

A VOICE FROM NEW AMERICA. BY CIVIS AMERICANUS. SEE FOURTH PAGE.

LABOR COLONY FOR TRAMPS.

THE RESULT OF THE TRAMP INVESTIGATION OF THE MASSACHUSETTS LEGISLATURE.

The Immense Volume of a Report With Amusing Contents.

It will be remembered that about a year ago the State Legislature of Massachusetts appointed a committee to investigate the problem of the unemployed...

The book is of a most laborious nature to whomsoever may feel inclined to study the question of the unemployed through the medium of that report.

This new law is to be brought before the next General Assembly for adoption, and in substance is as follows:

- 1. To make it easy to convict vagrants and tramps.
2. All persons found riding on freight trains shall be punished by the State as tramps.
3. That a State labor colony be established to take charge of the unemployed...

Now read carefully:
6. The tramps to be under strict discipline of the officers, and to be compelled to work.

point the officers of the colony, who are to receive, of course, princely salaries and pickings.

3. Illegible to membership in the State labor colony are only males between the ages of 17 and 30 years, when they are able to do the most work.

5. Any man between 17 and 30 years of age, who is not insane or physically unable to work, can voluntarily become a member.

10. The cost of transportation to the colony is to be paid by the State of Massachusetts.

11. A member of a labor organization is to be one of the managing board of the labor colony, to save the others any avoidable hard labor in bossing the job.

12. The overseers of the poor in every town or city to keep a tall sheet as to the number of available candidates in their district for the State colony.

This is, in substance, the new and grand scheme of this junketing committee, of which Professor Dewey was head boss, and it is to do away with the tramp nuisance.

For anyone who has lots of spare time and nothing better to do, the big book contains some amusing and also interesting data. For instance, it is mentioned that the total number of tramps in Massachusetts in the fall of 1894 was about fifty thousand.

There are also some interesting speeches in the book from police chiefs. "Honorable So and So," and quite a number of reverends.

There is also a very humorous contribution in this big book, and it is surrounded with the mystic air of "a detective." Anyone can see that the whole thing is a big canard at the expense of the committee, but that committee swallowed the bait like a hungry fish...

The Socialists are few in number. Twenty years hence all this will be changed, and then the dailies will discover that early Socialists, though crude thinkers, were useful in preparing the public mind for the great utterances of the press.



OMAHA IN DISCUSSION.

A TRUE LABOR PARTY MUST AIM AT THE ABOLITION OF THE ENTIRE CAPITALIST PROFIT SYSTEM.

Free Discussion on This Subject Wanted.

Our political reformers in Omaha seem to be tied up in a hard knot in their efforts to convince each other and the public, that the movement which each champions is the correct solution to all of our municipal and national woes.

Now part of the capitalistic class lives on interest, and interest is boldly taken from the product of Labor, so that Labor cannot associate itself politically with any party that seeks to maintain the interest-taking class.

If Labor is to win anything politically it must get into a party which promises to abolish those things that absorb the product of Labor, and those things are: Interest, rent, taxation and profit.

The Populist party wants more money too do business with, and business is the taking of rent, interest, taxes and profit, and these are filched from the products of labor.

The Socialist Labor party is a party which deserves our consideration because it proposes to abolish profit in all forms and will not receive the support of any of that class which desires to do business.

It is only fair to say that the interest of the banker, merchant, manufacturer, landlord or politician will not be observed by the success of the Socialist Labor party.

Comrades, denouncing the Capitalists, or denouncing the ignorance of our fellow-workers will never make Socialists. The wage workers are as much responsible for the present industrial and social conditions as the capitalists.

The body of a 15-day-old child lay in the home of William and Grace Bryant, at 228 Gratiot street, slowly decomposing, because the parents had no money to pay for its interment.

RELIGION AND EDUCATION.

COMRADE HOBSON'S ADVICE: LET US PUSH THE BATTLE TO THE GATES UNTIL WE SHALL HAVE A THOUSAND FOURTH OF JULY ORATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISM IN 1896.

Martha Moore Avery's Address Commented Upon.

That was a grand Fourth of July oration by Martha Moore Avery, as reported in your issue of July 20. Many noble things are said which I hope may hereafter to the credit of the speaker...

