

# THE HAVERHILL SOCIAL DEMOCRAT

No. 23. Vol. 1.

Haverhill, Mass., March 17, 1900.

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Several degrees—a good warm Overcoat or Ulster. Here is a chance to buy them at a low figure. Broken lots and sizes—odds and ends to us, but just what you want.

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A good substantial saving on every one. Suits the same way. Boys' Suits, Hosiery and Ulsters, too. The thermometer suggests Sweaters, Caps, Mufflers, Gloves and Underwear. Can save you money on them.

## WARREN EMERSON,

CORNER FLEET ST. - HAVERHILL.

## APPEAL FROM PUERTO RICO

### The Wage Workers of That Island Call on Their Fellow Toilers Here to Help Them.

Santiago Iglesias and Eduardo Conde Represent the Puerto Rican Working People's Wrongs—American Rule Aggravates Spanish Tyranny—Militarism and Capitalism Go Hand in Hand—Labor Organizations Persecuted—American Laborers Owe a Duty to Their Puerto Rican Brothers.

The following appeal is reprinted from The People the official organ of the socialist labor party, and published at 184 William street, New York city. The appeal should be read by every workman and every lover of justice in the United States. We bespeak for it the careful consideration of every reader of the Haverhill Social Democrat.

Comrades Santiago Iglesias and Eduardo Conde have come from Puerto Rico as delegates of the party organizations to the national convention, and also as representatives of the trade union workers of the United States, organized in the socialist party and in the various trade unions, to help them in their struggle against the military despotism imposed upon them by the capitalists of America. Their appeal needs no comment. It tells its own story.

#### THE APPEAL.

To the Socialist Labor Party and to all Federations and Unions of Labor in the United States:

Comrades—Sections San Juan and Rio Piedras of the socialist labor party of the United States have given us their mandates to represent them at the national convention lately held at Rochester, N. Y.

The unions of carpenters, bricklayers, tobacco workers, laborers and a section of mixed trades, have at various meetings held in San Juan during the month of January last, also given us their full powers to ask the assistance and influence of the mighty labor organizations of the United States in behalf of the working people of Puerto Rico, who, for centuries, have been ceaselessly maltreated and oppressed.

Honest, industrious, and modest as our working people are, they do not deserve the unjust treatment to which they are condemned by the political and bureaucratic aspirations of the parties standing for the support of the capitalist system.

We know it is no easy task of ours, to fulfill the orders of our constituency. Perhaps some things we have to say lack novelty in the eyes of our comrades. But still we deem it our duty, before going into further details, to state right here that the political parties of Puerto Rico, comprising the middle class and the ignorant, inert masses of the people, not only support the capitalist system, but assist the capitalists in combating organized labor and the various socialist groups which we have succeeded in building up in several places on the island.

Please consider that in case we return to the island without your support all our efforts will be frustrated, and all our organizations will disappear.

May this simple tale of the sufferings of the unfortunate workers of Puerto Rico arouse your compassion, so that you may act in their behalf.

If we shall succeed in this, our satisfaction will be complete, since our duty will have been done.

#### OUR UNFULFILLED HOPES.

The working people of Puerto Rico firmly believed that under American rule their deplorable economic condition, produced by Spanish maladministration, would be completely altered and improved. The Puerto Ricans joyfully greeted the advent of American rule, in the hope to see prosperity for their country. But all they experienced of American institutions thus far is but the whimsical tyranny of the soldiery, some ridiculous and inhuman laws, an ambitious bureaucracy and, last but not least, American beer imported on a large scale.

You know also that, when our island had been visited by a terrible hurricane, the people of the United States sent many millions of pounds of rice and beans to feed the starving people. But let those who meant to help us know that, in order to obtain the slightest share of that relief, the poor people had either to labor like gray-horses or to tramp all over the country, begging for their food to make their way home. The laws governing the country at present are numerous and complicated

—Spanish and American laws and personal edicts issued by generals in command of the island. Under these many laws and various regulations, issued daily, and so elastic that they contradict each other, to obtain justice for the poor is next to impossible.

#### EASY PREY OF THE CAPITALISTS.

The great majority of the workers of Puerto Rico are completely illiterate, and ignorance will long hold sway over the island. The workingmen of Puerto Rico, as a rule, are of a simple and credulous disposition. He can easily be deceived, which fact was taken advantage of by the capitalists and their political tools in order to bleed him mercilessly and to forge his chains of slavery tighter than ever. The great mass will believe that the capitalist and the soldier are sent by God to rule over them. They cannot imagine a ruler without the capitalist or the soldier.

