

AN OPEN LETTER.

To the Officers and Delegates
of the Building Trades
Council of St. Louis,
Missouri.

Political Scabdom Can no Longer
Be Tolerated.

The following open letter explains itself:
To the Officers and Delegates of the Building
Trades Council of St. Louis, Mo.:

GENTLEMEN—Inspired by the spirit of
capitalist politics, the officers of the St.
Louis Building Trades Council have once
more entered the muddy arena of boodle
and tail-end politics.

The Secretary of the B. T. C., Mr. H. W.
Steinbiss, has addressed a circular letter to
all the School Board candidates of the dif-
ferent political parties. Said circular con-
tains a long preamble written with the
pen of an experienced tail-end politician,
and a number of questions, of which we
quote the following:

1. Do you favor the employment of union
on all school work in preference to non-
union?

2. Are you in favor of having all con-
tracts for building finishing or repairing
contain a clause, that union labor only shall
be employed, where same can be had?

3. Are you in favor of appointing as in-
spectors of all work requiring said position,
only practical journeymen mechanics, who
are members of a union of their respective
trade?

Please answer.

The gentlemen of the B. T. C. simply
repeat the same old contemptible political
huckstering of former campaigns. For a
dish of porridge these people are ever ready
to sell the "votes of organized labor" to
any political hyphen or speculator the
moment he promises to be a friend of labor.

The political scabdom of the officers and
delegates of the B. T. C. can best be de-
monstrated by referring to the fact, that,
in the Ninth School Board district at least
there are six different parties and

Yet, only one candidate is to be elected.
Undoubtedly every one of the capitalist
party candidates will answer with an em-
phatic "yes!" Did you ever see a capital-
ist politician in a workingman's district
who did not pretend to be a "friend of
labor?"

If five candidates favor the "union de-
mands" and only one is to be elected, why,
the B. T. C. gentlemen cannot even keep
their own promise, because they have to
scab on at least for the candidates who
answered in the affirmative.

As to the Socialist candidates we beg leave
to state:

The candidates of the Socialist Labor
Party do not care a snap for these ques-
tions, coming, as they do, from the people.
baptized in the polluted water of capital-
ist politics, from people who are ready to sell
the very foundation of the community and
public schools to any demoralized business
politician. The candidates of the Socialist
Labor Party have no use for that sort of
organized labor, who would sacrifice the
welfare of their own children, the welfare
of the future generation, in order to get a
promise for immediate petty advantages.

If the delegates of the B. T. C. had not
been asleep for the last decade they would
know that the Socialist Labor platform
answers all their questions. In the first
place, the Socialist Party is opposed to
contract labor in any form or shape. Our
platform contains the clause that all School
Board work shall be done under the eight-
hour system at union wages. The Social-
ist Labor Party is the only party in the
field whose platform contains these de-
mands.

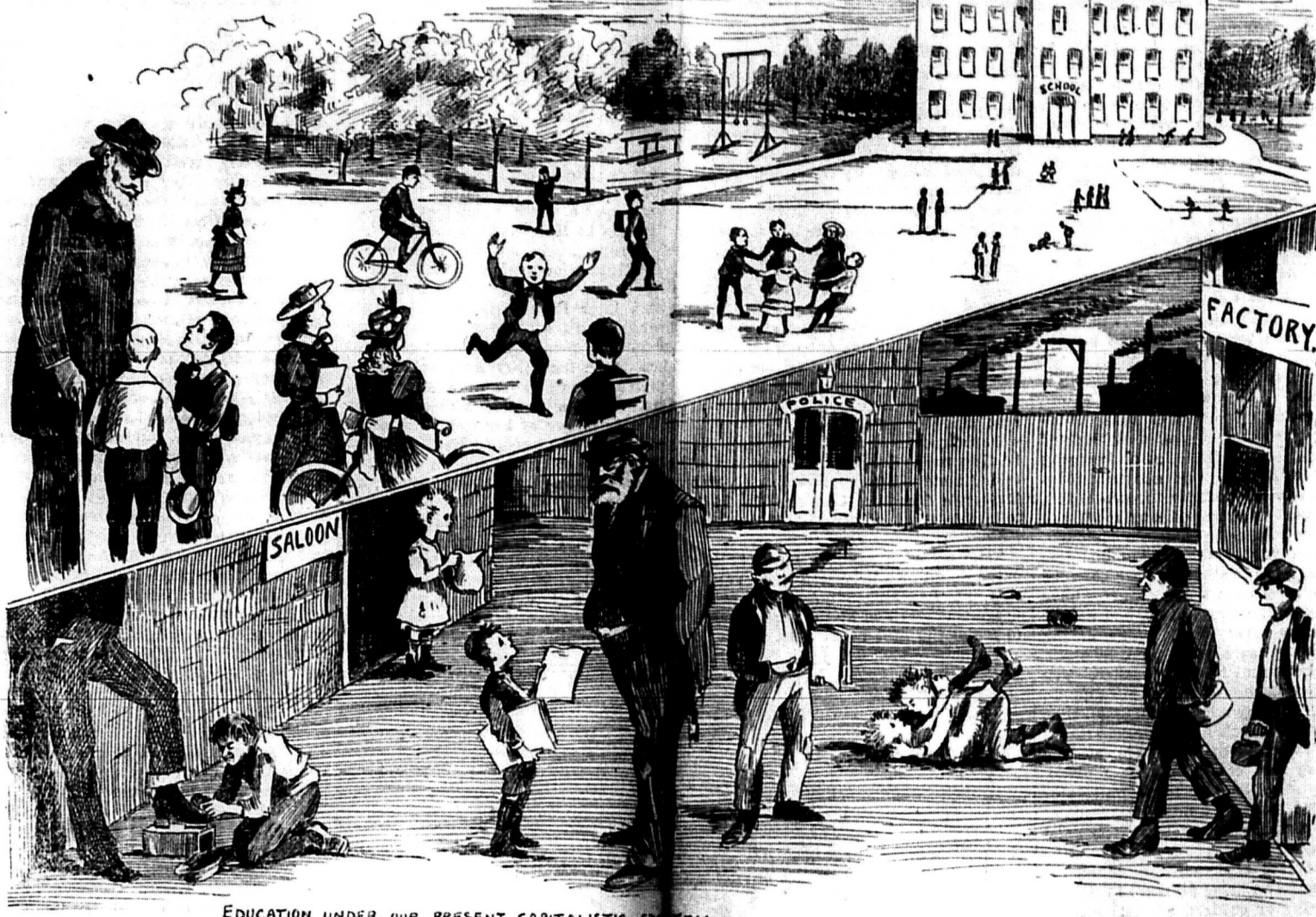
Have the B. T. C. delegates ever con-
sidered the fact that it would be their
sacred duty to be with the Socialist Labor
Party in all its struggles? Would it not
be true unionism to work for and vote for
the same proletarian party that has the
best labor platform that was ever written?

The Socialist candidates do not believe
in promises. They are the servants of their
constituents, of the citizens that have
nominated them. It is their sacred duty
to live up to our platform, and if any of
our candidates should refuse to do so, he
could step down and out. His constituents
would give no pardon.

The time has come when this political
scab work must be stopped, and the rank
and file of the building trades workers
should make it their special mission to
clean their council in a most radical
manner.

The gentlemen of the B. T. C. may de-
cide on the day of the election whether
they favor the party of Labor and Social-
ism, or whether they will continue to be
the tools of the parties of Capitalism. As
long as they are heart and soul with Cap-

HOW SOCIALISTS WANT IT.



EDUCATION UNDER OUR PRESENT CAPITALISTIC SYSTEM.

talism, on election day their unionism will
be a farce and a lie. Respectfully,
G. A. HOERN,
Secretary City Central Committee Socialist
Labor Party, St. Louis, Mo.

P. S.—If the B. T. C. is anxious to have
further explanation on this subject the un-
derlined is ready at any time to appear in
the meeting of the Council and explain the
suspicious confession of political faith of
some of its leading members. G. A. H.

MODERN PROSTITUTION

A Dark Chapter in the Moral Code of
Capitalist Society.

For generations the church and society
have tacitly sanctioned prostitution when
veiled by the respectability accorded by
the marriage ceremony, until we have fal-
len so low that men have come to imagine
they can indulge in licentiousness and de-
bauchery from which the instincts of the
lower animals recoil, and at the same time,
or later, bring children into the world who
will not be cursed with that which is worse
than leprosy or cancer. Indeed, so uni-
versal has become the moral obliquity result-
ing from this age-long degradation that it
is no uncommon thing for a physician to
advise a young man who has literally
burned away the finer sensibilities of his
soul and wrecked his nervous system
through sexual indulgence, to marry some
healthy young girl in order to save himself
from insanity. Any objection which may
be raised is flippantly met by that popular
but infamous apology for lust which car-
ries with it a brutally frank confession of
society's degradation, that the young man
has merely been "sowing his wild oats;"
and in all probability we shall be gravely
informed that he will make all the better
husband for so doing.

No thought is given to the maiden who is
to be polluted by this union with a man
who has wallowed in the mire of sensuality
until his imagination is filled with low and
vile images, his brain has lost its virility,
and his system has become weakened and
permeated with disease. Nor does conven-
tional society, which is so particular about
form, so punctilious in regard to the out-
side of the cup, consider the crime against
the woman or the evil which posterity may
receive from encouraging the generation of
life from a fountain so impure and loath-
some.
B. O. FLOWER.

OUR SOCIALIST PRESS.

What an Australian Paper Has to Say
About It.

The Sydney Socialist, one of the clearest
and most outspoken Socialist paper in Aus-
tralia, heartily endorses the following argu-
ments that have recently appeared in the
S. N. U. papers:

1. "The Socialists must henceforth lead
in the Trades Union movement. Without
Socialism the Labor movement will be a
fiasco."

2. "The Labor paper that does not
come out open and fearlessly for Socialism
cannot claim to be a reform paper."

Speaking of the Socialist press in America
the Sydney Socialist says:

1. "Labor is a lively American Socialist
paper. It has some splendid cartoons."
2. "The chief organ of the American
Socialist Labor Party, The People, is a
credit to our American comrades."

We appeal to all those who love their
country, their home—if they have one—to
all those who love their wives and children,
to join the Socialist Labor party.

WHAT WE ARE NOT

Why Socialists Are Neither
Cranks, Radicals, Reform-
ers Nor Anarchists

In the Capitalist Sense of These
Terms.

Our Party as a Committee of Safety.

Socialists are neither cranks, radicals,
reformers nor anarchists; they are not
cranks because they have more than one
idea in their heads; not radicals, because
they are scientists; not reformers, because
they are revolutionists; not anarchists,
because order, not chaos, is the law.

If a man says, "I am a crank," in nine-
ty-nine cases out of the hundred he will
have a pet idea, which he declares must
take precedence over all others in gaining
relief. He may be strictly logical in his
investigation of one line of social misery
and need, but failing to understand the
cause of the condition, his remedy would
not fit the demand; being a man of one
idea, he has not the correct relation of the
condition he is trying to make better with
other conditions, which must also be im-
proved to get the relief in his special re-
form. So, while we may respect his right
to his opinion, we do not care a whit for
his opinion.

A man may assure one that he is a radical
in most solemn manner; it may mean much
but is likely to mean little. It may be a
mental attitude differing from a narrow
circle about him, it may be a general dis-
sent from the orthodox views of popular
opinion in theology, social customs and
politics. It is likely to mean that he mis-
takes license for liberty, logic for reason
and that he confines his activity to the
mental real realm, or to some freak of per-
sonal conduct.

To declare one's self a reformer carries
with it a certain personal vanity, I am
better than those, I would do you good if
you will do as I say, I will make your con-
dition better, I play the part of fate to you;
there is an element of patronage in it that
prevents persons of self-respect submitting
to having their material conditions im-
proved at an expense of their moral indepen-
dence. Who are you that have authority to
do me good, your proper reception is a slap in the face,
your trade upon my inferiority, reciprocity is
the law of growth, not patronage. You do
not see that I play as necessary a part in the
dramatic conclusion of each civilization as
you. Come now I will have none of your
patronage. You would gain a satisfaction
of mounting a pedestal at my expense,
and so make a further distance between
yourself and me. No, we will not be
partners to your scheme to change con-
ditions in the interest of less democracy
than we at present have. We will wait
until we see how you gain the power to

assume to do us good, then we will take
that power to do ourselves good.

The unconscious knowledge is possessed
by the American workman, and it is the
reason that no so-called reformers can
gather force sufficient to carry the country.
Note the Greenback Party, the Farmers
Alliance and all kindred movements that
are trying to integrate in the People's
Party. Such reformers and reformers
would keep an artificial advantage for
themselves and the class in whose interest
they are active.

The Anarchist sees the isolated facts; he
sees not the co-ordination of facts, not the
unity in the multiplicity of life's social ex-
pression. His stage in evolution is at the
point below, that of civic relation, where
order, not chaos is the law. The anarchist
must, therefore, manifest destruction both
in the mental and material world. In-
gersoll is a destroyer of opinions, Herr
Most, a would-be destroyer of the State;
the dominant expression of both is negative
and aggressive.

The positive and negative poles are one
only to the man or organization who act
from the positive and aggressive point of
view. The most commanding and power-
ful point in this latter position is to express
from the positive, projective position,
having discarded the aggressive, the lower
form of force.

The reply not yet articulated from the
workmen to the above is: We shall move
when we see where to go; we are stagger-
ing about hoping to find our way out of the
slough of despondency so we catch at that,
but, alas! by our tramping the mire grows
thicker and deeper. Some day, over some
of our dead bodies, we are sure our fellows
will climb up to the light shed by social
science held aloft by patriot revolutionists.

Socialism is a doctrine adopted by per-
sons who see that the capitalist class are
slowly looking a world market for the
products of modern industry; who see that
the working class find it more and more
difficult to get work at a steadily reduced
wage; who see that the socialized indus-
tries directed by private persons for private
profit is the base upon which rests com-
mercial corruption, political corruption
and intellectual corruption; who see that
the rich in gaining profits commit theft;
that men in command of the governmental
power commit murder and that intellectual
workers must stultify their reasoning
faculties and their artistic sense to keep in
favor with master mammon.

In a word, Socialism is the science of
social life accepted by persons who know
of the organic unity of human life; of the
political and industrial organism, who,
knowing somewhat of the law of its
growth, seek to apply their knowledge in
conformity with natural evolution to the
environment in which they find them-
selves.

Socialism is neither a foreign nor a native
product it is at home in all parts of the
world. Its philosophy, its history and its
application is universal. It manifests more
fully in one direction in some countries and
in other directions in other countries and
still in other countries it is more even in its
expression. It is the right in the third
democracy, economic equality of
opportunity to which mankind
is becoming conscious and
so beginning more and more to make a
start for. Its past stretches down to the

advent of man upon this planet, and its
perfection will transform the warring,
jauling world by uniting mankind in a
harmony heard now only by the truly
great. Says Wagner: "From possession"
which have become private property, and
which now, strangely enough, are regarded
as the very foundation of good order,
spring all the crimes, both of myth and of
history."

The cranks, the radicals, the reformers
and anarchists may follow in the wake of
civilization they cannot lead. They may
throw their petty measures in the rising
flood of revolution, which shall break
down the dam of present order.

The Socialist Labor Party is the commit-
tee of safety to which all honest men may
come. They will take the whole front and
brunt of the battle which is coming in ever
increasing force; they alone have founda-
tion deep and broad and strong to stand
against the courage.

MARTHA MOORE AVERY.
Boston, Mass.

"Strike while the iron's hot!"
Sure you have not forgot
Our father's plan;
Claim pure democracy,
Down with plutocracy!
Stamp out hypocrisy!
We surely can.
Cease now to be a tool
Under King Mammon's rule,
Strike for your own!
Let us the laws repair,
Where now the millionaire,
Seizing the lion's share,
Leaves us the bone.

The Associated Press circulated the fol-
lowing telegram. "A New Party."