Among them I wish to emphasize the following statements, worthy the utterance of a philosopher:

"Religion and education—using these words in their broadest significance—being the great divisions of power (in advancing civilization). The religious nature of man becomes conscious of the possibility of humanity from man to man."

"Immoral to be rich while our fellow-man is in want!" That is "an apple of gold in pictures of silver," for a more fitting word could not in these times be said.

Witness again James 2:15-16: "If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food, and one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body, what doth it profit?"

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His first disciples to have "all things in common."

Martha Moore Avery is a brave woman to hold up before the world, this long neglected truth of Holy Writ:

"Go to, now ye rich men, weep and howl for your miseries that shall come upon you. Your riches are corrupted and your garments moth-eaten."

"The Gospel" has given us the consciousness, "that it is immoral to be rich, while one fellow-man is in want."

Comrades, quit decrying the Gospel; hold the lowly Nazarene no longer in derision; you act as a tool for the rich when you do so.

There are other sayings in that speech which I should like to discuss, and may at some future time, meanwhile, read that first Socialist Fourth-of-July oration, and don't forget the correlate to this "division of power"—education—but let us push the battle to the gates until we shall have a thousand—set the mark at that line—1,000 FOURTH-OF-JULY SPEECHES FOR SOCIALISM IN 1896.

Pueblo, Colo.

DISREPUTABLE HOUSES.

What Causes Them and Who Keeps Them Up.

Since the police raided the downtown low-class music halls we have had lots of comments and opinions in the daily papers with regard to disreputable houses and districts and their demoralizing effect on the youth of our city.

Now we know that these houses and women do not originate of themselves, and that, therefore, the women are not to be regarded as the only responsible agents, inasmuch as they are only a part, necessary in conjunction with other parts, to make up a whole.

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heartless libertines who prey on innocence and youth, and the army of profligate young men (and old men, too,) who patronize these low resorts, there would not be any such women or such houses in the universe.

Again, these women are the victims of a thousand adverse circumstances. Take the child born in the slums of a large city, whose eyes open on a drunken mother and criminal father, whose youth is spent amidst filth, crime and vulgarity, and whose only teachers are crooks and the like.

It seems to us that the police and the several correspondents of the daily papers we have noticed, are altogether on the wrong track for reformation in this matter.

We would say: Make the lives of the lower orders more bright by giving them better homes, better education and more sympathy. Make the slums—the hotbed of all sorts of crime—into healthy and respectable districts.

Do away with the slums, bring up the children properly, and make the lives of the working men and women brighter, and you will have accomplished a work which will do more for the morals of the people than all the combined forces of police, tract distributors and Parsons.

St. Louis, Mo.

The police of Berlin, Germany, arrested a man for begging on the street. The man, carried the body of his little child in his arms, that died a natural proletarian death—from want of food.

Socialism is spreading so rapidly in Germany among Government employes that every secret order of the Government is known by the leaders of the Labor Party almost as soon as issued.

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OUR PRESS.



Up With the Standard of the Socialist Labor Party!

EDITORIAL.

ADVICE TO THE COMRADES OF THE SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY.

Comrades: Never before in the history of the American labor movement have the prospects for the progress of the cause of Socialism been as bright as to-day. Never have our Comrades been so enthusiastic in pushing the good work of Socialist propaganda as to-day.

Indeed, we have been in the movement for many years; we have witnessed hard struggles for Socialism and the Socialist Labor Party; we have seen many a brave Comrade fall on the battlefield for human freedom; we have been disgusted with the general labor movement when seeing our fellow-workers following the banner of plutocracy on election day.

Yes, our cause is marching on. Everything is running our way. The capitalist press, the pure and simple unionists, the politicians—the whole gang is attacking the advocates of the new social order.

Now, don't think for a moment that we like to be incarcerated, that we are anxious to boast as martyrs. We want nothing of the kind. But we are convinced that the time will come when some of our best Comrades will be taken from us and placed where Eugene V. Debs and his colleagues are to-day.

The ruling classes have always acted like wild beasts the moment the time of social reconstruction and final abdication of their economic and political power was at hand. History demonstrates this.

SECTION NEW YORK.

The Election of Officers and Other Important Business.

