

MONTANA SOCIALIST PARTY ACTIVITIES.

Local Helena has issued a challenge to Bishop Carroll of Helena to meet George D. Brewer in debate.

Bishop Carroll is an anti-Socialist, and of late in his sermons he has been attacking Socialism and Woman's Suffrage.

George D. Brewer is one of the lecturers attached to the National Lyceum Lecture Bureau and is in Helena this week.

As Bishop Carroll's criticism of Socialism is so unjust, the Socialists of Helena, decided that the best way to reply to him was to challenge him to debate.

The increase of Socialist sentiment is developing rapidly in Montana. As one travels over the state, a continual revelation is given him on the growth of Socialism. A good organizer in Montana could easily organize fifty new locals in the next ninety days.

Organization is what is required at present.

In Gallatin county there is room for four more locals. Three Forks especially is ripe for organization, and a local of at least 25 charter members could be secured.

At Whitehall one is surprised at the number of Socialists he meets, but no local is in existence there. Whitehall is at the extreme southern portion of Jefferson county and if the adjacent territory to Whitehall was given attention, there is no reason whatever why the Socialists should not carry Jefferson county at the next election, especially the legislative ticket.

Over in old Madison county, where Socialism used to be a back number, the growth of Socialist thought is marvelous. If the comrades of Local Norris would spur themselves into their old time activity the Socialist vote in Madison county at the next election would show at least, an increase of 500 per cent over the vote that has been polled for the past seven years in Madison county.

Organization, and more organization should be the subject for discussion at each local meeting. Keep up the agitation for more and efficient organizing.

LECTURE DATES.

George D. Brewer the third speaker on the National Lyceum Lecture course will lecture in Helena, Dec 28; Missoula Dec 29; Livingston Dec 30; and Red Lodge Dec 31.

May Wood-Simons the fourth speaker on the Lyceum course will speak Lewistown, Jan 2; Great Falls, Jan 3; Helena Jan 4; Missoula Jan 5; Livingston Jan. 6; Red Lodge Jan. 7.

ARE THE FARMERS DESERTING CAPITALISM.

By Clyde J. Wright.

"Nine-tenths of the Socialists of Texas are farmers," so says Nat L. Hardy. One-half of the Socialist of Kansas are farmers, says the State secretary. Let me add that two-thirds of the Socialists of Nebraska are farmers. This speaks volumes.

Have our papers neglected the farmers? Yes, just as they have neglected the question of organization. Leading Socialists have been heard to say that outside the cities there is no Socialist movement.

There is Socialism and then there is the power of Socialism, the power of Socialism is organization. Examine the state secretaries' organization maps, if you will, and note the small and numerous country centers that are now being organized, and perhaps for the first time realize that the country districts are generating the heat of Socialist organization which is likely to yet burn up capitalism in the cities; while the cities are deliberating upon some technical point of science.

Are you still asking, "Can a farmer be a Socialist?" You should observe that the relative proportion of organized farmers in the middle west as compared to the whole movement indicates that the farmers need no asking. These organized precincts answer.

The renters' rebellion in Texas seems to say that there are no more political hayseeds in the country than there are political thin-heads in the town.

If it is a question of the class struggle, then the tenant is having fully as many "ups" in the country as the wage earner is having "downs" in the cities.

It may be true that there is more gutter in the cities to attract attention, and also that the class struggle is more clearly defined, but this does not tell us that the wage workers are necessarily quicker or slower to

understand. But we do know that they are more helpless, more dependent, and therefore have less political independence. Capitalism knows the value and power it has to feed the town man's mind with cheap and unfit vaudeville, detective stories and other sensual literature. Whatever may be the intellectual advantages, they are offset by the very poverty which they breed—they teach the wrong lessons.

The workers have been tricked, tricked. Once the fiction of the antagonisms between town and country producers is exploded and these two ends together turn upon the capitalists "middle", an irresistible force will have been added to the revolution.

THE RIGHTS OF HALF A NATION.

By Joseph E. Cohen,

Suppose that some one were to suggest that half the voters of this nation should be disfranchised. Might not such an act bring about a civil war as terrible as that of 1861.

Yet as wild as such an idea is, it is no wilder than the idea that the women of our country, or of any other country, are to remain permanently disfranchised.

For women are one-half of this and every other nation. And as true as it is that no land can endure part slave and part free, it is true that woman must be given the title to every political and social right possessed by man.

So long as woman's seat was at the fireside, such a question could not arise. So long as the circle of her needs and wants centered in her own home, such a problem could not present itself. So long as woman was only a silent partner in her husband's concerns, woman remained on the edge of the current of political and social struggles.

