

# MISSOURI SOCIALIST.

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF ST. LOUIS.

Volume I.

St. Louis, Mo., Saturday, February 9, 1901.

Number 6.

## Socialist Martyrs

### COMRADE JOS. J. O'BRIEN SENTENCED TO THIRTY DAYS IN JAIL FOR SPEAKING ON THE STREETS OF SAN JOSE, CAL.

### Comrades Malmke and Ryan May Share Similar Fate—O'Brien Will Speak on Same Corner Again When Free.

The following detailed report of the arrest of three San Jose comrades and the trial of one of them has been received:

San Jose, Cal., January 23, 1901.

Free speech has been suppressed in San Jose, the center of the prune industry, whether this state of affairs will last remains to be seen, however.

The thoughts of the community of this fruitful valley are so thoroughly engrossed in the raising, pickling, curing, packing, canning, storing, selling and shipping of prunes, that should a person happen to express an opinion on any other subject, he would be regarded as abnormal. The people eat prunes, think prunes, talk prunes, and literally speaking, "full of prunes." And, above all, the PRUNE TRUST is flourishing as any trust could wish to be. If it were not for those "condemned Socialists," this trust could last in peace forevermore.

But, alas! these wicked Socialists could not and would not leave well enough alone. That is how it came about that Comrades Harry Ryan, F. C. Malmkes and irrepressible Joseph O'Brien, "the California Demosthenes," were arrested for expressing ideas contrary to those of the "Prune Growing Association" and on matters entirely foreign to "Prunes."

Comrade Harry Ryan, the organizer of Local Santa Clara County, Social Democratic party, together with Comrade Malmkes and Joe O'Brien, were accustomed to hold open-air meetings on the corner of First and Santa Clara streets, the best corner in town for this purpose. On the evening of Saturday, January 12, 1901, these three trusty comrades proceeded, equipped with a soap-box in place of a rostrum, to pump some class-consciousness into the craniums of some of the prune-raising denizens of this prune-afflicted piece of earth. On one corner the Salvation Army held forth unmolested; on another the Mormons were ranting and singing without interference, and we posted ourselves on the third corner. Comrade Harry Ryan opened the meeting by introducing F. C. Malmkes, who had hardly begun to speak when a police officer accosted him, saying that it was against the city ordinance to hold street meetings; but he added that he could go to the next corner. The speaker informed him that he would continue to speak, as he had a constitutional right to do so, and defied arrest. After speaking for about fifteen minutes, the officer approached again and ordered him to stop, on and was promptly refused, whereupon Comrade Malmkes was placed under arrest. Harry Ryan then took the stand, but had hardly opened his mouth when he also was pulled down. Then came O'Brien's turn to be for the ninth time in his young life, introduced to prison walls—a remarkable coincidence, as both he and Ryan had been arrested eight times before for the same act. They were taken to the city prison, where the ball was set at \$10 each, which was forthcoming after they had spent thirty-five minutes behind the bars, during which time they amused themselves by singing the "Marseillaise."

Joseph O'Brien was tried first, his case having been set first. He demanded a jury trial. The date was set for January 21st, and twenty-four "substantial business men" had been summoned to act as jurors, among them the complaining witness, who was a cigar store on the corner in question, which is a general lounging place of the young pruner aristocracy and petty politicians of all descriptions and whose class interests had been offended by the truths uttered by the Socialists.

Comrades Harry Ryan and F. C. Malmkes appeared as counsel for the defendant. The prosecution experienced a surprise, thinking that the comrades were not able to conduct a case, and expecting to have a walk-over. The judge, a recent appointee of the Common Council and a young man with political aspirations and all, proved his prejudice from the very beginning.

When the case was called, Comrade Ryan stepped forward and asked for dismissal on the ground that the city ordinance, on the strength of which an arrest had been made, was unconstitutional, being a violation of both National and State Constitution, and so conflicted with Ordinance No. 10, Section 1, which reads:

"No person shall willfully disturb any lawful assembly or procession of persons by noise, profanity, rude, obscene or indecent conduct, or in any other manner whatever."

On the ground that it delegates the power to create the laws to the

police officer, allowing him to discriminate as to what constitutes "lawful" and "unlawful assemblages."

The prosecuting attorney maintained that the constitutionality had nothing whatever to do with the case, it being a violation of the City Ordinance. The judge sustained the prosecution.

The names of two men were then called and the men ordered to the jury box, whereupon the examination began. It was evident that it was the intention of the judge, as well as the City Attorney, to pick the jury in order to secure a conviction, by the fact that the first man to be examined, the complaining witness himself, after positively stating that he was opposed to all street meetings, and being objected to by Comrade Malmkes, was admitted as a juror. Another man who emphasized that he would like to see all Socialists hung, was also admitted. One man who said that he could not understand why some men were arrested for causes for which others were not, was promptly excused by the judge, as was another, who created quite a sensation by saying, after being asked by the prosecution whether he would uphold all laws, regardless of their constitutionality, that if he regarded any law, including the Constitution, unjust, he would oppose it.

At 12 o'clock only nine men out of twenty-four had been accepted. The comrades had used their right of peremptory challenges quite effectively, as both of the above mentioned gents had been excused, to the great surprise and chagrin of the bench and prosecution, who, judging from their actions, did not expect that we were aware of this legal power. The venire having been exhausted, the court adjourned until 2 p. m., and fifteen more men were summoned as jurors, after the prosecution had moved that the case be taken up with nine jurors, to which Comrade Malmkes replied that we demanded a full jury. When court convened again, three more jurors were secured, without much trouble, and the cross-examination of witnesses began. The prosecuting witnesses testified in our favor, with the exception of the arresting officer. The main point laid in the fact that the defendant had not been asked to move on and had therefore not violated the ordinance, all witnesses testifying that the officer had said nothing else than "I arrest you," omitting the order to move on.

An amusing incident happened when one of the witnesses for the defense was asked by the prosecution whether he was a Socialist. He answered that he never had voted the Socialist ticket and scored the prosecuting attorney for trying to obtain too much information about his private affairs, but he finally said that he was not a Socialist, but wants to see fair play.