"OMAHA, Neb., Feb. 16.—A new national
political party was born in Omaha to-night.
Two hundred laboring men organized it.
'Gen.' Kelley of Industrial Army fame pre-
sided. Following is the pledge:
'Recognizing the necessity of labor or-
ganizing for its protection, we, the under-
signed, do pledge ourselves to the support
of no political party other than the party of
labor, and we hereby renounce any and all
political affiliation with the Republican,
Democratic and Populist parties.'"
The party of labor spoken of in this reso-
lution is the Socialist Labor Party.

The Socialist is as good a Trade Unionist
as the next one, but we cannot help mak-
ing the assertion that trades unions, with
all their agitation for shorter hours, cannot
keep pace with the rapid development of
labor-saving machinery, and the consequent
growth of the number of unem-
ployed. He is where the power of Trade
Unionism ends and the power of Socialism
begins.

America is the wealthiest country on
earth! Look at the thousands of millions
of dollars in the hands of an untitled aris-
tocracy—the thousands of millions of dol-
lars as the certificate of ownership of all
the products robbed from the human work-
ing bees! And on the other hand? There
we see the ever increasing army of starving
men and women and children—a starving
nation.

Socialism can only be realized by political
means. Consequently it requires a political
party to undertake this work and such a
party must necessarily be a Socialist party—
a Socialist Labor Party.

We welcome every honest man and wo-
man in our ranks.

SCIENCE AND NATURE

Synopsis of a Lecture Deliv-
ered by Dr. Yurss

At Academy of Social Science in
Milwaukee.

I hold that every individual shall be in
possession of the necessary comforts of life.
What I mean to say is that the greed of
knowledge shall be fostered instead of the
greed of gold.

I am pleased to see that we have here in
our midst a society whose object it is to
study social science. Be persistent in your
noble work.

Social science is as comprehensible as it is
important. It is a science that concerns us
all. Social science leads you into the se-
crets of nature; it teaches you of the past,
present and future. It informs you of your
social conditions; it tells you of the social
affairs of the future, just as well as of the
present. It was by the means of social
science that Karl Marx was able to predict
trusts at a time when most of us were in
the cradle. But Marx did not only predict
the coming of the trust, the victory of the
trust, but also the downfall of the trust.

The trust rises out of the present indus-
trial and commercial competition. It soon
reaches its climax and its downfall is in-
evitable. Marx could with safety predict
not only the rise and victory, but also the
downfall of the trust.

Every science is and must be in harmony
with nature, for if it is not in accordance
with nature it is not a science. We are an
intrinsic part of nature. All things in
nature and that all matter, are in constant
motion.

Place your hand upon a red hot stove
and, if you have previously not been con-
scious of the fact that you cannot break
the laws of nature, without inflicting
punishment, then you will now at last be-
come conscious of an intense pain. You
have violated a law of nature and you have
immediately received your reward in the
shape of pain and loss of tissue.

You can accomplish nothing with
empty phrases. Your arguments must be
based on a firm foundation—on scientific
grounds. Your enemies do not fear vain
talk, but they do fear knowledge. They
are aware of the fact that knowledge is
power, and consequently, it is their desire
to keep the masses in ignorance, for other-
wise they cannot subjugate them.

Science, if interpreted falsely, may hinder
development and prevent progress; if
interpreted rightly it may assist in develop-
ing our economic conditions. These ideas
of natural inequalities, of high and low,
of rich and poor, have become so firmly
fixed in the minds of the majority of indi-
viduals, that it is extremely difficult to
liberate the people from these preconceived
ideas. If science concerns anybody it con-
cerns the laborers—both the laboring man
and woman. It is only too true that the
laborer has only very little time to spare
for these matters, but it is true also, and
this infinitely worse, that he is as a gen-
eral thing too pliant. Ah, yes! his
oppressor has him just where he wants
him—down, ignorant and humiliated. But
I am happy to say that there are brilliant
exceptions to this rule: amongst the labor-
ers we also find wise, intelligent and noble
men.

The great majority of the people to-day
have no wants beyond the purely animal
wants, a full stomach, a pipe and a glass
of beer satisfy all their wants. The falsity
of our present social condition is clearly
demonstrable by means of science; science
can demonstrate to a nicety the inconsisten-
cies of our present individual competitive
lieve that our present system is in harmony
system. Your opponents will have you be-
with nature, but science teaches us the re-
verse, and, furthermore, science teaches
us that opposition to nature inevitably re-
sults in ruin. There is no necessity for So-
cialists to demolish the present "order of
things." No, not at all. This system de-
stroy itself and nobody is working more
diligently to this end than the capitalist
and the trust.

All that is required is that you become
familiar with the principles upon which na-
ture operates; it is necessary only to
have the outlines. Nature is consistent,
always operating upon the same prin-
ciples. If you have grasped these principles,
then you will be able to comprehend one
phenomenon as well as the other.

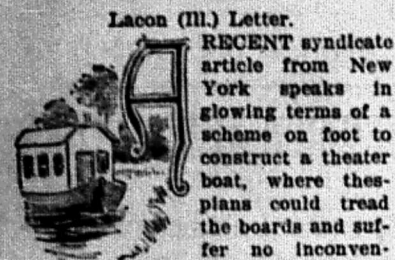
Had Galileo simply made the assertion
that the sun does not revolve about the
earth, but that the earth revolves about the
sun, in all probability nobody would have
paid any attention to him, but Galileo came
forward with scientific evidence and proved
that the earth revolves about the sun.
This was too much for the clergy; this was
contrary to their doctrines. Galileo was
persecuted as you all know but could they
strangle the truth? No! Truth prevails.
So we can to-day say with Galileo: "It
moves for all that."

True service shield you from deception
in any shape or form. I must once more
urge the members of this society onward,
and to be untiring in their efforts. I would
advise you to institute a series of lectures
on these subjects. Get able men—men
who can tell you more than I can. I would
request the ladies and gentlemen who are
not members of this society to assist this
society in its noble undertaking.

ON A THEATER BOAT.

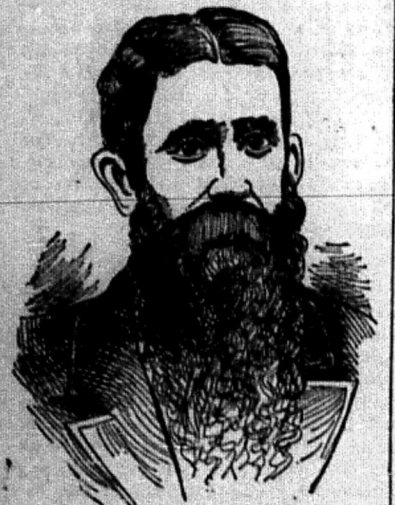
STAGE LIFE ON THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER.

Floating Craft That Journey from Place to Place Furnish Amusement in River Towns—Actors Prefer the Pleasant Trips to Railroad Tours.



Lacon (Ill.) Letter.
RECENT syndicate article from New York speaks in glowing terms of a scheme on foot to construct a theater boat, where the plans could tread the boards and suffer no inconveniences of the one-night stands, and the tie-pass joke would drop into oblivion. The author went on to advance the assertion that the idea originated in Russia, where a St. Petersburg syndicate had built a great floating theater 400 feet in length and 40 feet in width. The truth of the matter is, that the idea is strictly American, and pronouncedly Mississippian. For years the theater boat has been a fixture on the Mississippi river and its tributaries, and if one showboat at least did not make a date in the towns along the rivers each season the inhabitants thereof would think something was wrong.

The theater boat is part of the Illinois river craft. Foremost of these play houses are French's boats. He is the proprietor of two of the handsomest floating palaces in the world, known as French's New Sensations. "Les melleurs compagnons qui voyagent." His



CAPT. FRENCH.
territory is from the Monongahela to the gulf, from St. Paul to New Orleans, and he is patiently awaiting the opening of the ship waterway to Lake Michigan, so that he may entertain the people of Chicago with an innovation.

Mr. French manages the No. 2 boat, while Mrs. French not only manages the No. 1 boat, but pilots it also. At present they are in southern waters, working a field they have visited annually for the last twenty years.

The first intimation the people of the river towns have of the coming of the boat is the arrival of the craft itself. The stillness of some quiet morning is suddenly broken by the notes of a steam calliope, and in five minutes every boy in town is at the river's bank, and among the townspeople it is spoken to one another: "The theater boat is here." Thus in five minutes the boat has made its presence well known. There are no bill boards, no newspaper advertising, no lithographs, no advance sale—nothing but a steam calliope. At noon a brass band parades the streets, and again in the evening, as a gentle reminder, the calliope and band are heard.

French's show last year was better than usual. His boat, also, was better, and had just left the decorator's hands, who had placed landscapes all over its sides. The interior was a marvel of elaborateness, and, in theatrical detail, perfect. When once inside of the boat one could not imagine he was in any other than the finest theater in all these parts. There was the correct staging, a full orchestra, the boxes, electric lights, the dress circle, parquet, gallery and lobby. Trained ushers seated the patrons, the order was perfect, and withal the credulous were much disappointed in finding things in such good shape and under such good management. The performance was a high-



MRS. FRENCH.
class vaudeville, including lyrics by the Patten, Ada Seeker, Prof. Wambold, Leggett, Carleton sisters, Kelly and Burgess, Heath and Cadd and others. The program caused much solid fun.

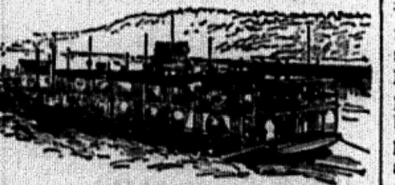
The general admission is 35 cents, 10 cents extra for reserved seats and 15 cents for the gallery. The house at this point was worth \$125. The expenses are light, for the actors do not command, neither do they ask, the salaries they receive on the stage proper.

"It is this way," said Mr. French. "The actors get tired of the heat and dust and foul air and overwork of the cities, or they are sick from one-night stands, and they say to themselves: 'Well, I'll go down and show with old man French as a sort of vacation,' and they come. Salary is a secondary consideration. Sometimes I am overrun with these fellows, and I cannot afford to pay them salaries, so they do a turn or two at each performance just for their board and lodging. I pay salaries after each performance and am very strict with the boys, maybe too much so, but then in a big family, such as I have here on the boat, discipline has to be severe. I carry about forty people. My expenses run about \$70 each show day. There is now as good money in the business as there was years ago. Other boats have failed, but it was because they run their shows too loose. Mine are strictly moral. I allow no act or word that tends to vulgarity, and to these things I attribute my success."

French's No. 2 is towed by a steamer known as Ruth, a powerful stern-wheeler. It shoves the massive hulk before it. The pilot steers from the pilot house on the theater boat, where he has arranged a perfect system of whistles. It is no small undertaking to handle the boat in heavy wind or strong current, and one would think the massive ark would swing the small steamer at will. So it would were it not for a piece of machinery which winds up ropes from either side and can manipulate the large boat at command of the engineer, twisting it clear around if needs be. The quarters of the actors are in front, where they have handsomely appointed rooms, well lighted and ventilated. There is a lounging room for the men, and a sitting room with a sewing machine for the ladies, and a parlor where all may meet and enjoy themselves or entertain company. Below, in front, is the box and business office, and to the other side the barn for the two horses and a dog kennel. Above in the rear the stage hands and engine men have their rooms. The dining room is used as a green room at night, and is back and below the stage. The calliope is in the rear of the pilot house, and is played by a little Dutchman with powerful strength in his fingers and a wad of cotton in each ear. He can play anything that can be put on a piano, and his selections are really entertaining. One hundred and sixty pounds of steam pressure is necessary for good results.

The actors come on the stage refreshed after a day's pleasure in fishing or hunting or rowing, not fatigued by an early rise or long journey, or at out with the world from poor hotel accommodations and riding in crowded omnibuses, or tired from getting trunks in shape at the theater. It is one long midsummer's dream for them. They do cast a tear now and then for their poor friends on the Rialto, sweltering in heat and enveloped in dust, and wonder when all touring companies will travel by boat and revolutionize barnstorming and one night stands. Those who have been stranded at some junction place with their things in the hands of a village constable and the manager out of money and all that, smile to contemplate the change. There would be no stranding with a floating theater, as it could break loose from its moorings and float down stream, even if the manager had no money to buy coal to steam up stream.

It is said that all the best show towns, from a theatrical standpoint, are those which have a water front, and there are hundreds of them. The thing might be overdone with too many floating pal-



A THEATER BOAT.
aces, but it hardly seems possible. Mr. Arnold, proprietor of the Floating chapel now tied up for the winter at Lacon, has visited river towns for the last seven years, and he was at no town twice, except as he came down the Illinois river on his return trip.

Mummies of Mexico.
In different places, including Guanajuato, Mexico, has a display of comparatively modern mummies, and of catacombs. The practice prevails, as in Barcelona and some other European communities, of renting tomb space for the use of a corpse. In Mexico, if at the expiration of the original term there is no renewal of the lease, the corpse is evicted and dumped into an extensive underground chamber. If in the dry air the evicted mummies as he stands against the wall; if he tumbles to pieces his bones join the vast miscellaneous heap. The Guanajuato catacomb is ghastly enough to satisfy the most exacting connoisseur of the grew some.

Our Country.
We are great geographically, great in climate, great in wealth, in undeveloped resources, in unparalleled possessions, and in those elements which go to make up a great nation, as the world reckons greatness. Our poets, historians, writers, philosophers and professional men and women will compare most favorably with any similar number of men and women in any age of the world's history.—Rev. H. D. Farar.

Soap in Sheets.
Soap abroad is now made in the form of sheets and sold travelers who object to the use of hotel soaps or those used in public places. It is sold in 100-sheet books, each sheet being about the size of an ordinary bank check.

OLD TIME SINGERS.

TWO NOTED SONG BIRDS OF LONG AGO.

Theresa Tietjens Lived and Died the Queen of Opera—Ilma di Murska's Meteoric Career—Her Tragic Death in Hungary.



LIKE ALL HER celebrated predecessors, Theresa Tietjens gave promise of exceptional vocal talent during her early childhood, a childhood passed in a small bier keller, which was kept by her Magyar parents at Hamburg, and from which, in 1849, she emerged at the age of eighteen to startle the sturdy burghers by her magnetic vocalization of the titular role in "Lucroza Borgia." The Hamburg Theater, being sustained in part by the municipality, catered only to intellectual and fastidious audiences; therefore, at that period a Hamburg indorsement proved to be a passport to all the leading German opera houses.

Tietjens, although not what may be termed handsome, was, physically, a magnificent specimen of statuesque womanhood, and her splendid soprano voice exercised such irresistible charm and influence upon the public, as well as upon the artists associated with her, that slovenly operatic interpretations were unknown when Tietjens sang the leading part. In proof of this Benjamin Lumley, the impresario of Her Majesty's Theater, London, in 1858, tells this story of her gift of magnetism:

"The occasion was the much anticipated debut of Mile. Tietjens as Valentina, in 'Les Huguenots,' when every nerve was strained by the management to make the first night a success. To



TIETJENS.

none were fortune and fame more at stake than to Mile. Tietjens," wrote Lumley. "That she realized her critical position was attested by her exciting bursts of animation at rehearsals. Her powerful tones rang through the theater and kindled the latent fire of Gluglini, the tenor, until all artists vied with each other in the musical declamation and dramatic power that made these rehearsals really brilliant performances; and it was generally feared that the new soprano would utterly swamp the popular tenor. 'He will never be able to cope with that powerful voice in the last act,' said one; while another wisely prophesied, 'She will completely swallow up Gluglini.' But on the eventful night the magnetic inspiration of Tietjens was so great that the tenor was fairly carried out of himself and



ILMA DI MURSKA.
sang Raoul as he had never sung the part before."

Tietjens' repertory covered the works of the great masters of the first half of the century, but her most notable triumphs were made as Leonora, in "Il Trovatore," and Alice, in "Roberto il Diavolo." In the last named opera, she was a second Jenny Lind, as her glorious voice thrilled through the house in a flood of melody unmarred by

a single faulty tone. Rarely has the music of Donna Anna, Fidelio, and Valentina been sung as originally written, but the powerful and extensive range of Tietjens' voice enabled her to dispense with accommodating transpositions.