But all this changed when the throbbing of the gigantic machine became the dynamo of progress; it all changed when the bleak, sinister factory wall cast its lengthening shadow over the family hearth.

When woman became a factor in industry, then she became a factor in political and social matters.

When certain trades came to be set apart as "woman's trades," then woman became a part of trade and a part of industry.

When there sprang up "sho towns" where men are relatively as few as are women in the lumber and mining camps and the "he towns" then woman became an important item in all industrial political and social questions.

When the point was reached that millions of women in America must regard wage-labor, instead of the care of the home and the rearing of a household, as their means of subsistence, then woman became one-half of the social problem.

When the sex-cancer of olden times became the established institution of our own day; when woman's very soul was reduced to terms of barter and price, then the position of woman and child, even more than that of man, became the aching heart of the social problem.

An when woman became bonded to wage-labor for life, then there was born in her the knowledge that her lot, in a larger sense than ever she had dreamt of, is riveted to that of man's.

Then her vision broadened and her mother love became part of that fraternity and solidarity which is the basis of workingclass consciousness.

And as time advanced, woman, especially woman in industry, realized that governments are the agencies whereby the bread and butter of life are portioned out, and that those who control the government divide the portions.

Then came the movement for woman suffrage, the right of woman to self-expression, the right to have voice and vote in regulating the affairs that concern her, the fight to help build the civilization of equality and comradeship that is to be.

Nor can the importance of securing suffrage for woman be overestimated.

All struggles of any consequence, industrial and social, expresses itself in political quantities. No class ever rose except by political power. No class can ever free itself and free society by becoming the government.

And the fight for woman's suffrage is as much man's work as it is woman's work. For man cannot be free himself until woman shares that freedom with him.

To free half the nation who are politically inferiors is to elevate the whole nation to a high place such as it has never occupied.

Let us make the rights of woman, the rights of half a nation, the concern of the whole nation!

Old Party is Halted

(Continued from first page.)

would suggest," Berger said, "that instead of lawyers, you would get a bricklayer to write the law and have it looked over by a newspaper man. Then you would have a law that would be plain, a law which everybody would understand."

Representative Kendall (Rep. of Iowa) advanced his belief that the democrat did not deserve credit for the passage of the soldiers' pension bill. To this Berger replied.

"The democrats initiated the bill. Give the devil his due. But remember that this House has passed a half dozen eight hour bills.

"The gentleman from Wisconsin was looking at the republican side when he spoke of giving the devil his due," interjected Representative Anderson, of Ohio, to the amusement of his democratic colleagues.

"I was looking first at one side and ten at the other," come back the Socialist Congressman like a shot.

Both sides of the House saw the point, and members and spectators roared with good natured laughter.

FIGHTS FOR OLD AGE PENSIONS.

Berger introduced his old age pension bill as an amendment to the Sherwood bill, which provides for an increase in pensions to veterans of the Civil War. His amendment was ruled out as not germane on a point of order raised by Representative Bartlett, (dem.) of Georgia.

The Socialist Congressman however, secured to floor and made a vigorous speech in behalf of the veterans of industry. He said in part:

"There are more workers killed and injured every year than we in the entire Civil War. Only last Saturday we read of a terrible mine disaster in Tennessee. Such things happen every day.

"In addition, we should also consider the number of women who are subject to disease contracted because of their occupations, and who become total or partial invalids by the hundred of thousands every year. The work of the soldier of industry is infinitely more necessary and must be performed every day or our civilization ceases."

Shopmen Making Great Resistance.

(Continued from page one.)

from train No. 1 to take out the wrecker.

Tucson, Ariz.—Engine ran through the wall in Gila round house. Helper engine on passenger train at Benson burst a flue when starting and had to be cut out. The engineers are sick of their jobs, 15 scabs were shipped west last night to Los Angeles. There are 24 dead engines in the round house here and three on the pits. It is reported that the chief train dispatcher is laying off on account of nervous break down brought about from condition along the road.

COAL MINERS ACT SANTA CLAUS FOR STRIKERS CHILDREN.

Again we have a demonstration of the true spirit by the Local Unions of District No. 22 United Mine Workers of America at Cheyenne Wyo., who have circulated posters and hand bills announcing that they will be Santa Claus to the children of the striking shopmen of Cheyenne, Christmas Eve Sunday Dec. 24th, 1911 at Eagles Hall at 7:30 o'clock. Bring the children and we will load them with good things, candy, fruit, and nuts and a present for each of them.

In behalf of the Coal Miners of Wyoming—Thomas Gibson, President, A. G. Morgan, Vice-President; James Morgan, Secretary-Treasurer.