All witnesses having been examined, the attorney for the prosecution then addressed the jury. Notwithstanding the fact that the witnesses had testified in our favor, he claimed that the evidence proved the guilt of the defendant conclusively. He resorted to all kinds of abuse, maintaining that no decent woman could be expected to pass on the street and listen to the vile talk of the criminal Socialists.

Comrade F. C. Malmkes addressed the jury next for forty-five minutes in eloquent terms.

When he started to read the law to them the prosecution objected on the ground that neither he nor the jury were competent to decide on questions of law; the objection was sustained. Comrade Malmkes then proceeded by saying: "You see, gentlemen of the jury, the learned gentleman does not wish to have the law read, as it would clearly show to you that the defendant has committed no crime. No matter what verdict you will render, you must not imagine for one moment that by finding the young man guilty you would stop the Socialist movement or the wheels of progress."

The prosecuting attorney took the floor in rebuttal. He told the jury to come out of the clouds and down on the solid earth. "Do not allow yourselves to be misled by a windbag," Malmkes thanked him for the epithet. He further claimed that there was a concerted conspiracy on the part of the Socialists to tie up the courts and create as much expense as possible to the county. Malmkes interrupted him by saying: "That's a lie!" For which the judge rebuked him. Comrade Ryan then asked the judge to instruct the prosecution to remain within the boundaries of truth. The prosecutor then appealed to the pocket-books and business interests of the jurors. Comrade Malmkes asked to be allowed to

speaking again, but was denied the privilege.

The judge then instructed the jury to bring in a verdict of guilty, as the point as to the unconstitutionality of the ordinance was immaterial. The jury remained in session not more than three minutes, after which they brought in a verdict of guilty. The judge then pronounced the result, whereupon Comrade Malmkes asked for arrest of pronouncement of sentence until Thursday, which was granted. The bail was then raised to \$100 for the second case, the comrades having been arrested again on Saturday, January 19th. In consequence of these arrests, both Comrades Malmkes and O'Brien have lost their positions.

On Thursday, January 24, 1901, Comrades Ryan and O'Brien appeared in court to hear sentence pronounced. When the judge asked O'Brien whether he had any reason why sentence should not be pronounced, Comrade Ryan offered the objection that the ordinance, in accordance of which O'Brien was convicted, was unconstitutional. The objection was overruled and O'Brien ordered to arise to receive sentence. After reading the nefarious document, otherwise called charges, the judge sentenced O'Brien to a fine of thirty dollars or thirty days imprisonment in the city prison. O'Brien took the sentence coolly and said to the judge: "Your Honor, I do not know whether I have the legal right to object, but I object, anyhow. You have violated the State and National Constitutions alike. You have usurped powers which are not even delegated to Congress. I consider the sentence unjust and take it under protest. I will not pay a fine and take the punishment of thirty days in prison for an uncommitted crime, because I cannot help myself. I will continue to exercise my rights as a man and a citizen, and you will find me on the same corner speaking on the day of expiration of sentence."

Four deputies took charge of O'Brien to lead him to jail; they marched past the judge's desk, two in front and two behind the comrade; he hummed the "Marseillaise."

The judge asked the bondsmen into his chambers, where he told them that they could pay \$25 out of the bail money and let him serve five days; the proposition was refused on the ground that the money was not his and that he did not wish to pay a fine. He need not feel lonesome during his stay behind the bars, as all the comrades will visit him daily. On the first day he was almost buried in flowers. He will spend his time mostly in studying and writing on economic and political subjects, so as to be better able to combat the capitalist system after his release. After his second day in prison the officers in charge left the outer doors wide open, he being the only one confined. Asked why they left the door open, one replied that they were tired opening them all day long to admit the visitors.

The Brewery Workmen's Union started a "Free Speech Fund," and collected \$22 on the first day.

Now is the time for all comrades who have the cause at heart to contribute their mite to this fund. It is the duty of every Socialist to do his level best to help us defeat this court decision. If we do not succeed this time there will be no end of persecution, as this would surely encourage the police all over this "free and glorious country" to follow suit.

PAUL HARTMANN,  
Headquarters Social Democratic Party,  
72 North Second Street, San Jose,  
California.

### Comrade O'Brien Writes From Behind Prison Bars.

City Prison, San Jose, Jan. 25, 1901.

Dear Comrades, Branded as a criminal, classed as a convict, in a prison cell, surrounded by bars of steel, caged as if a beast, I sit and silently contemplate the enormity of my crime. Carried through the public streets in the hands of a police officer, arraigned as a criminal before an alleged Court of Justice, and convicted by a jury representative of San Jose Capitalist interests, and sentenced to pay a fine of \$30 or serve thirty days in prison, for the "deliberate and malicious" crime of "freely assembling for the consideration of questions for the public good" with my fellow-citizens and Socialists at First and Santa Clara streets, and refusing to move on at the unlawful demand of a petty police officer (who assumed greater authority than the State Constitution), I can now, for the period of thirty days, rejoice in the fact that America is the land of the free and the home of the brave. They have imprisoned my body, but, thanks to Socialism, my mind is free, and all this persecution Capitalism or its agents may employ will not cause me to fail in a moment of duty to express my honest and sincere convictions and to voice the appeal of the international Socialist movement. "Workers of all countries, unite; you have nothing to lose but your chains, and a world to gain."

We are told by our persecutors that a violation of law was committed and the officers were "duty bound" to arrest and punish the offender.

But this is simply rot; the class-conscious Socialist sees something operating that is a little nearer "the ground." Class interest is at work.

It is strange that on November 5th, the night before election, when a crowd of a dozen or more hoodlums stood on the corner of the arrest and for an hour and more persistently in-

terrupted a meeting (held by the S. D. P.) and disturbed the peace of the community by repeated yells and continued boisterous conduct, that this same Police Department, when personally notified, refused to act and restore order, though "duty bound." It is still stranger that meetings have been held and allowed for months on this same corner, and not until election is over and the people have cast their votes is it discovered that it is a violation of the city ordinance for citizens and especially Socialists, to assemble in a public street meeting.

