

THE OIL

Official Organ of the Socialist Parties of Ohio, Kentucky, West Virginia, and New Mexico

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Cleveland, O.

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We are at Atlanta - - Knocking at the Gate

We're at Atlanta.

We're knocking at the prison gate.

AND THE KNOCK IS NOT A TIMID ONE!

As loud as a peal of thunder from a bolt of lightning a second in distance, our knock re-echoes and reverberates thru-out the land with our demand that the prison gate be opened and that Debs walk forth a free man.

We're at Atlanta.

We're knocking at the prison gate.

And by three we mean ALL OF US—all of us who want Debs and all political prisoners freed.

The pounding at the prison gate is the pounding of a million fists of a million men and women who have solemnly resolved that DEBS SHALL NOT CLOSE HIS LIFE BEHIND PRISON BARS.

As we write this Debs is in consultation with Marguerite Frevey, Joe W. Sharts and Samuel M. Castleton at Atlanta penitentiary.

Marguerite Frevey, a Socialist veteran, is known nationally for her uncompromising attitude against capitalism. Joe W. Sharts, Socialist and attorney, was one of the three able lawyers who conducted the Debs' trial at Cleveland. Samuel M. Castleton, Socialist and attorney is Sharts' local representative at Atlanta.

WE—YOD—ALL OF US are at Atlanta this week in the person of these three comrades, consulting with Debs.

ALL OF US ARE KNOCKING AT THE PRISON GATE.

AND THUNDEROUS BLOWS THEY ARE!

The consultation now going on between all of us and Debs at the Atlanta penitentiary will have important results.

HABEAS CORPUS PROCEEDINGS ARE PLANNED and may be initiated AT ONCE.

Nothing WILL BE LEFT UNDONE IN OUR EFFORT TO RELEASE DEBS and everything will be done within our power to RELEASE HIM IMMEDIATELY.

No more waiting for us. No more hesitation. No more fooling away time expecting the capitalist class and its political retainers to "let Debs go".

Marx said years ago that the emancipation of the working class must be the work of the working class. And the liberation of working class prisoners must be done by the working class as well.

WE ARE AT IT!

We are hard at work, we at this end of the forward marching army of liberators.

AGAIN WE ASK—ARE YOU KEEPING STEP?

Are you with us in this fight?

When the battle is over, will you be able to say—"I did my part in liberating Debs from the clutches of capitalism."

THIS THEN, IS YOUR IMMEDIATE DUTY.

SECURE LIBERATION FUNDS!

We sent you a communication and contribution list last week.

DID YOU GET IT?

If you did, put it to work AT ONCE. Ask EVERYBODY to give and give liberally to help FREE DEBS and all. If you did not get it then write us immediately. We'll send you another. You'll want it for it contains here-to-fore unpublished pictures of Debs, the prison gate, the steel cells.

THE STEEL CELLS!

Debs is there.

And you are where you can help get him out of there.

HELP DO IT!

GET BUSY WITH THE LIBERATION FUND CONTRIBUTION PETITION.

GET BUSY TODAY!

They are Coming Fast!

Liberation fund contribution lists, loaded with money, are already being received at Liberator's Headquarters. The entire office force was astonished at the immediate response when the first half dozen lists strolled into the office showing generous total contribution of from \$15.00 to \$20.00 on each list.

The comrades seem to understand that we must pay—even for justice. Understanding this, they have gone to work determined to get justice for Debs and all political prisoners, no matter what the price.

We shall next week begin publishing the names of contributors and amounts of contributions. BE AMONG THE FIRSTS is our plea to you.

Yes—BE AMONG THE FIRSTS AND THE LASTS AND THOSE EVER AT IT!

No rest for any of us until VICTORY IS OURS!

A Message From Debs To You

Atlanta, Ga., Aug. 13, 1919.
TO ALL LIBERATORS,
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Comrades—
I was back again Saturday and had a great interview with him. I visited Comrade Sharts, also wrote him a letter, explaining Debs' attitude. I am with you to the end, until Debs is freed. I shall write you a letter for publication some time this week which I think will be of much interest to your readers. DEBS BELIEVES HIS LOVE AND GRATITUDE TO ALL OUR READERS.
Yours in Comradely,
Samuel M. Castleton,
Attorney.

65,000 Miners on Strike in Ill.

PROTEST UNIQUE IN LABOR HISTORY IN THAT IT IS DEMAND AT UNION OFFICIALS AS WELL AS AT BOSSES.

A unique strike in progress in Illinois. Miners, 65,000 of the 100,000 in the state, are on strike because of fines imposed upon them for taking part in the Mooney strike and other grievances, one of the most important of which is that against the reactionary district officials of the miners' union.

