ABOLISH THE CAP-

VOL. VIII.

HELENA, MONTANA, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1910.

# EVICTION CONSPIRACY AGAINST UNION MEN

## Bankers, Landlords and Politicians Are Determined to Keep Aggressive Union Men from Making a Living or Residing in Deer Lodge—Big Caesar Wants His Feudal Estates in Peaceful Repose

INDIVIDUALS ABOVE

FRANCHISE LAW

## Conley and McTague Run Waterworks in Deer Lodge in Violation of State Law and Democratic Control

chise must first be obtained from the city in which it does business. Some cure a franchise. Now this is impossible as the law states that all franchise grants must be submitted to a vote of the people for ratification.

In Deer Lodge it is a little different from other cities of the state. Conley & McTague own a whole water works themselves, and sell water to the residents of West Deer Lodge in open competition to the water company that secured a franchise from the city. Conley & McTague did not have to corrupt a city council to giving them a franchise, they just went and laid the pipes and that was all there was to it. In fact Conley & McTague have the Helena Water company beat to a fare ye well.

When the Helena Water Works want to dictate to the city they go into court and get a judge to issue the mandates, but in Deer Lodge the mandates of the Feudal Lords are

A number of years ago Conley & Stone Act. This lake for twenty years used to be a summer resort for the citizens of Deer Lodge, and since Conley & McTague have taken up the unless he has a permit from Conley & McTague, and then to be surroundthe ditch for the water main and laid the water pipes right into the city of Deer Lodge. The water was intended to furnish a water supply for the penitentiary but the politicians of the state did not care to construct a water system for the state prison but just alow Conley & McTague to file on the state that is used in the pen. The politicians, the members of the Montana legislature did not want to interfere with the graft. The men who prison. Five dollars to take a new Spah finally called Frank to order, ing of grave troubles and probably of L. or isolation from the rest of ordeliver county delegations and control start with in life.

When any person or corporation | the politics of this section of the state desires to operate a system of water have to receive compensation from works in any city in Montana, a fran-, the men who aspire to be governor, Attorney General, or United States Senators. Conley & McTague deliver corporations have corrupted city the goods to Tom Carter and the word councils in order that they might se- goes out to the members of the legisalone in their methods of mulching the state. The convicts laid the water system that supplies the penitentiary with water, the state fed and clothed the convicts and now pays rent for the water that is used in the

> In other cities in Montana, permits have to be granted by the city officials before any one can dig a trench in the street for water service pipes. In Deer Lodge it is different. When Conley & McTague build a house and desire water put in same, a bunch of convicts armed with pick and shovels, escorted by armed guards, leave the penitentiary and proceed to the scene of operation and dig the trenches, and in some cases we have been informed, do the plumbing.

with wage labor.

How would you like to have a Montana State Prison graft?

The merchants of Deer Lodge whose store rent was increased fifty per cent by Conley, because they were in favor McTague took up a body of water, of doing business with the Clerks' known as Lake Irving, under the Union, have applied to the district court for an injunction against the Deer Lodge Realty Co.-Conley's real estate firm-to enjoin the said company from evicting them from their store buildings. The- merchants re water right, no one is allowed near fuse to pay the increase of rent on this beautiful lake or to fish in same, the grounds that there was a verbal egreement that they were to have the use of the store buildings until Janare everywhere. The convicts dug clerks' strike. At this time we are unable to say whether or not the in-

Word comes from Deer Lodge that Conley & McTague have sold one of their farms. This farm was worked by ninety convicts who lived on the farm, instead of in the prison. The convicts labored from daylight to dark on the farm, the state paid for their keep, water right and sell the water to the and Conley & McTague took the proceeds from the sale of the produce and all the convicts got is a measly five dollars allowed them by the state when they are discharged from the THE CLASS WAR IN DEER LODGE.

The powers that be in Deer Lodge are still attempting to disrupt organized labor. J. P. Mueller, president of the Retail Clerks' Union, was recently discharged on account of slackness of trade, and he endeavored to start a boarding house, but the property owners refused to rent him one, even after he had a house rented from a real estate agent, he was notified a few days later-just as he was about to move into the house, that he could not get the house as the proprietor did not care to have him for a tenant. Mueller then tried to rent other houses but met with refusal everywhere.

The union men of Deer I odge then took to discussing the matter and came to the conclusion that there was a conspiracy on foot to force Mueller to leave the city, and they concluded to band together and set Mueller up in a boarding and rooming house, and keep him in town as he is a first class union man with considerable executive ability... At this stage of the game William Antill, secretary of the District Lodge of the Machinists on the Milwaukee railway, decided with Mueller. Antil who is a young single man, rented a house for \$25.00, paid one month rent and asked for a year's lease. The lease was agreed upon, and the agent who rented the house promised to prepare the lease contract in a few days and have it signed up. Antil was not satisfied with this and wanted the lease prepared at once, but the agent pleaded rush of business and overwork, and said that he would give his word of honor that he would make out the lease according to the verbal agreement.

Mueller then moved into the house and was in it five days when the agent went to Antil and offered him the \$25.00 rent back saying that the proprietor who is connected with the banking business in Deer Lodge, did not want the building used as a boarding house, although it was expressly understood between the agent and Antil that the house was to be

Antil refused to accept the \$25.00 rent back, and both Mueller and he refused to leave the house until the year's lease is up or until they are evicted by the court. Antil was given to understand that he could have the house provided Muelles did not live in it. Mueller is a respectable, lawabiding citizen and has held positions of trust in more than one mercantile company.

