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J. A. Woyland. Girard, Kansas, U. S. A., July 27, 1901.



That's the Army motto, and the boys live up to it, too. It is this intense persistence on the part of the rapidly growing band of Socialists which is making Socialism the most talked of theme before the public.

The word—its meaning—its aim—is being discussed by the millions. The fires of hope are being kindled in the breast of the human race; the prospect is bringing to the eye of the tired wife a new light, and men, who heretofore could see nothing in life but a meaningless routine (with a full dinner pail as the pinnacle of success) are inspired by its message of cheer.

Filled with that measure of enthusiasm which certain success inspires, the Appeal Army is moving irresistibly to victory—and the establishment of the Co-operative Commonwealth.

The Army, never satisfied, is continually prodding the poor old Appeal to KEEP SOMETHING GOING ON. This time, it's the railroad gang, and in order to keep peace in the family, No. 297 will be a special railroad edition, containing matter which will appeal particularly to railroad men who as yet are not familiar with the advantages Socialism will bring to them.

Bear in mind that while No. 297 will contain matter of especial interest to railroad men, it will be of more than ordinary interest to the general public, and will be without doubt one of the best for propaganda work ever issued by the Appeal.

There are 929,000 railroad men in the United States. What a feather in the Socialist cap it would be to give to every one of this vast army of men, whose votes we not only need, BUT MUST HAVE, before the Co-operative Commonwealth can be established, a copy of this special railroad edition of the Appeal! You realize the importance of this—hence you are expected to see that your town is thoroughly covered and every railroad man supplied with a copy. Per 100, 40c; per 1,000, \$4.

So long as men and women will sell themselves for wages, they will be slaves of capital and will be poor.

What difference does it make to you whether you pay rent to a lord, duke or king, or to a plain American property owner?

The Indians claim that the government has robbed them of the lands it is making a great lottery of. No doubt of that!

In what different way did the masters of Rome get the wealth of the country than the masters of this country get it?

Labor unions must use Socialist literature on the non-union men if they would have them stand with the union against the capitalists.

Forty-five bank wreckers and embezzlers have been pardoned by President McKinley so far. Did you hear of him pardoning any workman?

One day's news: Seventy-five thousand steel workers on strike; iron moulders out at Chicago; firemen out at Wilkesbarre; and the country gloriously prosperous!

English capitalists own the railroads, coal fields, great trusts and bodies of land in the United States. We pay tribute to them every hour. But we are a free people!

The income of the royalty of Europe comes from owning the property. That is just the way the income of our masters is gotten. Why is it tyranny there and freedom here?

The judges of this country are its greatest menace. They are the servants of the property class. But kings' courts always upheld the king, and property judges always uphold property.

All the crowned heads of Europe own the finest rent-paying properties in American cities. You have been taught to look upon their exactions for rent in Europe as tyranny. Why is it not tyranny to pay them rent here?

Judge Kohlsaat, of Chicago, has decided in favor of the railroads, giving them the power to refuse to carry mixed cars of freight. Of course he did. Did you ever hear of a judge deciding anything in favor of the public? If so, when, what and where? Whose country is this, anyway? Don't the millionaires own it, and haven't they a right to do with their own as they please? What silly people to expect a court to decide against railroad interests. Minority rule is the thing. A few rich can have what they want, but the public, the millions, can have nothing. If they make a law it is declared unconstitutional by the courts. whoop-ah!

The democratic platform of Ohio is interesting as an index to the position which the democratic party will occupy during the next presidential campaign. The plank in reference to trusts is peculiarly significant. The platform makers register their "hostility to the monopolization of industry, with its tendency on one hand to crush out individual enterprise and on the other to promote a Socialistic spirit among the people as the ONLY refuge from oppression." See the point? These bright platform framers are opposed to trusts because the continued existence of them will open the eyes of the people to the ONLY refuge from their oppression—namely, the Socialist way—the public ownership of them. The democrats in their platform make no suggestion as to a remedy for the trusts because the fellows who made it are in the trust business themselves. The action of the democrats in Ohio indicate that Bryan and the Kansas City platform will cut but a sorry figure in the next campaign. This means that the next national democratic convention will be dominated by the same element which controls the republican party. This will leave the great bulk of the demo-

crats without a home—without a party. And while these poor little orphans are floundering around in the slough of political dependency, they will be easy victims for the Socialist. In fact, there will be no place for them to go except the Socialist party. But before they can be admitted to fellowship, they must be educated and shorn of their antiquated democratic ideas. This, however, can be accomplished easily—and when it is, the balance of the democratic party, controlled by men of the McLean, Hill, Croker stripe, will be forced into the republican camp. Then will Mr. Hanna's forecast that "the fight of the future will be between the republican party and the Socialists" be realized. And it is to prepare for that great day, that every Socialist should direct all his efforts.

