

The Farmers Journal

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

Vol. 7. No. 7.

ABILENE, TEXAS, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 24, 1910.

Weekly, 50c a Year.

WILL THE CHURCH VOTE FOR THE SALOON?

Young people and many old people look to the ministers and the occupants of the amen corners and those who keep up the Wednesday night prayer meetings to set an example of straightforward, undeviating integrity.

The ministers and others just mentioned insisted before the July primary that a vote for Colquitt was a vote for the saloons, and that no man with a full knowledge of this could vote for Colquitt and be morally clean.

Question: Does not a vote for Colquitt mean precisely the same since the primary as on the day of the primary? If not, then what circumstance has wrought a difference in the meaning of the vote?

Has Colquitt changed? Has he said one word since July 23 that would indicate a less friendly attitude toward the saloons than that which he maintained all through his ante-primary campaign?

Seriously, friends, very seriously, have we not fallen upon calamitous times when the people whom all others look up to as the best people, the salt of the earth, the saints of the Most High, are so enmeshed and entangled that they must choose between breaking a pledge on the one hand, or on the other hand participating next fall in a sort of political Saturnalia, and with their own hands helping to place the crown of authority and power upon the bloody brow of Bacchus?

We don't blame any person for getting all he can by the rules that are recognized as legal under the capitalist system. No man can overthrow the system—it takes all his strength and cunning to keep the system from overthrowing him. But when he votes to perpetuate this system and fasten it upon future generations after he has had a glimpse at its iniquity, its infamy, its atrocity, and learned that it is a tragedy from beginning to end—when he votes thus for darkness after seeing the light, his sin is unpardonable.

State Ticket and Platform, Socialist Party of Texas.

The ticket had been nominated and the platform adopted by the referendum vote of the members of the Socialist party of Texas, but in order to comply with the dictatorial primary election law a convention was held at Corpus Christi August 9, which went through the motions of ratifying:

The State Ticket.

Governor, Reddin Andrews, of Tyler.
Lieutenant governor, P. G. Zimmerman, of Anson.

Comptroller, E. R. Meitzen, Hallettsville.

Land Commissioner, Alfred Mueller, San Antonio.

Treasurer, W. J. Bell, Tyler.

Attorney general, M. A. Smith, Commerce.

State Superintendent, Mrs. H. A. Fee, San Antonio.

Commissioner of agriculture, M. S. Graham, Leuders.

Railroad Commissioner, J. C. Aschenbeck, Wharton, and Eustace Bellinger, San Antonio.

Associate justice supreme court, S. H. Tucker, Gatesville.

Associate justice court of criminal appeals, G. P. McLester, Nimrod.

The Platform.

The Socialist party of Texas reaffirms its allegiance to the principles of international Socialism as expressed through the National platform of the Socialist party.

Today men, women and children work with complex and wonderfully productive machinery. The driver of the modern locomotive can transport more articles of commerce in one hour than his predecessor of fifty years could in months by means of the overland cart. The wonderful textile machines, attended by children, turn out miles of cloth where the hand loom of the past wove inches. The combined steam header, thrasher and sacker harvest thousands of bushels of grain where the scythe and the flail of the last century harvested none. Whichever way society looks the same advancement in every line of industry is seen. Because of this evolution machinery and its complement—the acquisition of land—the members of society have been separated into classes

—the owners, or non-workers, and the nonowners, or workers. The workers, or the majority, in order to obtain life's necessities must use the land or the machines. But before they can use either they must secure permission of the owner, or the minority. Permission is never granted, only on the condition that the workers surrender a part of their labor's product to the owner. This constitutes the economic basis of society, and can be changed only by making the ownership of the land and machinery collective—that is, by making society the owner, instead of the individual. In order to perpetuate society's present economic foundation, the owner of the land and the machinery must maintain political power. For the workers to change the present economic status, and thereby retain to themselves the full social products of their labor, they must come into possession of the political power.

The Socialist party of Texas has for its object the capture of the political power of this state, and pledges its candidates, on penalty of recall and expulsion from the party, to labor for the economic change as set forth in the above. Therefore it demands—

1. A democratic form of government by constitutional amendment providing for the initiative, referendum and power of recall on a basis of 6, 8, and 15 per cent respectively.

2. The extension of the full right of franchise to women.

3. The abolition of the poll tax as a qualification to the right of ballot, and the simplification of the Terrell election law to a correct and an easy interpretation by the average voter.

4. The unrestricted right of peaceful assembly, free speech and free press. To this end we demand the refusal by the State to cities of charters tending to restrict or abridge this constitutional right.

5. That the State of Texas cease the sale of school or other public lands; that all lands now held by lease shall, on the expiration of said lease, become a part of the public domain, upon payment for all improvements at an appraised valuation.

