

The Farmers Journal

Work Creates Wealth. Workers Should Own the Wealth They Create. Socialism Is the Only Way.

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ABILENE, TEXAS, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29, 1910.

Weekly, 50c a Year.

SMILE, GOMPERS! SMILE, BARRETT!

Once again does the capitalist pile driver come down upon the sore head of organized labor. Congress, urged by the president, has rejected an amendment to the sundry civil bill which provided that no part of the money appropriated to enforce anti-trust laws should be used in the prosecution of conspiracies or boycotts on the part of organized labor to increase wages, shorten hours or better conditions.

The rejection of this amendment simply means that union labor may be prosecuted at public expense for striking.

And holding cotton for higher prices is one way of striking.

When will the workers of the nation put men of their own class in the executive and legislative offices, as the workers of Milwaukee have done?

The Fort Worth Star-Telegram says that "Texas has perhaps the most cumbersome and expensive primary election system in the world," and then it goes on to tell us as how it's out of the question for any but rich men to make the race for the higher offices. And now when we remember that a man who is not a Democratic party slave is in danger of getting into the penitentiary for perjury if he participates in the primary election, we wonder how any citizen with pure democratic blood in his veins can refrain from making war on a party that thus seeks to perpetuate the rule of the rich.

We knew that papers of the Breckenridge caliber would say that The Journal is making war on Christianity in general and Methodism in particular. The persons called editors who scoop up the dope that fills such papers can't take us by surprise or frustrate us in the least, for we know beforehand just about what they will want to say, and we know that whatever they want to say they will say, regardless of the fate of Ananias and Sapphira.

WHAT SOCIALISM IS.

From an article in the Appeal to Reason under the above caption we extract a few sentences. It is so direct that we can't refrain from reproducing it for the benefit of such of our subscribers as do not read the Appeal, and those who read the Appeal will not be hurt by studying it again as a schoolboy studies a lesson:

"Socialism is a plan to set aside the robbery of the worker through profit, interest and rent, and to insure him employment at all times and the full social product of his toil. It is proposed to accomplish this by placing the highly developed tools of production and distribution—too large and expensive to be longer owned and operated as individuals—under collective ownership and democratic control. This would at once place the whole people, who would own these things, in possession of what they produced, without the intervention of an owner or boss, and enable them to retain all they might produce. This is all there is to Socialism. It has no secrets. It is nothing more than the extension of the American principle of democracy, a further socializing of things, begun when roads, schools, post-offices and like things were socialized. It is socialization of industry, and no more to be feared, no more difficult of understanding, than are the socialized or common schools. Socialism is not opposed to private property. Indeed, its whole aim is to make it so that all people may have private property, rather than only a few millionaires, as at present."

AS TO STANLEY J. CLARK.

D. F. Riley of Tague, Tex., asks us to make public the following letter written to him by Stanley J. Clark. The letter explains itself:

"Dear Comrade Riley:—I received your letter when I reached Oklahoma City and was glad to get it, you may know. . . . It is out of the question for me to get to Texas this year, unless it be to do some special work. If I can get Hamilton to meet me in debate I will come and attend to him, but otherwise I shall remain in other fields of work. I have dates now that will carry me into the month of October, and that will be about all the work I can stand until I get a few weeks rest with my family."

KEEP AWAY.

If you offer to vote in the Democratic primary election July 23, and the presiding officer has the least doubt about you being a true blue brass-collared Democrat, it is not optionary with anyone whether you are put under OATH. State Chairman Storey rules that this MUST be done. There are heavy penalties prescribed by the "Terrible" election law for party officials who fail to track the law with reference to primary elections, and this insistence that a man who is even suspected of being somewhat independent shall be made to SWEAR that he is a Democrat and will toe the mark, looks ominous.

To be on the safe side, better keep away from the old party primary.

"Something doing since the last ruling of the election boss. A democratic candidate told me the other day that he had no idea there were so many voters who are not going into the primary." So writes C. F. Howard, Avoca, Tex., Rt. 2. The number of voters who won't sign away their sovereign right by going into the Democratic primary is going to be a surprise to all Texas on "the morning after." Keep out of the primaries; keep out of the jackpot.

No man, rich or poor, who works, gets the full value of his work as long as men who don't work get anything. It won't figure out any other way.

SEND FOR IT.

