The working class-may they always be right, but the working class right or wrong.

AMERICAN

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REPORT OF E. H. BEHRENS

President of Missouri Federation of Labor Frames a Remarkable Address. Throws Down the Gauntlet, "We Beg No More, We Petition No More, We Demand". Class Character of Government Handled in a Masterly Style.

The report of Presdent E. T .Beh. rens to the thirteenth annual convention of the Missouri State Federation of Labor is one of the most masterly documents ever produced by a labor official. Want of space prevents the publication of the entire report. The extracts here given show its character and scope and prove E. T. Behrens to be a close student of political economy and also that he has the courage of his convictions:

What is denominated "the labor problem," is a world problem. It is the problem of life, of human exstence. It cannot be partly solved, neither is a solution possible for a part of the workers to the exclusion of all the other members of the working class. It is essentially a working class problem and must be solved upon that basis.

The labor problem is the working class side of a world struggle for industrial and political supremacy. Arrayed on the other side in the struggle is the ruling class, whch today controls the means of life-the land, machinery, tools and implements of production and distribution. Possession of these by the ruling class gives that class the power of life or death over those who must use them.

Now since wealth can only be produced by applyng labor power-human energy—to natural objects, and since all the tools, machinery and implements of production are but the stored up wealth of past labor, the ownership of these, of right, should be vested in those whose labor brought them forth. And agan, since the aforetime method of individual production has been supplanted by socal producton, ownership of these must necessarily be vested, not in the individual or in a set of individuals, but in the collectivity. A solution of the labor problem, therefore, must be predicted upon the workers, as a class, gaining possession of the things so essential to their very existence. * * *

We have in the Missouri State State Federation of Labor a vast machine capable of not only protecting but also of advancing the interest of the organized workers in this state. It must be used, however, by those in whose interest it was created. It must and should not be used as a political machine to advance the political fortunes of any one, even though he be a member of organized labor. The advancement of one of our members to political preferment does not solve the great problem which contemporarily solve the problem him who is thus advanced, but for the rank and file it means only further degradation and renders them ever more helpless in the hands of capitalist politicians. . .

Disguise it as we will, the great issue new confronting the workers is not so much that of a slight increase in wages or a shorter work day, but the complete overthrow of the system which makes the struggle for these a necessity. Disputes between employer and employes may be temporarily adtosted by arbitration or force of strength of either side, but these do not cannot end the conflict. The employer may grant an increase in wages today and tomorrow the worker will demand more. He will demand ever more and more until he receives all he produces; and so long as he is deprived of even the small labor creates there will be industrial working class, the ultimate aim of all the trades unions, can never be achieved so long as there is another class which exploits their labor power. Complete emancipation means that labor shall receive and enjoy not merely a larger share, but all it es. Mastery over one class by ther class must cease forever. The complete overthrow of the wage ut be our goal. Thou we may be forced by stress of cires to sign an occasio ol or temporary truee, a perment treaty of peace with our mas

A political party must be either for or against the working class. There can be no equivocation.

In the last two decades we have tried every political expedient known to politics. We have had our legislative committees. We have begged and petitioned the legislature to pass laws in the interest of labor. We have elected members from our ranks on capitalist party tickets only to see them become the political tools of our masters. We have supported this candidate for office and that candidate; this party and that party. We have thrown our balance of power into the political scale to force concessions from the powers that be, but the other fellow always got the power, whie labor got only the balance. We have numbers, and numbers count. We have the ballot, and the ballot counts. Why then do we beg? Why petition? Ours is the power, let us use it. * * *

We cannot divorce our economic class interests from our political class interests. They are inseparable. Nor can they be harmonized with the interests of the exploiting class-our masters. It is just as treasonable to his class interests for the worker to align himself politically with the political class as it would be for him to align himself industrially with that class. He would commit no greater crime against his class by joining the Employers' Association than he now does by voting the employers' party ticket.

It is this failure on the part of the workers to distinguish working class interests from capitalist class interests that keeps them divided politically. Once the workers become thoroughly conscious of their class interests, once they realize that there is an irrepressible conflict between their class and the capitalist class once they awake to a consciousness of their own power, once they comprehend the necessity of simultaneously waging battle with their exploiters upon the political and industrial field, the rule over their class by another class will cease and wage slavery be abolished forever.

Touching on the request of the A. F. of L. that the Missouri State Federation send begging petitions to their congressmen for labor legislation, President Behrens said:

The futility of begging and petitioning a congress whose personnel reflects only the interests of the wealth absorbing class, has long since become apparent. Neither prothe other departments of government less hostile to our interests, but all are alike dominated by the employing capitalist class. . Whatever laws are enacted in our interest by the legislative branch either become of no effect for lack of enforcement by the administrative branch of government or are declared unconstitutional by

Government as constituted today is distinctly a class government, and no other kind of government is possible so long as one class is economically dependent upon another class. These who control the means whereby we live-the means of employment-also control the government. Hence our political system but reflects the industrial system and both are dominated by the same class.

Through chicanery, fraud and deception our masters have ever succeeded in keeping our class, the They have purposely blinded us with candidate for office and that candidate. We have supported this party and that party, only to find that ours was not the victory, but the masters'. Hoping against hope we believed that some day, some time, a champion of our cause would arise, but he arose not. The steel trust has its agents and the shipping trust its repstative, the sugar trust its tool d trust its retainers, the

FROM BIRTH TO DEATH

Coal Companies Grip Never Relaxes. Scrip Payment, Forced Trading, Compulsory Assessment and Petty Annoyance, Make the Coal Miners' Life a Veritable Hell. The Greviance and Demands of the Strikers.

Trinidad, Colo.-The grievances of all the mining camps in this district are practically the same, for the miners have to deal with the same masters. These grievances are but repetitions of all that have come to light in previous great coal strikes in other parts of the country, and find but a very moderate expression in the fermulated demands which the striking miners have presented to the companies. To take as authority the word of those who have had experience in similar strikes, in no mining camps elsewhere has there been worse slavery than here in Colorado.

The specific demands of the strikers relate only to their work in and around the mines and scarcely touch the hundred and one details of infamous tyranny which surround and latensify the struggle for exiistence.

The miners ask for an eight-hour day. That eight-hour day is theirs by right, by the expressed will of the majority of the citizens of Colorado, and is denied them because it has been set aside as unconstitutional by a corporation-owned court.

The miners ask also that all wages be paid every two weeks instead of monthly and that all payment in scrip be abolished. Under the present system each workman is paid at the end of the month, if anything is coming to him, with a bank check. During the month if he needs any money for the necessities of life he receives it at the office of the company in the form of serip notes, for which, if he buys his goods of the Colorado Supply Co. (the company's store) he receives the face value. If he chooses to trade elsewhere the notes are worth 10 or 12 per cent less than their face value. Now, consider that the Colorado Supply Co. charges much higher prices for goods than outside firms, and you will see why the miners refuse to submit any longer to this imposition. The scrip method of payment was formerly the universal system in mining regions all over the country, but has been nearly abolished in the mining states east of the Mississippi through the power that the workers in the mines have gained by their organization.