Gambling is allowed to run wild, corruption is silently permitted, but citizens must not have the right to "freely assemble for the consideration of public questions," even though a thousand State and National Constitutions make such gatherings lawful, and moreover make it a criminal offense for any one to disturb such gatherings.

But, says Attorney Partridge, in his argument before their jury: "These crowds are composed of disrespectful people, and no lady or decent gentleman would pass such a crowd, and no business man can profitably allow such a meeting to gather in front of his store."

So, gentlemen of the prosecution, it is not the alleged offense, but the character of the assemblages which you are considering; it is not whether the law has been broken, but rather, shall Socialist propaganda be allowed to continue; or, in your own words, shall these crowds of disrespectful people be allowed to gather and injure business men.

Yes, class interest is at work. Thoroughly conscious of the danger of an enlightened public mind, fully aware of the existence of the Socialist movement, the Capitalist class are working silently and openly to confine and kill it. But, on the other hand, Socialism grows, taking an additional step forward each time its enemies endeavor to impede its growth.

"Oh, liberty, can man resign thee,  
Once having felt thy generous flame?  
Can dungeons, bars or bolts confine thee,  
Or whip thy noble spirit tame?"

With the spirit of Socialism heaving in my heart, and the duties of the Socialist movement guiding me, I answer, "No!"

Comrades, do your duty! It is a class war. The principles of the Socialist movement warrant us in doing whatever is in our power for the cause. With a manly stand we have nothing to lose and everything to gain. Fraternaly,

JOS. O'BRIEN.

### FRUITS OF CAPITALISM.

Perhaps you object to Socialism because "it isn't practicable." The clippings given below of headlines appearing in one issue of the Chicago American will remind you of how practical the present system is and how beautifully it works:

### CRUSH CHILD TO DEATH—IN BARGAIN SCAMBLE.

Eager Shoppers Overturn Counter Beside Which She is Sitting, and—  
Etta Webster Dies in Store.

### NAME TWELVE CHINESE FOR PUNISHMENT.

Allies Present Demands to Envoys, Who Are Inclined to Demur.

### POWERS REFUSE TO REMOVE TROOPS TILL CHINA HAS COME TO TERMS.

### ROBBERS BEAT OLD COUPLE; GET \$2500 IN THEIR SALOON.

Masked Men Hold Up Nicholas Michaels and Wife at Midnight.

### BLOW AND ROB A SAFE.

Daring Robbers Get \$12,000 for Their Work.

### BANK MESSENGER WORKS NEST SCHEME.

Youth Gets \$900 from Seaboard National Before Officials Find Him Out.

### ARRESTED FOR CRIME OF 20 YEARS AGO.

Charles A. Hinckley, Charged With Robbing a Bank of \$75,000, Still Rated as a Rich Man.

### SHORTAGE IS CHARGED.

Charles J. Thompson Accused of Embezzling Funds.

### DEATH OF ORPHAN IS TO BE INVESTIGATED.

Senator Coleman Says Some One is Guilty of Criminal Negligence.

### Greenbaum's Lectures.

Comrade Leon Greenbaum spoke on "Cooperation" at Sandoval, Ill., Tuesday night to an audience of two hundred people. He surprised the audience by launching into Socialism and the next morning Socialism was the town topic. He sold forty Socialist books at the meeting, which was under the auspices of the Federal Labor Union.

Comrade Greenbaum also lectured under auspices of the Mine Workers' Union at Mount Olive, Ill., on Feb. 1st to an audience of about two hundred. He sold sixty-two Socialist books at this meeting.

## LABOR'S RAPID GROWTH.

### Remarkable Gains of Organized Labor During the Past Year.

### An Array of Cold Facts Collected Together by the Cleveland Citizen.

The Cleveland Citizen has condensed the reports of various unions sent to the headquarters of the American Federation of Labor. The list shows a wonderful gain in trade unionism during the past year, indicating that the workers are beginning to realize the necessity of uniting to defend their class interests against the encroachments of the capitalist class. As no better argument can be made in favor of trade unionism we reproduce the citizens' compilation:

Miners formed 498 new unions and gained 67,086 members during the year. The increase of wages secured will approximate \$20,000,000 annually. The raise ranges from 10 to 20 per cent, and benefits workers in Alabama, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Kansas and Missouri, where strikes were waged successfully, and in other states through joint conferences. Minor concessions were also obtained.

Oil well workers gained 23 new unions and 531 members. Increase of wages averages 50 cents for 12 hours.

Brickmakers made net gain of seven unions and 600 members. Won three strikes, two pending and one lost. Secured eight-hour day, recognition of the union, and 10 per cent more wages.

Potters made net gain of eight unions and 957 members. Won one strike, secured recognition of union, uniform scale and 15 per cent increase of wages.

Glass bottle blowers gained 200 members and 7 per cent more wages. Work eight and one-half hours per day.

Bakers report net gain of 51 unions and 1,997 members. Won three strikes, 10 per cent more wages, recognition of union and reduced labor time one hour.

Butchers made net gain of 38 unions, 2,900 members, 10 per cent increase of wages and reduced working time two to four hours.

Tobacco workers report net gain of nine unions and 2,149 members.

Cigarmakers report net gain of 37 unions and 6,717 members. Won 92 strikes, compromised 10, lost 20. Over one-half of persons engaged in strikes secured additional benefits, and of the 12,153 strikers one-half were non-union.

Tailors show net increase of 44 unions and 3,900 members. Won 71 strikes, compromised one and lost one, three, gaining in wages \$100,000 a year and \$25,000 without strikes.

Garment workers report net gain of 29 unions and 2,500 members. Hours of labor were reduced, wages advanced and other matters adjusted in several pieces by arbitration.

Ladies' garment workers organized nine new unions, won two strikes and lost four, and state wages were raised 25 to 30 per cent and 18 shops unionized.

Hatters won a strike and compromised one. Unionized two factories and obtained higher wages.

Shoemakers report a net gain of 22 unions and 2,963 members. Won three strikes, compromised one and lost one. Secured better prices and conditions for many members.

Saddlers had net gain of 22 unions and 900 members. Won 10 strikes and lost one; wages advanced 40 per cent, and hours of labor reduced.