.. Mueller is a good union man and the Conleyites are determined to do all in their power to have him leave Deer

### STORMY SCENE IN GERMAN REICHSTAG

The session of the Reichstag open- monstration on the part of the soed with a stormy scene, growing out lalists. of an interpellation by the socilailsts asking Chancellor Bethmann von Hollweg what had induced him in his replied, assuring the house that the uary 1912, at the same rent as they Prussian suffrage speech in the dist universal suffrage of the empire was ed and spied upon by convicts, who had been paying Conley before the to attack universal suffrage, as guaranteed by the imperial constitution.

> Dr. Frank, socialist, referring to the chancellor's remark that a democratic franchise exercised an evil and degenerating influence upon political morals, inquired whether the reichstag was willing to hear such a criticism of universal suffrage from the chancellor. He was asked what would had not confessed himself to be a be happen to a chancellor who asserted liever in universal suffrage. that in many speeches the emperor had exercised an "evil and degenrat-

ing influence." which action aroused a counter de- of revolutionary movements.

Reassured by Chancellor. Chancellor Bethmann von Hollweg secure from any attack by the imperial government or the bundesrath.

Herr Groeber, clerical, pointed out the conflict between Dr. Bethmann von Hollweg' position as chancellor of the empire and as Prussian minister-president.

Ernest Bassirmann, leader of the national-liberal party, said the chancellor had taken back nothing a d

Nevertheless, Bassirmann, said ,he was convinced that any attempt to overthrow universal suffrage would Dr. Frank's comment caused an up- usher in the wildest possible political roar on the right. Vice President struggle. It would mean the begin-

## UNION AMALGAMATION VS. UNION ISOLATION

## Joint Committee American Federation of Labor and Western Federation of Miners Unite all Workers in Mining Industry

The joint committe of the United | The work of the borers from within Mine Workers and the Western Fed- in the A. F. of L. is having its effect. eration of Miners have submitted their The A. F. of L. is being revolutionized report to their respective organizations on the federation of the two unions. The committee recommend that the Western Federation of Miners ican Federation of Labor and after the Western Federation have become affiliated with the A. F. of L. that the United Mine Workers and the Western Federation jointly form a mining department of the A. F. of L. and apply for a mining department charter from the executive committee of the A. F. of L. Both organizations are to retain their present jurisdiction; the United Mine Workers to have jurisdiction over all coal miners, and the Western Federation of Miners jurisdiction to cover all metaliferous miners, and the organizers of both organizations to assist in the work of organizing of all classes of miners.

The report of the joint committee is the best that could be devised for the interests of both organizations and labor in general. The convention of the United Mine Workers, tions of labor that the world has ever composed of 1,500 delegates, ratified seen. the report of the committee, and the question of the Western Federation to industrial solidarity within the A. applying for a charter from the A. F. F. of L. of L is to be submitted to a referendum of the membership of that organization.

The only objection that is liable to be raised will be with the Western Federation as a large number of the members of that organization is opposed to Gompers. However, it is to be hoped that the western miners will lay aside their prejudice against Gompers and vote for industrial solidarity.

The American Federation of Labor has a membership of over two and a half million, and is the dominant labor organization in the country and will remain the dominant labor organization in spite of all its critics. All the unions are affiliating, and the question that confronts the Western Federation is affiliation with the A. F. ganized labor in the country.

and is running away from Gompers, and is headed towards the principles of industrial unionism. In fact the A. F. of L. is going to be the organization that is going to pr apply for a charter from the Amer- trial unionism in America. The subdivision of the A. F. of L. with departments controlling all crafts in a certain industry is all that any industrial unionists can desire at pressent. The formation of a mining department of the A. F. of L., taking in all classes of miners, and the perfecting of the organization of the dement of railway employees will thoroughly organize the greatest industries in North America; and these two departments acting jointly in any labor controversy rgainst the corporations will make the general strike possible in America, and tie up all the industries in Canada, the United States and Mexico. In fact the affiliation of the Western Federation of Miners with the A. F. of L. and the perfecting of the department of mining and transportation will create in America one of the greatest combina-

Craft isolation is rapidly giving way

#### Billings Wants Convicts on Road.

"We are not so much interested in how many gunny sacks can be made by the convicts in the state penitentiary as we are in the number of rods of good roads than can be constructed by the involuntary laborers of the state," says the Billings Gazette. "Keep up the agitation for better roads and the chances are that we will soon find the proper sort of employment for every convict within the state of Montana."

The above item will bear out the claim of the News, that eastern Montana is interested in getting convicts to work on the public roads.

#### THE MONTANA NEWS.

ISSUED WEEKLY.

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#### WHERE ARE THE IMPOSSIBIL ISTS NOW?

The returns from the national election on officials and referendums show that the American socialist party has responded emphatically to the challenge of the direct actionists. The members elected on the Executive ommittee are Robert Hunter, Victor Berger, Morris Hilquit, John Spargo, Lena Morrow-Lewis, Geo. H Goebel, and Jas. F. Carey-all persons standing for a strong constructive, political policy. Even the seven who were the second choice are all noted for the same constructive building policy in the party. The American socialist party does not depend on the "direct action" methods of the centuries of the past. It has no idea of building Rome in a day.

The result of this election is encouraging. Hunter and Berger head the list-the two men most noted in America for their strong advocacy of practical, constructive tactics in Amerrican socialism. Hilquit and Spargo are equally persistent in demanding that American socialists do something besides talk and fight each other ..

