.

The reason why any of us labor is because here is no other way by which an honest man can live.—And still you "yaps" cast the same vote that your boss does, and he don't labor, but lives off of our labor.—Your boss is class conscious, and you're just a fool.

When men take enough from other men's earnings that they can afford to give it away by the millions for charity, it is evident that the system that permits it is rotten to the core.

SUBSCRIBE FOR THE NEWS.

The dark ages of Capitalism make the present a nightmare of misery.

The weapons of capitalism are fraud, chicanery, bribery and lies.

If you want to know where you are going, study the Socialist movement.

Ignorance is one of the great troubles of the worker. He lets the boss rule over him while, with organization and effort, the worker could run industry in his own interest.

Socialism knows that all men are not born equal in intellect; but what would you think of a fellow who would advocate that all men should starve if their intellect did not measure up to that of Solomon's?