

ORD PINCHOT ON THE POWER OF ORGANIZATION

Third of People of United States Are Farmers—At Least One-Third Are Wage-Earners. United, What Power Could Stand Against?

Address Before A. F. of L. Convention, December 20, 1917.

Members and Delegates: I have come before you with my Mr. Cressy, former head of the Grange of Pennsylvania, representing the Federal Board of Organizations, with a membership of as large as your own, a tip of something over two organized farmers, and what to be in the near future, a tip of two and a half million organization was brought particularly for the purpose of organizing the farmers of the United States. It is the duty of the government, particularly in the conduct of the war, to do for the farmer what you would do for the man who works off the farm. You will pardon us if we believe that we care for the earth than any other man. It is the earth that the essential things for the life of our children—clothing, shelter, industry, transportation and all these things that come from the earth. But these are all these things to man, but through the hand of the farmer, it is the farmer who is distributing her most benefits. Now the farmer is not a capitalist, and his average wages may be two or three hundred dollars from his farm and four hundred dollars that he gets for his cash, but what he gets for his product is the product of his labor. What he gets for his work is the product of his tools. The interests of the farmer are the interests of the wage worker. I might seem that the interests of the men who are food consumers and the farmers might clash. The more we study the background, the more we become that the interests of both are one, and that the advantage of the farmer is the advantage of the citizen. You and he belong to the same platform as the citizen. You are the citizen of this country exists

of the water power monopolies. The farmers have been fighting it and I am here to ask among other things, your help in the coming session of Congress to see to it that, when that effort is renewed, there may be standing beside the farmers, who are fighting the fight of the people, organized labor, whose interests are precisely the same in this matter.

That is only one illustration out of hundreds of how the farmer and the wage-earner, standing together for the same things which means good citizenship, a fairer distribution of the profits of toil, clean politics, good government, and, above all, the use of the natural resources of this country, not mainly to make money for the few but for the profit of all the people. I am not here to tell you how in detail this can be done, but I am willing to say to you on behalf of the organized farmers of America, that we extend to you the hand of brotherhood; that we look to you to help us in the things that are good for us and that we stand willing to help you in the things that are good for you. And remember this—if any man tries to tell you that the farmer is responsible for the high cost of living, that the farmer is monopolist, that the farmer is grinding the face of the man who must face fact, remember that the farmer is in exactly the same position you are; remember that where the things the farmer sells has risen 100 per cent, the things the farmer must buy have risen 200 per cent, and more, that it is not the farmer who gets the price you pay for food, mainly, but that at least one-half of that price, and some official figures show 75 per cent of that price goes to the middle man, and the unfair middle man is the enemy of the farmer just exactly as he is the enemy of the consumer. The interests of the two stand together.

Now, as I said to you, the Federal Board of Farm Organizations came into existence particularly to help us in this war. The best blood of our young men and the best blood of our young men is going out into the trenches to make this fight. The food, the ships, the munitions and, above all, the unconquerable will to carry this thing through to a victorious conclusion rests with the farmers and the laboring men. Together these two great bodies hold the fate of this war in their hands just exactly as they hold the prosperity and the welfare of the country in their hands. We come to you at this time, in this great crisis in the country and the world, saying to you that if there are—and I do not say there are—that if there are subjects in which we must differ, let us frankly differ and let it go at that, but that in the vast majority of questions affecting you and affecting us, our interests and your interests are the same. Then, with the will to get together, all that is needed is the simplest machinery, for, if we have been beaten over and over again as the farmers and you have been beaten over and over again in spite of your magnificent achievements, what power is there in this country that can stand against the just demands of the men and women who produce the raw material and the men and women who make up the finished product? One-third of all the people of the United States are farmers; at least one-third are wage-earners. One-third and one-third make two-thirds of the people of the United States. Banded together is there any power and heaven that can stand against the just demands which this two-thirds unite upon?

President Gompers: Mr. Pinchot, who has just now so eloquently and forcefully addressed us, has asked whether some constructive action may result from his suggestions, and the question of the selection of a committee or the authorization of the Executive Council to meet, with like committees or councils of the farmers' organizations might occur for the purpose of formulating some general policy to carry out to a successful conclusion the work and the hopes and the aspirations of both the farmers and the industrial workers. I am placing the matter before the convention and if it is agreeable I will act on the suggestion made by Vice-President Duncan that the matter be referred to the Committee on Organization with the request that they report to this convention before its final adjournment. Delegate Koveloski moved that the matter be referred to the Committee on Organization, they to report to this convention before its final adjournment. (Seconded and carried unanimously.)

The International Union of Steam and Operating Engineers has endorsed plans of its affiliates in British Columbia to secure the eight-hour day. Tacoma, Wash., nurses, through their association, have raised their rate \$5 per week.

FREEDOM OF THE PRESS. (By Albert Rupp.)

