

# SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC HERALD

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## MERLIN'S MIXTURE

### Astor the Benevolent.

I see by a recent dispatch that our renegade citizen, Astor, has been playing the part of the benevolent philanthropist. Out of the fullness of his English heart and his American pocket, he has given \$1,000 dollars to the British war fund.

The soldiers who are being shipped out in consignments by English commercialism to the South African abattoir are being promptly disposed of by Oom Paul. And as the result there are many homes in England full of sorrow and empty of bread. And for the relief of these Astor has opened his purse.

The act in itself was apparently praiseworthy. It won for the giver the warm encomiums of the British press. Doubtless the pious paupers who will share the gift consider it an act of providence on their behalf, and will regard Astor as a Christian.

It was kind—of a kind. One cannot help suspecting that Astor was simply furthering his design to become an "Astor-oid" in the constellation of English snobbery. It would give him prestige with the royal ighnesses whose interest at present is equally divided between the commercial slaughter of the husbands and the charitable relief of the wives.

### Astor the Malevolent.

We are justified in accusing him of motives less noble than kindness when we consider his actions on this side of the sea.

Coincident with the report of his English generosity, came a report of his American greed. The agents of Astor have just raised the ground-rents of their New York real estate to over double their former figure. The rent has gone up from \$350 to \$750. A large portion of New York is owned by the Astors, and with criminal cunning they have never disposed of it, but have permitted buildings to be erected on land leased from them. And now, secure in their possession, they demand a double figure.

It seems that many homes have been built on Astor property, and that as the result of this act of legalized greed their owners will be unable to retain them. And so, while Astor contributes a paltry sum to support English homes, he exports a fortune by robbing and ruining American homes.

The elder Astor made his pile by skinning animals. The last of the line, Willy Wally, is carrying on the same business by dealing in human hides.

How long shall we allow this rascally renegade to open his purse and give away our money? How long shall we let the Malevolent play the Benevolent, at our expense? I don't object to china Astors, but I do to American ones!

### Bryan's Blunder.

During his recent visit to New York, William J. Bryan sounded the slogan of his presidential campaign in the words "Kill the trusts!" To quote him more fully, "the battle cry of paramount issue is kill the trusts, the big trusts, the little trusts, the money trust, the industrial trust, the international land-grabbing trust."

Poor Bryan! Poor blind leader of the blind! I had given him credit for more sense. Nay, more, after hearing his utterances during his campaign of '96, I am inclined to give him credit for more knowledge concerning industrial affairs, and the futility of his trust-smashing scheme.

It is Bryan's expressed wish and plan that as a nation we go back to free competition again. He wants to see grocery stores on every village corner, with their different delivery wagons passing each other on the street and their myriad mean methods of catching trade.

Bryan really knows better. He must know that the trusts are inevitable. They are simply the instrument whereby the curse of competition is being eliminated from business. There remains now the clear duty of substituting co-operation in its place.

The trusts must be used, not killed. They must be taken advantage of instead, as now, of being permitted to take advantage of us.

### The Socialist Sequel.

The sure sequel of all the industrial evolutionary processes of today is Socialism. It is the logical and inevitable concluding chapter of the story of the trusts. "There is no other name given among men whereby ye may be saved."

There are but three stages in the progress of modern industrial evolution. The first is competition, the second is combination, and the third is co-opera-

tion. At this present time the second stage is being reached. Combination of capital has displaced competition of capital.

It is not a step backward. It is not a sign of decadence. On the other hand, the trusts denote progress, and along scientific lines. Only the ignorant man deplores the trusts. Only the fool seeks to destroy them.

The trusts are a curse to cowards, but a boon to the brave. They denote oppression to the uninformed, but they prove progression to the open-eyed man who studies the true significance of events.

The pangs of poverty that are convulsing our land today, as the result of the trusts are but the labor-pains preceding the birth of the child, Socialism!

### A Canadian Haverhill.

The recent municipal election in London, Canada, gives substantial evidence of the progress of Socialism there.

