

The Farmers Journal

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

Vol. 6. No. 48.

ABILENE, TEXAS, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8, 1910.

Weekly, 50c a Year.

WHICH SHALL IT BE?

The Review would like to know what the state gained by the eviction of the Waters-Pierce Oil Company from Texas. In what way has it benefited the common people? Has the price of kerosene, gasoline, or any of the other products sold by that company been lowered any? Not one whit. Then why all this rot about the trusts "grinding down the people." It looks to us like a scheme for some man to slide into office.—Cross Plains (Tex.) Review.

You may be right about that scheme, and we guess you are. Yet, that does not alter the fact that through private ownership of the oil supply which labor has developed, the private owners have amassed wealth so inconceivably great that congress is now called on to supervise the giving of it away, on the plan spoken of as the "Rockefeller Foundation." If there is nothing wrong about such wealth flowing to men who do not work to produce it, then there is nothing wrong about private ownership and monopoly of the natural resources of the earth. If such private ownership is not to be disturbed, the greenest boy at the forks of the creek ought to see that the mass of the people will soon be owned bodily and outright by a few. It is a question of whether the whole people shall assume ownership and control of the natural resources and the means of bringing wealth therefrom, or else be owned and controlled by the very few owners of these things. Which shall it be? Since regulation of the owners is such a dead failure, the people themselves must become the owners.

National Secretary Barnes, in a letter to the secretary of Abilene Socialist Local, says that the national platform of the Socialist party, with the new land plank adopted by referendum vote about a year ago, will be ready within a month for distribution, at \$1.50 per thousand. Every voter in America ought to read it.

In all his prison investigations Rev. S. P. Benbrook, state superintendent for the National Prison Association, says he has never yet found a Socialist in the penitentiary of any state. How does such a bunch stay out?

A Warning.

To The Journal.

State Chairman Storey of the Democratic party of Texas has issued the following order to the county chairmen of his party:

"You are instructed to inform all presiding officers of election to use every effort to keep Republicans and others not Democrats out of the Democratic primaries on July 23. When there is any reasonable question as to a man's Democracy, presiding officers should challenge and administer to him, UNDER OATH, the party test printed at the head of the official ballot. A list should be kept of all such challenged and sworn voters."

Now, Mr. Near-Socialist, you who hanker to go into the Democratic primaries, "just to aid some friend," read the above again and realize the trap that is set for the likes of you. A Socialist, or any person not a Democrat, has no moral or legal right to vote in the Democratic primaries. Sabe? If you are made to swear verbally that you will support the Democratic nominees, and you should vote for Socialists instead, you will be guilty of perjury.

E. R. MEITZEN,
State Sec. Socialist Party.
Hallettsville, Tex.

Good list of subs from H. Johnson of Wichita, Kan.—the Appeal's state. But the Appeal will be glad of it. Socialists are that sort. And by the way, you want to secure the Appeal of June 25, 1910—No. 760. In that issue Thos. A. Hickey will show up Roosevelt, "America's returning hero," as that monstrous fake has never been shown up. Hickey has the faculty of finding out the inwardness of things, and when he lays them bare, the blindest can see them.

Socialists who are reading after Hickey in The Journal are calling for Hickey to come to their neighborhoods.

Robt. G. Martin sends a list of subs from Haskell county, where he has been doing good work organizing and reorganizing.

The Fort Worth Record quotes an exchange as saying: "We wonder how many Texas boys realize that land is going fast." Going where? Please tell us. We want to go there, too.

A press dispatch from Augusta, Ga., says that Tom Watson has issued a card announcing his return to the Democratic party. To all intents and purposes he has been there ever since plutocracy began to need somebody to make open war on Socialism.

Down to San Angelo the town marshal announces that he's going to shoot the automobile tires full o' holes if the drivers don't stay within the speed limits of eight miles an hour in the business section or fifteen miles in the residence portions. 'Rah for S'nangelo!

"There are too many people in the world trying to earn their bread by the sweat of the brow from other men's faces," says S. L. Neely in the Abilene Reporter. You're right, old boy. And there's another bunch that's entirely too big—those who are yet unwilling that the opportunities to "earn" bread that way shall be closed.

President Taft today proclaimed Socialism as the great problem that confronts the American people; the issue that is soon to come, and that must be skillfully met.—Press Dispatch, from Jackson, Mich., June 4.

T. E. Hinton of Vienna, La., is going to take the field for Socialism after he gets his crop off his hands. He also says he is going to take Vienna off the single wrapper list and send us at least 25 subs before August.

Secretary H. C. Marble, 1108 McFaddin Ave., Beaumont, says their monthly picnic for June will be on the 2nd Sunday, and that they want Tom Hickey to help them in their campaign of organization.

