LABOR UNION JOURNAL

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No. 9

ABOU BEN ADHEM. Abou Ben Adhem (may his tribe in-

woke one night from a deep dream

And saw within the moonlight in his

Making it rich, and like a lily in

bloom.

An angel writing in a book of gold;-Exceeding peace had made Ben Adhem bold.

and to the Presence in the room he said.

What writest thou?"-The vision raised its head

And, with a look made of all sweet Answered, "The names of those who

love the Lord." "And is mine one?" said Abou. "Nay.

not so." Replied the Angel. Abou spoke more

low, But cheerily still; and said, "I pray thee, then, Vrite me as one that loves his fellow

The Angel wrote and vanised. The

next night came again with a great awakening light,

showed the names whom love of God had blest, lo! Ben Adhem's name led all

-Leigh Hunt.

FROM THE FALLS CITY.

lughes Writes What the Workers

of Spokane Are Doing. Spokane, Wash., Dec. 2, 1902. erican Labor Union Journal:

The labor movement is going steady forward in Spokane and the surounding country. New unions are sing organized every few days, and e old ones are enjoying a healthy owth. There is some talk of an emoyers' association being formed to theu nions, but among its prors are some men who have had

elr fingers badly burned in the st and they do not seem to be putng very much heart in the moveent. Outside of the strike of the as Workers there is but little trou-

George Speer, proprietor of an ice mpany that bears the euphoneous me of the "Union Ice Company," ad a contract of tearing down the arge building used here during the cent Masonic fair. He refused to poloy union laborers or to pay the scale of wages, and when seen by the business agent told that gentlemar that the "union could go to hell" and several other places. Federal Labor Union No. 222 placed him on the unfair list, and it is now getting "hot for the ice man."

Editor Gilbert, of the New Time went to Elk Sunday and delivered address on the labor question and cialism before Mount Carleton nion. The speech was well receiv-

The organizer visited the newly-oraized union at Milan Sunday after and found the boys all enthu kind of stuff in this little union, it is sure to be a winner.

I hope to organize unions at New port, Wash., and at Priest River, Idabefore the end of the week

en a fresh start and is initiating arge classes of new candidates at lous to get all the stores in Spokane unionized at the earliest possible date. The other union men are helping them by demanding the card of every clerk they trade with.

e stelke of Gas Workers' Union 269, against the Spokane Falls Light company is still on and thing is progressing nicely. our to 25 cents. President J. W.

Socialism vs. Home Rule

BY THOMAS J. HACBRTY

from Irishmen in this country anent my letter in the Dublin Workers' Republic and I want to sharpen the things which i in Ireland; and I am truest to their memory when't contend that socialism, is the sole remedy not only for Ireland but, also the down-trodden race of man in every part of the world.

We have home rule in America; and what has it done for the great mass of common people? You will find the answer in the slums of our big cities, in the weat shops, in the glass factories, and among the bonded baby slaves' of the cotton mills. As wage slaves the condition of our workingmen is little better than that of their felows on the continent. We have in . merican practically the same unequal distribution of the earth's treasares as that which obtains in every stronghold of cap calism. The country, indeed, is very wealthy; but according to the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, a capitalist paper, "the presperity now so marked does not benefit a large number of people. In facta large number of men and women working on salary or wages are actually worse off than before the tide of good times set in. * * f The vast majority of working people are getting about the same wages paid five years ago. This is especially true of women. (Nov. 26, 1902.) The director of charities of the city of

Cleveland, O., Harris R. Cooley said in an interview last week: 'There is a question which involves the fundamental causes of the aegradation of young lives. Here for example is a series of facts in the official state report of the bureau of labor statistics for 1902. The summary for the cities o Cleveland, Columbus, and Cincinnati gives the following statement gathered from personal interviews with nearly seven thousand workingwomen of these cities: The average cost of living is \$5.24 per week, and the average wage is \$4.83 per week. On a page of the report, taken at random, which gives the condition of thirty-eight women wageworkers in Cleveland, twelve of them were earning \$3.0 per week and less, and, six of them were earning \$2.00 per week and less. * * 11 we are -- fred, and rightfully so, by that which causes the ruin of one life, what shall we feel and say of the injustice and wrong which ruins a hundred lives? To those who are permitted to ree it, the tragedy of our modern industrial and social system is

All this, mark you, in a country enjoying-on paper-the highest measure of young lives, this same cheapening of men's bodies and souls in the marts of capital. is shown in the testimony before the anthracite commission in Pennsylvania, Answering a question propounded by Judge Gray yesterday afternoon (Nov. 20th), the Rev. Dr. Roberts" said today "that a comparison of fatalities on all railroads in the United states with those in the anthracite fields shows that 2.5 per 1,000 railroad employees are killed annually, while 3.5 per 1,000 employes were kiled in the anthracite industry. The datalities of switchmen, flagmen, and watchmen in 5.5 per 1,000 among miners and the laborers working inside the mines." At least one-half of the tatalities could, be prevented if the mincowners would spend enough money in safety appliances and improved machinery. An editorial in the Chicago Daily News, May 19, 1902, tells us that "the miner can barely live on what he is permitted to earis. The coal mon-opoly, working under an tron-claid agreeabsorbs the great profits and hides them away under tricky bookkeeping, by which 40 per cent or more of the selling price of coal disappears as freight charges -paid by the monopoly to itself, These charges are wildly unreasonau e. Meanwhile the miner is permitted to dig when the mine is not shut down by agreement, making a bare living. He costs so liftle that the coal monopoly does not have to improve its methods. It can continue to use obsolete machinery and do its work in a wasteful manner because men are so cheap."

As I have pointed out elsewhere, the official reports of Massachusetts, one of the wealthiest states in the union, reveal the fact that twenty-live per cent of men engaged in eighty-eight classes of wealthproduction have an income less than \$8 the week. In other terms, one-fourth of the laborers, when steadily at work, receive about thirty dollars the month From this paltry sum there must be ueducted the wages lost in times of commercial depression, strikes, ockouts, sickness, or accident. With the utmost thrift and management, then, the laborer and his family cannot live on such wages in half

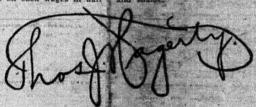
home rule! This same degradation of the comfort which his employer's horse enjoys in the stable. The cheapest unfurnished rooms for an average family of five will cost at least two dollars the week; fuel and lights at the lowest calenlation, fifty cents; and food of the coarsest kind four dollars the week-leaving fifty cents for shoes, clothes books recreation and the minor luxuries. No margin-remains for births, sickness and death. And yet-we have home rule in

"I do not question the sincersty and patrictism of the gallant men who are fighting for home rule in Ireland; but, in the face of its overwhelming failure in America, I repeat that it is a clumsy makeshift and that as a remedial measure it means simply the transference of the scat of explonation from Westminster to Dublin.

Home rule would not give the workers the full produce of their toil, Probt, interest and rent-the means whereby the few now live off the sweat and blunted hopes of the many-would still hold sway in the industries of Ireland. The iron law of wages would not-nay, could notbe abrogated by home rule under a capitalist form of society. In other words, the workers would continue to be robbed of all their earnings above that which is barely sufficient for their subsistence and for the propagation of other wageslaves when their own usefulness shall have ended in the treadmill of capital.