For many years the mayoralty contest in that city has been fought on strictly party lines. But the socialist sentiment has grown so strong during the past year that the socialists, with the endorsement of the labor unions, put up an independent socialist candidate, Frederick J. Darch.

As the only means of escape from defeat the Conservatives and Liberals dropped party differences and united on a common candidate. Even with their united strength they polled only 2,638 votes, as against the 2,419 votes cast by the socialists.

The latter made this splendid showing in spite of the fact that Mr. Darch did not get the full support of labor, many workmen refusing to subscribe to the socialist platform, or to endorse Socialism in any way.

It was therefore a clear-cut issue between labor and capital, and like our own Haverhill, it was an augury of the time soon to come when labor's right will meet and vanquish money's might. Watch London next year.

### A Society Bud's Root.

In this morning's paper I find the following society note: "Miss Katharine Clark is the presiding genius in the big New York palace which her father, Senator William A. Clark, built last year. Her father is a multi-millionaire and gratifies her every wish."

And upon another page of the same paper there is this news note from Washington: "Representative Murray, of the Montana house of representatives, testified that he was offered \$10,000 to vote for Senator Clark by persons whom he considered representatives of that person."

The second article explains the first. The fortunes of the rich are based upon bribery and theft and falsehood. The gay flower that blossoms in the blaze of society is supported by roots that twist their sinuous way through darkness and filth. At one end of Senator Clark's fortune is a pampered daughter; at the other end is the sneaking agent, who lurks in the dusk of lobbies.

"He gratifies her every wish." So does the tiger gratify the wish of its whelps, but only when some unsuspecting deer has fallen into its bloody clutch. And many an exploited workman has had to deny his daughter almost every wish in order that he might pay tribute to the highwayman of politics and trade.

### History repeated.

Just previous to the fall of Rome the aristocracy indulged in all manner of insane pleasures and riotous dissipations. They threw aside all restriction and abandoned all decency and propriety.

Such a period seems to be coming in our own land today. Every here and there may be seen a premonitory bubble in the volcano of vice, predicting a social eruption.

This week three such cases are worthy of note. The French ball of New York was marked by an equal absence of decency and clothes. Feminine poverty and masculine wealth met in riotous licentiousness.

A Chicago dispatch gave an account of a new dance that had been indulged in by a club in that city, particulars of which are not printable.

And strangest and worst of all, is an account of a young woman's "Degradation Club" in Toledo, one of whose members, chosen by lot, voluntarily went into a life of vice, in fulfillment of her promise to live the most degraded life possible, and died in a hovel!

Dark is the augury of these things. They show that the links of civilization are snapping beneath the weight of social sin and industrial injustice, and that we are drifting back to barbarism.

There is but one hope, one chance, one escape, from the chaos of vice and tumult, and that is—Socialism!

Merlin.

## GEORGE D. HERRON DECLARES FOR SOCIALISM

On the eve of his departure for an extended trip abroad, Prof. George D. Herron, speaking in New York City, January 21, declared that "Socialism is the only living religion, the only program of faith that is offered at the present time." The real significance of this utterance will be understood by those acquainted with the mental processes through which Prof. Herron has passed during the last year. The speaker's subject was "Socialism and Religion." The address, delivered before the Social Reform Club of New York, was intended as a definite pronouncement in favor of Socialism. It distinctly shows that Prof. Herron has come to accept the social revolution and the class struggle. He said: "It is no wonder the cries for Socialism are heard when we look into the wheels of this hideous machine called civilization and see men dead in body and soul who are its grist, and 'it is no longer a question whether you will have a social revolution—it is only left you to decide what kind of a revolution you will have; there is nothing else left for the class disinherited.'"

The New York Times says the address was given "before a gathering which would have filled an auditorium twice the size of the club's quarters; many had to leave, being unable to get within hearing distance." From the Times' report and the dispatches we take the following in addition to the quoted passages above:

"I have no expectation that the present system can be mended—it can only be ended. Socialism comes to us as an uncompromising fact without regard as to whether you or I want it or not. It stands for a new spirit and a new world."