The misery in the country and in the cities is horrible. The workers of the United States can hardly picture to themselves the conditions under which fully 90 per cent. of the workers of Puerto Rico are living.

Out of the million inhabitants of the island, at least 600,000 are half naked and without shoes, living in miserable huts, and in some bare ground. The huts have no roof, and the children, having nothing to cover their nakedness, can not visit the school, even in localities where schools exist. Their food consists of vegetables, rice, potatoes and corn bread. Only on very rare occasions will you see them, tasting meat.

Some commissioners sent by the government in Washington for the purpose of studying the social conditions of the island have reported that the people over there are easy to satisfy and of a contented mind. They are satisfied with their little food and clothing they need—from which fact the American capitalists may derive the conclusion that in Puerto Rico they will find cheap and willing "hands."

#### MAY RESULT IN OPEN REBELLION

But we know that if the American government and the capitalists arriving there have no other object in view but the oppression and exploitation of the Puerto Rican workingmen, they will pretty soon arouse the citizens to an insurrection and thus create a movement which will animate the population to cut themselves loose from the United States.

The civil government of the island is entirely under the control of General Davis' military despotism.

The workers demand that a radical change should be undertaken AT ONCE.

We must state also that the political parties of the republicans and federalists prove to be a positive obstacle to the true development of freedom and popular rights. They exist only as a source of revenue and enrichment for the politicians. Their programs are obsolete and contain no demands tending to the amelioration of the condition of the people. But, in order to attain to public power, the politicians of both parties are slandering each other by calling each other THIEVES and ROGUES. It matters not which of the two happens to be on top; the capitalists gain either way, and the poor people must pay the bill.

Only a few days ago the secretary of war in Washington said that the natives of Puerto Rico are incapable of ruling themselves. And simultaneously the New York Herald remarked that the officials of Puerto Rico have been "pocketed" in the state funds. The latter may be true, but the first has to be proven. The politicians of Puerto Rico are corrupt, as elsewhere where capitalism reigns supreme, but the people at large are as honest and as capable of self government as in any civilized country.

#### WHO PAYS MOST?

The politicians of Puerto Rico are, naturally, the lackeys of those who pay them best, and are working under the orders of their masters always to the detriment of the people. They are grabbing the greatest part of the public moneys and offices. For each office there are a couple of hundred candidates, and most of the places are held by the Americans. The financial condition of the island is frightful. For small amounts the Spanish coins serve as a circulating medium of exchange, while American bank notes are used for larger amounts. One "Peso" is equivalent to about 70 cents in gold. Workingmen are generally paid in the local Spanish money, which is of less value than the American, and ought

## S. D. P. CONVENES TOWN ELECTIONS.

OPENED IN INDIANAPOLIS LAST TUESDAY MORNING—THE S. L. P. DELEGATES PRESENT—UNITY OF FORCES IS IN SIGHT.

The first national convention of the social democratic party assembled Tuesday at Reichman's hall, Indianapolis. The hall was decorated for the occasion. In the middle of the platform stands the life-size picture of Karl Marx, decorated with a red wreath, with the words, "Proletarians of all countries unite." On the side of the hall is the picture of Ferdinand Lassalle, and above it a great transparency with the words, "The emancipation of the working class must be the work of the working class itself."

On the opposite of the hall stands the great group of the social democratic faction of the German reichstag of the year 1890 (25 men). In the middle of the hall down from the ceiling waves a beautiful red flag.

The majority of the delegates, according to the New York Volkszeitung, consist of young and most intelligent Americans, among them being several from Massachusetts, already holding elective offices. Conspicuous among them are Mayor Chase of Haverhill and Representatives Carey and MacCartney. But there is also a large sprinkling of Germans present. Among them the more noted are G. A. Hoehn, editor of "Arbeiter Zeitung" of St. Louis; Julius Zorn, national secretary of the Brewers' union; Jack Frunch, editor of the Brewer News; Hugo Miller, editor of the Bock Printing Paper.

Jessie Cox, as chairman of the national executive, opened the convention, and Delegate William Mailly of Haverhill was elected chairman of the first day, and Delegate Strickland was elected secretary.

In the afternoon Delegate Carey moved that a committee be appointed to clearly define the attitude of the social democratic party toward trade unions. He said that the party hopes to draw considerable strength from organized labor and thought that the position of the party should be distinctly outlined. He felt that it was the duty of every member of the party to use articles that bear the union label, and to give to organized labor material support at all times. After some discussion his motion was unanimously adopted.

The second day of the convention opened with all the delegates present.

