

June 21st, 1917.

Mr. Louis P. Lochner,
2 West 13th Street,
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Lochner:

After writing you that long letter yesterday I tried to see if I could get things organized somewhat. Mr. Tucker had to go to the Socialist Party headquarters, and simply said "Go ahead", which is very nice sometimes, but at others leaves one with a load on one's shoulders.

I went very carefully through my list of people who had sent membership cards for the First American Conference, and picked out those at great distances and sent telegrams asking them to come. This morning I received a telegram from Sorenson, who says he will be with us, and wants details. Also one from Congressman Lindbergh, who will be in Chicago tomorrow morning.

Then I set to work to find out a multi-graphing and stuffing company. There is a sense of limitation here and a desire to go slow, and it took considerable work to win them to consenting to this seemingly extra expense, when in the long run it is efficiency that counts.

I stayed until very late last night at the office getting things somewhat in hand. Your letter this morning is very encouraging because I did not have very much in the way of names in other sections of the country.

It will help me a great deal if you can send me the list of organizations of the Emergency Peace Federation or anything else that I can communicate with or send bundles of the Call etc., as we did in New York. As far as I can gather here they haven't a list to bless themselves with, and have no acquaintance with anyone outside of the city, only of course the Socialists, who we have with us anyway.

Under separate cover I am having sent to you proof sheets of the paper I mentioned, which they are calling the People's Council. I made as many corrections as I dared, and I think on the whole it is all right, because they are only going to have 2000 copies to be sold principally to the people who came to their mass meeting.

Mr. Lochner - - - - Page 2.

I wonder if the organizing committee would consent to the proceedings of the First American Conference being used in this way, as a second edition, which could appear for the conference here, or prior to the conference, and then have a close-up to date issue for this conference. I understand that it is being printed at practically cost rates, and this first edition will be a feeler to see if such a paper will be desired by our reading public.

This clipping I am enclosing with the copy letters which I borrowed from you will show you how vicious things can be.

What help can you give me in the way of speakers. So far I have not been able to find out just who they want. Of course they want Dr. Magnus, Hillquit, Nearing, Kiefer and Keasby. As far as I can gather they have no local people to depend upon. They object to Berger, and would not have Harriman if he were here.

In case you did not notice the mark I put on the envelope, wish to say that the envelopes arrived, and just as soon as the printer has the stuffings ready they are to be rushed right off. I am sending out a begging letter, also a special letter for the list that I brought from New York.

This is all I can think of at the moment. If anything comes up I will send a wire or special delivery. The awful thing is that things don't seem to be coming up fast enough to suit me.

Love to all.

Faithfully,

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Mr. Louis Lachner,

June 27, 1917.

from the literature, which, of course, is quite impossible, it would show him to be weak-kneed more than it would us, because we were getting so many men of interest and value to come to us.

I learn that he has had a talk with Alderman Kennedy, and led him to believe the People's Council is to be another political party.

We had another one of those preliminary meetings last night, with Alderman Kennedy as the Chairman. It was worse than all the others in its Socialistic tendency. The meeting was played and paddled in such a way that while we were given a certain amount of credit and notice, the heavy file in the direction of the Socialistic Party was so great that we were lost in the shuffle. Tucker was there, and, of course, quite furious.

Kennedy refused to speak to me after the meeting was over, and some new friends that have come to the Cause, took me home in their automobile, and all expressed regret at the way the meeting was run. They were neutral with regard to the Socialist, but were very hurt at the mean advantage that was taken of us.

Secretary Stedman has called me up on the telephone, and he feels much the same as I do.

There is something to be said on both sides., The Socialists get up the meetings and do

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all the work. Our people do nothing - they scarcely even attend - But my solution to it is we must have chairmen who are non-socialists, and I shall insist upon that, at any future meetings I may attend.

Now, to some of the things that have come along: Scott Nearing, will come for the 7th. Wants his expenses paid from Chautauqua, New York, to Chicago. He can only come for that one day. Maurea will come for both days. His expenses, \$75.00, he expects to be paid.

I have solicited a friend to get in touch with LaFolette, and I have written a letter also in the hope that he will come. If he comes for the Massmeeting, my worries are over.

I understand that Hillquit has to be here for some Socialist meeting.

I have had no reply from Frank Walsh, or Kopelin, J. Weller Long of the Non-Partisan League will come. A farmer, from Indiana, named Dave Dunlop, Chairman of the Farmers Congress will come, together with Keasbey, Ricker, and Laura Hughes, also Sorenson, with any others who may come from New York seem to make a very good list.

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I am seeing Miss Adams tomorrow evening, and will take with me a tentative program of proceedings, and get her to pass on it. She has promised to preside at one of the sessions, and I must find out which one she prefers.

There is a plan in the air to have the Massmeeting at the National League Ball Park. Stedman told me last night that the Grand Stand holds about 18,000 people, with the platform on the home plate, and with a certain kind of a sounding board the speakers can be heard very distinctly. It is not going to cost very much, and it is free for that day. It sounds very unique, and somewhat romantic to have it here.

I sincerely hope that you get this in time for your meeting tomorrow. If anything else comes up I will telegraph you.

Faithfully,

EF:MR

ELIZABETH FREEMAN
PAPERS