"From the various forms of individualism, through capitalism, from what a man is supposed to earn and what he really needs, we must finally reach that stage where human need is the only recognized coin of the realm for a decent society. But the central idea of Socialism is that of every human being an equal inheritor of social wealth and benefits. And in this day all things objective and subjective are tending toward the socialistic idea."

"Progress up to date has been largely a progress of slaves. We still live in a miserably enslaved world. When men take it into their heads that they can make any kind of a world they choose, history will begin to go across-lots, wandering no more through tragedy and failure."

"One of the grave questions is the effect Socialism will have on religion. What will be the effect on the general mental attitude of human life if Socialism should predominate? What will be the effect on the creeds and the dogmas, the gods and the temples?"

"The effect of a socialistic idea possessing the world would change the whole attitude of human life toward the future. Protestantism stands (though it does not stand very well to-day) by menacing the integrity of the human soul. The element of fear has been dominant in men for centuries. They are afraid of the gods they worship and must propitiate them. They must sacrifice to their unknown gods more fruits of one kind or monopoly or another—perhaps by founding universities of theological seminaries."

"There is not a bit of spiritual difference between the Standard Oil combination and the Protestant Church, or, rather, take the Presbyterian Church, in which I was born and reared. One demands tribute in the form of cash and the other in the form of enslavement of souls and all the cash it can get besides. But when the social revolution comes to something like a really defined conflict with the capitalistic classes it will come as a programme of uncompromising Socialism without regard as to whether you or I want it or not."

"If we really had democracy—if it were a fact instead of a dogma—in the state and in industry, we could not escape democracy in ethics. No human being has a right to impose ethical or religious authority on another human being. All imposed authority is essentially atheistic. The man who seeks to coerce another into accepting his views is atheistic, and cannot believe in a god. What you call religious authority is essentially a monopoly."

"Socialism is the only living religion, the only programme of faith that is offered at the present time."

After the address Prof. Herron said that he meant to make no discrimination in favor of Roman Catholicism, but had referred only to Protestantism because he was a Protestant himself.

The Herald Leaflets are good for propaganda at 25 cents per hundred copies.

## SOCIETY'S "DARE-BASE" GAME

"Dare-base" is a familiar game to every school child, and possibly to every American who has ever attended school. To play the game successfully, the company should usually be divided into two equal parts; but many times have I seen one swift runner take a stand by himself and win over to his side the entire school.

Society is so perfectly organized on the plan of "dare-base" that the features of the latter are boldly stamped on life's practical game—the struggle for wealth and worldly position. The successful members of society have planted their "legal line" "dare-base," and stand bantering the other side, the unsuccessful members of society, to cross it. And, on the other hand, the unsuccessful members, in order to win in this desperate game of life, are obliged to keep dangerously near the "dare-base" line, and if opportunity is offered, they make a desperate grab for anything in sight. Only to the by-stander, who has become tired of this ceaseless running to and fro and halting midway in the game, can anything like a definite knowledge of the end be determined. He sees at a glance the enthusiasm manifested on both sides, and his opinion of the finality is worth more than the opinions of all the participants combined. And when the passion for life is arrayed against the passion for approbation, it should not take a prophet to foretell the end.

"You are at liberty to cross this line," says society, "but if you do, I have a place prepared for you, and I dare you to cross it!"

The rush is on, and if one of the unsuccessful catches his man, and the catch proves to be a good one, he immediately changes places with the man he caught, takes his position in the ranks of the successful, and turns over his old position to his victim. If the catch is not something extra, they are both compelled to take their positions among the unsuccessful. And thus this disgusting game of national "dare-base" goes on.

How natural it is for those who have not learned the lesson of justice to desire to show their strength and authority! I once saw a boy place a chip on his shoulder and dare any boy in the crowd to knock it off. It fell before he could wink his eye. And when I see the majesty of the law walking up and down the earth in that same imperious, chip-on-the-shoulder spirit, I say to myself: "Your majesty will surely get that chip knocked off."