Delegate Stedman was elected chairman. The report of the national executive on its action in relation to the New York locals, was the cause of a long discussion. The New York bodies had affiliated with the Independent Labor party of that city at the last election, and had been warned by the national executive to withdraw from such affiliation, or suffer suspension. After considerable discussion the action of the executive was unanimously sanctioned.

In the afternoon Job Harriman, Maurice Hillquit and Max Hayes of the socialist labor party appeared before the convention. These gentlemen constitute the conference committee appointed by the S. L. P. Rochester convention to act in conjunction with similar committees from the S. D. P. in endeavoring to bring about a unity of the socialist forces of America.

The three delegates were received with greatest applause and were ushered to the platform.

Mr. Harriman read the resolution adopted by the Rochester convention in reference to unity. In the course of his remarks he said:

"Let the past be as a closed book, and let us work for the future. Our principles and tactics are alike; we have no time to lose if we want to unite our forces."

Mr. Hillquit said: "The unity has already occurred among the rank and file of the socialists. Such a unity as marks the lax French methods is not possible in America; we must unite in a single organization."

Mr. Hayes declared: "Both candidates of the S. L. P. are willing to withdraw if necessary to unite both parties. We must fight under one banner against capitalism."

Chairman Stedman in welcoming the delegates remarked: "This afternoon begins the unity of the socialist forces of America."

Apparently the feeling is unanimous for unity. A conference committee, consisting of Delegates Deba, Carey and Berger, was appointed to act with Messrs. Harriman, Hillquit and Hayes.

#### S. D. WOMAN'S CLUB

The Social Democratic Woman's club will meet next Tuesday evening at the home of Mayor Chase, 8 Beacon street. Among the important matters to come up will be the quarterly election of officers.

The Town Elections. S. D. had TWO SOCIALISTS ELECTED TO OFFICE IN AMESBURY, ONE MERRIMAC AND ONE IN GEORGETOWN.

The results of the elections at town meetings held this week show that socialism is making rapid progress in the country districts as well as in the cities. The lifeless issues raised by the old parties are being neglected and the voters are turning to the social democratic party as the only party not controlled by political fakirs. The Boston Herald makes the claim that our gain in Amesbury is due merely to the personal popularity of our candidates, in spite of the fact that the two socialists elected to office in that town were also candidates last year—the vote this year of Mr. Spofford being a gain of 265, while that of Dr. Adams also showed a handsome increase. If there is anything at all in the Herald's contention it may be due to the fact that, contrary to the experience of the old parties, the personal popularity of socialists increases while holding office owing to the quality of public service they render.

The meaning of the figures we here present should be plain to everybody—that the principles of socialism need only to be brought to the attention of the people in order to be eagerly grasped by them—and that the candidates the social democrats succeed in electing suit the people so well that they immediately want more of the same kind.

To say that the progress of the social democrats is surprising and frightening the old party politicians is putting it very mildly.

#### AMESBURY.

In Amesbury the social democrats succeeded in electing Dr. John Quincy Adams to the board of health and in re-electing Jason Spofford to the board of selectmen and overseers of the poor by a largely increased vote.

Town clerk—N. E. Collins, 771. Selectmen and overseers of the poor—Jason Spofford, 857; Elmer E. Sanborn, 822; George H. Sweet, 726; H. F. Carey, 862; Jeremiah Beardon, S. D., 416; John Miller, S. D., 410.

Assessor—William H. B. Currier, 909; John J. Joyce, S. D., 418. Board of health—Dr. John Q. Adams, S. D., 774; John F. Johnson, 562.

Treasurer—Porter Sargent, 1153. Collector of taxes—Samuel Eaton, 1270. School committee—Edward A. Brown, Ind., 724; Rev. Robert LeB. Lynch, 424.

Constables—Samuel Eaton, 1051; J. Fred Ives, 967; C. E. Kennard, 878; John O'Neill, 857; Stephen C. Cogood, 574; Edward Rowell, 829; Patrick Ryan, 1151.

Auditor—Enoch O. Dresser, 1041. Commissioners of sinking fund—No. 1, Charles L. Allen, 1072; No. 2, John Currier, 1015. Trustees of public library—Edward A. Brown, 799; W. H. B. Currier, 691; Chas. S. Grieve, S. D., 426; Horace G. Leslie, 593; Charles S. Wingate, S. D., 593.

(Continued on Page Four.)

## More Welcome Than The First Robin

Is the announcement that our Spring Clothing is rapidly filling our counters.

We have taken particular pains this spring to have our line surpass anything we have previously shown.

Every garment thoroughly made; not an extra cent or stitch put in nor an essential one left out.

