

# The Farmers Journal

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

Vol. 7. No. 5.

ABILENE, TEXAS, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 10, 1910.

Weekly, 50c a Year.

## TRUST ALL TO OUR REPRESENTATIVES, SAYS THE RECORD.

The Fort Worth Record jumps on the New York Independent because the latter paper leans away over toward Socialism in its veiled advocacy of direct legislation. The gist of the Record's long editorial on the subject is that the people can rule as absolutely through their elected representatives as through themselves, if they choose to do so.

A case in point, friend Record: United States Senator Gore says he was offered \$25,000 for his vote and influence on a certain matter by a party who was privately interested in the matter being adjusted a certain way. Gore did not sell out. But suppose he had? How few there be who wouldn't! Now, the force of all that can be said in favor of representative rule as against direct popular rule depends on the representative being as hard to catch with a bribe as are the people themselves—all of them taken collectively.

If you, Mr. Record, wanted a law enacted that would help you individually while hurting the people at large, wouldn't you deem it easier and safer and less expensive to bribe a few of the people's representatives than to bribe the people themselves? Could you afford to bribe representative law makers if you knew that the law which you wanted for your private benefit might, on petition, be referred to a direct vote of the people and be rejected and all your plans knocked into smithereens?

To trust the most vital interests of this nation to a few men—very human men at that—to guard and protect or barter and sell as they may choose, is old-party representative government.

To fasten the initiative, referendum and recall strings upon those very human men before reposing in them such a sacred trust, is the new proposed Socialist government.

How does the new proposition strike you, knowing as you do that government today is rotten with graft?

## PREACHER SEEKS A BARGAIN.

We heard the other day that an Abilene preacher called somebody aside and said something about like this: "I have a little money to invest, and if you learn of anyone that has to leave here on account of the drouth and has to make a sacrifice on some real estate that may be valuable later on, let me know, please."

Now, in all probability you are expecting us to romp on that preacher. If so, you will get disappointed. He is not responsible for the drouth. He can't take care of all west Texas. Besides, his Bible admonishes him to provide for his own household, and under old-party government he sees that the importance of heeding that particular admonition is pretty paramount, so to speak.

No, sir; we are going to stand by that preacher as long as a majority fight Socialism and free soil.

Do not think that because you have read Hickey's famous write-up of Roosevelt in the Appeal, you will not need it any more. Roosevelt is going to be the dominating force in capitalist government for the next few years, and that dark record of his set forth in Hickey's pamphlet you will need constantly for reference. Besides, you can put up a ten-times gamer fight for Socialism if you have the national platform with you. It's in that pamphlet, and the pamphlet is only 10c—or free with a year's subscription or renewal to The Journal.

## BRYAN AND THE DONKEY.

Bryan's troubles with the long-eared emblem of Democracy began away back yonder when he (Bryan) tried to make him (the donkey) swallow free silver.

Some years later Bryan held out government ownership of railroads to the animal, and escaped with his political life by the narrowest margin.

Not so long ago he came to Texas and tried to cram some sort of tariff dope down the throat of the long-eared, but Bailey interposed and Bryan faded out again like Halley's comet.

Last and foolishlest of all, as if he had lost all the sense he ever had, up in Nebraska the other day he tried to make the animal DRINK WATER!

That was the limit. The show is over and the audience is breaking up.

This from the Baird Star has reference to Dr. Rankin: "In order to assist the Doctor in his dilemma the Baird Colquitt Club on last Wednesday forwarded him a bright new clothes-pin to use on his nose when he goes to vote for Colquitt in November."

## SUBSCRIPTION.

The price of The Journal is 50c a year, with Hickey's pamphlet—"Theodore Roosevelt, the Political Dr. Cook"—thrown in as a free premium.

The price of paper alone for 6 months is 25c; for 10 weeks it is 10c.

The price of The Journal and the Dallas Semi-Weekly Farm News, both one year, is \$1.25; same for Journal and International Socialist Review, a high-class monthly magazine.

