

The Farmers Journal

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

Vol. 6. No. 46.

ABILENE, TEXAS, WEDNESDAY, MAY 25, 1910.

Weekly, 50c a Year.

ANOTHER BUREAU BULLETIN.

Our government is investigating ways to get along without men and horses. The bureau of Plant Industry has issued Bulletin No. 170, entitled "Traction Plowing." It has examined 300 outfits in which gang plows are drawn by steam and gasoline power, and paints the beauties of traction plowing in colors. One beauty, according to the bulletin, is that "the work can be done with a smaller force of men." Another is that "fewer horses have to be kept."

Again let us ask you, dear reader opposed to Socialism, what is to become of the men thus made idle by the machines that are owned and operated for private profit? As to the horses thus laid off, let 'em rough it and die—who cares for horses? Men and their families, however, must be taken care of, and it's not the private duty of the machine owners to take care of them. That's why the Socialists insist that the machinery of production shall be publicly owned—in order, you see, that the machine may be a blessing to ALL men and a curse to NO man. Fewer men to do the work, is the capitalist idea. Fewer work hours for all men, is the Socialist idea.

Another question: How are you going to dispose of the larger amount of food and clothing material produced by the machine, if the machine makes men idle, as the government bulletin says, so that they are unable to buy this food and clothing? And where is your market for the enormous yield of horse feed made possible by the machine if, as the bulletin says, the machine does away with horses? But never mind now about the horses—we want to know what's to become of the men and their families made idle by the machines. This is the question that Socialism presses upon our so-called Christian civilization. The president of the United States has answered by exclaiming, "God knows!" That is not the Socialist answer. What is your answer?

An editor who says mean things about another editor, but won't exchange papers with him, is a COWARD.

"Here's a dollar. Extend my sub two years. Hurrah for Hicks and Hickey!"—J. N. Isbell, Newbern, Tenn., Rt. 4.

We erred in crediting to Webster, instead of the Encyclopedia Britannica, the definition that the ethics of Socialism are identical with the ethics of Christianity. But let no Methodist forget that it was Frances E. Willard who said that Socialism is Christianity applied.

From published correspondence in the Breckenridge Democrat between Frank Nelms of Breckenridge and Rev. G. G. Hamilton of Crowell, we see that the latter declines to meet Stanley J. Clark in debate before September or October. "I do not believe," says Rev. Hamilton, "that such discussion is needed in Stephens county any more than it is needed in Foard county."

W. C. Newton of Mattie, Tex., sees some ugly signs in the political firmament. He writes: "Under the Dick military law, making every able-bodied man subject at call to service in the army or navy, and under the law which disfranchises all soldiers, and in view of the urgent call now being made for the names of all able-bodied men, what is there to prevent a general disfranchisement of almost all the voters in any election?"

Wanted—The postoffice address of old Bill Woods, somewhere in Angelina county, Texas.

"Comrade Hickey is sure hitting the plutes some hard ones in The Journal," writes T. E. Tucker of Rice, Tex.

In the opening paragraph of T. A. Hickey's article last week the word impeachment was omitted. It should have read: "Severe critics point out that congress is not likely to act on impeachment."

If the nations may co-operate, as at The Hague, in efforts to prevent war, why may not the nations co-operate in efforts to prevent the robbery of the makers by the takers? Socialism aims at nothing less. It is an international world movement. Study it and get wise. Don't be an ignorant chump.

Among a great many things said in the Crowell paper last week by Methodist Preacher Hamilton, there was one thing that was clean enough to be dragged out from the rest with a pair of tongs. It was this: "There is not one thing in common between Socialism and Populism." How about public ownership of the means of transportation and communication? And how about the initiative and referendum? But Methodist Preacher Hamilton had just received a most flattering personal letter from anti-missionary Tom Watson, and no wonder he couldn't tell the truth.

The Farmers Journal.

J. L. HICKS Editor and Publisher.

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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 months 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.



In the waters of the earth the big fish swallow the little fish. Same way on the lands of the earth. Don't know about the little water fish. They seem to do their best to get out of the way. But the little land fish vote to be swallowed. What sort of a fish are you?

