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# Missouri Convention

by E. Val Putnam

Unsigned article in *The Missouri Socialist* [St. Louis], vol. 1, no. 40 [Oct. 19, 1901], pg. 1.  
Editor of *The Missouri Socialist* was E. Val Putnam, who presumably wrote this piece.

The boycott inaugurated against the Socialist State Convention by the Citizens' Alliance of Sedalia has not worked as effectively as was expected by the businessmen of that city. In spite of all the pressure brought to bear the local committee of Socialists have succeeded in renting a vacant lot at Fourth and Lamont Streets, near the Court-house, which is in the heart of the city, and a large tent will be pitched there for the convention. Desperate efforts were made by representatives of the Citizens' Alliance to induce the owner of the lot to revoke the permit, but he stood faithfully by his promise.

At the last meeting of the Sedalia Lodge of the Knights of Pythias it was voted to tender the Socialists the use of the KP Hall or the vacant storeroom beneath it. This action was taken without any solicitation on the part of the Socialists. We take off our hats to the KP lodge that is brave enough to stand up for the right of free speech in the face of such odds and every Socialist will honor them for their manly action.

A communication was received by Missouri Socialist this week from the manager of the Sweet Springs Sanitarium, at Sweet Springs, Mo., which is 23 miles from Sedalia, offering the Socialist State Convention the free use of the large auditorium at that place.

The people of Sedalia have their curiosity well aroused by this time, and when the convention and mass meetings are held, it is safe to predict there will be plenty of interested listeners present. A big mass meeting will be held Friday evening, Oct. 18 [1901], at which Comrade Walter Thomas Mills will speak. A challenge has been sent by the Sedalia Branch of the Socialist Party to the Citizens' Alliance, asking them to debate the subject, "Is Socialism the Hot Bed of Anarchy?"

*Edited by Tim Davenport*

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