The 20 per cent increase in wages is little enough to ask, but unless the payment in scrip is done away with at the same time this circle of robbery by which the companies make both ends meet will leave the miner no more in return for his labor than he received before.

The same old system of forced assessments takes place here as in other parts of the country. One dollar a month for medical attendance, 50 cents for blacksmithing, 25 cents for maintaining school advantages, etc., etc., and these assessments the miner finds subtracted from his pay if he has been in the mine not more than half a day during all the month.

According to the legal standard of weight in the United States 2,000 pounds constitute a ton. Heretofore the companies in Colorado have required from the miners 2,500 pounds for a ton, or that each workingman shall give to the company 23 per cent of each ton he mines. The miners (Continued on Page Four.)

THE GREATEST IN HISTORY

Colorado's Struggle Unparalled in Labor Annals. The Effectiveness of the Industrial Plan. Martial Law Terminated. Authorities are Getting Scared Over Immense Expense of Militia Maintainence.

end to martial law in Teller county, Colorado. The militia prisoners have accordingly been turned over to the civil authorities and bonds fixed for their release. Ex-Congressman John M. Glover, who has been kept in the bull pen, was brought into court to plead to a charge of "assault with intent to kill a militia man." General Chase attempted to become chummy with Glover and attempted to crack a joke with him.

exclaimed Glover, and spat squarely

Glover and Sherman Parker were released on bond, Parker's being fixed at \$19,000. Charges have been filed against "Generals" Bell, Cha and "Major" Thos. McClelland criminal interference with the rights and liberties of the bull pen prison ers. A few troops are still on duty at Cripple Creek, but they are entirely subservient to the civil authorities.

The cost incidental to this "getting together of capital and labor" in the Centennial state has been someth enormous and undoubtedly has he much to do with the withdrawal of the troops from the district. The figures, mounting skyward, have alarmed the state tools, and they have called a halt. A Denver paper places the total cost for the militia alone at \$440,000. The paper says: The Peabody War.

A conservative estimate of the or A conservative campaign during the of the military campaign during the Peabody administration as gather from the figures in the state anditor office and the outstanding bills,

which exploits our class has its emis-

but the twenty-nine

wealth producers of the greatest

ublic on earth have not a single re

esentative in the national congre

Others may beg and petition t

We beg no longer. We

legislation in the interest of the we

ing class, but such is not our

On Feb. 2nd Peabody declared an | \$440,000. This includes the expenses of the military invasions of Colorado City, Cripple Creek and Telluride up to Feb. 1.

On Jan. 15 the books of the auditor showed that the total amount of "war" certificates of indebtedness issued was \$347,498.81. To this must be added about \$75,000 in bills not yet passed upon and \$18,000 contracted during the last half of January and for which no bills have been presented as yet. Therefore the cost up to million dollars.

The cost of the various military expeditions in Colorado during the past ten years, itemized, was as follows: Cripple Creek strike 1894....\$ 75,000 Leadville strike 1896..... 275,000 Lake City riot 1899..... 25,000 Colorado City strike 1903.... 22,000 Cripple Creek strike 1903-04., 305,000 Telluride strike 1903-04 115,000

Grand total of expense of maintaining military in

the field since 1894.....\$817,000 Collier's Weekly, a capitalistic publication, places the total loss of the strike at fifty millions of dollars and admits that so far as the W. F. M. is concerned it stands as firm as ever. The loss estimate is based on the following: Four million working days, wage loss ten millions; thirty millions loss from non-production and damage, and nearly five hundred thousand dollars expense of the na tional guard. It declares that in te nacity of purpose, in the methods em ployed and in the enormous cost, the (Continued on Page Two.)

plete overthrow of the industrial sysem which makes our class dependent upon another class

To gain this end we shall try to educate ourselves and our fellow workers in the necessity of united political action, to the end that we sy ultimately capture lai the powers of government and through them

THOSE COSTLY SCABS

Damage Suits Piling Up Against Owners of Vindicator Mine. Careful Explanation That the Insurance Company Will Have to Stand the Loss. Peabody's Mine Commissioner Attempts to Protect the Mine Owners and Mislead the Coroner's Jury.

Damage suits, each for E00,000 are to be begun by the familia of ten of the victims of the terrible disaster at the Independence mine in Victor, Colo. The suits will probably be directed against the Venture company (limited) of London, England, owners of the mine. The basis of the suits will be the findings of the coroner's jury, which investigated and placed the responsibility for the accident. The verdict found that the mine man agement had failed to take proper precautions for the safeguarding of the lives of its employes.

The Venture company is protected against loss by damage suits for the death or injury of any of its employes by an insurance concern and wall lose nothing directly. Tihs insurance company will foot all of the losses incurred by the killing of miners and will in reality be the defendant. Its own lawyers will fight the suit for the Venture company and all expenses will be paid by it.

It is understood that agents for this insurance company have liready called on relatives of the ceased with offers of settlement, but in each case have been turned down. The

amount of damages tendered was so small as to be ridiculous. It is expected that before the cases come to trial, new offers will be made, but they will not nearly approach anything like the sum that will be sued

Now comes the report of Mr. White, the commissioner of mines for Colorado, who completely exonerates the mine company and the engineer. Testimony was given at the inquest that the air had refused to work on other occasions, but a little thing like that did not bother Governor Peabody's mine commissioner. He thinks the the Western Federation of Miners ought to be blamed for the disaster in some way and he has set out to furnish suggestions at least, all the coroner's verdicts in Christendom to the contrary notwithstanding.

Charges will be filed with Governor Peabody, demanding that White be removed from the position of commissioner of mines, on account of his conduct in criticising of the coroner's jury. He was charged with attempting to influence the jury by announcing the appointment of a special committee to inquire into the causes of the disaster.

COST OF LIVING.

Recently compiled statistics on the cost of living in 14 of the principal cities of the union, show that food stuffs cost less in San Francisco than elsewhere; New York is second lowest and Omaha third. Clothing is cheapest in New York, New Orleans is second and Detroit third. Food stuffs cost most in St. Louis, Denver and New Orleans. Clothing costs most in Denver, St. Louis and San Francisco. The three items, food, clothing and light, are less in New York and Omaha and greater in all the other cities than in San Francisco. The cities included in these figures are : New York, Omaha, San Francisco, Philadelphia, Boston, Milwaukee, Chicago, Pittsburg, Cleveland, Buffalo, Detroit, New Orleans, Denver and St. Louis BOYCOTT OFF.

