

Labor Notes.

There are several strikes in progress among woodworkers of Chicago. The city of Duluth has appropriated \$1,000 to start a free labor bureau. In a mill employes of East Liverpool, Ohio, are struck against a one-third reduction in wages. Union carpenters of Indianapolis want 37 1/2% an hour and an eight-hour day. They have decided to strike for it. A general strike of all branches of the building trades at Bayonne, N. J., has been ordered. About 1,500 men will be affected. A street car strikers have won after a struggle of six months. The strike arose from the company refusing to live up to its contract. There is a strike in the Illinois Central shops at Waterloo, Ia., owing to the refusal of the company to grant an increase in wages. The company also wants to unionize the shops. The Victor Fuel company of Hastings, Col., rents its employes from forming a union by making them work on Sunday, whenever they have arrangements to meet on that day. The painters and paperhangers of Des Moines, Ia., have won their strike after a week refusing to compromise. They demanded 35% an hour; knew how to stick to their guns, and won. The democratic governor of Texas has appointed an adjutant-general of the militia a notorious enemy of the laborer; he is the second president of the G. C. & S. F. railroad. A grand tool for the railroads, and a very plain indication of the fact that the democratic party cannot be trusted with the people's welfare. England has put a tariff tax on bread stuffs. The government papers told the people that a "foreigner paid the tax." But the price set up just the same and the workmen of England will pay the cost of killing the Boers without bread. Well, so long as the working people support the rule of the property class they can expect nothing else. The Davis Sewing Machine company has asked out its union moulders. The company says that in future it will run an "open" shop. The Socialists of Dayton, where the shops are closed, want the boys to become members of a union that will prevent lockouts; and are not giving the success that insures immediate victory for the workers; but they'll learn some day. The promised street car strike for San Francisco has come. It resulted from discharging a man for belonging to the Amalgamated Association of Street Railway Employees of America. The men think they have rights; and it remains to be seen whether the newly elected labor mayor will stick to his union and protect the men from armed hirelings of the company. The Montgomery County Reporter, of Dayton, Ohio, a paper said to be in the interest of labor, flings this shot at the strikers of Belgium: "Give us more votes, or give us riots." The cry of the Socialists of Belgium. It might be well to remind that editor of Patrick Henry, who said: "Give me liberty, or give me death." But men who are inoculated with ana vaccine are opposed to liberty. The Dayton, Ohio, plumbers are still out, April 19, and the bosses refuse to meet any committee of the strikers. The strikers will be independent some day; refuse to send committees, and serenely wait until the bosses send them. They make the wealth of the bosses. Sometimes they'll discover that, and then they will demand what they produce, and being men of nerve they will get what is owing to them. Knoxville, Tenn., carpenters have demanded an increase in wages from 25 to 30 cents an hour and an eight hour day. They have given contractors thirty days to make up their minds to the situation. Some day the carpenters will decide to be paid in wages that will permit them to have all the necessaries and surpluses of life; and they will not be willing to sit thirty days for justice. They will demand on the spot. The greatest strike in the history of the world and worst and weaving craft in the United States is now in progress, and has been going for the past three months against the loom system, which is designated as "slavery." Thus the miserable farce, called civilization, goes on. It could be changed in a minute, if the workers would unite where the capitalists unite—at the polls; and establish their industrial liberty. Out of 17,000 representative workmen in Indianapolis only 2,000 are married. Industrial conditions are such that workmen find it difficult to provide for a family, and they are finding it more difficult to find intelligent women who are willing to become the slave of a wage-slave. Girls can make a living by their own work, and have a measure of independence that the workingman's wife cannot have. The whole industrial system is opposed to happiness, and it is constantly getting worse. But the worse it gets, the better it will be; for when the condition become so miserable that society cannot tolerate it, then there will be a change for the better. The darkest hour comes before dawn. If that be true, let the darkness get so thick that it can be felt! If that is necessary, let it come. The Des Moines, Ia., Leader, of April 13, says that the high price of meat is closing down all the smaller meat markets, the prices being prohibitive for so large a part of their patrons that it does not pay to handle it. That's all right. The working people, as some eastern professor said recently, eat too much meat! The things are only for the parasites to eat—men who live by extracting wealth from society, but who put no wealth into society. How the working people submit to a system that prevents them from having what they want to eat. But the little shop keeper will have to go anyway, in a short time. The big flows are confiscating their wealth by one means or another. The rich never hesitate at confiscation. The Appeal suggests that if there is any strength in union, then the greater the union the greater the strength. It therefore seems that all labor unions should combine into one union, with one label. When any part of the organization were struck it would cause the whole body to feel and act on it. The various unions, with their various labels, are not anything like as powerful as if they were in one union with one emblem. The interests of all workers are the same. The federations of labor is a step in the right direction, but it should go further. The Appeal suggests that the organization