For many years Colonel Mapleson was Tietjens' manager; and it is just twenty years ago that Maurice and Max Strakosch introduced Mile. Tietjens to her first American audience at Steinway Hall, in an oratorio given by the New York Choral Union (with P. S. Gilmore as conductor), and to immediate favor. Subsequently she appeared in a round of grand operas at the Academy of Music, and became very popular, especially in Bellini's "Norma," and in "Il Trovatore."

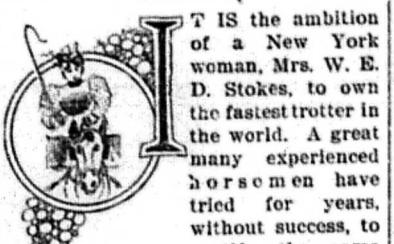
The following season found this superb artist at her old post in the London grand opera, and later on in oratorio and concert, enjoying what may be called the affections of the unmusical tight little islanders; but Tietjens had now become afflicted with fainting spells and after an intensely dramatic interpretation of Lucroza, at Her Majesty's Theater, in May, 1877, the great curtain of her life dropped slowly and finished the career of a glorious singer and a brave, noble woman.

It was in 1870 that the musical folk of Europe proclaimed the voice of the new Hungarian prima donna, Ilma di Murska, to be phenomenal, and two years later Impresario Max Maretzek brought her from London to New York in the very prime of her vocal capabilities. Such flexibility and such an extensive range had Di Murska, that she was deemed a marvel; in fact, she was the only singer of her time who could warble the great aria in "Il Flauto Magico" in its original key. In early life she was married to General Elder, an Austrian field marshal, but her eccentricities caused a separation from her husband, and her daughter was then left with friends while she toured Europe to fill numerous engagements, in which, for a time, the flexibility, compass, and beauty of her voice held opera patrons captive.

HER HARNESS RACERS.

MRS. STOKES WANTS TO OWN THE QUEEN OF THE TURF.

Critics Think She Has the Coming Champion in Beuzetta—Is Now in Training Under Hickok on the Pacific Slope.



IT IS the ambition of a New York woman, Mrs. W. E. D. Stokes, to own the fastest trotter in the world. A great many experienced horsemen have tried for years, without success, to gratify the same ambition. Where there are from 20,000 to 30,000 harness horses in training every year and only one champion, it is a lucky owner who draws the capital prize. Robert Bonner is the only patron of trotting who ever owned more than one turf champion, and he has spent upward of half a million dollars to gratify his liking for the distinctively American type of horse. Mrs. Stokes came into possession of her first noted trotter last October, on the twentieth anniversary of her birthday, when her husband presented the splendid four-year-old filly Beuzetta to her, and unless a majority of the critics of harness racing are wrong in their opinion, the fair young horsewoman now owns the coming queen of the turf.

Everybody who follows the doings of the trotters knows all about Beuzetta, 2:06 1/4. She was raised in the Blue Grass region of Kentucky and, like most of the noted ones, she was thought to be of little account when a young thing, although bred in the height of fashion. The filly had a will of her own and a strong one, for nobody could induce her to trot until Trainer Gus Macey got on the good side of her in the summer of 1893. Edward Ayres, the breeder of Beuzetta, prized her so lightly that he sent her to New York in 1892 to be sold at one of the big auction sales of trotting stock. If Mr. Stokes had liked Beuzetta as well then as he did the next time the filly came to New York he might have saved about \$16,000, for the skittish little daughter of Onward and Beulah was knocked down for \$500, an agent of the owner bidding her in and sending her back to Kentucky. Macey started Beuzetta in a couple of races as a two-year-old, but she failed to win, and she was so little known to horsemen that when her driver cut her loose at Maysville in August, 1894, winning a race and a record of 2:15 1/4, her name was heralded throughout the country as Beuzetta.

A month later the great three-year-old trotted in 2:12 1/4 at Indianapolis, and in October at Lexington she won the richest prize in the history of harness racing by defeating some of the best colts of the year for the Kentucky Futurity, worth \$23,430 to the winner. Her greatest performances last season took place at Buffalo and New York. At the former meeting she defeated Klamath by trotting the fastest fourth heat on record, 2:06 1/4, and at Fleetwood Park, when lame from the effects of a bruised heel and with one shoe off, she forced Azote out in 2:06 1/4.

Peter Duryea had been negotiating for Beuzetta before this race, and had just offered Mr. Ayres \$16,500 for her when the starter shouted "Go!" in the second heat. The Kentuckian hesitated. Mr. Duryea raised his arm, pointed to the flying filly as she rushed away at her utmost speed in pursuit of Azote down the Fleetwood hill, and, turning to Ayres who stood near him on the club house steps, called out:

"Sixteen thousand five hundred. Who does she belong to?"

"She is yours," answered Ayres as solemnly as though he were pronouncing the death sentence on his favorite trotter. A few weeks afterward Stokes bought Beuzetta privately from his friend, Duryea, and in October presented it to Mrs. Stokes.



MRS. W. E. D. STOKES.
As soon as Beuzetta changed hands she was sent to the noted driver, Orin A. Hickok, at Oakland, Cal. The latter, it is said, has got the high-toned daughter of Onward going so that she will trot either a 3:00 gait or a 2:00 gait at her driver's will. Hickok doesn't care a fig about beating the world's record with Beuzetta, although he believes her capable of doing the trick. He would rather campaign her and make a big "killing" with her somewhere in the

Grand Circuit, but Mrs. Stokes wishes to see her trotter lower the colors of Aliz, and it is settled that this will be the first consideration in Beuzetta's campaign next season.

Jockey Scherr, while at the post in the third race, at New Orleans, La., was kicked in the leg, so that he will not be able to ride for some time, although he stayed on Fannie Rowena and won the race.

W. W. BLACK.

Short Sketch of a Rising Star in the Theatrical Firmament.

W. W. Black was born at Irvington, N. Y., Aug. 10, 1861, and moved with his parents to Columbus, Ohio. He made his professional debut with C. M. Gardner's "Only a Farmer's Daughter" company, in 1879, playing the part of an English butler. Upon leaving that company he resolved to utilize his fine basso voice in the field of negro minstrelsy, and to this end secured an engagement with Austin & Weir's Minstrels, remaining with them for one season only. He next joined Simmons & Rankin's Minstrels, and subsequently joined McNish, Johnson & Slavin's Co., remaining with the latter organization for two seasons. He was next engaged by W. T. Bryant to play an Irish character in "Keep It Dark," and in this role he was so thoroughly satisfactory that he was re-engaged for the two following seasons. While playing this role he was seen by E. E. Rice, who thereupon engaged him as the basso of the Clipper Quartet in Henry E. Dixey's "Adonis" and "Seven Ages" Burlesque companies. During this engagement he met and married Carrie E. Perkins, an accomplished and well known actress, who has won much fame in comedy and burlesque roles. His next engagement was with Donnelly & Girard's "Natural Gas" Co., in which he assumed the role of the broker. The following season Mr. Black and his wife were engaged



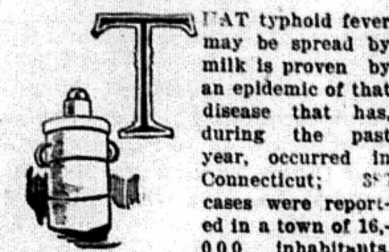
W. W. BLACK.
by Charles H. Yale to play the principal roles in "The Devil's Auction." He was next engaged by Thos. Q. Seabrooke for the role of the sailor in "The Isle of Champagne," after which he joined Hallen and Hart, in "Later On," in which he played the part of Colonel Hayseed. Upon the expiration of this contract he was engaged to impersonate De Wolf Hopper in "The Merry World." He is at present appearing in E. E. Rice's "Excelsior Jr.," at Hammerstein's Olympia, in New York City. Mr. Black is of fine physique and excellent carriage; he is a clever actor and an excellent singer, possessing a basso voice of unusual range and superior quality.

THE WHEEL.
There are more old-style wheels ridden in Washington than in any other city in the country. The Chicago bicycle show was a great success. It is claimed that on some days the attendance aggregated 20,000 people. The total membership of the L. A. W. on January 6 was 38,703. Of this number 10,048 are in New York state. The idea of cycling policemen is gradually working westward. It is said now that St. Louis will be the next city to adopt the new idea. The banquet reception, etc., given at the Atlanta Exposition by Manufacturer Coleman, is said to have cost that gentleman about \$10,000, which, considering the advertising he got out of it, was very cheap. It is rumored that Eddie Bald and Fred Titus will go abroad to try to lower the colors of the French professionals. The bottom seems to have dropped out of Isaac B. Potter's scheme to transfer the racing end of the L. A. W. to some athletic organization. As time rolls on the impression grows that Messrs. Titus, Cabanne and Murphy were honestly convicted, and now there is little expression of sympathy for them. At El Paso, recently, J. S. Johnson had a special trial on the El Paso track, making a half mile in 1 minute 1 2/5 seconds. He made one-third of a mile in 39 seconds against a strong wind. John S. Johnson announces his intention of leaving for Paris early in February, providing Michael, the European champion, with whom he has arranged a match, posts his \$500 forfeit by that time. While abroad he will probably enter the international Olympian games, to be held at Athens next year. Several leading colleges of this country are desirous of organizing an intercollegiate cycling association, securing the abolishment of the two-mile championship usually held at the annual meeting of the Intercollegiate Athletic association, and substituting in its stead a purely cycling meet in the spring of each year. Wildidle, a well known and valuable stallion, the property of Naglee Burke, died recently in California, where he was shipped in 1875. Among his best known get have been Jim Douglas, Sin-fax, Nomad, Filtration, Wildwood, Al-faretta and Flambeau, the last named horse being the sire of Cresendo. Vincton won the Pomey Sec Handicap at the Bay District track, San Francisco, Cal., recently, going the mile in 1:39 1/4, thus establishing a new coast record. Jockey Washam, while at the post in the last race on Bob Neville, at New Orleans, La., was kicked by Tommy Rutter, his leg being broken just above the ankle.

POPULAR SCIENCE.

INTERESTING NOTES OF INVENTION AND DISCOVERY.

Utilizing Waste Products—The Germ Theory—A New Fly-Wheel Trick with Glasses—Humane Nature in Dogs—How Milk Is Often Infected.



THAT typhoid fever may be spread by milk is proven by an epidemic of that disease that has, during the past year, occurred in Connecticut; 53 cases were reported in a town of 16,000 inhabitants. Children who partook largely of milk were usually the victims, as one-third of the whole number were among children under ten years of age. As a point of interest, investigation showed that out of the 336 cases, 350 were in families who took milk of the same dealer. Other patients had milk from the same supply, but through second or third hands. The disease did not break out in the families either of the dealer or the producer, therefore there seemed to be a natural inference that the cows were not in any way diseased, but that the milk was contaminated by having the cans washed in impure water. It is the custom of some milkmen to wash their cans in boiling water in which soda is dissolved, then afterward rinse them in boiling water. If this were done, one source of danger would be removed, as boiling destroys a large proportion of the various disease germs with which water may be infected.

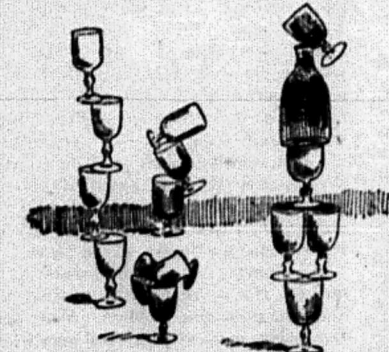
Utilizing Waste Products.

For many years the slag from blast furnaces accumulated in unsightly piles, and no one knew what to do with it. Modern methods and modern machinery have, however, made it possible to work this hitherto useless and cumbersome heap into a substance that is of the highest value in many ways. The slag is melted in a large pot, from which it slowly trickles out through a spout. The instant it reaches the air it meets a high-pressure steam jet which blows it into shreds and carries it into a large storage bin, where it falls a mass of light, soft matter, which is called mineral wool. The force of the jet that carries it into the storage-room grades it by gravitation. The coarser and heavier parts drop near the entrance to the room, and those that are lighter proceed farther on, until at the extreme end a dust-like cloud is formed, which settles in a puffy mass like fine down. The product is then gathered up and packed in suitable receptacles for market. It is afterward made into articles of various sorts, and is extensively used for packing. As a material for deadening walls and covering steam pipes and cold-storage walls it is extremely valuable, being one of the best non-conductors, and, of course, strictly fireproof. A variety of sandstone and certain rocks are melted and blown in the same way and for the same purpose. This is unquestionably one of the marvels of modern invention, and is as simple as the product is useful. A thousand pounds of wool per hour is the capacity of an ordinary plant.

Balancing Tricks with Glasses.

The accompanying illustration may lead you, at first, to think that it represents several feats that only a skillful juggler can perform, says a Philadelphia exchange, but when we shall have given you an explanation of the apparently precarious positions in which the glasses are placed, you will see that any one with steady nerves, and a little patience, may readily accomplish everything here pictured. The first thing to do is to practice standing one glass upon another in such a way that the axis of the upper one shall be a prolongation of the side of its support. Care should be taken that glasses as nearly alike as possible be used, and that the table on which they are placed be perfectly level, for even a slight variation from this rule may make a failure of your experiment.

The second exercise consists in balancing the body and foot of one glass upon the rim of another, as shown in the middle figure of the cut. At the back may be seen a way of doubling



this experiment, with hardly any additional risk.

Two glasses may also be balanced, side by side, in the mouth of a third. Their feet must not touch the body of the third glass; they are simply bedded on their support, and it is strange to see how, in consequence of their exact juxtaposition, neither of them shows any inclination to swerve or to tumble off.

It may be remarked that this latter feat is not so much an experiment in equilibrium as a new and curious arrangement to puzzle a late-comer to the dinner-table.

Thanks to the exactitude of the geometrical form of your glass, you may, with a little practice and a little audacity, succeed in making stranger su-

perpositions still, and the pyramid that we show on the right will seem to you after awhile as mere child's play.

A New Fly-Wheel.

The tendency of a fly-wheel to disintegrate from centrifugal force is well understood. This peculiarity has led to the invention of a new fly-wheel that is said to be far superior to anything previously used. To a hub is attached wound wire filling the space between disks about twenty feet in diameter. This wire is number five steel wire and is securely fastened in place. The wheel is driven at a speed of about 240 revolutions per minute, giving a peripheral velocity of 2 8-10 miles per minute. This is equal to about 250 feet per second. It requires about 250 miles of wire to fill the disks of a wheel of this size. Among the experiments under consideration are paper wheels. The tensile strength of paper is greater than that of many metals, and paper rims on wheels are looked upon with favor.

Remarkable Intelligence and Humanity.

The accompanying cut represents an act of intelligence and humanity on the part of two white and tan terriers, who brought a wounded collie by the shortest cut through various alleys, past the back entrance, to the front door of the hospital, for surgical treatment.

The collie had an artery cut in his right fore leg, and the course taken by the dogs from the place of accident to the front door of the hospital was traced by the blood.

The patient was surgically treated at



the hospital and recovered, and no fact can be better substantiated than the one represented by the above picture.

The Germ Theory.

What the world owes to Louis Pasteur the world's great vocabulary is incompetent to express. Through his researches, and those of the students who have come after him, the light has been turned upon what has hitherto been total darkness. Doubt, experiments and uncertainty have given way to precision and accuracy in diagnosis. As the farmer knows that the chinch bug is the cause of his withered crops, so the physician knows that the bacillus of certain diseases brings about certain symptoms. The microscope is the physician's reliance. A few drops of blood, a bit of tissue, a little perspiration brought under the eye of this magic assistant will tell him at once the cause and progress of the disease. And it is not alone the physician who benefits by this knowledge. The farmer, the vineyardist, the dairyman, the stock-raiser, the cultivator of the silk-worm and the enthusiast on bees are alike indebted to the discoverer of the germ-origin of disease for invaluable aids in their business. A necessity for the near future is an improvement in microscopes and their cheapening, so that knowledge of germs may become more widespread. Every township should have its bacteriologist and its microscopic equipment. There is no study more interesting, and none that is so important to humanity.