### The Details

are what go to make up a desirable garment. These Little Things are what count, and we are after them.

### A Good Fitting Collar.

on a garment is one of these details, and the most essential perhaps; then comes the shoulders, here rests the general hang of the coats. They should be correct in style and of sufficient tone to set off the garment. This is our business, looking after details.

## Rowe & Emerson

68 MERRIMACK STREET,

TELEPHONE 426-2.

(Continued on Page Three.)

The Haverhill Social Democrat

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WILLIAM MALLY, Editor



HAVERHILL, MARCH 10, 1906.

THE LOWELL NEWS.

One of the most remarkable examples of municipal ownership in the United States is shown by the town reports of Edinburg, Ind. Incandescent electric lights are furnished to the residents for 15 cents a month and to business houses for 20 cents a month for 16-candle power lights.

The benefits derived from municipal ownership here quoted go to strengthen the argument of the social democrats for the ownership by the people, not only of the municipal utilities, but of all the means of production and distribution of wealth.

The number of mills, factories and other industries being started in the south is rapidly increasing, and that section is fast undergoing a change from an agricultural to an industrial section.

On this pretence eulogies are showered upon the promoters of these enterprises, and they are held up as benefactors of their kind. But these capitalists are not animated by any lofty motive of benevolence or beneficence.

Capital must be re-invested or it becomes an elephant on the hands of its owners, or it wastes and becomes a loss. Labor is cheaper in the south because the workers are as yet in an agricultural stage and in a raw state.

Carnegie reaped \$21,000,000 in profits from his steel works last year, and he expects to gather in \$40,000,000 this year.

The vote on the Porto Rican bill meant, according to the republicans, that the name United States no longer stands for the American nation as a whole.

Four thousand cigarmakers are on strike in Cuba. Egyptian employers have banned a combine and refuse to yield.

BOOK LEAVES

SOCIAL DEMOCRACY RED BOOK. Edited by Frederic Heath. Debs Publishing Co.; Terra Haute, Ind. Price 15 cents.

The evolution of American socialism is a fascinating story, beginning with the quaint old communistic sects, and ending with the political movement of unhappiness of married life in these Red Books outlines this natural development through its successive stages.

Besides this brief history of socialism in our own land, the book contains a biography of the first American socialist, a "Trip to Girard," a letter of Karl Marx to Henry George's theory, and some interesting statistics of the past year.

Note: Orders for the above will be received at the office of the Haverhill Social Democrat.

BRIBERY.

Much is being said in the press about Mr. Clarke of Montana for bribing his way into the United States. Why Mr. Clarke? Is it because he paid more money than any other member?

THE SLAUGHTER OF THE WORKERS.

The commissioner of labor statistics for the state of New York estimates that no fewer than 40,000 people are injured in the manufacturing industries of that state yearly.

LICENSE THE TRUSTS

When one of the speakers at the anti-trust meeting last week told the harrowing story of the steel trust and how the managing president when giving testimony to a congressional commission said that he would gladly pay a million dollars a year for a license from the federal government to conduct his business.

There is not a trust in the country that will not endorse the Bryan idea of a license to plunder the people. Having their licenses properly made out and paid for, the trust managers will hang them on the walls of their New Jersey headquarters and proceed to do business in accordance with the golden rule translated in a retrogressive democratic statute.

DEBS ON LABOR AND LIBERTY

SPEECH FULL OF EPIGRAMMATIC SENTENCES, EACH A MARVEL OF CONSCIENCE AND FORCE.

Eugene V. Debs, the noted labor advocate, spoke to a large audience at the Grand Opera house at Ashworth, N. C., recently, his subject being "Labor and Liberty." Those in attendance included not only the laboring men of the city, but business and professional men, and men of all classes.

The speaker was introduced by Hon. Locke Craig, who said that he wanted to thank his friends of Central Labor union for the honor of introducing Mr. Debs to that magnificent audience.

Mr. Debs said: "Ladies and gentlemen: The privilege of addressing you this evening under the auspices of Central Labor union is appreciated far more than mere words can express."

CENTURY CLOSING STRUGGLE.

This century, he said, was closing in the greatest struggle in the history of the world. Centralization and competition were the master forces of this age. Mr. Debs cited "The Man With the Hoe" as showing the degraded condition of the laboring man.

THE MACHINE.

"The machine appeared. First came the subdivision of labor, and the specialization of work. Then the machine came out in the street, first to swell the army of unemployed and later the army of tramps.

UNHAPPY MARRIAGES.

Without entering into any denial of the declaration of Prof. Wm. G. Sumner of Yale college that 90 per cent. of the marriages of these days are unhappy.