We want the freedom of the press; We want the means to think as free men. In these great times of storm and stress We want the right to speak and be men. Let us declare our discontent Whenever laws demand repealing, And let us help our government To know the people's earnest feeling.

We want no censorship of news Which gives us news as information. We want the Truth to guide our views And guard the welfare of our nation. Let us not grope in fearful night For doubts condemned and blunders blinded; But let us walk in wisdom's light, Erect, and hopeful, and broad-minded.

We want the freedom of the press, Achieved by heroes brave in story, And handed down these times to bless, Against the foes that hate our glory. Forced to the clash of war's wild arts, Ringed by the mad world's crisis-fires, Let us have Truth to thrill our hearts, And right to speak our heart's desires.

—Issues and Events.

NOTHING SERIOUS

HIS LIMIT.
A farmer in great need of extra hands at haying time finally asked Si Warren, who was accounted the town fool, if he could help him out. "What'll ye pay?" asked Si. "I'll pay what you're worth," answered the farmer. Si scratched his head a minute, then announced decisively: "I'll be darned if I'll work for that!"—Ex.

HARD TO CONVINCe.
The widow of a German officer presented herself at the office for the purpose of drawing the pension due to her. She handed in the necessary certificate from the mayor of the town in which she lived, to the effect that she was still alive. "This certificate is not correct," said the official in charge. "What's the matter with it?" asked the lady. "It bears the date 'October 21st,'" was the stern reply, and your pension was due on October 15th."

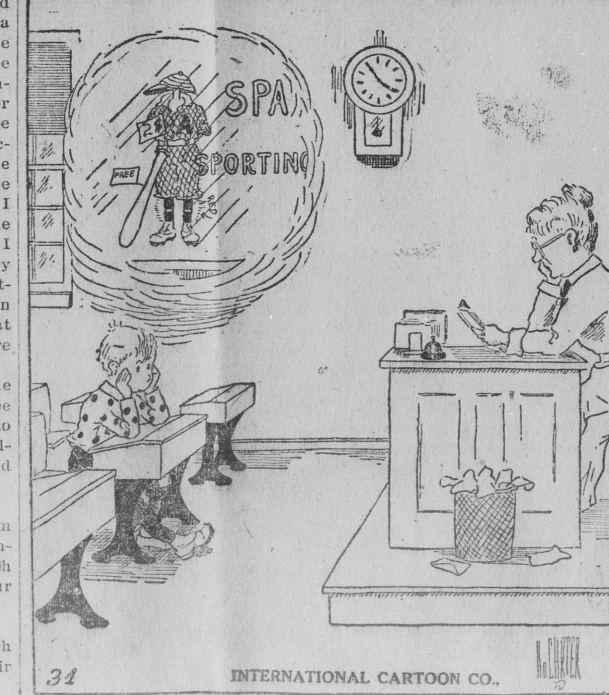
THE OTHER HEAVEN.
"Do you know where the little boys go who don't put their Sunday school money in the plate?" "Yes'm—to the movies."—Ex.

VACUUM THEOLOGY.
A colored Baptist was exhorting. "Now brethren and sisters, come up to de alter an' hab yo' sins washed away." All came but one. "Why Brudder Jones, don't you want yo' sins washed away?" "I done had my sins washed away."

HIS APOLOGY.
The young son of the family, who had been out to amuse at a little friend's house, was asked by his mother on his return whether he had been a good boy. He hesitated a moment, then answered, "Yes." "You don't seem to be very sure about the matter," said his mother. "What did you do?" "Oh, I just spilled my chop in my lap," he replied. "Did you apologize to Mrs. Brown?" "Yes," he nodded. "Tell mother what you said when you apologized." "Oh, excuse me, but that's what I said, Excuse me, but that's what

San Francisco Janitors' Union has started an organizing campaign among women who are being installed in this calling by employers who claim men janitors cannot be secured.

Trade unionists in New York city ask municipal authorities to build modern tenements on land purchased at a cost of \$12,000,000 for a court house. The site is now declared unsuitable.



SOCIALISTS TO RAISE \$1,000,000 FUND

Launch Campaign to Raise Huge Sum to Win Victories in 1918 Congressional Elections—Plan Indorsed By Party's National Executive Committee.

(By J. Louis Engdahl.)

Chicago, Dec. 31.—Plans for launching a campaign to raise a "Million Dollar Fund" for the rapidly approaching campaign year of 1918 were adopted at the meeting of the Socialist Party National Executive Committee just held in Chicago. This will be the big effort of the national Socialist Party in the immediate future.

The fund will not only be used to carry the 1918 congressional campaign, which will be inaugurated at once, but it will also be used in part to finance the defense of Socialists unjustly persecuted by federal authorities, and to carry on the organization work and build up the membership of the party.