It is true that home rule would give ome capitalists more direct control of the home markets; but it would not solve the great problem of happiness for the proletariat. Indeed, no half measures will accomplish that purpose. One may not wife with a cancer. The only right procedure in such a case is complete excision down to the last root so that not the slightest vestige remains of the giant epithelial cells which have been waxing big at the expense of the entire organism

struction of socialism before Ireland can be free and humanity come forth from the prison bounds of squalor, hunger, misery



TO JOHN MITCHELL

"Mr. Mitchell, in reply to further questions, said that he regarded as living wages for a miner six hundred dollars a year."-Daily Papers

Mitchell, spokesman of the miners, I had hoped for better things Than the bit of information my morning paper brings: You have named six hundred dollars to the Arbitration Court, As sufficient yearly income for a family's support-Scarce enough to keep the miner an efficient working tool, .In a fairly good condition, like a wagon or a mule It will save him from starvation till he finishes his task-Think you that is all a workingman can reasonably ask?

While defining thus the limits of the laborer's desire, Had you not a strong temptation to responsively inquire, Which among your arbitrators, whatsoever be his sphere, Lives on thrice six hundred dollars as his salary for a year? Possibly it might have shocked them; let us concede that they Are superior to the miners, and composed of finer clay; In their households do these gentlemen, so just, and kind, and wise, Feed their children in proportion to their smartness or their size?

Have we banished "equal rights" as an impracticable scheme, But a figment of the fancy, and an iridescent dream? In the face of gospel teachings shall we formally forswear "Human brotherhood" as being a delusion and a snare? Does the boasted Declaration of our Independence mean, One man shall be lord and master and his brother a machine?

Mitchell, tell your Arbitrators, Justice is your sole demand: Equal rights to Nature's bountles-water, air, and light and land; That the mineral treasures hidden in the earth were all designed Not for one man, nor for some men but alike for all mankind; That the wonderful inventions of the wise of every age, From Prometheus to Marconi, are the toller's heritage; Leave him all his labor's product-no portion of it spent Others to enrich with profits, interest, dividends or rent; Free him of his present burden-'tis the heaviest he bears-Of supporting sumptuously a horde of greedy millionaires; Let the plunderersa nd parasites, of low degree and high, Earn their bread by useful work-unless they choose to starve and die.

Let the workingman who builds them dwell in costly marbel halls; Let the sculptor's and the painter's finest gems adorn its walls; Let the orator and poet all their choicest treasures bring-Ablest actors play their dramas, grandest prima donnas sing; Let the laborers' wives and daughters be the ones that shall receive Rarest silks and finest laces human skill can plan or weave; Let them visit distant countries with historic memories store Gain the knowledge and the course to the countries of can are Let the long-delaying twilight of the worker's life be blest With abundant store of comforts while he takes his well-earned rest; All of which could be accomplished—no one wealth or leisure lack— But for these insatiate idlers mounted on the laborer's back Then no longer bend and truckle, and as uncomplaining slaves, For a miserable pittance, crawl to ignominious graves!

-J. L. McCreery.

Tells of Progress of American Labor Union in That City

Denver Butchers' Protective Union No. 162, A. L. U., is one of the strong-

est unions numerically in the city, and it is necessary for it to have two business agents to properly attend to the work of the organization. The butcher boys gave a swell ball on Thanksgiving evening in the Elks'

The Denver Mattress and Bedding Workers' Union No. 208, A. L. U. is one of the fighting unions of the city. It has kept up a constant fire on George J. Kindel's scab mattresses, and proposes to continue the fire until a favorable and satisfac tory adjustment of the existing con troversy is accomplished.

Denver Grocery Employes' Union No. 167 has a business agent in the field constantly. He is doing good work. He has taken over fifty applications in the last few weeks, and weeks thoroughly unionize two of the largest grocery stores in the city.

The Denver Laundry Workers' and Drivers' Union No. 165, A. L. U., is on the increase, About forty applilarge laundries, which will ultimately unionize all of them. The boys and girls seem to be in dead earnest.

en engaged in a bitter fight with Contractor Theo. Hennessy, ore hauler for the B. & M. company, for more than two weeks. The union imposed a fine of \$100 against Hennessy for violation of union rules by working teamsters ten hours, when the union schedule is nine. Contractor Hennessy

The Carriage and Wagon Workers' Union No. 242, A. L. U., is still in the midst of battle, engaged in a bitter struggle and contending to establish the eight-hour day. The bosses association is putting up a vigorous fight, but the boys ha succeeded in unionizing sixteen. and enforced the eight-hour day.

The Denver Blacksmiths' and He ers' Union No. 163, A. L. U., is c of the progressive organizations the city. They have a discuss every meeting night on politi economy, and the subject is hand with unusual ability; in fact, it may the meeting very interesting ar to read, study and think.

The Carriage and Hack Union No. 206, A. L. U., is poover by Brother W. F. Bunb great, big-hearted, good-natur low, well liked by everybody, always working hard to furt best interests of union men. active and progressive memb is constantly promoting unlo is one of the boys that no up. The secretary of No. instructed to send the nan dresses of every member year's subscription for the Journal. The union is doi

settlement, and it is its rights, the capitalistic, howling newspapers misre-the situation with a view to ing the public against the

John C. Chase will to

JOIN A LABOR UNION

I believe the Labor press today has more influence with the working people than all the other newspapers. Organized labor presents the only solid front in the industrial field against the encreachments of the octopus of monopoly that is winding its slimy form along, devouring the industries and incidentally the people attached to them. These workers are learning the art of governing industries; their meetings are training many an unconscious congressman and United States senator and statesman whose names will thunder down the corridors of time. In these meetings is the beginning of that industrial government that is the dream of the Socialist, when the industries shall become public property and governed by the workers, who will make all the rules and regulations governing their employment, without the intervention of any capitalist or boss all the rules and regulations governing their employment, without the ting to be done before they are qualified for the power that will shortly ! of the evolution of industry, just as much as the concentration of production in more gigantic factories by the trusts, which latter are preparing the industries more readily for the hand of labors. The building of the New Order is going on in every direction with all possible speed. The capital more rapidly than labor. Surely capital has not done its work of concer ing the smallest lines of business, so labor is combining in the same San Francisco have formed a Union, and this will likely follow in other bor are building up their machines, but this cannot go on forever. There a clash, when Labor shall awaken to a higher sense of its power and it both the industrial and the political clubs and master Mr. Capitalist, and Industrial Republic that is to crown's thousand years of Glory and Peace of the brightest names in the galaxy of history will be born. And unborr to them as we now do to Washington, Lincoln and others who lifted the Young man, young woman, join a Labor Union in your vocation, and be a factor in the great work they are doing. THEY ARE BUILDING A REPUBLIC OF THE WORLD, A PARLIAMENT OF HUMANITY .-- Appeal to Reason.

out and told that it was Carr. He then asked that he be notified when Mr. Carr called again and that he with the company's business. Carr heard of this and vesterday returned to the millinery store and requested that the company be notified to send its detectives, which was done. The company weakened, and the last I saw of Carr he was still waiting for dered other light in the place of the

Get four paid yearly subscribers for the Journal at 50 cents a year and P. O box 1607, Dutte, Mont.

GENERAL LABOR NEWS.

Work at the quays at Marseilles France, is at a standstill, owing to strike of the stokers. There is a com plete and effective tions

Annual convention of the Unite Mineworkers will assemble at Indian apolis, Ind., January 19, 1903.

At New Orleans November 30 sh strikers were found guilty of contem of court and sentenced by Judge P-tings to long terms in the pentic

Employes in the planing mill of t

embership, to which will be admitted iners in isolated localities where not web can be found to form a union.

n's Union of America is in session

to has just you a suit against company that had refus

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4, 1962.

CLEAR THE WAY.

Men of thought be up, and stirring Night and day. Sow and seed—withdraw the curtain—

- Clear the way.

Men of action, aid and cheer them.