The Appeal would like to see the Indianapolis conference of Socialists adopt the name Socialist Party, abolish the "party organ" business and not make it obligatory on a person to pay dues to have a voice in the party. Enough money will be forthcoming without that method of having to buy a membership, making money a qualification for association. The platform should be short enough to use as a poster, that it may be stuck up in every public place in the nation. A dozen lines will cover the matter. Each state should be given its autonomy in the propaganda. Then let us push the organization into every precinct in the nation. The Appeal is willing and has always been, to assist in the organization, and its Army can and will put in thousands of branches in the next few months, if given a chance.

"The Irish People," O'Brien's paper, published in Dublin, has been confiscated because he said of King Edward that he is "an old and bald-headed rone, a lover of every woman of fair features who has appeared in English society for forty years, including titled dames and actresses—the English gentleman perjurer of a historic divorce case, the polluted hero of one of the malodorous scenes in Zola's rotten novel—Nana—the center of a score of the most disgraceful scandals of the most contemptible type, and an old and worn out descendant of a race of scoundrels and practical professors of hideous morality."

There is no effort to disprove or even make O'Brien prove these things—they are facts of common knowledge. But that is neither here nor there. What I thought as I read it was this: Would the ministers who have excommunicated Herron and would Bishop Potter and others who have refused to appear on the platform with him, refuse to appear on the platform with the king of England or the sultan of Turkey, with his hundreds of wives? Not on your life. They would be trampling on each other to get on the platform. Yet, these things have never been said of Herron. The king represents the system, and is therefore immune! He could commit no crime that would cause his being shut out of the society of men whose immaculate purity prevents them being on the same platform with Professor Herron. But of such ever has been the creeds and their upholders, Christ did not-so with the Magdalene. The ministers are playing to the credulity of the galleries.

The postmaster-general has made an order to carry into effect the exclusion of certain publications from the mails at second-class rates. The last congress killed a bill to do this, but the department does what congress refused to do! This will have the effect of increasing the postage about eight times on serial publications and pamphlets, and will put a great sum of money into the hands of the express companies that now goes into the postal revenues. As the railroads have their pay adjusted for the next four years, the cost of transportation will be just as great to the government, while the revenue will be decreased. The promise held out for one cent letter postage! That is what the business men want, and will get of course. Anything they demand will be granted. This will seriously affect the book business of the Appeal and will make literature cost a great deal more than formerly. The express companies which are now anxious to carry these books at the rate which the postmaster-general says loses money to the government, will of course at once raise their rates. The whole thing is a scheme to profit the railroads and express companies. But as they are the government, as the officers are there to serve their interests, nothing else can be expected. But the Appeal will continue to send out increasing amounts of Socialist literature, if the Army does its duty.

The fact that over 100,000 men are out in the steel and other trades on a strike, that virtually civil war is in operation, so complete is the rule of the rich robbers over the press that scarcely a thing is said about it in the daily papers! Just a few words thrown together that mean nothing and leave the unthinking public to ignore the matter! And on these papers the public relies for news! And the working masses support the papers with their pennies! Ye gods, what a condition!

The steel trust is resorting to the old game of arming ignorant foreigners in its effort to beat the American citizens who belong to the unions. The trust is a foreign-owned public enemy. If the unions should vote as they strike every officer of the trust would be tried for treason.

The postal system is publicly owned, but operated by politicians for the benefit of the railroad and express companies. The remedy—Have the public own the railroads and express companies and there will be no corporate interests served by bribery. If this country had twice as much wealth and a few trusts owned it all, would you call the country wealthy? A few people would be wealthy, but the country would be nothing but a slave pen—which it is. Ask your doctor for a subscription, now that he has had a sample copy of the Appeal. The boys who have tried are pleased with results.

James J. Van Allen sails for England tomorrow to receive from King Edward the Cross of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem. The decoration consists of a black iron maltese cross, with a reproduction of the lion and the unicorn placed singly between the arms of the cross. It is worn suspended from a black and white ribbon.—Associated Press dispatch.

