

THE COMMONWEAL

The Official Journal of the SOCIALIST LEAGUE.

[REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD.]

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SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 1889.

WEEKLY; ONE PENNY.

CHICAGO MURDERS & BLOODY SUNDAY.

"Let the voice of the people be heard."—Parsons.

A MEETING to celebrate the Anniversary of above events will be held next Monday evening, November 11th, at 8 p.m., at

SOUTH PLACE INSTITUTE.

The following comrades will speak:—James Blackwell, G. Brocher, F. Feigenbaum, R. B. Cunningham Graham, Frank Kitz, Peter Kropotkin, Wm. Morris, C. W. Mowbray, D. J. Nicoll, John Turner, H. H. Sparling, and Lothrop Withington.

The following resolutions will be submitted to the meeting:—

CHICAGO MARTYRS.

"That this meeting, called together to commemorate the legal murder of four men in Chicago on November 11th, 1887 (Parsons, Spies, Fischer, and Engel), the driving to suicide of another (Lingg) in prison, and the cruel imprisonment of three more (Fielden, Schwab, and Neebe), by the government of the State of Illinois, for the crime of encouraging workmen on strike and helping them to carry on the struggle against their masters, and the further crime of trying to maintain the rights of free speech and public meeting, calls the attention of the workmen of the world to the gradual abrogation of these rights in all capitalistic countries, and while emphatically denouncing the tyrannical interference with these elementary rights, points out that it is a natural and necessary result of a so-called Society based upon the robbery of Labour."

BLOODY SUNDAY.

"That this meeting also denounces the similar attack on free speech and the right of public meeting in London on Sunday, November 13, 1887, through which three men were killed (Linnell, Curwen, and Connell), one (Harrison) so injured that he died after a painful and lingering illness, and many sent to prison after a mere mockery of trial, and it again calls for the immediate and unconditional release of George Harrison, condemned to five years' penal servitude for being present at a political meeting which was ferociously attacked by the police."

Revolutionary songs will be sung during the evening, including the *Marseillaise*, *Carmagnole*, *Linnell's Death Song*, *When the People have their Own Again*, and *Annie Laurie*.

By order of the Committee, H. HALLIDAY SPARLING, Sec.
13, Farringdon Road, E.C.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.

ON AND AFTER MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11th, THE
Editorial and Publishing Offices

OF THE

"COMMONWEAL"

Will be Removed to

24, Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields,
LONDON, W.C.

Exchanges and Correspondents Please Note.

In Memoriam.

Murdered by law, Nov. 11, 1887.

GEORGE ENGEL

ADOLPH FISCHER

ALBERT R. PARSONS

AUGUST SPIES

Killed himself in prison, Nov. 10.

LOUIS LINGG

Imprisoned for life.
SAMUEL FIELDING
MICHAEL SCHWAB

Fifteen years' imprisonment.
OSCAR NEEBE

A DREAM OF THE PAST AND PRESENT.

It was the close of an evening in May of the present year. The damp, uncomfortable crowd had melted away and left the slow rain to fall on the slippery pavements uninterrupted; the dreary square where creaky wagons, meek old horses, slow farmers, and enterprising buyers were wont to throng lay empty and silent as the night closed in, save for the tinkling of tram-car bells and the tread of a lone watchman's feet. In the centre, where the tracks curved apart, leaving an oblong space, a tall object gleamed clearly against the background of dark warehouses and sombre skies; a pile of rocks, and above them a form, a manly form, with uplifted hand and awe-inspiring presence. The sky arched over the uncovered figure for the first time. A vague white shape, like a ghost, had stood there many a night, frightening timid horses and belated wanderers; but now it towered revealed—a policeman rampant on a great block of stone. The night grew heavier and blacker; the rain turned to a thick mist, from which wavering forms seemed to gather; the cars crept into the light of the dim lamps and out again like ghosts of long departed vehicles; the one watchman, excusable under such dismal conditions, sought shelter in a hospitable "all night" retreat; nothing real or living looked upon the motionless form out in the wierd night.

Then, the gathering forms from out the mists seemed to take shape and being. They became more dense and frequent, and hovered about the huge figure, the pedestal and the stone steps. They were more than shadows: they were men—tall, strongly-formed, stern-visaged men, in quaint dress of a hundred years ago. A majestic figure with the familiar face of Washington stood gazing at the statue with wondering, frowning expression; a little lower, Jefferson leaned, staring in perplexed sternness; Benjamin Franklin peered through one rounded hand to read the inscriptions on the base, referring occasionally to a manuscript he held in the other. Patrick Henry stood upright at the foot with folded arms and stern demeanour. The "unknown orator" gazed upon it sadly, while Randolph, Adams, Hancock, Jonathan Parsons, and other patriotic heroes of that time were grouped about. Behind them hovered a shadowy form with a Liberty cap above her brow and a countenance sad and dejected.

The musical voice of Washington broke the silence. "So! this in America after one hundred years! A strange figure to represent a free, prosperous and moral people, and set up for a strange purpose, it seems to me."

"Adams," spoke up Jefferson, quite abruptly, "is this a specimen of that federal army you so determinedly organised against the wishes of the people?"

"It is not," replied Adams, with stately courtesy. "That army was for the defense and dignity of the nation in its relations with other countries; it was not intended as a threat against our own people."

"A State militia was instituted later on—perhaps this is a representative?"

"No, sir; for you will remember the militia consisted of every able-bodied man in the State. All citizens drilled and carried arms. With one comprehensive sweep of your spiritual gaze you can take in the sleeping thousands around us who lack everything that can make life enjoyable; they possess no arms—they dare not. Yet over here is an army and a well-filled arsenal, ready to meet—an invader? a foreign

foe? Ready to spring to the aid of the poor and weak? Ready at the call of the useful portion of society to protect their rights? No, indeed! They go into action only at the command of wealth, when labouring men grow discontented with their poverty. There is no other enemy in the field—none but these disarmed and helpless people who toil. Look farther away, where restlessly sleep thousands of starving workers thrust out of the mines in which they would gladly toil while strength remained. They have laboured all their lives for barely enough to sustain existence, and now they are denied that privilege. They are pitifully hungry and pitifully humble. And yet they are threatened with an armed militia if you 'dare.' The one or two guns that some of them possessed have been 'confiscated'; property rights are sacred only when millions of unearned wealth are considered. Could we have foreseen that such scenes could be possible, either our struggle would have been more deadly and determined, or it would not have been made at all."

"Many believed we had secured the rights of man in that crisis that tried men's souls," said Paine. "But I knew that sooner or later the masses of the people would suffer, when human rights were made of less consideration than property rights. Through such a principle, a class like this became possible," pointing to the statue, which had strangely taken on an intense, a listening expression. "A class coming out from the people themselves, but endowed with extraordinary powers, surrounded by all the possibilities of despotism and every incentive to corruption, whose existence depends on the thriving of vice and crime; which grows on the misery it is supposed to suppress, breathes easily only in an atmosphere of corruption, is unlimited in power, answerable to nothing, responsible to no being on earth or out of it. Does such a class harmonise with a society organised on free and equal principles?"

A queer, hard little voice came from the bronze lips above them: "Now you fellows are having it all your own way, going for us down there. Maybe we've got a word or two to say for our side; and by your leave I'll rest my arm a bit, for it's mighty tired, I tell you."

"Tired commanding peace, when there is no peace," said Patrick Henry.

The statue assumed a more comfortable position, and continued: "Seems to me, you're pretty free in criticising my existence. Now, I know your names—I've heard of you frequently, and you're behind the times. You don't appear to understand I am a necessity of modern civilisation. In me you see represented the whole police force of the State of Illinois—and I'm proud of it. We're a great institution—one of the great institutions we're fond of saying you men founded, and which 'furriners' can't understand. To be sure, none of us were born here, but we know how to protect American liberties; we do it with a club and a dark cell. You fellows lived in a primitive age; we are prospering, enterprising, driving. Property interests are very important, and it is absolutely necessary to preserve law and order."

"Yes," said Paine, "your modern juggernaut drives desperately over the thousand devotees in its track, and you are created to keep the wrecks thus made from clogging the wheels. Of course you are necessary—you must pile the mangled victims out of the way, that the car may go on undisturbed."

"Is tyranny ever necessary?" queried Henry.

"Yes, to enforce a wrong. When good is to be accomplished, the freer the people the better," answered Jefferson.

"I'm afraid you don't appreciate me," said the policeman. "No one is louder in praising the forefathers than we; indeed, we carry on our work in the name of the law and order you established. We go in for 'patriotism' and 'free institutions' heavy. Didn't you see us marching for you, not long ago?"

"We repudiate you," said they all, with one voice. "We made no place for you when we founded a free and equal government. Liberty does not exist where classes are maintained by such as you."

The policeman looked astonished, and nearly toppled over. "Well! you'll admit I represent a worthy object in standing where I do?" he faintly said.