6. That the state purchase all land sold for taxes in this State, the same to become part of the public domain.

7. That non-resident land owners assess their own land; the State reserving

the right to purchase such land at its assessed value, plus 10 per cent.

8. A graduated land tax on all farm land held for exploitation or speculation.

9. That the State rent to landless farmers unoccupied farm land now in its possession, or hereafter acquired, at the prevailing rate of rent share. As soon as such rent share amounts in the aggregate to a sum equal to one-half the value of the land at the time of application, rent to cease, and the State to issue to such tenant a permanent right of occupancy.

10. That the tools, teams and implements of landless farmers to the amount of \$800 be exempt from taxation.

11. The State ownership of cotton gins, cotton seed oil mills, cotton compresses, warehouses and other utilities in their nature public.

12. The establishment of an eight-hour work day among all day laborers; the passage of sanitary laws and their rigid enforcement in all public works; strict inspection of mills, mines, factories, etc.; abolition of child labor in all wage-paying industries; State fire, life, accident and sick insurance.

13. The immediate and speedy extension of the State Railway, employing free labor at prevailing union wages.

14. Humane and scientific treatment of the inmates of the State penitentiaries, all the value of their labor above an economical cost of maintenance to go to their families or dependents.

15. The erection, by the State, of as many as three sanitaria, to be located equiangularly or as nearly as may be; board and treatment of inmates to be furnished by the State.

16. All physicians and surgeons doing general practice in this State shall be in the employ of the State. To this end we recommend the districting of the counties on a basis of square miles, the distribution of physicians proportional to the population; and the operation, by the State, of a drug dispensary in each such district. The removal of any physician for incompetency to be by majority vote of qualified voters in such district.

17. Free text-books to the scholastic pupils in the public schools, and adequate public maintenance of all destitute and semi-destitute children in this State.

18. That the right of asylum to political refugees shall not be denied in Texas. We condemn the act of some officials in lending aid to foreign tyrants and Pinkerton thugs to have such men extradited or imprisoned.

THAT OLD SPELLER.

The Journal can send you One Dozen (not less) of the original old Webster's Blue Back Spellers for \$2, postpaid: You can easily dispose of them at 25c each and realize \$1 for your trouble.

YES, "OUT OF DATE."

"Mr. Cannon started out with a set of ideas which, probably, were very well suited to the conditions of that time, but which, now, are highly out of date."

That little remark of the Dallas News on Uncle Joe exactly fits ninety-nine out of every hundred of the old party "uncles" living today. With thousands of locomotive each pulling hundreds of tons of freight thirty to fifty miles an hour, these venerable "uncles" harp on "the constitutional laws that we had such good times under in the days of the ox cart." It's a hard job to beat it into their heads that unless each man could have his own train, as each had his own ox cart, laws must be different.

When a man whose heart is right looks upon the seemingly boundless area of tillable land in Texas, and notes the comparatively insignificant amount that is under tillage, and then hears the question, "Why should any son of Adam have to pay land rent?" the only answer he can give is: "Because the devil reigns supreme on this earth, and the church spires with the supporters of land monopoly officiating beneath them are so many jokes."

If one T. A. Hickey should see this paper, and will be taken in some way what he wants done with the letters blowing into this office from Girard, Kan., Houston and Mart, Tex., and other outlying precincts addressed to him, we will try to make such disposition of said mail as he may direct.

J. C. Estlack was elected justice of the peace, and G. J. Cochran constable, on the Socialist ticket at Eunice, N. Mex., August 6, by a majority of four to one. "Can't never win; too weak!"

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 mo., 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.



THE CITIZEN AND THE WATER COMPANY.

For a long and unbroken series of years The Citizen had paid out his good money to the Water Company for water to irrigate the yard trees, shrubbery and flower plants that he and Mrs. Citizen had bought at considerable expense and cared for as their vegetable pets. They never dreamed that the life-giving fluid might some day fail. No, no; the Water Company would see to that. It was The Company's business, anyhow, and it couldn't afford to let the supply fail for want of storage capacity. So Mr. and Mrs. Citizen paid out money to the Water Company year after year, year after year, to keep green and growing the yard vegetation on which their hearts were set.

But Mr. and Mrs. Citizen figured wrong on the supply being never-failing. They found to their surprise that a water corporation most always sometimes has a city corporation handy to make people be good when the weather gets real dry and stays that way till the water is nearly all used up and paid for. The weather did that stunt in 1909; also, by continuous performance, in 1910. And the city corporation came across on schedule and said to all citizens that hereafter, till further advised, they couldn't use The Company's water to irrigate anything at all, whatever it might be, on penalty of having water cut off.

Then the tender flowers began to die, and Mrs. Citizen began to cry. The dry heat continued merciless. The larger shrubbery began to die, then the trees. Money gone, labor gone, flowers and plants and trees gone or going! No extra supply of water—not even a well dug!