A Field for Inventors.

The offer has been made by distillers and brewers of a reward for the discovery or invention of a bottle that could not be refilled after its contents had been once removed. Brewers and distillers complain that they suffer serious losses because unauthorized persons buy up empty bottles, refill them, closely imitate the labels and style of putting up, and put these unwarranted productions upon the market as genuine goods. A non-refillable bottle is, therefore, among the needed inventions. Just how it is to be made no one is able to give the slightest idea. One of the largest distilleries in the country claims to have been looking for years for just this sort of thing, but without avail. It is hardly possible to make a bottle that might not be emptied and refilled by ingenious persons. Even though it could be so arranged that it could not be filled at the neck, a piece could readily be cut out, then cemented in again in such a way as practically to escape detection.

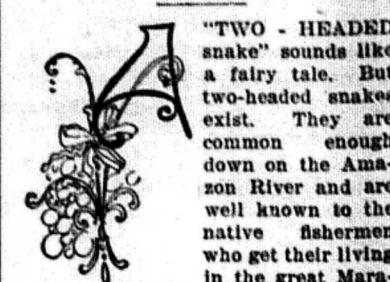
A New Fire-Proof Safe.

By order of the German government's banking officials, experiments have been made with a safe composed of steel wires and cement. It had been debated whether practical fire-proof vaults could be constructed of this material, and the tests were made to settle this point, with the following result: A safe was placed upon a pyre of bags and drenched with kerosene, which, after being set on fire, kept the safe for half an hour exposed to a heat of 1,800 degrees Fahrenheit—that is, a heat in which iron will melt. Two hours after, the safe was opened and the contents, silk, paper, draft blanks, and a maximum thermometer were found to be absolutely uninjured, and the maximum thermometer showed that within the safe the temperature at no time during the test rose above 85 degrees.

TWO-HEADED SNAKES.

SOME INTERESTING SOUTH AMERICAN REPTILES.

They Have Only One Mouth—The Second Head Is Sightless and There Seems to Be No Real Use for It.



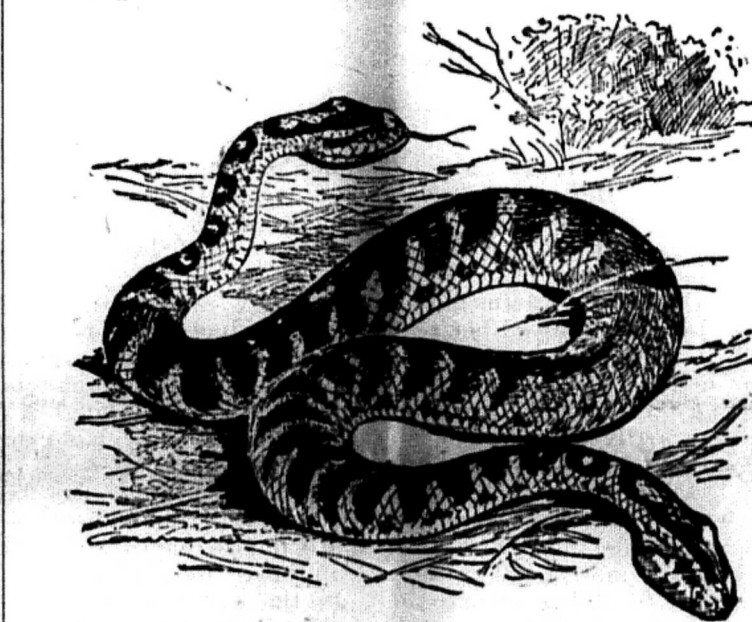
jo Bay, along the Locatines River, and in the smaller rivers running out of the bay and around the city of Para, on the coast of Brazil.

Sometimes an inquisitive traveler in those regions, hearing talk of "two-headed snakes," will openly scoff at the idea. "Two-headed snakes, indeed! That is a story for the marines." The native fisherman does not waste time in natural history discussions with the sneerer. "Seeln's believin'" is his creed.

He just starts out, catches a few of these two-headed water-snakes, and lets the incredulous traveler see for himself that well-known product of South America.

The body of this snake is striped, giving it somewhat the appearance of a common garter snake. It is usually from one to three feet long. When gliding along it might be mistaken for a large eel, but when caught the remarkable fact is discovered that it possesses a perfectly formed and symmetrical head at each end of its long body. The two heads are almost precisely alike in form, color and general appearance; one of them is very slightly smaller than the other. This is the second head of the snake.

But the eyes of this second head are



THREE SNAKES DOUBLED UP.

sightless, and the mouth is only a dummy mouth, the snake providing for his living at the other head, which is the principal one. The second head is, apparently, more for ornament than use, although it is so perfect a deception that a close examination is necessary to detect the working head from the ornamental one.

Owing to a peculiarity in the snake's method of coming to the surface of the water to breathe, some observers have thought that this second head possessed some respiratory powers. In swimming near the surface of the water the snake always protrudes both heads above it, his body describing the shape of a letter U. If the traveler were in a near-by boat he might think two snakes were resting lovingly side by side. This phenomenon of the two heads of one snake taking an airing is an ordinary affair in the bay of Marajo.

The fishermen down there catch them in baited baskets or nets as they would eels, or after the style of the small boy who goes crabbing. However, they are not thought very highly of as food when plenty of better food is obtainable.

The Portuguese fisherman who finds them in his eel-basket or fish-net, is more likely to cross himself with a muttered "Maria!" and throw them back into the water than to carry them home with him. A creature so unearthly as to possess a double allowance of heads is scarcely safe eating for a good Christian.

Some of these snakes have been brought to this country. Michael Gomez, an old Portuguese sailor, who has settled at Wilmington, Del., has three of the creatures preserved in alcohol. When he caught them in the bay of Marajo he tied all six of their heads together, winding a string tightly

around their six necks, and thrust them into a bottle of spirits. And so they exist to-day.

Now that the sea serpent has been officially recognized by Germany we cannot afford to deny the reality of the two-headed snake.

WOMEN IN PANTALOONS.

Dr. Mary Walker, the Pioneer, Has Many Imitators.

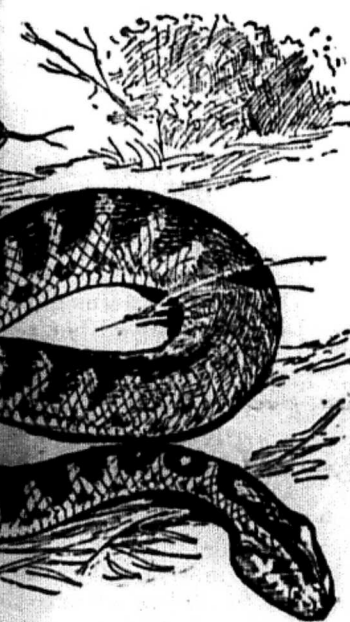
I very well remember when I was quite a youth seeing Dr. Mary Walker dressed in men's clothing, says a writer in Hygienic Gazette. She was a little woman, very slender, with a young-mannish expression of face, writes Willis Barnes. I was favorably impressed with her dress and thought it quite becoming, but some of our municipal guardians of the welfare of the people were not so favorably impressed and Dr. Mary was more than once subjected to the discipline of the law.

Her dress was a full-length pair of pantaloons and long-skirted coat, not much different from the ordinary male attire. I also remember with what derision the bloomer costume of women was received not many years since and how it was finally laughed out of use. But what a change has come! Public sentiment is a queer autocrat. Today on almost any of the streets and grand avenues of the city of New York and in other cities of this country and Europe may be seen hundreds of women in male attire. Baggy pantaloons, short jackets and hats or caps are now the accepted fashion for bicycle riders.

Is this costume becoming? Well, there is much diversity of opinion.

Is this costume modest? There seems to be but one opinion on this point. Women add men of all grades of society say "No."

Why is this? I think it all turns upon the one anatomical fact that women were not intended by nature to wear pantaloons. The great majority of women are differently constructed from men about the pelvis; the bones and muscular formation of females are broader and larger in every way, and as women grow older there is a natural tendency toward the piling up of fatty



THE SNAKE WITH TWO HEADS.

tissue over the pelvic bones and lumbar muscles which brings that portion of the body into unenviable prominence.

This being true, the skirt dress is the only method of grace that can be adopted. The wearing of pantaloons brings into unpleasant sight the anatomical disproportion and therefore the modern woman bicyclist who shows herself in public in what she is pleased to call baggy pantaloons, is not a pleasing sight to men or her sisters of the more modest skirt dress.

New Way to Serve Parsnips.

An entirely new way of serving parsnips is in the shape of an English walnut with a nut in the middle. The parsnips are first boiled and mashed fine. Then to each pint there are added a teaspoonful of salt, two tablespoonfuls of melted butter, a dash of pepper, and two tablespoonfuls of milk. Mix well over the fire, and when smoking hot add a thoroughly beaten and very fresh egg. Spread the mixture on a dish to cool. Then take the nut of an English walnut and roll around it the parsnip pulp until you have a good-sized nut. Roll in egg and cracker dust and fry a light brown in deep fat that is smoking. Serve hot.

Caused by Low Wages.

A farm laborer died recently in Lyminster, near Arundel, England, whose wages while he could work were \$3.60 a week, as he never rose above a working balliff and cowman. He was able to work till he was 73, when he had saved no less than \$1,000. On this he managed to live for twelve years longer with a little help from his former employer; then, as he outlived his savings, he had to be relieved by the poor law officials, dying a pauper, at 87.

Curried Sardines for a Late Lunch.

For a bite after the theater try curried sardines, cooked in a chafing-dish. Make a paste, with butter, made mustard, curry powder, and a few drops of vinegar or lemon juice. Skin the sardines and carefully wash the oil off. Spread them thickly with the mixture and grill them for a minute, and then serve either on fingers of fried bread, dusted with coralline pepper, curry powder, and minced parsley, or on fingers of hot buttered toast.

Every City Should Do This.

The city of San Leandro, Cal., is going to establish and operate a municipal electric lighting plant, to supply both arc and incandescent lights, for public and private use.

OUR WIT AND HUMOR.

RECENT PRODUCTIONS OF THE FUNNY WRITERS.

Original and Selected Paragraphs for Our Lean Readers—A Hitch in the Drama—The Village Toper—Flotsam and Jetsam.



ERE'S a boy lives down by me, An' he's de darnedest sort o' chap— Never chewed, an' never swore, An' never played a game of crap.

On Sunday, 'stead of goin' to swim,

An' actin' 's if he had some sand, He toddles off t' Sunday school, An' sings about de "Promise land."

De women t'ink he's jes' de stuff, 'Cause he's always sayin' "Please," An' 'cause he never tears his clothes, A hitchen on, an' climbin' trees.

An' den de way dey rigs him up! Dey make him out a reg'lar guy— Ye ought t' hear de gang jes' shout When dat dere kid goes prancin' by.

An' don't he t'ink he's in de swim; An' t'inks he's "in it" wid de girls; 'Cause dey rigs him in a sash, An' lets his hair hang down in curls!

But you jes' bet he's all a bluff; I tol' him so de udder night An' offered him a free-for-all; An' dat kid wouldn't even fight.

I tol' him I could do 'im up, An' knock him out, wid one han' tied; An' what ye t'ink de bluffer done? He yelled out "Maw!" an' den he cried!

How She Led Him On "Josiah," said Mrs. Cornstossel, "would you fight ef they was a wart?" "Yes-sir-ree," was the earnest reply. "Every time."

"An' git up in de gray dawn ter de sound of a bugle an' not make any fuss 'cause ye didn't hev nothin' but hard tack fur breakfast!"

"Course." "Well, I'm glad to hear it. Ef ye're willin' ter do all that ye surely won't have no fault ter fin' 'bout gittin' up at 6 o'clock tomorrow mornin' an' lightin' de fire, so's I kin cook ye some pancakes thet wouldn't be despised by nobody."

Bark Worse than His Bite. "Papa," said Bobby, pointing to the iron dog that stood on the lawn, "does dogs like that ever bite?" "No," said his father; "but that one barked once."

"Really?" cried Bobby. "Yes," said his father. "I stumbled over him one night, and he barked my shins."—Harper's Bazar.

Disproved.

Exception is taken by the Fishtown philosopher to the claim of a metaphysician that it is impossible for a human body to do anything against his or her will. "Dat ain't on de level," he remarked, with animation. "Why? Because I got er brother who went ter jail against his will. And dat's straight."—Philadelphia Call.

Boston Repartee.

"Beans?" "No beans." "Of course I do." "Do what?" "Know beans, you idiot."

Did He Take Her Next Time? He—Yes; I was out sleighing. And froze all my fingers. She (who wasn't along)—I don't see how a young man can get the fingers on both hands frozen.

The Village Toper.



Now—hic!—look here; if you don't—hic!—promise to give me my own cell this time I shan't go with you.—St Paul's.

Makes Cents, Anyhow.

"Dear me, Adelbert," said the poet's wife, "this stuff don't make sense." "I know that as well as you do," said the poet. "It isn't intended to make sense. It is to make dollars. It was ordered by a magazine."

A Timely Joke.

"How is it I never see you killing time?" asked the idle person. "I can't find the time," said the busy man, in perfect innocence.

We Had Heard of It. The serpent smiled affably. "Have an apple?" he insinuated. The mother of the race shrugged her shoulders.

"Not this Eve," she rejoined. "S'mother Eve." "This," mused the tempter, with a dazed look and a slight shiver, "must be the woman's version. Ah, yes."—Detroit Tribune.

And She Believed Him. "Can I ever wear it out?" he faltered. His eyes filled with tears. "No," he sighed. "Ah, no." Thus it chanced that he gave his wife a great talk to the effect that the necktie she had given him was too sacred to be worn anywhere except in the privacy of their home.

A Faithful Steward. Golfer—Here, Steward, this change isn't right. Steward—I think it is, sir. Five Scotch and sodas. Golfer—But I only had one. Steward—Oh! I understand that, sir. But you will have the others before you go. All the members do, sir.

But the Patient Didn't Give Up. Hargreaves—You know that time I was so sick last summer? I just heard that the doctor gave me up once. Ferry—I heard that he gave you up twice. "Twice?" "Yes. The second time was after he had been trying to collect his bill."



Heavy Villain—Think not, faithless one, to escape my clutches. I will follow you to the end of the earth. Flippant Heroine—Indeed you won't. Heavy Villain—Zounds! But thou talkest idly. Wherefore not? Flippant Heroine—Because I'm not going there.

Amounts to the Same Thing. "Do you say 'armful' or 'armsful'?" she asked, looking up from the book they were reading together. "I should say 'armful,'" he replied, and his practical application settled all rhetorical difficulties.

Blushed on General Principles. "Those French songs are awfully wicked, don't you think? I blush every time I hear one of them." "I thought you did not understand French." "I don't."

Judging by Its Results. Tommy—I think mamma is an awful gossip. Ethel—Oh, Tommy! how can you say such a thing? Tommy—Well, she is; everything I do she immediately goes and tells papa. I hate gossip.

Same as a Lawyer. "Of course the materials in the prescription are not worth near the price, but we charge for knowing how." "Oh! Well, there is no doubt that you know how—to charge."

A Real Cynic. "Bobbettson, the money you spend in feeding that dog of yours would assist materially in keeping some poor man out of the almshouse." "I suppose it would, but the dog seems really grateful."

Modern Matrimony. "No," rejoined the young duke, "I am in no hurry to marry. Capital is still somewhat timid." Far away across the ocean girls with millions and no pasts are getting older every minute.

A Compulsory Trade. Mrs. Ferry—Did you never learn any trade? Perry Patettic—Yes'm. I'm what might be called a practical geologist, though I don't work at it only when I git sent to the rock pile.

Hard to Suit. She screamed whenever he kissed her— It cannot be denied; She screamed whenever he kissed her— When he did not she cried. —Indianapolis Journal.

Where's Mrs. Ignatius Donnelly? "Kittle, what are the women doing, now that their bible is finished?" "We've got up a lovely diagram to prove that Mrs. Shakespeare wrote the plays."