Spintners organized three new unions and increased membership by 616. Two strikes were won and 10 per cent wages gained.

Lace curtain operatives gained 10 new members and reduced hours of labor and raised wages 15 per cent without strike.

Electric web weavers held their own in organization and won two strikes, benefiting all the members of the union.

Upholsterers had net gain of five unions and 207 members. Won eight strikes, compromised four and lost two. Approximate gain of wages, 25 per cent. Also secured advantages without strikes.

Granite cutters increased membership by 1,500. Enforced the eight-hour day throughout the country, raised wages 16 to 23 per cent and secured general recognition of the organization.

Painters report net gain of 154 unions and 13,000 members (largely through amalgamation). Won 14 strikes, compromised two and lost two. Raised wages and reduced hours of labor.

Lathers start national union with 59 locals, nearly all of which got more pay and shorter hours.

Amalgamated carpenters secured five unions and 800 members. Won 10 strikes, compromised one and lost one, gaining eight-hour day, Saturday half-holiday and 2 1/2 per cent increase in wages.

Woodworkers had net increase of 51 unions and 5,400 members. Won 16 strikes, lost two and three pending, the increase of wages averaging 15 per cent. Enforced eight-hour day for 2,000 men in Chicago.

Wood carvers gained one union and

277 members. Won 10 strikes, lost two and compromised three, securing 10 per cent raise of wages and reduction of working time average five hours a week.

Coopers had net gain of 26 unions and 1,148 members. Won 15 strikes, compromised three, lost seven. Raised wages 20 per cent and cut hours in ten cities.

Trunkmakers gained four unions, 85 members and 5 per cent wages.

Broommakers made net gain of 11 unions and 350 members. Six strikes won and raised wages 15 per cent.

Carragemakers had net gain of 10 unions and 125 members. Won four strikes, lost two and reduced working time one hour a day.

Horseshoers had net gain of 11 unions and 500 members. Won four strikes, lost four and enforced nine-hour day.

Hollermakers report net gain of 44 unions and 2,212 members. Won 49 strikes, compromised three and lost four; gaining 5 to 10 per cent wages, shorter hours and better conditions generally.

Machinists had net gain of 91 unions and 12,000 members. Won 21 strikes, compromised nine, lost five, enforced shorter workday and raised wages.

Steamfitters gained nine unions, compromised one strike and lost two.

Patternmakers gained five unions and 296 members and better wages. Won four strikes, lost two, compromised one.

Stovemounters gained four unions, 300 members and 5 per cent in wages. Lost one strike, compromised one, won four.

Tinplate workers gained two unions, 300 members and shorter workday.

Metal mechanics announce increase of 19 unions and 2,000 members net.

Metal polishers made net gain of 36 unions and 2,000 members. Compromised two strikes, lost one, won 14, raised wages and reduced working time.

Jewelry workers lost a strike, raised wages 10 per cent and reduced hours.

Watch case engravers report eight new unions and 100 members. Won three strikes, 15 per cent more wages and abolished piecework.

Bookbinders gained 19 unions, 1,200 members, 20 per cent wages and cut off at-hour a day from working time. Won three strikes and lost two.

Papermakers report net increase of three unions and 500 members.

Printers had net gain of 67 unions and 1,500 members. Won seven strikes, lost 11. Slight increase in wages.

Plate printers secured 25 new members and won a strike.

Musicians report net gain of 30 unions and 2,100 members.

Printing pressmen had net gain of 27 unions and 2,190 members. Won 45 strikes and compromised five.

Theater employees gained 7 unions and won three strikes. Secured raise in wages 25 to 125 per cent.

Engineers made net gain of 19 unions and 1,272 members. Won five strikes, five pending, and increased wages.

Coal hoisting engineers increased 19 unions, 400 members, advanced wages, reduced hours and won a strike.

Firmen gained 37 unions, 2,100 members, raised wages, reduced hours. Won three strikes, compromised one, lost one.

Railway trackmen had net gain of 59 unions and 1,350 members. Reduced working time on 10,000 miles of railway and raised wages by \$200,000 a year.

Street railway employees show net gain of 35 unions and 4,000 members. Won six strikes, lost three. Reduced hours and raised wages in many cities.

Team drivers had net increase of 88 unions and 4,600 members. Won 12 strikes, compromised two, lost three.

Longshoremen gained 79 unions and 6,000 members. Increased wages 10 per cent, reduced hours 5 per cent. Won nine strikes, compromised two, lost one.

Retail clerks report net gain of 175 unions and 10,000 members. Two strikes won, hours of labor reduced.

Barbers made net gain of 68 unions and 3,152 members. Reduced labor hours generally and advanced wages.

Waiters and bartenders report net gain of 73 unions and 5,007 members. Won 14 strikes and bettered conditions.

Here are the facts and figures in black and white. We invite those who are not members of unions, or who imagine that organized labor accomplishes nothing, to study them carefully.

Labor gets 8 cents a yard for making a velvet carpet that sells for \$5 a yard. Labor gets \$7.19 for making a farm wagon that sells for \$75. The material costs \$15, leaving a profit of \$52.81. Labor receiving less than one-seventh of what it produces.



# The Communist Manifesto.

By Carl Marx and Frederick Engels.

## A Historic Document Which Every Socialist Should Study.

(Continued from last week.)

### II.

#### Proletarians and Communists.

What relation do the Communists bear to the proletarians in general? The Communists do not form a separate party opposed to other working-class parties.

They have no interests separate and apart from those of the proletariat as a whole.

They do not set up any sectarian principles of their own by which to judge and mould the proletarian movement.

The Communists are distinguished from the other working-class parties by this only: 1. In the national struggle of the proletarians of the different countries, they point out and bring to the front the common interests of all nationalities. 2. In the various stages of development which the struggle of the working class against the bourgeoisie has to pass through, they always and everywhere represent the interests of the movement as a whole.

The Communists, therefore, are on the one hand, practically, the most advanced and resolute section of the working-class parties of every country, that section which pushes forward all others; on the other hand, theoretically, they have over the great mass of the proletariat the advantage of clearly understanding the line of march, the conditions, and the ultimate general results of the proletarian movement.