"H'm!" Jefferson began, when Franklin interposed: "I find this inscription in front of the pedestal—'Dedicated by the people of Chicago, May 4, 1889, to the memory of the brave defenders at the riot, May 4, 1886'; and at the back—did this personage address these words to some one behind him I wonder?—is this inscription: 'In the name of the State of Illinois, I command peace!'"

"Knowing the circumstances as we intuitively do," said Washington, with a delicate irony in his voice, "I would ask—was there a riot on the night specified?"

"Why, sir, there was an outdoor meeting—a large crowd of working people and common citizens, and some people were ranting about their 'wrongs,' as they called them—"

"Which looks like making use of the right to meet and state grievances," interrupted Jefferson.

"And there were some loud and bitter ejaculations from the audience when a speaker mentioned that a few workmen had been killed by the police."

"Was there any fighting?"

"No; but their temper—"

"Any attempt at violence?"

"No; but their passions were excited."

"Any direct threats made?"

"No; but they endangered—"

"The privileges of a few despoilers!" interjected Paine.

"The people were dispersing, were they not?" resumed Washington.

"Over one-half were gone; but the rest might have meant mischief."

"When your police marched on them, what were they doing?"

"Standing about and listening to the closing words of a speaker."

"What does the word 'riot' mean here, if this is the case? Never repeat the mockery of the 30th of April in my name while this remains. I refuse to father a country harbouring a lie like that. Erase it."

"By your own showing," said Thomas Paine, seizing the opportunity to speak, "you broke up a peaceable meeting of citizens, met according to constitutional rights to discuss grievances. Twice before in this city you have committed this same outrage and citizens have been clubbed to death. You have violated our most sacred principles. The people ought to resist such attacks; someone believed in the rights we sought to secure to the people when they forcibly repelled your invasion."

"We only did as we were ordered," rather meekly murmured the "representative"

"Willingly enough, I dare say."

"We thought we were putting down a dangerous element."

"You were creating one. Repressed thought will result in an explosion as surely as will confined steam. We used to be sure this country never would suffer from that evil, for freedom of speech was our dearest hope. But you commemorate its death, I fear, instead of keeping in memory the names of a few men who died while blindly obeying the commands of their superior officers. Were that your only object we would not be here. But your existence only perpetuates the memory of an act for which you should forever hang your heads in shame."

"And who are these," asked Washington, "whom you put to death in revenge?"

A thick mist rolled away like a curtain, and disclosed the white robed forms of Parsons, Spies, Fischer, Engel, with bright enraptured faces as they appeared on that last fatal morning; a little farther stood Lingg, beautiful and sad, driven to his death by persecution as surely as the others had been.

"Did these men kill the officers you commemorate?"

"Well, not directly, but their talk might have incited—"

"Their talk was what ours was a hundred years ago," said the old heroes with one voice. "King George would have put us to death if he could; you have killed the forefathers of the new century—the new régime of liberty. But their names will live, as ours have done!"

LIZZIE M. HOLMES,
In San Diego (Cal.) Beacon.

INTERNATIONAL NOTES.

GERMANY.

The anti-Socialist law has been made to suit every purpose; so it seems at any rate by what has just happened at Weimar, the former city of poets. M. Manfred Wittich, a literary man of some repute, intended to lecture on "Goethe and His Times," and, forsooth, the lecture was prohibited under paragraph so-and-so of the muzzle-law. The next best "move" the police authorities could now make would be the suppression of Goethe's works themselves, for they contain numerous passages which do not suit Bismarck's way of thinking, and besides Germany of nowadays is not in the least worthy of reckoning Goethe among its illustrious men.

A rather interesting pamphlet has lately appeared at Berlin, dealing with the working women's question: 'Die zwanzigjährige Arbeiterinnen-Bewegung Berlins und ihr Ergebniss' (Twenty Years of the Working-women's Movement at Berlin and its Result). The authoress of the pamphlet is one who has done very good work herself in that direction, and we feel sure that Miss Adeline Berger's observations will be of good help to those who work in that special field.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

As we approach towards the end of the year, the various Socialist organisations are preparing their calendars. Our Austrian comrades have just issued their *Oesterreichische Arbeiter-Kalender* (Austrian Workers' Calendar) for the coming year. It is a nice little volume, full of interesting matter, among which we especially notice the following: 'Johann Philip Becker,' a biographical sketch; 'Social and Political Review of the year 1888-89'; the 'Laws Concerning Labour in Austria'; 'Socialism and Darwinism,' by K. Kautsky; 'Importance and Aims of Trades' Unions'; 'Woman in Ancient Ages,' by Minna Kautsky; 'Labour and Capital, and their respective value'; 'Honour and Crime,' a novelette; 'The Heritage of the Poor,' a novelette; poetry by Anton Weiser, Herwegh, Karl Knip, Ille, W. Hasenclever, and H. Determann. It is to be had for 40 kreutzer, at 6, Gumpendorferstrasse, 79, Vienna, office of the *Sozialdemok. Monatschrift*.

At Brünn, the editors of the *Volksfreund* (the Friend of the People) have started a series of pamphlets, of which the three first have now appeared: 1. 'What exists and what we want' (has been confiscated); 'Capital and Labour' (being a translation of Domela Nieuwenhuys' Dutch *résumé* of Marx's 'Capital'); 3. 'Collection of Socialist Poems' (has been confiscated).

Comrades Dr. Adler and L. A. Bretschneider, formerly editors of the suppressed *Gleichheit* (Equality), have published a verbatim report of the trial, which brought to an untimely death that valuable and most interesting Socialist paper. It can be had for 15 kr., at the office of the *Arbeiter-Zeitung* at Vienna.

In the course of last week, not less than four new "Arbeiter-Bildungsvereine" (Working-men's Educational Clubs) have been founded—at Graz, St. Veit, Seestadt, and Lieberwerda respectively.

We are very glad to hear that the *Arbeiter-Zeitung* (Workers' Paper), which hitherto was a fortnightly, has now become a weekly organ, as was formerly *Gleichheit* (Equality).

At Reichenberg (North Bohemia), a new Socialist paper has come to light, *Der Freigeist* (Free Spirit) published by comrade Josef Schiller, and edited by comrade Karl Schiller. It is to appear as a fortnightly to begin with. We wish good success to our new colleague. (The address is Wallensteinstrasse, 15, Reichenberg).

BELGIUM.

The coalminers' strike of the Mons basin (province of Hainault) is still

growing, and the strikers appear to be as firm as ever in their demands. The coalowners' companies begin to be shaken in their confidence; several of them, in the Levant and in the Flénu coalfields, have issued a manifesto to their workers and to the public generally, showing that the rate of wages has in late years risen in the same proportion as the value of coal. But on the side of the workers it is asserted that the coalowners have made use of bogus figures, thus trying to deceive the population. The manifesto is not likely to produce any effect whatever on the situation. Last week a deputation of coalminers waited on the Minister of Public Works, asking him for his support. By whom the miners have been advised so to waste their time and their travelling expenses we do not know; perhaps the *Parti ouvrier* does. Anyhow, it is stated that the strikers are so determined to persevere to the utmost that great hopes of victory may be entertained. It is pretty well certain also that, unless ample concessions are made very soon, a general strike will ensue. At the present time, ten thousand men are out.

In their manifesto the coalowners have "forgotten" to state how the prices of the shares have risen in 1889 as compared with 1888. We give below the price of the shares, in francs, of the various collieries at the same day, 22nd of October, of each of these two years:

Name of Colliery.	Price at 22 Oct. 1888.	Price at 22 Oct. 1889.	Surplus per Share in 1889.
Anderlues	2,100	2,375	275
Bonne-Espérance	215	220	5
Carabinier	227 50	235	7 50
Charb. Belges	155	220	65
Cheval. Dour	850	1,560	650
Couch. du Flénu	207 50	275	67 50
Concelles-Nord	615	690	75
Falunée	415	442	27
Fontaine-l'Évêq.	275	415	190
Gosson-Lagasse	1,450	1,930	480
Grand-Bouillon	44	51	7
Gr. M. feu Dour	550	815	265
Hornu-Wasmes	1,950	2,175	225
Houil. Un. Char.	175	230	55
Kessales Jemep	1,550	2,040	490
Levant-Flénu	1,750	2,200	450
Maribaye	650	880	250
Monc. Bayemont	525	617 50	92 50
Monc. Fontaine	1,600	2,000	400
Nd. de Charleroi	830	975	145
Prod. du Flénu	2,600	2,000	400
Sacré-Madame	1,590	1,990	400
Sars-Lonchamps	500	815	315
Ouest de Mons	202 50	351	149 50

It is wellnigh certain that these figures entitle the workers to an increase of wages, and we hope that they will stand by their guns to the end.

HOLLAND.

The essays of S. E. W. Roorda van Eysinga, who died last year at Geneva, after having passed many years far from his native land, have now been collected and published at the Hague, in eight parts, where they can be had at the offices of *Recht voor Allen*, for 2 sh. They are well worth reading, and some of them might be usefully translated into English.