If you have 160 acres more land than you can work, and it is lying idle and doing nobody any good, how could it make you any worse off for some other man to work it and keep all he made on it the rest of his life? But you say you may need it for your children. Well, there isn't enough of it for more than one of your children, to say nothing of your grandchildren, so what is to become of THEM? Suppose every man should hold land out of use for his heirs! Eh? Then suppose NO man could hold land out of use, don't you see there would be plenty of land for everybody's children and grandchildren?

A correspondent asks Tom Watson this question: "Does not the fact that we cannot live without the use of the natural elements imply a natural right to a free use of them?" To which Watson replies, "By no means." And thus does that most rattle-brained and callous-hearted of all public characters affirm that no man has a right to till the ground except as he pays some other man for that right. No right to free breath if it were in another man's power to make him pay for the air. No right to the free sunshine if it could be monopolized. That's Tom Watson, and all the old-time Populists who were Populists from principle, and who have found him out, regret that they ever voted for him for president.

Dallas News 8 months, and Journal 1 year, for \$1.

We can prove that the Populist party—what there would be of it if there were any of it left—is a Roman Catholic party. How? Easy! Tom Watson and the Pope stand together against Socialism. That's the way Watson proves things. Good enough way, isn't it?

W. C. Newton of Mattie, Tex. (Stonewall county), informs us that it is being hinted around in that part of free America that, as the Socialist party virtually does its nominating before the primary election day, as set forth in the Terrell election law, therefore our ticket will be declared illegal if it should become necessary, as in cases of a close vote.

G. S. Tinsley, 1721 Camilla St., Fort Worth, writes: "I see the warning, 'June 8, 1910,' on my Journal. I don't want to miss a single copy, so mark my sub up far enough to cover the dollar herewith inclosed. I take all the Socialist papers, but The Journal is the biggest little thing to it: inches in the whole bunch. With such eye-opening center shots and paralyzing sledge hammer blows as it is delivering, I believe Texas is soon going to make Milwaukee hustle to hold her laurels."

"Dear Mr. Hicks:—Some two weeks ago I sent you 10 cents subscription to The Journal, but have not received a copy yet. Would like to learn the cause of delay and get the paper regularly. Yours resp't." [We guess it's because we don't know who you are. There are numbers of people at Rotan, Tex. Your card is entirely without signature, and we have no record of the 10c. It's fun to keep a big subscription list and do all the other chores besides. Sign name, please.—ED.]

About 9,000 men in Texas voted for Debs at the last election. Safe to say that about 6,000 of them are paying a dollar a year for their county papers, which are either silent or hostile toward Socialism. What could The Journal do in the way of forcing the Debs doctrine into the ears and upon the consciences of Texas voters if it had \$6,000 a year to do things with? In one sense, a least, there is something in the capitalist gibe that Socialists as a class don't practice what they preach.

In the Dallas News of May 20, daily edition, G. B. Harris of Bruceville, Tex., wants to know, you know, what Senator Culberson's views are on the gubernatorial contest, government officials accepting employment from the big corporations, and several other questions which Bailey is required to answer and which Bailey answers. It is very thoughtful, as well as tactful, in Mr. Harris to thus remind the people of Texas that their state has two senators at Washington instead of one.

You can't get time when you have a job—and when you haven't the job you haven't the money—to go back and see the old home you left ten, twenty, thirty or forty years ago. Yet, the steamship companies, with their Lusitanias and Mauritanias, can hardly accommodate all the rich idlers who cross the Atlantic back and forth on voyages of pleasure. And if you accept this situation without protest you are not a good citizen, you are not a good husband, you are not a good father to your children. Pretty plain, but not plain enough.

Send for sub cards.

HOW DOES THIS SET?

Clarence Darrow, the eminent Chicago Socialist, advocates the amalgamation of the white and black races. How does this set with our Comanche county people who think they are Socialists?—Comanche (Tex.) Exponent.