"Socialism and Its Message to the Church" is the title of a 5c pamphlet just received. It contains 32 pages, but will fit in an ordinary envelope without folding. It is the best reading on this subject and the most of it for a nickel we ever saw. If you know a man who has a suspicion that Socialism aims to strike down Christianity, by all means get that little pamphlet into his hands. In many localities the preachers are, through ignorance or malevolence, misleading their followers in regard to Socialism, and we know of nothing so well suited to enlighten and disillusion those misled followers as Allen Cook's little booklet, "Socialism and Its Message to the Church."

The Journal does not get a cent for printing this notice. Nobody has asked us to print it. We want the light of truth to shine everywhere, and that's why we ask you to send five cents to Allen Cook, Canton, Ohio, for that little pamphlet of his you saw mentioned in the Farmers Journal.

Oh, the trouble, the trouble we do have these latter days over the public service corporations! And it will get worse until the public becomes the corporation. But some preachers say that would remove all the barriers between all the men and all the women. Do you believe such preachers are honest and sincere?

Concerning the number of senators who are too sick to express their views on public issues, G. B. Harris of Bruceville, Tex., writes us a card in which he asks if the United States senate is not a hospital. Culberson's silence is deafening to Brother Harris.

"I didn't steal this 50c but I—I—I believe I would before I would do without the little Journal."—A. A. Anderson, Meridian, Miss.

Read the notice from A. N. Simpson concerning suggestions as to the platform for the Socialist party of this state. That's the way the Socialist party ascertains and declares its position on the problems of government. How does the Democratic party, or the Republican party, or any political party other than the Socialist party, make its platforms? Eh? Find out and let us know.

Charles L. Martin, a citizen of Dallas, after escaping death by only a few inches twice while crossing the street from the court house once, wrote an article for the News in which he intimates that if the authorities do not protect the people against the automobile speeders, the people are liable to rise up in righteous indignation and make the lamp posts and telephone poles bear fruit. We were surprised at the article, for we thought the speed law was respected everywhere except in Abilene.

The Noard County Fuse prints a pile of figures showing the smallness of the Socialist vote as compared with the anti-Socialist vote, not only in America but in foreign lands. "Let the Abilene baboon write these figures down on the wall," fizzes the Fuse. All right. But the "baboon" would also like to write down why you devote the biggest part of your political space to the littlest thing in the political world. If you can't think up a good answer, maybe the Reverend Ham can help you out if you will ask him why old Herod had all those boy babies murdered.

The Farmers Journal.

J. L. HICKS Editor and Publisher.

Office upstairs, East Side Pine Street, No. 139½.
Entered at the postoffice at Abilene, Tex., as second-class mail matter.

The Journal is not sent on credit. If it comes to you regularly, somebody has paid for it; and it stops promptly when time is out.

On account of limited space, contributed articles cannot be handled; but send notices of meetings, the speakers' dates, reports of party progress, etc.

Weekly, 50c a year; 6 mo., 25c; 10 weeks, 10c. In connection with Appeal to Reason or National Rip-Saw, 75c; with the International Socialist Review or Dallas Semi-Weekly News, \$1.25.



MR. GRIFFIN AND HIS LABORER.

"I notice J. M. Green of Baylor county seems to think our present system of transacting business deprives the laborer of his share of labor. He says: 'Any system that deprives any useful worker, either with brawn or brain, of any part of what he produces is absolutely wrong.' It seems Mr. Green believes that the laborer should have all he produces. I say so, too, if the laborer owns the machinery he operates or the land and team he farms with."—J. L. Griffin of Cass county, Tex., in Farm and Ranch.

Well, why shouldn't he own these things, so that he might have all that his labor produces instead of having to divide up with you for the use of them? That's exactly the point at issue between the capitalism that we have now and the Socialism that we are going to have. No Socialist contends that it is YOUR duty as an individual to furnish any man the means with which to make a living, any more than it is the man's duty to make YOUR living for you with the means which you furnish him. No man should own the means by which another man procures a living. To own such means is to own the man's job, which is equivalent to owning the man himself without responsibility for the man's health or life, which is worse in that particular than legalized chattel slavery. But you will say, "Let the man go to work and buy land and machinery and get in shape to keep all he makes." As to the implements with which to work, the average working man has been a working man all his life and has certainly produced values equivalent to such implements, still they are not legally his. If the workers as a class have made and paid for the machinery with which they must work, and still do not own it, how can they hope to ever come in possession of it by working? The men who own the factories did not build them nor get them by working and producing their equivalent in value, yet you tell the workers that the way to get such things is to

