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A WORD ABOUT METHODS

I trust the Appeal Army will make good use of the offer of the 100x200 foot improved corner next the public square, Girard, in their canvassing for subscribers. The offer is given to increase the circulation of Socialist literature, and incidentally to help some worker to a snug property that will make him or her feel pretty secure from the pinch of possible want.

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE.

At the city election held in Chicago on the 1st, the Referendum league had forced the proposition on the ballot, giving the people the right to vote on whether they wanted public ownership of the street railways, electric and gas plants and nomination of city officers by direct vote.

Why have not the people enough intelligence to elect postmasters?

Spain has made a law requiring the duty on various articles of necessity used by the people to be paid in gold. The articles of luxury used by the drones and leeches will be paid in the cheap currency.

Chicago, March 21 - Wealthy syndicates, comprised mainly of European capitalists, are financing a scheme to populate more than 4,000 acres of land along the route of the Santa Fe railway as far south as Old Mexico.

These rich people plant people on the land for their profit just as a stock raiser plants cattle. This is a great system that permits some to live like the bees so that the honey they produce will add to the millions already too many of the few.

The buying ability of the men would be the same—that is their pay would be the same amount of time credits on the books of the nation.

Suppose one trust owned all the property of the nation and employed all the people in its industries. Of what use would it have for money? Would it not have all the products which money could be spent for, and would not its check be just as good as money?

Nature has put us under surroundings that force us to make enough exertions to get sustenance to keep us in good physical condition.

To get rid of the severity of the struggle we have devised better or quicker methods of getting our needs, and called them machines. The unconscious thought behind this action has been that we would have more leisure and yet have more needs supplied—better homes, better clothing, more food, entertainment and instruction.

Editor Appeal to Reason.

Did we not take the Philippine Islands by conquest? If so, why did we pay twenty millions for them?—H. E. Rice, Colorado Springs.

I never had the pleasure of listening to the Rev. Granville Lowther of Winfield, Kansas, just convicted by the Southern Kansas Methodist conference of the awful crime of having enough sense to think (which to many is heresy), but judging solely from the reports of the trial in the unfriendly press, I should say that he is a man who will be heard from in the portentous times just ahead of the world.

He is a gifted talker, a man of sincerest motives and deep knowledge. His heresy consisted in his having Socialist convictions. He said: "I judge no man harshly; I impugn no man's motives. But as for me, I could neither be a Christian nor a patriot and not be a Socialist; nor can I preach Christ and not embody in my teachings the fundamental principles of Socialism."

Yes, Brother Gladden, thou upholder of plutocratic schools and commercial piracy, "we" have sunk into just such a depth of depravity as you mention.

You find that men and women who live lives of luxury off the money they sweat from labor in interest, rent and profit, have no shame. The wives of such men dress in silks and finer with the money got by the husband from rent of house to fallen women and other vice.

Please explain how barbers would get along under Socialism.—Comstock, Erie, Pa.

The public would erect the finest structures that skill and wealth would produce for bath rooms of all kinds, swimming pools, barber shop, lavatories, etc., suitable to the needs of the location in capacity. Barbers would receive a training and examination by a board elected by their own members; they would receive the same pay as any other public employe; they would work on the average only the same number of hours as other public employes; they would arrange their days off by their own rules; there would be no competing for business; they would not all be required to be at their post every day, but would arrange to let off squads on the days of light work that they might enjoy life, while on days that required all they would all be on duty, thus better serving the public.

At Beaumont, Texas, has been unearthed a gang as bad as the Bender family.

Five bodies have been recovered and some twenty mysterious disappearances have now light thrown on them. This gang murdered speculators who came there for investments, robbed them, and weighted their bodies in the river. The speculators came to prey on the necessities of the people and were preyed upon. The methods were a little different, that is all. Such are the results of private property. If all capital were public property not one of these murders would have profited the doers, and of course without the incentive they would not have committed the crimes.

The action of the electrician in cutting up a huge casing in Milwaukee, by means of a carbon point, as easily as a carpenter could saw a board, has aroused the United States treasury department at Washington, and they have begun a system of electric alarms.

Secretary Taylor says: "With their appliances burglars can cut through five inches of steel as easily as a man with a knife can go through a cheese, and the only way to protect money is to stand over it with a gun." And men call this civilization! It will be hard for the country banks to protect their coffers, as they cannot keep enough men to overpower a gang if they put in electric appliances.

When J. P. Morgan was asked what he meant by a "community of interests," he said, "A number of men who own property who can do what they like with it."

He referred to the great railroad lines of the country. Well, suppose these men should like to suppress a newspaper that they did not approve and should refuse to haul paper to it? Or suppose they should not like the politics or religion of any business man and should either refuse to haul his goods or charge him ten prices? And there you are. BUT AMERICANS WOULD NOT SUBMIT TO KINGS, oh, no!

Ex-State Senator Clarke, of Cleveland, said that trashy literature send children into crime.

Well, everybody knows that if they know anything. The knowing of it does not remedy the matter. Why is there any trashy literature? Such literature is an effect, beneath which there must be a cause. Who would write such stuff if there were not a profit in it? Who would sell such stuff if there were not a profit in it? There you have it. Profit, then is at the bottom of the whole matter. Have the public in its organized capacity do all things and eliminate all profit, and there will not be a piece of vile literature sold.

Coffee that you pay from 15 cents to 20 cents a pound is raised by the workers in Brazil for less than 2 cents a pound.

The difference is what you pay for the glorious privilege of private capital in coffee lands, ships and business. Nice, isn't it?