The immediate aim of the Communists is the same as that of all the other proletarian parties: formation of the proletariat as a class, overthrow of the bourgeoisie supremacy, conquest of political power by the proletariat.

The theoretical conclusions of the Communists are in no way based on ideas or principles that have been invented, or discovered, by this or that would-be universal reformer.

They merely express, in general terms, actual relations springing from an existing class struggle, from a historical movement going on under our very eyes. The abolition of existing property relations is not at all a distinctive feature of Communism.

All property relations in the past have continually been subject to historical change, consequent upon the change in historical conditions.

The French revolution, for example, abolished feudal property in favor of bourgeois property.

The distinguishing feature of Communism is not the abolition of property generally, but the abolition of bourgeois property. But modern bourgeois society itself creates the abolition of its own property.

The complete expression of the system of producing and appropriating products, that is based on class antagonisms, on the exploitation of the many by the few.

In this sense the theory of the Communists may be summed up in the single sentence: Abolition of private property.

We Communists have been reproached with the desire of abolishing the right of personally acquiring property as the fruit of a man's own labor, which property is alleged to be the groundwork of all personal freedom, activity and independence.

Hard-won, self-acquired, self-earned property! Do you mean the property of the petty artisan and of the small peasant, a form of property that preceded the bourgeois form? There is no need to abolish that; the development of industry has to a great extent already destroyed it, and is still destroying it daily.

Or do you mean modern bourgeois private property?

But does wage labor create any property for the laborer? Not a bit. It creates capital, i. e., that kind of property which exploits wage-labor, and which cannot increase except upon condition of getting a new supply of wage-labor for fresh exploitation. Property in its present form, is based on the antagonism of capital and wage-labor. Let us examine both sides of this antagonism.

To be a capitalist is to have not only a purely personal, but a social status in production. Capital is a collective product, and only by the united action of many members, nay, in the last resort, only by the united action of all members of society, can it be set in motion.

Capital is therefore not a personal, it is a social power.

When, therefore, capital is converted into common property, into the property of all members of society, personal property is not thereby transformed into social property. It is only the social character of the property that is changed. It loses its class character.

Let us now take wage-labor. The average price of wage-labor is the minimum wage, i. e., that quantum of the means of subsistence which is absolutely requisite to keep the laborer in bare existence as a laborer.—What, therefore, the wage-laborer appropriates by means of his labor merely suffices to prolong and reproduce a bare existence.—We by no means intend to abolish this personal appropriation of the products of labor, an appropriation that is made for the maintenance and reproduction of human life, and that leaves no surplus wherewith to command the labor of others. All that we want to do away with is the miserable character of this appropriation, under which the laborer lives merely to increase capital, and is allowed to live only in so far as the interest of the ruling class requires it.

In bourgeois society living labor is not a means to increase accumulated labor. In Communist society, the present dominates the past. In bourgeois society capital is independent and has

to rescue education from the influence of the ruling class.

The bourgeois clap-trap about the family and education, about the hallowed co-relation of parent and child become all the more disgusting, as, by the action of modern industry, all family ties among the proletarians are torn asunder, and their children transformed into simple articles of commerce and instruments of labor.

But you Communists would introduce communities of women, screams the whole bourgeoisie in chorus.

The bourgeois sees in his wife a mere instrument of production. He hears that the instruments of production are to be exploited in common, and, naturally, can come to no other conclusion than that the lot of being common to all will likewise fall to the women.

He has not even a suspicion that the real point aimed at is to do away with the status of women as mere instruments of production.

For the rest nothing is more ridiculous than the virtuous indignation of our bourgeois at the community of women which they pretend is to be openly and officially established by the Communists. The Communists have no need to introduce community of women; it has existed almost from time immemorial.

Our bourgeois, not content with having the wives and daughters of their proletarians at their disposal, not to speak of common prostitutes, take the greatest pleasure in seducing each other's wives.

Bourgeois marriage is in reality a system of wives in common, and thus, at the most, what the Communists might possibly be reproached with, is that they desire to introduce, in substitution for a hypocritically concealed, an openly legalized community of women. For the rest it is self-evident that the abolition of the present system of prostitution must bring with it the abolition of the community of women springing from that system, i. e., of prostitution both public and private.

The Communists are further reproached with desiring to abolish countries and nationalities.

The workingmen have no country. We cannot take from them what they have not got. Since the proletariat must first of all acquire political supremacy, must rise to be the leading class of the nation, must constitute itself the nation, it is, so far, itself national, though not in the bourgeois sense of the word.

National differences and antagonisms between peoples are daily more and more vanishing, owing to the development of the bourgeoisie, to freedom of commerce, to the world's market, to uniformity in the mode of production and in the conditions of life corresponding thereto.

The supremacy of the proletariat will cause them to vanish still faster. United action, of the leading civilized countries at least, is one of the first conditions for the emancipation of the proletariat.

In proportion as the exploitation of one individual by another is put an end to, the exploitation of one nation by another will also be put an end to. In proportion as the antagonism between classes within the nation vanishes, the hostility of one nation to another will come to an end.

[To be Continued.]

### Charity.

Came two young children to their mother's shelf  
(One was quite little, and the other big),  
And each in freedom calmly helped himself.  
(One was a pig.)

The food was free and plenty for them both,  
But one was rather dull and very small.  
So the big, smarter brother, nothing loath,  
Took it all.

At which the little fellow raised a yell  
Which the other's more aesthetic ears  
He gave him, here a crust, and there a shell,  
To stop his tears.

He gave with pride, in manner calm and bland,  
Finding the brother's hunger a delight,  
He gave with piety—his full left hand  
Hid from his right.

He gave and gave—O, blessed Charity!  
How sweet and beautiful a thing it is!  
How fine to see that big boy giving free  
What is not his!

—Exchange.

The mother of social wealth, of all culture is labor. Whatever we are and have, we are and have through labor. We have labor to thank for everything. Not our personal labor, at least only to an inconsiderable degree, but the general social labor. It is very possible, indeed—and we see it frequently enough—to enjoy the blessings of culture without personal work; but it is also absolutely impossible for the most industrious and efficient worker with the most strenuous toil to live as men of culture live, without the general social labor that first created culture and without which we were beasts, not men. From this we see the associative nature of labor. Labor has always had this character, with the ancient slave, and the vassal of the middle ages, as well as with the modern wage-earner. But he did not have the product of his labor, nor has he it yet. The ancient slave worked for his master, the medieval vassal for the lord of the manor, and the modern slave works for the capitalist.