Butcher Workmen's Union of Los Angeles, which has been on strike since Oct. 20, 1903, has today arrived at an amicable adjustment of all the difficulties that caused the strike. In pursuance of this agree. ment the union and the Los Angeles Council Council of Labor issue this circular and declare the boycott off on the firms involved in the strike. Los Angeles, Cal., Jan. 26, 1903.

MAKING CRIMINALS.

Punishment for Communal Injustices Visited on Innocent Victims' Heads.

A man is condemned to imprison

What a silly question! Because he has no money, no work, no shelter. Is it a crime not to have money?

Is it a crime not to be employed?

Is it a crime to be shelterless?

Well, of all these three things which are inoffensive, society has made a unity which is called vagrancy. And vagrancy is an offense. So vagrancy is an offense composed of three inoffensive things, and a punishable offense at that. This is the miraculous work of the legis-Do you know what they will tell

They will tell you that a man who has no money, no work and no shelter, is liable to commit any crime. As you see, society in her prudence punishes crimes which have not been committed yet, which may never be committed. She is preventing. Through what serum? Her serum she calls prisons. But let

no money, no work, no shelter. He gets a light sentence—only eight days' imprisonment. During these eight days he is surely unable to provide money, work and shelter for the time when he will leave prison.

He is free again. There he goes. An officer, seeing him, begins to in-terrogate him. He has no money, no work, no shelter—he is a vagrant; and above all he has been in prison. He is a very dangerous man.

He appears again before the court of "justice." A recidivist this time, and the court condemns him to three months' imprisonment, during which time he is again unable to provide money, work and shelter for the fu-

He again leaves prison, and an ap proaching officer again finds that he has no money, no work, no shelter; and he takes him back to the police station. A wise and justice-loving judge will ask this miserable wretch, who is astonished at the stupidity and cruelty of society, "Why don't

you better yourself?" This time he gets one year.

It is no wonder, when leaving the prison, the starving man will think: Because they punished me, though I committed no crime, why should I not do something? I cannot be worse off than before; I may better my condition if I succeed."-Chicago Union

The Colorado militia have built what they term a "cow pen" for the imprisonment of the ladies who are members of the Woman's Auxiliary, a branch of the Miners' Union.

GROWTH OF CAPITALISM.

The X I T ranch in Texas, owned by Chicago capitalists, would cover twice the size of Rhode Lsland with Deleware thrown in for good measure. Its area is nearly 5,000 square miles. It was given to the corporation now holding title by the state of Texas in return for the building of the capitol at Austin. The soil is very fertile. The tract is 200 miles long and 25 miles wide, touching and covering nine counties. It is all under barbed wire fence. There are 125,000 cattle and 1,600 horses. The property is valued at \$10,000,000.

WITHDRAWN.

The secretary of the Montana Fed. eration of Labor announces the following withdrawals from the Helens, Mont., Citizens' Alliance: J. H. Ur. quhart of the Bon Ton restaurant, Finley Urquhart of the Bristol Roming house and the Hub / clothing house, Louis Weigel, proprietor.
"About all that are now left of the Alliance," says Secretary H. O. Smith, "are those members of the capitalistic class whom we will always have to fight until we rec nize our class interests and vote cordingly. The rest of our trou

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1904.

How much use has a politician for a voter the day after election?

If the cost of living was cut in half, what effect would it have on wages?

If the cost of living was trebled, what effect would it have?

Why are wages in the Klondike higher than they are in New Orleans?

the most extravagant on the face of the earth. Are they injured by It?

The working class of America are

If the working class pay the taxes, what proportion of it falls on the sweat shop employes?

What is the difference between a

working man who votes for a big corporation and one who votes for a lit. tle corporation?

The working class of China and Old Mexico have reduced the cost of living to the vanishing point. Are they benefited thereby?

If it is more profitable to lie and steal than to be square and upright, is it surprising that many should take the crooked course?

What constitutes patriotism? Is it cutting another's throat or is it making one's own country a fitter and a happier place.

What benefit will the rank and file of Russia and Japan, the men who will do the fighting, get out of the settlement of the ownership question?

What difference, if any, is there between a couple of bull dogs who fly at each other's throat and maim and mangle each other because their owners have a bet on the outcome and a couple of working class armies who blow each other to kingdom come because the capitalist class wish to extend their "sphere of influ-

Mr. John A. Logan, together with many others, says the South African war was for the protection of England's mines. What interest did the "patriot" working class of England, who did the fighting, have in the mines, which, by the way, is now being worked by Chinamen and Kaf-

California undertaker was caught in the act of using a regulation military coffin, bearing the name of a dead soldier and a government notice that it must not be opened, in his private business. Talk about an incentive! Why, we have incentives so powerful that it leads men to rob graves and costs us thousands of dollars to maintain penal institutions.

Arbitrators in the Chicago livery. men's strike have decided against the men by reviving the old agreement against which the men struck and they made it still more obnoxious by striking out two clauses in favor of the owners. The union no longer has the right to a stable delegate and must wear scab uniforms if the owners elect. Great is arbitration-for the

Herr Bandmann, the eminent tragedian whose Shakespearcan interpretations, have made him famous on both continents, but who for some years has been devoting himself to agriculture, will shortly take the boards again in the interests of the striking Colorado miners. He will tour ontana and possibly other western states, thus giving the public a chance to once more enjoy the pleas. ure of seeing this master of tragedy in Shakespearean roles.

St. Louis unions affiliated with the A. F. of L. have decided, by unantmous vote, to insist that a scab advertisement be taken out of the American Federationist. Not satisfied with organizing scab unions, assisting the National anufacturers' to fight the A. L. U., opposing aid to the striking miners in Colorade, keeping stient concerning military

outrages, dining with the scab admirer, President Elliot at an unfair restaurant, and hobnobbing with the plutocrats who make up the "Physic" Federati . Sammy has taken to running scab ads against the protest of the unions. He is showing himself to be a scab labor official.

ADDRESS TO COLORADO.

By W. T. Withrow, 2047 North Third street, Kansas City, Kan. Colorado! land of beauty!

Where majestic mountains rise, From deep gorges till their lofty Sun kissed summits pierce the skies:

Land where nature's God hath scattered

Far and wide, with lavish hand, Measureless, unbounded blessings, Beauteous, goodly, favored land.

But above thee, fair Altruria, Hangs a shadow dark as death! And across they granite bosom, Creeps the deadly, poison breath, Of a hideous, loathsome serpent! And his foul and slimy trail, Marks the tomb of human freedom, In thy glorious Eden vale!

Lift thy face, oh Colorado! Open now thy sluggish eyes! Prostrate see thy sons before thee, Hear, oh hear, their anguished cries!

Now they call to thee for succor, E'er their last fainst hope be slain, Wilt thou hear them, Colorado? Will they call to thee in vain?