It is claimed that thugs, in the employ of President Farrington of District 12, were responsible for the slugging of a committee of striking miners which appeared in Collinsville to induce miners to join the strike. The striking miners called a convention to meet in Springfield on August 19th over the heads of the union district officials. The call asks all local unions to continue the strike and ask

RESOLUTION

"We, your Policy Committee, recommend the following petition for a call for a convention of the miners. Whereas, our contract was drawn up during the period of the war and, whereas, since said contract has been drawn the party to said contract has been withdrawn, namely the U. S. Fuel Commission, therefore we demand that the National Officers call a special convention in May 1919. In April 1919 the Coal Operators of the United States held a convention in Chicago and at that meeting union operators passed a resolution favoring the continuation of the present contract. In May, 1919, the National sent a telegram to the State President notifying them that the special convention had been cancelled without consulting said State President, or explaining why they did so. And whereas, it is deemed necessary to call a strike to get action from our National Officials.

"And whereas, it has become necessary to call a strike of all miners to induce the operators to prefer we ask all Locals to take immediate action, to our relations and our friends. We therefore appeal to all Locals to send a call for special State Convention.

"The most interesting part of these resolutions is that which reads that 'we think it necessary to get action from our National officials'. The question of reactionary officials in the United Mine Workers' Union has long been a subject of debate in miners' meetings in Illinois and it is believed that the present marks the beginning of a way to the end of the 'rotting' of the mine workers' new 'raining' the national organization.

Following a meeting in the sub-district 4, the following statement was issued by Lawrence Lamb, chairman of the meeting.

Lamb Issues Statement.

Following the meeting the following statement was made by Lawrence Lamb, who acted as chairman. "At a mass meeting held in the union hall Sunday evening, August 25th, of Sub-District No. 4, U. M. W. of A. around over the conditions existing in the mine district, an expression of the delegates from Collinsville, Belleville, Maple and various other parts of the state where the miners are now on strike, was given. It was decided to call a strike until such a time as President Farrington and all the executive officers of the state resigned or were removed from office."

The secretary of the meeting was ordered to send a message to state headquarters demanding the immediate resignation of the said officials in the name of the members of Sub-District No. 4. Farrington was directly accused of being the employer of the thugs who slugged the committee from Collinsville and it was with great dignity that a statement to advise the miners to send committees out to give Farrington and the others handed for the slugging a dose of their own medicine was made by the chairman and President Thompson of Sub-District No. 4.

The spirit of rebellion against the autocratic administration of affairs by Farrington and the executive officials was intense. Speaker after speaker taking the floor in turn, accusing and denouncing these officials.

The secretary was also notified to advise national officials of the action of the mass meeting.

And Program instigated by the dominating class Chicago decided to strip the miners of their rights. Case was set to trial on October 5th and again a movement to strip the miners and strip are not freed meanwhile.

Whoever has complained that the big enough may now contemplate the foregoing favorable development for labor now demands freedom for the workers of the world.

Such was the Second Mooney Convention as called for in Chicago.



Important Problems Faced by Mooney Strike Re-Affirmed by Second Chicago Mooney Convention.

L. E. KATTEFFELD, IN AN ADDRESS TO THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, MAKES VALUABLE SUGGESTION FOR A VIRILE ORGANIZATION.

FORWARD: Nationally the Socialist Party has been very placid. As a result it has marked time instead of marching forward. It has in fact retreated, for its avowed activity in organization, education and propaganda work are less numerous now and have been for several years, than ever before.

There was a time in the history of the national organization when comrades were inspired and encouraged by and enlisted in special activities which were well planned and executed with credit. Of late years nothing but disorganization has come out of the national office and the motto has seemed to be, "it can't be done."

L. E. Katterfeld, who renders the report below to the new National Executive Committee has had years of experience in party work. By this we mean that he has taken part, actively, in the "small jobs" which are so numerous and which, after all, are the main essentials which will build a big party. He has not been "shining light" in the movement and yet it is known from coast to coast by the name of Jimmy Higgins. In this report he sums up the actual needs of the work which will unite in the party without which the party will never gain the strength it must have for victory. We ask a careful reading of this report by every party official and member.

Comrades of the National Executive Committee—
The greatest problem that confronts us as an Executive Committee is the development of efficient instruments of propaganda, education and organization through which to reach the work- ing class with the message of Revolutionary Socialism and organize them for action.

In the past this was left almost entirely to private agencies over which the Party membership had no control. These consisted with each other and

No one knows until September 1st, whether the Mooney Protest Strike July 4th has failed. It will be a success if Tom Mooney and young Billings go free before Sept. 1st. If they are not freed, a still larger section of organized labor will strike again and again. The Second Chicago Mooney Convention re-affirmed their decision to strike September 1st to 5th.

Such was the unanimous decision of the Second Mooney Convention that met in Chicago August 19th at the call of the Chicago Mooney Defense League. This convention was held in the finest hall of the new forty thousand dollar property of the Machineists' Union at 113 So Ashland.

Delay since July 4th in giving justice and Fair Trial to Mooney and Billings has added will more fuel to the flame of discontent. Mr. Donmore, the Department of Labor Official, has appeared before Congress with his deplorable report. It was held unpalatable because of the foul language of Attorney Plattner, who prosecuted Mooney and Billings by frame-up methods.