This shows how childish for haubles are the alleged "prominent and respectable" citizens of this "great republic." How they dote on a piece of iron with two strings attached, if given them by a KING. Will they take a trip across the ocean to get it! How they hate monarchies! How they hate democratic simplicities and equalities! Such parasites are furnished great incomes by interest, rent and profit paid by American donkeys, so they may hobnob with KINGS. How much better is it that Americans accept presents and honors from the KING now than in the time when Benedict Arnold accepted them? Are you blind to the fact that the rich of this country favor a monarchy in preference to the present pseudo-republic? Can you not see that the wealthy classes have married into and have interests with European nobility and royalty more than in this country? That you working people are being used as so many cattle to provide the wealth which these kind of people spend in planning to always keep you slaves? What is your brain for? Have you eyes that see not and ears that hear not? The rich would today take sides with a foreign invasion of this country rather than submit to a control of this country by the working people, which are a majority. They did in Cuba, they did in the Philippines, they have in all countries. Rich men do not love their country—they love their property, and will make peace with any tyrant if their property is preserved to them. An American citizen who would accept favors from a king should be treated as a public enemy, which he is, though pretending like Arnold to be patriotic.

The Irish world, of New York, had its Fourth of July edition suppressed by the police because it had a flag bearing this inscription:

"This flag stands for Liberty, Equality, Independence, Justice and Fraternity—if the congress or president so will." And then a picture of three children labeled Cuba, Porto Rico and Philippines, and then below this quotation:

"O, say, does the star spangled banner yet wave O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?"

The Constitution says no law shall be made "abridging the freedom of speech or of the press," but what is the Constitution to the people whom the working people elect to office? That is the reason the troops are used against the strikers and judges issue injunctions against the rights of the workers to speak to the non-union men. Tyranny creeps in slowly, but surely. No people ever kept their liberty who became negligent of it. When the people elect Socialists, working people will come into their own.

Frank Kennedy, of Cincinnati, writes in the Post of that city July 10, that he with his wife and three children lived on \$6.35 a week for a year. He lost no time by sickness, used neither tobacco nor drink, and came out \$11 in debt at the end of the year. In the list of expenses, which were kept minutely, not an item appears for overcoat, wrap, amusements, holidays, birthday, literature, music or art. Such is the life of thousands of workers. If we were better to be a slave, or death, to such a life. But until the workers revolt against such conditions, their masters will be well satisfied with them as slaves. It affords nothing but a brute existence. But we are a free people! Free to have trusts to rob everybody and live the lives of kings and princes, while educating the workers into ignorantly voting the democratic and republican tickets so this condition will continue. Not liquor nor laziness, but a debauched, unchristian industrial system is the cause. Public ownership of capital is the remedy.

The ice companies of Chicago have raised the price 25%. They deny there is a combine, but say the raise in price is "just because they want the money." Well, that's honest, at least if it is brutal. Now suppose the people, because they have the power, should say they will pay nothing for ice, just because they want to keep their money, and that the trust shall supply them on penalty of great personal inconvenience, perhaps adorning lamp posts? Would the people not be acting just as are the members of the ice combine? Sauce for the geese ought to be good sauce for the ganders. I wish the ice trusts would raise the price 100% every week. People who are such fools as to permit private interests to control their necessities ought to be skinned. If I had the cinch on them, I would squeeze them until they installed public ownership.

The government has just completed one gun that cost over a half million dollars. That was spent for means to kill and maim humanity. What an awful thing it would be to spend half a million in building and furnishing a factory to employ 500 men and thus enable them to own homes and enjoy life! Government in the hands of capitalists for the purpose of spreading commerce to make more profits is a murderous thing. Put to development industry and making useful employment it would be a blessing to mankind. Kings and capitalists use government as a master uses slaves—for profit. In this country the slaves have the power to control government if they had the mind to do it.

In the recent railroad consolidations in this section, it was done "not to raise rates, but to save expenses." This is what the public enemies gave out for public consumption. They have put double work on the employees, and I notice that the last freight bill for paper is \$30 per car more than has been the rate ever since I have been in Girard. But no matter. I wish the rates would be raised twice as high on everything. If fools will have transportation in the hands of monopolies rather than in their own, they ought to be robbed. Give it to them. I will suffer patiently if it will raise the standard of revolt.

A doctor announces that he has discovered a method of diet to control the sex of unborn infants. How wonderful is man! The honey bees have known that for thousands of years, and yet man thinks that he is the wisest thing that ever happened. Man could learn from the bees a great deal more than he now knows, especially about social and industrial affairs.

Is the profit that the English "subjects" pay to Lord Lytton on tea any less tribute than what you pay to the fellows over here whose names you do not know.

Both Bradstreet and Dun report a great increase in the number of failures both in this country and Canada during the past week. The panic is traveling from Europe rapidly.

High prices produce prosperity. Here in Kansas hay is \$20 a ton and corn 55 cents a bushel, and the farmers are buying at that price to keep their stock from starving. Give thanks to McKinley.

There are only two reasons possible why a congressman or senator will vote to pay an appropriation to railroads of 200% a year for the use of mail cars—one is that he is bribed, the other is that he is a fool.

The U. S. government pays foreign stockholders of American railroads for the right to carry the mails and pay them ten times as much as a fair charge. They evidently know how to bribe officials. Great, free America!