The price of The Journal one year and the Appeal to Reason 40 weeks is 75c; same for Journal and National Rip-Saw (monthly), both one year.

# 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.



One of the biggest mercantile firms in west Texas laid off a lot of men on the first because of the drouth. Step and tell Tom Watson that those men were not leaning upon the government for support. They were leaning upon that mercantile firm. And just ask him what they must do to be saved in case nobody else wants to hire them.

"E. W. Groves has bought 62,000 acres of Arkansas land, and announces that he will buy land each year to the value of \$100,000. Earl Carrington of England is buying 2,000 more farms in Illinois, Iowa and Colorado to rent out to the free American jackmules who vote for it to be that way." Take that from Wm. W. Brownfield of Brentwood, Ark.

A Taylor county man who owns a farm and has it worked by renters, but works not a lick himself (and we don't blame him for that as long as a majority of workers vote for such a divide-up system), actually and in dead earnest argued with this editor the other day that HE, and not those renters, pays the taxes on that farm. He admits that the tax money comes out of the rents, but contends that, by virtue of his ownership of the land the rents are HIS OWN, to do with as he pleases. We asked him what might happen if he should not PLEASE to use part of the rents in paying taxes on HIS OWN land. He dodged and tried to take the position that the hard work he did in former years is bearing fruit now in the form of rents, so that it is HE, after all, paying the taxes. We asked him if a mill was ever known to grind with the water that had passed, but he was "sot" in his ideas about the divine rights of landlords.

## Thurman Meets the Enemy.

To The Journal.

I close my work in Clay county tomorrow. I came here to meet O. B. Swink, a blowhard who has challenged comrades for ten debates in this county. At the second tilt Swink swunk up and quit.

We met Saturday. His cry was "Free love," "Infidelity" and "Old Glory." When I unloaded capitalist free love on him and showed from Senate Document 196 that prostitution is grounded in economic robbery, and that "free love" is openly taught in the capitalist state universities from ocean to ocean, he wilted. When I introduced him to his political deity—Jefferson—and to Thomas Paine, he fainted. When I answered his rot about the "red flag" and "Old Glory" by telling him that his party (Democratic) fired on "Old Glory" at Fort Sumpter and caused this country to wade through seas of blood in the effort to tear down "Old Glory" and supplant it with the Confederate emblem, and that recently "Old Glory" was wrapped around a prostitute who danced a highroller for the entertainment of the heads of the American army and navy at Newport, R. I., and that, at the end of the dance, the flag was cast off upon the floor while the nude woman stood before the admiring crowd of capitalist free lovers—then Swink died!

He refused to meet me the next night, although we had agreed on two nights' debate at this place (Blue Grove), and in his next speech said: "I will never meet another Socialist in debate." Thus we get rid of another windbag. He flatly refused to affirm that "the present land system is just and should be continued."

I have met two lawyers

in debate in Clay county, both perfect gentlemen.

W. L. THURMAN.

Blue Grove, Tex., Aug. 2.

## As a Democrat Sees It.

Fort Worth Union Banner.

There is much concern in political circles over the tremendous growth of Socialism in this country, and many are asking the reasons therefor. One need not go far for an answer. Broken election pledges, high cost of living, unfair wages, unfair distribution of wealth, the few big rich and the many very poor—all contribute. In this country, however, Socialism is not the same type as we find in Europe. Here it means an unrest, a dissatisfaction with present conditions, and unless proper laws are made and enforced, unless fair dealings with labor take the place of unfair dealings, we will see this movement grow and grow until it sweeps the country.

There have been irksome delays in getting out the Thurman-Hamilton Debate in pamphlet, but our latest information is that it will be ready for distribution within three or four weeks. Lots of orders waiting, they say.

Sure enough, one man sent money for 100 extra copies of last week's issue on account of Reddin Andrews' picture and the editorial on "Socialism and the Drouth." We had to return his money.

The comrades of Throckmorton county have taken up our offer to print their county ticket in one issue at \$1 per name, and then send them extra copies of that issue at a half cent each.

The cause of Socialism has ridden Comrade Hickey unmercifully of late. You will look in vain for his column in The Journal this week.