STAGES OF COMBINATION.

"The individual, the firm, the corporation and the trust. These are the stages of economic combinations. Trusts in themselves are not harmful. A trust is simply a highly organized machine. It regulates the output and fixes prices.

"A modern strike has become a contest between a human stomach and a bank vault, and the bank vault has the better staying power." "No power on earth can stop the power of centralization, and the sooner its culmination is reached the better."

"If a corporation could get to heaven it would render the avenues impassable by stealing the stones with which they are paved. If there were a supreme court there it would endeavor to have the injunction 'thou shalt not steal' declared unconstitutional."

"I want to do what little I can to make this world a habitable place. If the competitive system which has transformed it into a hell, if my purpose is accomplished, it will be transformed into a heaven."

"I am a socialist because I believe this earth is equal to the heritage of every man on it."

JOIN THE UNION.

Join the union that represents your trade. The battle is going to be won, but join and help win it. I ask that you state for yourself whether you subscribe to my views or not.

DEBS THE MAN.

Says an Asheville exchange: "Mr. Debs was easily recognizable from his pictures, and his appearance on the stage was instantly greeted with applause. He is, however, what his pictures do not show, a very tall man."

CUTTING ICE.

A practical prayer. Talking about prayer reminds me of an incident that occurred a few months ago. I was present at a certain church banquet held in Music hall, Boston.

HALL, HENSHAW & GILMOUR

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J. G. ADAMS, M. D.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC, ROOMS 17-18. TUESDAY, THURSDAY, SATURDAY, 11 TO 12 A. M. TO 4 P. M.

THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC HERALD.

NATIONAL ORGAN OF THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF AMERICA. TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION: ONE YEAR, \$5.00; SIX MONTHS, \$3.00; FOREIGN SUBSCRIPTIONS, \$10.00.

Address: THEODORE DEBS, 125 Washington Street, Chicago, Ill.

A congress of women socialists was recently held in Brussels, Belgium.

THE TRIUMPH OF TRUTH.

The famous French author and chief agitator for reopening of the Dreyfus case, has been presented with a beautiful picture called "The Triumph of Truth," by the labor organizations of Paris. Eola was deeply affected.

All Our Fine Winter Overcoats Marked Down!

\$20 and \$25 Overcoats down to \$15. \$15 Overcoats down to \$10.

A RARE CHANCE TO GET AN ELEGANT WINTER GARMENT AT ACTUAL COST OF MANUFACTURE.

James A. Keefe's White Front.



LESLIE'S DRY GOODS STORE.

OUR ANNUAL SALE OF Kitchen Furnishings

Is Now Going on.

SPECIAL BARGAINS FOR SATURDAY IN TINWARE, WOODEN WARE, AGATE WARE AND WIRE GOODS. WE ARE AGENTS FOR THE CELEBRATED STRANSKY STEEL WARE.

The only store in this city where the GENUINE IMPORTED STRANSKY STEEL WARE is sold. A little higher in price, but outlasts a dozen pieces of so-called cheap enameled ware.

BEWARE! Other ware look like it, but the genuine has the name Stransky-Steel Ware on each piece. Do not be deceived. First prize at 15 International Exhibitions. Highest award at World's Columbian Exhibition, Chicago. Preferred by the best cooking authorities, certified to by the most famous chemists for purity and durability. It is cheapest because BEST.

Remember this Celebrated Enameled Ware is specially imported for and sold in this city exclusively by us.

It does not rust nor absorb grease; does not discolor nor catch inside; is not affected by acids in fruits or vegetables; will boil, stew, roast and bake without imparting flavor of previously cooked food, and WILL LAST FOR YEARS. We caution the public against imitations.

LESLIE'S DRY GOODS STORE, 28 and 32 Merrimack Street.

BUTLER'S SHOE STORE

Is Receiving NEW STYLES OF SPRING FOOTWEAR.

P. S.—We shall continue to close out our Broken Lots at Low Prices.

Haverhill's Only Wholesale Dealers

Direct Buyers from the Distillers and Wine Growers. No Rectifiers or Middlemen Handle Our Products.

140 Fleet Wholesale Dept.

We have fitted up our store, No. 140 Fleet Street, formerly devoted to storage and bottling, for a first-class strictly wholesale department, entirely removed from bar and retail patronage, and to be conducted always in City Wine Store Style—quietly, orderly and unostentatiously.

ON TAP at the Bar, "ALE THAT IS ALE." Sterling, served as the Brewer himself would serve it—JUST RIGHT.

—and there is but ONE "Hancock Club"

It beats all—A Dollar a Full Quart.