Where once dwelt thy happy children, Blest with hope and freedom's · light.

Now is heard the tread of armies, And the cruel hand of might, Strong to do the oppressor's biding, Hauls the flag of freedom down, And the baneful form of treason, Wears the honored judge's gown!

Where erst while the sword of justice.

Guarded well each human right, Now, the privileged oppressor, Wields the lash of purchased might, And where reigned the holy, quiet, Deep, majestic, calm of peace, Now, while hired assassins riot.

Listen! Colorado, listen! Hearest thou not the sullen boom Of the guns whose murderous mis-

Weeping justice hides her face!

siles. Hurl thy children to their doom! Bread they asked, and stones for an-

To their plea, the masters gave; Plead for life, and death, full armored,

Swit pursued them to the grave!

Pause and think, oh Colorado! Thou art passing in review At the bar of human judgment, And its verdict will be true! Will the words of condemnation On thy startled senses fall? Will the hand of retribution Write thy name upon the wall ?

In the mighty world arena. Where the clash of arms is naught; Falls before the power of thought, Will be waged the final conflict, And the victory shall be On the side of right and justice, And the tollers shall be free!

Once again, the voice of justice Shall be heard in thunder tones! Ancient tyranny shall crumble, And amid the crash of thrones There shall rise a new creation! Crime and poverty shall cease, And above the wreck of ages, Shall appear the star of peacel-

Thus, between the truth and falsehood

Comes the hour of doom at last;

Is the righteous balance cast Thus, to every proud oppressor,

Thus, each wave that sweeps the Breaks at last upon the shore: Thus, doth right eternal triumph. And shall triumph evermore!

THE GREATEST IN HISTORY

(Continued From Page One.)

Colorado struggle stands as one of the most far reaching in the history of the world. It summarizes the results, admits the ineffectiveness of capitalistic weapons and concedes that the strikers are in a position to stay out for months to come. Continuing it says:

"It has passed the point where one can refer to it as an 'industrial upheaval.' It has become a social rebellion-a rebellion against every recognized standard of business as it exists today-a rebellion brought about by the determination of organized labor to reign supreme in Colorado.

Socialism: spmpathetic strikes there you have the keynote to the whole situation:

"The fruits of production to go to the producer'-that is the motto engraved on every union card issued in the state public ownership of public utilities, the absolute supremacy of the working class as represented by the union-these are the principles that are being fought for in the life and death struggle now going on in Colorado. It is a fight to a finish. Both sides realize that. No compromise is possible. A settlement under any conditions but a final surrender would be only a truce, after which the strug-

The New York ten-hour law having been declared constitutional, the bakers of that city are preparing to enforce its provisions.

A splendid example of inconsistency is given in the recent action of the A. F. of L. The carpenters are required to surrender 35,000 wood workers in the interest of trade autonomy, but the Typographical union keeps the machinists who keep the linotypes in order. The brewers are ordered to give up the firemen and engineers, but the charter of the Illinois hoisting engineers' union is revoked and the men turned over to the United Mine Workers. The secret of all these contradictory moves is found in the fact that only one or two unions can be made to toe the trade autonomy mark at a time and the brewers and carpenters are selected for the sacrifice. If they are successful in plucking them to pieces the turn of the others will soon come.

This is the way they do things in, Prisco. The actors of that city decided to organize and obtained a charter from the American Labor Union. Discovering that the union houses were likely to be benefited, the owners of two continuous shows got their non-union help together, obtained a charter from the A. F. of L and actually began a boycott against the A. L. U. legitimate organization. This is "unionism" with a vengeance and is in keeping with the policy of the eastern body. For a time it was hoped that the executive officers of the A. F. of L., who are union men in name only, would be displaced by men of principal and that the antiquated methods of the past would be abandoned. The parties in power have, however, a death grip on their positions and powerful backing from certain sources. They will hold ther places as long as their organization exists and they will continue to shape its policy along reactionary lines.

Dr. Geo. W. Galvin of Boston, Mass., is authority for the statement that Samuel Gompers and John Mitchell partook of the hospitality of President Elliot, who has declared the scab to be a hero and who was denounced in his turn by the A. F. of L. convention, and that on Elliot's invitation they dired at the Exchange club, a place notoriously unfair and under the ban of the Central Labor Union. Not satisfied with permitting Hanna, Cleveland & Co. to remold their ideas of justice, the eastern labor leaders have taken to patronizing scab houses at the instance of a scab lover. One expected better things of Mitchell, but Gompers has been organizing scabs for so many years to enable them to act as strike breakers against the K. of L., the W. F. M., the A. L. U. and latterly the U. B. of R. E., that he is quite at home in their society.

The union men of Hamilton, Mont., have taken a stand against scab candy, Nevins of Denver in particular. A St. Paul house which was shut out became very ugly about it and declared they would furnish proof that the goods were fair. Well, the best proof is said to be the union label. A manufacturer who is ashamed, afraid or opposed to putting the label on his goods is a scab-herder at heart and only awaits the opportunity to make trouble for the union. Corraspondence which has been opened up with St. Paul will speedily determine whether this particular unlabeled candy is made under fair or unfair

QUESTIONS ANSWERED.

of the strike.

strength. One side or the other must

be conquered-that is evident now to

the most casual observer. And it is

because of the thorough understand-

ing of these conditions that the strug-

gle so far has been so bitter. Now

the fight has settled down to a trial

of strength between two gigantic

unions, each plentifully supplied with

funds, each thoroughly affiliated with

every person or organization that

would find the slightest advantage in

"On the one side is the Western

Federation, with its 22,000 members

in the state, the United Mine Work-

ers of America, with 21,000 coal min-

ers in Colorado, and the affiliated or-

ganizations of the American Labor

Union, with 100,00 members in Colo-

rado-a total of 143,000 workmen. On

the other, is the Citizens' Alliance,

with its membership of 39,000 -busi-

ness men, the various mine owners in

the state, and last, the great army of

unorganized, independent workmen

that has flocked into Colorado from

all sides. Three hundred thousand

men, out of the total population of

4,000,000 in the state, actively en-

gaged on one side or the other! One-

third of all the men in the state tak-

ing active part in this industrial

war! There you have the magnitude

the supremacy of either party.

The Weekly People is mistaken. The officers of the American Labor Union are not permitted to hold office under any political party. This holds good throughout the entire organiza-

Do you ever meet the union man who criticises every act of his organization, yet never attends the meetings? He seems to think that the name of his organization is capable of doing all kinds of things which he has no part in and which he does not like. He forgets that a union is exactly what the majority of its members makes it and that the man who stays away from his meetings is just as responsible a member as any other and he cannot shirk that responsibility. The organization is not an automatic arrangement. It is a machine which is operated by the membership. When you criticise your local union, you criticise that of which you, yourself, are a part.