One day the mercury in the shade was 'way over 100. What wind was

stirring was like a breath from the Inferno. Mr. Citizen picked up the garden hose. "I am going to sprinkle this old bald spot that used to be the ash pile," said he; "the wind blows dust from it through the doors and windows. And while I'm at it, these poor chickens are nearly dying from heat, so I'll cool them off just a bit."

But a special police was watching, and in a little while Mr. Citizen's water was "cut off." And at last accounts he was hunting for a barrel and arranging with a private water hauler to furnish him the needful.

Seems like it's a crackerjack time for Mr. Citizen to get up on his ear, turn Socialist and swear that he is going to own a citizen's share in a water system, or else make the advocates of capitalist ownership get mighty tired of him.

If, in order to escape the charge of being radical and extreme, we must compromise one iota of the principle that the worker should have ALL that his work creates, and that the idler should have NONE of it, then get your big dictionary and sift out all the words that are in any way allied to the words "radical" and "extreme," and pile them onto us. Frowns and hisses and scorpions for the man who consents that an idle man shall be allowed to appropriate ANY PART of what a working man makes. And rent, interest and profit mean that very thing, everywhere and always. Remedy: Public ownership of the industries.

A friendly critic admits to us that Socialism is the acme of political and industrial reform, but warns us to go slow and not become radical and extreme, as Socialism cannot be rushed. It is astonishing how patient some good people can be while the very flesh of frail women and children is being ground into profits for the rich. We really think the time has come when such patience is not much of a virtue. Far too long have honest people been patient already.

"You had the ear of more people while you were advocating Socialist principles in a non-partisan way than since you espoused the cause of the Socialist party," writes a "conservative" correspondent. Our mailing list tells a different tale—decidedly different.

Theodore Roosevelt,

The Political Dr. Cook.

A Chronological Review of the Political Life of Theodore Roosevelt, as Published in the Appeal to Reason No. 760; to which is added Herron's article in the same issue on "The Threat of Barbarism," followed by Hickey's answer which appeared in the Farmers Journal of July 18, 1910, concluding with the National Socialist Platform of 1908.

BY T. A. HICKEY.

In the above you have the outlines of a pamphlet of about 30 pages of the most revolutionary political stuff ever grouped and put between covers. No man who regards Roosevelt as a real trust buster, enemy of the predatory "interests" and friend of the toiling millions can read this pamphlet without being undeceived. No man who takes the gloomy view of the immediate future held up in Herron's article can read Hickey's answer without experiencing the buoyancy of one who discovers a rift in the dark clouds and in fond anticipation sees by faith the bright skies beyond. No man who reads the National Socialist Platform included in this pamphlet can afterwards be as ignorant of the meaning of the Socialist movement and the purposes of the Socialist party as are three-fourths of the American voters today. The pamphlet was printed in the Appeal office, and that means it was done the Girard way. It is here in The Journal office now, 500 of them to begin with and more coming. You want it; you need it; you must have it. Now, as to

HOW TO GET IT.

Send us 50c for a year's subscription or renewal to the Farmers Journal, and Hickey's Pamphlet goes to you free.

OR,

Send to the Farmers Journal, Abilene, Tex., for pamphlet alone, as follows:

Single copy . . .	10c
Fifty copies . . .	\$4.50
One hundred copies .	8.00

The Terrell election law has simply got the Democrats in Texas all balled up. Under that law Texas will have a governor that a considerable majority even of the Democrats didn't vote for. What a mess it is compared with the genuinely democratic way in which we Socialists do our choosing and electing! As Tom Watson would say, We hope they'll get a bellyful of it.

Hickey's "Dr. Cook's" are selling.

DRASTIC RESOLUTION.

In view of the increasing number of people who are being knocked down and killed or crippled by speeding motor vehicles on the streets of the cities and towns of the United States, be it therefore by said people

Resolved, That we will unite in urging our several city councils to pass ordinances making it unlawful for any person to drive any sort of motor car or vehicle on the business streets more than 73 miles an hour, or on the residence streets more than 96 miles an hour; and that the penalty for violating such ordinance shall be: for the first offense, a fine of 15 cents; for the second and subsequent offenses, a fine of 20 cents and a rebuke from the city newspapers.

When a man finds that he can buy all the ice cream he can wag off with, and rattle the cash down on the counter for it, but can't buy a glass of soda pop BECAUSE IT'S SUNDAY, if he is a rational sort of man he is liable to say to himself: "Such as this makes me go slow on prohibition: I am against the deadly liquor traffic, but the trouble is, the prohibition leaders are responsible for these silly, senseless little old Sunday laws, and if they get a little more rope they will demand a law to make me go to church on Sunday."