SUPPORT FOR THE STRIKERS.

The following letter was received at the headquarters of the strikers on the Harriman lines:

"East Ely, Nev. Dec. 18th. 1911. "On Dec. 9th. a grand ball was given at the Auditorium in East Ely, under the auspices of the Allied Trades Unions of White Pine County. The general arrangements committee was composed of 27 union men selected from every union in the District. Jas. F. Beggs of the Machinists Local was chairman; with W. G. Mason, of the Painters Local as Secretary and E. G. Marquiss, of the Mill and Smeltermen as Treasurer.

"It was thoroughly advertised that the net proceeds of the Benefit Ball would go to support of our union brothers of the Federated Shopmen on the Harriman System, who are now on strike and fighting, honorably against oppression; who are fighting not only for themselves but for all their race; and whose defeat or victory is our defeat or victory.

"The efforts of that committee was quite liberally rewarded by the working men of the district, and mighty

little support came from the business men except the few who donated all the ingredients that made up forty gallons or fine claret punch, which was served free and made mild enough for ladies to drink without danger of intoxication, and of which every one drank their full share.

The total receipts amounted to \$743.79 The total expense was\$674.20 Leaving a cash balance of\$69.59

One enthusiastic member of the committee gladly offered to donate an additional eighty cents to make up even dollars.

"When some of the business men, those so called "Friends of Labor" heard of the large amount being sent to the strikers they exhibited that unmistakable act of great astonishment and many of them no doubt, very much deplore the fact that so much money is being sent out of the district, but all such men who feel that way are far too selfish to be considered at all by the working class. The boastful business men derive their income and luxurious living from the working class, and the time has come when the business men shall cease to combine against the working class or the business man will be thoroughly and severely ignored by the working class. Then the business man will have to go to work and be a real producer or look for support from those "higher up" in the plundering, grafting, greed crazed corporations.

"The efforts of the Musicians Local far exceeded that of any three other locals, and that they did so nobly in a united effort to offer moral and financial support to our union brothers who are at "the front" and fighting our fight and bearing the brunt of the physical suffering as well as that silent, mental suffering that the working class has endured, Oh so long that our patience has ready "ceased to be a virtue."

"In behalf of the working class of the Ely district and in token of sympathy and brotherly love, I herewith enclose a bank draft for \$675. to you as Secretary of the Federated Shopmen of the Harriman Lines. We sincerely hope that it may be the men in their struggle against oppression. We hope that it may be the means of giving good cheer and real comfort to some striking, fighting brother who might feel somewhat despondent of victory, or who might not be as fortunate as other brothers in possession of food, clothing and shelter for himself or his beloved wife and innocent, helpless babes. We hope that our efforts an financial success will encourage, not only other districts to do as we have and to do all in their power to send forth their best and kindest thoughts hoping that the same may be heard and felt, by our union brothers, upon the sweet, wireless, sound waves of sympathy and brotherly love, for such acts of charity and kindness are not transmitted to the suffering, working class through the "kept sheets" of the corporation owned press.

We must have faith in our cause for it is RIGHT AND JUST. We must have hope in ultimate solidarity of the working class. For great and grand is "Faith, Hope and Charity, but the Greatest of these is Charity.

"May those who would enslave us become mere slaves."

Hurrah! For the Shopmen's Federation!

Hurrah! For greater affiliation!

Hurrah! For labor's emancipation!!

We must keep pressing on!!!

Yours for Justice to the Working class.—E. G. Marquiss, Treasurer Benefit Dance, Ely, Nevada.

The shopmen on the Rock Island Railroad have assessed themselves one days pay a month for the benefit of the strikers. 60per cent of the money thus raised goes to the strikers on the Harriman lines and 40 per cent to the strikers on the Illinois Central Railroad.

The round house machinists on the Great Northern railway at Clancy, Montana are giving a ball at the Alhambra Hot Springs on New Year's eve. The proceeds to go to the benefit of the strikers. Let other places do likewise.

C. R. McMurray an ex-railroad man and now a traveling agent for the Continental Casualty Insurance Company, is doing all he can to secure scabs for the Southern Pacific Railway while canvassing for business for the insurance company he represents.

The strike committee desires all holders of policies in the Continental Casualty Company to write the head office of the Continental Casualty Company, protesting against the conduct of this agent of the company. Railroad unions can also assist by having the secretary of the union write a letter to the insurance company. The insurance company sells its policies to railroad wage slaves, and without the wage slave the company would go out of business.

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. Franchisees 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 franchisees 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 overladen 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, etchings, 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. 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 budies. 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.

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