Did He See the Point? "You seem to have something on your mind, Harold." "Well, I haven't. Do you think my mind is a pair of scales?" "Oh, no; scales are evenly balanced."

Then He Refused to Listen to It. "What did you buy this piece of music for?" asked Mr. Darley, crossly, as he took up a sheet from the piano. "I bought it for a song," replied Mrs. Darley, sweetly.

OUR PRESS.



Up With the Standard of the Socialist Labor Party.

EDITORIAL.

A FREE SOCIALIST PRESS.

Please note: This is a Socialist paper. If the Socialists are afraid to come out openly and discuss their party affairs, not only among their Section members, but among the Socialist citizens who vote the Socialist Labor ticket and who read the Socialist papers, then it would be better to have no Socialist press at all. The curse of the American labor movement is that there is too much secret machination and underhand work. As long as the Socialist Labor Party existed in theory only it was all right to say: "All this business must be settled in the closed Section meetings." Today the Socialist Party is an active political party; less than 10 per cent of the Socialist voters are members of the Socialist Sections. Consequently it behooves us, as Socialist citizens, to let our voters know what is going on in our party organization, and also give them a chance to express their opinions.

If our national organ, The People, is afraid to have free discussion in its columns, we are very sorry for it; but, at any rate, we believe it is no more than right and just to give every comrade who is known as an honest, active worker for the cause, a chance to express his opinion. As a rule our national organ, The People, refuses to publish a single line that is not in strict accordance with its editor's tactics. And we beg leave to call the attention of our comrades to the fact that at this very moment The People publishes every available line that may be used as an endorsement of its tactics, but strictly adheres to the policy of suppressing all criticism.

We want to hear both sides. We have heard both sides in the columns of this paper. And we shall hear both sides in the future.

We invite your criticism. We are not afraid to be criticised by any well-meaning comrades.

Criticism, criticism, criticism! But for the sake of Socialism stop that idle talk about causing "friction and ill feeling that may injure the party."

Please keep this in your mind: Now is the time to discuss party tactics. After our national convention our motto must be: "All men on deck! To work! The discussion is closed. On to victory and success!"

We have no ill feelings towards any comrade; neither have we any ill feelings towards our national organ and its editor. But we shall never endorse any move that may tend to suppress a free Socialist press.

Socialism knows no dark lantern business. Whatever we say and do, let us say and do it openly. And keep this in your mind:

Let no representative of our party ever make the blunder of taking the Socialist for a herd of sheep. We recognize the necessity of the strictest discipline in our party, but we believe in the discipline which is the free expression of the will of all the comrades—discipline whose strength rests in the mutual recognition of our rights and duties as Socialists, as honest men and women.

This is our position. Are you satisfied with it? Well and good. If not, simply say so, and somebody else may take my job—but in either case I shall remain your true and faithful servant, G. A. HOKUX, Editor pro tem. Socialist Newspaper Union.

We do not beg anybody to join the Socialist Labor party. We appeal to all men and women of intelligence to study the modern labor movement, to investigate the economic conditions of the millions of starving wretched producers, to read the Socialist literature and form his own opinion as to whether the Socialists are right or wrong in their opposition to the unjust and tyrannical capitalist system, and as to their means of overthrowing the present social system.

Intelligence alone does not make a good Socialist. A good Socialist with a strong heart is a two-edged weapon without a handle.

HOLYOKE POINTERS.

Notes and Comments.

The special charter revision session of the Holyoke city government was a most awkward affair, the members seemed to have a white elephant on hand and did not know what to do with it. A bright and courageous leader was very much in need, but alas, the city government of 1896 has no leader. The men are all good in their way and may mean well, but they lack that moral courage and daring which is so very necessary in just such a legislative body. The new charter is so full of pointers and weak points that it would have been an easy matter for any bright man to set himself a mark as a leader, but all remained quiet on the Potomac. The charter was referred back to the commission with instructions to hold a public meeting and to ask the citizens what they think about it.

Every member of the Holyoke American Section ought to attend the meeting on Sunday, March 1, to vote upon who shall be delegate to London.

The seven candidates are: Martha Moore Avery and Mr. Luther, both of Massachusetts; Mott Maguire and Corlies of New Jersey; Charles Pellens and Steer from New York and Mr. Ivor of California.

Every German of Holyoke ought to hear Comrade Alexander Jones speak at the Springfield Town Hall on Monday, March 9.

Max Farkor, of New York, the popular lecturer upon labor topics, is coming to Holyoke some time during the spring.

Lucien Sanial is also booked for a good speech in Holyoke. He will probably speak at the Bridge Street Town Hall some time in March. Sanial will speak in English or French, or both languages if desired.

Mr. Henry Stahl, the National Secretary of the Workmen's Link and Death Benefit Association, has sent out the statement for February. The tax for first-class members is \$1.10; for second class members, 84 cents, and for women 20 cents.

These members and comrades died last month. Paul Jaschko, New York; L. Schweisshard, Yonkers; J. Metzler, Greenpoint; G. Rouse, Boston; A. Neumann, Fort Wayne; M. Krug, Stapleton; W. H. Brentigan, New York; Jos. Petschaner, New York; E. Hartenstein, Kensington; Sophia Bader, Bloomingdale.

A petition, headed by M. Luther and signed by nearly all of the residents of Springfield, was sent to the Holyoke City Government and referred by that body to the School Board.

Comrade M. Luther has suggested an important improvement to the Holyoke park system, and it has been taken in hand by Councilman John H. Connors, who has secured the assistance of the other members of Ward 8, and the idea is likely to be adopted by the city. If adopted, it means the closing up of Summer and Bridge streets from Jackson street, and Canal street from South Main street, and the ground thus gained to be added to the park known as Germania Park.

Wm. Whiting, the Chairman of the new Holyoke Charter Commission, told the city government that our local government ought to be run on the same plan as a mill, by a Board of Directors presided over by a President.

The comparison is a good one and is just what the corporations are after.

Mills are run for the profit there is in it, not for the benefit of the employees, but for the benefit of the owners of the mills.

The Wm. Whiting plan of city government, then, is to run the city, not for the benefit of the citizens, but for the benefit of the Board of Directors, presided over by the Mayor.

The Holyoke Comrades are advertising the establishment of a kindergarten in connection with our public schools, and the following interesting address upon this subject by J. A. Callahan, held before the Holyoke teachers is worthy of a good place in our press.

PROF. ELY'S REQUEST.

Collection of Labor and Reform Papers.

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN, MADISON, Wis., February, 1896.

DEAR SIR: I have deposited my collection of labor and social reform papers in the Library of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin at Madison. This collection must now amount to 300 volumes, or more, and it is probably the best collection of labor newspapers in the United States. It is as yet, however, by no means all that I would have it. I wish to make it as nearly complete as possible, in order that it may be used some day in the preparation of a book upon the history of the labor movement in this country. I have, as you know, myself written a book called "The Labor Movement in America," but I have something far more comprehensive in mind. It is desired to add to the collection, and any newspaper or periodicals which belong to the class of labor papers, or social reform periodicals will be most welcome. It is especially desired to have as many complete files as possible.

This is an enterprise undertaken in the general interest, and it is hoped that many will give their aid to it. Anything sent for this collection should be addressed, "Reuben G. Thwaites, Esq., Librarian, State Historical Society, Madison, Wis." marking the wrapper "Ely collection."

May I ask that other labor papers copy this letter? Yours truly,

RICHARD T. ELY.

The Brisbane Worker is still bravely fighting for "Socialism in our time!"

Last week the murderer, James Fitzgerald, was strangled by law in St. Louis. The capitalist papers did a splendid business. Would God such a hanging were on the programme at least twice a week! This would be a fine business for the press proprietors. It is stated that Fitzgerald, from his 15th year of age on, was a newspaper boy. This explains for his sensational death.

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." —Shakspeare.

LILY TRUELOVE'S FAMILY LIFE.

Ten years have passed since that memorable morning ride through the decorated avenues and boulevards of New Chicago—memorable because that Fourth of July was the day of mutual confession of love for Lily and myself, and two months thereafter it was announced in one of the Public Gazettes that Lily True-love and myself had solemnly and earnestly declared our intention, in the presence of six honorable citizens (three of whom were women and three men), to henceforth live as husband and wife, and accept all the responsibilities of the noble family life customary in the Commonwealth. The married couple and the six witnesses usually signed their names to a certificate of marriage, which certificate was filed with the Recorder at the City Hall. There were no other civil or religious ceremonies required.

As already remarked, ten years had passed since those memorable Universal Fraternalization festivities. It was a pleasant September day. A number of our most intimate friends were assembled in the little park in front of our family villa. Lily's parents, as well as mine, were present. The object of the gathering being to celebrate the tenth anniversary of our marriage, it was but natural that all enjoyed a day of pleasure in the noblest sense of the term.

Perhaps the most pleased and happiest person in the little garden party was my mother-in-law, Mrs. Truelove, who made it her special business—excuse this expression—to entertain and amuse herself with our lovely children—a nine-year-old girl, a boy of seven, and the "baby," a girl of four years of age.

"A happy life, is it not?" cheerfully exclaimed one of our family friends, Mr. Sincere. "Indeed, it is!" gayly replied Mrs. Truelove, as she heartily kissed the younger girl, at the same time throwing smiles of motherly love toward her Lily, my wife.

"All the result of free love!" added Mr. Sincere, in a soft, but earnest tone.

"Now, Mr. Sincere, don't talk about free love!" laughingly interjected Lily; "I am afraid Mamma will give you a good lesson on that subject. At least, I saw her reading an old capitalist 'dime novel' this morning, which bore the characteristic caption: 'Free Love; or, Socialism as the Ruin of Family Life.' By Professor Nonmorales. 25th Revised Edition. Published by Messrs. Business, Profit & Co."

"Oh, Lily!" exclaimed my mother-in-law, somewhat surprised that Lily had noticed her reading an old-time "free love" story. Lily's timely remarks and the peculiar exclamation of surprise of her mother caused a general storm of applause and laughing among the cheerful little crowd, and Mrs. Truelove laughed the more heartily since her comic expression, "Oh, Lily!" had caused the fun.

"All laughing at my expense," merrily continued Mrs. Truelove. "It is true, as Lily said, I have read that 'dime novel.' It is really astonishing; indeed it is almost impossible to believe that a horde of mercenary writers were allowed to misrepresent the cause of Socialism so extremely as the writer of that novel. Strange as it may seem to-day, the pictures painted by the poor, old-time novelists about the relations of Socialism to love, marriage and family life was the very picture of the old capitalist society.

"Read the records of the old capitalist civil courts, the stories about the scandals in wealthy families, the crimes of all sorts, the suicides of helpless wives and mothers or despairing husbands and fathers!

"Free love, i. e., true love—love freed of the dangerous influence of the money-bag, freed of the constant fear for the bread and butter, for the very existence of the family, freed of the sad consequences of the excitement caused by a desperate struggle for the means of life—free love of this kind was a rare plant in the capitalist society. And where it existed it could not grow and prosper. It was a tender orange blossom, suddenly placed in the midst of the icy atmosphere of the polar region."

"Mamma is getting quite poetical," said Lily, when Mrs. Truelove pondered for a moment; "but right you are, Mamma. During the ten years of our family life my husband and I have made this subject one of our special studies. To-day no dangerous influences or petty selfish interests can check the free or true love of young people. Ignorance has been superseded by general intelligence. 'Business' or 'money considerations' can no longer play any role in the relations of loving young people. The 'how much is he worth?' and the 'how much is she worth?' have disappeared. Woman as well as man is endowed with the full rights and duties of citizenship; woman is no longer considered the 'weaker sex,' which meant a sex dependent on the protection of the king of creation—man. Is this not true, Mr. Sincere?"

"Certainly, it is," replied Mr. Sincere. "But this is not all," he continued. "I cannot think for a moment that family life and free love were possible under the capitalist system. Take the man or woman of any class. There was the young business man; he fell in love with a girl; she loved him. But there was no possibility of marriage because the girl was of poor parents, and the young man could not go into father's business unless he married, nay, unless he bought, a rich girl. Whether he loved the latter or not cut no figure; it was business. Thus began his loveless family life with all its sad consequences.

"There was a young girl; she loved a wealthy young man; he loved her—it was true love. But the wealthy lover's parents were opposed to the girl, and marriage would have resulted in poverty and ruin, according to the capitalist code of morality. What next? The true, loving couple, seeing no way out of the dilemma, agreed to commit suicide.

"There were the wage-workers. True love cases were more numerous among them than among any other class. But with the day of marriage began the desperate struggle for the daily bread! As the snow-clouds in mid-winter fill the air, so the clouds of suffering and misery covered the horizon of free love and happy family life, not a ray of sunlight ever reaching the poor sufferers—until death knocked at their door.

"And then think of the many millions of women who were forced into a life of shame by misery and want, who never knew the meaning of free love—true love. To record all the misery and crime sanctioned by the old-time marriage laws and customs

would fill a book as big as Luther's first translation of the Bible. "The condition of woman under the Capitalist regime was strikingly pictured by Gerald Massey, when he said:

"How have men captured her with savage grips, To stamp the kiss of conquest on her lips,— Wooed her with passions that but wed to fire With Hymen's torch their own funereal pyre; Stripped her as slave and temptress of desire; Embraced the body when her soul was far Beyond possession as the loftiest star!"

Meanwhile, some more of our neighbors and friends having arrived, I thought it advisable to bring this conversation to an end. "This being the anniversary of our marriage, let us celebrate the day in cheerfulness and happiness," I began. "Before we open the programme, however, permit me to express my highest admiration and reverence for the brave men and women, for the heroic sons and daughters of Old America, who had the courage of their conviction to follow the flag of a noble cause—International Socialism. Honor to the names of all who were fighting against a world of injustice and corruption. Without their great work we could not live in peace and prosperity to-day. The Co-operative Commonwealth is their work—the work of the noble sons and daughters of all nations. In Socialism we trust. Socialism and human happiness forever! It is our most sacred duty to give to our children a good Socialist education—this will be their best inheritance. It is the foundation upon which rests the welfare of the future generations."

While I was making these remarks I did not notice the absence of my beloved wife. In less than no time she had called all the little boys and girls to the pavilion in the midst of the beautiful trees of the adjoining orchard.

"Old Vox Populi! By Sherlie Woodman," rang Lily's voice. I looked to the pavilion, and the next moment the little boys and girls, under the leadership of my wife, solemnly and enthusiastically sang the following strophes, as the first number of the pleasant garden party programme:

We are coming, we, the people
Rising in our conscious power;
Many ages have we waited,
Hungered, thirsted, for this hour;
For the tyrant and oppressor
In our presence soon shall cower.

We are coming, we, the people,
We, the outcast and oppressed,
We, the scorned of all the nations,
Coming on from East to West,
North and South, the wide world over,
Like the sea which knows no rest.

We are coming to our kingdom,
Pressing on to claim our own;
We shall rear the "golden city"—
This our task, and ours alone;
Yes, the stone so long neglected,
Shall become its corner stone.

We have seen our mothers, daughters,
Seen our sisters, sweethearts, wives,
For'd to barter woman's honor
To sustain their wretched lives;
While upon their unpaid labor,
Capital, the monster, thrives.

Shall we bear these wrongs forever,
Ever abject and supine?
Shall that potentate called Mammon
Reign for aye by right divine?
Ha! The gods' great mills grind slowly,
But they grind exceeding fine.

Yes, the time has come for action,
Freedom's voice is heard at last,
Calling to the sleeping nations—
Mammon's minions stand aghast—
And the people's foes shall vanish
Like dry leaves before the blast.

See! The message we're proclaiming
Animates the very stones;
Lo! Behold a mighty army,
Where but now were bleaching bones.
Hear our proclamation echoed
In the crash of falling thrones.

As they catch that far-off echo,
How the hearts of men are stirred;
How with tears their eyelids glisten,
(Freedom is a wondrous word)
And, in joyful acclamation,
Now the "people's voice" is heard.

THE END.

GEN. KELLY IN OMAHA.

Working For the Cause of Socialism.

