

AMERICAN

IT'S UP TO YOU
Give us at least one subscription a week during 1903.

THIS IS YOUR FIGHT
Workers alone must bring Socialism.
Capitalists never will.

LABOR UNION JOURNAL

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY THE AMERICAN LABOR UNION.

VOL. I.

FIFTY CENTS PER YEAR

BUTTE, MONTANA, THURSDAY, JANUARY 8, 1903.

FIFTY CENTS PER YEAR

No. 14

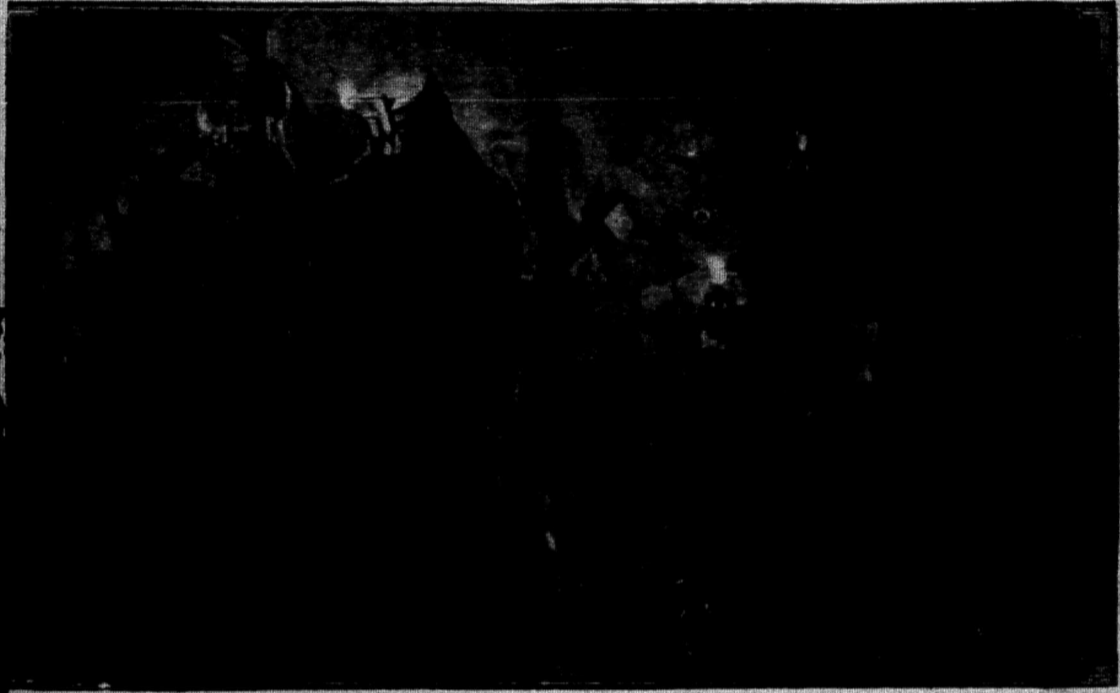
The Workers Starve and Freeze While the Shirkers Revel in Luxury IN THE VESTIBULE OF HELL

The Poor Shiver and Cry for Bread in a Land of Plenty

Boston, Jan. 1.—At the People's temple the Rev. Charles A. Crane sounded a note of warning on the poverty of Boston, and of America in general. In a voice that broke frequently he called attention to the suffering on one hand and the plenty on the other.

The Rev. Mr. Crane attended the Salvation Army dinners in Mechanics' hall Christmas day, and

(Photo Engraving from Collier's Weekly.)



Labor digs the coal, brings it to the surface and transports it to the places of distribution to the consumers.

The hungry, homeless population of the city inspired him to stirring words apropos of the story of Pharisee and Lazarus with this

For Collins let his heart break out of his eyes Christmas day at the Salvation Army dinner in Mechanics' hall. He was to say a few words of greeting. As he watched the crowds of hungry men, women and children file in to get a good, hot, square meal he said: "Isn't this a pathetic sight?"

Through my own eyes were not in their usual condition, I could see well enough to note that his eyes were dimmed with the dews of human sympathy. It was a sight fit to break a heart of brass. How it dwarfed me; how helpless I seemed.