Mrs. Lewis is the first woman ever elected on the National Executive Committee. A hard and earnest worker herself, she is most anxious to see effective work done in the party, and is a victim of no utopian delusions as to noise and threatening

Geo. H. Goebel is another active kota and Oregon. practical man in the party. He has been a national organizer for many years and has traveled all over the country. Speaking and organizing selling literature, and agitating for socialism. He has an alert mind, i familiar with the sectional interests the of the working class, and knows the needs of the party. His influence on the committee will undoubtedly give a great impetus to an aggressive pol-

Jas. F. Carey has already a reputation of many years' standing in the party as a practical politician. The socialist party needs these badly, one of which is worth a thousand hot-air peddlers. Carey acquired valuable experience in working class action in government during his terms of service as a socialist member of the Massachusetts legislature. He is on to the crooks and needs of the social-

Comrade A. M. Simons was defeated for the committee. But this is not to be wondered at. He was the one who led most strenuously the fight in favor of a constructive policy, against the impossibilitists, and in favor of espousing joint issues with the trade unionists. He naturally drew the heaviest fire of the opposition who were opposing the old commttee. But as he so openly and aggressively came to the rescue of a sane and rational policy he can well afford to be content that he himself is not on the committee so long as a committee has been chosen that will work their oars and say, "Socialism is comfor the policies he has advocated. Four of the old committee, a majority, has been elected.

It is to be hoped that now some active measures will be taken to over- paragraph from Arthur Labrida may come the direct action tendencies that convey some idea of the developing are unmistakably confusing the labor possibilities of capitalism: movement of the west at present, and

ical action on the part of the workhas proven itself incapable of political action. It has allowed itself to be carried away by trivial, unimwhile the great needs of workingclass legislation are ignored.

By a referendum carried at the election also the present committee serves two years. So it will have the element of time to assist it in carrying forward some strong policies.

The foolish, Chinese-complicated system of voting, affixed on a suffering membership by John M. Work, has likewise passed into oblivion with the referendum. It has inflicted the party with its first and last abortion.

The Texas referendum to disband the party as a substitute for the constitution was also overwhelmingly snowed under.

#### LENA MORROW-LEWIS.

Mrs. Lewis who has just been elected to the National Executive Committee ,is the first woman to serve in that capacity, and the large vote accorded her is a tribute to the esteem in which her work and intellect are held by the socialists throughout the country.

Mrs. Lewis is an old friend of the writer, their association dating back from schoolgirl days. Her father is a United Presbyterian minister, a pastor in the denomination in which the deponet was also reared. She graduated at the United Presbyterian college at our home town, Monmouth, Ill. Needless to say we have both wandered out of the old superstitions. Mrs. Lewis has made reh reputation on her fearless advcoacy of the materialistic positions of modern science.

After graduting she became teacher, and her parents moved to Paxton. Ill., where her father had charge of the U. P. church, and where I was a teacher in the high We both became interested in the work of the Illinois W. C. T. U., myself becoming an organizer, and Lena becoming an active speaker worker and delegate. We passed by apparently the same evolutionary stages into the work of the National Woman Suffrage Asociation, both of us becoming national organizers, and both of us going through the state amendment campaigns of South Da-

Our evolution was similar out of the orthodox religious interpretation of the universe, and into modern ac cult thought, both of us at one time being lecturers and co-called demon stratos along this line. We reached scientific interpretation by study

I became a socialist through th populist road, and Mrs. Lewis through the anarchist. We began the propagarda of socialism atsabout the same time, Mrs. Lewis at one time editing a socialist paper in Portland.

She has a powerful analytical and progressive intellect, is a despiser of shams and superstitions of all kinds and nobly and courageously asserts her convictions and lives her life in accordance. She is one of the women who is making a pathway to freedom She is patient worker, a powerful speaker, and a thorough organizer. Her presence on the Executive Committee cannot but be a strong force

It is with much admiration and the warmest friendship that I am glad to be able to give this testimony to the ability of the woman who comes into the directing work of the Socialist

Party of America. IDA CROUCH-HAZLETT.

CONSCIOUS ACTION THE ONLY SAVIOR.

As a sugestive warning to those socialists who are content to rest upon ing anyway", who think that the mills of the gods will evolve them into an industrial heaven without any undue pangs on their part, the following

"It is not wise to count upon an rendering inert and powerless the automatic development of capitalism socialist parties west of the Mississip- to a final clash, and it is not safe to pi river. We need not deny that rely upon an alleged degeneracy of

ist class seem to have entered a new breaks under our feet at any time. ing class, because the socialist party period of expansion and comativeness The mind continually runs up against that could absorb and paralyze all inexplicable phenomena. But a portant and selfish, personal affairs, industrial success and feeling in them- toil and struggle, and the crimes and ence of this upon the conduct of the of the universe. working class. Today even such coun-

will come in five years", or , in 1912", meet, for the first time in human or "the next election', but a total lack thought, on the ground of justice to of socialist spirit is manifest in the the builders of the world, and the placid fatalist.

throws a strong warning to the war- all true progress. like tendency that is agitating the nations with Dreadnaughtism, and says, "The revolutionary working class cannot be watchful enough and must impose its collective wish for peace, and must bring collective resistance against any further imperialistic expansion of capitalism, against any kind of war."

The backward nations and countries, as well as the isles of the sea recognize that in the revelopment of these countries and the exploiting of them there is a sufficient realm of operation to carry capitalism forward for a thousand years, even with modern machinery.

The rapid advent of civilization in Asia and Africa is bringing about a condition of affairs in modern capitalism that is creating causes for warfare among the dominant nations fraught with impending disaster to the progress of democracy, and as menacing as the world's land-grabbing that precipitated the wars into which the monarchies were plunged the latter part of the eighteenth century.

The present indications are that only a revolutionary proletariat organized in the labor movement and socialist party and working through international co-operation can hew a way to democratic institutions that will transfer the process of expansion to the working class instead of the capitalist class.

peace means the preservation of emancipation to the working class.