It will be a crime in this country for a man to join a labor union if the billion dollar steel trust wins out in its fight against its men. It was a crime in England once. Are we going back to feudalism and open tyranny?

There is no tyranny, no oppression, no tribute-taking in Europe that is not present in this country. Each and all consist in taking profit—something for nothing—out of the hide and tallow of stupid people. What are the trusts doing to you?

If the labor unions will not use their ballots and political influence they will be doomed to eternal industrial slavery. The trusts have no more conscience than the traders who kidnaped the blacks from Africa.

English capitalists own the control of every ship building yard in this country. When Uncle Sam wants ships he must ask Englishmen! The English use traitor Americans as dummies to cover up their ownership. We are a great and wise people!

The boys are taking right hold of Comrade Dewey's "Real Criminal" pamphlet. It's a scorch—hotter even than the atmosphere at present. Per 100, \$1. Bear in mind that if you get your order in before August 1, I will also send in addition 100 copies of the "New Conscience."

Every Socialist should have the Consular Reports. They are published monthly by the government, and you can have your name put on the subscription list free, by making the request of the secretary of state, Washington, D. C. Much valuable matter is given in them that Socialists can use, because it is official.

Every household in America will now be robbed before it can use oil-cloth, a conspiracy of capitalists having succeeded in forming a trust on this article. Glorious, free country! Are you not glad you live where freedom shrieks? The old parties tell us they are against the trusts! And this is done under their rule! And you are a voter!

What will the next generation do for public lands? There will be no Kiowas to rob and lottery them off. If poverty stalks the land today when all these rich gifts of nature have been divided among the population in the last century, what will be the condition for the next century when there will be no lands sold for a song? Landlordism in Europe will be a very tame affair to the landlordism that will crush the workers here.

The Salvation Army has established a fresh air camp on the outskirts of Kansas City. According to the Daily Times they are having difficulty in getting rid of the daily pressure from "women and children who beg to remain in the camp because they have no home." Let the eagle scream over the great prosperous republic, where plenty and happiness are abundant—and poverty and want and oppression are unknown. The latter conditions are only in Europe! This country is owned by the trusts, and those not in them or serving them are not in it.

The steel trust don't believe in labor unions. The public does not believe in steel and other trusts, either. The sympathy of the public will be with the labor unions against the thieves, robbers, bribers and worse, who compose the trusts of the country. If the workmen will put "public ownership of the trusts" on their banners, they will have the nation at their back, and if they will go after the corrupt politicians with blood in their eyes they will have them doing their duty instead of working for the trusts.

The Socialists of France control the city governments of Marseilles, Lille, Roubaix, Dijon, Montlucon, Ivry, Lyons, St. Etienne, St. Quentin, Bourges, Limoges and Montceau-les-Mines—cities ranging from 200,000 down, besides hundreds of smaller places. The Socialist vote in Paris was 126,000, and they hold twenty seats in the city government. In Belgium the Socialists increased their vote 149,000 over the vote of four years ago. It is such things in this country that the Appeal will be recording from now on.

At a special election to fill a vacancy for mayor of Sedalia, Mo., the republicans and democrats have united on the same man for the position, because the Socialists at the last election cast a heavy vote, and have nominated Comrade John O. Fisher for the place. The old parties are for the capitalists everywhere, and when they cannot divide the workers to control them, they will combine to beat them. Working people should vote for Socialists, because the Socialists want to give the working people ALL their labor produces. The capitalists want all and do not help to produce.

The following incident occurred at a farmers' picnic near Elberton, Wash., a few days ago. C. H. Vall was present, and made a rousing speech for Socialism. The picnic managers had a speaker, Chas. H. Dodd, from Portland, to attempt to answer Vall. He made a bitter attack on Vall, denouncing him as a teacher of sedition and a traitor to his country. Vall asked him to debate, but got no satisfaction. Vall then said: "If you will not debate with me, I brand you as a coward." Dodd replied by calling Vall a liar. A crowd who was present reports that the crowd (and there was a large one) hissed Dodd and applauded Vall. See?

Mr. Joseph Gould, of Christchurch, New Zealand, is traveling to England. He had himself interviewed in Toronto, and he says that he is a landlord who went to the far away country and bought land when it was cheap, and got large quantities of it, and improved it, and now the people are taking it and driving capital out of the country! If they would drive capitalists out of the country they would be better off than they are. I would like to know how much capital is leaving that country? Are they shipping the houses, machinery and cattle back to Europe? The fact is, that such leeches as Gould imagine they are the capital, when they bear the same relation to capital that grasshoppers do to a crop of corn in Kansas. According to this fellow, it is a bad thing for the government down there to do the insurance. It enables the people to get it for less, and then the government has a surplus of money which it lends to the people at 4%. This interest goes into the public treasury and competes with the capitalist who cannot get more! It looks like capital was increasing when the people have so much money they do not need to borrow other than of themselves. When all the useless, non-producing capitalists and leeches are driven out of New Zealand, because they cannot get something for nothing, that country will begin to realize a heaven on earth.