The Federal Labor Union of Omaha had invited Comrade Kelly to speak for them after they had gone through some of their important business. The doors were opened for the Public. Comrade H. C. Waller of the A. R. U., Manager of the Labor Temple presided over the meeting. He stated in a few well chosen words, that Organized Labor had gotten up the Labor Temple for the emancipation of Labor and they proposed to get it through political action; he then introduced Gen. Kelly of the Industrial Army, who spoke as follows:

Ladies and Gentlemen—In speaking to you to-night, you must not feel offended because I shall tell you the truth, whether we agree or not. I have been informed from the speech that I made last night. That some of our Populist friends have brought it about town that I was hired by the Republican Party to break up the Populist Party. But it would be foolish to think that the Republican party would hire a man to fight something which is nearly dead already.

Let us look at the wage system. Suppose a manufacturer hires 100 men, and gives them half of their product, say \$1.50 per day, from 100 men he receives \$150 for his share for doing nothing, and the laborer gets \$1.50. This is not all when the laborer gets home. There is the landlord, who wants his part which he calls rent. If you don't pay it, he puts you on the street. Grocery man, his butcher, clothing dealer, phys-

cian—all want their parts. Now think of a workman getting rich! Is this fair? Yes, for the capitalists. When we had the so-called good times men worked all day, never saw their wives nor children by daylight, saved some money and were happy and satisfied. But after a while their went, and their home, furniture and everything. If you beg you become a vagrant or a thief, or you must starve. If Christ would be on earth to-day, do you think our modern churches would invite Him to speak? Not much.

A politician by the name of Jones was at Washington; he was asked if he was a statesman. "No," he replied. "I make statesmen, I have them nominated. I am a politician; a lobbyist, if you please." Workingmen, you must vote as you strike. It's no use to strike against a man and then elect him to office. Vote against him—against his system. The man who will not vote for himself and his family is worse than a scab. The man who will not vote for his family ought not to have a family. Collective ownership of the means of production and distribution must be the final result.

In Europe Socialism has become a power that shakes the thrones and may soon uproot the entire capitalist system. Comrade, let us get together, and show the old countries that we also intend to emancipate ourselves and by the Eternal God and Angels, there will be no poverty. I thank you.

After the meeting fifty-four persons signed their names in favor of forming a Section. The meeting to be held next Saturday evening. JAMES C. ANTHONY.

World of Labor

THE HOPELESS POOR.

I see them passing every day,
Early and late they throng the way.
With heads bowed down and too soon
gray,
These hopeless poor.

All day and all the night for some,
They toil; no day can ever come
With rest for them, these bound, these
dumb,
These hopeless poor.

How can they bear to meet the day,
That brings not, though they toil and
pray,
These hopeless poor.

Their weakest work; their children cry
For bread, for space to live—then die,
Too poor a shroud and grave to buy—
These hopeless poor.

When such appear at Heaven's gate
Are they let in, or told to wait?
After the rich, and high, and great,
The hopeless poor.

Father! if these thy children be
Teach us the way to make them free,
So in this land no land shall see
The hopeless poor.

PAULINE C. R. STONE,
In Midland Mechanic.

INTERNATIONAL.

LONDON, ENGLAND.

The Pauperization of the British Farmers.

Landlords in Kent letting their land for a period of years for nothing, and giving the farmers who rent it on those flat terms a bonus for doing so ought to read a lesson to somebody who ought in this case to be everybody, says London Justice. For Kent is close to the greatest market for agricultural produce that the world has ever seen and Kentish land is for the most part by no means bad land. But the selfishness of Kentish landlords, the ignorance of Kentish farmers, and above all the greed and mismanagement of Kentish landlords have ruined a great industry and have enabled foreign produce grown and raised on coarse soil to drive English goods out of the London market. And what is true of Kent is true of all England. What hope is there of any improvement from the present Tory Government? Frankly, at present we see none whatever. Instead of proposals to nationalize the railways to give the people the opportunity of learning the great agricultural truths discovered and applied for the last twenty years in the German State farms, this "strong" administration is going to subsidize the landlord! Much good that will do. But the Liberals are just as incompetent and treacherous, so our agriculture must go from bad to worse. More than 2,000,000 of acres have gone out of cultivation in the last few years.

PARIS, FRANCE.

Laws to Prohibit Striking.

The French Senate has passed the "Trenet law," by which the right of striking is to be denied for the future to railway workers. The dangerous ascendancy which the great railway companies, and indeed all powerful financial bodies, have over legislative chambers in every country is still growing apace. The right to strike had been extended to railway employees under the Empire, and it is now withdrawn under the Republic—one more proof of the erratic deflections to which legislations are subject under the baneful magnetism of private metallic accumulations, whatever be the form of government.

The French Socialist papers are already sounding the reveille for the spring Municipal Elections; all workers are exhorted to begin the propaganda in skirmishing order, that is to say, in ones and twos, among their friends in the workshop and club, among their neighbors in the street and in the home, as a preliminary to the attack in force when the demonstrations and meetings take place six weeks hence. There is very little doubt that many new municipalities will fall to the Socialists next spring, as the Socialist town councils have everywhere been very successful in their management of affairs.

The Paris Socialist daily, La Petite Republique, claims to possess 50,000 readers. It is about to publish as a feuilleton Edward Bellamy's "Looking Backward" under the title of "A Hundred Years After."

SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA.

What the Antipodes Think of America. The Australian Workman, a weekly labor paper, says:

As a message of peace and good will to the nations of the earth, Almighty America is sending forth a challenge to England to come on and fight; at least that was the wording of the first and original message; but since, as it has been proved that England is, if not willing, at any rate game, the bellicose spirit of the Yankee has died down a trifle. In fact, her trumpet call for war, hot, strong, and at once, was after all a wooden nutmeg. The great Republic was all agog for fight provided the other fellow wasn't; but with the readiness of Britain, America's eagerness faded away. So that the only powder wasted over the matter will probably be the pounce powder used for drying the diplomatic despatches concerning the territory of a little mosquito State called Venezuela. America will then come out of the controversy a discredited dog. On the right side of the fence she barked fiercely, but as soon as a meeting seemed probable, toned down. Perhaps the incident will be a lesson to the people of the United States, that is to say the genuine people who under the forms of liberalism allow themselves to be enslaved by a gross plutocracy. If this wretched Venezuela business does not make them feel a trifle sick of their rulers, their stomachs are of the strong and patient kind. An amazing part of the business has been the

anxiety of Mr. Cleveland about keeping the democracy of America untainted by the proximity of British monarchy. In good sooth, the British limited monarchy system of Government has not so far resulted in any ideal popular rule, but from a democratic point of view it is immeasurably superior to the plutocratic republicanism of America. There is some choice between living at Moscow and Chicago; but it is a matter for grave debate where the preference lies.

The Brute Forces of Capitalism at Work in the Australian Mining Regions.

Australian reform papers report that capitalism is rapidly progressing in its death-hurling work in the mining districts of the colonies. Says the Sydney Socialist: "Callous, indeed, must the heart be that is not moved to compassion at the sad spectacle of starvation and desolation as revealed in the languishing condition of the great mass of disinherited humanity, who do not live, but linger on a joyless existence in the coal mining district of Newcastle. The path which has led to labor's crucifixion on the cross of capitalist greed has verily been through a valley of tears. Men with their wives and families, in their fidelity to principle, have endured anguish of spirit and torture of body, which can be more easily imagined than described.

For periods ranging from six to eighteen months, hundreds of families have had all visible means of support cut off by the unscrupulous tyrants who sit astride the bent back of labor. The miners who were fortunate enough to remain in employment manfully volunteered to share the work with their unemployed brothers, so that all might get a crust; but such an act of brotherly love the heartless employers would not allow, and stamped their iron heel of capitalist tyranny on the golden rule of Christianity."

Their idea was to divide the workers, impoverish and pauperize the one-half, oppress and overwork the other, then finally to accomplish the overthrow of unionism by setting the isolated mass of units at one another's throats, and causing them to take the bread out of one another's mouths by means of the beautiful law of competition.

The generous and democratic spirit of the Newcastle miners, who have always manifested a strong interest in social, moral and mental progress—whose cares and affections were centered in the comforts of home life, the health and happiness of their wives and families—could not be expected to enter into such a state of demoralization and physical bondage, unless driven by brute force.

Blaspheme not God by saying he is pleased to see men in such wretchedness. Charge not the innocent stars they have got nothing whatever to do with the present state of affairs. The cause of the whole evil lies in the industrial and social system. To remove the evil the mines must be nationalized; an iron industry must be established by the people—the State. The mineral wealth must be produced for use. To realize this the miners must organize, unionist and non-unionist. If determined to have justice, they must declare for Socialism. Socialism will teach them to understand the economic cause of social and other evils, and, moreover, will equalize opportunities.

BERLIN, GERMANY.

The General Strike Movement.

It is estimated that the number of men and women now on strike throughout Germany is not less than 100,000. Most of the strikers are tailors. The Berlin carpenters won their strike for better wages and shorter hours.

The Socialist members of the Legislature of Saxony have decided to resign as members of that body as soon as the new pluri-candidate election law will be adopted.

In the Reichstag the Socialist leader, August Bebel, in the course of the discussion of the military estimates attacked the right of the Emperor to the absolute enforcement of discipline and authority in the army. Bebel said that it was a shame that in this age of progress and enlightenment the ruler of a country governed by a constitution should be entitled to the autocratic right of even ordering men who have gained his displeasure to be shot without a previous military trial. He hoped that measures would be introduced during the present session to abrogate some of the arbitrary power which the German Emperor is now permitted to exercise over the army and navy. So far do the Socialists stretch their enmity and so open are they in its utterance that they announced their resolve not to attend the jubilee banquet, which is to be given by the Reichstag on March 21, in commemoration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the creation of that body, simply because Baron Von Buol-Berenberg, President of the Reichstag, is programmed to propose a toast to the Emperor on that day.

NATIONAL.

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.

Local Labor Organizations Adopt a Strong Platform.

The convention of all labor organizations in San Francisco, which held its first session Friday night, met yesterday morning and afternoon at 1159 Mission street. There was a large attendance of delegates, nearly every one of whom entered into the spirit of the occasion with enthusiasm, with the result that a platform was adopted as the sentiment of the labor organization.

The committee on resolutions submitted to report, the secretary first reading the cigarmakers' resolutions denouncing private ownership of lands and tools and containing socialistic recommendations.

A discussion arose when the convention was asked to pass upon this document. B. T. McIvor of the Painters' and Decorators' Union held that the report of the committee on resolutions be read, and made a motion to that effect, as N. Blum of the cigarmakers wanted his resolution considered forthwith by the convention. McIvor's motion was carried.

After an interesting debate in which dele-

gates of nearly every union took part the following resolutions and preambles were adopted unanimously:

Whereas, The competitive system of industry based primarily upon the individual ownership of nature's unmodified resources, and subsequently upon the individual ownership of the tools of production, has with the march of invention and the evolution of society toward higher and more complex forms of human relationship become an insufferable burden and undeniable oppression to the wage working classes; and whereas, the aforesaid competitive system (otherwise known as the capitalistic plan of private exploitation of those deprived of tools and land) has, through its phenomenal accumulation of wealth into the hands of the few, become a stumbling-block in the path of progress, a prolific corruptor of public freedom and a menace to individual liberty, using its unjust advantages over the masses of the people to coerce and again cajole them into the support of political measures which would be an insult to the conscience of freemen and to which their pressing physical needs alone give sanction; and whereas, the mentally capable among the wage working classes, knowing the unjust foundation of the competitive system and the unequal advantages accruing to those who control and profit by it, are by far too clever not to know that all this iniquitous system can of its own motion possibly yield to the wage worker is merely that amount of his product necessary to the renewal of his labor power, withholding from him by the terms of the system his well-earned leisure, luxury and recreation; therefore be it

Resolved, That we, the accredited representatives of the trades and labor organizations of San Francisco, in convention assembled, after due deliberation, do hereby claim it to be our sincere conviction that the present anarchical system of private individual land and tool owning, which places the many at the mercy of the few, is the fundamental cause of the industrial distress and economic slavery of the masses of the workers; and that in accordance with the foregoing conviction we proceed to organize our federated forces on such lines as are best calculated to supplant competition and its fraudulent fundamentals, by substituting therefor a system of universal co-operation founded upon the socialization of the means of production—land, tools and capital; and be it further

Resolved, That to this end we not only organize industrially, but in addition thereto use our political rights and privileges in a manner consistent with our economic belief, taking such distinct political action as will forever throw off the yoke of our capitalist masters.

The following platform, presented by R. T. McIvor, was adopted by a unanimous vote:

1. Reduction of the hours of labor in proportion to the progress of production.
2. The United States shall obtain possession of the railroads, canals, telegraphs, telephones and all other means of public transportation and communication, but no employee shall be discharged for political reasons.
3. The municipalities to obtain possession of the local railroads, ferries, water works, gas works, electric plants and all industries requiring municipal franchises; but no employee shall be discharged for political reasons.
4. The public lands to be declared inalienable. Revocation of all land grants to corporations or individuals, the conditions of which have not been complied with.
5. Legal incorporation by the States of local trade unions which have no national organization.
6. The United States to have the exclusive right to issue money.
7. Congressional legislation providing for the scientific management of forests and waterways, and prohibiting the waste of the natural resources of the country.
8. Inventions to be free to all; the inventors to be remunerated by the nation.
9. Progressive income tax and tax on inheritances; the smaller incomes to be exempt.
10. School education of all children under 14 years of age to be compulsory, gratuitous and accessible to all.
11. Repeal of all pauper, tramp, conspiracy and sumpuatory laws. Unbridged rights of combination.
12. Official statistics concerning the condition of labor. Prohibition of the employment of children of school age and of the employment of female labor in occupations detrimental to health or morality. Abolition of the convict labor contract system.
13. Employment of the unemployed by the public authorities (county, city, State and Nation.)
14. All wages to be paid in lawful money of the United States. Equalization of women's wages with those of men where equal service is performed.
15. Laws for the protection of life and limb in all occupations, and an efficient employers' liability law.

The political demands are:

1. The people to have the right to propose laws and to vote upon all measures of importance, according to the referendum principle.
2. Abolition of the veto power of the executive (national, State and municipal), wherever it exists.
3. Municipal self-government.
4. Direct vote and secret ballots in all elections. Universal and equal right of suffrage without regard to color, creed or sex. Election days to be legal holidays. The principle of proportional representation to be introduced.
5. All public officers to be subject to recall by their respective constituencies.
6. Uniform civil and criminal law throughout the United States. Administration of justice to be free of charge.

DISTRIBUTION OF WEALTH.

As Shown by Official Statisticians of Uncle Sam.

The New York Tribune, after extensive correspondence, published a list of 4,047 millionaires, which is the best information in regard to their number that has been made known. After some experimental computations, their wealth is placed at

\$12,000,000,000, or about \$3,000,000 apiece.

We are now prepared to characterize the concentration of wealth in the United States by stating that 19 per cent of it is owned by the millionaires, who are 0.03 of 1 per cent of the families; 54 per cent of it by the richer class (not including the millionaires), which includes 9 per cent of the families; 73 per cent of it by 9 per cent of the families (including the millionaires); and 27 per cent of it by the poorer class, which includes 91 per cent of the families.

About 19 per cent of the wealth is owned by the poorer families that own farms and homes without incumbrance, and these are 28 per cent of all of the families. Only 8 per cent of the wealth is owned by tenant families and the poorer class of those that own their farms and homes under incumbrance, and these together constitute 63 per cent of all of the families. As little as 4 per cent of the nation's wealth is owned by 52 per cent of the families, that is, by the tenants alone. Finally, 4,047 families possess about seven-tenths as much as do 11,560,293 families.

The number of families in each class, and the wealth owned by them, are exhibited in the following statement:

CONCENTRATION OF WEALTH IN THE UNITED STATES.

THE POORER FAMILIES.