City Wine Store, R. A. SPLAINE & CO., 28-40 FLEET ST. Tel.—N. E., 55-2, Pco., 57-4.

Wholesalers of the first class, licensed to sell and deliver our goods in any quantities desired. The only dealers so licensed in Haverhill.

IT PAYS TO BUY THE BEST.

APPEAL FROM PORTO RICO

(Continued from Page One.)

to be withdrawn from circulation. Through the corrupt official administration the public treasuries are exhausted in most municipalities, and business is everywhere at a standstill.

A BAD JUDICIAL SYSTEM.

The courts of justice also are in the most abominable state. "Justice" is being dispensed there according to Spanish laws. It causes petty crimes no appeal can be had against the decision of the municipal judges.

The courts have to pay the expenses. Of course, the poor people resorting to the courts have to pay the expenses. The public schools are only for the children of the rich or those who wield some political influence.

JUSTICE, PROGRESS AND LIBERTY

making the greatest efforts to organize the workers, clearing their minds and leading them into battle with the reactionary and oppressive practices of the capitalist class and its political lackeys.

The workers of Porto Rico, during the four hundred years of Spanish rule, had no men among them who would be in a position to open their eyes, instruct them, and organize them. They knew nothing till about three years ago, of the light of socialism, which should clarify their minds as to their economic condition and their political subjection, and as to the necessity of organizing themselves.

MISERABLE WAGES.

Agricultural laborers are paid by the capitalist as little as 2 to 3 cents (gold value) for a work day of ten hours. The state pays 25 cents for eight hours of work on public edifices or earth work.

1900 Stiff and Soft Hats

NOW READY FOR YOUR INSPECTION. ALL THE LEADING CELEBRATED MAKERS.

John F. CARTER

Hatter and Furnisher.

19 Washington Square

At Valence, the socialists have started a weekly paper. The movement is exceptionally virile and spreading.

workers struck for better conditions soldiers and policemen were immediately sent, in order to keep them in bondage.

SOCIALISTS PERSECUTED.

AS SOON as we socialists began to organize these unfortunate workers, we were set upon by the judges, the criminal courts, the officials and the other tools of the capitalist class.

The average wage in the towns is one peso for eight or ten hours of work. The condition of the workers in the towns—the bricklayers and their helpers, the carpenters, painters, tobacco workers, hod carriers, bakers, compositors, blacksmiths, machinists, and laundrymen, besides a section of electricians, and others not numerous enough to be organized separately.

In order to improve their condition, there have been organized unions of bricklayers, carpenters, painters, tobacco workers, hod carriers, bakers, compositors, blacksmiths, machinists, and laundrymen, besides a section of electricians, and others not numerous enough to be organized separately.

THE PARTY ORGANIZED.

Some of the unions were seduced into the camps of the republican or the federalist politicians by misrepresentation or even by the corruption of the leaders. For this reason it was necessary to organize the workers politically on distinct class lines.

From the first moment the effect produced was magnificent. The capitalist parties who till now were busy with mere mud-slinging at the socialist principles, frightened by our militant attitude, and disconcerted at our efforts to join the powerful party of socialists of Europe and America.

But all this did not diminish our courage. We went on unflinchingly with our agitation. The unions of carpenters, bricklayers, and tobacco workers, and the section of unorganized workers, as well as a great body of unorganized agricultural laborers, are now with us in our political struggle for freedom from the capitalist class.

The socialists took no part in the last municipal elections since the law does not recognize them as a party, and grants the suffrage only to taxpayers and men of the professional classes.

In order to be able to apply all our vigor and energy for this propaganda, we earnestly hope that the trade unions and the socialists of America will lend us their support and assistance in striving to ameliorate the condition of our poor fellow workers of Porto Rico who are suffering from more consideration and possess no means to defend themselves against their oppressors.

The workers of America are better fed, better clothed and housed, better educated, better paid, than their brethren in Porto Rico, who as bravely as they stand in the international war against the capitalist system.

ASSIST US, IT IS YOUR DUTY.

The capitalists of the island claim that all the framings of North America are friends of capital; that those who are in opposition to capitalist slavery are but a small group of rebels without following or significance. But we wish to prove to them that the reverse is the case.

1. That the working people of Porto Rico demand perfectly free institutions under which they would be enabled with full independence, and with the same right as the workers of the United States to develop their labor organization and to realize their natural and logical aspirations, without hindrance or oppression.

2. That the public administration be freed from dishonesty and needless delays; that all public officials shall be made directly responsible for their acts.