All the adult males of a town helping to put in a temporary water plant was the feature of a story E. Lake, a Detroit traveling man told at the Savoy last night. He had just returned from a trip through Kansas. Parsons was the only town in which he did no business for two days. "Every business man in that town," said Lake, "had his place of business closed, and was helping lay pipe from the town to the river three miles away. The town's water supply had become exhausted. Sufficient laborers could not be obtained to lay pipes from the nearest water to the town, and the mayor issued a proclamation asking that the citizens turn out and help. They did. Hardly a person in the town but did something, and with one day's work the town had a new water plant." —Kansas City Times, July 16.

Many people assume that under Socialism there would be no one to do the hard, dirty work. But this instance shows that whatever is necessary, plenty of people will be found to do it. These business and professional men did not lose any social caste in doing menial labor—in fact, they enhance their social standing by going out in the extreme hot sun and digging trenches for the water mains. They would have lost caste if they had refused to do it. And what is more, I believe they enjoyed it, and will talk of it. AND THEY GOT NO PAY FOR IT! Water was the incentive for the effort—not money.

Cincinnati built the railroad from that city to Chattanooga, Tenn. Then the railroad lobby went to work on the legislature and got the city to lease it to capitalists who have skinned the people out of all the benefit that should have accrued to the ownership. The capitalists now point to this as evidence that the public cannot run a railroad! Several men have made millions out of the road that should have gone into the city treasury—and would have, had not the voters been too ignorant to elect men who BELIEVE in public ownership. No set of men who oppose a principle will operate anything under that principle so as to prove it a success. Never has there been a railroad owned by the public that the capitalists permitted to be operated at cost. It would astonish the people at the robbery they have been committing for years. They will pay out millions to bribe the public officials to misuse the road to prevent this showing.

Judge Stewart, at York, Pa., fined two working men \$250 each and thirty days in jail for trying to induce other workmen from working for a firm against which there was a boycott. Judge Stewart is an owner in the plant in the case! We thus see an employer acting as judge fining his employees. In what country is a more tyrannous condition? Now will the working people continue to vote the capitalist tickets? Will they learn that republican and democratic parties are their enemies? Will they ever find out that such conditions could not be under Socialism? Will they listen to the siren song of the hirelings of capitalism and give their votes to their enemies until they are degraded as low as the coolies of China? It is up to the working people, who are in the majority. What are they going to do about it?

A hundred thousand iron workers striking for a miserable wage, just enough to keep them from dying out, and Carnegie giving away hundreds of millions that he had skinned them and the public off! What a glorious industrial system! The steel trust can't afford to pay wages enough for an American citizen to live on! The Appeal has always opposed strikes, because it is not the way out, but if strikes are made, then every labor union man in every trade should lay down his tools and refuse to do another day's work until the wage matter is settled. Capitalists support each other—laboring men fight each other. When will they learn better?

If the labor unions would strike the trusts at the ballot box they would swamp them under a deluge of votes. But before they can do that, they will have to have a program to carry out. The workers are strong at the ballot and weak at every other point. They refuse to use their strongest weapon, and turn it over to their oppressors who use it against them on every occasion. In the campaign of next year I feel certain that labor is going to make itself felt at the polls. The leaders who oppose this are traitors to the working class.

Japan is going to "retaliate" on America and Russia by raising the tariff on oil! That will make the Japanese pay a higher price for oil, which will be a great protection! Then the rulers will take the money squeezed out of the people and revel in the luxury of "protection." If the Japs are caught by such tricks they will be as stupid as the American voting kings who support the same kind of protection.

When Kansas farmers had corn they got 25 cents a bushel for it; now they have none, they have to pay 55 cents for it. Prosperity. Under Socialism it would not be thus, but the public would have the corn, and would have saved enough of last year's crop to carry them until this year's was assured.

UNDER THE REIGN

PRIVATE PROPERTY.

PUBLIC CO-OPERATION.

It is useless for the ministers of the gospel, "liberal" and "orthodox," to waste any more of their valuable time and strength discussing the existence or non-existence of hell.

In that veritable hell tragedies as fearful as any that can possibly take place in the supposed abode of the damned are of daily occurrence. It would take the imagination of a Dante to do even partial justice to the infernal character of the South Chicago hell.

