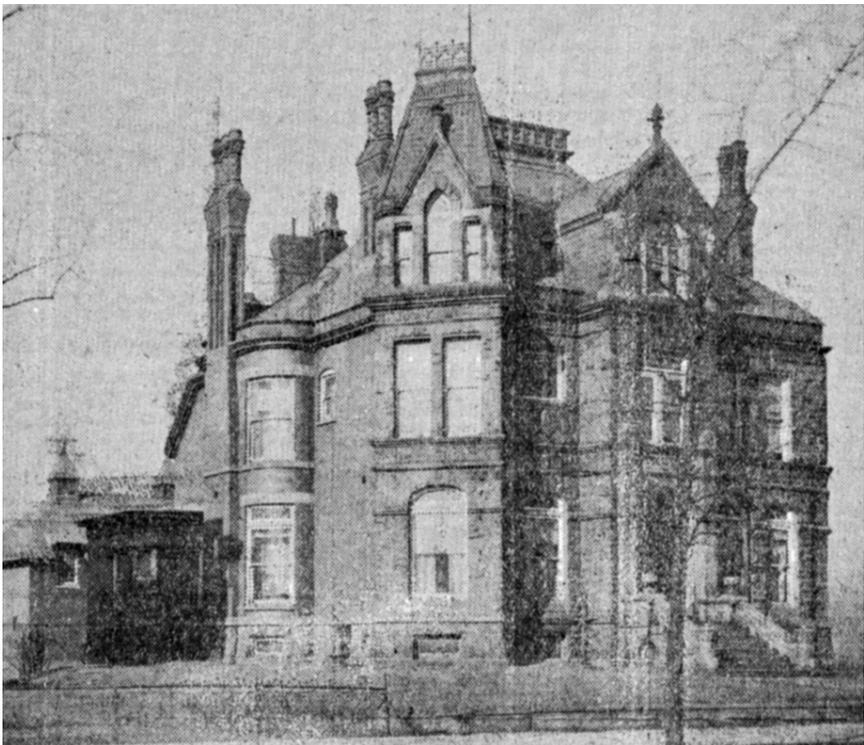

Locals Cooperate to Buy National Headquarters

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Probably never before in its history has the organization machinery of the Socialist Party responded more loyally than in this campaign for a party-owned national headquarters. More than 5,000 local and branch secretaries are now at work, addressing and mailing to members of their respective organizations letters containing an appeal to help purchase a national headquarters for the Socialist Party.

More than 100,000 members are being reached by a direct and personal appeal in letter form. Dollars are already rolling in. "Just the very thing to do," writes a comrade. "Right on top of all this persecution we will show them that we are stronger than ever."



The organization department at national headquarters constitutes a very busy scene. This is especially true on Saturday afternoons, when William F. Kruse and wife captain from 30 to 50 Yipsels in the work necessary for this drive for a \$40,000 headquarters fund. No more devoted party workers can be found than these Chicago members of the Young People's Socialist League, who, in performing this immense amount of work gratis, save our party many dollars.

"I'm with you, comrades." That's the message every member of the party should send to the Department of Organization and Propaganda. *<Apparently a sentence missing here.>* That this effort has failed is proven by the fact that the party is more virile and active today than ever. The purchase of a national headquarters will flaunt in the face of capitalism our determination to grow daily more efficient in our efforts at its abolition.

An investment of at least \$1.00 is asked of every party member. A dollar is, however, by no means the maximum amount members should invest. Many comrades can invest five or ten dollars. Some can invest even more than this. Every member is asked to do his best. Ownership certificates will be issued for all amounts of a dollar or over sent in.

"Let's be as generous with our dollars as Judge [Kenesaw Mountain] Landis was with his years," is the slogan which will carry the headquarters campaign through to success. Sentencing Kruse, [Louis] Engdahl, [Irwin St. John] Tucker, [Victor] Berger, and [Adolph] Germer to 20 years each in the Leavenworth penitentiary will but spur the party membership on to greater efforts; will but make the Socialist Party more formidable and invincible.

Letters Show Support.

Letters from all part of the United States are being addressed to the Department of Organization and Propaganda, Socialist Party, endorsing the move to purchase a headquarters for the national organization.¹ Most emphatic approval is given by Socialists of long party standing and full cooperation is promised at every hand.

¹ According to a brief note in an earlier issue of *The Ohio Socialist*, the Chicago headquarters building — an old mansion located at 220 Ashland Blvd. — featured 17 rooms, including a meeting hall that would seat 200 people. A second building in the rear was projected for use as a print shop.

Eugene V. Debs Says:

“Yes, of course! It should have been done long ago. Enough money has been wasted in rent and otherwise to have furnished us with a clear title to our own national headquarters.

“The present purchase is timely and will, I believe, have the hearty approval and support of the party. The undertaking in itself will inspire confidence and give stability to our movement.

“Let us all rejoin in the purchase and resolve to meet every payment promptly until we hold the clear title to our home and can sit in comfort and security beneath our own vine and fig tree.”

Scott Nearing Says:

“The struggle between the masters and the workers is entering upon its final stage. It is a fight to the end, now, between the exploiters and the exploited. *The time has come for the American workers to stop trading with the enemy.* If they want a newspaper they must own it and support it; if they want a school they must organize it and control it; *if they want a meeting place they must build it. If they want a national headquarters they must buy it.* The workers of Europe learned this lesson a generation ago. It is our turn now.”

Edited with a footnote by Tim Davenport

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