Section New York, S. L. P., held a general meeting on July 30. Comrades Kirchner, Klingenberg and Horwitz were appointed a committee to attend the "Volk-sung Conference."

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Ignorance is the enemy of Socialism. Socialism in our time! Tell the wage slaves what this motto means. "In God we trust," says the Capitalist; but he means God Mammon.

"Socialism doesn't propose to take anything away from anybody except the chance to steal," says the "Star and Kansan."

Mark this well: The time will come when the Socialists in America will be persecuted like their Comrades in old Europe.

"Why are you attacking the Populists?" asks a Pennsylvania subscriber. We don't attack; we discuss.

What are you going to do about it? Will you patiently, but vainly, wait for better times? Ah, this is disgusting.

It is especially the young, energetic, self-sacrificing men and women we want in our ranks. It is true the young make mistakes, but they make them bona fide.

Yes, we have the greatest, the wealthiest country in the world. But show us a country where the struggle between the oppressed, starving wage workers has become as acute and as desperate as in this country.

Hello, Trade Unionists! Did you every study the question of Socialism? "No?" Then it is time to begin right now.

Suicide is on the increase. Suicide is the sister of starvation and poverty is their mother.

Labor Day is approaching. Comrades, let us double the number of our subscribers to our Socialist papers.

The little town of Lawrenceville, Ill., was stirred up last week. Hundreds of copies of this paper bearing the Lawrenceville "tramp-law" cartoon were distributed from house to house.

The comptroller of New York State declares in a recent report: "It is, therefore, an astounding fact that over \$500,000,000 of personal property within the State escapes taxation."

How or when the workers will see their way clearly none but a prophet can tell, but come it will, as sure as the return of the sun.

Our historians have provided us with a history of the deeds of brutes, rulers, kings. But between the lines of the plutocratic hymns in the chronicles of tyrants and oppressors we read the unwritten history of the people, of the slaves, of the wealth-producers.

A VOICE FROM NEW AMERICA.

BY CIVIS AMERICANUS.

[Written Especially for the Socialist Newspaper Union.]

Motto: "Nay, take my life and all, pardon not that: You take my house, when you do take the prop That does sustain my house; you take my life, When you take the means whereby I live." —Shakespeare.

CHAPTER I.

THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE.

"These are the times that try men's souls."—Paine.

"When in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth the separate and equal station to which the laws of nature and of nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

"We hold these truths to be self-evident: That all men are born equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness; that to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed; that, whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the right of the people to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new government, laying its foundation on such principles, and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their safety and happiness.

How many of the old-time capitalist. Fourth of July fire-cracker and sky-rocket patriots of America knew the true meaning of the historical document known as the preamble of the Declaration of American Independence? Few, very few, indeed.

The Declaration of Independence, that sounded the death-knell to despotism and British Toryism and feudal aristocracy on the American continent is the most radical, the most revolutionary document that has ever been promulgated by any people on the face of the earth.

The noble thoughts, the irrefutable arguments in favor of the rights of man, the proclamation of the inalienable human rights to change or abolish the forms of government that have become destructive of the general welfare of the people, are by no means the products of one man, or any small number of men.

We give due credit to our noble, heroic Thomas Jefferson; we recognize him as one of the Makers of the American Republic, and in harmony with his last will the obelisk on his grave in Monticello bears this epitaph for an inscription: "Here was buried Thomas Jefferson, author of the Declaration of American Independence."

We give due credit to those noble revolutionists who had the courage of their convictions to sign the Declaration of Independence. We honor our Washington, our Franklin, our Adams, our Patrick Henry and others.

We give due credit to that noble, courageous and never-tiring author and journalist, Thomas Paine, whose sharp pen was even more powerful and more formidable to the regime of George III. than the swords of Washington and Lafayette. As true American citizens, as sincere patriots, we are in duty bound to honor the man whose great work, "Common Sense," may rightfully be considered the text book of the American Declaration of Independence.

Yes, we give due credit to Paine for all the valuable service rendered, not only to the American people, but to mankind in general.

The struggle for human freedom is as old as human society itself. Read the history of the various nations, from the Jews, the Greeks and the Romans down to our time, and you will find an ever-raging war for the welfare of mankind, an everlasting endeavor of a comparatively small number of men to secure better social conditions for the human family.