Clarence Darrow is a scientific, philosophic Anarchist, and his special hobby is non-resistance, as may be inferred from the title of one of his books, "Resist Not Evil." He is not a Socialist at all, and is in no sort of sympathy with Socialist propaganda. How does the Exponent "set" with Democrats and Republicans who want to know the truth about Socialism and its advocates? But even if Darrow were a Socialist and advocated such amalgamation, it would all depend on whether he and his sort could outvote the Socialists who prefer white wives and husbands. Are you going to be fool enough to let the Exponent and old Tom Watson make you believe that Socialism means white wives and nigger husbands and white husbands and nigger wives, regardless of what a majority of the husbands and wives may want?

A comrade sends us a copy of his county paper in which a mean and spiteful attack is made upon what the editor of that county paper chooses to call Socialism, and asks us to everlasting go after him. This comrade is paying a dollar a year for that paper, and a lot more to the merchants when he buys goods, so as to enable the merchants to pay for the advertising of those goods in that paper. That's what this comrade is doing for that editor. What is he doing for The Journal? He is not even a subscriber. Yet he wants the editor of The Journal, poor and weak and gaunt from starvation, to meet the fat editor of his county paper, shuck off and put up a Jim Jeffries job on him—for the good of the cause.

If the working class would take a day off and study the one question of wasted labor under capitalism, and how this wasted labor, if sanely applied, would yield wealth to all workers, Socialism would be here the next day.

There will be a mass meeting of Socialists of Stephens county at Breckenridge on the first Monday in June, at the court house, 10 o'clock a. m., to perfect county organization. Hickey will be in Breckenridge at that time.

TOM HICKEY'S COLUMN

(Written for The Journal.)

When the tricky traders of New England unloaded their slaves on the Southland we received a package of woe greater than all the evils inclosed in the fabled box of Pandora. Caste, war, hate, ignorance and human suffering bloomed on the tree of humanity side by side with the sweet magnolia.

Out of the root of the main evil—ignorance—has grown a poisonous weed, to-wit: Superficial, shoddy education. As a result, the school teacher with a second-class certificate; the lawyer with his big parchment and small clientele; the editor with a very weakly weekly, and the stump speaker with a bunch of phrases and a dozen mint juleps, all and sundry, believe that they can settle all the ills of society by ignoring modern industry and the immense changes it has brought in our social, economic and political life.

They try to reason everything from the standpoint of ante-bellum times. They glorify all that is dead; revere the mildewed past; play on the harpsichord and put the grand piano in the attic. Plato is greater than Engels, and Adam Swift is superior to Marx. They place woman on a pedestal in fancy, and in the cotton patch and mill in fact. "Long live the dead and to hell with the living!" is their motto. To them history is a closed book, except where the deeds of brave knights are chronicled. All history is but the record, they believe, of events brought around by great men or the reflex action of institutions. The majestic movement of modern industry is to them but a passing phase brought on by the

greed of a decadent plutocracy. They are the teachers of the south—these Tom Watsons and Tom Dixons. For them the apple blossoms have not yet bloomed in Appomattox.

Take Watson, for instance. He writes a History of Napoleon and seeks to interpret the motives and deeds of the great Corsican and his time while daily he shows us that he cannot comprehend the motives, deeds and actions occurring under his nose in Thomson, Ga. The last drops of the life blood of the once powerful Populist movement is ebbing through his fingers, and he knows not why.

The day Watson was nominated for vice president in St. Louis, now fourteen years ago, I stood in another convention, in New York. It was the national convention of the Socialist Labor party. We were but a handful. The thunders of that tremendous campaign were rumbling in our ears. We could scarce make our voices heard in the din. I helped a year earlier to escort some Pops out into the night who had come to us with words of fusion on their lips. "You are but a handful," they cried. "We are right, and that is enough. Your numbers will wither away like Napoleon's army from Moscow, when caught in the frosts of capitalism," we said. And history records that we were right. We nominated Matchett and Maguire. We Socialists fought them all in 1896. And in the closing weeks of that great campaign, when the whole nation seemed like a marching army, we stood our ground, although we mustered but 37,000 votes on election day. And now that things have changed the question arises, Why were a small handful

of Socialists able to take the right position in 1896, and Watson and his Pops compelled to take the wrong one? Simple, indeed, is the answer. We understood history, they did not; we understood the trend of modern industry, they did not. We hailed the trust as an evidence of advancing civilization, they would break it up and turn back the hands on the clock of progress. We understood the class war, they denied it. The iron logic of events showed that we were right. Hence the splendid growth of Socialism, throwing its fragrance over humanity, while Watson and the Populists are standing under the willows of despair.