Only yesterday an immense ladle filled with tons of molten iron overturning into a stream of cold water produced an explosion that shook the great plant like an earthquake, and burned the life out of—no one knows how many men.

It is known that poor John Kabo's life went out in the fire, and it is also known that many others were badly burned, but the "powers that be" out there decline to inform the public as to the full extent of the calamity.

Two hours after the explosion the South Chicago police station sent a patrol wagon with seven policemen to the scene, but they were told that there was no admission for them, and that the "company would look after the killed and wounded."

Captain Shippy was allowed to take charge of Kabo's body, which he caused to be taken to the morgue, but the captain was not allowed to enter the grounds, nor could he get hold of anything beyond the barest outlines of the disaster.

At the gate of the Illinois Steel Company's works the authority of the state ceases. Beyond that gate the company has everything its own way. Beyond that gate and throughout the winding, blinding, sizzling labyrinth of perdition the company can say what the fourteenth Louis is reported to have said: "The State? I am the State!"

When the great juggernaut kills a laborer the victim is instantly photographed by the company's photographer, in case, for any purpose, the picture should be needed; the dead is taken out and given to his friends if he happens to have any, and affairs drop back into the normal again until somebody else is sacrificed to the mighty Moloch.

The victims of this terrible Moloch are not all known to the public. Many are burned to crisp or beaten into unrecognizable pulp, and the outside world hears nothing of it.

HUMAN LIFE IS CHEAP.

Human life is cheap up at the Illinois Steel works! The machinery is valuable, some parts of it being so valuable that it is hourly inspected and cared for by experts, but the men—the sooty fellows who move about in the living hell, who handle the great cauldrons of molten metal, who steel and drive home the bolts—are of but little consequence.

When one of them is killed another can be immediately found to take his place, and the work goes uninterrupted on.

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LIKE WORKING IN A FURNACE.

The average going Chicagoan complains these days of the heat, of the difficulty that one finds in breathing, and of the general discomfort of these summer days, but try to think, if you can, of the conditions under which the workers in the steel mill live.

Some of our readers took the Appeal to Reason to task for repeating the statement of the United States Labor Commissioner that wheat could be planted, harvested and threshed at a labor cost of 3 1/2 cents per bushel.

How It's Done. Some of our readers took the Appeal to Reason to task for repeating the statement of the United States Labor Commissioner that wheat could be planted, harvested and threshed at a labor cost of 3 1/2 cents per bushel.

Civilization Note. A Chicago daily paper has established a sanitarium where babies of the slums and tenement house districts can be cared for during the hot weather, while the employers of the baby's parents spend the hot, sultry days cruising among the shady islands of the northern lakes.

A Division of the Spoils. The following telegram from Philadelphia is self-explanatory. It simply means that the great big over-confident public is to be held up by the transportation kings and compelled to stand and deliver.

As It Was and as It Is. Slavery and serfdom have been abolished. Slavery is dead. The press-gang has vanished and thievery is trying to hide itself.

man builds a railroad with other people's money, or a gas or electric plant, or a street railway, or secures a telegraph or telephone franchise, or waters some stock, or gets a rebate on oil, beef or wheat, or forms a giant trust and robs the population of a continent at a stroke.

THE TRAMPLING GODS.

How have the ages wrought their painful way Through eras drenched in blood, surcharged with crimes, And brought us to confront a noble day, Itsself the harbinger of nobler times?

Not music in their ears, the babel din, That issues from the throats of giant ghosts, Whose feeble creeds enable them to pin Less faith in heaven than in trusts and pools.

To these poor, frenzied souls of low estate, At whom success in bold disdain nods, For whom disaster is precipitate, How sound the clamorous tongues of trampling Gods?

The trampling Gods! Aye, such are men today, Who seize the scepter'd privilege of wealth, And hire adept conspirators to sway Whole governments by villainy and stealth.

The trampling Gods! Usurping human rights, Forcible justice at the altar, Providing for the rich man's parasites A garb to pass them—devils in disguise.

The trampling Gods! Has woman not a voice Wharewith out the world her wrongs proclaim? Or has she only reasons to rejoice That trampling Gods have never caused her shame?

The trampling Gods! How do the children fare, At whom the smiles of gladst of merry homes? Did Destiny, unsought for them, prepare A life within industrial catacombs?

The freedom that has bred another race Of weeping slaves, with faces white and chaste, Must to a granite altar stand, their destruction haste, Chicago, Ill., April, 1901. —Val Ormond.

Through the vapor as it rises From the blackened chimney top, I can see the toiler sopping, All his year without a stop; Never missing up a fortune, Never living splendidly, Only making rich his master — Who from toil is ever free.