A great procession of hungry human beings winding around the tables like some prodigious snake made me shudder when I thought of how it could not be helped. The vastness of the poverty there crept out of its holes crushed me with a sense of utter helplessness. Who can touch or that great want which there sat down to get one meal.

Children carrying away twenty-five pound packages of coal pushed the coal situation to the lips of many. The coal famine, the hungry thousands of men and women, shivering, while crying children clung to the hands of the grown-ups, made Socialism prominent in the conversation.

When the mayor heard that these things were making Socialists very rapidly he replied that he could not wonder at that. Nor can we. It is simply the vestibule of hell where the poor shiver in artificial winter and cry for bread in a land of plenty.

This land of ours I am speaking about. You worshippers at the shrine of the "God of things as they are" will soon be overcrowded and crushed by the innumerable throngs of the worshippers at the shrine of the God of things as they should be.

Impudently the words of the poet came to me as I looked at that sight in rich and cultured Boston:

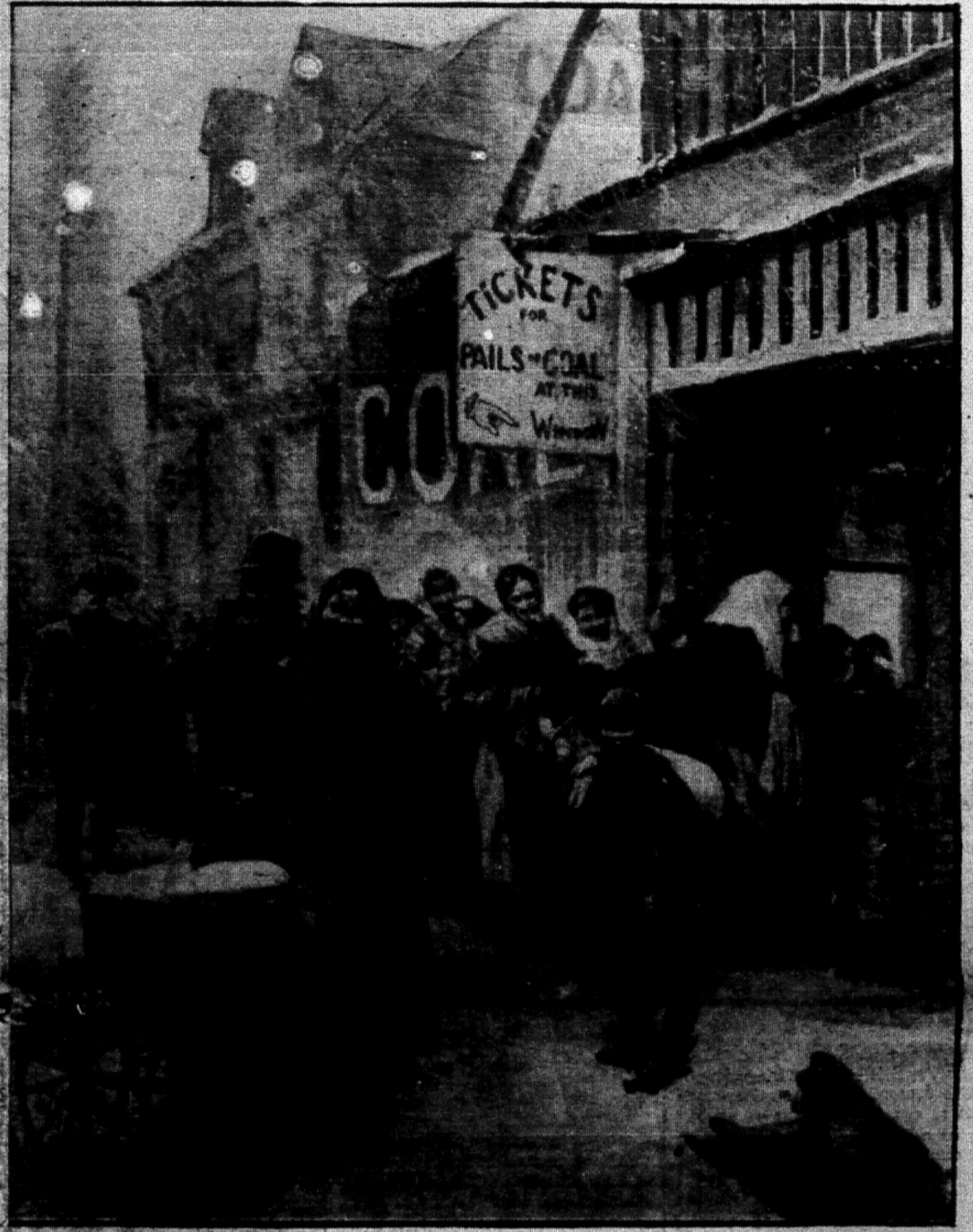
If, of all sad words of tongue or pen,
The saddest are these: "It might have been,"
More sad are these we daily see,
It is, but it hadn't ought to be.