3. That there shall be throughout the whole island a real and effective guarantee of the just right of the workers to defend themselves against the insatiable exploitations to which they are subjected, and against the despotic and oppressive power of the public officials, soldiers and other servants of the capitalists.

4. That the burden of the enormous superfluous public debt, which is an intolerable burden upon so poor and exhausted a country.

5. That public officials in Porto Rico—as officials of the municipalities, of the public works, or the civil administration—be forbidden, under penalty of losing their offices, to exercise any influence in favor of any political party as they now do.

DOWN WITH DAVIS MILITARY DESPOTISM.

6. That the following ordinances, issued by General Davis, be annulled, at demand of the workers.

(a) The ordinance under which persons employed on public works receive only 25 cents per day.

(b) The ordinance that persons refusing to work eight hours for 25 cents be considered as unusual and disolute persons.

(c) The order in which the election law was caused to read that: 1. That only capitalists, as with academic degrees, are eligible to office; 2. That workmen who are able to read and write and are of mature age, are not eligible to office; 3. The socialist party must cast 10 per cent of the capitalist or taxpaying vote; 4. That only two official parties are recognized, the republican and federalist.

7. The ordinance by which an adult citizen must pay a tax of 4 in order to vote, should be so changed that workmen earning less than two pesos a day should be exempt from paying the tax.

8. The order should be rescinded by which, throughout the island, tribunals are opened, where the mayor acts as chief of police, as secretary, and as judge. No appeal admitted. These tribunals have the power to impose fines and imprisonment at hard labor. These tribunals form a powerful force to suppress political dissenters or to facilitate the exploitation of defenseless people. In many of these tribunals women have been sentenced to sweep the streets. The socialists in practical protest against these outrages.

DUTIES OF THE S. L. P.

11. The S. L. P. of the United States is obliged to take up the colonial question, since the capitalist parties have determined to persist in their policy of conquest.

Porto Rico must have the support of the socialists of the United States in order to facilitate our task of spreading the ideas of socialism amongst the workers. The translation of some leaflets into Spanish, the distribution of a few thousand copies, would bring magnificent and practical results.

12. The unions and international organizations of workmen in the United States, which are striving for better social and economic conditions, would perform an effective act of solidarity if, on hearing our tale of the misery and degradation of our country, they would lend their assistance, influence and intelligence, in order to raise the standard of life in Porto Rico.

We hope that you will not hesitate to hear us and that you will swear a solemn oath to acquaint yourselves with social conditions prevailing on the island. We rely on your sure support and your vigorous action.

EDUARDO CONDE. SANTIAGO IGLESIAS.

Delegates of the workers of Porto Rico.

THE WOLF AT THE DOOR.

There's a haunting horror near us That nothing drives away— Pierce lamping eyes at nightfall, A crouching shade by day; A's a whining at the threshold, There's a scratching at the floor— To work! To work! Heaven's name! The wolf is at the door!

The day was long, the night was short, The bed was hard and cold, Still weary are the little ones, We are weary in our cradles, From our mother's toll untold; We are born to boarded weariness, As some to boarded gold.

We will not rise! We will not work! Nothing the day can give us half so sweet as an hour of sleep: Better to sleep than live! What power can stir these heavy limbs? What hope can stir these dull hearts swell? What fear more cold, what pain more sharp, Than the life we know so well?

To be like a man by lead or steel, No man death would be worse to feel Than the life which holds us here; But this is a fear no heart can face— Fate no man can dare— To be run to earth and die by the teeth Of the gnawing monster there!

The slow relentless padding step That never goes astray— The rustle in the underbrush— The shadow in the way— The straining fight—the long pursuit— The steady gain behind— Death-wearied man and tireless brute, And the struggle wild and blind!

There's a hot breath at the keyhole And a tearing at of teeth! Well do I know the biodeath eyes And the dripping jaws beneath! There's a whining at the threshold— To work! To work! Heaven's name! The wolf is at the door!

Next Tuesday the great politico-labor conference meets in London. It will be composed of trade union socialist bodies, co-operative societies, and other friendly organizations and its object is to make preparations to begin an active campaign to "face more labor men in the world." The outcome will be watched with interest by progressive working people throughout the world.

British miners voted to aid their Austrian fellow-craftsmen, who are waging a great lockout.

SAVAGES STILL

THE PROGRESS WE HAVE MADE AND THE PROGRESS WE HAVE YET TO MAKE.