Next I see an ugly picture, Down, far down beneath the earth, Is a crowd of haggard miners, Working for a penny's worth; Risking his hand for a cent's standing, Striving hard, with all their might, They are but the tools of bosses, Who live in serene delight.

Now I see the toiler starving, Out of work, he draws no pay, And his wife and children hungry, Weep when he says "naught to day." On the hill the boss is living, He has money, fortune grand; Yet the worker, who made it, Is the pauper of the land.

Tell me now, is this true justice? Can a system thus remain? Shall the toiler always stand, Only for the rich man's gain? God is watching all from heaven, And as all is grand and best, Such a system cannot stand.

All things change extremely slowly; Time must walk his graded way; It took years for civilization, 'Twill take more the labor's day. "Courage, men; take courage, workers. Do not fall, yet in despair!" Thus I cried out at the picture On the vapors in the air. Toledo, Ohio. —D. Booth Eppstein.

WHAT WE'RE COMING TO.

I came to a mill by the riverside, A half mile long and nearly as wide, With a forest of stacks and an army of men, Telling of hard work and a grand day, What a most magnificent plant, I cried, And a man with a swag on his face replied, It's Morgan's.

I entered a train and rode all day, On a regal coach and a right of way, Which reached its arms all over the land In a system too large to understand, I cried, And the man with a plate on his hat replied, It's Morgan's.

I went to the only place left, 'Till I take A chance in it, may be all right to it, Or I may be all right to it, I cried, And a man with his chest in the air replied, It's Morgan's.

No Cause (?) for Striking.

Scranton, Pa.—"Men, you all know me around here. You know the truth of what I say. I repeat it to you to remind you of the common lot of our misery and suffering which has made us combine to cry out for a better order of things.

"When I was six years and four months old I went to work in the breakers of the Pancoast Coal company. I have worked nineteen years, every day that I could get. I have never been on an excursion in my life. I have never been to a theatre but twice in my life. I have not drunk a drop of beer or liquor for five years, and for two years I have not smoked. I have practiced the closest economy in food. But I have never been able to accumulate \$100 in my life.

"I also have due bills of other members of our family to show they handled no money either in all that period." This is the astounding story told today before a vast audience by Stephan McDonald, a Throop miner, but it was declared to be one of almost ordinary occurrence. The voice of the young man rang with earnestness, his eye was fearless and flashed as he told it.—Associated Press Dispatch.

"Driving Us to Socialism." The Portland Oregonian is alarmed at the tendency toward Socialism. In a recent issue its editor says: "Combinations of capital and greed of trusts are carrying a constant stream of reinforcements into the ranks of state Socialism. Such growths as Socialism is making in the United States—and it is alarmingly rapid—is due chiefly to the Carnegie, Rockefeller, Morgan, and others of their description.

The other 8% had robbed the 97% of all they had produced except a bare living. The art of getting something for nothing is born of a social system and economic condition that allows, yes compels, every one to take advantage of every one else, when it is possible to do so.

The Socialist party is the only political organization in the United States today that advocates a system of government that will stop the practice of the "art of getting something for nothing," and at the same time abolish forever the present dividing up process. It proposes to do this, by nationalizing all the means of production and distribution, and giving every person all the work he or she may wish, and paying them the full product of their toil, less their share of maintaining the government.

"Investigator" is undoubtedly a Socialist in some ways himself, although he may not be willing to own it. He is willing for his government to carry his message, educate his children, own, operate and keep in repair the public roads, protect his so-called rights and his person. He allows his government the power of protecting his health and putting him away when he is dead if he has not saved sufficient money to hire his brothers to do it for him. If his government can do that much for him satisfactory and with less expense than he could do it for himself, wherein is it detrimental to his interest for it to do other things for him?

He ought to know that all men have departed a long way from the customs of their fathers. My critic claims we cannot obtain control of the public utilities except by confiscation. There have been many plans devised, such as building rival industries and ruining the monopolists by competition. Labor created all the capitalists have now, but the capitalists own it because of the wage system they were enabled to pay the workers only a portion of the value created by them, and pocket the balance, and if we want those utilities, why waste all the necessary time and labor to erect rival plants?

Opinion differs among Socialists regarding this matter. Personally, I favor reclaiming the utilities. When the capitalists crush a rival in business they do not compensate him. But the point is this: With the advent of Socialism, all exploitation ceases. Our motive is one of justice, giving an equal opportunity to all; there is selfishness, hogging all they can, and magnanimity (?) allowing their victims to fill-alms houses, jails, insane asylums, etc. Another plan is to give the plutocrats labor checks on the government stores for goods to the amount of their holdings. The objection to this is that it continues the exploitation of labor, only fixing the amount of it and time of creation. It is not customary to reward a thief after you have recovered stolen property from him. It has always been the right of the states to take private property without compensation when the public welfare requires it. The Divine command, "Thou shalt not steal," worries "Investigator," but wherein is appropriating public wealth from private thieves stealing? We are obeying that command when we strive for a system where man cannot steal without detection, and the motive is removed if he could.