Fund Biggest Ever Sought.
This is the biggest fund that the National Socialist Party has ever attempted to raise. That it is within the realm of things possible is shown by the fact that \$60,000 was raised during the recent Hillquit mayoralty campaign in New York City, this money being contributed by Socialists in every part of the country. This was after New York Socialists had contributed \$50,000 to help finance The Call, the New York Socialist daily, and \$75,000 to purchase a home for the Rand School of Social Science, not to mention several other projects that called for the raising of considerable sums of money.

If these sums can be raised in one city it is certain that the national organization can raise a much larger sum to take advantage of the greatest opportunities that ever confronted the Socialist Party of America.

Make Wilson Financial Director.
Oliver C. Wilson, state secretary of Illinois, was elected financial director of the "Million Dollar Fund," with an advisory committee consisting of National Secretary Adolph Germer, J. Louis Engdahl, Otto F. Branstetter, Robert H. Howe and Seymour Stedman. They will carry on their work under the general direction of the National Executive Committee.

All of the National Executive Committee members were present at the meeting that considered and took this action. They were Morris Hillquit, New York City; Victor L. Berger, Milwaukee, Wis.; Seymour Stedman and John Work, Chicago; and Anna A. Maley, Minneapolis, Minn.

Group Weak States in Districts.
In his report to the committee, National Secretary Germer urged that states where the membership is small be grouped in district able to maintain a secretary to devote all of his time to party work. This recommendation was approved and a reasonable amount voted to help establish district offices.

It was decided to ask Scott Near-

ing to write a series of leaflets on suggested topics as follows: "Violation of Constitutional Right," "Suppression of the Press," "Conscription of Wealth," "Labor in War time," and "Scarcity of Necessities of Life." It was voted to issue as a leaflet the statement of Karl Liebknecht to the court that sent him to prison.

Help Appeal O'Hare Case.
The sum of \$250.00 was voted from the Woman's Fund to help prepare the appeal of Kate Richards O'Hare, associate editor of Social Revolution, and chairman of the committee on war and militarism at the St. Louis Convention, who was found guilty and sentenced to five years imprisonment for alleged seditious utterances in a speech at Bowman, North Dakota, last summer.

Fight South Dakota Case.
It was decided to put up a strenuous fight in behalf of William J. Head, Mitchell, South Dakota, sentenced to three years in the federal prison at Leavenworth, Kansas, for circulating a petition to congress asking for the repeal of the constitution law and expressing the opinion that the law was unconstitutional and could not be enforced.

Plans to secure justice in this case were left in the hands of Adolph Germer, party national secretary, and Seymour Stedman, the party's counsel.

Morris Hillquit was asked to represent the committee in behalf of the four Socialists at Albany, N. Y., convicted for distributing "The Price We Pay."

Aid Women's Work in West.
The sum of \$150.00 was voted to carry on special organization work among women in California.

It was also decided to send Ella Reeve Bloor into New York State where the women have just been enfranchised, where she will conduct an organization campaign of at least 60 days.

Anna A. Maley was appointed to arrange for field work among women in co-operation with National Secretary Germer.

Take Over Young People's Magazine.
Plans were made for a conference with Meyer London, the lone Socialist congressman, at the next meeting of the committee. In the meantime Seymour Stedman will confer with London on proposed legislation during the present session of congress.

The Young People's Department in the national office was authorized to take over the Young Socialist Magazine, now published in New York City.

Don't Neglect Children in War, is Plea to America

EUROPE MADE MISTAKE IN ALLOWING LABOR STANDARDS TO DROP.

Washington, Jan. 1.—The increasing necessity for maintaining standards of child welfare during wartime was pointed out today by the children's bureau in a New Year's warning, calling the attention of American citizens to the disastrous effects of exemptions from child labor regulations in foreign countries.

"Foreign experience shows that countries which have permitted special exemptions from child labor standards," the statement says, "have almost with one accord regretted them as both injurious to the children and inefficient as regards industrial results. The immediate penalty has been a swelling stream of child offenders pouring thru the courts."

"Protection of babies and little children and of their mothers—a first essential in wartime to replace the waste of human life on the battlefield—demands local provision for adequate nursing and medical care. Federal protection not being available as yet, the full burden rests with each state and community. Shortage and high prices of milk in many communities also is a matter of grave concern."

WOMEN WORK LONG HOURS IN CHICAGO STOCK YARDS

Washington, D. C.—The heaviest food contracts in the history of the world have been let within recent days to 14 of the great packing houses of the United States. These large orders have necessitated night work as well as the increased employment of woman labor.

Miss Mary MacDowell, director of the university settlement work at the Chicago stockyards, also chairman of the committee on foreign-born women of the advisory commission of the Council of National Defense, found on investigation that many women were accepting employment in the packing houses for night work after their day of labor at home, with the consequence that some of them obtained one hour of sleep in the 24. As a result of her efforts to correct this situation the packers have promised not to employ women with children under 6 years of age for night work.

Ten million working women throughout the United States are asking that they be paid the same wages as men for equal work.

The pious capitalist takes a dollar out of your pocket on Saturday and then puts half of the dollar in the collection plate on Sunday.

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