But there are more in prison than Mooney and Billings. Labor is interested in fair trials for all. Debs is serving 10 years — for expressing plain Harvard too in Feb 20, 1918, for the same reason, now released on bond. Thirty percent of organized labor in Chicago has decided to demand freedom for all class-war prisoners — Mooney, Debs, Higgins and all others.

One lone speaker in this convention stridently made the point that there must be no more protest strikes. Mooney unless the majority of all organized labor would strike... Boss and call-out! The whole convention seemed to rise to its feet to explain that all cases were won by the militant minority—to act—not waiting for the majority.

"I am confident that we will be able to mete out the same treatment to Denikin by autumn that we are now meting out to Kolchak"
Wireless Message sent out by Lenin

The Ohio Socialist

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3207 Clark Ave., Cleveland, Ohio.

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EDITORS **James H. Allison**
..... **Alfred Wagoner**

Published Weekly by the Socialist Party of Ohio at Cleveland, O.
Telephone: Harvard 3635.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 27th, 1919.

Tears for Kolchak

Whatever substantial aid is lacking in the allies' support of Kolchak is made up in tearful sympathy extended by capitalist editors.

But where guns and food fail we can hardly expect that tears and sympathy however sincere, can avail. Kolchak is decisively beaten. His summer campaign against the Red army is a total failure. All successes belong to the Bolsheviks. Instead of following up his gains early in the spring, he has retreated nearly a thousand miles, which he styles the capital of his "government" stands ready for evacuation at any hour as the Red army advances. Kolchak, as the strong man upon whom the allies and the capitalist world depended to rehabilitate capitalism, is proven to be a straw in the wind of the proletarian revolution that is steadily winning out in Russia.

Once more are the emissaries of capitalism prone false prophets. After months of foretelling that the immediate downfall of the Soviet government, they are forced to admit the growing strength of New Russia. This does not deter them, from continuing to prophesy "In the end, Bolshevism must turn itself out." Of course one can always prophesy and if one has no respect for their reputation as a forerunner of events, such bold prophecies will likely follow. No one will take them seriously however. The fact that Kolchak is being driven into a corner without hope of escape will have a strong tendency to raise faith in the Soviet power. The Soviets are winning, not only in Russia, against the counter revolution, but in moral support among the working class throughout the world.

The proletarian revolution is winning. Tears for Kolchak may provide a vent for dissatisfied capitalist feelings, but they also reveal the weakness of capitalism to rebuild itself in Free Russia.

"Presumably Innocent"

Concerning the indicted and alleged food profiteers of Cleveland, a capitalist contemporary asserts that "of course they are entitled to a speedy and fair trial before a jury of their peers, and until this occurs they are to be considered innocent." Verily, in this land of boasted liberty and government by law, it is every accused man's right to be judged innocent of crime until guilt is proved.

No worker would dispute that right. We are for it, we would not have it otherwise, not even for these capitalists, who are always prophecying and guilty of the grossest crimes against thousands of workers.

Our aim in drawing this matter to the attention of our readers is to point out the difference in the attitude of the capitalist press toward workers and sluffers when they find themselves enmeshed in the law. We recall the time in the case of workers in Cleveland when no such magnanimity was offered them. Apparently there is a difference as to whether the accused is a worker or one who works the worker. When the apostle of law-and-order of the city of

Let's Make it A Million

The first FREE DEBS leaflet is on the way. Orders are already in for thousands of them. The leaflet is entitled "ASK OVER LEAFLET TO PRESIDENT WILSON", and appeared in the Ohio Socialist of August 13.

ONLY \$2.00 A THOUSAND. How many thousands do you want for distribution. ORDER AT ONCE. Join the Army of Liberator. Be a worker, a determined, steady worker in this campaign to FREE DEBS and ALL political prisoners. Address 3207 Clark Ave., Cleveland, O.

The above picture show the Headquarters of Local Toledo, O. Organized Trotsky on the right.

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Buy Them - Sell Them

We refer to the Debs' pictures. Orders for these large 12 1/2 x 18 inch pictures have been so numerous that we had to produce them by the thousand. As a consequence we have been enabled to secure a reduced price upon their production and cap sell them cheaper to you.

The retail price will remain the same, namely 25c each. But we can wholesale these pictures to you to sell to your local comrades, at your price, at your propaganda meetings at 10c each in lot of ten or more.

This picture has not yet been taken but we want price. It is the best one ever taken, so critics say. It is printed in sepia and makes a splendid picture for framing. Every picture is autographed in Debs' handwriting.

Place your order today. Address 3207 Clark Ave., Cleveland, O.

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Speakers

The following speakers are available for hire at \$5.00 per meeting and expenses. Comrade Pious feels that they would serve the party upon the platform as well as secure the endorsement of their local and have it forwarded to the State Office. We will then place their names on this list but whose names appeared in this list some time back are asked to notify the State Office if they are in a position to fill occasional engagements.

M. J. Beery, 65 South Main Street, Mansfield.

Chas. Baker, 3207 Clark Ave., Cleveland.

Tom Clifford, 2317 Fulton St., Cleveland.