#### THE PROLETARIAN PHILOSOPHY

How deeply run the roots of these common, material things that the human must do to have its comfort, its eisure, its very existence. The world has despised labor. It has gagged it, and bound it, and chained it to the lowest and most sordid part of life Its part has been ugliness, and ignor ance, and disease, and animal-like quarreling, and bitter, unceasing, soul-

The art, the beauty, the comfort, the safety, the freedom of life has been all in strata far removed from labor and its misfortunes. But these fortunates ones, though they hold largely the desirable things of life, yet there is one gift that they can not hold. To know life really, to The Little have a correct interpretation of the events and the moving pageant of the world, to be based on the solid rock of truth and things as they are, one labor life, the cause of its miseries the source of the thoughts and the actions that emanate therefrom, what it is that produces the character that we find in the labor class.

Without this knowledge, art ,sel- 15 Spruce Street, NEW YORK.

there is a wave of contempt for polit- the capitalist enegies, for the capital- ence, culture are on a foundation that other tendencies. And if the capital- knowledge of the life, and the thought ist class, inebriate with their modern and the actions, and the desperate selves a stirring of a life capable of their cause, and the abnormal sex life new conquests, will give up—as it can of those who toll gives a satisfactory easily be foreseen-all prudence and and sound point of departure for all every foresight, then a new phase of other knowledge. And when to this billicose conflicts may begin between is added the power of social analysis the various countries. And it is im- inherent in the socialist philosophy, possible to forcast the extreme influ- the student ho'ds the key to the riddle

No wonder that the scholars in the tries as are trade cautious and not economic realm of modern production inclined to martial adventures are full have characterized the philosophy, of warrry and military preparations." that is the emancipation of the age, Not only is the folly seen of such as the proletarian philosophy. So asinine predictions as that "sscialism we find that, philosoph,y and, truth science art, and culture that brave-Adon Por, the Hungarian socialist, ly recognize this as the foundation of

So from the drop of sweat that exprofoundest w rd that the brain of man has conceived, labor is the dommant and constructive force in the whole world. And the socialist move ment is clearing the way to operate

#### SOCIAL MURDER.

An account of a recent hanging has this paragraph: "The murderer was an opium eater and a physical wreck He had to be carried to the chair, but his body exhibited remarkable itality in the execution."

How long will society simply ansver brutishness with more brutishness? It is inhuman, brutal and univilized to kill a human being. When society performs this act it admits that it is uncivilized, that it has no remedy for the brutal instincts that devour it. An advanced and just society will aim to breed and nurture normal human beings, and will establish institutions to make it possible to

The national socialist party election on national officers and referendums Blatchford-Merrie England. has just been completed. Montana Connolly-Socialism Made Easy. had no vote on the most important Deville-The State and Socialism; So party. During the five years that James D. Graham was state secretary tional referendum, and this with the managment of the News on hand and dates for speakers amounting at times to forty a week. It is one of the worst lapses possible for a party, that it does not take part in the national the party as a political force. But Montana remained outside the fold on

The socialist idea and the organized proletariat united into a class party must go together like the connection between the final good and the move--Karl Kautsky

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## Poet's Corner

DORMANT.

In the depths of many a thoughtless heart, Hidden below, 'neath the laughter gay

And the careless speech, there is some Silent and cold, through the gleesome

And the solemu night. The powers of thought,

Of love, and of hope that attend its name. Are bound with it there in the slumb's

rous shades Of a darkened soul that is lost

O search you well for the deep-hid treasure!

Wake it to life with a brave, strong blast Blown on the trumpet of youth's tens

power. Thy life it will win from the wasted past.

IDA CROUCH-HAZLETT.

#### Wisconsin Notes.

The Milwaukee Socialists will hold their platform convention Feb. 26 at tickets of the Socialist-Democratic party have already been chosen by referendum vote of the party membership. When our platform is adopted we shall be regularly in the field. The first distribution of campaign literature will be made on Sunday, Feb. 20, when the city will be covered with a leaflet entitled "Why the Social Democrats will carry the city." This leaflet will be distributed from house to house by our organized volunteer workers.

Ald. Weiley (Social-Democrat), re alizing that the lower ranks of police men are a species of wage slaves, in troduced in the Milwaukee city council a resolution granting them an "off" of a straight twenty-four hours every fifteen days. The chief of police claimed that this would destroy "discipline' and the resolution was pigeon-holed in a committee. The rank and file of the police in Milwaukee realizes that after all the socialists are the only ones who look upon them interest and profit, and the rate of secretly vote the Social-Democratic general, the proportion going to rent ticket.

meeting was called for Feb. 15 by the total surplus-value appropriated Milwaukee Federated Trades Council Among the speakers who addressed strictly so called, shows a general tenthe meeting were A. M. Simons, edit- dency to increase. or of the Chicago Daily Socialist, and Mother Jones. This so hurt the feeiings of Senator Stephenson's orga about the "poor attendance" of the duction. meeting, although the hall was packed to the doors, and many were obliged to stand. The real grievance of this capitalist sheet was that the capitalist politician who addressed the meeting cut a poor figure, having no remedy to offer except the enforcement of the law and investigation of facts which our pocket-books already understand all too well, while the Socialist speakers made ringing addresses which were roundly applauded. Resolutions that the people must own the trusts were adopted by the audience without one dissenting vote.

As the spring election approaches the old party politicians are getting more and more uneasy. The probability that the socialist will carry Milwaukee is becoming the talk of the town. It is announced that the Republicans and Democrats will unite in nine wards to beat the socialists. No better proof could be given of the scare we are given the capitalistic politicians. Nor can anything more clearly show the spread of socialist sentiment in Milwaukee than this one fact that we are driving the old par-

The state office of the Nebraska socialist party with Clyde J. Wright as twenty years, since American capital- competition is checked or restrained state secretary, issues a state builetin ism entered the period of concentra- aside from habit or sentiment. once a month. It is a useful and tion. The apparent paradox-that bright little publication with all the the average rate of wages for the party news in it.

ties to unite.