1,624,439 farm tenant families, worth \$150 (estimated) above debts of indefinite amount.....	\$ 243,664,050
4,909,792 house tenant families, worth \$300 (estimated) above debts of indefinite amount.....	2,490,631,000
706,395 families, owning incumbered farms worth less than \$5,000, deducting actual incumbrance and other debts of indefinite amount, and allowing \$500 (estimated) for additional wealth.....	1,235,715,857
671,129 families, owning incumbered homes worth less than \$5,000, deducting actual incumbrance and other debts of indefinite amount, and allowing \$500 (estimated) for additional wealth.....	1,029,726,709
1,804,631 (estimated) families, owning free farms worth less than \$5,000, allowing \$1,000 (estimated) for additional wealth above debts of indefinite amount.....	5,378,342,165
1,754,403 (estimated) families, owning free homes worth less than \$5,000, allowing \$2,000 (estimated) for additional wealth above debts of indefinite amount.....	6,531,451,940
11,560,293 families, worth.....	\$10,938,553,073

THE RICHER FAMILIES.

4,047 millionaire families, worth (estimated).....	\$12,000,000,000
1,125,813 (partly estimated) families, occupying farms and homes worth \$5,000 and over.....	31,008,539,125
1,129,805 families, worth.....	\$46,008,539,125
11,550,293 poorer families, worth.....	\$10,938,553,073
1,129,829 richer families, worth.....	46,008,539,125
12,680,192 families are the total families of the United States, worth.....	\$66,937,091,197
Owned by persons in foreign countries and owing to foreign creditors (estimated).....	2,000,000,000
Total wealth of the United States.....	\$65,937,091,197

LYNN, MASS.

The Reform Among the Shoe Workers' Unions.

The wage earners of this city made a mammoth demonstration this evening by holding a mass meeting in Lesters Hall, at which, according to the labor leaders, the death knell of the Knights of Labor organization among boot and shoe workers in this country was sounded, and the tocsin of reform in organized labor generally, that will be heard from end to end of the land.

The meeting was held under the auspices of local Joint Council 5, boot and shoe workers union, and the hall was packed. William M. Cusick, an ex-member and former organizer of the Knights of Labor, who at present holds the position of President of Joint Council 4, occupied the chair and made the opening address, in which he congratulated the wage earners of the city in general, and the boot and shoe workers in particular, on the great success of the new movement.

The other speakers were Horace M. Eaton of Boston, General Secretary of the Boot and Shoe Workers Union of America; Mrs. Mary A. Nason, member of the General Executive Board, Boot and Shoe Workers Union, and leader of the lady stitchers' organization of Haverhill; Rev. Herbert N. Casson, pastor of the Lynn Labor Church, and the National President of the Boot and Shoe Workers Union of Rochester, N. H.; John F. Tobin. All speeches were strong and to the point, and at times the vast audience was roused to a perfect frenzy of enthusiasm. The Knights of Labor organization was handled without gloves and the new Boot and Shoe Workers Union was lauded to the skies.

Modern society is a wonderful tree. It produces wonderful fruits of extravagance; Millionaires and tramps.

OUR UNION IN POLITICS

Vain Attempt to Clash the National Brewery Workers' Union

As a Pure and Simple Organization Favoring Tail-End Politics.

THE AIMS AND OBJECTS OF OUR NATIONAL UNION.

The National Union of the United Brewery Workmen of the United States may justly claim to be one of the most progressive body of workmen in the country. Ever since the first day of its existence our organization has been closely connected with the most radical wing of the labor movement—the Socialist movement, at the same time keeping up friendly relations with those labor unions and K. of L. assemblies whose members were not yet as far advanced in their ideas as the leading members of our organization and the Socialist movement at large.

Our National Union, although a young organization, had to go through some of the most desperate struggles for its very right of existence, and at this very moment we have a number of fights on hand that could have been won long ago had it not been for the united efforts of the Boss Brewers' combination throughout the country to annihilate the Brewery Workers' organization.

No professor of social economy need tell us what strikes and boycotts are, what can be accomplished by strikes and boycotts, and what cannot be accomplished. We have used these weapons long enough to know their practical value. We know by our own expensive experience where the power of strikes and boycotts ends, and where the power of the ballot, the political power of labor begins.

Will any wisecrack please tell us what's to be done? Will any one show us better ways and means to lead the Brewery Workers out of their present system of wage-slave drudgery?

We know that all economic and political reforms under the capitalist system of society are mere patch-work. But, nevertheless, we must do all in our power to prevent the further degradation of the working people even under the capitalist system. We must arouse the poor wage-slaves, we must induce them to study the labor problem, the social question, Socialism.

In the economic field the strike and boycott are the only means to ameliorate the conditions of labor. What else can the workman do than to refuse to work, if the boss reduces his wage or lengthens his hours of work. Whether the workman is still unguiled by the thoughts and ideas of capitalism, or whether he is a class-conscious Socialist, cuts little figure, when questions of this kind arise. The class-conscious Socialist will certainly be the first one to kick and strike, as soon as attempts are made by his employer to increase his burden.

Honor to the man who acts in this manner. In St. Louis the very ones of our men who are known as Socialists have the hardest road to travel, because they are known as the best fighters for the rights of labor, for the rights of our union. And when election day comes they know their duties as Socialist citizens, and they are proud to vote the Socialist ticket. They do all in their power to educate their less intelligent fellow workers, but by no means would they make the mistake of telling the men who perhaps never belonged to an organization that strikes and boycotts were a farce and a swindle, as some of the "ultras" would like to see.

Strikes and boycotts are necessary evils, and will continue as long as the capitalist system continues, and we venture to say that strikes and boycotts will increase in seriousness as the intelligence of the masses increase.

It is as well known fact that when Socialist workmen are forced into strikes they are more stubborn than any other class of workers.

This is our position. Is it socialistic? We don't want the editor of The People to decide this question. He is not competent to do so. The editor of The People ought to be compelled to work for about five years in one of the British syndicate's breweries, perhaps he would then have a chance to cool down considerably and leave it to the capitalists and their tools to wage the desperate war against one of the best national organizations of the country.

Desperate attempts having been made to misrepresent our organization we feel in duty bound to let the outside comrades know the aims and objects of our "National Union of the Brewery Workers."

For this reason we publish our Declaration of Principles in full hoping that you will read it carefully and decide whether we are "fakirs" so skillfully painted by certain people in New York.

DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES.

"In our society to-day there are two classes whose interests are directly opposed to one another. On the one side stands the propertied class, that owns almost all the land, all the houses, the factories, the means of communication, all the machines and raw material, all the means of life. Compared with the nation at large this class is only a small minority.

"On the other hand stands the workers, who possess nothing but their physical and intellectual labor-power, and this they are compelled to sell to those who own the means of production. The workers number millions.

"It is to the interest of the propertied class to buy labor at the cheapest possible price; to produce as much as can be produced, and to heap up wealth. The few hundreds of thousands who compose the propertied class take from the workers the greater part of the wealth they have created.

"Of all the product of their toil the millions of workers receive only just as much

as enables them to eke out a miserable existence.

"Every new invention in machinery, every new discovery of natural forces, ensure to the benefit of the propertied class alone, which is still further enriched thereby. Human labor is, as a consequence, being consequently more and more displaced.

The superfluous workers have to live, and therefore have to sell their labor at any price they can get. Labor falls more and more in value; the working people become all the time more and more impoverished, their consumptive capacity continually declines; they are able to buy less and less of the products they have produced; the sale of goods stops, production is checked, and in places it comes altogether to an end. The crisis has come.

"The propertied class has taken into its service the state, the police and the militia, the press and the pulpit, whose task is to declare the sanctity of and to defend the possessions that others have created for them.

"On the other side stands the workers in their millions; without the means of life; without rights; defenseless; betrayed and sold out by state, press and pulpit. It is against them that the weapons of the police and militia are directed."

"Taking all these facts into consideration we declare:

1. That in order to emancipate itself from the influence of the class that is hostilely arrayed against it, the working class must organize locally, nationally and internationally; must oppose the power of capital with the power of organized labor, and must champion its own interests in the work affairs.

2. National and international unions are in a position to exercise a great influence on production, on wages, on the hours of labor; to regulate the question of apprenticeship; to uphold their members in various emergencies.

3. The struggles which they naturally have to wage with the organized power of capital bring them to a recognition of the fact that individual unions must unite in one large league, which shall proclaim the solidarity of the interests of all, and give mutual support. Soon thereafter will come recognition of the fact that our whole system of production rests exclusively upon the shoulders of the working class, and that this latter can, by simply choosing to do so, introduce another and juster system.

The self-conscious power of capital, with all its camp-followers, is confronted with the self-conscious power of labor.

4. There is no power on earth strong enough to thwart the will of such a majority, conscious of itself. It will irresistibly tend toward its goal. It has natural right upon its side. The earth and all its wealth belong to all. All the conquests of civilization are an edifice, to the rearing of which all nations for thousands of years past have contributed their labor.

The results belong to the community at large. It is organized labor that will finally succeed in putting these principles into actual practice, and introducing a condition of things in which each shall enjoy the full product of his toil.

The emancipation of the working people will be achieved only when the economic and the political movements have joined hands.

We are proud to state that we have always been true to our cause, to our platform, to our union, to our party. As we have done in the past we shall do in the future.

E. KURZENKIN, CHAS. F. BECHTOLD, National Secretaries of Brewery Workers' Union.

P. S.—Socialist labor papers are requested to copy.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT.

Please Get These Figures Into Your Head.

Average produced annually in the United States by each manual worker, according to census report....	2,000
Average amount paid as wages to each worker according to census report....	246
Surplus over wages appropriated by capitalists.....	1,654
Approximate number of manual workers in the United States, 12,000,000, aggregate production....	24,000,000,000
Aggregate amount paid as wages.....	4,152,000,000
Aggregate amount of fleecings by capitalists.....	19,848,000,000
Cost of running the National Government.....	400,000,000
Cost of National Government to manual workers per capita.....	33.33
Cost of capitalism to manual workers, per capita.....	1,634.00
Excess cost of capitalism over government.....	1,630.67
Cost of all the railroads in the United States.....	4,000,000,000
Excess of capitalist fleecings over cost of railroads....	15,848,000,000
Manual workers, freed from capitalism, produce enough annually to buy the railroads and build 12,000,000 homes costing each.....	1,000


Any intelligent working man or woman who themselves feel the pangs of poverty and misery must recognize the fact that there is something radically wrong in the fundamental economic conditions and social construction of the present system of production and distribution.

In a country where nature's resources, if properly united with the productive forces of human labor, would suffice to make a paradise for two hundred million people, what do we see to-day? Starvation on mass.

The Barcelona Universal declares it is an important fact that no one has yet been able to photograph the heart, but this is scarcely likely to remain unperformed, since in Hamburg already a photograph has been taken with the specific object of determining the presence of an embryo in a female subject. The presence of the embryo was revealed, though the details are vague.

"THE WOODEN HEN."

We have heard of wooden horses and wooden ducks, but a wooden hen is something new under the sun—and its purposes are different from those of either of the other wooden animals mentioned. It is a not a toy, though it will please a boy. It is a hen, at least it will hatch chickens from hens' eggs.



It is 16x15x8 inches and will take care of twenty-eight eggs. It is an incubator and costs only \$4.00.

This wooden hen is made by George H. Stahl, Quincy, Ill. If you want to find out more about it before you buy one write to Mr. Stahl for catalogue "W," which gives a full description, and mention this paper.

The President can put plenty of gold in the Treasury, but only Congress can keep it there.—Philadelphia Ledger.

Deafness Can Not Be Cured

By local applications, as they cannot reach the diseased portion of the ear. There is only one way to cure deafness, and that is by constitutional remedies. Deafness is caused by an inflamed condition of the mucous lining of the Eustachian Tube. When the tube is inflamed, it has a rumbling sound and imperfect hearing, and when it is entirely closed, deafness is the result, and unless the inflammation can be taken out and this tube restored to its normal condition, hearing will be destroyed forever; nine cases out of ten are caused by Catarrh, which is nothing but an inflamed condition of the mucous surfaces.

We will give One Hundred Dollars for any case of Deafness (caused by Catarrh) that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure. Send for circulars, free.

F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.
Sold by druggists; 75c.
Hall's Family Pills, 25c.

Dr. E. N. Stanley of Port Angeles, Wash., is about to undertake the propagation of eastern oysters on the Pacific Coast. The local bivalves are small and poor.

If the Baby is Cutting Teeth.

Do not use that old and well-tried remedy, Mrs. Winslow's SOOTHING SYRUP for Children Teething.

France has a new and higher income tax, so graded as to rest lighter upon those citizens who have most children.

IRRITATION OF THE THROAT AND HOARSENESS

are immediately relieved by "Brown's Bronchial Troches." Have them always ready.

Chicago Alderman want the street railroads to take 3-cent fares from people who have to stand up.

Florida Facts.

February and March are two of the best months of the year to visit Florida. The climate is fine and the social features at their height of interest. When you have made up your mind to go, you naturally want to go there as soon as possible and in the most comfortable manner. No matter whether you live in St. Louis, Chicago, Peoria, Indianapolis, Columbus, Cleveland, Buffalo, New York or Boston, you can take one of the magnificent trains of the "Big Four Route" from any one of these cities to Cincinnati, and with only one change of cars continue your journey to Jacksonville. Direct connections made in Central Union Station, Cincinnati, with through trains of all lines to Florida. Call on or address any agent of the "Big Four Route," or address E. O. McCormick, Passenger Traffic Manager, or D. B. Martin, General Passenger and Ticket Agent, Cincinnati, Ohio.

It's the early worm that catches the fish; but what good does it do him?

Man's Heritage is Pain.

ANTIDOTE FOR RHEUMATISM, GOUT, GRAVEL, ST. JACOBS' OIL.

W. N. U. St. L.—972-9.

When answering advertisements kindly mention this paper.

ASK YOUR DEALER FOR W. L. DOUGLAS \$3. SHOE

THE BEST IN THE WORLD.

If you pay \$4 to \$6 for shoes, examine the W. L. Douglas shoes, and see what a good shoe you can buy for \$3.

OVER 100 STYLES AND WIDTHS, CONGRESS, BUTTON, AND LACE, made in all kinds of the best selected leather by skilled workmen.

We make and sell more \$3 shoes than any other manufacturer in the world.

None genuine unless name and price is stamped on the bottom.

Ask your dealer for our \$5, \$4, \$3.50, \$3.00, \$2.50 shoes; \$3.50, \$3 and \$1.75 for boys.

TAKE NO SUBSTITUTE. If your dealer cannot supply you, send to factory, enclosing price and 3c. to pay carriage. State kind, style of shoe (cap or plain), size and width. Our Custom Dept. will fill your order. Send for new illustrated catalogue to free.

W. L. DOUGLAS, Brockton, Mass.

NEEDLES, SHUTTLES, REPAIRS.

For all Sewing Machines, STANDARD GOODS ONLY. The Trade Supplied. Sewer, Tailor, and Dressmaker. List. BLACK & WHITE CO., 116 Locust St., St. Louis, Mo.

PARKER'S HAIR BALM

Keeps and beautifies the hair. Promotes a luxuriant growth. Hair to its youthful color. Cures itching scalp and dandruff. No. 1 and 2. Sold Everywhere.

OPIMUM

McPherson Habit Cured in 10 Days. No Pain. No Cure. No Refund. DR. J. STEPHENS, Lebanon, Ohio.

WE PAY YOU TO SELL FRUIT TREES.

STANLEY FRUIT TREE CO., 1000 N. 1st St., St. Louis, Mo.

NOTSCHOLARS BUT GENTLEMEN

A Recherche Affair Between Deadwood Jack and Montana Jim.

Deadwood Jack was no scholar but he insisted that he was a gentleman, says the Detroit Free Press. The same was the case with Montana Jim. Therefore when we had learned that Jack had come over to Custer City to "have it out" with Jim we felt assured that it would be a genteel affair from start to finish. Jack had put up at the Last Chance saloon, written his name on the ace of spades and sent a messenger to the Bald Eagle's Roost to say to Jim:

"Compliments of Deadwood Jack and he hopes you have no engagement to prevent your meeting him on the public square this evening to settle this little misunderstanding that has existed for several months."

And Jim wrote his name on the ace of clubs and instructed the messenger to say:

"Compliments of Montana Jim and he assures D. J. that it will afford him the utmost pleasure to shoot at him exactly at 7 o'clock this evening at the place mentioned."