## BONDS FOR BREAD.

Taylor county, Texas, of which Abilene is the capital, is now agitated over the question of a \$500,000-bond issue, the money to be used in the building of good roads in the county, outside the city of Abilene.

The county is busted by reason of two crop failures so closely connected that you can't tell where one leaves off and the other begins, and something has to be "did" right away quick, or a few thousand people who can't stay here and are not able to get away will pretty nearly starve to death, and incidentally somebody's real estate will get mighty cheap.

The deep, boggy dust in the roads bears witness to the farmers' great need of better highways; and besides, automobiles run so nicely on smooth, hard gravel. Just now, however, money must be borrowed somehow, and a whole lot of it, or those thousands of people mentioned above won't be able to keep soul and body and Taylor county—all three—together much longer. So we do reckon that the assumption of this enormous indebtedness is justifiable on the ground that a man drowning in dust will grab at anything that's juicy.

But just think of the industrious people of a county thirty miles square down upon their bended knees in the humblest attitude they have ever been taught, begging the bond buyer, perhaps summering in Europe, to open up his heart and his purse and let them live!

Well, under the system that the Socialists are making war on, it's the best we can do; but oh! for the sake of self-respect, if nothing else, let's get up out of the dust of dependence and vote to nationalize and socialize our industries, so that local drouths need not alter maps and move centers of population, and lay whole counties and districts helpless at the gouty feet of the lords of finance who toil not.

We heard one man say to another: "I'm no Socialist, but I don't see how you can say that the taxes on your farm land are paid by you or anyone else except the renters who work your land." That fellow doesn't know himself. He is a Socialist and hasn't found it out. Millions like him. They need The Journal, the Appeal, the Rip-Saw and the Encampment.

## TOO MANY HORSES.

A correspondent writing to the "Questions and Answers" department of the Dallas News says:

I turned my two horses into the pasture last night and after they had gone about 200 yards I distinctly saw four horses instead of two. Please tell me what is the matter with my eyes.

It may be none of The Journal's business, but what time in the night did you get home from the Democratic primary? How came you to linger at the pasture gate until the horses had browsed off 200 yards? Isn't that quite a distance to see horses at night in the dark o' the moon? Did you vote for Colquitt?

### Then Print His Obituary.

To The Journal.

Please send your paper one year to the name given. I inclose two 25c-sub cards to pay for same.

Don't know whether or not it is your intention to sell a year's subscription for a card which cost only 25c (former price), but so far as I am concerned I do not ask it and will not allow it.

The Journal is worth 50c a year. I have always known you could not afford to send it out for less, and I was glad when you advanced the price. It may cause the loss of a few subscribers, but I promise you that I will never be one of the quitters. Whenever my time expires and a renewal is not promptly forthcoming, you are hereby authorized to write and print my obituary.

"Tom Hickey's Column" is fine. R. L. HICKS.

Bainbridge, Ga., Aug. 5.

[When the price was raised from 25c to 50c we announced that sub cards previously sold would be taken back at the old price, but our non-relative name-sake over in Tom Watson's state won't have it that way.—ED.]

Dr. Thurman's report of his debates in Clay county indicates that there's been something doing over there.

## 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 13, 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 state Socialist platform will be ready for publication soon. Then we will make a price on dodgers containing platform on one side and county ticket on the other. Coleman county has already asked for prices.

As we go to press the encampment is in progress over at Leuders. We wanted to go so bad we nearly cried, but had to stay at home and work. 'Tis generally thus.

## RANKIN AND COLQUITT.

So far as we are personally concerned, we expect to vote for Mr. Colquitt in the November election, because we so pledged ourselves in the primary election.