Fred Crites, 215 Elder, Akron, O.

John C. Chase, 599 South Main, Akron, Ohio.

Tom Lewis, 3013 Prospect Ave., Cleveland.

Comrade Vernon Taylor, Corresponding Secretary for Local Norfolk has been contacted and is leaving to better his condition and satisfy his wanderlust. We are sorry to lose him. Comrade Taylor is a fine piece of clay.

Comrade Edison of Portsmouth says we Socialists MUST learn better discipline—we must march in solid phalanx, not struggle. Wonder if he is not right about it.

Comrade Beery of Portsmouth sends us his love to the Convention fund and a liberal donation from his home.

A Photograph

E. V. DEBS

Undoubtedly the finest picture of Debs ever taken.

Take shortly before going to the ink. It measures 1 1/2 x 1 3/8 inches. Printed in brown, and ink on sepia paper makes an excellent and the highest type for your home.

You will be proud of your Debs picture.

ORDER NOW.

SOCIALIST PARTY OF OHIO
3207 Clark Ave., Cleveland, Ohio.

The 11th Ward Branch of Local Cleveland made the purchase of a pledge of \$5.00 this week. The Branch surely needs business.

Join THE ARMY OF LIBERATORS.

JOIN!

JOIN UP in the Army of Liberator. Write to headquarters, 3207 Clark Ave., Cleveland, Ohio, for application blank.

A MEMBERSHIP CARD in the Army of Liberator will save intense significance in the years to come.

Admission fee \$1.00. Monthly dues—doing your duty daily. Join today! Secure applications of other workers.

NEWS AND VIEWS

LABORER'S CLUB
The Laborer's Club, the German Workers' Club, Local Cleveland, holds a picnic in conjunction with the approaching Labor Day at Batavia, O. The picnic is being given by the German Workers' Club provided that they get a license in time to get to Batavia. The picnic is being given at Batavia in the person of the Catholic priest, who has informed the farmer that if they join the Socialist Party or listen to his monotonous sermons will be the loss of the picnic. The picnic is being given at Batavia in a short time will be at Batavia. The picnic is being given at Batavia in a short time will be at Batavia.

WORKERS' DEFENSE LEAGUE
ORGANIZED IN AKRON.
On Sunday, July 20th, at the C. L. U. Hall the Workers' Defense League was organized, composed of various working class organizations of Akron and vicinity. The League will be the Socialist Party and each of its branches have two delegates in the League. The purpose of the league is to defend workers persecuted by the employer, to fight the strike of unorganized workers. An International Labor Day picnic will be held September 1st at Frank's Farm on the Woodstock extension. P. Mencklin is the president and secretary. O'Brien is the treasurer of the league.

LOCAL WARREN IS STILL ON THE LOOK-OUT FOR A STRIKE
Local Warren is still on the look-out for a strike. Any party member who has any party members in that city. Any party member who has any party members in that city. Any party member who has any party members in that city.

Let's Make it A Million
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Get Ahead by Planning Ahead

This is an official communication to all Ohio locals by the state office. It's a sermon. It's meant for every local worker. The secretary will please read it at the next meeting.

As we said at the beginning—**THE WAY TO GET AHEAD IS TO PLAN AHEAD.** Your local will never GO FORWARD if it spends its time waiting for some one to do something for it. Your local is organized to do something for others—to work for the emancipation of the workers. Therefore **QUIT WAITING AND BEGIN DOING.**

BAKER AND DEBBER ARE READY TO SERVE YOU. Here are two as good speakers as ever were voted. They not apply for a date for each Municipal campaign are coming on. You'll need speakers. Better engage them now. Write the state office at once.

OHIO DELEGATES TO NATIONAL CONVENTION.
The following comrades were elected delegates to attend the Emergency National Convention of the Socialist Party to be held in Chicago, August 20, at Mackintosh Hall, 113 South Ashland Blvd. The convention will convene at 10 A. M. on August 20th.

ORDER A BUNDLE OF THE FREE DEBS EDITION OF THE OHIO SOCIALIST.

Virginia Bulletin.

State secretary—E. M. Dutton, R. P. D. No. 1, Abington, Va.

Virginia Comrades—

I want to open this sermon by reminding you of our obligation to support the Ohio Socialist. I am aware that you have done something in this direction—possibly all you could, when we support a good, clear-cut revolutionary Socialist paper like the Ohio Socialist we are not only helping the paper, we are helping our organization in the very best possible way. So if we have not already been done our darndest for the Ohio Socialist, let us get busy. This is one of the very best propaganda papers in America and it is owned and controlled by the Party Organization.

The time has arrived when ALL propaganda papers advocating Socialism must be owned and controlled by the Party Organization or else submit to direction from official sources. Too many free-lance teachers, each teaching his particular brand of Socialism in a fruitless source of confusion and delay. We are sorry to lose him. Comrade Taylor is a fine piece of clay.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

July 1st, E. J. Beery	\$5.00
July 17th, Local Debs	\$1.00
Total	\$6.00
July 2nd, Expense	\$1.00
July 30th, Postage, etc.	\$2.00
Total	\$3.00
Balance forward	\$3.00
Total	\$6.00

Income:
Total \$6.00

Expenses:
Total \$3.00

Balance forward \$3.00

Total \$6.00

B. M. DUTTON.

YOUR LOCAL - WHERE AND WHEN IT MEETS

Your Local's Advertisement will be inserted Under this heading at the rate of \$2.50 for One Year.