Those whose names were marked off our list last week are missing something warm this week. Will your name come off before next mailing day? In other words, was your paper stamped with the date, "June 8, 1910"?

A. M. Smith, Bee House, Tex., renews and says that Hickey's articles alone are worth twice the subscription price. And the editorial about Bulletin No. 170 on "Traction Plowing," he is passing around among the plowboys, so he writes us.

G. H. Smith of Gallinas, Atascosa county, writes that they need a speaker, literature and information about how to get into the Socialist organization. Lots of 'em in that fix, and they should apply to the state secretary, E. R. Meitzen, Hallettsville, Tex.

C. M. Presley of O'Brien sends \$2 for 1,000 handbills to advertise W. L. Thurman's speaking tour in Haskell county. That's the way to do it. We furnish these handbills, suitably worded, as shown some time back, in big black type on 6x9 white paper, with or without name of speaker, blank lines for writing place and date, at \$2 per 1,000, or \$1 for 500, or 50c for 250, postage

prepaid. We have the type up and cannot make any change except as to speaker's name.

"Please publish the following in next issue of The Journal: The Socialists of Milam county are preparing for their 2nd annual encampment at Rockdale, and ask the comrades of Bell, Falls, Williamson and all other adjoining counties to co-operate in every way possible, especially in the contribution of funds. Last year our encampment cost us \$350; this year we want to raise \$500. We are going to get Debs if possible." — E. A. Green, Rockdale, Tex.

Lee L. Rhodes will begin campaigning in Hunt county June 22, and County Secretary Headrick earnestly asks the co-operation of all the Socialists of the county in the effort to make Comrade Rhodes' speaking tour as effective as possible.

"I believe you possess the ability to publish a much larger sheet, but possibly not the financial ability," writes Chas. A. Bitner, Lock Haven, Pa. You've got the "financial" part of that down exactly right, dearly beloved.

D. F. Riley of Tague, Montague county, writes that the comrades over there will back up those of west Texas in pulling off a two or three days debate between Stanley J. Clark and G. G. Hamilton. Clark is ready whenever the preacher is ready.

An exchange which boasts of a linotype machine, referring to the death of a good citizen, says he was "firty-tight years of age." Wonder if that isn't about how old Ann was?

If cleanliness is next to godliness, there's one preacher in Texas who needs to be "put next."

The Farmers Journal.

J. L. HICKS Editor and Publisher.

Office upstairs, East Side Pine Street, No. 139½.

Entered at the postoffice at Abilene, Tex., as second-class mail matter.

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

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

Weekly, 50c a year; 6 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.



WE WISH THEY'D TRY IT.

A few days ago a dispatch from Fort Smith, Ark., stated that the Southwest Operators Association, owning the coal interests of some half a dozen states in the southwest, had determined and agreed to operate their mines on the open shop principle—that is with utter disregard of labor unionism—from this time on; that they would never surrender to the miners' union, and that the mines would not be operated at all until the miners surrendered.

Situations like this are pleasing to The Journal. If we know our right hand from our left, we wish from the depths of our heart that not only the mine owners, but the land owners and all the other owners would make a Medo-Persian vow that their lands should not be cultivated or their properties or industrial plants operated until labor fell down in abject humility before them and acknowledged their supremacy and its dependence. If no landless farm tenant could rent land for another crop because the owners had decided to let their lands rest; if no factory operative or miner could find a job because all the wheels and belts and cables had stopped for a rest period of indefinite length, then even the local merchants, lawyers, doctors, land agents and other non-producers might be brought to see that an open and continued opportunity to work can be guaranteed ONLY under public ownership of the means of production, and that, while this would be Socialism, and would require that they themselves go to work, it would, as an alternative, beat sitting around and starving to death just to honor and protect the paper titles of the private OWNERS.

If a horse is YOUR horse, it's nobody's business but yours whether you work

him or turn him loose to graze. If the surplus lands rightfully belong to the landlords; if the mines, the factories, the railways and all the great industries rightfully belong to the private companies who hold titles to them, then it's nobody else's business—not even the government's business—what these owners may do with these lands and industries; and for one, The Journal ardently wishes that the owners might, all at the same time, adopt the expedient of stopping all operations entirely and indefinitely, or until labor should get down in the dust before capital and acknowledge its complete subjugation. THAT IS, if labor is going to thus acknowledge its subjugation rather than rise up in its pride and in the strength of the ballot and declare that the private titles, not to wealth but to the means of producing wealth, shall henceforth be public titles.