So writes Rev. Dr. G. C. Rankin, editor of the Texas Christian Advocate, which is the official organ of Texas Methodism, also editor of Home and State, official organ of the Texas Anti-Saloon League. The spectacle of this very eminent preacher and religious editor standing arm-in-arm at the ballot box with the element that he has characterized as being in league with the devil, and voting for a man for governor who, as Home and State has assured us, stands committed to the perpetuation of the traffic which we have been told by Home and State drags down and debases and despoils both the home and the state—the spectacle of this man acting thus in order, as he says, to be consistent, is a spectacle that is calculated to make the angels weep if they have any weeping that hasn't been taken up. That's what the doctor gets for not taking the fool Journal's advice and staying out of the Democratic primary. If the liquor traffic is what he says it is, and its promoters what he says they are, he is now in pretty much the same predicament as if he had joined a bunch of bandits, pledged himself to stand by the action of the bunch, and when an opportunity came to show his preference for honesty, decency and morality, had to stick to his pledge and protect the bunch that destroys homes and states.

Have mercy on us, Dr. Rankin, and hush up your big "Home and State" noise unless you are going to vote for the home and the state EVERY TIME YOU VOTE.

The income tax is only a method of recovering for the people a pittance of what has been gobbled up by the sharp business tactics of scheming individuals. There is literally nothing in the income tax to interfere with the gobbling-up process. And therein lies the fatal fallacy of all such old-party propositions.

Under Socialism few laws and fewer lawyers will be needed. No use for cumbersome volumes of railroad laws, supplemented by expensive commissions and litigation with endless costs.

## THIS HURTS.

Sholar, Tex., Aug. 1.

Mr. J. L. Hicks:

Dear Comrade:—We have wrote you several times about speakers, etc., and we have never seen anything in The Journal about them. You have also doubtless received a letter from here in regard to abolishing the dues-paying system, and it was never recognized. All that you have done was to raise the price of your paper. I don't think you will gain anything, for I have heard several say that as soon as their time is out that they was not going to subscribe any more. The local here is as good a band of true-blue Socialists as there is in the state, and Willow Grove Local is hardly ever recognized in anything.

P. M. BLOUNT.

[The Journal has but one subscriber at Sholar, and he is not the writer of the above letter. Several months ago we printed an editorial, rather as a feeler, deploring the fact that so many of the working class are practically barred from membership in the Socialist party because of their inability to pay dues. We received one letter urging us to make war on the "dues system." We received several letters on the opposite side of the question. It looked as if a fruitless wrangle was about to get started, so we printed none of said letters and decided it was best to let the subject drop. As to the price of The Journal, would to God we could send it out at 10c a year! We tried it at 25c until we got to the end of the row and had to raise the price or quit. Please give us credit for doing the best we can.—EDITOR.]

We have sent Hickey's pamphlet to those whose subs came in during the week after making the offer of the Blue Back Speller free with each yearly sub or renewal, which offer we had to withdraw. If anyone is not satisfied with the pamphlet in lieu of the Speller, please write us.

## 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.

If it pays a trust to co-operate, why shouldn't it pay a nation?

## Business Mention.

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

WANTED—Some peaceable, honest, sober, industrious renters. J. B. GAY, Columbus, Tex.

SALESMEN WANTED to look after our interest in Taylor and adjacent counties. Salary or commission. Address THE VICTOR OIL COMPANY, Cleveland, Ohio.

WANTED—Agents in every locality to handle VITONA. Good money can be made with no expense of traveling. You do business at home. No capital needed to start on. Address, VITONA MINERAL COMPANY, Box 1179, Abilene, Texas.

## 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.

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Courses at school or by mail. Nice present for list of names. Catalog free.

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Abilene . . . . . Texas.

## 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.

## Debate at Snyder, Tex., Aug. 20.

"Resolved, That Socialism offers the only true remedy for the present economic ills." M. A. Drinkard will affirm, F. I. Townsend will deny.

"Resolved, That the existing ills complained of can be remedied under the present system." F. I. Townsend will affirm, M. A. Drinkard will deny.

It will be worth a long journey to hear this debate, for both are able men.

## BEAT 'EM INTO PLOWSHARES.

The best safety appliance to use in firing big guns is to string a pair of wires off into the forest and fire them at long range.—Age-Herald, Birmingham, Ala.

Better still. Make farm implements of the guns.—People's Voice, Birmingham, Ala.