At last our Dutch comrades have succeeded in getting hold of the strongest fortress of reaction in Holland; they have formed a branch of the social-democratic party at Maastricht.

SWITZERLAND.

At last the Attorney-General, who has been desired by Bismark for that once glorious little republic, has been chosen. It is an individual going through life by the name of Scherb, and his first move, according to his German instructions, has been to order the trial of three Anarchists, supposed of having had something to do with the recent Anarchist manifesto placarded on the walls of various Swiss towns.

RUSSIA.

Nicolas Tchernischewsky is dead. Only a few weeks ago he was definitely set at liberty, after a life of heroism and martyrdom. We will try in our next issue to say what he has done for the cause of Socialism, to which he has been, amidst indescribable sufferings, "faithful unto death."

VICTOR DAVE.

SWEDEN.

Six large match factories—four in Kalmar, one in Ystad, and one in Wexjö—have suddenly been closed, and about 4,000 workers have been brought to starvation at a moment's notice. The factories all belong to an English company, and it is extremely probable that there is some foul financial speculation in the matter. Nobody in Sweden knows (or pretends to know) the financial situation of the company, but it has brought 4,000 hardworking Swedish citizens into horrible misery just at the moment when the long and hard Swedish winter is beginning. These are the blessings of international capitalism! There is not even the satisfaction that exploiters and exploited stand face to face—that the latter can (as a preliminary step to general revolutionary ideas) learn personally to hate his oppressor. It is worth mentioning that the wages in the factories of this company was 30 per cent. lower than in any other Swedish match factory. Also worth mentioning is the fact that the Swedish bourgeois press passes by the incident in silence—with fine feeling for the international interests of capital. Even in far-off Sweden journalists have learnt to limit their Chauvinism to instances when it is serviceable to their master, national and international capital. There is much to learn and to understand for poor, ignorant, overworked, and half-starved labourers in these gigantically and scientifically corrupt societies of ours.

An eminent Swedish actor and theatrical manager, Aug. Lindberg, has in Kristiania (Norway) made experiments with "working-men's nights" at his theatre, and with splendid success (financial and moral). His idea is to give the very best, most modern, and revolutionary plays in the excellent new dramatic literature of Scandinavia, to employ the best actors, and to lower the prices within reach of working-men. And the Norwegian workers have responded. They crammed the house when Ibsen's grand play "Gengangere" ("Ghosts") was performed, and they followed it with such deep feeling and applauded it with such an overwhelming enthusiasm as no bourgeois habitues could have done. Mr. Lindberg thanked his audience, because their warm interest and sincere desire to penetrate into the innermost meaning of the piece was a valuable contribution to the revival of true dramatic art. According to Mr. Lindberg, an audience of common bourgeois is quite incompetent of that sympathy and pure unartificial feeling, which alone make the actor develop his highest faculties. It is said that theatres in Stockholm and Copenhagen are going to follow the example.

STN.

CHICAGO AND LONDON.

I.

"Our silence will be stronger than our speech"—
 Speech foully stifled by the felon's rope;
 Speech ever sounding through its farthest scope
 The watchword, "Each for all and all for each";
 Silence, yea death's, electric, swift to reach
 Through the wide world, telling how hearts could cope
 With human wrath, for human love and hope;
 Silence proclaiming more than words could teach.

Therefore we mourn not, rather we rejoice
 For them and for the cause they made their care;
 Since men now gather round us, and make choice
 The hardships of the pilgrim's life to share,
 And follow through the dawn their distant voice
 Toward a future infinitely fair.

II.

That was a sight no watcher can forget—
 Where in the waste of streets it well might be
 That citizens should meet and speech be free,
 Ensnared in strife police and people met;
 There weapons gleamed above the parapet,
 And clinked to time from marshalled cavalry,
 While at high windows ladies laughed to see
 Peaceful processions savagely beset.

Hereby, O men of London, ye may learn
 The two clear courses left you by the rich:—
 Either a life of hopeless toil, to earn
 The right of burial in a pauper's ditch,
 Or strife for freedom, definite and stern—
 Choose one of them ye must. Consider which.

REGINALD A. BECKETT.

REVOLUTIONARY CALENDAR.

WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 16, 1889.

10	Sun.	1786. Trial of Woodfall for libel on Lord Loughborough, afterwards Lord Chancellor. 1798. Trial of Wolfe Tone at Dublin, before a Military Court, for "that he, being a natural born subject of our Lord the King," was "taken traitorously acting in open arms, commanding an hostile force, for the invasion of this kingdom." 1862. T. B. McManus buried. 1880. Trial of Nihilists at St. Petersburg for Winter Palace explosion. Sentences: Kviatkovski and four others, death; eight men and three women, imprisonment. 1887. Louis Lingg died in prison.
11	Mon.	1640. Trial of Strafford for high treason. 1851. Great meeting in Free Trade Hall, Manchester, to greet Kossuth. 1864. J. R. McCulloch died. 1865. Capture of James Stephens, C. J. Kickham, Hugh Brophy, and Edward Daffy. 1887. Murder by law of Engel, Fischer, Parsons, and Spies.
12	Tues.	1671. Thomas Fairfax, Parliamentary general, died. 1794. Jacobin Club shut up. 1795. Meeting of the London Corresponding Society at Copenhagen House. 1819. County meeting of freeholders and householders of the county of Hereford declares the occurrences at Peterloo to have been "an infringement of one of the most important rights of the people, and a violation of the most essential principles of the constitution." 1852. After a six weeks' trial before a special jury at Cologne, three of the twelve Communist prisoners condemned to 6, three to 5, and one to 3 years' imprisonment, having already been in prison waiting trial for 21 months. ¹ 1880. Capt. Boycott "boycotted"; origin of the term. 1885. <i>Arden</i> , first Greek Socialist paper, started in Athens. 1886. Imprisonment of Plato E. Draculis, editor of <i>Arden</i> .
13	Wed.	1830. First number of Carille's <i>Prompter</i> , 3d. weekly; ran from Nov. 13, 1830, to Nov. 12, 1831. 1848. Trial of John Grant, Robert Hamilton, and Henry Ranken, Scotch Chartists, at Edinburgh, for sedition and conspiracy. 1861. A. H. Clough died. 1871. Richard Pigott sentenced to four months' imprisonment for libel in the <i>Irishman</i> . 1887. Bloody Sunday.
14	Thur.	1831. Hegel died. 1842. Strike "outrage" at Sheffield. 1882. J. G. Kinkel died. 1886. Socialist demonstration at Madrid.
15	Fri.	1815. Miners' riot at Wolverhampton against a reduction in wages; yeomanry beaten back twice with brickbats, etc. 1816. Meeting at Spa-fields (see Dec. 2) to vote an address from the distressed manufacturers to the Prince Regent. 1848. Count Rossi killed at Rome. 1848. Messenhauser shot at Vienna.
16	Sat.	1819. Carille sentenced for publishing 'Age of Reason.' 1820. "General meeting of the Noblemen, Freeholders, Justices of Peace, and Commissioners of Supply for the County of Lanark," held at Hamilton, after long consideration of Robert Owen's system, reports in favour of its adoption. 1867. Col. John Warren (15 years), Gen. William Halpin (15 years), and A. E. Costello (12 years), sentenced to penal servitude. 1872. Mutiny of metropolitan police, caused by the dismissal of their spokesman in the late successful movement for a rise in wages. 1850. A. Kviatkovski and J. Priasniakov hanged at St. Petersburg.

¹ The one condemned to three years was our comrade F. Lessner, the only survivor of the twelve; still a Socialist, and making propoganda in London.



HAVE YOU NOT HEARD HOW IT HAS GONE WITH MANY A CAUSE BEFORE NOW? FIRST, FEW MEN HEED IT; NEXT, MOST MEN CONTEMN IT; LASTLY, ALL MEN ACCEPT IT—AND THE CAUSE IS WON

Communications invited on Social Questions. They should be written on one side of the paper, addressed to the Editors, 13 Farringdon Rd., E.C., and accompanied by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication.

As all articles are signed, no special significance attaches to them because of their position in these pages. None to be taken as more than in a general manner expressing the views of the League as a body, except it be so explicitly declared by the Editors. Rejected MSS. only returned if a stamped directed envelope is forwarded with them. Subscriptions.—For Europe and United States, including postage, per year, 6s. six months, 3s.; three months, 1s. 6d.

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TO CORRESPONDENTS.

DETWILER (Chicago).—Your letter was insufficiently stamped, and cost us ten cents. Enclosure has been forwarded.

“AUSTRALIAN RADICAL” (N.S.W.).—Our manager complains of irregularity in your supplies, which causes disappointment to customers.

“AUSTRALIAN TRADES AND LABOUR JOURNAL.”—Will some of our comrades oblige with the address of this paper? If possible, also with a specimen copy.