Here is the inconsistency, here the injustice, to remedy which is the object of Socialism. The social character of labor, the product of labor shall be the property of labor, labor no longer to be the companion of misery, but of enjoyment.—Liebnicht.

Labor receives 9 cents a yard for making Brussels carpet that sells for 75 cents a yard.

## AMERICAN ITEMS.

Comrades at Tacoma, Wash., have organized a Karl Marx Club.  
Rev. Chas. Vail speaks in Haverhill, Mass., on Feb. 13th.

The Chicago building trades' strike has now lasted for one year.  
Portsmouth, O. Social Democrats nominated complete city ticket, with Walter Bagley for Mayor.

A local branch of the S. D. P. has been organized at St. Clair, Mich.  
The Independent Northern Coal companies have yielded to the demands of striking miners.

The State Convention of the Social Democratic Party of North Dakota adopted the name, "Socialist Party."  
Local Detroit, Mich., invites the Socialists of America to choose that city for holding the national convention.

State Organizer J. D. Stevens and the editor of the People's Press, Comrade A. D. Hale, are making Socialist speeches throughout Oregon.  
Dr. H. O. Breeden, pastor of the Church of Christ, Des Moines, Ia., in a recent sermon, declared unequivocally for the principles of Socialism.

The Kay County Populist of Newkirk, Oklahoma, has been changed to the "Oklahoma Socialist" and gets in to the fight for the co-operative commonwealth.

Local Saginaw, Mich., has nominated Comrades Jay Harriman, of New York, and Max Hayes, of Cleveland, for members of the International Socialist Bureau.

Local Oakland, Calif., held an enthusiastic municipal convention on January 27th and nominated a city ticket with Comrade Jack London as candidate for Mayor.

At the Washington State Labor Congress in January there was one Socialist among the delegates. He made so much noise that the Congress passed resolutions to study public ownership of industry.

A labor secretary to compile statistics, watch legislation and fight cases in the courts and attend to other legal matters is to be elected by New York unions. Sixteen unions having a membership of 10,000 favor the idea. Job Harriman is talked of for the position.

Several union men were arrested for spreading trades union propaganda amongst the employes of the Warren Electric Company of Chicago by means of hand bills. They were charged with "disorderly conduct." Republican spellbinders—with "prosperity wagons" and hand bills by the million worked this district for weeks before election and were never interfered with. It all depends whose ox is gored.

When counsel for Robert Marshall, who was hurt by the breaking of an elevator while employed by the Dixon Crucible Company of Jersey City, attempted the other day to file papers in the Hudson County Supreme Court, it appeared that no justice of that county could try the case, as they all owned stock in the company. A judge from another county will be asked to try the case. Rather an interesting situation, isn't it?—N. Y. People.

Chicago union metal polishers and platers will go into business on their own account. A deal was made by which Frank Fanning's plating and polishing plant at Pratt and Morgan streets becomes the property of the Metal Polishers, Platers, Buffers and Brass Workers' Union.

The union will conduct the business through a board of directors and all profits will be turned into its treasury. It is said that sufficient orders have been secured to give twenty men work from the start. The plant will be opened for business next Monday. All kinds of polishing will be done, besides gold, silver and nickel plating and brass and bronze finishing.

Three thousand mill girls of Scranton, Pa., are on strike. The press dispatches say:

"No class of labor in this city has more sympathy expressed for it than the struggling factory girls. They practically work from the rising to the setting of the sun for starvation wages and have long been subjected to all sorts of indignities. Many of them are but ten to fifteen years of age and in starting in the factory are compelled to work simply for the experience they gain. After they become proficient they are allowed from \$2 to \$3.50 a week.

"Many of them live considerable distances from the factory and the compensation for the labor is not sufficient to allow them to expend any money for their car fare. They ask for advances of from 10 to 25 per cent."

### History Will Repeat Itself.

The February number of Review of Reviews contains a series of significant anti-Lincoln cartoons published in the early 60's by various papers. The smugocracy of that period vilified the "rail-splitter" as it now vilifies any champion of the people who dares to contend for the rights of man against money. Lincoln is now revered as a saint—though no attempt is made to observe his principles—but a cartoon of 1860 represents him as riding on a rail toward the lunatic asylum, heading a procession of his supporters, labeled variously "free-lover," "Mofman," "chief," etc. Each one of the crowd is represented as speaking his sentiments, and here are some of the things they say:

"I want everybody to have a share of everybody else's property."  
"I want a hotel established by Government where people that ain't inclined to work can board free of expense and be found in rum and tobacco."  
"I represent the free-love element, and expect to have free license to carry out its principles."  
"I want guaranteed to every citizen the right to examine every other citizen's pockets, without interruption by policemen."  
In reply to these "wants" Lincoln himself is represented as saying:

"Now, my friends, I'm almost in office and the millennium is going to begin, so ask what you will and it shall be granted."  
This is rich reading for Socialists

who are dally accused of demanding the things attributed to the heroic souls who united with Lincoln to abolish the institution of chattel slavery. Nothing that malignity could devise was spared those who questioned the "sacred right of property" in slaves; but neither malignity, nor ignorance, nor bigoted intolerance could prevent the triumph of the cause Lincoln represented. Similarly in this day the rain of abuse and misrepresentation showered on Socialists has no more effect than water on a duck's back and as chattel slavery was abolished in Lincoln's day, so wage slavery will be abolished, as the Socialists propose, in our day.—Southern Socialist.

## Song of the Mills.

One day I sat in my office pondering  
O'er statutes long, o'er decisions wondering;  
And as I labored to make a brief,  
On a case in court to save a thief,  
I longed for argument in the moral sense,  
To justify my effort in his defense:  
'Twas labor lost, it seemed so deep,  
I lost my page, and went to sleep.