The republic of Panama will pass a Chinese exclusion law.

The Chicago livery drivers have decided to renew their strike. The Chicago Carpenters and Joiners

have voted to withdraw from the American Federation of Labor.

"Population without land is a mob," says James J. Hill. Well, look out for the mob, Mr. Hill.

The Amalgamated Society of Engineers, A. L. , again record a large increase in membership.

Jacob A. Riis, the brilliant writer

and slum "specialist," declares the slums of the national capital to be the worst he has ever seen. The Butte Carpenters and Joiners

are reported to have joined with maha and other towns in demanding a referendum on withdrawal from

Chicago union men are agitating for a union bank with the label above the door. Don't let union money draw interest for capitalists, is their cry. The claim is made that three and one-half millions of union money is doing that now.

Sixteen men who went down in the Hardwick, Pa., mine for the purpose of bringing out the remains of 184 men who lost their lives in an explosion, were almost frozen through the cage sticking in the shaft. When finally hoisted the men were unable to walk.

Colorado farmers have notified the sugar manufacturers that unless prices were advanced they would grow no more beets. It will now be in order, says the Cleveland Citizen, for Peabody to send the soldiers into the beet fields and compel the men with the hoe to get busy.

An engineer from Victoria, Aus. tratia, was refused employment in South Africa because his discharge stated that he had been a striker.

The Saxon government prohibited seven Christmas tree festivities which had been arranged on behalf of striking textile workers, on the cround that disturbances might be caused. Sarve, you dogs of the working class, but starve quietly lest you disturb the rich, who are feasting on the products wrung, from you.

GURE IMPOTENCY

flicted; neither do I promise a cure in a few days or offer free treatment in order to secure their patronage, but I guarantee a perfect, safe and lasting cure in the quickest possible time, without leaving injurious aftereffects in the system, and at the lowest possible cost for conscientious, skillful and successful service."



Men's Diseases

There is seldom a day that I am not consulted by an unfortunate sufferer who, if he had consulted me in regard to his condition in its early stages, I this, I consider, is due to lack of knoche suffering, annoyance and expense previously sided the sace therefore, it considers to me to the suffering, annoyance and expense previously sided the sace therefore, it considers to me to the suffering, annoyance and expense previously sided the sace therefore, it considers to me to the suffering, annoyance and expense previously sided the sace therefore, it considers to me to the suffering annoyance and expense previously sided the sace therefore, it is considered to the suffering annoyance and expense previously sided to the sace therefore, it is considered to the suffering annoyance and expense previously sided to the sace therefore the suffering annoyance and expense previously sided to the sufficience of the suffering annoyance and expense previously sided to the suffering sufficience in the sufficience of the the suffing sufficience of the sufficience of the sufficience of the suffi

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passengers	1:45 a.m.	t:55 a.m.
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press		12:45 p.m

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NOTES OF THE AMERICAN LABOR

RESOLUTION OF CONDOLANCE

of Cataldo Federal Labor Union No. 478, A. L. U., in Memory of Our Beloved Brother.

Whereas the Almighty God in His infinite wisdom has seen fit to remove our beloved brother and co-worker. Roy Brown, and we realize the great loss his death will be to us and his mother, brothers and sisters

Therefore, be it resolved. That we, the members of Cataldo Federal Labor Union No. 478, A. L. U., hereby tender to his mother brothers and sisters our heartfelt sympathy in this their sad bereavement;

And be it further resolved that a copy of these resolutions be spread on the minutes of this union and that a conv be given to his mother brothers and sisters and that our charter be draped in mourning as a token of the high regard we hold for our deceased brother:

And be it further resolved. That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the Harrison Searchlight and the 11 OURNAL emfwyp hmrd mm American Labor Union Journal for rublication.

At last he has found the sunshine and the flowers, the music and the rest.

CHARLES DANA, M. W. CLARK, JOS. E. EELLS. Committee.

PROSTRATE PORTLAND.

City Rich, but Labor Market Bably Overstocked-Specious Lies Increased Congestion.

Edr. American Labor Union Journal. Think of a city like Portland, said to be the most prosperous city on the Pacific coast, with hundreds of idle men walking the streets, many of whom would be glad to obtain employment at almost any price! Yet the promoters of the great world's exposition of 1905 are circulating literature throughout the eastern states advising workers to come to Portland where work is plentiful and wages good. Advertising a city that always has more workers than she can employ; advertising a city that never manufactures anything-not eeven a wheelbarrow. Well, the boys are headed this way: they keep rolling in and it is now said that the board of charity has the biggest run that it has ever had in the history of Portland.

This is an imposition on the people of this city-an insult to those who are disposed to do right. Why don't the people protest? I don't know. It may be that some of them are afraid they would miss a \$2 a day job at the world's fair grounds by doing so. I think they will pay all of that amount to mechanics and perhaps more.

Last year they paid from \$2 to \$2.25 for concreters for ten hours' work. These were non-union men. Union men were then getting \$2.50 for nine hours on sidewalk work. In the world's fair grounds laborers got \$2 a day, while on the outside union men were getting from \$2.25 to \$2.50 for eight and nine hours. Even then, it takes it all to pay rent and buy provisions.

The idea of the employers is to have a big gang to select from. Then they can say to a fellow who hapinto the collar" the first day or two, "Get a move on you if you want to hold this job down: there is a big fellow right out there waiting for your place." There are more men in Portland now than could find work at anything, even if the busy season was open.

There is no work in Portland, Hundreds are idle. Reliable workingmen of this city will verify this statement. I would advise all workingmen to communicate with some of the labor unions of the city before coming here to hunt for work.

Your replies will be from men in positions to know how things are. You will receive the truth. Do not be lured away from your homes by flattering reports in the daily jourpals. The west is growing old. Good chances to make money are as scarce as hen's teeth. Forty or fifty years ago before the surface mines were worked out, a man could make a stake in a short time. But that day has long since passed. Those easy diggings have all been exhausted and the gold has passed into the hands of a few millionaires who now control the earth. In the winter, the streets are crowded with idle men and hoboes. In summer time, the highways are lined with "wagon tramps," going to and coming from California.

People come here to hunt homes and continue to hunt. Men come to hunt work, get broke and are or ordered out of town Some fail to see the benefit derived from organized labor, while unorganfixed labor receives from ale to 50c

per day less than organized labor receives.

Unorganized laboring men are unable to trust each other, while organized men are bound by fraternal ties an dtrue friendship which dispels all unfriendly feeling.

If you are not organized get to work and organize under the banner of the American Labor Union.

Are you going to keep voting with that millionaire who says to you the day before election, "If Mr. So and So is not elected, you need not return to these shops to work?" Are you going to wave aloft the stars and stripes today and trample them beneath your feet tomorrow or are you going to keep them in the heavens?