“REVISTA DA FLORIDA.”—Freedom’s address is: 7 Cancel Street, Merrow Street, Walworth, London, S.E.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
A Dream of the Past and Present	LIZZIE M. HOLMES 353
International Notes	VICTOR DAVE and SEN. 354
Chicago and London	REGINALD A. BECKETT 355
Revolutionary Calendar 355
Notes on News	MORRIS and SPARLING 356
In the United States	H. F. CHARLES 357
Correspondence 357
The Labour Revolt	NICOLL, MARSHALL, and TURNER 358
Capital and “Labour” at Leicester	D. J. NICOLL 358
Executive Announcements, Reports, Lecture Diary, and Notices of Meetings ..	359
Advertisements, New Publications, etc., etc.	360

Periodicals received during the week ending Wednesday November 6.

ENGLAND	Buffalo—Arbeiter-Zeitung	BELGIUM
Church Reformer	Chicago—Knights of Labor	Antwerp—De Werker
Labour Tribune	Baecker Zeitung	Ghent—Vooruit
London—Freie Presse	Fackel	Liege—L’Avenir
Norwich—Daylight	Detroit—Der Arme Teufel	SPAIN
Railway Review	Milwaukee—National Reformer	Barcelona—Revolucion Social
Social Democrat	San Francisco Arbeiter-Zeitung	PORTUGAL
Unity	S. F.—Coast Seamen’s Journal	Lisbon—O Protesto Operario
Worker’s Friend	FRANCE	GERMANY
UNITED STATES	Paris—Le Proletariat	Berlin—Volks Tribune
New York—Twentieth Century	La Revolte	Hamburg—Zeitgeist
Der Sozialist	Lille—Le Cri du Travailleur	AUSTRIA
Freiheit	Nice—L’Associazione	Vienna—Arbeiter-Zeitung
Volkzeitung	HOLLAND	ARGENTINE REPUBLIC
United Irishman	Hague—Recht voor Allen	Buenos Aytes—Vorwarts
Workmen’s Advocate	SWITZERLAND	Lotlabana—Productor
Boston—Woman’s Journal	Arbeiterstimme	
Investigator		

NOTES ON NEWS.

MR. GLADSTONE’S speech to the working-men of Saltney last week, though as long as need be, and doubtless as attractive to the platitudelover in its oratory as his utterances usually are, scarcely needs much comment in detail; it plays the same wearisome tune which we have been used to hear played from the period of “leaps and bounds” onward. It is called optimistic, but really and truly is in the depths of pessimism; for this is the meaning of it.

“Friends, we are very comfortable, and we should be glad if you also could be so, always so long as your comfort takes away nothing from us. To say the truth we fear that you are not living in comfort, but since it is for our good that you should go on living as you do, pray endure your misery, and don’t try to alter matters. Meantime, we will do you this service, if no other; we will pretend that you are getting better and better as the days go on, and that really compared with what you were half a century ago (when you were all but in universal open revolt against us), you are quite happy, or at least ought to be. So be contented, thrifty, and hopeful—of our continued prosperity.”

This sort of poisonous and lying twaddle was what was always said by Liberal politicians when addressing the workers twenty, nay, ten

years ago; it now needs a G.O.M. to say it in its completeness. Does the dim old man believe it, I wonder? Perhaps he does, as much as a hardened old politician can be said to believe anything. But just fancy this preacher of contentment, this old Conservative gentleman, being the dangerous revolutionary person who used to terrify the Tories so! He has undergone the usual fate of political heroes, and is now a stationary mile-stone on the road, marking the rate of progress which live men are making.

The Art Congress just over at Edinburgh was on the whole but a dull affair, and would have been very dull indeed but that to a Socialist its humours showed some signs of the times. It goes without saying, that though there were people present who were intent on playing the part of the art-philanthropists, all the paper-readers, except the declared Socialists, showed an absurd ignorance of the very elements of economics; and also, of course, that the general feeling was an ignoring of the existence of the working-class except as instruments to be played on.

Education was much talked of; but it was not understood that if you have condemned a man to be a slave, his education must be that of a slave. Art for the working-classes was talked of by men who chose to ignore the fact that men anxiously facing starvation, or wearily bearing it, are not free to receive pleasure from a work of art; although at the Congress meetings the clock-hands pointing to lunch-time at once emptied the room of the well-fed audience. Socialist artists and craftsmen (since there were none but Socialists capable of taking up the job) were set to lecture audiences of Edinburgh workmen on the due methods of work for producing popular art, though both lecturers and workmen audience knew but too well that such art was impossible for wage-slaves either to make or enjoy.

However, the said lecturers did not hide this fact under a bushel; and since a reactionist Edinburgh evening paper angrily declared that the Socialists had ruined the Congress, it is probable that their plain speaking had some effect. It must also be said that the working-men audiences received any allusions to Socialism, or any teaching founded on it, with more than assent, with enthusiasm rather. The definitely Socialist meetings, held under the auspices of our Edinburgh friends, were very successful, and the local Socialists are well satisfied with the result of the week. W. M.

Last week saw another horrible proof of the reckless greed with which capitalists pursue profit as their sole aim. The Glasgow “accident,” “fatality,” or “disaster,” as the newspapers have been calling it, or the Glasgow massacre as we know it to have been, has shocked and startled everybody. Everybody, that is, but the people responsible for that and similar events. They regard it, as indeed it truly is, as only an unavoidable incident of commercial methods. To get profit you must work cheaply; to work cheaply you must run risks—or rather, make your slaves run risks; running the risk long enough means that sooner or later the crash comes off and your poor slaves suffer.

But if you have only been careful enough in arranging and distributing the risk, the “catastrophe” is put down to “Providence” or some other irresponsible cause, and you escape all punishment. Nay! if you only weep and wail a little, spend a fraction of the blood-money you have made out of the system which produced the “catastrophe” in burying one or two of its victims and healing the bruises of one or two more, there will be few but will do you reverence as a more than perfect man. Only the bad and wicked Socialist will call you murderer and so spoil by a discordant note the chorus of your praises.

But the people are listening more and more to the bad and wicked teachings of the rights of man as against the powers of property, and they will soon demand that whenever such a thing as this in Glasgow occurs there shall someone hang for it—even if they have to do the hanging themselves!

If the London Trades Council were anything other than a discreditable gang of ring-runners and place-makers, it would have long ago started a paper somewhat after the pattern of the Newark (N. J.) Mutual Aid. This is a small four-page journal co-operatively printed and published, and devoted to the positive side of boycotting as a weapon against sweaters and rat labour. It gives a list of fair houses and co-operative associations, as well as news of the trades union and co-operative movements, so that those who feel that way can deal exclusively with fair houses for all things. Failing the Trades Council, why does not the Labour Association take it up? By the way, can anyone tell us what the Labour Association is doing, if it does anything?

Another sign of the times is the public prayer in churches for the recovery of Mr. Bradlaugh. What would have been said a few years ago in reply to a prophecy that this would take place, will hardly bear imagining! I am glad to see that there is a chance of Mr. Bradlaugh’s recovery (by virtue of the prayers!) because he is an open and sturdy enemy of ours, and therefore to be prized in these days of sham friends and would-be patrons. S.

IN THE UNITED STATES.

REPRESENTATIVES of State Socialism, Anarchism, and other phases of Radical thought met at Nassau Hall, in Boston, a few nights ago and decided to commemorate the Chicago murder by a public meeting on 11th November. A permanent memorial club was organised. The club voted to issue an address to the labour people of New England, in which the necessity for Socialist agitation shall be set forth. Committees were appointed to secure and decorate a hall, and in addition to several local speakers, the club voted to secure speakers from New York and Chicago.

Mr. Alexander Hogeland, president of the Boys and Girls' National Home Association, which has recently been in session in Washington, made the startling statement that there are 60,000 boy tramps in the United States. Now if this be true—and there is no reason why it should not be—then who can wonder that crime is constantly on the increase? But no matter, "This is a free country, and everybody can get there if he has the brains."

The Boston *Globe* publishes a letter of thanks from John Burns for £4 from citizens of Boston. "Although the strike is over, the money will be used for relief of dock-labourers." The sympathy of the Boston workers—I mean that part of them which believe in strikes, short hours, good pay, and all the rest of trades-unionism—does not seem to be able to take a very substantial shape. In spite of trade-union principles, they appear to cling, if the workers are concerned, to the motto, "Let everybody fight his own battles."

The Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers of the United States was convened in Denver on the 16th of October. Chief Engineer Arthur presided, and said, among other things:

"The present time represents the turning point in the history of the order, for it has become apparent that a feeling essentially radical has crept in and taken possession of a few of our members. This is dangerous, and must be suppressed; for, owing to this, statements seemingly contradictory have crept out and become public, which could never have happened with oneness of thought and honesty of purpose." He reiterated, with emphasis, his former statement that the organisation is law-abiding, and said, "To-day I clearly define our position toward railway corporations when I say that only as a last resort do we sanction a strike." Of the growth of the order, he said the membership was 26,000; during the year just ended it had paid out to widows and orphans of disabled members 206,000 dollars, making a total since its organisation of 2,608,169. He advised every man to endeavour, at whatever sacrifice, to save a little of his earnings every year, if no more than 25 dollars. "The possession of property brings respect, and always adds to the comfort and power of working-men, besides gaining the esteem of all good citizens."