work for them. As to your man not owning the land he works, it seems almost useless to argue with you if you are so dead to the most primary principle of right, such an utter stranger to the ethics involved in the golden rule, so hopelessly blind to the doctrine of equal rights to all and special privileges to none, that you would not gladly sign a state document protecting every man in his God-given right to the free use of whatever amount of the soil he can cultivate and make productive. If you would on a general proposition deny working men the use of God's ground unless they paid tribute to idle investors for the privilege of using it, you are really too much of an animal to comprehend the true nature of problems that come within the scope of human relations. Economically, you are dead in trespasses and in sins. Religiously, you are in the same fix. You must be a better man than that before you get to heaven. If you get in at all you will get in on the plea that ignorance of right excuses all ignoramuses. Join Brother Green in demanding that the WHOLE PEOPLE shall own the machinery of production and the land that is now privately monopolized for exploiting purposes, so that EACH ONE of the people must in some way USE these means of making a living—not employ others to use them, but use them HIMSELF—then, Mr. Griffin, your man will get the full product of his labor, because you won't be getting any of it. And you will give full labor for the products you get, because the means of production, being publicly owned, will belong to the other man as much as to you, so he will not have to divide up with you.

Do you really want all men to work for themselves, or do you really want some men to be compelled to work and divide what they make with other men in the form of rent, interest or profit? How do you stand on that question?

“And now the steel trust is to be investigated. Wonder if those Carnegie libraries will be put on the witness stand?” wonders the Abilene News. They're already on the witness stand, to any juror who can see as big a thing as a brick house. There they stand, testifying that a voting majority of American working people would rather be robbed than scratch old party tickets.

TOM HICKEY'S COLUMN

(Written for The Journal.)

EXIT WATSON.

In the last number of Watson's dying sheet he tells us that the current article was the last of his series on Socialism. If 'tis true, 'tis a pity; pity 'tis, 'tis true.

He issued a card telling us that he was returning to the Democratic party. Whereupon I turned to the Bible and in II. Peter 2:22 I read: “The dog is turned to his own vomit again; and, The sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire.”

And it was ever thus. There is no such thing in life as standing still. The law of evolution is: You either go up or down. Watson has gone down to the mire of Bourbon Democracy, and all the waves of the ocean can't wash him clean again.

But Watson has done us some service. He has illustrated the truth that the great American humorist, Artemas Ward, has written, viz.: “Everything has its use in nature, including measles and New England rum.”

Now, the use of Watson was to demonstrate in his person the ignorance, viciousness and superficial make-up of the leaders of southern Democracy. This ignorance was demonstrated from the first line he wrote on the subject of Socialism down to the last word. In fact, his attack was one long side-splitting comedy of errors.

He commenced by challenging nine representative Socialists (at least the ignoramus thought they were Socialists). Amongst the nine he had Joseph Medill, Richard LeGallienne and Bolton Hall.

Now, Joseph Medill was the founder of the Chicago Tribune and principal backer of Abraham Lincoln in the Chicago convention of 1860; the grass is green on his grave for lo, these many years. Richard LeGallienne is an exotic poet employed by Hearst, and does not belong to the Socialist movement in any way, shape or manner; while Bolton Hall is a single tax Democrat, a supporter of Bryan and an enemy of Socialism for twenty years.

To appreciate this stupidity properly, just imagine me writing a challenge to the national Republican leaders like this:

I CHALLENGE

Joe Bailey, Henry Watterson and Robert E. Lee, the leading Republican shouters. I dare you Republicans to accept. I am rubbing my fist under your noses.

Now, supposing I should be as big an ignoramus as Watson and issued such a

challenge, what would happen? Why, of course, the gentlemen challenged would ignore me, particularly the honored dead man, and I would be the laughingstock of all sensible men. And if I should be indorsed by a Reverend Ham, why, he, too, would be caught in the gale of happy laughter.

When the smiles at Watson died away and poor Bolton Hall had straightened out the Georgia Gargoyle (the dead man did not write him), he made a correction and said he meant Joseph Medill Pattison. Now, there is no prominent Socialist of that name in America. There is, however, a famous one named Patterson.

Now, one would think that this was enough bad breaks, even for a Watson, but not so.

He denounced the translator of “Bebel's Woman,” stating he was the editor of the New York Daily Call. Now, that gentleman is not the editor of the New York Call, and was never in its office in his life.