Are you going to continue to be slaves and continue to curse that millionaire for permitting you to be? He will allow you to be a slave as long as you want to be. It is to his interest, you know. Just vote as he says, parade the streets on election day, bearing upon your manly breast your enemy's badge. All of that is good for you. It helps to rivet a collar around your neck and shackles upon your limbs. You men in non-union shops and other non-union places, do not dare raise your voices in defense of a down-trodden brother. Why? Because you would get what is known in the labor circle as the "G. B."

We have set aside every third Monday in each month for open meeting night. Last Monday was our first open meeting. We had an able speech by Bro. Welch, a number of applications for membership and a very pleasant time.

We expect to be heard from in a very loud tone later on. WES MAYFIELD.

THEY PROTEST.

Industrial Council of Portland, Ore., Is Opposed to Arbitration Treaty With England. A copy of the following set of reso-

lutions have been forwarded to the Journal for publication: To the International Peace Confer-

Gentlemen-By authority and under the seal of Industrial Council No. 452 of Portland, Ore., we, the undersigned, are instructed to respectfully protest against the proposed treaty of arbitration between this country and England. While this council heartily favors any peace convention that is open to all the nations to participate, it is opposed to singling out one nation alone in this matter, and most especially now, when war seems imminent in the far east and any special treaty with one of the nations involved, may reasonably be taken as a velled threat to other friendly powers.

We believe that whatever sentfment is back of these efforts to place this nation in a false light, is un-American and does not represent the views of our people at large. Respectfully submitted,

N. RODOLP. W. NOFFKE, M. W. O'SHEA. Committee.

CHANGE IN OFFICERS

Edr. American Labor Union Journal. At the meeting of the Butte Work-Abbot was elected vice-president of the organization to fill the unexpired term of Bro. Walter Breem, who has transferred to the ill and Smeltermen's Union. Bro. John Taylor was elected as guide to fill the unexpired term of Bro. W. R. Roscoe, who is visiting his old home in the east. Both these officers are old-time members of our organization and every one seems to be highly pleased that we should succeed in getting in two such efficient and conscientious officers, Bro. Beebe, janitor of the Grant school, was appointed to serve on the sick committee to fill a vacancy. Bro. Jones of Centerville and Bro. Seigel are on the sick list.

CHAS. W. DEMPSTER. Pres. and Cor. Workingmen's Union No. 5, A. L. U. Butte, Jan. 29, 1904.

Quartz Labor Union will probably combine the office of financial secretary and treasurer.

Bear Creek Union No. 356 has been compelled to take drastic measures against one Paul Martin because of his antagonism to labor unions. Martin left camp and took another man's blanket with him, it is said.

Cleveland musicians subscribed for 25 copies of the Journal.

Butte Office Employes are taking an aggressive position with regard to building up the membership of their union. The Trades and Labor Assembly will assist them in the work.

A MONSTER MASS MEETING.

A. L. U. Locals of San Francisco Hold Monster Protest Meeting on the Colorado Troubles.

San Francisco, Cal., Feb. 5th. The American Labor Union organizations of San Francisco have taken the Alhambra theater, the largest hall in the city, for a monster protest meeting against military despotism in Colorado.

The meeting will be held next Sunday, Feb. 7, and A. L. U. Musicians' Union No. 435 will provide a uniformed band of 25 men to take part.

The speakers will be W. H. Leonard of Cripple Creek iners' Union, James A. Smith, president A. L. U. Council: C. M. Huribut, assistant to president U. B. of R. E.; Mrs. Lena Morrow Lewis and Arthur M. Lewis of S. F. Federal Union No. 347 (the ploneer A. L. U. body in San Francisco); Thomas Watson of the S. F. branch, Amalgamated Society of Engineers, and F. J. Whitney of the Street Carmen's Union.

A collection will be taken in aid of the strike fund and resolutions will be presented condemning the course of the governor and legislature of Colorado.

The A. F. of L. organizations of San Francisco have aiready given a large amount to the strike fund and have shown by their actions that, in spite of the influence of Sammy and Johnny, the universal union of workers has already been born and that while we may differ temporarily on questions of policy and affiliation, no such questions can prevent us from helping each other at a crisis like the present

Great Falls, Mont., Laundry Workers gave a well attended ball on February 2nd.

Federal Union No. 347, A. L. U., of San Francisco, held a monster protest meeting on Feb. 7, denouncing he capitalist class of Colorado in the struggle with the W. F. M. The A. L. U. musicians furnished the music.

D. J. Smith, president of the Butte Barbers' Union, who conducts a shop in the rotunda of the Pennsylvania block on West Park, has formed a partnership with Fred Kraft. Bro. Kraft was formerly employed at the corner of Renshaw and Park. They extend a hearty invitation to old and new friends to visit them at their cosy quarters.

Bullding work in Alamagonda, N. M., is dull just at this time, but the A. L. U. locals of that town are the right sort and are in line in support of the Colorado strikers.

The Chicago House Movers' Union. which was chartered by the A. L. U. some time since, are predicting a

The A. L. U. locals in Chicago have formed a central body for the promotion of the interests of trades and abor unionism.

St. Louis Heel Workers Union No. 467, A. L. U., by a unanimous vote expelled William Smith on the charge of scabbing. This oderiferous character threw up a position in an open shop to take one in a scab factory. though the union had supported him for some time out of the strike benefit fund. 'Tis a pity that severer penalties than mere expulsion cannot be visited on such a malodorous char-

A. L. U. Central body cago is experiencing a considerable degree of prosperity. There were 75 delegates in attendance at the last meeting. The capitalistic press have assailed the body in a most vicious manner. Belshazzar swearing at the handwriting on the wall.

Everything looks bright and prosperous for 1904, writes a member of the New York A. L. U. Garment Workers. He gives the names of a number of New York unions that are becoming interested in the A. L. U.

The House Movers' Union, A. L. U., of Chicago, are an energetic set of men who are quick to see their own interest and zealous in maintaining it, according to the report of T. S. Mahoney, who is looking after the interests of up-to-date unionism in the Windy city.

"You are to be congratulated on your St. Louis unions," writes a members of the International Brewers. "Some of the best union men in this city," he continues, "are mem bers of the American Labor Union." He particularly mentions Business Agent Lawrence of the Boot and Shoe Workers as an exceptionally conscientious and able worker

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ECONOMIC DETERMINISM

BY CARL D. THOMPSON.

The socialists contemplate a very I trine of economic determinism or the decided change in the social order. We have at present a certain social system, in which the means of production and distribution are owned by a few private individuals. The socialists advocate a very different system, in which these things shall be owned collectively, etc. The question immediately arises, how is this change to be brought about? The scientific socialist knows that it can only be by discovering the inherent forces already existing and at work in human society, and by working in harmony with them. He therefore undertakes to discover what the forces are that produce social changes and especially what, if any, are at work in present socity that are making for collectives.