As ye may!

There's a fount about to stream.

There's a light about to stream.

There's a warmth about to glow

ing

There's a warmth about to glow.

There's a flower about to blow.

There's a midnight blackness chang-

Into gray;

Men of thought and men of action,

Clear the way!

Once the welcome light has broken, Who shall say What the unimagined glories

Of the day? What the evil that shall perish In its ray?

Ald the dawning tongue and pen;
Ald it, hopes of honest men.
Ald it, paper—ald it, type—
Aid it, for the hour is ripe.

And our earnest must not slacken into play.

Men of thought and men of action Clear the way!

Lo: a cloud is about to vanish From the day; And a brazen wrong to crumble

Into clay.

Lo! the Right's about to conquer;

Clear the way!

With the Right shall many more Enter smiling at the door; With the giant Wrong shall fall Many others, great and small, That for ages long have held us For their prey.

Men of thought and men of action, Clear the way!

- Charles Mackay.

Wages increase ten per cent; cost of living advances twenty per cent Prosperity reigns supreme!

There cannot be and must not be the slightest semblance of a political compromise between labor and capitalism.

If any decency works into the political life of the United States capitalist politicians cannot be charged with the responsibility for it,

The time is coming in the United States, and especially in the West when ideas will become as great a factor in political campaigns as boodle and booze.

As usual, the labor unions are fighting the battles of the people. The active champions of direct legislation verywhere are the labor organiza

A labor organization that must deend upon the approval of capitalist is supported for its existence is, to y the least, not founded upon the less of Gibraltar.

iarmony will be restored in the erican labor movement when the prous disruptionists stop fighting unions and direct their energies e legitimate purposes of organ

or creates everything and is ento all that it creates. The time me when labor will take posof its own, and will say to sm that there is nothing to ar-

npaign of education is all right, tout a perfect organization it fective. Labor must and will more perfectly than ever be-industrially and politically.

Randolph Hearst, says the party must unite with the ns. Of course, Labor Skinn and God's partner, Baer, crats, will fall right into line

locals of the American tion elect officers this month at care cannot be exercised. It always the "good fellow" who the most efficient officer of a on. The first consideration whether the aspirant for conscientious worker for a genuine lover of his second as to his tech-

Why the Journal Supports Socialism

Almost all unions of the American Labor Union are strong supporters of the Socialist party, and the editor of the Journal receives numerous letters every week commending the Journal for its earnest and uncompromising support of Socialism and the Socialist party of the United States There are, however, less than half a dozen locals that do not understand the nature of the class struggle clearly, and do not understand the working class character of the Socialist party. These few unions feel offended that the Journal should advocate Socialism when some of their members are democrats or republicans. The following letter, written last week to the secretary of Tonopah Labor Union, No. 224, is intended as an answer to those objections:

"Mr H. J. McGhan.

"Secretary Tonopah Labor Union, No. 224; Butler, Nye County, Nevada"

Dear Sir and Brother: I am just in receipt of yours of the 21st inst, regarding the Journal. I am, ind-ed, surprised to receive from one of our unions a letter displaying such a lack of knowledge of the principles and policies of the American Labor Union.

The basic principle upon which the American Labor Union is founded is the platform of the Socialist Party of the United States. I respectfully refer you to the Preamble and Declaration of Principles of our organization, printed with the Constitution is copy of which is enclosed here with

"You are wrong when you say your union might just as well subscribe for a democratic or republican political paper. Both the democratic and republican parties are parties of the capitalist class. The members of your union are not members of the capitalist class, but of the working class and for that reason the only consistent thing for them to do is to support the party of their class, which is the Socialist party.

and for that reason the only consistent thing for them to do is to support the party of their class, which is the Socialist party.

"If you have any doubt as to the Socialist party being the party of the working class, let me call your attention to a few points that prove conclusively the working class character of the Socialist party:

First—In Europe the Socialist party is identical with the labor unions, and a union man who is not a Socialist ceases to be a union man, and is recognized a scab as much as the man who refuses to support the unions at the mines, in the mills and at the factories.

Second—In the United States, the American Labor Union, the Western Federation of Miners, and the National Union of Brewery Workmen have declared the Socialist party to be the party of the working class; and at the recent convention of the American Federation of Labor more than 47 per cent of the votes were in favor of supporting the Socialist party. The United Mine Workers voted solidly for Socialism, proving that organization, with nearly 300,000 members, recognizes the Socialist party as the party of the working class.

. . "In conclusion, let me call your attention to the fact that the official journals of the leading labor organizations of the world are now advocating Socialism straightforwardly and uncompromisingly.

'Tonopah Miners' Union, No. 121 is a local of the Western Federation of Miners. The Miners' Magazine, the official organ of that body, is one of the strongest Socialist publications in the world,

"I am convinced that if the members of your union will consider this matter impartially and without prejudice, with a view to their own best interests, they will understand the necessity of the American Labor Union Journal being a straightforward advocate of the Socialist party.

"Yours fraternally."

Clarence Fruith,

"Secretary-Treasurer American Labor Union."

"Butte, Montana, Nov. 28th, 1902,

Every labor union ought to have a library. Intelligence is the only force that can saye the manhood and wom anhood of America from the destruction threatened by the capitalist system. Labor unions must be educators as well as organizers.

Capitalism organizes politically as well as industrially. The capitalist corporation or monopoly that does not own a legislature, n judge or a city council is a back number these days. What political department does labor direct?

No better thing can be said of the workingman than that he uses a part of his scant earnings to buy books, and that he sets apart a few moments fo each day's well-earned rest for the study of tabor and social questions. Herein lies the hope of a better time for labor.

Labor produces all wealth, and it receives in return just enough of the wealth it creates to enable it to create more wealth. The other part goes for the support in idleness and luxury of a class of idlers that never produces anything. What kind of a "divide up" game is this?

In an editorial in the New York Journal a few days ago Mr. Hearst said the democratic party should stand for a FAIR DIVISION between capital and labor. There you are again with that infernal nnarchistic "divide up" policy. There is only one party in the world polities today that stands malterably against "dividing up" with anybody, and that is the Socialist party.

There are two reasons why Willie Hearst's plan for a union of the democratic party and the trades unions will fall flat. The first is that the same element that twice defeated Bryan for the presidency would not permit a sincere union of this sort, and the second is that Mr. Labor is already engaged to the fair damsel, Socialism!

If Gompers wants peace he can get it by stopping his treacherous fight against the western organizations. The American Labor Union has steadfast by refused to make a fight against any labor organization in the world, and any action or inaction of the eastern disruptionists in the future will not affect his position.

The hope for a broad; just and equitable civilization does not lie in Carnegie libraries nor Rockefeller's universities. It is the scant education afforded the children of the working people by the common schools, and the occasional hours of study at the homely fireside of the workingman that is paving the way for the best civilization the world has ever known.

At present the workers of the country are dependent upon the capital ists of the country (the idlers) for the chance to work. This in industrial slavery, Political liberty is meaningless so long as industrial slavery continues. In the words of a witty labor editor, There is very little difference between being hungry and out of a job under a monarchy, and being in the same condition under a

The political, social moral and religious life of the people of any country radiate from and correspond to the economic foundation of the sotry of that country. It is absolutely able to build strong, stable and

permanent moral and religious institutions without a just and equitable; industrial foundation. Capitalism curses every phase of life.

With the invention and development of machinery the workers are now able to produce a hundredfold more than their great-grandfathers possibly could produce a hundred years ago. Is it a hundredfold easier for the worker to make a living now than it was then? If not, why not

Everywhere in the world capitalism is confronted with the rising tide of international Socialism. More than ten million strong, earnest and determined men are now voting for a social system that will give to the work ers the full product of their labor. Are you a member of this enormous army that is battling for a brighter future for labor?