To cap the climax, the Georgia Ananias said recently:

“One of their gang went to Cooper Union, New York, a few nights ago and spoke in favor of the intermarriage of the whites and the negroes! It was Clarence Darrow, one of the brilliant lights of Chicago Socialism. Darrow is a great lawyer, the attorney for the Hearst paper in Chicago, and the author of several books. He is a gentleman and a scholar. But he has been bitten by Socialism, and has lost his mental balance.”

Now, this is the limit. Clarence Darrow is not a Socialist, never has been a Socialist, and never by word or deed said he was a Socialist. Darrow has always belonged to the Democratic party. He was elected to the Illinois legislature on the Democratic ticket, and always supported and fought for Governor John P. Altgeld!!!

As I write I have before me the March Evolutionist, published by the Socialist party lecturer, A. M. Lewis, at 180 Washington St., Chicago, Ill., price 10c. It contains the stenographic report of the debate between Darrow and Lewis in which Darrow attacks the Socialist theory of the class struggle, on which the whole Socialist movement is based. Lewis, the Socialist, whipped Darrow, the Democrat, in that debate, and yet Watson writes the above LIE.

Now, then, after reviewing this array of facts showing up Mr. Watson and the intellectual fices that follow at his heels, one question presents itself, viz.: “What does Watson mean, or where is he at? Is he a common ignoramus or a cheap liar?” He can take either horn of the dilemma.

To my mind Watson is both. The

Democratic leaders have so long fooled their followers that Watson thinks he can play on the lyre of deception to the end.

He is an ignoramus if he thinks so. This is a day of light, and an awakening people will soon bury the Watsons and their Republican friends in the same political coffin.

T. A. HICKEY.

Notice.

To The Journal.

Every party member in the state who desires to offer a suggestion as to the formation of a platform for the Socialist Party of Texas will please address me at Colorado, Tex., or J. L. Swan at Avoca, Tex., Rt. 2, or G. W. M. Taylor at Poolville, Tex., on or before July 6, 1910.

A. N. SIMPSON,
Sec. Platform Com.

Appeal Must Be Good.

To The Journal.

Inclosed find 75c, for which renew my subscription to The Journal and send me the Appeal to Reason 40 weeks. I like the little Journal, and from the hard things that are said about the Appeal to Reason by the money power I think it must be good also.

J. F. BREWSTER.

Cloudrant, La.

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Frank Nelms of Breckenridge, member of the state executive board of the Socialist party of Texas, at the close of a long letter to the editor of The Journal, says: "Tom Hickey, as a propagandist, is hard to excel. He is a power for the movement and is admired by the people of this section for his courage, honesty and ability. His meetings here were a pronounced success, and the Socialist latch string in Stephens county hangs on the outside for him."

President Ripley of the Sante Fe predicts that within ten years the railroads of the United States will be owned by the government. He says rate legislation will force the roads into bankruptcy. "However, if they are forced to sell," said he, "they will demand much more than their total capitalization." That last sounds bluff. Men when forced to sell usually take what they can get.

Lee L. Rhodes has been having rousing meetings in Hunt county, so the comrades down there inform us.

WE TALKED WITH A MECHANIC.

The Journal man was talking with an Abilene mechanic the other day, and something brought up the relation of the worker to the man for whom he works. "We must have the laborer and the capitalist both," said he. "We can't get along without either. While capital can't increase without labor, yet labor is just as dependent upon capital. Look at me. How could I live if men with capital did not launch enterprises that require carpenters and builders, and thus give me a chance to make wages."

Then he mentioned a number of enterprises such as gins, oil mills and other plants of that kind. And then we added a few more. We told him as seriously as we could that if private capital had not been seeking increase in the form of tolls, those bridges over Cedar and Elm creeks would never have been built. The Central Ward, North Ward and South Ward school houses, the county court house, the federal building and the fire station would not have been erected, because they command good rents, and this is the incentive that moves capital to give labor employment and save the working class from starvation.

We tried to bring before his mental vision the dawn of the idea that under Socialism all of the industrial plants would be built as the bridges and public edifices are now built—barring the graft that has now grown to be a regular feature—and that the mechanics would have all the work that a prosperous people would need, and at a compensation that would afford them luxuries where they now get the bare necessities, but from his long dependence upon "the man with the mun," it is doubtful if he caught the exposure. He is an intelligent man on most subjects, and will agree with you and with Lincoln that labor is prior to capital, that labor MADE capital, but when you ask him to name the point in the evolution of industry at which labor became dependent upon capital and the thing made became master of him who made it, he looks away off down toward Buffalo Gap and runs out of anything to talk about.

The postoffice, the public schools—in short, the only features of government that benefit the people—are Socialistic.