The result of a careful analysis of all the social forces reveals the economic interests of social classes as, in the last analysis, the fundamental determining force in social changes. It is found that in every epoch of history the way that the people have of making their living, the manner of producing their wealth, gives rise to certain economic institutions which become the basis of all other institutions and determine their form. Roughly speaking, and as a general rule, the economic interests of the dominant class at any period of history determines the form which poliical, legal and even moral institutions

If, for example, the dominant class is the king and his supporters then the government is a monarchy, laws are made accordingly, and the king rules by "divine right." Foreign wars are undertaken for the economic advantages of the victors. Of 288 wars Loria says in his "Economic Foundations of Society," page 266, all but 28 can be directly traced to economic causes. And very often, no matter how mercenary these wars may be. they are nevertheless "religious wars," as, for example, the Crusades. (See Loria, page 262.)

Whenever, now, in the course of social evolution a class arises whose economic interests are hostile to those of the dominant class then the interests of the suppressed class demand a change. And necessarily the change, if it comes, involves a transforma tion of the political legal and social institutions which have grown out of the economic conditions which the dominant class established and in which and by which their special priv-

ileges were entrenched. The slave revolts of ancient Rome: the peasants' wars; the modern labor movement, are illustrations of the oppressed, classes organizing their forces to bring about a change ad-

vantageous to their class. That social changes thus take their rise in the economic relations of society, and in the antagonism of classes constitutes the substance of the doc-

The February number of the Amer.

ican Federationist, the paper edited

by Sam Gempers, is as silent as usual

in regard to the outrages in Colo-

rado. The members of the United

Mine Workers, which is affiliated with

the A. F. of L., must be tickled to

death at the support they get from

headquarters. By the way, what do

the United Mine Workers get in re-

turn for the per capita tax which they

pay into the A. F. of L.? What

benefit does any union get from the

A. F. of L. plan of organization?

Ed Butler, who was found guilty of

having bribed the St. Louis health of-

fice in the garbage contract and sen-

tenced to the penitentiary, but saved by the Supreme court on the ground

Don't all speak at once.

materialistic interpretation of history as it is called.

The ideas of social progress which this doctrine undertakes to supercede are various. One is that all historical changes are due to the influence of "great men." Another is that historical conditions and movements are to be explained in the geographical conditions of location, climate, soil, etc. And still antoher is that progress is the result of religious ideals and agitation.

It is plain to be seen that these are all one sided views of history. The socialist undertakes to press the analysis farther. He does not deny that all these things may influence social progress, but he does deny that these are fundamental or final. He holds that these are the effects of a deeper cause. This doctrine, like the evolutionary theory, has had to win its way slowly and laboriously. It is of too vivid a nature, involving too great a change in the ways of viewing history to be stated offhand, or to be readily understood. Here it is quite as Labriola says in his "Essays on the Materialistic Conception of History." 'We must become fully conscious of the difficulties of the problem we are setting ourselves, because we have here, not merely to open our eyes and behold, but to make a supreme effort of thought."

It is doubtless the lack of this intellectual thoroughness and honesty that leads some writers and speakers into error upon this doctrine. Neither Marx nor Engels who first stated this doctrine for the socialists ever claimed that the economic interests were the only determining factor (See Fenerbach's "Roots of the Socialist Philosophy," by Engels, especially the introduction by Lewis.) Nor does this doctrine undertake to deny ideal. ism. (See Labriola, page 104.) And, above all, it would be the greatest error to suppose that this doctrine requires that the appeal to the sentimental, the aesthetic or even the religious must be abandoned by the propagandist

He who would thus misinterpret the doctrine of econ ism, would hold up to the people a caricature of the truth as held and taught by such men as Marx, Engels, Ferri, Loris or Sbriola. Here, as everywhere, "a little learning is a is a dangerous thing."

(The best single book on this subject is Loria's "Economic Foundations fo Society." Loria is not a socialist The most recent book in English is Labriola's "Materialistic Conception of History." The doctrine is stated in the introduction to the communistic manifesto, and defended in Engel's "Socialism, Utopian and Scien And a good discussion will be found in Fenerbach's "Roots of the Socialist Philosophy," by Engels) Janesville, Wis., January, 1904.

that the health office did not have a legal right to do what Butler had bribed them for, is now on trial at Fulton, Mo., for bribery on an electric light contract. Butler is a blacksmith by trade. He came to America at an early age and by "thrift, economy" and a variety of other "virtues" has amassed a million. Should be be convicted at the present trial Missouri's Supreme court will have a chance to show its resourcefuliness in saving him from the penftentiary a second time.

The Socialist Local at Lazurne, Pa., has had its charter revoked for permitting one of its nominees to accept the endorsement of other political parties .

AGAINST THEMSELVES

General Officers of the Amalgamated Waiters Organize a Dual Union Because Organizer was not Permitted to Run Things. The General Officers Charged With Wrecking Unions in Other Cities From Mere Malice.

The Amalgamated Waiters of New York are out with a printed statement concerning the methods of the officers of the Bartenders' "International" League, a loose organization of waiters and bartenders who have a scattering membership. The waiters requested the national office to send them an organizer. A Mr. Bauman was sent. He attended a waiters' meeting. He sat silent in the meeting, but at its close declared all business illegal because of "irregularities," and said he would prefer charges against them. The "charges" were: Permitting a man who could not speak English to speak German, admitting members without demanding the password, etc. To show his own regard for proper procedure he, at his office, initiated members in refiance of the constitution, which says the union must vote on applicants. It is presumed that Mr. Bauman pocketed the initiation fees, though this is not specifically stated. He had been carrying on his private initiations for some time before the union discov ered it. When it came to their knowledge they put a summary stop to the plan. Then Mr. Bauman enlisted the services of the president, whose name is Callahan, and who came to New York to help his friend Bauman out. Together with Bauman he attended a union meeting, where Bauman delivered a tirade against the members, reciting the charges mention above, and furthermore that they had stopped his "private initiations.

Callahan then took the floor and declared that the organization would be suspended for four weeks, although there had been no investiga. tion of any charges. He said further that Bauman, the president and the

secretary of the union would act as a committee to handle the affairs during the suspension of four weeks. His attention was called to the unconstitional nature of his behavior and he was reminded that the union had not been given a hearing in accordance with the constitutional provisions. All this he ignored. The union refused to submit to his high handed methods and Callahan jerked the gavel from the chairman and declared the meeting adjourned. Bauman now had full play. He continued his private iniations and elected himself delegate to the central body and ran things with a high hand. When the period of suspension had passed the union resumed business. They withdrew Bauman from the central body, where he never had a right to a seat and they preferred charges against him. He refused to appear for trial and organized a dual union.