LOCALS AND MEMBERS.

athorized by the National Executive stration: Committee-Prepared by Rand School.

STUDY COURSE OF SOCIALISM

The Economics of Capitalism.

In closing this brief economic anal yels of the capitalist system, we must consider some recent tendencies of this system, especially in the disribution of the value produced.

The proportions in which the value product is distributed vary continnually and in very complex manner. General observation and study of statist ics justify the following general state ments as to tendencies of recent years

Wages and Surplus Value.—It is im possible to determine the exact proportion in which, at any given time the value-product is divided between wages and surplus-value. The statement so often made, that only 15 per cent of the product now goes to the workers and 85 perc net is retained by the capitalists, is grossly exagger ated. But it seems safe to say that the workers now receive in wages less duces-probably between 40 and 50 per cent. And it is certain that this proportion is steadily declining, and the proportion retained by the capitalist consequently increasing.

In the manufacturing industries o the Unnted States, according to th census of 1890, the total wage amounted to \$1,891,000,000 and the total surplus-value to at least \$1,688, 000,000; according to the census 1900, the total wages amounted to \$2,327,000,000 and the total surplus value to at least \$2,309,000,000; ! reality, the amount of surplus-value in each of these years was consider ably greater than here stated. The important point is that the growth of surplus-value is more rapid than that of wages, and has certainly over taken it by this time, even on the showing given by the census. Mining transportation, and other branches o capitalist industries would probably show about the some proportions.

Rent, Interest, and Profit.-Th capitalists' share in divided into rent this division varies continually. In is increasing. The rate of interest is A non-partisan anti-high-price mass slowly declining and the proportion of in this form is becoming less. Profit

This means a reduction in the share going to mere investors, who are largely small capitalists or members the Free Press, that it indulged in of the middle class, and an increase several columns of abuse against the in the share appropriated by large meeting. It had a great dael to say capitalists who actively control pro-

> tinguish nominal wages, the amount of money paid for labor, from real etc., which that money will buy. For

kept increasing through the whole period of capitalism in the United their normal price or value. States, rising more in periods of prosperity than they fell in times of de- involves what may be called a secondpression, their rise being accelerated ary exploitation in the process of exand their fal retarded by the action change, in addition to the regular exof the unions within the last forty ploitation of the wage workers in the Tacoma. It has been supplying layears. Employment has perhaps become somewhat less steady, which exploitation falls upon the wage workpartly offsets the rise of wage rates. But, allowing for this, it is probable of living) and also upon the various that the average worker in almost middle classes, and it benefits only the every trade today gets more wages great capitalists, who have attained rearly than did the average worker some degree of monopoly. in that trade ever before.

The average rate of wages for the whole working class is higher today than it was immediately after the Civil War (when American capital- economic forces influencing the price ism began to expand) or at any pre- of goods. Instances of non-economic vious time. But it has declined forces influencing the wages of labor slightly within the last fifteen or

WEEKLY LESSON FOR SOCIALIST the wage rate for almost every par- former continue low and in the latter

Suppose that at a given time we have 250,000 factory operatives getting \$1 a day, 500,000 laborers getting into consideration in comparing the \$1.50 a day, and 250,000 skilled mechanics getting \$2 a day; the total daily wages for the million workers will be \$1,500,000, and the average wage rate for the whole will be \$1.50 a day. Now, suppose that, a few years later, we have 1,000,000 oper atives getting \$1.10 a day, 600,000 laborers getting \$1.60 a day, and 400,-000 mechanics getting \$2.10 a day; the total daily wages for the two milion workers will be \$2,900,000, and the average wage rate for the whole will be \$1.45 a day. While the wage rate for each branch has risen, the average wage rate for the whole has has fallen, because of the change in the proportionate numbers in the var-

This is what has happened in the United States in recent years. The disproportionate increase in the number of workers in the most poorly paid branches has more than counterbalanced the rise of wage rates.

Prices and Real Wages.-Real rages are affected by fluctuations of labor—as much as the railroad needs price as well as by fluctuation of money wages. If money wages remain unchanged, a rise of prices means a fall of real wages, and vice versa. If prices and money wages rise or fall together at the same rate, real wages are unchanged.

others falling, and the general tendency was downward. During the last charge the men at an advance of what two decades, however, there has been they could buy them in the neighbora general upward tendency of prices especially of the principal necessities of life. Taking the working class as a whole, real wages have been appreciably declining since about 1890. Causes of Rise in Prices .- The re-

the supply of gold has increased more ing him back to Japan. rapidly than at any othertime since the sixteenth century. New deposits tire monthly wage over to the Oriented. The value and price of gold have provisions, hospital fees, fallen. But, as gold is the commodi- penses, and rakeoff from the gross exchanging values, this fall in its val ue appears as a rise in the valus of all other things. The result is an upward tendency both of commodity prices and of money wage ratesthough the latter, as usual, rise less rapidly than the former.