Bret Harte's slang may be pardoned by virtue of its truth. The shame and the crime of the shivering poverty which broods and curses in our slums and

parthen are only magnified by the lauded and glorified full dinner pail, prosperity, American supremacy in commerce, a land fat with bursting barns, affluent with fields that bubble with oil for fuel and rich with mountains whose ribs are crusted with gold and silver.

O, God, send these preachers of prosperity and plenty to the pits where the pinched faces of

(Photo Engraving from Harper's Weekly.)



Laborers then freeze for the want of coal, employing police to prevent them getting the actual product of their toil.

want may squarely meet their eyes. I tell you, men, that you are sitting on the crater of a volcano whose threatenings may even now be heard by him who will listen but a little—a volcano whose fury may yet overthrow and overwhelm the republic. Do not forget the French revolution. Do you not remember that the people ripped up the Bastille as if it had been wet paper?

The very man—London—who said: "Let the people eat grass," had a wisp of grass in his mouth on his way to have his senseless head chopped off.

The American tramp came in the same day the American millionaire was born. One of them will kill the other unless a peaceable and sensible society disposes of both. If the present social system is right, we must seek some protective system to prevent over-production of mankind.

If I were head of the Socialist party I would parade the poor—women, babies and all—through the streets of the business section and the Back bay district, and I'd have them sit down in the streets and let the sleek, fat and well-fed gaze upon their brothers and sisters who have been hungry and tired and sick and brow-beaten and cursed so long that they are ripe for many uncomfortable things and in a frame of mind to bring those same unpleasant things to pass, and that right speedily.

The air is full of morphine, and men make it their business to court sleep in order to avoid unpleasant facts. Men are afraid to consider them because they are unpleasant. We should, however be concerned with the truth.

His remarks were listened to with close interest and sympathy. Frequently men and women murmured an expressive "Amen!" and a half affrighted "Lord have mercy on our souls!" After the benediction the congregation filed out solemnly and thoughtfully.

BIG SOCIALIST CAMPAIGN.

Father Hagerty Will Stir Up the People of the Northwest.

Rev. Father Thos. Hagerty's lecture tour will commence at Billings, Montana, Saturday evening, Jan. 10, and will continue through Montana, Idaho and Washington for at least thirty days. Dates have been completed as follows:

- Billings—January 10.
 - Livingston—January 11.
 - Butte—January 13.
 - Anacosta—January 14 and 15.
 - Hamilton—January 17.
 - Nine Mile or Lothrop—(Provisional), January 18.
 - St. Regis—January 19.
 - Wallace, Idaho—January 20.
 - Spokane—January 22.
- Other dates are being arranged and additional arrangements will be published next week.

Brothers are requested to boom these meetings, and make this campaign a memorable one for the working class.

A national coal trust is being organized. It will be president.

LABOR EVENTS OF THE PAST WEEK

Everett (Wash.) unionists will build a modest union hall that will cost \$4,000.

Fifty-eight miners lost their lives in a coal mine fire at Bachmut, Russia, last week.

Fifteen thousand miners and coke workers at Connellsville, Pa., received a slight increase of wages January 1.

Locomotive engineers and firemen employed by the Wisconsin Central Railroad have been granted an increase of wages.

Members of the Houston (Texas) fire department returned to work after being on strike twenty-four hours for an increase of wages.

A proposition for the employment of permanent engineers will come before the special convention of the

National Union of United Brewery Workmen to be held next month.