It was turned down by the Central Federated Trades Council. The wait ers declare that since that time Presi dent Callahan of the Internation Bartenders' League has done all he could to wreck their union, which is 20 years old and has given thousands of dollars to the progressive labor movement. He supports Bauman in his dual union. He has, according to the waiters' manifesto, done the same thing in other cities, wrecking unions from mere malice. The Amalgamated Waiters stand ready to prove the statements given above. The Callahan organization is the one which attempted to split the Butte Bartenders' Union No. 127, A. L. U., and has succeeded in establishing a dual union only to be repudiated by the Trades Assembly, the Butte Miners, the Smeltermen and numerous other large organizations of the city.

FROM BIRTH TO DEATH

(Continued From Page One.) now demand that the companies comply with the law.

The last on the list of the strikers' demands is perhaps the most vital. It is that the company take adequate measures to insure a plentiful supply of fresh air. There are laws in every mining state requiring precautions in regard to ventilating fans, the storing of dynamite, etc., and yet the mine disasters, which no daily newspaper is without, show the ruthlessness of mine owners in breaking laws which are contrary to their interests and disregard for human life.

Such are the demands of the striking miners. And yet they give voice to only a few of the wrongs the miners and their families are forced to endure. I have been unable to find any activity uncontrolled by the companies; from the birth of the child, for which the services of the company doctor must be employed, ofttimes unwillingly, through school and church and daily labor, through sickness and death the grip of the company is never relaxed.

The companies own almost entirely the miserable houses. They own the land upon which the houses stand. Instances have been told me where their agents have ordered tenants not to set pails or anything on the ground outside of the thny huts, saying that the rent was paid for the houses, but not for the land.

The companies own, as well, the school system. Out of the school assessment of 25 cents from each miner they generously build school houses, in which they place teachers chosen by school boards composed of superintendents and mine bosses, which perhaps a moderate proportion of members of the Citizens' Alliance, the Anti-Union organization. The teachers teach from books prescribed (and changed each year) by the school board, and paid for by the miners. This custom of changing text books yearly is one of the innumerable grafts of the companies. Another one that pays well is the saloon business. In four different camps under control of the Victor Fuel Co. two saloons pay each, as license to the company, 20 cents for every man on the payrolls, about \$500 per month for the company.

The company store is a sore grievance. The owners, a group consisting of members from each of the mining companies, claim that no one is forced to buy there. Does not the system of scrip payment seem a pretty effective means of forcing? Competition is not permitted to grow very lively, for if an outside man comes into camp and attempts to sell anything he is taken before the local justice, also owned by the company, and promptly fined from \$1 to \$50. One incident will serve to illustrate the non-forcing process:

A woman who had been ill wanted some broth and ventured to buy a chicken of a neighbor who had a little vegetable patch and raised a few chickens. A company agent saw her carrying it home and asked her roughly what she had

"Just a bit of chicken I got of John because I was sick."

"Why didn't you go to the company store?" he demanded. "They haven't any chicken," she answered timidly.

"You can get all the meat you need at the company store-you. You an tell your man to come and get his time." Let me mention incidentally that Rockefeller controls 70 per cent of the

stock of the Colorado Fuel & Lron Co., and that the miners' families pay 25 cents a gallon for Rockefeller's oil at the stores of the Colorado Supply Co. The United States postoffice in each camp is always located in the company store. The manager of the store is always the postmaster, receiving salary therefor, and the work of the postoffice is done by the cashier of che store, who is an overworked drudge and whose services thus cost the

manager nothing. There seems to be no question that mails have been tampered with during this strike in some of the most closely guarded camps. I have been told on direct authority of letters sent to persons in one of the most inaccessible camps which were never received. Labor papers sent through the mails scarcely ever reach those for whom intended.

The climax of all this robbery and perhaps its most hateful form is in the medical department. Each man working in and around the mines is taxed \$1 per month for service for himself and family. Some estimate of the company's income from this source may be made from the following figures, Total hospital fees collected at Hastings, Gray Creek, Del-

agua and Chandler (Victor Fuel Company) each month about \$2,300.00

Monthly cost of medical attendance, etc. \$50.00

Excess of collections monthly. 1,450.00 Multiplied by

these four camps. The company hospital is at Pueblo and is claimed by its owners to be the finest in the country. It ought to be when the cost to the miners is considered. It is a journey of from 150 to 200 miles from many of the camps to Pueblo and after being brought there the sick and injured men are often

left lying in the railroad station for hours before being taken to the hospital. It is a sufficient commentary upon this subject to report that the women of the camps universally hate both company doctors and the company hospital. I have heard more than one woman say:

"I'd rather have my man die at home than take the chances on sending him to the company's hospital."

It is impossible to do more than suggest a few of the wrongs of the workers who live in these isolated and pitifully dreary camps. Their lives are all one vast wrong and even a hasty glimpse caught in a few days' visit in the region makes you feel the desperate struggle before them. But not hopeless, as you realize the great growth that is taking place in the comprehension of their class wrongs and in the knowledge that the remedy for these must come through class loyalty and class organization.

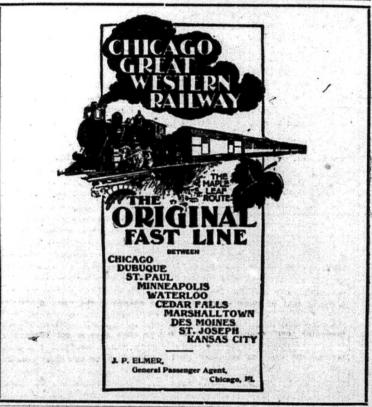
BERTHA HOWELL MAILLY.

SOCIALIST CONVENTION.

The Butte Socialists held their city convention on Thursday last and nominated a full list of aldermanic candidates. Among the resolutions adopted was the formal recognition of the socialist local as the representative of the Socialist party, the regulation requirement of the resignation of nominees, so that such resignation may be dated and filed, by a major. ity vote at any time the nominee, if elected, departed from the platform or tactics of the Socialist party. Any nominee who accepts or permits the endorsement of him by any other political party forfeits his nomination by so doing. To prevent committee tampering, it was decided that in the event of a vacancy occurring on the ticket, the convention should reassemble for the purpose of filling such

vacancy. After adjournment a mass meeting was called for the purpose of putting a school trustees ticket in the field. The platform of the mass meeting, among other things, declared against contract labor, in favor of teachers' unions and manual training and denounced the methods of the present board which require "that a child must show criminal tendencies before being admitted to the manual training school."

Chas. A. Born, mayor of Sheboygan. Wis., was expelled from the Socialist party of that city for having granted a trolly franchise against the wishes of his party, reducing the assessment on the water works company and also appointing a scab newspaper proprietor and an old party politician as members of the library board. His defense was that it was a Carnegie library.





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