What can be thought of a labour leader of this description? I do not know whether the men composing this organisation are to be pitied or to be cursed, but in any case they appear to be incurable idiots or they would have dismissed this humbug long ago.

The American Federation of Labour will hold its fourth annual convention in Boston, December 9. The circular hints at unification of the scattered forces of labour, and congratulates the Federation on withstanding the combined attacks of capitalists and politicians, and especially the secret machinations of conspirators within the very cordon of the camp of labour, meaning probably Socialists and Anarchists. On the eight hour movement the circular says: "It now becomes the mission of the Boston convention to transform the agitation which has become world wide into an organised movement for its realisation."

I am not aware of any "secret machinations" to oppose the eight hour movement. There has not even been opposition in the correct sense of the word, for a movement which does not exist can hardly be opposed.

In my last report I wrote something about the conference of the Schewitsch wing of the Socialistic Labour Party in Chicago. This wing is indeed the Socialistic labour party, as the Rosenberg side is absolutely without any significance. Next to the birth and rise of the Nationalist movement the split in the Socialistic Labour Party and the utter annihilation of the Rosenberg clique in this party are the most important events of this year in the State Socialistic camp. I am not in sympathy with the Social Democratic movement, as I cannot agree with my State-Socialistic friends either in tactics or in fundamental principles; but I am glad that Schewitsch and his friends have been able to freeze the Rosenberg-Busche faction out of their party. This faction is responsible for a good deal of the prejudice Socialism encounters among Americans. Now the State-Socialistic movement will be conducted on a more intelligent basis, and that is a considerable improvement. The convention got through the following business: A resolution endorsing the resolutions of the Paris Congress (Marxist) was adopted. Another defining the position of the S. L. P. towards trade unionism, saying that the party is in sympathy with the struggle of organised labour. As to political action, the convention resolved that under no circumstances should the party support a bourgeois party or its candidates. The eight hour agitation was also endorsed. In the platform of the organisation only few, and no important, changes were made. Brooklyn was chosen as seat for the executive; Boston for the board of appeal; and the party organs, *Der Socialist* and the *Workmen's Advocate*, will be edited and published in New York. The delegates to the convention visited in a body the graves of our martyrs in Chicago.

During the mass meeting at which Schewitsch spoke in Chicago, the reporters of the capitalistic press made out that the audience cheered the red and hissed the Union flag. Whether this was true or not, I know not. If so, it was to the credit of the feeling of the audience. In reference to this hissing-report, Schewitsch called on Mayor Cregier, and the following dialogue took place after the exchange of the usual conventionalities:—

"The Mayor. Mr. Schewitsch, much to my surprise you look like a respectable citizen; I had quite a different idea of your person.—*Schewitsch*. Are your words, Mr. Mayor, that you would like to drum me out of Chicago because of that flag incident, correctly reported?—*M*. No. I said those who insult our flag should be driven out of the city, nothing else; I made no reference to your speech. Although I do not agree with your views, I should never speak or act against freedom of speech.—*S*. Have you any objection that I called Chicago the Paris of America?—*M*. No, not in a certain sense; but I have it you meant it in the sense that Chicago is a revolutionary town.—*S*. Do you oppose all revolutions?—*M*. Most certainly.—*S*. Also that of 1776?—*M*. Oh, no; that's something different.—*S*. Why something different? Millions to-day live under a worse tyranny than that of the British ever has been.—*M*. I never studied social questions.—*S*. Then you don't know what Socialism means?—*M*. No.—*S*. You know what trusts are?—*M*. Oh, yes!—*S*. Have you ever heard that the natural development of trusts must lead to Socialism?—*M*. No. I am exclusively a business man, and have no time for these things.—*S*. Have you ever heard of "Looking Backward"?—*M*. No. What's that?—*S*. A book written by a man whose ancestors immigrated into Massachusetts about 200 years ago, and which

contains everything that's called 'foreign Socialism.' Do you know something of the Nationalists, who have a large organisation in this city?—*M*. No; you mean the Irish?—*S*. No; I mean Americans who preach pure Socialism. Do you believe that public opinion has completely changed as regards the trial of the Anarchists?—*M*. I don't like to talk about that.—*S*. Don't you think that the Cronin trial is a disgrace for Chicago?—*M*. I got nothing to say about that.—*S*. So you don't want to drum me out of the city?—*M*. No, sir. On the contrary, I hope you remain a good while."

This ended the talk. Mayor Cregier, of Chicago City, most certainly is an ass either in pretence or in tact. Rosenberg has written a letter to the Mayor of Chicago, denouncing "the band of demagogues, which desired to show their hate of Americans by insulting their flag," which well illustrates the miserable nature of the man.

Boston, Mass., Oct. 22, 1889.

HENRY F. CHARLES.

CORRESPONDENCE.

"SOCIALISM AND STRIKES."

Sir,—In the issue of Oct. 26th, "W. G. W." appeals on behalf of uniting the different Labour Unions, saying with truth that the leaders of these bodies "seem inclined to move only in their own small circle instead of uniting the whole." I think the Council of the S.L. ought to take serious steps in the matter, and to push forward by some means the teaching of Socialism to the unions that exist both in London and in the provinces; in fact, to follow the initiative of the Socialists in Belgium, who, I see in last Saturday's *Weal*, are convening a conference of all the worker's societies in Belgium for the 1st of November.

Socialist teaching will have small chance if something is not done soon among the different unions that have lately been formed in London and elsewhere, for a reaction is sure to follow unless the workers are taught to strike for something else besides a paltry penny per hour extra, or half an hour's less work per day. Cannot some of our best thinkers in the League formulate some scheme whereby the different associations may be welded together, so that their members might be inducted into the primary teachings of Socialism? That, I think, would be a great help in spreading propaganda, and it is I think the best means to induce working-men to see their own interests, and also to see that each one's interest is identical. By all means, I say, adopt W. G. W.'s proposal, and thus Socialism will be able to keep its own end in view, or how else are working-men to be prepared, systematically, for the time when they shall rise to take possession of their own?—Yours, etc.,

H. C. K.

MORALITY.

The "Scottish Socialist Federation" in the statement of its principles quoted in the *Commonweal* of Oct. 12th, uses a word which should not pass without protest when used by Socialists in connection with Socialism. It says it acknowledges "morality" with "truth and justice" as "the basis of behaviour." It speaks of "morality" as a definite thing, which, like the word "truth" conveys a definite idea to the mind. But the only "morality" which is known in Scotland is the conventional Christian "morality" of Scotland. Does the Scottish Socialist Federation mean that? If so, why is the "Scottish Socialist Federation" formed? and acknowledging "morality" why is it Socialist, seeing that Socialism is a protest against "the morals of the country." European morals are what we nickname "Mrs. Grundy." She has nothing in common with Socialism. The "Morals" of Europe, as taught and insisted on by all authorities—the only morals meant when one speaks briefly of "Morals" with a capital M—are, subordination to authority, marriage and the subjection of women, submission to exploitation, contentment in whatever slavery you are thrust, respect for "property" and a readiness to defend the wealth accumulated by one's owners, celibacy and prostitution for a vast proportion of both men and women; Faith, *i.e.*, imbecility, the superstitious swallowing of some lie, any lie which it pleases "authority" to throw to you. These and such things as these are "morality," but my Socialism is a protest to the death against all of them and all such as they. If this is not the morality of the "Scottish Socialist Federation," what do they expect the Scottish people to understand as being their principles, and why do they use the word? Do they mean to be understood to approve of the Scottish Sabbath? Unless they do, they do not acknowledge "morality" in Scotland. This is but one item.

To repeat, there is no morality but the existing laws and customs which hold our present commercial and industrial society together. How can Socialists acknowledge it while using every endeavour to destroy those laws and customs? "Morality" is the merest shibboleth, like "glory" and "honour." Other than obedience to convention it has no existence whatever. Morals and Morality are absolute fictions. If they are to be regarded in the abstract, what are they? If in the concrete, where are they?

GEORGE PORTER.

LITERARY NOTES.

The *National Reformer* for Sept. 1 has a very neat if by no means exhaustive criticism, by John M. Robertson, on Bellamy's *Looking Backward*, which is well worth reading.

Into the merits of the quarrel with Mr. Powderly and the Knights of Labour we cannot enter on this side for lack of knowledge, but truth compels us to say that, excepting the *Twentieth Century*, there is not a better conducted or better written labour paper in the States than the official organ of the Knights of Labour, the *Journal of United Labour*, edited by A. W. Wright for the Board of Trustees.