Capitalism's Foulest Blot. The following editorial occurred in the Cleveland Press. It is so true as regards every city in America and shows to what depths of degradation the lust for money can go, that it is given space here: "I have read your splendid editorial denouncing the infamous system under which the police court of Cleveland and every other city in the state is operated and I desire to say that the loathsome picture is in no respect overdrawn. I never realized how foul and rotten the system was until I went on the bench. But when I found that unfortunate women on the streets were arrested time and again—sometimes twice in one week, and five and six times in a month—for revenue only, I declared from the bench (it was published in the Press) that I did not consider it any part of my duty as a judge to levy blackmail or impose a tax on prostitution; that I refused to play the part of a revenue collector or official blackmailer for the great city of Cleveland, and I have kept my word. Many a poor unfortunate, when arrested for the third, fourth or fifth time in a month or six weeks, has pleaded 'not guilty,' and asked for a continuance, and when asked on what grounds she wanted a continuance, replied: 'I haven't the money to pay my fine and I don't want to go to the workhouse.' Asked where she was going to get the money with which to pay her fine, she would lower her eyes and answer timidly: 'On the street.' "THINK OF IT. ARREST A WOMAN FOR BEING A COMMON PERSON, FINE HER AND SEND HER BACK AGAIN TO THE STREETS TO EARN MORE MONEY IN THE SAME WAY TO PAY MORE FINES FOR THE SAME OFFENSE, IN ORDER THAT THE POLICE COURT FUND AND POLICE PENSION FUND MAY HAVE PLENTY OF MONEY. And yet this infamous system has continued ever since Cleveland has had a police court. Every officer of the Cleveland police court, from the first police judge over forty years ago, down to the present, has drawn his salary from the police court fund. Not only that, but money has been drawn by the thousands from that fund and transferred to other funds whenever the existing administration saw fit to do so, or the money was needed. "During all this time the city of Cleveland has played the pander. The pander had to employ certain officers, known as judges, prosecutors and clerks. These officers had to be paid by the city for their services, and lo! the city calls upon her policemen and orders them to arrest and squeeze the scarlet women; take their money from them and put it into a fund called the police court fund, from which those officers shall be paid. Isn't that the part of a pander? Keep on writing, Mr. Editor. God will give courage and strength to your pen. Never cease your noble efforts for reform until a new, a MODERN AND A BETTER SYSTEM IS EVOLVED, AYE, UNTIL THE BEAUTIFUL CITY OF CLEVELAND CEASES TO PLAY THE PIMP. T. M. KENNEDY.

THE NEW GOD. I came to a mill by the river side, 'Twas half a mile long and nearly as wide, With blazing fires and an army of men, Toiling at furnace, shovel and pen. What a most magnificent plant! I cried, When a workman in overalls replied: Chorus: It's Morgan's, it's Morgan's the great financial gorgeron. Everything here but the atmosphere, all belongs to Morgan. I dwell in a nation filled with pride; Her people were many, her lands were wide; Her record in war, in science and art, Frowd she'd the brains, the muscle and the heart. America's a grand old country, I cried, When a man who was out on a strike replied: Chorus: Every railroad train, every ship on the main, all belongs to Morgan. I went to Heaven. The Jasper walls Were high and wide, and the golden halls Shone bright beyond; but a strange new mark Was over the gate. It read, "Private Park." Why, what's the meaning of this? I cried, When a saint with a harp in his hands replied: Chorus: If you want cheap rates to the Heavenly gate You'll have to apply to Morgan. I went to the only place left for me, So I boarded the boat for the brimstone sea. Maybe I'll be allowed to sit On the gridded floor of the bottomless pit, But a scolding inn with horns on his face, Cried out as he forked me out of the place: Chorus: Get off that spot; we're keeping it hot; that sea's reserved for Morgan.

THE SOCIALIST DECALOGUE. Thou shalt recognize the Brotherhood of Man; and always respect the combined wish of thy fellow men. Thou shalt not make unto thyself an object of worship; nor bow down before anything the heathens have set up; for the laws of nature are sufficient and irrevocable, raising consequences upon unwise and foolish acts from generation to generation. Thou shalt not ignore reasons holy law for thy mind will sink into ignorance and thy fellows will rise above thee leaving thee upon a lower plane of progress from which thou couldst have lifted thyself. Remember the Rest-day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou work, but the seventh belongs to nature to prepare thee for another week; in it thou shalt not do any work; but enjoy thyself as best befits thy intellect. Honor thy father and thy mother; that their days may be spent in peace upon the earth to which they gave their birth; that they may do no excessive toil, but that their last days may be those of rest, seasoned by such pleasures as they desire. Thou shalt not kill in any manner whatsoever, but let everything live out the life given by its creator. Thou shalt not commit adultery by living with one thou dost not love, or by entering into unholy alliances of any kind. Thou shalt not steal, nor take anything from thy neighbor, nor ask him to do for thee what thou wilt not do for thyself, nor deprive him of enjoying the pleasures thou dost enjoy, nor in any way take from him the full measure of his toil. Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor, nor spy upon thy friends or those that work beside thee. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's house, his pleasures, nor anything that is his by the law that has been established by the majority of thy fellow men.—W. E. Clark.

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