No one can deny that civilized man is a very great advance over the primitive savage in some things. We have made wonderful, immeasurable progress along the line of— of some things. But these some things are of the least importance. Along the lines of the most important things we have made no progress at all, as I look at it. Oh, we have made such mighty discoveries in chemistry, electricity, steam, and all other laws of nature, that we have made nature our universal servant. We have invented the steam engine, the dynamo, the telegraph, the telephone, the five-day ocean-ship, the railway, and numberless other things that enable us to rush around the earth and do trade and commerce with ever-growing speed. We have lifted ourselves above superstition, and got on speaking terms with sun, moon, and stars; have penetrated all the lairs of all the old gods and devils, and ousted them; have found out all about our own origin and come-down; have made ourselves lords of all creation, but with all this material and intellectual progress in our morals and notions of essential right and wrong we have stood absolutely still, and are not a whit above the savage.

Did the savage resent an insult, and avenge himself on his insulter? So do we. Though there be a ten thousand year gap of progress in intellect between us and him, and from the intellectual side he can only gaze at us as at a far-away star yet on his bloody, brute side we can slap his hand and call him our very dear and very dear brother. Our national honor is as like his as twin peas in a pod, our rage at insult is as quick and of as bloody red a flush, and we put a bullet or a bayonet through the insulter just as savagely and readily as he would a flint spear, or beat his brains out with a knobby club. Only we have used our ten-thousand-year progress on the intellectual side to help us to be more effective than he on the bloody, brute side; for we have by our knowledge of chemistry, electricity, and mechanics, learned how to make killing appliances that will kill at mighty distances, and in a more terrific manner, thus enabling us to avoid, in large measure, the highly non-esthetic necessity of closely seeing and smelling the spouting blood, so unavoidable in the savage hand method, yet the result is exactly the same—a dead enemy—and in the gloating interest the ten-thousand-year equals again—both savages.

Did the savage, swayed to the dim moral light of his idolatrous mud-and-wood-god religion grow growling after his neighbor's gods? So do we—we, who have progressed so far above him in culture, knowledge and refinement, that he would never know us for the same. . . . They stole all they could, which was not much, we steal all we can—both of us equal in living up to our opportunities—but oh, how much! Our hearts are national, continental, planetary, and consist of exploitations of whole peoples, body, soul, and mind, and our thieves are such that our own prize, modern, finished, Christian thieves is bigger than a hundred thousand mud-god worshipping savage thieves all put together. And the difference consists wholly in this, that our one thief is gifted with a hundred times more intellect, and therefore with a hundred times more ability to be a thief. But is it not food for reflection, that our ten thousand years of development have only yet enabled us to be infinitely more effective on the old original savage plane?

Do savages lie? So do we, and a hundred thousand times more ingeniously, elaborately, artistically, and voluminously than they, as befits our immense progress in intellect; yet the result—deception—is exactly the same, and in arriving at that we bridge the ten thousand year gap of progress and clap hands with our neighbor, that our plane . . . It is a dark picture, but we are rejoiced to know that, to relieve it, there are a few people in the world who have the sense to wish to get above the ignorant savage plane, and to push the civilized actual savages beyond it, too, and who are pointing the world to the necessity of at least studying that science and art which ought to have been the first, which would have rendered all the rest of science and art of society pulling together instead of pulling apart—what is vulgarly called co-operation—the grandest money-saving, toll-saving, life-saving science and art the world has ever known.—F. Scrimshaw in The People.

INTERNATIONAL NOTES.

John Burns, the London labor agitator and member of parliament, has thrown a bomb into the ranks of the British patriots. "So far as the nation is concerned," says Burns, "the loss of prestige by the war already exceeds the material gains sought to be achieved, while the fact that it is possible for a few capitalists to so choke the government as practically to get the war office to further their schemes at the nation's expense, is additional proof that parliament needs fewer men of the type who uphold a war rashly provoked in the interests of a small clique against a people who have proved themselves to be as 'ravage as they are humane.'"

In the agricultural district of Ware, Belgium, first ballot for member of parliament in special election resulted as follows: Conservative, 3,582; liberal, 1,867; socialist, 7,304. The latter have strong hopes of winning on the second ballot. They polled only 1,582 votes in 1904.—A new paper, called the "Proudhon," has been started at Brussels for the purpose of making propaganda among the agricultural workers.

There have been disturbances in parliament between the socialists and reactionists, the latter attempting to force the government to make a new banking law. A socialist in the French chamber of deputies moved a vote of \$30,000 francs (\$50,000) to help the lace-workers win their strike.—The government leader asked for delay, but intimated that action would be taken later. "About what would happen," asks the Springfield (Mass.) P. Starline, "if a retrograde should move in the national house at Washington a vote of \$100,000 to help the Idaho miners win their fight?"

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