LIVERPOOL SOCIALIST SOCIETY.—Wm. Morris will lecture on Sunday Nov. 10. CHELSEA DISCUSSION FORUM, Swiss Cottage, 111 Kings Rd.—Sunday Nov. 10, at 8 p.m., "The Story of the Chicago Riots."

SEAR RADICAL CLUB, 8 Mayall Road, Herne Hill.—Sunday Nov. 10, at 8.30, N. W. Hubbard, L.C.C., "How should the Council deal with its Land?" BORO' OF HACKNEY W. M.'S CLUB, 27 Haggerston Road, E.—Sunday Nov. 10, at 12 noon, Robert E. Dell, "How to Get what we Want."

BORO' OF BETHNAL GREEN RADICAL CLUB, 29 Abbey St., Bethnal Green Rd.—Sunday Nov. 10, at 12 noon, J. F. Oakeshott, "The New Radicalism."

GLADSTONE RADICAL W. M.'S CLUB, 22 Baroness Road, Hackney Road, E.—Sun. Nov. 10, 12 noon, Rev. S. D. Headlam, "Practicable Land Nationalisation."

THE LABOUR REVOLT.

The Bakers.

The men have refused the master's offer of a 12 hour's working-day, and will hand in their notices this Saturday for the 16th. A considerable minority of the masters have already granted the 10 hour's working-day, so it is not likely the strike will be general. All promises well for the agitation.

The Tramway Men.

The men have already benefited by finding a capable leader. The South London Tramway Company have reduced the hours of their employees to 12 and 12½ daily. This is the line where the men were talking of striking. The London Street Tramway Company have made a similar concession. The men are joining the union by hundreds.

The Silvertown Strike.

Things are much the same as last week. Money is coming in better, and the strikers show a fine front. The monotony of the strike was diversified last week by a little excitement. One of the strikers, a girl who had come out on principle, went back to work after receiving a pair of boots from the Strike Committee. The indignant populace broke the windows of the house in which she was living, and she is now under police protection. The people of Silvertown have a strong detestation of treason.

Trouble at the Docks.

The 4th of November, that has brought the docker's tanner, has brought fresh troubles with it. It is evident that the smouldering discontent which has been long prevalent seems likely to break into flame. The lightermen are striking; the men at one of the wharves are out, and a *Daily News* commissioner notes that the men have not received the tanner advance with many symptoms of joy. The lightermen's strike is a serious matter; there is still deep discontent concerning the blacklegs who still remain; and no one can tell how far the trouble may spread now it has once begun.

Later.—Matters are getting more serious. The South Side Strike Committee have issued a manifesto, in which they call the "glorious victory" a miserable sham, and call upon the men to come out for their dinner-money—the 3d. deducted from the 8d. gained. We hear that John Burns has thrown up all lecturing engagements in view of serious possibilities.

The Labour Revolt at Bristol.

Most of the strikers have gained their terms and gone to work again. The hatters and the cotton-factory hands are still out. The shop assistants are now agitating, and are threatening to strike if their demands are not granted. The directors of the tram companies have been forced to make concessions to prevent their men coming out. During the strike the bargemen, who were also out, blocked the Feeder Canal leading into the floating harbour by chaining their barges together under a bridge. The traffic was completely stopped, owing to this simple manœuvre, while the crowds that assembled refused to allow the barrier to be removed. An adventurous gentleman attempted to storm the barrier with a steam launch, but on being greeted with paving-stones gave up the attempt. The barges were at last removed by a hundred police, who got up very early in the morning and marched on the scene of action when there were no strikers about.

We have received an urgent appeal from our Bristol comrades for subscriptions for the women who are out at the cotton-factory. Subscriptions may be sent to Helena Born, secretary, British Workman Coffee House, New Street, St. Jude's, Bristol. These poor girls are subjected to the usual sweating and vexatious fines. It is a case which the Women's Trade Union Committee should surely take up.

The Railway Men.

The new union of the non-aristocratic railway men appears to be progressing favourably. Our readers will remember that this is composed of the poorer railway workers who are not allowed by the aristocratic or older society to join them in their union. The new union has already reached North London, and promises to spread into the provinces. The officials are very wrath, especially with John Burns, and in their rage have taken a very mean revenge. In the *Railway Review* of November 1st they publish an article taken from the "*Times*"!! defending "the Trade Unions' officials against the attacks" of John Burns, who is accused of attempting "to inflame the passions of uneducated men." It admits, however, that the action of the older society has been "automatic." That is good. "Automatic" is good. The arguments of the *Times* need little refutation, its character is too well known. The officials of the Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants must be very hard up for a defender, when they are obliged to fall back upon a paper known everywhere as the worst enemy of the working class, as well as one of the most cowardly, lying, forging sheets in existence. N.

The Strikes at Manchester.

The agitation of the gas-workers has been entirely successful. The Gas Committee of the Corporation, to avert a strike, have granted the eight hours day, in place of the twelve hours which has been the rule. The wages remain the same. Another easy victory has been won by the men employed at Berry's Blacking Works, who were on strike and formed a union. Mr. Berry made an unconditional surrender after a four days' struggle, which means that the greater part of the men get about 3s. a-week more in wages.

A second meeting of the Health Department employés, called together by the S. L., took place on Sunday in Stevenson Square. Barton and Bailie (S. L.), and W. Horrocks, organiser of the General Labourers' Union, addressed the men, who are determined to claim a considerable advance of wages and less work. They are now all organised. J. B.

Jewish Workers in Manchester.

A large meeting of machinists, tailors, and pressers was held on Saturday, October 26th, in the Wellington Hotel, Strangways, for the purpose of considering how to become united with the Amalgamated Society of Tailors. Mr. Quinn, President of the latter Association, spoke at some length on the

necessity of union; he was followed by several English workers; and comrade Diemshietz received a hearty welcome on rising to speak in support of the resolution. J. Marshall read a letter he had received from the Secretary of the Manchester and Salford Trades Council, pointing out the advantages the society would gain by affiliating themselves with the above organisation. A resolution was passed to the effect that in future the English and Jewish workers will work in union with each other, so that when one society demands an increase in wages the other will assist them in that direction. J. M.

The "Shop Assistants' Union."

The union is progressing slowly but surely. At Hammersmith a branch has been formed which promises to be very strong; another is in course of formation at Whitechapel for the East End district. Most of the work has to be done on Sunday, and also secretly, as should the masters find out their assistants have joined they would often discharge them. No class of workers require to be organised more, for as their manifesto says, the modern conditions are such that it is getting less and less possible to become masters themselves, and yet too many of them remain as snobbish as ever. However, the competition machine is grinding it out of them somewhat. The places of meeting are, for Hammersmith, Lockhart's, 11, King Street; for East End, 147, Whitechapel Road (first floor). Wednesdays at 9.30.

The Carmen's Trade Union.

This union, the result of the late strike, is rapidly growing. At Nelson Street, Commercial Road, E., there is an exciting scene every Wednesday night, when the local branch business takes place at the "Crown and Anchor," the street being blocked with vans of all sorts while the men were paying their subscriptions; 134 new members were made the week before last, and last week members had to stand over as cards could not be made out fast enough. This branch is now over 400 strong. The police grumble and threaten the men for obstruction, but are really afraid to do anything as it would only advertise the organisation. The Wapping branch which meets at the "Prince Regent," St. George's Street, is also over 400 strong. At King's Cross the Midland Railway Carmen are joining secretly, and by their addition have sent the branch up to over 500. This shows what unskilled labour is capable of. During the dock strike numbers of them got the sack for going out to support the dockers (like our comrade Leggatt), but could get no assistance from the strike fund. Now they have got their own organisation, and are winning all along the line. J. T.

CAPITAL AND "LABOUR" AT LEICESTER.

THE mayor of Leicester is a bold man. It would not occur to most people that the present time was a happy one to induce representatives of capital and labour to meet at the same table for the purpose of having what may be called a friendly feed. Imagine, for instance, John Burns and Mr. Norwood eating and drinking together—or for the matter of that, any of the sweaters who have recently been exposed, enjoying their meals with the "pestilent agitators" who have caused all the bother. One fears that such feasting might end in a battle royal, when the wine was in and the wit was out, and the scene would hardly realise the common notion of a little heaven below, unless, indeed, it be the heaven of our remote ancestors, who, although Norse, yet were rather Irish in their notions, and required a combination of eating, drinking, and fighting to make up their paradise. But your admiration for the courage of the mayor vanishes when you find the name of Mr. Henry Broadhurst prominent upon the list, and himself occupying a place of honour as the representative of labour at the mayor's left hand, while Mr. Pictou, M.P., as Capital, occupied a seat on the mayor's right. Among the honoured guests we notice the name of George Snipton (London), and after that we cannot doubt that the mayor has got hold of as respectable a body of "labour representatives" (!) as can be procured at a short notice. People who live upon the bribes of the capitalist and by sweating their own class were well suited to "represent" labour at such a banquet.