LOCAL AKRON Socialist Party of Ohio Meets Every Friday Evening	LOCAL COLUMBUS Socialist Party of Ohio Meets Every Thursday, 8 P. M. Hall 505 W. Gay Street
LOCAL CINCINNATI Meets Every Thursday, 8 P. M. Lectures Every Sunday, 8 P. M. SOCIALIST HALL 1214 Vine St.	LOCAL YOUNGSTOWN Socialist Party of Ohio Meets Every Thursday, 8:00 P. M. at Bushnell Hall, 127 West Federal St., Third floor.
LOCAL WARREN Meets Every Thursday at 7:30 P. M. Labor Organization Hall, E. Market St., Near Second St., Nat'l Bank, Warren, Ohio.	LOCAL HAMILTON Meets Every Friday Evening 8 P. M. SOCIALIST HALL 38 High St., Third Floor.
LOCAL KENNEDY Socialist Party of Ohio Meets Every Friday, 7:30 P. M. BITTICOFFS HALL E. Market St., Near Second St., Kenyon, Ohio.	LOCAL GANTON Socialist Party of Ohio Meets Every Thursday at 7:30 P. M., at Socialist Headquarters, 129 Tuscarawas St., N.
LOCAL SANDUSKY Socialist Party of Ohio Meets First and Third Wednesdays, Each Month, 7:30 P. M. E. Market St., Near Second St., On Monroe and Fulton Sts.	LOCAL WILKS Socialist Party of Ohio Meets Every 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month, 8:30 P. M. Study Class, every Tuesday, 10 p. m. Debate every Wednesday, 7:30 P. M.
LOCAL TOLEDO Meets every Tuesday evening, except the 2nd Tuesday after the 1st of each month. Free lectures every Sunday, 8 p. m., 225 Michigan St.	MANCHESTER HALL 144 S. Chestnut St. Meets Every Tuesday evening, except the 2nd Tuesday after the 1st of each month. Free lectures every Sunday, 8 p. m., 225 Michigan St.

THE TRUTH ABOUT SOVIET RUSSIA

(First installment)

At the end of the eighteenth century the French people after two hundred years of embittered struggle threw off the tyranny of a feudal aristocracy. During this struggle they were surrounded by armed hordes of a coalition of European kings, who had invaded France to subject her people to that slavery from which they had just freed themselves. French peasants shed their blood in the Argentine that might might once more oppress the French people. British cannon died at Tolon that feudal nobles might rule again at Versailles. Looking back on these times today we recognize that the role of the English and German governments during the French Revolution was not a creditable one.

A little over a century has passed. Medievalism has given way to modern bourgeoisdom; the Divine Right of Kings to the Divine Right of Manhood. Russia, which has never been touched by the purging fire of the French Revolution, has grown under a three-fold tyranny—a theocratic tyranny, the relic of her proximity to Asia; an agrarian feudalism, which had accepted the European configuration of last century; a middle class, grown up under the influence of Western industrialism; but demoralized and corrupted by its two companions. At the beginning of its century, the governing power in Russia rested on these three rotten pillars—two of them, decaying relics of a bygone age; the third an abortion of modern bourgeoisdom. It could not last long, but was bound to collapse from its own internal weakness. It had the government of England, France and Germany treat the new Russia, which, phoenixlike, rose from the ruins of the old. History will prove that they treated the new Russia as shamelessly as the governments of England and France treated the French Revolution at the end of the 18th century.

The Russian Revolution, like every great popular movement was set in motion by vast, elemental, unshakable forces, which had been gathering for ages and like a lava-flow burst the overlying crust of convention, prejudice and insincerity. Every one was disintegrated with Terrorism. The war caused untold miseries, famines, for which the Bolsheviks are accused of being the authors, was already raging in the autumn of 1916, and got steadily worse under Kerensky, as the war, like a great pump, sucked the life blood out of the country's industries. I know from my own observation as a war correspondent that after the summer of 1916, the Russian army was no longer fit for the offensive, owing to the impossibility in an economically undeveloped country of feeding and supporting fifteen million soldiers. By the winter of 1916-17, when no one in Russia but the intellectuals had heard of the Bolsheviks, the principal towns of central Russia were filled with deserters. One of the Tsar's retired diplomats even admitted in the columns of the "Novaya Zhizn," in July, 1917, that the Russian Revolution was nothing more than a mass uprising against the war. But it was something besides.