Direct legislation will not do as much for the people as some of its extravagant advocates claim for it. But it will certainly give the masses greater freedom in the government of themselves. A good and effective direct legislation law will have the effect of bringing measures instead of men into political prominence. On the whole, the initiative and referen dum ought to have the support of everyone who believes in a republican form of government.

There is not a spark of bitterness in the American Labor Union against the membership of the American Fed eration of Labor. We know there are just as true union men in the American Federation of Labor as anywhere else in the world. If the rank and file of that organization is involved in the dirty disrupting tactics of the Gompers brigade it is because of ignorance of the real situation, and not for lack of union principle.

If there was ever a doubt as to the nermanency of the American Labo Union as a fixture of organized labor that doubt has been dispelled since the establishment of the Journal. This paper has done more to arouse the people of America to the justice of our principles than any other force possibly could. From every state and province north of Mexico come letters of encouragement and applica tions for individual membership. The influence of the paper is just begin ning to be felt, and the results justify the prediction that more charters will be issued from January 1, 1903, to January 1, 1904, than have been issued altogether during the last five years. Increase the influence of the organization by booming the circulation of the Journal. Watch both grow during the next twelve months.

A most ridiculous spectacle is that of the officers of the American Federa tion crying "Peace, peace!" and at the same time carrying on a contemptible treacherous , underhanded fight against the American Union and its affiliated or-ganizations. We have in our possession (and upon request of Mr. Gompers will publish it) evidence that shows the president of the A. F. of L not only attempted to force locals to withdraw from the A. L. U. with threats of disruption, but that he actually advised a local organizer in Butte to organize a dual union of engineers in opposition to the regu union of stationary engineers affiliated with the Western Federation of Miners. This is a new brand of un finism for us. We call it scabbery in the West

The man who produces the cheapest is the only man who can produce at all under the present system of trusts and combination of industry. The small producer and dealer are forced out of business in the very nature of things. That is why the time is near at hand when all of the industry of the world will be centralized into the hands of a few capital-

ists, and all the rest of the people will be forced into the great army of wageworkers. When that time comes the great mass of people will be absolutely at the mercy of capitalism, industrially. A safer way is to vote for the people to own the trusts, instead of allowing the trusts to own the people.

HUGHES' SHARPSHOOTERS

Pithy Paragraphs by a Member of the Executive Board.

The late election marked the final demise of the old populist party, killed by the fusion-tactics of "the democratic party, which is now also undergoing the struggles preparatory to its own complete annihilation, and the sooner it is wiped off the political tapis the better for the people, for we will then have the issue clear between the people and organized wealth, without any half-hearted movements to obscure it.

The people are, nevertheless, better off for the old populist movement. It was essentially an educational movement, and opened the way for right thinking; but, yet, it was a middle class movement. However, its mission is performed, and it is well that it is now out of the way so far as a party organization is concerned. Now we can build upon the sound and sure foundation of the socialist philosophy.

The democratic party is firmly clutched in the death grip of chronic double-dealing, a disease with which it has been afflicted for long years. It is the party of what might be called, with a great deal of truth, "petit larceny" capitalism, and the people have had their eyes pretty thoroughly opened to its policy of negation and donothingism. This policy with its record of broken promises, are sufficient guarantee that it will never again be trusted with power by the American people.

In fact, nothing now remains of the old democratic ship but a few broken fragments. It is well. The lines will now be clearly drawh between the humanity of sosialism and the greed of capitalism. Mark Hanna was right in his prediction that the fight of the future would be between the republican party and the socialist party.—The republican party is today more clearly than ever before the party of private capitalism and its attendant oppression of the working classes. The fight is on.

We are eager for the contest and welconfe the Tray. Heretofore the democrats,
the populists and a score of other alleged
reform movements of one kind and another
have kept the working class alternately
divided and discouraged. Now the workers in shop, mill, mine, factory and on the
farm are beginning to see their mutual
interests, and there is, for the first time in
history, laid before them a rational program for their emancipation from the oppression and exploitation of private capitalism through the co-operative commonwealth of socialism.

Heretofore the democratic wire-puller has tickled his organ of hope with the stilly idea that he could, when the time came, rope in the socialist with his fusion bunco game, which he worked so successfully on the populists and the greenbackers; but it is now beginning to truthfully dawn upon him that the socialist has no more use for him than it has for his brother republican heefer. The pitiable lack of knowledge concerning economics questions is leading his party into dangerous pitfalls, and he can get no help from the socialist for his pet scheme of "smashing the trusts" and turning back the wheels of progress.

When he learns more about these mat-

ters he will find that the socialists have discovered that the trust is too big to smash-that it is no more to be smashed than is the labor-saving machine; in fact, that it is of itself a labor-saving machine, and that instead of smashing it, according to the democratic plan, the sensible thing to do is to handle it in a way to make it a benefit to all mankind. The socialist knows that the trust represents sensible organization in production and distribution and thereby saves great waste of labor; but he also knows that as long as it is owned and controlled by private capital that its natural greed will prompt it to oppress both the worker and the consumer; in a word that all of its benefits will be taken by, its private owner just as in the case of the labor-saving machine. Therefore, he knows that the sensible thing to do is not to "smash" it, but to take it over and run it co-operatively by all the people in the interest of all the people. It is easy enough to smashh bric-brac, but when you come to run up against the world's progress, that is "a horse of another color." Do you see the point, my democratic friend?

The report of the interstate commerce commission for the year ending June 30 last shows that the railroads "earned" a net profit of \$5,0001 per mile. The lump sum was \$605,616,705. This means that every man, woman and child in America contributed a sum of not less than \$8 each to the profit of the private owners of the railroads. Trulty these are days of prosperity—for the railroad magnates. They were mighty hard up, however, when the overworked railroad laborers wanted a raise in wages, and it took an awful lot of blu ng to get that "voluntary" increase of to per cent.

The American steel trust is also showing great prosperity, for its private owners lts report for September and October shows a gain of more than \$2,500,000 in profits over the corresponding months of last year. No increase in wages, though. Oh, this private ownership of necessities is elegant for the capitalists, but it is hell for the people. Tell me not that man was erecated in the image of his Maker to serve such grand dukes of mammon, while he himself goes in rags and hunger.

Socialism simply denies the right to private ownership in the things upon which the lives of all depend.

A sad story comes in the Associated Press from New York. It is stated that in that city there is an army of 25,000 little cripples, children of the poor, who are unable to provide the necessary medical aid. It is also stated that if they are not given medical aid they will grow up cripples for life. What could be more sad? In one city alone 25,000 little children doomed to a life of misery, all of it due to the greed of commercialism! Under socialism all of these little unfortunates would be tenderly cared for by society; their infirmities cured, and they themselves made happy and useful members of society. Does not the possibility of this make the co-operative commonwealth worth trying

Mr. Worker, how much better does it feel to be bayonetted by troops furnished

by a democratic governor than by those furnished by a republican governor?

Is an injunction against workingmen by a republican judge any more desirable than that issued by a democratic judge? You ought to know. You have tried them both...

Can the children of tender years, who ought to be in school, be made to work any harder in the factories of a republican state than those in a democratic state? This damnable thing is being done every day. Now, can you tell me which is the worse? Can it ever be any better so long as we have an industrial system that permits the greed of commercialism to prompt men, for the sake of profit, to employ the cheapest labor regardless of its baneful effect upon humanity?