2. More important is the effect of the profits of the workingmen. the concentration of capitalist ownership. As before shown, the law of value and its corollaries apply only in so far as competition prevails. Competition still prevails almost com pletely in the supply of labor power Tendency of Wages .- We must dis- It has been largely restricted in the the men in authority in the United supply of many commodities. Con- States as the Japanese laborer learns centration of the ownership of factor- when he strikes the northwest. wages, the amount of food, clothing, jes, mines and railways enables a small group of capitalists to control the greater part of the supply of coal for the men then they charge them and ice, of meat, milk, and many for fare. Usually there are about ten The rate of wages paid for various other food stuffs, of most clothing men each month from each branch kinds of labor have, on the whole, materials, etc. They are thus enabled who ask for transportation. They to exact prices for these things above pay one-third to one-half the regular

The prevalence of monopoly price ers (tending to lower their standard

### Questions for Review.

1. Give some ilustrations of non-

2. Name some of the ways in which

3. When an invention or other event whole working class declines while other to expand, why do wages in the

ticular branch of labor is rising-may high for some time instead of being be made clear by the following illu- immediately equalized by competition? Do not answer this with a phrase, but work it out in detail.

4. What three facts must be taken higher wages of America with the lower one of Europe?

5. What three facts were mentioned to explain or qualify the difference of wages in different trades in this country? Illustrate in detail.

Jim Hill Holds Four Thousand Jappanese Enslaved.

Four thousand Japanese laborers and St. Paul. Their great master is the Oriental Trading Company, of Seattle, wihch makes a quarter of a million dollars a year off them

When the Jap laborer lands in this country he is steered into the offices contract which binds him as the personal property of the labor firm.

For the Trading Company has contract with the Hil roads to supply The Trading company gets a generous rakeoff from each man, while the laborers themselves, ignorant helpless unable to speak English, think themselves fortunate to get a job.

The men go to work for \$1.35 a day, but of this the Trading Company gets During the greater part of the cap- 15 cents a day for getting them the italist period in this country some job. Also it supplies the provisions, commodity prices were rising and at a fat profit, as the railroads carry the goods for nothing, and they

In case of accident, each worker may receive damages from the railroad through the trading company But the damages are more often not paid. When they are cent rise of prices is not lonfined to amount usually does not exceed from the United States. It has two main \$300 to \$400 for fracturedlegs or for arms cut off. That would be barely 1. During the last twenty-five years enough to pay the expenses of send-

The Northern Pacific turns the en-

#### \$250,000 in Graft Annually.

Something like \$29.70 a month each to subsist upon the men- a quarter of a milion every year to the company-this is the way Jap "captains of industry" have learned to capitalize

J. J. Hill, the big boss, C .C. Takahasi, president of the Oriental Trading Company, the immediate active boss, with hordes of smaller bosses, tered along the Hill lines-these are

There are other cases of petty graft. The officials get free transportation fare. Also legal duties by the overseers and bookmen for pay.

There is another company that is doing a similar business in the northwest, the Koji Kwaisha, located at productive process. This secondary borers for various different railroads, principally to the Tacoma Eastern. Last fall, the company made a contract with the Chicago and Puget Sound Railroad company to supply laborers. Already 500 men are working. These men are a little better fo han those in the Oriental Trading company. Instead of \$1.20 a day. they are paid \$1.57 a day, a difference of 37 cents. This difference is due partly to the nature of the work re-

> Join the union! Organize, agitate, educate, work for industrial solidarity. Have your union affiliate with the local and state central bodies.

Send your Job Work to the News.

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### LOCAL DEPARTMENT

### To you Lovers and Workers for Liberty

The Montana News is again being ublished, although not a party owned paper, yet the News will work to the interests of the party in every way and will in no wise hinder the development of the movement, but in every possible way work with all the forces at its command to make our party a success in the political field without making any compromise of

To start the publication of the News again is an undertaking that is full should be in re-the working class. of difficulties, and heavy handicaps. The debts of the past are facing us and the creditors of the News when t was a party owned paper are still looking to us for payments, and this is very embarrassing in a business.

While waiting on the postoffice to grant the Montana News mailing privileges we had to deposit \$20.00 as a guarantee each week before the paper could go to its readers. A consignment of paper amounting to \$100 plus freight is now in transit from the east and this, with the spending of \$1,-500.00 in paying party debts in the seven months, together with legal expenses that we incurred while protecting ourselves in the courts where we there might not be so much dissatwere dragged by creditors and wreckers of the Old Montana News, has isfaction. our present available cash on hand ather low.

We do not ask for donations, but we want your good will, and your assistance in building up our circulation to 10,000. At present our circulation is only 3.550, a reduction of sixty per cent since last August. However, the circulation is on the increase as one hundred and eighty new the workers, politically, the workers names were added to the mailing lis last week, and present indications do not recongnize the fact as yet, elsare that one hundred new names will be added this week, over and above the number expiring.

Letters of encouragement are coming to us each day, especially from labor unions and men active in the anks of organized labor. Orders and promises of job work have come o us from three states outside Montana during the present week. The aggressive forces in the Labor Movement recognize that a paper that will fight the battles of organized labor is necessary and are willing to give all their support to the Montana News as it has been tried and not found wanting in the hour of need.

Before the Socialist Party can be a factor in Montana politics there must be at least 15,000 subscribers to socialist papers. At present the subscribers to socialist papers in Montana do not reach 5,000 or about seven and a half per cent of the voters. Therefore the greatest need of the socialist movement at the present moment is subscribers to socialist papers and until the people are reading socialist papers we cannot expect them to vote the socialist ticket.

The Montana News is going to take prominent part in organizing, educating and marshalling the press ofthe working class in the Northwest for political and economic action to the end that a constructive movement be built up that will bring immediate benefit to the working class and combat the aggressions of the non-producing class on the workers.

Believing that you are in favor of a paper being firmly and securely established in the Northwest that will represent the interests of the tollers in the age-long struggle of liberty, we hope that you will give all the as sitance in your power to maintain such a paper.

We need two hundred new subscriptions each week. Will you help to secure the same? We need your help. The cause is yours as well as ours. All our time is given to the cause. Will you give a little of your time?