This would be ushering in the Socialist system, a system under which the ONLY POSSIBLE reason for stopping any industry would be that the people did not need any more of its products, and the "exiting out" of the present system, under which a few owners have the legal and statutory right to close all industries and bring the great masses of mankind face to face with the alternative of submission or starvation.

Oh! how we glory in being a Socialist, in consonance with the immutable moral principles set forth by the Nazarene, and seeking, through sacrifice and suffering, to have those principles applied, as Frances E. Willard said, to industry and government.

To the people of Foard county, Texas, and all other counties in all other states: The Socialist platform, made by the Socialists themselves on referendum vote, says that "the Socialist party is primarily an economic and political movement. It is not concerned with matters of religious belief." And, further, the Socialist party proposes nothing in regard to marriage relations, race equality in private life, or anything of the kind. But the Socialist party DOES propose that the means of producing and distributing wealth shall be publicly owned, so as to prevent the extortion and robbery resulting from individual ownership of such means. Don't let anybody make you believe a lie.

TOM HICKEY'S COLUMN

(Written for The Journal.)

THE REVEREND HAM.

An irresistible force in the form of the Socialist movement met an immovable object in the shape of a 16th century backwoods minister backed up by some real estate sharks, professional bankrupts and brass collared Democrats, and the result was that the good citizens of Foard county, Tex., thought Halley's comet had hit the panhandle region ahead of schedule time. The minister's name is the Reverend Ham.

Now, the package that the Reverend Ham handed the brass collared Democrats was about as large and chunky a piece of green goods as ever a farmer bought when trying to get rich quick on the great white way.

Which fact I shall now prove in so plain a manner that even the aforesaid B. C. Democrats will be able to understand it; and when the Democrats get onto how they were bunked, my only prayer will be that they may wear their sucker marks patiently and—don't, boys; don't ride the Reverend Ham out of town on a rail.

The gentleman's method of buncoing the Democrats was simplicity itself. He took a book written in Germany by a German twenty years ago and proceeded to prove by said book that the Socialists were free lovers. Now, his first trouble with this book was that the man who translated the book, so that it could be read in Foard county, makes one of the most beautifully eloquent defenses of the monogamous or one-man and one-wife marriage that has ever been penned. So the Reverend Ham hid that part from his hearers and thus began to deceive them. The next fact that the Reverend Ham hid is that the gentleman who wrote the book in Germany simply makes a prophecy as to what may happen in the future—a prophecy that the translator of the book and every representative American Socialist laugh at. Green goods No. 2 for the Crowell Dems.

Then the Reverend Ham buncoed his hearers by failing to point out that the German Social Democracy, forming the biggest party in the German Empire, never have, directly or indirectly, in their platforms national or local, indorsed free love. Nor do they do so in their daily or weekly newspapers or their monthly scientific magazines.

And the same is true of the great French Socialist movement with its 76 congressmen. In fact, the Reverend Ham might follow the sun around the earth from Finland to New Zealand, and the same glad truth would be found

that the party on whose banner that same sun never sets is so far from indorsing free love that it is in constant open warfare against the free lovers and white slavers who are bred from the present system, and whose criminal acts are protected by the parties which the Reverend Ham stands for.

Now, if the Reverend Ham was a clean man instead of a common bunco steerer he might have told these people in Crowell, whose confidence he betrayed, that this cry of "free love" was first raised outside the walls of Solomon's temple when that biblical gentleman was hibernating with his 700 concubines, and has been hurled by professional slanderers all down the centuries at the decent men and women who protested against the vices and crimes of the ruling classes. It was cried against the courtly Boveauf in France by Napoleon's courtesans in 1798; against St. Simon in 1816; against the benevolent Owen in 1821; against Horace Greeley, Chas. A. Dana, Nathaniel Hawthorne, the Rev. Phillips Brooks and Wendell Phillips in the 40's. And finally the Greenbackers in Texas in the 70's and the Populists in the 90's had the same load of mud shot at them from the blistering lips of the Reverend Hams of those times. In failing to tell these facts to his hearers the Reverend Ham increased the size of the package he handed his dupes.

Now, to knock the Reverend Ham clean over the ropes I am going to use his own tactics. He takes a book that is not indorsed by the Socialist party (but is written by a Socialist in another country) to attack our movement. I am going to take a book that is written and compiled by a member of the Democratic party to prove that the Democratic party is hostile to preachers and wishes to destroy orthodox religion, because this book deals with preachers of the orthodox, Reverend Ham stamp. The book is called "Crimes of Preachers." The Democratic gentleman who is responsible for it is named McDonald, and lives at 62 Vesey St., New York City.