Nice system, 'isn't. it? No! Well, then let us be MEN and change it for a system under which the workers will receive the full product of their toil. Then little children will not be forced to grind out profits to satisfy the gluttonous appetite of greed then the strong can no longer prey upor the weak. This is worth the scrious efforts of all good men and women. Let us to the work. All can do something—each one counts.

H. L. HUGHES, Member Executive Board American Labor Union.

Spokane, Wash, Dec. 2, 1902.

THE RUSSIAN SERF.

The average American has only pity and wonder for what the Russian serf endured before his partial emancipation. Pity, that men were heartless enough to impose on their weaker brothers, and wonder, that these weaker brothers so

long endured the wrong without murmuring. Yet if this average American citize
would only stop and consider, he wou
find that he is a fit subject for pity an
wonder himself.

In the palmy days of Russian serfdom
the land of the empire was parceled out
among great nobles. On each parcel of

land lived a certain number of laborers. These were the men who cultivated the fields, dug the ditches, cleaned the stables. They were the workers, the ones who produced the food, clothing and shelter. Now the seris were regarded as part of the land. They could not leave their district of their own free will. If for an reason the title to the land changed, the went with it, being regarded in the samilight as an oak tree growing on the premium.

Was there any, difference between the noble and the serf? Both were menmen who could love and hate; find joy i their children and serrow in death. Wh was the difference? Why, the serf on the around and the noble had his a on his neck. You would not have storit? Of course note But let us see.

In these United States of America v

find that the country is parceled up amor the railroad systems into trade territories On each of these respective trade territories live farmers and laborers. Thes are the men who cultivate the fields, raise the wheat, corn and hogs; the men wh run the great factories that are cities in themselves; the men who dig into the earth and mine the coal; who stand behind the counters of some "emporium." These men, and by men I mean both men and women, are the workers, the ones who produce the food, clothing and shelter by which we live. Now each "captain of in dustry" regards these workers as his property. Before a worker can leave his territory he must go to the "captain" who owns the district in which the worker lives and ay his ransom before he can get out. This ransom is evidenced by a railroad tieset. Does the worker have anything to say as to how large this ransom shall be? Not a bit of it. He has to swallow his medicine no matter how bitter the dose. This worker has a so and a daughter who are both anxious to improve their minds. He decides to send them to the state university, which he owns and operates in conjunction wit his other fellow citizens. But before h can do this he must have some money t pay their expenses. So he decides to shi some hogs. But the "captain" who o the district againt steps in and says: must pay me what I have decided to proper before I will'let you get your hor to market." Thus the worker is held u once more and generally pays his ranso without a murmur. Yet the workers are the ones who have built the railroads, an besides that have paid for them tan time over by grants from the public lands. An they talk about liberty!

Out here in Oregon, Oregon that has elected a democrat for governor; Oregon that has several republican "friends" of the workers in congress; why, out here in Oregon one of these "captains" has just told the people of the state, a sovereign state, mind you; none of your measly zoo-acre farms in Russia; this "captain" has just told us that we can ride on the raili road—his railroad—for three cents a mile. We formerly paid four. When he did this the Oregonian threw bouquets at him, told him how generous he was, until the pooman must have blushed from the excessive adoration.

Maybe you are not aware of the fact that out here in Oregon we celebrate a day called independence Day (Fourth of July) because we are free, you know Yo may not believe it, but it is a fact.

My worker friend, do you kno a synonym is? Well, a won't but I will give you an exampl mous terms. Here they are of America in his economsian seri.

I never swear, dence of wish the insanity and ety, brok

TRUSTS AND IMPERIALISM

By H. Gaylord Wilshire, "The Millionaire Socialist."

regarding the trust issue has ocd in the last few years. It is not ong ago when all our public men newspapers had but one solution the problem; "the trust must be royed," they said. Today nobody is right senses looks to the posty of the destruction of the trusts are now seen to be the inevitable of our competitive economic

o not propose to devote any great tion this evening to a demonstraof this inevitability of the trust, regard such a task as practically

e point I care more to dwell upnot the inevitability of the trust, a I hope will be generally agreed but upon the impossibility, in an mic sense, of the permanence he trust. Let me say at once, be I raise false hopes in the breasts he few classical economists that be here tonight, that I do .not ase to show that trusts must fall eces of their own weight and that petition must be restored owing he entrance of fresh capital into field attempted to be monopilized he trust. That would be an exiely silly position for me to take having asserted the inevitabiliof the trust.

either am I attempting a glittering adox by first asserting the inevitaty of the trust and in the next ath its impossibility. Nor am 1 king to the American people to rise their might and drive the monster n their midst. The theory which nall attempt to demonstrate tonight hat the natural and inevitable deopment of our industrial system is competition under private ownerto monopoly under private ownp, and from private monopoly monopoly under private owner-

In claiming the impossibility of nence under private monopoly, ak simply from the standpoint of olitical economist, and I leave consideration political and inal changes that might or might brought about by the volunprising of a long-suffering and ant people.

lic ownership of industry might

ought about next month if the had a sufficient desire to effect is not to the "might be" I aps night, but to the "must be." of to prove that pulerwise Socialism, is evitable because it is desirable, cause it comes into the cateof the inexorable necessity. My ask is to prove the necessity of ust. My next is to prove the neof Socialism.

trust arose from the desire of anufacturers to protect' themfrom over-production and the quent mad and suicidal struggle pose of their surplus stock. production arises because our

live capacity has been develto the highest degree with laborng machinery operated by steam electricity, while our consumpcapacity is crippled by the comtitive wage system which limits the orers, who constitute the bulk of consumers, to the mere necessiof life. I will not tire you with g statistics exhibiting the enors strides that have taken place e productive capacity of men due dern machinery, nor will I harour souls with the well-worn deof the narrow, sordid life of squaed by millions of our workers. s patent that the day worker of ay consumes but little if any more he necessities of life than did his dfather of fifty years ago.

atistically it can be shown that consumption of beef, flour, potatos, e, tobacco, wool, etc., has varied e if any per capita in the last fifty s. However, every student of hisknows in a general way that the ary laborers of this country fifty ven 100 years ago lived in a fair ee of comfort, were warmly clad heir homespun and were comforta boused in their log cabins. The st proof of their condition was their oriously fine physical development evity and freedom from disease. average family was from ten to teen, and neither the husband nor wife felt the dread of an addition family that is so characteristic

not think that any fair-minded can but admit that the modern borer on his \$1.50 per day, and uncertain of that, living in a venring shoddy clothes, breather gas, eating tuberculous beef, g typhoid baccilli in his milk el oil in his whiskey, and abg intellectual garbage from his urnal has had any great aug in the pleasures of life ventions of the marvel-

ertinently asked, red this immense

significant change in public opin. I nels, one to the capitalists, the holders of wealth, and one to the workers. The ordinary workers must be given enough to keep them in efficient condition. Part of the workers, the aristocracy of labor, the trade unionists and skilled labor generally, the proletarians who sell their brains rather than their hands, may get something above the mere necessities; but, broadly speaking, competition prevents any great augmentation of the share that goes to labor beyond that of the mere necessities. The whole of the remainder of the product of labor falls into the lap of the holders of wealth simply as a rent with no economic necessity on their part of doing anything in return for it.

Witness the enormous income of the Duches of Mariborough and the Countess Castellane, representing abroad the Vanderbilt and Gould wealth, and discover if you can any return they may make to the American people. It is possible that somebody might strain his intagination into believing that the Astors, the Rockefellers and the Vanderbilts, who between them have an income something like \$90. 000,000 per year, perform some economic good in return, but I doubt if their most generous retainer would say that \$100,000 a year each be too little considering that our college profesors average less than one thousand.