So the years went on and the Socialist movement grew, slowly and steadily, like the advancing tides. And every upward move of our party showed a corresponding drop in the Watson-Pop ranks, until now we can capture a great city like Milwaukee, while the Populist party resembles a Missouri mule, with neither pride of ancestry nor hope of posterity. Worse than that; galvanized into life each four years by Republican gold, it is the political cucold of American politics.

T. A. HICKEY.

P. S.—Next week I shall have a little more to say on history and Tom Watson.

T. A. H.

County Secretary W. A. Headrick of Campbell, Hunt county, says that their mass meeting was a tremendous success. Full county ticket submitted for action by locals, and a rousing campaign during June. Many new members being added to locals. He also wants to know when his sub will be out, as he is afraid he might miss one. (You are four months ahead, Headrick.)

FROM STATE HEADQUARTERS

Reported by E. R. Meitzen, State Secretary, Hallettsville, Tex.

(Up to the time of closing the forms no matter from the state office for this issue had been received. We regret this exceedingly, and would repeat our request that comrades all over Texas be prompt in sending us items of party news for publication.—EDITOR.)

BUSINESS MATTERS.

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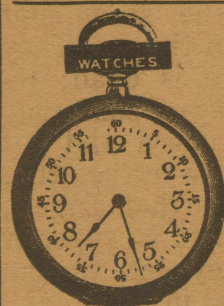
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Look!!

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Mention this paper in answering ads.

W. S. Wallace of Austin, Tex., suggests to us that, as Tom Watson and the Pope of Rome are both bitterly opposed to Socialism, Tom and the Pope should get together and co-operate.

SAME SLAVERY, IN DIFFERENT FORM.

In his lecture at Berlin on "The World Movement" Roosevelt said:

"The only previous civilization with which our modern civilization can in any way be compared is that period of Graeco-Roman civilization extending, say, from the Athens of Themistocles to the Rome of Marcus Aurelius. Many of the forces and tendencies which were then at work are at work now. Knowledge, luxury and refinement, wide material conquests, territorial administration on a vast scale, an increase in the mastery of mechanical appliances and in applied science—all these mark our civilization as they marked the wonderful civilization that flourished in the Mediterranean lands twenty centuries ago; and they preceded the downfall of the older civilization. Yet the differences are many, and some of them are quite as striking as the similarities. The single fact that the old civilization was based upon slavery shows the chasm that separates the two."

Roosevelt speaks either blindly or dishonestly when he says that modern civilization is not based upon slavery. The collapse of the old civilizations was marked by the centralization of wealth and the means of producing wealth in a few hands. That identical condition exists today, and it means slavery for the many now, just as it did then. No chasm between the old civilizations and the new in point of slavery. But here is the dissimilarity that Roosevelt might have pointed out: The slaves then had no voice nor vote, and their only means of protest was physical revolt. The slaves today have the ballot, and can free themselves in a peaceful manner, without violence, if they will. It's slavery just the same, but the slaves of this civilization have a way out of it that the slaves of former civilizations had not. God grant they may choose wisely!

Candidate Poindexter says that "it is what a man is, not what he has, that makes him." Makes him what? Makes him popular and secure against poverty and want? It is what a man HAS that does that little stunt, Judge; not what he IS. It ought to be so that what a man HAS is in proportion to what he IS, along the lines of industry, honor and integrity; but is it so? Can it ever be so under the present forms of political and industrial organization?

You say that Socialism is unjust and unfair because some men are trifling and won't work industriously, but you don't show us wherein the unfairness consists. How and in what way does Socialism offer such men any more or any less than is coming to them? Stand up, please, and tell The Journal why a lazy cuss shouldn't have all he makes when he DOES work.