And in my dream I heard the sound  
Of the noon-day whistles of the mills  
around;  
Along Black River, without confines,  
Away in the distance among the pines;  
Across the line of Current River,  
Where still is found the Red Man's  
quiver.

Then from the northward the sounds  
came to me,  
From Grandin, Greenville and Saint  
Louis:  
Then from east and west, from many a  
source,  
The mills of the earth joined in the  
chorus:  
From north and south, from far away,  
Their music made a melody,  
I listened to the whistling of the mills,  
I heard the echo among the hills,  
And in the re-echo they seemed to say  
'We have a sad story to tell this day,  
I heard the story, I heard it thro',  
'Twas a sad sad story, 'twas sad but  
true:  
'Twas sad but true, 'twas sad but true;  
'twas:

The mills of the gods ground slow of  
old,  
But the mills of men grind into gold,  
The mills of the gods ground into powder,  
The mills of men grind faster, louder,  
We grind the sweat of honest toil,  
We grind the muscle and the blood,  
We grind the tears of motherhood,  
We grind the joys of childhood,  
We grind the hopes of manhood  
All into gold, all into gold, all into  
gold.

'Come laborers, come, but leave hope  
behind,  
We want the souls of men to grind,  
We grind for our master all day long,  
We grind for him, we sing his song,  
He cares but little for your blood,  
He cares but little for motherhood,  
He cares but little for childhood,  
He does not care for manhood,  
He cares for gold, for this you're sold,  
You're sold for gold, you're sold for  
gold.

Yourselves, your wife, your child, your  
mother,  
Are pledge to him there'll be another,  
When you're worn out, when you are  
old,  
Another man to grind to gold,  
A mother's blessing and a father's joy,  
To him is but a worthless toy,  
This child you prize, this barefoot boy,  
That's give you pleasure, that's give  
you joy,  
When you're worn out, broke down  
and old,  
This boy'll be sold, this boy'll be sold,  
You'll curse the day when he was  
born,  
His youthful smiles will be a thorn,  
To prick you, when you are old,  
You'll see those smiles ground 'into  
gold.

'Then come, O come, but leave behind,  
Your joys and hopes of every kind;  
Our master's rich and you are blind,  
The richer he, the more we'll grind,  
We grind alone for his increase,  
We can not cease, we can not cease.

'As long as man preys upon mankind,  
The mills of earth will not cease to  
grind  
For the god of greed, for the god of  
gold,  
For barons rich and for mammon bold,  
The days to come will be dark with  
blood,  
Mankind will be cursed as with the  
flood,  
But God alone can check our speed,  
And save humanity from unbridled  
greed.  
For this we hope, for this we plead,  
For this we plead, for this we plead.

The time will come when men will  
see,  
That they're living here for eternity,  
That they're members of one brother-  
hood,  
That they have in common one father-  
hood,  
That the God, Jehovah, is the God of  
all,  
The rich, the poor, the great, the small,  
That the Christ that died upon the tree  
Preached the doctrine of equality,  
When that day comes as it's decreed,  
Mankind'll be freed, mankind'll be  
freed.

'When that day comes the mills will  
grind  
For great and small, for all mankind,  
And in that day that's coming fast,  
You'll worship God and curse the past,  
You'll see at last that the hell you  
fear,  
Has a prototype in the factory here,  
Christen, man; we must say farewell,  
The hour is gone, farewell, farewell,  
Of other states on this subject, but he  
As a parting secret we must tell,  
That a modern mill is a firey hell,  
It's hell, it's hell, it's hell, it's hell.'  
GEO. D. TINCH,  
Poplar Bluff, Mo.,  
New Year day, A. D. 1901.

## OFFICIAL.

The members of Third, Fourth and Fifth Wards will meet at Room 7, 22 North Fourth street Saturday evening, February 9th, to form a joint ward branch.

Work, agitate, organize, educate, scatter literature, solicit subscriptions, raise the campaign fund, talk socialism all day, talk it all night, stir the animals up!!!!

Comrades of the Thirteenth Ward met Saturday evening, February 24, and nominated Comrade Robt. Kalb, for member of House of Delegates.

Members of the Twelfth Ward met last Saturday evening and nominated Comrade Julius G. Friton for member of the House of Delegates.

The Eighth, Ninth and Tenth Ward Branches will give a euchre and hop at Dewey Hall, 2301 South Broadway, Saturday evening, February 23. Tickets fifteen cents.

The Commune Festival at Druids Hall, Saturday, March 16th, for the benefit of the Arbeiter-Zeitung and Missouri Socialist will be the biggest thing that ever happened in Socialist circles in St. Louis.

### Campaign Fund.

Previously reported \$18.75  
Arnold Blaettler 1.00  
J. H. Buttrel 1.00  
Herm. Herminghaus .50  
Comrades will please turn in lists as soon as possible.

### Secure Signatures.

The Secretary now has printed blanks for securing signatures to the nomination papers. Every member should obtain one of these lists at once. We must have one thousand names signed to the petition. This is an easy task, but it must be done quickly in order that all hands may settle down to good hard campaign work.

### City Central Committee.

Regular meeting City Central Committee, Local St. Louis, at Room 7, 22 North Fourth street, Monday evening, Feb. 4th.

Kreyling, Detjen, Winkler, Heinrichshofen, Meyer, De Cebay, McCaffery and Hager present. Comrade Kreyling elected chairman. Motion carried to elect a committee from each unorganized ward to serve on Central Committee. The following were elected accordingly: Third Ward—Fred Spalt; Fifth Ward—John A. Kriese; Fourteenth Ward—L. F. Gomes; Sixteenth Ward—John P. Larkin; Twenty-first Ward—Jas. R. Tierman; Twenty-third, Henry Benner; Twenty-fourth, Fred A. Schlueter; Twenty-fifth, P. O. Salsbury; Twenty-sixth F. P. O'Hare; Twenty-seventh, Hy. Ruesche.

Comrade De Cebay elected Literature Agent to fill vacancy. Literature agent instructed to purchase thirty copies of "A Paradox Explained." Committee elected to co-operate with Social crusade in bringing Prof. Herron to St. Louis. Secretary instructed to find out whether Comrade John C. Chase will be near St. Louis during campaign. Secretary instructed to notify members to secure signatures to nomination blanks as soon as possible.