Another old-party printshop will henceforth print editorials for those who live by work, and not for those who live by rent, interest and profit. The Bowie County Record, of De Kalb, Tex., has renounced old-partyism and embraced Socialism. No, it can't never succeed!

Are you the Socialist who said this paper was too high, then gave \$1 for 52 weeks of ridicule in county paper?

We wish somebody who is "good in figgers" would tell us just how many more strikes by the workers against the millionaire owners of the street railways, the steam railways, the coal mines and all the other giant industries will have to be paid for by the suffering people before the s. f. will get it into their heads that the cheapest way out of such trouble, and the ONLY way out of such trouble, is to own these industries THEMSELVES?

Some there be who tell us that Socialism is the ideal condition of Society, but that we must approach it step by step—not all of a sudden. Out of every hundred who talk that way at least ninety-nine, if not a few more, are approaching Socialism "step by step" by stepping into the booth and voting the old party tickets. If that's the dose you offer us we are like the sick Irishman when the doctor wanted him to take an emetic (something to make him vomit). "It'sh no use, docthor, no use. I took an emitic thish mornin' an' it wouldn't stay on me stumick at all, at all."

Democrats in Democratic old Texas are asking one another a whole lot of little troublesome questions like this: "If a representative in the legislature doesn't have to vote for submission unless his county or district gave a majority vote for submission in the primary, how is it that I have to vote for Colquitt when my county gave a majority for Poindexter or Johnson or Davidson?" Of all the long drawn out spinning of theories and split-silk dividing of distinctions, that one by the Fort Worth Record the other day trying to answer just such a question was the limit.

When the surface of the earth is parched and baked so that no crop at all is made, then the man who did the work and the merchants and others who "accommodated" him all lose out together. But they who did the "accommodating" have notes to throw in the worker's face next year if he should make a crop. Can the worker throw a note in the face of Mother Earth and collect next year what she failed to compensate him for his labor this year? Some folks couldn't see "inequality" if all the stars in the heavens were assembled so as to spell it out across the sky like an electric sign.

WE STEP ASIDE.

When we announced our intention of getting out a campaign leaflet composed of the state Socialist platform on one side and Socialist county ticket on the other, we did not know that the state office at Hallettsville was going to duplicate our offer.

State Secretary Meitzen owns a printing plant, runs a newspaper and does a job printing business, and is doubtless better prepared than The Journal to supply these campaign leaflets. In view of this fact, and the further fact that he is, by reason of his official position in the party, in close touch with every local in the state and therefore enabled to supply the demand for the leaflet more readily and systematically, we decline to enter the field as a competitor.

Naturally, such literature should issue from the state office; and we know of no reason why Comrade Meitzen's private printing office hasn't as much claim upon the revenue arising from the printing and sale of such literature as any other printing office.

Flood him with orders. We have not seen the leaflet he is getting up, but from his description of it in the Appeal, it is going to be fine campaign material.

Socialist Ticket, Throckmorton County, Texas.

For Sheriff and Tax Collector:
A. J. ALLISON, Lusk, Tex.

For County and District Clerk:
O. B. KING, Throckmorton, Tex.

For Tax Assessor:
W. C. EVANS, Elbert, Tex.

For Commissioner Precinct No. 4:
W. J. ECHOLS, Elbert, Tex.

Teddie has made a start down toward Billie. No doubt about that. The question is, Will he "come back," or will he keep on till he joins Billie at the bottom?

Business Mention.

RATE—ONE CENT a word each insertion, cash with order. Initials, numbers, etc., count as words.

FORTY YEARS

Making "Best Liver Pills." By mail, ten cents a box; six boxes, 50c; fourteen boxes, \$1, postpaid. Try 'em. WM. W. BROWNFIELD, Brentwood, Ark.

G. W. SHERBINO PHYSICIAN.

General Practice. Specialist Chronic Diseases.

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SUB CARDS.

We can send you postal sub cards, ready stamped and addressed for return, for 50c yearlies or 10c 10-weeks subs. Mighty convenient for sub hustlers to have on hand.

"Too Hot to Bother About Millions," was the heading over a press dispatch from New York stating that so many of the directors of the Standard Oil Company were off at summer resorts that that there was no quorum present to act on the dividend which is to be paid out in September, and which will be about six million dollars. "Hot enough for you?"

Theodore Roosevelt, in a letter to Chas. Hall Davis, chairman of the Southern Commercial Congress to be held in Atlanta, says: "You need more people, but like the rest of the country, you need that these people should be of the right sort." When you say "right sort," colonel, do you mean men with money to buy up big bodies of land for poorer men to improve and cultivate on the shares? With all your savage grating of teeth and vehement pounding of desks, colonel, you still have a most ambiguous way sometimes of making your statements.