The definitions of Socialism are sufficient to show that co-operative colonies are not Socialist commonwealths. Socialists claim colonies are utopian and non-scientific; they must compete with each other and with the outside world; they cannot successfully do this because they lack the capital necessary for the construction of productive manufacturing and distributive machinery on a large scale. All sorts of people assembled into the small limits of a colony with no political power or civil authority are bound to quarrel and disintegrate because they have no power to enforce their edicts. Scientific Socialism is the collective ownership of all the means of production, distribution and exchange by all the people, co-operatively worked for the use of all the people with complete political control of same, from school district to nation; and it proceeds along the lines of education of the people in economic law, and to the capture of the political powers of the nation by rational methods to secure the end sought. The colony is the collective ownership by a few people of a few of the means of production and distribution, without economic power to hold its own and without political power to enforce its decrees.

Socialism is the great day dream of lazy men and men born tired, briefly defined, means robbery of the few by the many, an equal division of all property except your own or the art of getting something for nothing.—Investigator.

Socialism is: "A theory of society that advocates a more precise, orderly and harmonious arrangement of the social relations of mankind than that which has hitherto prevailed."—Webster's Dictionary.

"A science of reconstructing society on an entirely new basis, by substituting the principle of association for that of competition in every branch of industry."—Worcester's Dictionary.

"A theory of social policy that aims to secure the reconstruction of society, increase of wealth, and a more equal distribution of the products of labor, through the public collective ownership of labor and capital, as distinguished from property, and the public collective management of all industries."—Standard Dictionary.

"The ethics of Socialism are identical with the ethics of Christianity."—Encyclopedia Britannica.

"Socialism is simply applied Christianity; the Golden Rule applied to every day life. The present need is growth in that direction." Prof. R. T. Ely.

Socialism is a system not to be appalled, corrupted or compromised. It knows no business, it cowers to no danger, it oppresses no weakness, fearless, generous and humane, it rebukes the arrogant, cherishes honor and sympathizes with the humble. It asks nothing but what it concedes; it concedes nothing but what it demands. Destructive only of despotism, it is the sole conservator of liberty, labor and justice. It is the ripe fruit of democracy, the law of nature prevailing the land. It droppeth like the gentle rain from heaven upon the place beneath, equalizing opportunity, dispelling inequality, and restoring to every person his natural manhood. It breathes into the soul of labor the new life of the world and raises it from the level of the beast. It restores to the producer his stolen implements of production, equitably distributes his products and transforms the lowly slave into ripe and beautiful manhood. It not only appeals to selfish materialism but to the highest moral and intellectual attributes known to our nature, yielding bread in abundance and the starry, moral food for the idealistic and the highest conception of justice to all. The ignorant, the vulgar, the base in spirit, may denounce it as a dangerous thing, but in the social and industrial evolution Socialism shall show to all the world that its principles are eternal, its laws immutable and its construction inevitable. It is an actual dream of the future paradise, and sees in the present only a hideous nightmare. It seeks not to remedy or reform, but demands a peaceful revolution from slavery to equality, from tyranny to justice, from base and ignoble degradation to common happiness and contentment. It is noble, it is sublime—the perfection of human endeavor, that recognizing the mutuality of all true human interests, quickens the pulse of the statesman, nerves the pen of the scholar, inspires the voice of the orator and doubles the energy of the toiler.

"I put 'Investigator's' definition of Socialism by the side of those given by several other great authorities on the subject, and will allow the readers of this paper to make the comparison and choose the one they like best. If he had used the words of the many by the few, instead of the words 'of the few by the many' he would have given almost a perfect definition of the present system. John J. Ingalls said that 97% of the people of the United States who die, die penniless."

THISTLE

CO-OPERATION

Is a principle which the 929,000 railroad men in the United States are pretty thoroughly familiar with. Each man is but a small cog in the gigantic enterprise upon which the nation depends for the transportation of the products of the United States, but every man must perform his duty faithfully or disastrous consequences will follow. These men, however, enjoy but a little of the fruits of their combined efforts. The profits accrue to the few men now owners of the vast system. The men who do the work realize no benefit whatever from the economies of consolidation under the private ownership idea. Under Socialism the workers would be the beneficiaries. This fact must be impressed upon their minds before we can expect them to vote for Socialism. No. 397 will do it. See that every railroad man of your acquaintance is supplied with a copy. Per 100, 50c, per 1,000, \$4.