### Local Meeting.

Local St. Louis held its monthly business meeting at Metal Trades Hall last Sunday and transacted much business of importance. The Board of Directors and Managing Editor of Missouri Socialist made their first report. Two new members were admitted. Comrade Hildebrand resigned as member of the Board of Directors of Missouri Socialist and Comrade Richard Murphy was elected to fill the vacancy. Comrade Bernard McCaffery was elected city organizer to fill vacancy created by Comrade Greenbaum's resignation.

The unity propositions submitted by the National Committee were taken up and the votes of the thirty-two members present were all cast in the affirmative on each proposition and for Indianapolis as the place of holding the convention. The secretary was instructed to hold the vote two weeks before forwarding it in order to give absent members an opportunity to cast their votes. All members who were not present last Sunday should clip the ballot from the first column of last week's issue and after writing their vote on each question send it to the secretary. Branch secretaries will also please call the attention of members to this. Nominations were made for the House of Delegates for unorganized wards with the following result:

Third Ward—Fred Spalt,  
Fifth Ward—Wm. Voegel,  
Fourteenth Ward—L. F. Gomes,  
Sixteenth Ward—John P. Larkin,  
Eighteenth Ward—J. H. Buttrel,  
Twenty-first Ward—Jas. R. Tierman,  
Twenty-third Ward—Henry Benner,  
Twenty-fourth Ward—M. Ballard Dunn,  
Twenty-fifth Ward—F. P. O'Hare,  
Twenty-sixth Ward—Chas. Hahn,  
Twenty-seventh Ward—Henry Ruesche.

The following committee was appointed to co-operate with a similar committee from the Co-operative Commonwealth Publishing Association in arranging for a joint Commune festival at Druids Hall on March 16th for the benefit of the Arbeiter-Zeitung and Missouri Socialist: B. C. De Cebay, M. Dunn, B. McCaffery, Wm. Detjen and E. Val Potnam.

Socialist Councilmen introduced a bill in the City Council of Haverhill to the effect that all city printing should bear the union label. The bill was voted down by the Republican major-

BEYOND THE SEAS.

ENGLAND.
The House of Commons...

SCOTLAND.
The first annual conference...

IRELAND.
The British Socialist party...

AMERICA.
The American Socialist party...

SPAIN.
The Spanish Socialist party...

GERMANY.
The editor of the Frankfurt Volksstimme...

THE MISSOURI "GANG."
The following comrades have agreed...

NOTICE.
All comrades for Missouri...

THEY DON'T AGREE.
Capital is First—Andrew Carnegie...

UNION BAKERIES.
Following is a list of the bakeries...

LABOR RECEIVES \$7.00 FOR PRODUCING...

WRIGHT IRON RANGE STRIKE

The Wright Iron Range Co. at Minn...

These men are kept within the factory...

A strike was organized by the range...

Another man died in Toronto the other day...

All this society is false. One day...

The following comrades have agreed to purchase...

Comrade Blaettler replenished our treasury...

Comrade Struckhoff rounded a few of the heathens...

Comrade Brandt passed long enough in his rounds...

South St. Louis workers, get your eye on that...

Comrade Waldo, of Grandin, Mo. leads a little crusade...

Comrade Haasler, of Harrell, Mo. writes: We are still at work...

R. C. Y. Brown, Ozark, Mo. I received a copy of the Missouri Socialist...

MUNICIPAL TICKET

Social Democratic Party of St. Louis

For Mayor: Louis Greenbaum

For President of the City Council: John Zach

For Members of the Board of Education: Frank H. Hager

Municipal Platform. Adopted December 24, 1903

The Social Democratic party of St. Louis...

The Social Democratic party of St. Louis...

The Social Democratic party of St. Louis...

The Social Democratic party of St. Louis...

The Social Democratic party of St. Louis...

The Social Democratic party of St. Louis...

The Social Democratic party of St. Louis...

The Social Democratic party of St. Louis...

The Social Democratic party of St. Louis...

The Social Democratic party of St. Louis...

The Social Democratic party of St. Louis...

The Social Democratic party of St. Louis...

The complete overthrow of the capitalist...

The Social Democratic party of St. Louis...

The Social Democratic party of St. Louis...

The Social Democratic party of St. Louis...

The Social Democratic party of St. Louis...

The Social Democratic party of St. Louis...

The Social Democratic party of St. Louis...

The Social Democratic party of St. Louis...

The Social Democratic party of St. Louis...

The Social Democratic party of St. Louis...

The Social Democratic party of St. Louis...

The Social Democratic party of St. Louis...

The Social Democratic party of St. Louis...

The Social Democratic party of St. Louis...

The Social Democratic party of St. Louis...

The Social Democratic party of St. Louis...

The Social Democratic party of St. Louis...

HAVE your Acknowledgements, Legal Papers, Deeds of Trust, Contracts, Leases, Last Wills and Loans drawn up...

For a Good Time, Come to the Second Annual Masquerade Ball

Given By CIGARMAKERS' UNION, NO. 44, at Lemp's Park Hall, 13th and Utah Sts.

Saturday Evening February 23, Tickets, 25c a Person.

A Handsome Souvenir presented to Each Lady Attending Smoke Only Union Made Cigars.

Union-made Cigars. BLUE UNION LABEL

BENTE'S ST. LOUISIANA

St. Louis Union Made 5c Cigar Social Democratic Party of St. Louis

Every SUNDAY, 3 p. m., at Metal Trades Hall, 1310 Franklin Ave.

Speaking and Discussion at Each Meeting Except first in Each Month.

Come and Hear Principles of Socialism Discussed DIRECTORY.

I Am Anxious to Call If you need insurance of any kind, drop me a postal, to 95 2nd Street.

H.V. HEINRICHSHOFEN VONEY'S RESTAURANT AND LUNCH ROOM.

313 Locust St. The Man Who Stands by the Union.

BOYCOTT THE English Syndicate Breweries

WM. VOEGE'S Bakery and Coffee House

115 South 2d Street, Opposite Lemp's Beer Depot.