The stream of wealth flowing into the coffers of the rich is itself again divided into two streams, one of which goes to satisfy what they are pleased to regard as their necessities of existence, a wonderful congiomerate of beefsteaks, truffles, champagne, private cars and steam yachts, golf balls, picture glieries, food and clothing for their servants, etc., all classified under the general head of consumables and denominated by the general term of "spent" money.

The other stream of wealth flowing to the rich is what is termed "saved" money, and goes into the building of new machinery of production, new railroads, canals, iron furnaces, mills, etc. It is this last channel for the "saved" money that has been the great sluice-way for carrying off the surplus product of labor and so avoiding the constant menace of a plethora in our industrial system.

Notwithstanding that the prodigality of the American rich in unbounded luxury is the wonder of the ages, call the percentage of the very rich is so small (three one-hundredth of one per cent own \$12,000,000,000) that all their efforts in lavish spending have had little effect economically compared with the wealth they have been forced to "save" owing to lack of ingenuity in discovering modes of "spending." There is a grim satisfaction in the reflection that the "saving" capacity of the nation is increased by this concentration of wealth. Thrift is no longer a difficult virtue when it requires more labor and pain to "spend" than it does to "save." and this is the predicament of the very rich Americans.

No man cares for two dinners, and when Mr. Rockefeller with his \$40, 000,000 a year income "spends" over a thousand per day on his household he finds it probably both pleasanter and easier to "save" the remainder than to lay awake nights devising bizarre ways to "spend" it. However. as the condition of affairs now is in the business world, it must be admitted that it is about as difficult for him to discover channels to invest his savings as it to invent ways for him to I pity him. When he started in the business of refining oil some thirty or more years ago, his income was not so great that he was bothered with any difficulty in spending it, nor was the oil business in that state of plethora that there was no inducement for saving money and investing in it. His instinct of thrift was developed sufficiently to induce him to devote a certain part of his income to the latter end. Others in the business, his competitors, did the same. Finally the capacity for refining oil became greater than the market demanded. Each refiner was bound to get rid of his surplus product at any price, and the price of the surplus determined the price of the whole. Ruin stared them in the face. Over-production must be curtailed. The Standard Oil Trust was born.

All these facts have been brought out time and again in the many federal and state inquiries into the Stand ard Oil Trust. Rockefeller has proved his case in the congressional investigation of 1888 to the hilt that compe tition was ruining his business and that combination had become an absolute necessity. In fact there has been practically no questioning his testimony establishing these facts.

The politicians however thought it was a chance to make political capi tal and urged the destruction of the oil trust, not atempting in the least controvert Rockefeller's statement of facts showing that combination was an absolute necessity. However, not-withstanding the efforts of the poli-ticians to overturn the laws of nature

and make water run up hill, Rockefeller persisted in combining and making money instead of following their plan of competing and losig money.

If capitalists in the oil business over-invested in that business causing over-production of oil refineries the only reason that a persistence in this course continued was because the opportunities for the investment of capital in other industries promised no better returns.

Capital, like water, seeks its own level. If the profits in one business are abnormal and if investment is open then fresh capital will flow into that business until the returns are reduced to the normal. Hence, it may be inferred, if capital was investing in oil refineries notwithstanding the unpromising outlook, it was doing so because other businesses were in the same state of plethora and could offer no better inducements. That this was true is fully substantiated by the subsequent formation of trusts in other lines of manufacture to prevent the very same plethora of capital that had been affecting the oil business. The great industrial undertakings of the world are practically finished as far as present developments indicate.

As the late David A. Wells says in his "Recent Economic Changes:" "It would seem indeed as if the world during all the years since the inception of civilization has been working upon the line of equipment for industrial effort-inventing and perfecting tools and machinery, building work shops and factories and devising instrumentalities for the easy communication of persons and thoughts; that this equipment having at last been made ready, the work of using it has for the first time in our day and gen-

cration, fairly begun; and also that every community under prior or existing conditions of use and consumption, is becoming saturated, as it were

a combined capital of \$62,000,000 manwhile the capital invested had more 5,424 to 1,596, while the capital involved increased from 67 to 81 millions. When the statistics for 1900 shown.

ume of production has been constantly

with its results."

There is no country in which the industrial machinery is not only so thoroughly completed, but actually overcompleted, if I may coin a word, as in the United States. In normal conditions the machinery of production will produce more in three days than we can consume in a week. The present boom is recognized by all as destined to be of a most ephemeral nature, and existing conditions no criterion to judge by. It is true that while over-production makes manifest the desirability of combination, yet desirability does not necessarily mean practicability.

As a general law in economics it may be stated that the tendency to combination increases as the number of competitors decreases and the amount of capital for each competing plant increases. The tendency for both these conditions to manifest themselves in our industrial world is almost too well known to mention.

In 1880 there were 1,943 plants with ufacturing agricultural implements; in 1890 there were but 910 plants. than doubled. The number of plants engaged in manufactures of leather decreased in the some period from are published, the trend to concentration will be still more clearly

As has been delineated, the vol-

rising owing to the development of modern machinery. There were three channels to carry off these products. The first channel carrying off the products destined to be consumed by the workers. This channel is in rock bound banks that cannot enlarge ow ing to the competitive wage system preventing wages rising pro rata with increased efficiency. Wages are based upon cost of living and not upon efficiency of labor. The in the poor mine gets the same wages per day as the miner in the adjoining rich mine. The owner of the rich mine gets the ad vantage-not his laborer. The second channel conveys the goods destined to supply the wants and whims of the rich. This may increase somewhat but owing to the small number of those rich enough to indulge in whims it can never be greatly enlarged, and at any rate it bears such a small relative proportion to the other channel that in no event can much hope of avoiding a flood of capital be looked for from this division. The rich will never be

prevent overproduction. The great safety over-flow channel which has been continuously more and more widened and deepened to carry off the ever-increasing flood of new capital is that division of the stream which carries the savings of the rich, and this is not only suddenly found to be incapable of further enlargement but actually seems to be in the process of being dammed up.

(Continued Next Week.)

so ingenious as to spend enough to

LABOR IS ENGAGED TO ANOTHER.



Willie Hearst proposes that Trades Unions unite with the Democratic Party Labor replies: "Really, Miss Democracy, this is TOO sudden. Besides, 1 am already engaged to a fairer maiden-Miss Socialism."

Correspondence

Letter From Tuolumne.

Tuolumne, Cal., Nov. 23, 1902. Editor American Labor Union Jour nal:

Our union held a rousing meeting the 21st of this month. We held an open meeting and gave a reception to the Miners' Union and the Carpenters'

The barbers are also organized here now, which makes four unions in this place. We are going to organize a central body, composed of commit-tees from each of these unions. This central body will meet frequently to discuss means of advancing the interests of unionism in this district and to promote harmony.

It is certainly satisfying to us to giance over the election returns and see the large number of Socialist votes

cast. It must cause alarm to the cap talist class to see the working men thinking and voting for themselves.

HERBERT S. LEVIS,

Secretary Sequoia Union No. 274. ANACONDA NOTES.

Anaconda, Mont., Dec. 1, 1902. A staunch union man and Socialist, one of our best workers, G. W. Taylor, is not working at Seattle.

Frank Booth, prominent member of Anaconda Carpenters' Union, is also at Seattle

The local union of Machinists gave smoker on the evening of the 24th. The best is none too good for the machinists and their friends.