The mayor did more than give a dinner; he made a speech, which was useful in proving one thing, and that is, how small a quantity of brains it requires to be mayor of an important manufacturing town. Among the numerous gems of oratory with which his speech was studded we select the following: "He [the mayor] had no hesitation in saying, and in taking the consequences of it, that those who were agitating in favour of an eight hours movement were the greatest enemies of the country." "Hear, hear!" from the "representatives" of labour present. We believe some honest men who had got in among the flunkies present protested, but their protests are not noticed in the report I have been reading. Now where did our friend get his logic from by which he justifies this extraordinary statement? If this is correct, the greatest foes Britain has are the editor of the *Star*, Mrs. Besant, John Burns, not to mention lesser lights. I wonder how many workmen outside the unique specimens assembled in the mayor's dining-room believe this statement. How people who advocate such a moderate proposal as an eight hour labour day can be the worst enemies of the country—or the capitalists, which I suppose was what the mayor meant—I will leave the reader to find out for himself; it is too mighty a problem for me to understand. I should like also to know how the mayor reconciles his statement that "every sensible Englishman sympathised with the dock-labourers strike"—among whom, I presume, the mayor doesn't reckon himself—with his other statement that the leader of that strike, as an advocate of the eight hours movement, is "the greatest enemy of the country." Is it not likely that that dreadful person was only pursuing his deep and deadly designs in getting up that strike in order to drive in like a wedge that fearful instrument of hellish destruction to the honour and glory of England, the eight hour movement? We pause for a reply.

Mr. Pictou, M.P., was also much disturbed in his mind, because he had been listening to some more dreadful persons in Regent's Park who had proposing to nationalise his machinery. In the speeches of all present there was a prevailing tone of uneasiness; though Mr. Broadhurst might declare that labour was no enemy of capital, and the capitalists might reply they were quite willing to be friendly to labour as represented by Mr. Broadhurst, yet it seemed that the red spectre stood at the banquet board while the lights burnt blue in that ghastly presence. It was vain to cry "Hence, horrible shadow! unreal mockery, hence!" The goblin wouldn't go, and the cry of the millions who starve and slave around, while their smug "representatives" feasted with their tyrants, rose like a mournful wail, How long? how long? N.

THE SOCIALIST LEAGUE.

OFFICES: 13 FARRINGTON ROAD, E.C.

The Offices of the Socialist League will be open for the sale of *Commonweal* and all other Socialist publications from 8.30 a.m. to 9 p.m. every day except Sunday. The Secretary will be in attendance from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily.

Commonweals for 1888, handsomely bound in red, are now ready, price 5s.; per post, 5s. 6d.

Notice to Branch Secretaries.—Membership Cards can now be had by the Branches at 9d. per dozen from Central Office.

Branch Subscriptions Paid.—1888:—Oxford, to end of September.

1889:—Bradford and Hammersmith, to end of April. Norwich, Glasgow, Yarmouth, and Mitcham, to end of May. East London, and Clerkenwell, to end of June. North London, to end of August. Leicester, North Kensington, and Manchester, to end of September. St. Georges East, to end of December.

Notice to Branch Secretaries.—Please remit to Central Office your Branch Capitation fees as soon as possible.

Propaganda Committee.—The Propaganda Committee meets on Tuesday, Nov. 12, at 8.30 p.m. Special meeting; important business; all members of the League interested in the propaganda invited to attend.

Propaganda Fund.—Collection, Propaganda Committee, 2s. 2½d.; P. C. Walken, 2s. 6d.; Mrs. Edwards, 6d.; Two Members of the Clerkenwell Branch 4s.

General Fund.—P. C. Walkden, 5s.

Notice.—All letters on League business, except those intended for Editors of *Commonweal*, to be addressed to me. No other person is authorised to sign any official communication.

FRANK KITZ, Secretary.

"COMMONWEAL" GUARANTEE FUND.

The following further sums have been received towards this fund:—Webb, 1s.; Kitz, 6d.; B. W., 6d.; G. G. Schack, 1s.; Nicoll, 6d.; F. C. S. S., 6d.; and P. C. Walkden, 2s. 6d.

REPORTS.

NORTH KENSINGTON.—A fair meeting held at Latimer Road on Sunday morning; speakers were R. J. Lyne, J. F. Lyne, and Dean; good sale of *Weal* and 7½d. collected. No meeting at St. Ann's Road owing to weather. W. S. De Mattos lectured at our rooms to a good audience on "The Radical Policy and Practicable Socialism," after which a great number of questions were asked and good discussion followed; 1s. 1d. collected and a few *Commonweal* sold.

ST. GEORGE'S EAST.—A fair meeting held at Mile End Waste on Tuesday, opened by comrade Foley and addressed by Turner; small sale of *Commonweal*. At the business meeting on Wednesday, two comrades attended from the Poplar group and reported work done; treasurer gave notice of resignation, as he leaves for New York on Thursday. He intends to try and form a Socialist League there, and be an agent for the *Commonweal*, also to correspond with the branch. No meetings held on Sunday on account of wet. The bad weather lately has spoiled the sale of literature. Comrade Leggatt, of this branch, opened a discussion at the "Three Kings", Clerkenwell, Sunday night, on "Why I Became a Socialist"; good debate followed, in which several comrades took part.

STREATHAM.—Secretary of branch gave an address on "The Fallacy of Palliatives" at the "Leigham Arms." Two of our Streatham comrades took part in the debate on "Capital and Labour" at the Liberal Club. Short meeting at Fountain on Sunday; fair sale of *Weal*.

ABERDEEN.—At Castle Street on Sunday, 27th ult., and Saturday, 2nd inst., Duncan addressed good meetings. On Monday, 28th ult., Kropotkin lectured to about 1,000 people in the Albert Hall, Professor Ramsay in the chair. On the following night he spoke to an audience of 300 or 400 workers in the Friendly Society's Hall, the meeting being a free one; Bisset, a capitalist blacksmith and ex-president of Trades Council, in the chair. At both meetings questions were answered; the lectures were well reported in the local papers.—L.

GLASGOW.—On Tuesday evening Downie, Gilbert, Joe and Tim Burgoyne held a successful meeting on Cathedral Square. On Sunday, at 12.30, Joe Burgoyne and Glasier spoke on Jail Square. At 2.30, a conference of members and sympathisers took place in the Reception Room of the Waterloo Hall—comrades Morris, Crane, Cobden-Sanderson, and Walker being present. The conference, though not so well attended as it ought to have been, was a most interesting and useful one. In the evening Walter Crane lectured in the Waterloo Hall on "The Educational Value of Art," William Morris in the chair. Although the evening was wet and there was a charge for admission, over 700 persons were present. Crane's lecture, which was a very Socialistic one, was listened to with great attention and frequent manifestations of approval. He illustrated his lecture with sketches on the blackboard which we heartily applauded. Cobden-Sanderson then delivered an eloquent address, which made a marked impression on the audience. A resolution expressing sorrow at the deplorable accident by which some thirty women and girls lost their lives two days before in the Greehead Mills, Glasgow, and expressing sympathy with their relatives and friends, was moved by Glasier and seconded by George McLean and carried unanimously. In closing the meeting Morris made a strong appeal in behalf of Socialism and the branch. A collection in behalf of the relatives of the Greehead disaster was taken on going out, and £7 10s. was collected. Financially the meeting was a success, and it will no doubt do much to popularise Socialism in the city. The visit of our London comrades has imbued us with new spirit and will, we hope, help to increase greatly the efficacy of the branch.—G.

LEICESTER.—T. Barclay lectured in the Vine Street Radical Club on Sunday, November 3rd, in the morning, to a small audience, on "The Principles of Socialism." In the evening, to much larger numbers, on "Labour and Capital." Both addresses were followed by discussion. On Monday evening Kate Barclay read a paper on "Thrift" at our branch meeting; good discussion.—A. G.

MANCHESTER.—P. Kropotkin gave a lecture to a large audience, and was most enthusiastically received; our members sold about 9s. of literature.

NORWICH.—Sunday last, owing to the wretched weather, no open-air meeting could be held; a number of comrades and friends turned up at our Hall, where some of the speeches of the Chicago Anarchists were read; comrade Swash spoke in support. In the evening a discussion was opened by Lenneying, subject—"What is Socialism?" Comrades W. Moore, Houghton, Emery, and others took part; very poor sale of *Commonweal*, owing to the weather.

DUBLIN.—The debate at the Progressist Club on "Anarchism versus Democracy," opened by comrade W. Thompson, was kept up for three evenings, owing to the great number desirous of speaking. The advocates of Social Democracy were the more numerous; the Anarchists having if anything the best of the argument; King, Wilson, Hamilton, Locke, Dr. Creagh (Beunos Ayres), and several others spoke.

MANHOOD SUFFRAGE LEAGUE, "Three Doves," Berwick St., Oxford St., W.—Sunday November 10, at 8.45 p.m., William Morgan, "The Late Strike of the Dock-labourers; Lessons Political and Social."

LECTURE DIARY.