These are a few of the crimes of the Reverend Free Lovers listed by the Democrats: Abortion; adultery; assault intent to murder; assault to rape; bastardy; beating wife; bigamy; buggery; beating women; elopement; gross immorality; indecent familiarity with women; insulting ladies; incest; kissing servant girl for spiritual welfare; lewdness; lechery; miscegenation with colored women; murder of wife; familiarities with little girls; rape on girl under 15; rape on girls under 12.

I must stop. The record is sickening. The Democrat, however, insists that it is the Methodist ministers who

are in the lead with crimes, and he gives the date, preacher's name, residence and church. Now, then, Mr. Ham, who is breaking up the home?

This Democrat puts it up to you fairly and squarely. Are we, then, to conclude that because a Democrat compiles this book, the Democratic party is smashing the church? That is the logic the Reverend Ham uses against the Socialists. He has invited the logical reply. Now, how do you like the answer, oh! Mr. Ham?

T. A. HICKEY.

P. S.—The price of "Crimes of Preachers" is 35c, and can be secured from the Truth Seeker Company, 62 Vesey St., New York City. I'll have a further review of it next week.

T. A. H.

W. R. Smith, secretary Bowie county: "In spite of bad weather, J. C. Thompson is having wonderful success in his school house campaign. Organized local Carbondale; expects to land an average of two locals per week. The county school house campaigns promise everything toward victory in the near future. Comrade Thompson's method is to give two or three night lectures at one school house and to announce the first night that he will give \$10 to any recognized old partyite to meet him in debate, and sometimes offers a prize to school children for the best essay on Socialism. He says the first meeting is generally poor, but by the second night he has a house full, and by the third night an overflow meeting. He has met several Democratic candidates, and without exception they tell him if they had known the Socialists would put out a ticket, they would not have spent money and time for nomination in the primary."

When it comes to debating with a polecat, the editor of The Journal will ignore the issue and take his out in dodging every time. We like to have the Crowell preacher call us a coward in his challenge. Under certain circumstances we ARE a coward. We also prefer to have him stay as far as he conveniently can on the north side of us when the wind is from the south. We believe The Journal would be held up in the mails if it contained language as unspeakably nauseating as the Crowell minister puts into the Foard county paper. A polecat is a cologne bottle in comparison with such talk.

Business Mention.

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"Those northern men who are coming into Texas and buying good land at present low prices display profound wisdom. Young Texans who overlook the opportunity to do likewise will owe an explanation to their children," says Southwestern Farmer, Houston, Tex. Young Texans who overlook the present opportunity to go to the ballot box and cast their first votes to overthrow land monopoly and make land free to the users thereof, will owe their children much more than an explanation.

"I will be 60 years old on the 2nd of November next, and I pray the Lord to spare my life until I can see Socialism in full force all over the world. Find 50c for renewal; must have the little Journal."—E. W. Brewer, London, Tex.

For ONE DOLLAR you can get the Dallas Semi-Weekly Farm News for EIGHT MONTHS, and the Farmers Journal for ONE YEAR, if you will send us the dollar before July 31, 1910, and mention this offer.

The first thing Smart Alex wants to know about any new doctrine is, Who's back of it? The doctrine cuts no ice.

The Fort Worth Record, one of the leading Bailey-dailies of the state, ran the national Socialist platform recently in 26½-em measure, with serious comments the same width, and some longer.

If some farmer will cite us to just one article in general use that he has to buy, and that is not turned out of factories owned and controlled by silk-hatted trust magnates, then we'll admit that there is one farmer among many millions who can give one little shadow of a reason why he should vote an old party ticket.

Rev. G. G. Hamilton of Crowell, Tex., offers the editor of The Journal two columns per week in the Foard County News to discuss Socialism with him. He states the offer in language too vile and nasty to be repeated in a clean paper, such as The Journal tries to be. We might accept, however, on this condition: that a committee of three, fairly chosen, shall censor each man's article each week before putting it in type, and rule that the discussion shall be confined to Socialism and not to Socialists, and that no offensive personalities or filthy or unclean language shall be admitted. Hamilton, of course, cannot comply with this condition, so we don't suppose there will be any discussion.

The Banner, of Trent, Tex., copies our paragraph about God's honest old man who couldn't see through the Terrell election law, and puts this head over it: "Sample of Socialistic Intelligence." Maybe the Banner editor can find two of God's honest lawyers in the Democratic party (Oh, pardon the assumption!) who agree as to all the important provisions and requirements of that Democratic party measure. If so, he ought to be able to get a fat job close up to the Democratic attorney general of Texas. In the language of Tom Watson (beg pardon again) we "JUST DARE" the Banner to find out and publish the number of opinions, decisions and rulings on the Terrell election law sent out from the attorney general's office since that law was enacted. Do this, and show us a few samples of Democratic intelligence, won't you, please?