The old war horse, Tim O'Keefe president of the Central Trades and Labor Council, staunch member of Mill and Smeltermen's Union, and a class-conscious Socialist member of the next Montana legislature, came over from Butte on a visit the other day. The most prominent thing about Tim now is the blood-red Socialist button that he wears, and

which he is very proud of. Con McHugh, vice president of the Central Trades and Labor Council, is filling the office of president during

the absence of President O'Keefe. Con is O. K. in the chair, and is always to be found on the right side. Mill and Smeltermen's Union No.

117 will give its third annual ball on

the evening of December 11th. It

promises to be one of the best ever. Regular meeting night of the Socialist local is Wednesday of each week, and the place is Deer Lodge Labor Club hall. Let the Butte boys know that they are welcome at all

NEWS FROM WALLACE.

Wallace, Idho, Nov. 27, 1902. Editor A. L. U. Journal:

In enclose you herewith official returns of the votes cast in Shoshone county, which shows that the socialists cast an average of 179 votes in this county.

The members of Wallace Labor un

No. 150, held a social dance last Monday evening, to which a few outsiders were invited. We had a very enjoyable time. The ladies of the union had the hall decorated with evergreens and pictures, which

rated with evergreens and pictures, which
made it look very inviting. They also
served a lunch, which was a credit to them.
We have succeeded in getting one of the
grocers, J. J. Halpin, to put in a stock of
union-made brooms, and we hope all mem-

bers and friends of the union will remen ber Mr. Halpin when buying brooms

Yours respectfully, P. W. WALTON, Sec. W. L. U., No. 150.

Grand Forks News.

Grand Forks, B. C., Nov. 1902. Editor A. L. U. Journal, Butte, Mont. Dear Sir: Having been appointed by the local of this place to act as correspondent to your paper, I suppose it about time I was letting you know that we are alive up here.

This local, No. 231, was organized by Bro. Rlordan, of Phoenix, on the 11th of March last and had a charter membership of about thirty, very few of whom are residing here now.

It had, at first, many difficulties to contend with and considerable opposition from outside parties, and for a time its growth was slow.

But I am gla to be able to say that it has lived down the opposition and today we have as members at least seventy-five per cent of the workingmen of the town.

We are now trying to reduce the number of Chinese employed in the town, put white laborers in their place, and am glad to say that quite a few of the business men have done this

The Socialist League is co-operating with the union in establishing a reading room and library, which they hope to have in operation in the course of a couple of weeks.

There is also a movement on foot to build a hall, but more of this anon. JAS. A. HARRIS.

Congratulations. Vancouver, B. C., Nov. 23, 1902.

Mr. Clarence Smith, Sec. A. L. U., Box 1067, Butte, Montana.

My Dear Sir and Bro .: I have just received No. 6 of the American Labor Union Journal, which was forwarded to me at this place from our San Francisco general offices of the United Brotherhood of Railway Employes and I desire to compliment you upon the grand work you are accomplishing with the Journal.

No one actually not in the field can have a better knowledge than he who is continually traveling, as I am, of the almost magical effect the Journal has had upon the Western wage-workers. Six issues of the Journal have been sent forth and I find men everywhere absolutely convinced of the justice of its principles who were in opposition thereto when the first copy of the Journal came out. Fraternally yours.

GEO. ESTES. President U. R. B. E.

A Home Product Strictly Union Made CENTENNIAL BEER

All the product of our brewery bears the label of the United Brewery Work-men of the United States. our employes receive the largest wages, work the least hours and enjoy the best con-ditions of any brewery work-ers in the country.

ers in the country. ers in the country.

Two good reasons why you should ask for Centennial. Another reason why our beer is popular is that it is the

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For Sale by American Labor Union 173 Pennsylvania Bldg. P. O. Box 1007 Butte, Mont

BUTTE THEATER ATTRACTIONS This Week

At Sutton's Broadway

Friday end Saturday-"Richard Carvel." Sunday and Monday-"Lost

BUTTE, MONTANA. A general banking busing

DIRECTORS: John A. Creighton, a emper, George W. thony H. Barrett, T

We live in deeds, not in years; in thoughts, not breaths; In feelings, not in figures on a dial-

We should count time by heart-throbs. He most lives Who thinks most, feels the noblest, acts the best; And he whose heart beats quickest lives the longest-Lives in one hour more than in years do some Whose fat blood sleeps as it slips along their veins.

AMERICAN LABOR UNION CHAT

eent increase of freight rates by eastern railroads, succeeding the 10 perc cent increase of wages granted their employes. How prosperity do hum!

Member of the Executive Board M. E. White has just returned to his home in Leadville from a hurried trip to Southern California.

Denver Mattress and Bedding Work ers' Union No. 208 is still pushing the boycott against George J. Kindel's mattresses. The unfair concern is showing signs of weakening. Keep up

Better wages are paid to the employes of the Greenhood Garment factory at Helena, Montana, than to the same class of workers anywhere else in the world. Every garment manufactured bears the label of the made of the best material procurable and by the most-skilled workmanship Workingmen of Montana, Idaho, British Columbia and Washington who shirts, made by skilled union labor, meeting in December,

There is already talk of a 20 per | and sold at the same price as inferior scab goods, should ask for Green hood's, and insist on being given them Write the factory at Helena if your merchant does not handle them.

> President McDonald is still at Den ver, visiting the unions and otherwise looking after the interests of the A. L. U. His office is in the Granite building, where all communications requiring his personal attention should be addressed. He will visit Telluride, Ouray, Durango, Pueblo, Leadville and Grand Junction before returning to headquarters.

All locals of the American Labor Union elect officers in December, Immediately after the election lists of new officers must be sent to the secretary-treasurer at headquarters. The secretary-treasurer is required to is-American Labor Union. They are all sue a directory of local unions and officers after election, and if your list is not received promptly your union will not appear in the directory. According to the Constitution, local want the best overalls, jumpers and elections should be held the last

THE WORLD OF SOCIALISM

Whree wards in Shamokin, Pa., were | commence in Montana about January carried by the Socialists.

In Baer's precinct, in Reading, Pa. the Socialist vote increased 600 per

Two Socialist aldermen were elected at Derby, Conn.

Socialist vote in France has in creased from 30,000 in 1885 to 867,000

M. W. Wilkins, formerly editor of the Class Struggle, of San Francisco has established the California Socialist

The Laborer is the name of a clearcut Socialist paper just established at Minneapolis

The Hagerty-Boyce lecture tour will know the reason why.

10. It will be conducted under the auspices of the Lecture and Propaganda Bureau of Butte local. The series will include twenty-five lectures in Montana, four in the Coeur d'Alène district in Idaho and two at Spokane. Wash. Address the Bureau at Butte care Clarence Smith, secretary, for information and dates.

Cincinnati Socialists are going to start a weekly paper.

The Socialist party of the United States is voting by referendum on the question of holding a convention early bext year for the purpose of settling questions of party tactics.

Comrade Riordan, of Anaconda Mont, wants dates for Hagerty and Boyce, and adds: "We intend to lick the old parties here in the spring, or

(From an address by George Estes, | day's labor of the men who work and, President of the United Brotherhood of Railway Employes, at Vancouver, B C. November 20:)

EXPLOITATION OF THE WORKERS

In the Daily News-Advertiser of this date appears an editorial, head ed "Mechanical Progress and Social Well-Being," in which appears the sentence which heads this letter.

