

SOCIALIST COLUMN

EDITED BY LOUIS COHEN. Through the courtesy of The Commercial this column, until further notice, will be edited by a member of the Socialist Party...



HOW THEY DO IT IN BELGIUM.

"Socialism will never work. The workers haven't got the brains and the capitalists have all the executive ability."

That's what we hear whenever we talk to plutocrats or business men about Socialism. This sentiment is amply refuted however, wherever the Socialist movement is old enough to have developed a large membership and wise statesmanship.

The Movement in Belgium is one that the Socialists of the world are justly proud of. There the workers closely allied in their political and industrial movements, have established co-operative industries, stores, theatres and other enterprises that are the everlasting envy of the "brazen capitalists".

The Socialists gave a fine example of what time and organization of the workers under their leadership will accomplish, in the recent general strike in Belgium. In this battle of "folded arms, but not raised fists," a half million workers were on strike for ten days with practically no disturbance and with the display of the utmost system and executive ability...

These workers do not have the cunning sort of brains, that the exploiters have, but when it comes to effective organization and executive ability, they certainly can give lessons to the beneficiaries of our present helter-skelter, unscientific capitalist system.

SOCIALIST POSITION REGARDING FARMERS.

Owing to certain misrepresentations that are now being made regarding the Socialist position, on the farmers' question, we reprint here in full, the farmers' programme adopted by the Socialist party in the recent national convention and affirmed by the party membership.

1. The Socialist party demands that the means of transportation and storage and the plants used in the manufacture of farm products and farm machinery when such means are used for exploitation, shall be socially owned and democratically managed.

2. To prevent the holding of land but of use and to eliminate tenantry, we demand that all farm land not cultivated by owners shall be taxed at its full rental value and that actual use and occupancy shall be the only title to land.

3. We demand the reputation by the national, State and local governing bodies of all land owned by them and the continuous acquisition of other land to be organized as rapidly as possible into socially operated farms for the conduct of collective agricultural enterprises.

4. Such farms should constitute educational and experimental centers for crop culture, the use of fertilizers and farm machinery and distributing points for improved seeds and better breeds of animals.

5. The formation of co-operative associations for agricultural purposes should be encouraged.

6. Insurance against disease of animals and plants, insect pests and natural calamities should be provided by national, State or local governments.

7. We call attention to the fact that the elimination of farm tenantry and the development of socially owned and operated agriculture will open new opportunities to the agricultural wage-worker and to that extent free him from the tyranny of the private employer.

8. The Socialist party pledges its support to the renters and the agricultural wage-workers in their attempts to organize to protect themselves from the aggressions of capitalism and the employers of agriculture.

9. While the above is offered as a general outline for the national agricultural program of the Socialist party, we wish to point out that there are such variations of conditions in the widely separated districts of the United States that to each section and to each State must be left the task of working out the further details of a programme applicable to the peculiar agricultural conditions in their respective State and districts.

COURT NEWS

Orphans' Court Proceedings, Real Estate, Marriage Licences, Etc.

REAL ESTATE.

Table listing court proceedings including real estate, marriage licenses, and executor appointments. Includes names like Albert S. Pugh, Freeman J. Hoffman, George S. Mowry, etc.

MARRIAGE LICENCE.

Table listing marriage license applications with names of couples and their respective towns. Includes Frederick Ernest Walters, Ellen Mae Bowman, etc.

WILLS.

The will of Delilah Younkin, late of Upper Turkeyfoot twp. was probated yesterday. She bequeathed \$300 to her grandson, George Kane. The balance of her estate is left to her son, Washington Younkin.

INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

LESSON FOR MAY 4

JOSEPH INTERPRETS DREAMS.

LESSON TEXT—Gen. 40:9-22. GOLDEN TEXT—"The breath of the Almighty giveth them understanding." Job. 32:8, R. V.

In teaching this lesson we must not overlook the intervening events which are other illustrations of the truthfulness of the biblical narrative in that the sinful failures as well as the successes of families and of chosen individuals are presented.

Joseph began life in Egypt as a serf. Potiphar, who bought him, was the chief marshal of the empire, the lord high executioner. What Joseph's feelings must have been we are left to infer, but we believe he accepted his humiliating position with resignation and resolved to adjust himself to his new environment. Thus it was that Potiphar found in Joseph an honest servant. Joseph served ten years, years of constant promotion, when he encountered the ordeal related in chapter 39.

Crime and Sin. The breaking point had to come when he exclaimed: "How can I do this wickedness and sin against God?" Gen. 39:9. A crime is committed against a man or against society; the same act against God is a sin. Joseph's only safety was in flight (v. 12), to parley would have meant defeat.

So much by way of introduction. The lesson proper divides itself naturally into two divisions: I. The Chief Butler's Dream, vv. 9-15. As we have seen Joseph's purity of life and loyalty to God had brought upon him the bitter hatred of an unprincipled woman (cf. 2 Tim. 8:12), but as we shall see, the sequel was his exaltation. (See Matt. 5:11.) By inference we are led to believe that Potiphar had not altogether believed the story of his wife, else he would have exercised his right as an official, also as a slaveowner, and summarily executed Joseph. But Joseph had one friend from whom he could not be separated. (Jehovah, 39:21.)