The working classes of the Russian towns used to live in conditions of want and misery probably without parallel in Europe. They were forced to work such long hours that they often dropped of fatigue. They were systematically underfed. The factories where they worked were simply asylums. Nor was the peasant's lot any better. Half the land of Russia belonged to the landlords, the Church and the Imperial family and that was the best. On it the peasants had to work like serfs. The rest of

the land went to the Church and serfs, was left in the hands of what they called the "hulak," the great nobles, on the good land (a large percentage of the cereal production of Russia), was systematically exported under the bounty system to pay for Tsarist warships and armaments, while the peasants in the villages nearby were often starving. Add to this the miseries of the three years of war and it is not difficult to see why, as soon as the summer got about that over the length and breadth of the gigantic plain that "little father Tsar" was no more, that policemen had been locked up by the workmen in Petrograd, that Cossacks had gone over to the masses, that the spell-binding discipline, born of fear, vanished. Everywhere throughout the land in those days squads of soldiers got together to talk things over. Groups of workmen hung about the factory shops and peasants crowded round the village common building. The same word was on everyone's lips. "What next?" These thousands of informal meetings that took place from the Baltic provinces to the Pacific coast, from the Arctic circle to the coasts of Turkestan, were not summoned by anyone. They were the creation of the free spirit of man, which had just burst the bonds of an archaic, no useles form of society. They were the first rude instruments, now anarchic soon to be organized, which were to build the new order of society. They were in fact the embryo Soviets.

For the new social order the first necessity was to create a new discipline. The informal gatherings of workers, soldiers and peasants which were called Soviets (the Russian name for a Council) had now this task before them. In Petrograd on the second day of the March revolution the garrison soldiers issued an order that there was to be no more saluting officers, that no order was to be obeyed unless it was counter-signed by the Soldiers' Soviet. Inasmuch as the bulk of the officers and all the generals were known to be Monarchists or at the best only supporters of a bourgeois republic the necessary measures had to be taken to protect the Workers' Revolution. "What is the meaning of this war with Germany?" began to come from a thousand throats. "Is there no means of stopping it by appealing to the German soldiers directly," they urged. Surely, a natural and obvious, if somewhat unconventional thing for war weary soldiers to do. Soldiers urged Soviets to fraternize with people whom they no longer wished to fight, became now a common phenomenon. No one had heard of Bolshevism in these days.

In the factories, meetings were held and committees elected. The latter were to see to it that wages kept pace with the cost of living. They were to look into the proprietors' books and see how much war profit was being made and how much was used to fill up that ever narrowing margin between wages and weekly expenses. And was the peasant with his desolation of land, on which he had to starve, going to allow the rich black earth near by to till the harvest of the "barons"? Here too the spell was broken, the "Zemsky Nachalnik" (chief of the county administration) was sitting in the local jail, whether he was used to send others. The fruits of that seizure had were to go to the peasants' farms that year. And they went—sooner than anarchically it is true, and not without heartburnings as to how much should go to each peasant.

By the summer of 1917, the class which considered itself the rightful successors to the Tsarist heritage—the bourgeoisie, manufacturers, and war profit parasites—began to move from their hidden retreats to the open. The first sign was the attempt to reorganize the army, to discipline the republic, to demand that every citizen of the republic should carry out his patriotic duty. What next? The army had been shot at by the peasant land committees. Peasant elders were arrested and thrown into prison, some were even shot. The peasants replied by making the landlords' mansions, already being razed in the provinces, long before the Bolsheviks came into power in October. The latter, restraining the righteous indignation of the peasants, declared their informal committees, the first fruits in the villages of the March Revolution, to be the legal authority, possessing the right to take the landlords' land and work it in the interests of the whole community. Lenin and Zinoviev had been the struggle of the Bolsheviks with the disorderly forces among the Russian peasantry. The latter, divided into rich and poor, struggled among themselves for the landlords' land, split up into two contending factions—one, of small proprietors and rich speculators, the other of laborers or those peasants who had no land. The latter were called the "committees of the poorer peasantry," or the reconstituted rural Soviets, whose duty it became to stop the disorderly scramble for land and to create the new communal system of land tenure. Thus the seed sown in the soil of anarchic revolt germinated into the young shoot, which fed in the atmosphere of order and discipline.

The regeneration of Russia could only begin when the Soviets had completed their development and come to the zenith of their political power. After October, 1917, it seemed that order, through the Soviets would prevail over the chaos bred in the first days of the March Revolution. For the working classes, schooling themselves in their factory and village committees, were fighting famine and struggling to raise production. But the war was still externally going on with the Prussian war lords. The country was open to any tyrant that chose to walk in. The soldiers had nearly all gone from the front by Christmas, 1917. The Bolshevik leaders of the Soviets had now the most terrific task before them. They had to secure some sort of peace in order to give the ruined and exhausted land a breathing space and the workers a chance to repair the damage of the war.

There will probably be nothing more tragic in history than the picture of Russia struggling with the German warlords and deserted by the Allies. Not possessing any material resources to enforce the justice of his cause, Trotsky relied upon the conscience and sense of justice of the Western world. This was the time when the Allies, if they had known the day of their visitation, if they had understood what was the driving force of the time, would have declared their peace program and, sustaining Trotsky, would have exposed to the world the entire intrigues of the Prussian militarists. The Allied governments did not do this because they could not. They did not dare face their people and tell them that they had passed of conquest. The moment for saving the moral front of the Allies with that of revolutionary Russia passed. It never came again.