The editorial referred to takes exception to the statements made by evening in the Labor Temple, of this city. Any cause that will not bear the closest possible inspection under the bright light of investigation is not worth championing; intelligent criticism of the United Brotherhood of Railway Employes and of the exponents of its plans and principles is not objectionable to that organization or to those who are its leaders, but the editorial in question puts in my mouth statements that were never made and then proceeds to assail these statements as being

against public policy. The editorial assumes that I am opposed to labor-saving machinery and improved devices of all kinds No such assumption could possibly be drawn from my Tuesday evening's address. I have spoken thrice in Vancouver on the question of laborsaving machinery; once on June 24 of this year, also on last Monday evening, and again on Tuesday evening, and always on the same lines with the same end in view, and have during each of these talks strongly advocated labor-saving machinery asone of the greatest blessings of mankind, if properly applied; but on each of these occasions and on hundreds of other instances throughout North America, I have said that the purposes for which labor-saving maes were brought into existence by Providence, or the laws of advancement and progress, have been diverted into the wrong channels, to the end that the exploiters of the working classes further increase their unjust gr is by using laborsaving machinery-not to shorten the

therefore, improve the world, but to throw men and women out of employment and decrease thereby the expenses of the great trusts and monopolies, making the rich richer and the poor poorer,

The Daily News Advertiser says further: "It is the old cry revived against the introduction of mechanical appliances."

trary is-an indorsement of labor-saving machines and devices of every kind and an earnest prayer that the speed of their coming may be increased ten-fold; but it is also a note of warning to the men and women who toil-that, unless they organize, combine and see to it that for each labor-saving machine which comes into existence the day's work of the employes in that particular shop, manufactory or industry, or, what must, ultimately take place, of the whole mass of workers, he shortened so that the same number of wage earners are required after the coming of the machine as before; then the objects of the labor-saving machine are prostituted to the sole purpose of swelling the already plethoric coffers of the predatory rich and the workers find that fewer have employ ment than before and that more are in search of work, thereby bearing down the already extremely low wares and making the battle of life a more and more bitter struggle for existence on the part of the toilers with each resurring year.

The editorial in the Daily News Advertiser confirms absolutely the

above statement.

Speaking of the Westinghouse au tomatic air-brake, the editorial says "Now the work is done much more effectively by the engineer with the air-brake, there are fewer brakemen

Precisely. This is exactly the drift of that portion of my Tuesday's lec ture which referred to labor-saving devices. There are fewer brakemen necessary, and so it is in all ave-

nues of endeavor. The size, weight and træctive power of the locomotives are doubled, and they pull twice the trains they did a few years ago, and many engineers and firemen, therefore, are out of employment because of one engine orew now performing the work formerly required by two. Should this be avoided? Certainly not. Let every improved device be brought into existence, but shorten the day's work of the engineers and firemen so that as many will be re quired as were employed before the coming of the larger locomotives, and then will the mass of the people profit by the introduction of laborsaving machinery, and for that purpose alone were such machines in tended by the laws of evolution and progress, which ordained that they should come, and only for that purpose will improved machinery be used when those grand laws have worked out their destiny as they are certainly and surely doing.

One more statement in the Daily News-Advertiser might be noticed with profit:

"Had Mr. Estes continued his investigations a little farther be would have discovered that while the engine power had been lessened by onehalf and the crew decreased in a like proportion, the rates of freight earned for the carriage of goods had in many instances been reduced to one-third, one-fourth, or even less than it was under the old conditions."

The statement about the engine power being lessened by one-half is no doubt not what the editor intended to say. He doubtless meant "doubled," instead of lessened, as that is the actual situation, which is well known to all practical railway men, and no unfair advantage will be taken of a mere slip inconsistent with the general trend of the editorial and which is clearly shown by the context to have been unintentional. But the editorial says freight rates have been reduced as a result of improved machinery coming into existence. It should be understood that such a question can only be considered from a broad point of view, the same as labor, capital and improved mechanical devices. The fact that some few rates have been reduced in certain instances does not affect the general question. Merchandise is placed by the railways in various classes for the purpose of determining the rate at which it shall be transported. The rate varies with the different classes, so that the change of a certain article from one class to another operates to change the rate on that particular

To illustrate: The first-class rate between two given points is 75 cents per 100 pounds, and the second-class rate is 50 cents per 100 pounds. If s kind of merchandise which has here tofore been designated as secondclass is changed in the classification to first-class, the rate on that articlo is really increased 50 per cent without any change being made in the tariff sheets whatever. This is a matter which is not clearly understood by the uninitiated, and which escapes the attention of the great mass of the general public. It is even possible under this plan to lower a freight rate or tariff sheet and yet collect more actual money from shippers or consignees than before by at the same time proving the articles covered into higher classes while apparently reducing the open rates to the public.

Considering the question from continental point of view, there are three great freight classifications in use in North America by all the mile ways-the official, the western and e southern. The first governs classification of freight in the district east of Chicago and St. Louis, and north of the Ohio and Potomac rivers. The southern governs the traffic south of the two rivers named and east of the Mississippi. The western applies to the vast territory not covered by the other two and which is, generally speaking, everything west of the Mississippi river. What we are to say of the official classification in a general way applies to all others.

On January 1, 1900, a new official classification was adopted in which appeared \$24 changes of rates, of which 818 produced advances and Applications for membership, per six produced reductions in freight charges. The detail is as follows:

ADVANCES.
Per Cest.
424 ratings advanced 42.8
214 ratings advanced 30.
100 ratings advanced 20.
32 ratings advanced
17 ratings advanced
10 ratings advanced
6 ratings a vanced180.
2 ratings advanced 25.
2 ratings advanced 33.3
1 rating advanced \$5.7
and the second s

REDUCTIONS.

'a ratings reduced30,

The average advance on the whole \$18 articles is 35.5 per cent, an enor mous increase. On March 10, 1999, owing to the

tremendous pressure brought to b

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by the shippers and merchants, certain articles were partially restored to the classes from which they had been taken, which reduced the average advance from 35.5 per cent to 21.2 per cent, which is at present substantially the increase over the charges in effect previous to the year If anyone desires to consider these

questions further, or more in detail it will afford me pleasure to treat of them; or, should it be possible to hold a public debate on these matters in this city or any other, I am willing to debate them publicly with anyone, at any place, and at any time in reason, and let the audience judge as to the justice of the cause which I am endeavoring to advance, which I desire all the world to know does not mean that there will be-"fewer brakemen necessary;" but, on the contrary, through the medium of labor-saving machinery, rightly applied, so that the whole people will receive the benefit instead of the mass continuing as industrial slaves to the already over-rich money kings, trusts and monopolles.

It means a shorter work-day and better pay for the men who labor and create all wealth; more education, happier homes and a better

Journal Notes

A long and interesting letter from Brother Edwin B. Weaver of Cincin nati Ohio is crowded out of this issue for want of space.

We are very anxious to receive letters from our unions and members giving the labor news for the Journal, but we would request that such let ters be made as brief as possible without omitting any items of interest.

When patronizing our advertisers say that you saw their advertisements in the American Labor Union Journal.

Help the Journal and boom the cause of Unionism and Socialism.

Read the letter by President George Estes, of the United Brotherhood of Railway Employes, in this issue, and be convinced that the Journal is doing a wonderful work for unionism, and the American Labor Union in partic-Half a dozen regular salaried organizers could not do the work that the Journal is accomplishing every week. From many parts of America comes the assurance that we are arous ing the working people to their industrial and political interests.

A stirring speech was delivered at Brooklyn, N. Y., last week by Brother P. J. Cooney, of Workingmen's Union No. 5, of Butte, in reply to Professor Hillis, who denounced labor unions Brooklyn papers say that Brother Cooney handled the professor in a mas terly manner and without gloves Part of Brother Cooney's speech will be printed in next week's Journal.

A Butte union that is not affiliated with the American Labor Union subscribed for eighty copies of the Journal last week, to be sent to each of their members. . Next!

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