Six hundred carriage workers at Amesbury, Mass., have struck for a nine-hour workday and a 12 percent increase in wages.

Teamsters' National Journal is the name of a handsome monthly magazine recently established by the Teamsters' National Union of America.

It is reported that a big smelter will be built at St. Regis or Missoula, Mont., to treat the ores from Missoula county and the Coeur d'Alene mining district.

Work on nearly all the big buildings in New York City is suspended on account of a strike of 600 riggers, who demand an eight-hour day and an increase of wages.

The Canadian Northern Railway

has been declared unfair by the Labor Council of Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. Union men and their friends are requested to keep away from that company and its road.

Electrical workers at Indianapolis struck last Thursday for an increase in wages from 23 to 40 cents an hour. Several firms have already conceded the new scale, and it is thought that all will have agreed to it within a few days.

Figures furnished the coal strike commission this week by the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad Company show that the average daily earnings of common laborers employed by that company during the year 1901 were \$363.72, or less than one dollar a day.

Late reports from New York indicate that the Union Pacific machinery strike is nearing a settlement.

Another conference between the railroad officials and representatives of the strikers was held yesterday, but up to the time of going to press results of the conference had not been announced.

Two hundred strikers were killed and 1,000 injured last week in a clash between workmen and soldiers at Rostoff, Russia. The strikers were reported to have been peaceful, and the slaughter a cold-blooded affair.

The Union League Club is an organization of young women in Chicago which practices unionism consistently in every respect. In addition to demanding the union label on all things bought by the members, it is one of the declared objects of the league that none of the members will marry a man who does not carry a union card in his pocket.

(Continued on page Eight.)

ARE NOW SOCIALISTS.

Two Arkansas Representatives Stand for the Working Class.

Editor American Labor Union Journal:

Two of the newly elected state representatives have applied for admission to our locals, and, if admitted, will go upon the floor of the Arkansas Legislature as avowed Socialists.

THOS. J. HAGERTY.
Dec. 29, 1902.

Socialist Mayor-elect Couther, of Brockton, says: "For the first time in the history of Brockton a considerable number of union men have been elected. Of the candidates-elect, nine of the eleven Socialists carry union cards and the other two would if their occupations were such as to give them opportunity for uniting with any of the crafts. Brockton will demonstrate to the nation in the coming year what union workingmen, through the Socialist party, can accomplish."

A special railway edition of the Appeal to Reason will be issued shortly.

"One Name a Week" idea is catching hold like wildfire, and subscriptions are pouring in. Think some one else will do your share. YOU MUST HELP. Anyone can get a new subscrip-

Read, Think and Vote

Table listing various articles and their authors, including 'Why should I want to read about Socialism?', 'The American Labor Union', and 'The Socialist Campaign Book'.

Table listing various articles and their authors, including 'The American Labor Union', 'The Socialist Campaign Book', and 'The American Labor Union'.

PREAMBLE And Declaration of Principles of the American Labor Union.

The relation which the atom bears to the organism in physical nature is the relation which the individual bears to society. The social organism is an aggregation of the atom man. Man represents in the creative sense a perfect harmony of animate forces, the co-association of energy with intelligence in the highest form of manifestation.

Believing, therefore, that the time has now arrived when an epoch will be marked in the history of the labor movement, denoting either its progress or decay, and believing that the necessities of the times, as evidenced in recent developments, emphasize the fact that the older form of organization is unable to cope with the recent aggressions of plutocracy obtained by class legislation and especially maintained through the medium of friendly courts; unless our defenses by more perfect organization are strengthened; and feeling the incapacity of labor as heretofore organized to resist these encroachments, this organization is, therefore, formed for the purpose of concentrating our energies and consolidating the labor forces.

Section 1. It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all meetings of the American Labor Union, preserve order, enforce the constitution, and watch vigilantly over the interests and affairs of the members of the local unions. He shall sign all orders drawn by the Secretary-Treasurer in compliance with the vote of a majority of the members of the Executive Board.

Section 1. For the sake of uniformity, supplied by the American Labor Union, the Secretary-Treasurer shall receive all blank applications for membership, financial ledger, blank bonds for officers, official warrant books, official receipt book, official travel cards, official transfer cards, and gold label buttons.