Revolutionary Russia was thus left alone in the world to face the German warlords. Two courses were open to it. It could either play the idealist and decline to accept any peace; or it could embody its principles in toto; or it could pursue Realpolitik, but, estimating all the forces which were pushing him for the latest backdrop of their enemies, could make an agreement with them as a temporary expedient. In the days preceding the signing of the "Treaty of Brest-Litovsk," two very fundamental human impulses were struggling together inside the Russian Revolution. The one was altruistic, ready for self-sacrifice, Brumshill-like upon the flaming pyre of an idea. The other was wild and calculating, prepared to save what could be saved now in order to gain the error in the end. The struggle between these two impulses, old as the human race itself, was reflected in the controversy between those among the Russian revolutionaries, who would sign the Brest-Litovsk peace and those who would not. The left socialist-revolutionaries and the anarchists in Russia, like artists, lived only for their ideals, which they would have realized at once or else would perish. The greater part of the Bolsheviks and the hungry masses following Lenin, lived not only for their ideals but for the means to realize them. The former, rather than sign the Brest-Litovsk peace, renounced all claim to participation in the government and resorted to acts of individual terror in the hopes of striking fear into the breasts of the tyrants. The latter, recoiled, poor miasm eater, fostered their forces till the day came when they knew they could strike.

The Prussian warlords, not because they wanted to, but because they had to, gave a breathing space to the Russian Revolution. For they were engaged in playing their last card in a terrific onslaught on France. Revolutionary Russia is accused of being responsible for this onslaught, but I submit that its tactics did more than anything else to break the power of Prussian militarism. The very fact that the politically non-conscious elements of the German people got a taste of peace on East front, broke their will to war. "If we can have peace with Russia," their mind instinctively argued, "why can we not have it also with the Allies?" But month after month went by and they began to see that the German army must either conquer the world or else make a compromise peace. They knew they could not do the former, because of America; their own warlords would act in a terrible onslaught on them, and seeing it, their spirit of rebellion against the war rose ever stronger. The German towns began to fill with deserters, workers struck, discipline collapsed, and with it the army. And the Russian revolutionaries knew how to make use of this new psychology in the German people's mind. The peace on the East front was made use of to flood the Ukraine with Bolshevik agents, who spread revolutionary literature broadcast and who, within a few months, had turned the Kaiser's glorious "Heer im Osten" into a little better than a hybrid between a rabble and a revolutionary committee. At Joffa, while playing at diplomacy with the Kaiser's Ministers was distributing pamphlets right and left, calling upon the German proletariat to overthrow their tyrants. The fear and hatred in which the propped classes of Germany held Bolshevik Russia can be seen by the fact that at the moment of writing, Russian Bolsheviks are now playing in German prisons, are hunted like hares, and murdered by the armed hooligans of the Ebert-Scheidemann-Noske government of "socialist" Germany. I ask an unprejudiced observer: Does this look as if the Bolsheviks are the agents of German Imperialism? (To be Continued)

Youngstown Picnic Bands Press Fund Another Notch. Still Climbing Up, UP!

Figuring big in this week's press fund receipts is a \$100.00 remittance from Local Youngstown, O. A special picnic was pulled off there for the press fund. It was a huge success and no end of high praise is due to the comrades for their more than generous help in securing the necessary \$5585 to get our own printing plant.

You were fooled last week if you thought a little slump in press fund receipts indicated a falling off in the enthusiastic support which heretofore has marked the steady stride of our comrades toward the goal of success—\$10,000, for a press and printing plant for the Ohio Socialist.

We were under no such delusion ourselves. We know too well the spirit which is flourishing among the comrades who read the O. R. That we interpreted this spirit aright when we declared that the time had come for the Socialist Party to own its own printing plant is being vindicated with each day's mail delivery.

To interpret the spirit of the workers, to help that spirit to become a ruling element in their lives—that is to make the worker's cause triumphant. That alone is the key to success in the revolution.

We are moving steadily toward our goal. This week receipts bring the total paid into the fund and to put it to work in the interests of the workers above the \$8,000 mark. The coming week should bring it to at least \$9,000. And also we must not forget that there are many comrades who have pledged a dollar weekly or monthly for various lengths of time, many until the press is paid for. Then too, there is the \$1,000 pledged by comrade Brown, of Gallon, O.

And it might be well to remind ourselves that the conditions of comrade Brown's offer was that the comrades should raise their \$8,000 before election day in November. Surely it is a time enough. In Ohio alone

we have nearly that many Party members. It should be an easy task for us to get this amount together before November.

Of course there are many calls upon the slim purse of the worker. But enthusiasm for our revolutionary cause makes slim purses cover many necessities. The spirit of our comrades and readers are not to be dampened by the high cost of present day existence.