Each man was about town during the afternoon, and they encountered each other a dozen times. On every occasion each raised his hat and bowed and expressed the hope that the other was well and happy. At 6 o'clock each retired to his headquarters and carefully cleaned and loaded his two guns. There was no bragging or boasting—no posing for effect. Both were game and both dead shots, and the chances were even up between them. No one knew the cause of the trouble and neither man entered into any explanations.

At exactly 7 o'clock they appeared on opposite sides of the square, each with his arms folded. They approached within thirty feet of each other and bowed and then Rocky Mountain Joe gave the word. Four hands dropped down, four revolvers were jerked from their holsters and the first two shots made but one report. Then there was a pop! pop! pop! faster than one could count and of a sudden both men went down. It was Deadwood Jack who slowly reached his feet a moment later. He had pulled down his gun to fire when the referee held up his hand and said:

"That'll do, Jack—he's passed in!" Montana Jim had four bullets in him—Deadwood Jack two. The latter stood there with the blood dripping from his hip and shoulder as the crowd closed in and then observed:

"Gentlemen, let the funeral be conducted in a dignified, genteel fashion and then send in the bill by a gentleman."

The Pyromaniac's Smile.

Fire Marshal Whitcomb has been pretty busy taking testimony in regard to fires lately, and while speaking about examining witnesses the other day he mentioned several curious things he had noticed. He says that in every case where he has discovered a pyromaniac he has had his suspicions of the person's guilt aroused by a peculiar smile which plays around the mouth of the guilty one when under examination. It is hardly a smile, rather a peculiar puckering of the corners of the mouth, an expression almost indefinable, but it seems to mean, "Well, I'm too smart for you to catch me, anyhow." The marshal says he can recall a dozen cases where he noticed this smile and at the time had no other cause to suspect a witness, yet by following these smiling ones he has obtained the most convincing testimony of their guilt and almost invariably confession from the guilty ones themselves.—Boston Transcript.

Iridescent Glass.

Until recently the manufacture of iridescent glass was set down in the list of lost arts. But in 1878 it was rediscovered and now it is a common commercial article. It is made by exposing the melted glass to the vapors of salts of sodium. At the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York city are exhibited great numbers of bottles, plates and other articles of glass which were made and used before Christ was born. They were dug up in Cyprus and elsewhere. Many of them have a beautiful iridescence, but it is the result of decay. Glass will rot like anything else, and decay has split the structure of this ancient glass into laminae, or flakes, which interrupt the light so as to produce brilliant red, green, purple and other rainbow colors.

Bloomers of Brocaded Satin.

Perhaps the most unique novelty in the dainty lace-trimmed bloomers of brocaded satin. They are designed to take the place of the short flannel petticoat so dear to the heart of the old-fashioned woman. These bloomers are lined throughout with cotton flannel to give the necessary warmth, and really protect the legs much more effectively than a skirt would. The fashionable new woman wears over them nothing but a long silk petticoat, and her dress skirt, but she wears beneath them the regulation flannel drawers. Less expensive bloomers are made of taffeta, and still others of flannel.

Dolls "For a Song."

A few days ago Mr. Weddle, a Kokomo merchant, advertised dolls "for a song." Two little girls, children of Alfred Miller, went into the store and, clambering up on the counter, each sang a pretty little song and claimed the dolls. They got them. Mr. Weddle has since changed the form of his advertisement.

The New Women.

Goettingen has thirty-one women students this winter semester. They study history, mathematics, modern languages and natural history, and for the first time at this university a woman is studying medicine.

A Postmaster's Wife.

A LEEDS WOMAN WHO ASTONISHED HER FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS.

Near to Death but Restored So Completely That She Has Been Accepted by a Life Insurance Company as a Good Risk.

From the Journal, Lewiston, Me.

A bright little woman, rosy and fresh from her household duties, dropped into a chair before the writer and talked with enthusiasm shining in her snapping, black eyes.

The people in the pretty village of Leeds Centre, Me., have watched with some interest the restoration to complete health of Mrs. W. L. Francis, wife of the postmaster. So general were the comments on this interesting case that the writer who visited Mrs. Francis and learned from her that the statements regarding her troubles and her subsequent restoration are entirely true. All of her neighbors know what has been the agency that has performed this cure, but that others may be benefited by her experience, Mrs. Francis has consented to allow her story to appear in print.

"If there is anything on earth I dread more than another," she said, "it is to see my name in the papers. But in this case I conquer my repugnance and give publicly the same credit to the savior of my life as I would to one who had dragged me from a death beneath the waves. In fact, I have extolled my preserver with enthusiasm and have persevered, have sought out sufferers and recommended the remedy to so many friends and acquaintances that already my neighbors familiarly call me, 'Pink Pills Francis.' But really, my recovery is something that I consider wonderful. I know that there are so many testimonials of medicine in the papers nowadays that people do not pay as much heed as formerly, but I do wish folks who are suffering would remember that what I say comes right from the heart of a woman who feels that she had a new lease of happy life given to her.

"Eleven years ago I was afflicted with nervous prostration. My existence until two years ago was one of dragging misery. Anyone in the village will tell you of my condition. My blood seemed exhausted from my veins and month after month I grew weaker. I was able to undertake only the lightest household work, and even then I could perform it only by slow and careful movements. During all these sorry months and years I was under the care of this doctor and that, but their medicines helped me only spasmodically, and then I fell into relapses more prostrating than ever.

"In the night I used to be awakened by the most excruciating pains in my heart and side, and was obliged to use pellets of powerful medicine that the doctor gave me for relief in such attacks. At last my condition became so grave that I went out only infrequently. We live upstairs, you notice, over my husband's store, and in descending the stairway I frequently was obliged to sort of fall and slide over the steps in order to descend, such was the strain on my system resulting from even this slight exertion. Occasionally I visited the neighbors, but I was obliged to sit and rest to recover breath while ascending and descending. In short, it did not seem that I could live, such was my complete physical prostration.

"One day I saw an advertisement of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People, and although my faith in remedies was weak by that time, I sent for a box and tried them. That was two years ago. Now I call myself a well woman. Isn't it wonderful? I had one of those excruciating pains in the heart for a year and a half. Why, even the first box of pills helped me. I can walk miles now; can do my work easily; have gained in weight constantly, and you would scarcely believe it, but a little while ago I was examined for endowment life insurance and was accepted unhesitatingly after a careful examination by the physician.

"Do you wonder that I'm shouting 'Pink Pills' all through our village? I haven't taken any of the remedy for some months for it has completely built me up, but at the first sign of trouble I know to what refuge to flee.

"Last year my aunt, Mrs. M. A. Blossom, of Dixfield, P. O., was here visiting me. She was suffering from a lack of vitality and heart trouble, but she was skeptical about my remedy that I was so enthusiastically advocating. At last, however, she tried it and carried some home with her when she went. A little while ago I received a letter from her, and in it said, 'I am cured; thanks to God and Pink Pills.' She also wrote that her husband had been prostrated but had been restored by the remedy.

One of the persons to whom Mrs. Francis recommended Pink Pills is Station Agent C. H. Foster, of Leeds Centre, and the reporter found him patrolling the platform awaiting the arrival of the morning train. Mr. Foster, who is one of the most trustworthy, capable and energetic men in the employ of the Maine Central railroad, appeared in unusually good health and spirits and we made inquiry as to the cause.

"Do you know," replied he, "I think I've made a discovery, or at least Mrs. Francis has for me. I have been in poor health for a long time with a heart trouble variously complicated. We have been so fully interested in Mrs. Francis' wonderful recovery that I at once determined to give the medicine recommended a thorough test. So, about two months ago, I bought the first box of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. Only two months, please note, yet already I am so much improved, so much better able to fulfill my duties, so sanguine that I am on the road to recovery, that I feel like a new man.

I can now walk without the fatigue I once experienced, my heart affection appears to be relieved, and I have joined the Pink Pills' Band in our community."

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills contain all the elements necessary to give new life and richness to the blood and restore shattered nerves. They are for sale by all druggists, or may be had by mail from Dr. Williams' Medicine Company, Schenectady, N. Y., for 50c per box, or six boxes for \$2.50.

The hustlers are mostly out West. A Wichita girl rejected a suitor at 9 p. m. one recent evening, and an hour later he had proposed to her sister and been accepted.

GROW RICH, EVERY FARMER.

The editor thinks it to be the wish of everybody to grow rich, not for the sake of the money, but for the good that can be done with the money. Now, there are three new cereals recently created that will make money for the farmer. One is Silver King Barley, the most wonderful creation of the age, yielding 90, 100 to 116 bu. per acre in 1895, and there are thousands of farmers who believe they can grow 150 bu. per acre therefrom in 1896.

Then there is Silver Mine Oats, yielding in 1895 209 bu. per acre. Every farmer who tested it, believes 250 bu. possible.

Then there is Golden Triumph Corn, which produced over 200 bu. per acre, and 250 bu. is surely possible.

And potatoes, there is Salzer's Earliest, which was fit for table in 28 days in 1895, yielding tremendously, while the Champion of the World, tested in a thousand different places in 1895, yielded from 8 to 1,600 bu. per acre.

Now, in Salzer's new catalogue there is a wonderful array of new varieties of wheat, oats, barley, rye, potatoes, grasses, clovers and forage plants, and the editor believes that it would pay every farmer a thousand-fold to get this catalogue before buying seeds.

If you will cut this out and send it with 10 cents postage to the John A. Salzer Seed Co., La Crosse, Wis., you will receive, free, 10 grain and grass samples, including above and their mammoth catalogue. Catalogue alone, 5 cents postage. W.N.

Now that we have the new photographic light, it won't be so hard to discover the needle in the haystack.—Boston Transcript.

WHERE DID YOU GET THIS COFFEE?

Had the Ladies' Aid Society of our Church out for tea, forty of them, and all pronounced the German Coffeeberry equal to Rio! Salzer's catalogue tells you all about it! 35 packages Earliest vegetable seeds \$1.00 post paid.

If you will cut this out and send with 15c. stamps to John A. Salzer Seed Co., La Crosse, Wis., you will get free a package of above great coffee seed and our 148 page catalogue! Catalogue alone 5c. W.N.

A man can sometimes make money in mining stocks, but the man is apt not to be the lamb investor.

FITS

—All Fits stopped free by Dr. Kline's Great Nerve Restorer. No Fits after the first use. A sure cure. Treats all cases of Epilepsy, St. Vitus' Dance, Hysteria, Neuralgia, etc. Send for Dr. Kline's Great Nerve Restorer, Philadelphia, Pa.

Mayor Cutler of Niagara Falls has sold the Daily Cataract to Alderman Canavan, ex-Alderman Stricker and a real estate man. Cutler will remain as manager.

Many influences combine to reduce health to the danger limit. The reviving properties of Parker's Ginger Tonic test overcome these influences.

The proposed law against prize fighting would not prevent little impromptu affairs at the pretention of "loving cups."

Everyone knows how it is to suffer with corns, and they are not conducive to graceful walking. Remove them with Hildebrand's.

Nearly a quarter of the steam vessels last year sold by British shipbuilders to foreign owners carry the Japanese flag.

I know that my life was saved by Piso's Cure for Consumption.—John A. Miller, An Sable, Michigan, April 21, 1895.

The Rev. Mary E. Lease can besiege the Throne of Grace with more lurid rhetoric than anyone else west of Brother Talmage.

Huggins' Camphor Ice with Glycerine. Cures Chapped Hands and Face, Tender or Sore Feet, Chills, Cuts, Etc. C. O. Clark Co., New Haven, Ct.

The Irrigation Ditch Company in Thomas County, Neb., succeeds in paying farmers for digging work by blocks of stock.

A faith healer in Kansas refuses to treat women who wear corsets. What have corsets to do with faith?—Iowa State Register.

Gladness Comes

With a better understanding of the transient nature of the many physical ills, which vanish before proper efforts—gentle efforts—pleasant efforts—rightly directed. There is comfort in the knowledge, that so many forms of sickness are not due to any actual disease, but simply to a constipated condition of the system, which the pleasant family laxative, Syrup of Figs, promptly removes. That is why it is the only remedy with millions of families, and is everywhere esteemed so highly by all who value good health. Its beneficial effects are due to the fact, that it is the one remedy which promotes internal cleanliness without debilitating the organs on which it acts. It is therefore all important, in order to get its beneficial effects, to note when you purchase, that you have the genuine article, which is manufactured by the California Fig Syrup Co. only and sold by all reputable druggists.

If in the enjoyment of good health, and the system is regular, laxatives or other remedies are then not needed. If afflicted with any actual disease, one may be commended to the most skillful physicians, but if in need of a laxative, one should have the best, and with the well-informed everywhere, Syrup of Figs stands highest and is most largely used and gives most general satisfaction.

STEEL WEB PICKET FENCE.

Also CALLED FOUTRY, GARDEN AND HARBOR FENCE.

We manufacture a complete line of Smooth Wire Fencing and guarantee every article to be as represented. If you consider quality we can save you money. Catalogue free.


De Kalb Fence Co.,

121 High Street, DE KALB, ILL.

Tell It To Everyone

that Brown's Iron Bitters is the symbol for health, strength and happiness. It cures all diseases arising from impure blood, and is a boon to poor SUFFERING WOMAN in her daily cares and troubles. It eliminates the impure blood from the system. Cures stomach, kidney and liver complaints. Are you afflicted?

Brown Chemical Co., Baltimore, Md.




The coming Artist who knows enough to paint a popular subject.

BattleAx PLUG

The largest piece of good tobacco ever sold for 10 cents and The 5 cent piece is nearly as large as you get of other high grades for 10 cents

The Cat Came Back

Because there was no place like the home where they used

Clairette Soap

This Great Soap makes home, home indeed. Keeps everything clean. Keeps the housewife and everybody happy. Try it. Sold everywhere. Made only by THE N. K. FAIRBANK COMPANY, St. Louis.



Chicago & Alton R.R.

ONLY STONE BALLASTED TRACK.

Runs Solid Vestibuled Trains

BETWEEN ST. LOUIS AND CHICAGO, ST. LOUIS AND KANSAS CITY, KANSAS CITY AND CHICAGO.

Palace Reclining Chair Cars Free. Pullman Compartment Sleepers.

Ask your own Home Ticket Agent for tickets via the Chicago & Alton Railroad, or write to JAMES CHARLTON, General Passenger and Ticket Agent, Chicago, Ill., or D. ROWES, General Western Passenger Agt., 216 N. Broadway, St. Louis, Mo.

SALZERS SEEDS

35 Packages Earliest Vegetable Seeds, postpaid, \$1.00.

YOU Have often seen seed come up poor and sickly, without sufficient vitality to produce a crop—that was an object lesson that poor seeds produce poor crops—but when you plant Salzer's Northern-Grown seeds for garden or farm, the same changes as if by magic. Instead of poor yields you at once get running crops, crops that will gladden your heart and fill your purse, for Salzer's seeds are full of life, full of vigor, full of producing qualities.

\$2.00 IN GOLD PRIZES.

We pay this on Oats, Barley, and Corn. 200 bushels of Silver Mine (Nameless Beauty) Oats grown on one acre won the prize in 1895. You can beat that! It is the greatest Oat of the century. No more hard times if you sow a plenty of Salzer's Barley, Oats, Potatoes, Grass and Clover! Have you tried Tumble, Scallion, Giant Spry and Giant Quick-Growing German Clover? Catalogue tells all about these Fodder Plants.

SPLENDID VEGTABLES.

Large selections, many splendid sorts. Everything cheap. Onion Seed at 5c. per lb.; 10 lbs. Flower Seed, 25c. 1,000,000 Beans, Plants and Small Fruits, hardly an Ask. Send 4c. for Market Gardener's Wholesale List.

PLEASE CUT OUT THE FOLLOWING AND SEND IT With 5c. in stamps to John A. Salzer Seed Co., La Crosse, Wis., and get your great catalogue and 10 plants: Grasses, Oats, Barley and Grains.

JOHN A. SALZER SEED CO. LA CROSSE WIS.