Yours for Working Class Freedom

MONTANA NEWS.

### **Debt of Honor**

There still remains a debt of \$700 contracted by the Socialist Party of Monana while it owned and was publishing the Montana News. The State Committee has done nothing to liquidate this debt, and the creditors are looking to those who are at present running the News for their money.

To pay the debt is an exceedingly and is handleapping and worrying us considerably. \$500 must be paid as soon as possible, and we are asking individual socialists and locals to loan the Montana News any sum that they may feel disposed and The response has been as follows:

J. E. Bush ..... 5.00

Edwin Dew ..... 5.00

Wm. Dew	6.00
C. Anderson	1.00
C. Feick	1.00
Total\$	37.00
Friend, Deer Lodge, loan\$	25.00
Socialist, Minot, N. D. donation\$	1.00
Total\$	63.00
Balance to be raised\$4	37.00

#### Bee Hive

By Tryem Helper

Two subs in from a friend i Minot, N. D., again. Coal Miners from Almy, Wyo., send

in for application cards. The Building Laborers' Protective

Union of Butte orders a bundle. The Boiler Maker Helpers of Deer

Lodge order 25 copies a week. Nine dollars from Deer Logde Fed-

eral Union for envelopes and letterheads.

Three subs in from Fritz Kessler of Alta, Montana .

Any books advertised in the News will be sent postpaid on receipt of price. We are going to make a specialty of our book department. The larger socalist papers are all cutting out their commercial advertising. Tho Nwes has always advocated this as a correct policy, and it was only the need of shekels that caused us to vary at times. We would rather give the space to advertising literature. If you buy enough books, we will not need to take the other advertising

The Mon ana News is going to be a factor in helping to advance the labor movement of the Northwest See that you fellow workers, both union and non-union, subscribe for the News. By reading the News each week the union man will become more active and aggressive in adthe non-union man will leave the ranks of the unorganized and become

cigars sold in Montana; if you smoke, always demand a union made cigar from a union made box. Union cigar makers are generally socialists. See to it that you employ only socialists by demanding ae union made

If you are a true socialist you will know that it is your duty to help strengthen a working class press. You can get two subs to-day if you try.

If you believe in unionism you should join the union and help to advance the interests of the workers on the economic field.

From Kansas

This is the tallest corn story of the season and is being told among the traveling men over the state. It is said to have been in a letter written home by an eastern visitor. "Most of the Kansas streets are paved, grains of corn being used for cobblestones while the cobs are hollowed out for sewer pipe. The husk, when taken off whole and stood on one end, makes a nice tent for the children to play in. It sounds queer to hear the feed man tell the dirver to take a dozen grains of horse feed over to Jackson's livery stable. If it were not for soft, deep soil here, I don't see how they would ever harvest the corn, as the stalks would grow up as high in the air as a Methodist church steeple. However, when the ears get too heavy their weight presses the stalk down in the ground on an average of ninety-two feet; and this brings the ear near enough to the ground to be chopped off with an ax.-Kaphas City Journal.

### CALL FOR THE BES'

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Missoula, Feb. 16, 1910. Editor Montana News:-

Comrade Editor .- Your last issue of the Montana News, dated Feb. 10, contains a leading article headed What is the Matter with the Socialist Party?"

> In that article you lay many deficlencies at the door of the socialist party, and you intimate the early formation of a "Labor Party" because the socialist party is not what it

> Well much or all, of what you say may be true, but I opine that if the persons who are disposed to take the "trouble" to form a Labor Party will put that "trouble" into an effort to popularize the socialist movement,

> The working people get only what they take from the masters, and if the socialist movement is an expression of they would push the movement along

The fact is, Comrade Editor, mat the workers, many of them, are buffaloed over the name "Socialist" Many workers are afraid their hos would find out they (the workers) were in league with the great enemy of boss exploitation, and lose out. If the working people want to do things politically, the socialist party is theirs to do it with. I don't think, sometimes, that the workers want to de anything, not even work, that is a big les of them don't and some of these organize labor parties and other funny

You also say that , party laxness ! in striking contrast to the socialist convictions that exist throughout the working class in Montana". W:" that is the "trouble' lots of socialist convictions in Montana workers, but how about emphasizing those convictions? If, as you say, "Labor is disgusted with the socialist party", and that party expresses the labor convictions politically. See where labor is: Disgusted with itself, politically. Well, Comrade, that expresses the facts; labor is disgusted all around the circle but labor is itself to blame and must bear the dose. Organizing labor parties may galvanize but will not rejuvenate the labor political movement vancing the interests of his class and That can only be done by a renaissance in labor unionism. If the socialist movement is somnolent it is because a like condition envelops the lahypnotized by mammon and his co-

> Why, the socialist party never was recognized by the great-labor-unionmovement in America. Labor union leaders were political supporters of their economic enemies and where the leaders lead the file follows.

T. D. CAULFIELD

Comrade Graham has been in twenty-seven unions in Montana since the first of the year. The Montana News is now going to 1,200 union mer in this state with its challenge of defiance to the injustices of the capitalists for whom the workers toil; with its courageous statement of facts concerning the grievances pertaining to our industrial system. Few can voice better than Comrade Graham the injuries to his class. He is laying the broad foundation of a press that shall give the workers a voice and a power in the future. Men like Graham working for their class are what will make the freedom of the world some

If any of the readers of the New desire samples sent to their friends during the time we are dealing with the convict labor scandals, if they will send us lists of 20 names we will sample them for four weeks. In this way you can introduce to your friends the work that is being done to expose the graft of capitalist politicians by a vigorous and virile labor press.