In the providence of God two men who stood nearer the King in the discharge of their duties than did Potiphar are brought into close contact with Joseph. It was through one of these men Jacob was afterwards given his opportunity which led to the salvation of many, including those of his own families. (Esther. 6:1, Rom. 8:28, Ps. 76:10.) An Enlightened Age. We cannot of course lay the same emphasis upon dreams today as at the time of Joseph, nor is there need of such revelations from God, for we live in the enlightened age of the Holy Spirit and ever have easy access to the word. But trivial as these dreams may have seemed, God was using them to change the course of history. Verse seven gives us an intimation of this, also a hint of Joseph's heart of compassion and sympathy. Had Joseph been a selfish man, slow to notice the sorrows of others, and still slower to make any endeavor to relieve their suffering, he would have missed the very opportunity God intended to use in the effecting of his escape from prison.

II. The Chief Baker's Dream, vv. 16-23. This dream also was connected with the dreamer's avocation in life and hence along the most natural lines. Again Joseph's cherished conviction produced by his own dreams induces him to offer an interpretation of the baker's dream. Had he lost this conviction due to the circumstances of the hour or questioned the validity of God's revelation or that he was a called man in God's plan, he would not have attempted any interpretation. Again we emphasize the fact that dreams are of a negligible value in this present age. They usually come from poor digestion or else a sinful tendency to worry. They have nothing of the divine about them. (See Eccl. 5:3, Jer. 23:28.) We have a better revelation from God, his word; are we familiar with it? It is foolish for us to put any dependence upon dreams today. Joseph's interpretations which came from God were fulfilled, yet the butler forgets.

The will of the Lesson. For the younger pupils the story tells itself and will hold enthralled attention. For old and young there is the lesson of Joseph's serviceability, he was a "helpful man." Joseph bought up his opportunities and later reaped his reward. Here is the lesson of the forgetfulness of the chief butler. Must we censure him entirely for his ingratitude? Joseph's gift of leadership "was not the occasion that made the man, but the man made the occasion. The lesson of Joseph's faithfulness in the obscurity.

Second National Bank

OF MEYERSDALE, PA.

CHURCH SERVICES.

Methodist Episcopal church service, Rev. G. A. Neid pastor—Services at 10:30 a. m. Sunday school 9:30 a. m. Epworth League at 6:45 p. m. Evening service at 7:30.

Church of the Brethren—Preaching 10:30 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Sunday School, 9:30 a. m. Christian Workers Meeting at 6:30 p. m. Bible Class, Saturday evening, 7:30 p. m. Teacher Training classes meet Monday evening 7 and 8 o'clock, respectively. Sunday School Workers' Meeting, Friday evening, 30th inst., at 7:30.

Evangelical Lutheran church—Rev. J. A. Yount, pastor. Sunday school at 9:30 a. m. Morning service at 10:30. Luther League at 6:45 p. m. Evening service at 7:30. Lenten service every Wednesday evening at 7:30.

Evangelical church, Rev. L. B. Ritzenhouse pastor—Services will be held next Sunday as follows: Sunday school at 2:00 p. m. Preaching by the pastor at 7:30 p. m.

S. S. Philip and James Catholic church, Rev. J. J. Brady, pastor.—Mass next Sunday 8:30 and 10:30 a. m. Vespers and Benediction at 7:30 p. m.

At the A. M. E. Zion church Sunday School at 3:00 p. m. Preaching at 11 a. m. Christian Endeavor at 7:45 p. m.

Christian church services, evening of May 4th. Sermon by new pastor, J. A. Hopkins. Sunday school and Communion services as usual. St. Paul, Wilhelm Reformed church. E. S. Hassler pastor. Holy Communion will be celebrated on Whit Sunday, services beginning at 10 a. m. The usual Preparatory service will be held on Saturday at 2:30 p. m. At this service there will be Baptism of infants and Confirmation and reception of new members. Services will also be held every evening of week preceding. The pastor will have the assistance of the following ministers who will preach the sermons: On Monday evening, Rev. Harvey Hostetter; Tuesday evening, Rev. F. D. Ellenberger; Wednesday evening, Rev. L. P. Young; Thursday evening, Rev. I. S. Munn; Friday evening, Rev. A. M. Schaffner. Next Sunday, regular services will be, Sunday school at 9 a. m and preaching services at 10 a. m. All are invited to these services.

Brethren Church—H. L. Goughnour, pastor.—Preaching services on May 4th at Summit Mills in the morning, Salisbury in the afternoon and Meyersdale in evening. Sunday school and Christian Endeavor at usual hours. Each evening next week there will be special Evangelistic and preparatory services in the Meyersdale church, closing with the Communion services on Sunday evening, May 11. All are invited to these services.

State of Ohio, City of Toledo, Lucas County ss. Frank J. Cheney makes oath that he is senior partner of the firm of F. J. Cheney & Co., doing business in the City of Toledo, County and State aforesaid, and that said firm will pay the sum of ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS for each and every case of catarrh that cannot be cured by the use of Hall's Catarrh Cure.

F. J. CHENEY. Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence, this 6th day of December. (Seal) A. W. GLEASON, Notary Public.

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