Upon every hand we can see the revolution growing toward success. Yes, even in America. The revolution speeds on its course nor can any of the

obstructions of capitalism stop its onward march.

Several generous contributions to the press fund this week will surely revive the drooping spirits of any comrades who may have felt a bit downcast since viewing the total for last week. No cause for anxiety, we assure you. The higher grows the mountain, the greater is the goal, and the greater should be the enthusiasm for our own press and printing plant.

Below are the names of the donors to the press fund during the last week. Cheer up, we mean to duplicate this week's receipts many times.

\$1 Column

- Wm. Linky, Bridgeport, O.
- J. O. Hupp, Bridgeport, O.
- William Bradovich, Eastwood, W. Va.
- Barl Madison, Kalamazoo, Mich.
- P. H. Hayward, Kalamazoo, Mich.
- H. T. Anckermann, Kalamazoo, Mich.
- J. A. Darral, Norwood, O.
- Geo. Higger, Hamilton, O.
- S. E. Bachel, Kennersville, O.
- G. G. Disher, Akron, O.
- Wm. Wiklor, Zverett, O.
- H. E. Potts, Akron, O.
- Wm. Meuser, Akron, O.
- Mr. Bert Joseph, Akron, O.
- W. M. Hoffman, Bay Village, O.
- Joe Karabas, Eastwood, W. Va.
- W. W. Sprigg, Weston, W. Va.

- T. J. McKenna, Marietta, O.
- M. Williams, Marietta, O.
- G. W. Pezans, Marietta, O.
- L. W. Joyce, Marietta, O.
- Frank Barnes, Marietta, O.
- F. J. Ash, Marietta, O.
- A. H. Hart, Marietta, O.
- A. O. Sobok, Marietta, O.
- N. A. White, Marietta, O.
- Geo. A. Streok, Lorain, O.
- Frank Hayes, Lorain, O.
- Frank Schuster, Cincinnati, O.
- H. C. Schaeffer, Dayton, O.
- W. J. Krawtch, Dayton, O.
- August Kawaly, Nefis, O. Soc.
- John McHenry, Nefis, O.
- Margaret & Edward Grassy, Seattle, Wash.

- W. H. Kruel, St. Marys, O.
- Wm. Votreich, St. Marys, O.
- J. J. Young, St. Marys, O.
- Wm. Numan, Akron, O.
- A. H. Houser, Akron, O.
- Thos. Finkelman, Struthers, O.
- Wm. Nyberg, Youngstown, O.
- Joe Pymack, Struthers, O.
- Earl E. Poeb, Struthers, O.
- Carl A. Brundbeck, Struthers, O.
- Earl E. Swanson, Struthers, O.
- Phil. Hagman, Struthers, O.
- Charles Swanson, Struthers, O.
- Michael Slavsky, Struthers, O.
- John Hagman, Struthers, O.
- David D. Doster, Struthers, O.
- Victor Carless, Struthers, O.
- Albert Johnson, Struthers, O.

- Carl Beck, Struthers, O.
- Cable Lindstrom, Struthers, O.
- Leo Lindstrom, Struthers, O.
- John Papskirk, Struthers, O.
- John H. Struthers, Struthers, O.
- H. Fredericks, Struthers, O.
- Edw. Pearson, Struthers, O.
- Steve Beck, Struthers, O.
- Paul Johnson, Struthers, O.
- Axel Johnson, Struthers, O.
- Ernest Johnson, Struthers, O.
- John H. Struthers, Struthers, O.
- John H. Struthers, Struthers, O.
- John H. Struthers, Struthers, O.
- John H. Struthers, Struthers, O.

- \$2 Column
- J. M. Diener, Akron, O.
- C. A. Hunt, Akron, O.
- M. W. Hicks, Akron, O.
- Frank Centiver, Troy, Ohio.
- John B. Naugh, Girard, O.

- R. J. Rehner, Kalamazoo, Mich.
- George Market, Mt. Healthy, O.
- John H. Struthers, O.
- Oscar Bloomberg, Struthers, O.
- John H. Struthers, O.
- John H. Struthers, O.
- Frank Janovich, Akron, O.

- \$5 Column
- S. Shuter, Lorain, O.
- A. F. Parsons, New Lexington, O.
- A. R. 000.
- A. C. Cantner.
- George Branch S. P. of Hamilton, O.

- \$10 Column
- Repeaters Club, Akron, O.
- R. R. Cole, Marietta, O.

11th Ward Branch Socialist Party of Cincinnati

\$25 Column

- R. R. Smith, Warren, O.
- Scandinavian Branch S. P. Youngstown \$20.00
- Donors names listed below.

Pledge Column

Nary a pledge this week. Something radically wrong.

How We Grow

May press fund receipts.....	\$129.00
June receipts.....	226.25
July receipts.....	1207.65
Week of Aug. 7th.....	186.00
Week of Aug. 14th.....	292.00
Week of Aug. 21st.....	477.00
Total to Aug. 21st.....	\$3253.95

Don't Throw this Paper Away. Pass it on to a Worker. Help Socialism Grow.