LONDON.

Battersea.—All communications to E. Buteux, 20 Abercrombie Street, Battersea Park Road.

Clerkenwell.—Hall of the Socialist League, 13 Farringdon Road, E.C. (½-minute from Farringdon Station, 1 minute from Holborn Viaduct). On Sunday November 10, at 8 p.m., lecture by D. J. Nicoll, "The French Revolution."

East London.—Crown Coffee Tavern, 2 Columbia Road, Hackney Road. Sunday November 10, at 7.30, Members' meeting. At 8, meeting on Triangle. At 8.30, Chicago Martyrs Commemoration—speakers, G. Cores, H. Davis, and other comrades.

Hammersmith.—Kelmescott House, Upper Mall, W. Sunday Nov. 10, at 8 p.m., A lecture. French Class, 8 to 9 every Friday evening.

Merton.—3 Clare Villas, Merton Road.

Mitcham.—"Lord Napier," Fair Green. Meets every Sunday at 12.30, to enroll members, etc.

North Kensington.—Clarendon Coffee Tavern. Meets every Wednesday at 8 p.m. On Sunday November 10, at 8 p.m., J. Turner will lecture on "A Working-man as a Socialist."

North London.—6 Windmill Street, Tottenham Court Rd. Meets every Friday evening at 8 o'clock.

Southwark.—Secretary, George Evans, 56 Lucy Road, Bermondsey, S.E. Hill's Coffee Tavern, Great Charlotte Street, Blackfriars Road, S.E.

Streatham.—Meets every Thursday at the "Leigham Arms," Wellfield Road, at 8.30 p.m.

Whitechapel and St. Georges in the East.—Branch meetings at International Club, 40 Berner Street, Commercial Road. J. Turner, organising secretary.

PROVINCES.

Aberdeen.—Organiser, J. Leatham, 7 Jamaica Street. Branch meets in Odd-fellows' Small Hall, Crooked Lane, on Monday evenings at 8. Singing practice at 46 Marischal Street on Thursdays at 8 p.m.

Bradford.—Laycock's Temperance Hotel, Albion Court, Kirkgate. Meets every Tuesday at 7.30.

Dundee.—Address to W. Cameron, 17 Laurence Street, Dundee.

Glasgow.—Ram's Horn Hall, 122 Ingram Street. Branch meets on Thursday evenings at 8 o'clock and Sundays at 7 o'clock.

Halifax.—Socialists meet every Sunday at 6.30 p.m. at Helliwell's Temperance Hotel, Northgate.

Leeds.—Clarendon Buildings, Victoria Road and Front Row. Open every evening. Business meeting Saturdays at 8 p.m.

Leicester.—Exchange Buildings, Rutland Street. Branch meets on Monday and Thursday, at 8 p.m. In the Co-operative Hall, High Street, on Tuesday November 12th, at 8 p.m., George Bernard Shaw will lecture on "Radicalism and Social Democracy."

Manchester.—Working Men's Educational Club, 122 Corporation Street, corner of Hanover Street. Weekly meeting of members every Tuesday at 8 p.m.

Norwich.—Sunday, at S. Gordon Hall. Tuesday, at 8.30, Members' meeting. Wednesday and Friday, at S. Rehearsals. Thursday, at 8, Discussion Class. Saturday, at 8.30, Social Meeting for comrades and friends; free.

Oxford.—Temperance Hall, 25½ Femoroake Street. First Friday in every month, at 8.30 p.m.

Walsall.—Lecture Room, back of Temperance Hall. Mondays at 8 p.m.

Yarmouth.—Branch meets at comrade Headley's, near Co-operative Stores, every Tuesday evening. Elocution Class Friday at 8 p.m. Mrs. Schack will be in Yarmouth on the 10th for the commemoration of Bloody Sunday and the Chicago Martyrs.

OPEN-AIR PROPAGANDA.

SATURDAY 9.

8.30..... Mile-end WasteCores

SUNDAY 10.

11 Latimer Road Station.....R. J. Lyne and Dean
 11.30..... Chelsea Embankment.....Samuels
 11.30..... Kilburn—"Old Plough," Kilburn Lane.....Mainwaring
 11.30..... North Kensington—St. Ann's Road.....J. F. Lyne, Maughan, Crouch
 11.30..... Commercial Road—Union Street.....Davis
 11.30..... Mitcham—Fair Green.....Kitz
 11.30..... Regent's Park.....Nicoll
 11.30..... Southwark—Flat Iron Square.....The Branch
 11.30..... Starch Green.....The Branch
 3.30..... Hyde Park—Marble Arch.....Cantwell and Parker
 3.30..... Victoria Park.....Chicago Commemoration
 7 Weltje Road, Ravenscourt Park.....Hammersmith Branch
 7.30..... Mitcham—Fair Green.....Kitz
 8 Streatham—Fountain, High Street.....Mowbray
 7.30..... Walham Green—back of Church.....Hammersmith Branch
 8 Clerkenwell Green.....The Branch

TUESDAY 12.

8 Walham Green—back of Church.....Hammersmith Branch

THURSDAY 14.

8.15..... Hoxton Church.....Cores

PROVINCES.

Aberdeen.—Saturday: Castle Street, 7 p.m.

Glasgow.—Sunday: Jail Square at 2 o'clock; Paisley Road at 5 o'clock. Tuesday: Cathedral Square, at 8 p.m.

Leeds.—Sunday: Hunslet Moor, at 11 a.m.; Vicar's Croft, at 7 p.m.

Manchester.—Sunday: Philips Park Gates, at 11; Stevenson Square, at 3.

Norwich.—Sunday: St. Faiths, at 11 a.m.; Market Place, at 3 p.m.

Sheffield.—Sunday: Hillfoot Bridge, at 11 a.m.; Mars Hill, Attercliffe, at 11;

Rotherham College Yard, at 6.30; Pump, Westbar, at 8.

Yarmouth.—Sunday: Priory Plain, at 11; Fish Wharf, at 3; Colman's Granary Quay, at 7. Bradwell, Sunday at 11.30. Belton, every Monday at 8.

THE CHICAGO MARTYRS.—The Dublin Socialist Club will hold a Commemoration Meeting on Monday November 11, at 8 p.m., at 87 Marlborough Street. A Chicago comrade will address the meeting.

SYLLABUS of Lectures, in connection with the Arts and Crafts Exhibition now open, to be given in the New Gallery, Regent Street, on Thursday evenings, at 8.30 p.m.—Nov. 14th, Henry Holiday, "Stained Glass." 21st, T. J. Cobden-Sanderson, "The Decoration of Bound Books." 28th, Lewis F. Day, "Ornament." Dec. 5, Walter Crane, "Design and Expression." Admission 2s. 6d.; art students and employes, 1s.

A CENTURY of SOCIAL MOVEMENTS.—Course of Lectures to be given by members of the Fabian Society, at Willis's Rooms, King Street, S.W., on Friday evenings at 8 o'clock. November 15th, Hubert Bland, "The Protest of Literature and Sentiment." Dec. 6, Annie Besant, "The Trades Union Movement." 20th, G. Bernard Shaw, "The New Politics." Tickets of admission may be obtained from the Secretary, 180 Portsdown Road, W.

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Every man's needs would be satisfied from this common stock, but no man would be allowed to own anything which he could not use, and which consequently he must abuse by employing it as an instrument for forcing others to labour for him unpaid. Thus the land, the capital, machinery, and means of transit would cease to be private property, since they can only be used by the combination of labour to produce wealth.

Thus men would be free because they would no longer be dependent on idle property-owners for subsistence; thus they would be brothers, for the cause of strife, the struggle for subsistence at other people's expense, would have come to an end. Thus they would be equal, for if all men were doing useful work no man's labour could be dispensed with. Thus the motto of Liberty, Fraternity, and Equality, which is but an empty boast in a society that upholds the monopoly of the means of production, would at last be realised.

This Revolutionary Socialism must be International. The change which would put an end to the struggle between man and man, would destroy it also between nation and nation. One harmonious system of federation throughout the whole of civilisation would take the place of the old destructive rivalries. There would be no great centres breeding race hatred and commercial jealousy, but people would manage their own affairs in communities not too large to prevent all citizens from taking a part in the administration necessary for the conduct of life, so that party politics would come to an end.

Thus, while we abide by the old motto:

Liberty, Fraternity, Equality,

we say that the existence of private property destroys Equality, and therefore under it there can be neither Liberty nor Fraternity.

We add to the first motto then this other one—

FROM EACH ACCORDING TO HIS CAPACITY, TO EACH ACCORDING TO HIS NEEDS.

When this is realised there will be a genuine Society; until it is realised, Society is nothing but a band of robbers. We must add that this change can only be brought about by combination amongst the workers themselves, and must embrace the whole of Society. The new life cannot be given to the workers by a class higher than they, but must be taken by them by means of the abolition of classes and the reorganisation of Society.

COUNCIL OF THE SOCIALIST LEAGUE.

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