Read the "Mills of Mammon" James Brower's great expose of the white slave traffic. A book given with every ten subscribers to the Montana

Are you tyring to get subs for the News? Only 50 cents, and you will help save all the good work that has been done here.

#### OUR TRADE UNION TACTICTS. By Robert Hunter.

There has been an interesting reival recently of discussion concerning the attitude of socialists toward 'he

In nearly every other country of the world this question has been settled but with us it remains a bone of con-

The party has again and again expressed itself plously as to our attiude toward the unions, but this is no more done than men here and there fly in the face of these resolutions and transgress all party decisions.

For a time many of our comrades pursued here the policy of La Salle long after it was abandoned in Ger-

They then looked down upon the trade union movement; considered it as a sort of lightning rod conductor working to the detriment of the polit

They then proclaimed that only the political movement could improve the conditions of the working class. ',Evrything else," as Bebel said, "they looked upon as palliative measures and as a division of strength."

Some comrades herehave condemned, as the La Fallians once did in Germany, the entire trade union move-

Trade union leaders who opposed politics in the unions have been violently attacked, as they once were in Germany, as traitors to the working

However, after failing to capture the trade union movement or to persuade trade unionists to abandon it some few comrades of the S. L. P. recklessly set out to ruin the unions by starting rival organizations.

Nor is this all. Again and again comrades have revived Robert Owen's utopian project for a national labor union comprising all classes and ranks

Even now a section of the movement 's seeking to revive the Proudhonianism which Marx so bitterly fought and destroyed.

Well known men in our ranks are today speaking contemptuously of the ballot and urging "direct action" as

Unfortunately these fads are usually

Fads are never new; they are usually the revival of old curiosities which have had their day and have

And so the idea of a national labor union is not new; direct action is hoary with age; and syndicalism is the rebirth of a philosophy which Marx thought he had destroyed.

It is well for those who call them selves Marxists to realize therefore that these uptopian projects-what ever their merits-have nothing in common with the teachings of Marx

Marx rarely agreed with La Salle; he did his utmost to destroy Proud honianism and he never sheathed his sword in his battle with Backunine.

Mary considered that the trade union, as every other movement would undergo the evolutionary pro-

He maintained that the trade union must evolve out of its own struggles -its defeats as well as its victoriesthe most potent form of united action.

He never believed that any one could bring down from the clouds some heaven born and ideal form of organization and impress that upon

And so it was not until Marxism rained the upper hand in the international socitalist movement that trade

Before that time they were flouted as useless or ineffective or temporary They were condemned and their

leaders despised until the Marxists came to the front.

Then it was that the Social-Democratic Labor Party put forward the following resolution which was unani-

"In consideration of the fact, that the capitalist power equally oppresses

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(Recommended by the National Executive Committee.)

THEORY-Socialism in Theory and Practice.—Hilquit ...... \$1.50 Social Revolution.—Kautsky ..... Economic Foundations of Society.—Loria ...... 1.25 THE DEELOPMENT OF SOCIALISM-The People's Marx.—Deville ..... Socialism.—Spargo SPECIAL PROBLEMS OF SOCIALISM-Woman.—Bebel ...... 1.00 The American Farmer,—Simons The City for the People.—Parsons ...... 1.50 Collectivism and Industrial Evolution.—andervelde ..... .... TACTICS AND METHODS-Socialists at Work.—Hunter ...... 1.50 History of Socialism.—Kirkup ...... 2.86 History of Socialism in the United States.—Hillquit ...... 1.50 \$15.15

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Appearance will make an appreciable Impression upon the Female Suffrage Movement now agitating our Country.

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ter whether they are conservatives, ing their feeble efforts; thus separatprogressives, liberals, or Social-Demo- ing ourselves hopelessly from our felcrats, this congress declares it to be low workers. the sacred duty of the working men to lay aside all party strife, in order to create the conditions for a vigorous and successful resistance on the neutral ground of a united trades union organization, to secure their threatened existence and to conquer for themselves an improvement in their class conditions."

That resolution, deciding the trade union policy of the Socialist of Germany, has been tested by thirty-eight years' experience.

Loyally and consistently followed that policy has enabled the Germans to build up the most powerful trade union movement in Europe and at the same time the most powerful polit-

Now let us see how clear our own

Some of us call the trade unionists "pure and simplers" and then form "industrial" unions that scoff at the

All of us declare that we want to unite the workers of the world and some of us start by forming as many rival unions as possible.

We all say we are Marxian socialists yet some of us advocate and prac tice the views of Robert Owen, Utopist, of Proudhon, Mutuallist, and of Backunine, Anarchist.

Most of say that we must have a political movement and an industrial movement each enjoying independent action, yet some of us still insist upon our party declining in its national conventions the tactics to be pursued by the industrial movement.

We all say we must convert the working class and some of us begin and exploits all working men, no mat- by dropping out of the unions, spurn-

Because a few leaders became corrupt or the flunkies of rich men we condemn entire organizations of the working class as tools of capitalism.

Our policies and tactics are to the extent of this confusion utterly incoherent. We get nowhere because we drive in no one direction with any consistency.

The English movement has pursued tactics different from the German movement; the German different from the French; the French different from the Austrian and Belgian.

But each movement has for a generation held strictly to a clear, well defined line of action.

And in every one of these countries Marxian Socialism is today a power and in this country it will become a power as soon as we ourselves are united in clear, consistent policies and tactics, not only as a political movement, but in our attitude toward all other existing working class organizations

#### SOCIALISTS WANT A FARM.

A couple of socialists who wish to better their condition would like to locate a homestead or get hold of some cheap land in Idaho, Montana or Washington. They would be pleased to hear from any socialist who knows of any good land open for settlement, and are willing to pay for the trouble in securing the information. Address:

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Send in your job work NOW.