Our historians have provided us with a history of the deeds of brutes, rulers, kings. But between the lines of the plutocratic hymns in the chronicles of tyrants and oppressors we read the unwritten history of the people, of the slaves, of the wealth-producers.

And it is the people, the slaves, the wealth-producers, in whose interests "A Voice From New America" has been written.

We repeat: The American Declaration of Independence is by no means the product of individualism; it is the common mental work of many generations, of many nations, and of many centuries. The Reformation in the German-speaking countries of Europe, the desperate struggles of the Huguenots in France, the struggle against the Inquisition in Spain, the Revolution in England at the end of the Seventeenth Century, the Republican agitation against feudalism in France—all these popular movements in Europe contributed considerably to bring about the political revolution on this side of the Atlantic.

All men are created equal; all men are endowed with the inalienable right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Happiness! Happiness! Our revolutionary forefathers never dreamed of the monster that would exile all human rights, all human liberty, and all human happiness to unknown regions.

On February 14, 1776, Thomas Paine wrote: "The cause of America is, in a great measure, the cause of all mankind." So it was. But the cause of all mankind was not the cause of the plutocrats of the Nineteenth Century that had monopolized the means of life of the sixty-five millions of Old Americans.

We have seen the reaper toiling in the heat of summer sun, We have seen the children needy when the harvesting was done; We have seen a mighty army, dying helpless one by one, While their flag went marching on.

Oh, the army of the wretched, how they swarm the city street, We have seen them in the midnight, where the Goths and Vandals meet; We had shuddered in the darkness at the noise of their feet— But their cause goes marching on.

But the same poet (Hamlin Garland) also gave his battle hymn of the wronged, that inspired the millions of a new Abolitionist movement while marching against the common enemy of mankind determined to do justice to Labor:

But no longer shall the children bend above the whizzing wheel, We will free the weary women from their bondage under steel, In the mines and in the forest, worn and hopeless, men shall feel His cause is marching on.

Then lift your eyes, ye toilers, in the desert hot and drear, Catch the cool wind from the mountains; Hark! the river's voice is near; Soon we'll rest beside the fountains, and the dreamland will be here!

As we go marching on, Glory, Glory Hallelujah, Glory, Glory Hallelujah, Glory, Glory Hallelujah, As we go marching on.

IMPORTANT NOTES FROM THE REFORM FIELD. We are informed that Comrade Wayland has resigned his position as editor of the "Coming Nation."

According to the latest reports from England, Socialism received 57,885 votes at the Parliamentary elections. Ye heart-broken editors of the St. Paul "Dispatch," please take notice.

The Philadelphia weavers' strike is still unsettled. Over 5,000 men out! Oh, these happy people, with their inalienable right to life, liberty and happiness!

Twenty thousand tailors out on strike in New York and vicinity, says the Associated Press. Ye sweating bosses, attention: The St. Louis "Globe-Democrat" prescribes the following remedy: "Gatling guns are the means to cure striking mobs."

We may have another general miners' strike before long. Watch the fight. Prepare for the general strike for Socialism the first Tuesday, in November, 1906.

A Comrade writes us: "Our little paper's work is being felt; the number of its enemies is increasing. But, alas! for every enemy we get at least three new friends!"

Up with the banner of Socialism and Truth!

What is Socialism? Webster's Dictionary answers: "Doctrine of theory of a better arrangement of the social relations of mankind than that which has hitherto prevailed."

SAYS THEY DESERVE TO STARVE IF THEY WON'T SEE.

The people may starve, may hunger, may freeze, may beg and plead for mercy from grim poverty, says the "Coming Nation," but the rich have their grand ball and soiree, their champagne and opera box, their liveried servants and menials. These rich produce no useful or needed article to sustain life.

Notes From the "Coming Age." Are you a Socialist? No. Then you are an Anarchist. Stand up and be counted.

It is rumored that the printers of this burgh are doing some tall thinking just now, thanks to the linotype.

The unregulated introduction of labor-saving machinery has produced more idle workmen than charity can feed.

The "pursuit of happiness" without the necessary means, is like chasing a greased pig at an Irish fair.