True, the majesty of the law, when directed by love and justice, should, and, I believe, would, be upheld; but when it seeks the enslavement of 90 per cent of the human race for the benefit of the remaining 10 per cent, it ceases to command respect, and deserves the full measure of loyalty which it is today receiving.

Instead of directing their attention toward the amelioration of existing conditions, the successful members of society, generally speaking, notwithstanding their vapory protestations to the contrary, are frantically engaged in making laws with which to grind the less fortunate still harder, and thousands and thousands year by year are thus being swept to the opposite of the "dare-base."

The problem of the law should not be how to catch thieves, but how to avoid making thieves. Millions of dollars—enough to actually hire the thieves not to steal—are spent annually for jails and locks and officers, and the very people who are already dangerously near the "dare-base" line are taxed to their utmost, and sometimes taxed entirely across the line, in order to provide a place to keep them when they are bagged.

Is there no better way than this to prevent crime? If not, let us quit calling ourselves civilized?

If President McKinley would take that chip off his shoulder and turn his attention toward "benevolent public improvement," instead of "benevolent assimilation of the Philippines," he would certainly confer a blessing upon a grateful but hampered people; but if he continues to disregard the wishes of the people, some one will knock that chip off his shoulder as sure as his name is Mack.

The ranks of the unfortunate are steadily growing. Thousands of our best business men find themselves being daily crowded nearer and nearer the "dare-base" line. The one swift runner—adversity—is about to proclaim himself the champion of the game. These men, notwithstanding they have sold their birthright for a mess of pottage, are neither fools nor jumping-jacks designed for the entertainment of Rockefeller and his clerks at Washington, and some day, when we get enough of them on the side of the unfortunates, they'll stand up in the vigor of renewed manhood and demand the restitution of their good names and at least an opportunity to win back by honest labor that which has been stolen from them. "Kelpie."

## A TRIBUTE TO RUSKIN

By Leonard D. Abbott

One of the greatest, noblest and purest men of our generation is gone. Ruskin was an intellectual giant; we are as yet hardly able to conceive the vast influence that his books have had upon every department of our thought—art, literature, religion, science and sociology. Like his disciple, William Morris, he was consumed by a passion for beauty; in an age which is frankly abandoned to Mammon, and which has blasted and blackened the face of the earth in its mad struggle for money, he held up before manhood superb artistic ideals. He was one of the most finished and exquisite writers that the world has ever known, and his books will live as long as the English language. Yet, after all, the important thing in his life was not his art nor his literature, but his social idealism. From earliest youth his whole soul was in revolt against the brutalities of capitalism, and he could never be happy unless he was fighting the injustice around him. We find this current of revolutionary thought gathering strength in his earlier writings—through "Sesame and Lilies," "A Crown of Wild Olives," "Time and Tide," and "Unto This Last"—and finally bursting the floodgates in that burning series of letters to workmen entitled "Fors Clavigera," which was almost the last of Ruskin's writings. "Fors Clavigera" is one of the most stinging indictments of modern society and religion ever penned, and in one of these letters Ruskin plainly avows himself a Communist. Ruskin considered "Unto This Last" his greatest book. It was a bombshell thrown into the camp of the conservative political economists of his day, and in this book Ruskin states that the sole test of a country's wealth is the character of its men and women. "THERE IS NO WEALTH BUT LIFE," he said, and this noble sentence sums up Ruskin's message to the world.

On a bright spring morning nearly three years ago I was at Coniston Lake, one of the most beautiful spots in the British Isles, and for many years Ruskin's resting place. As I passed by the gate of his home, "Brantwood," the old man himself walked out slowly, leaning on the arm of an attendant. He was ill at the time, and his back was bowed with age, and yet there was a light in his eyes, and a massive sweep of his great brow and white beard that proclaimed him a king among men. I watched him walk down the country road, to the lakeside, and there he parted the hedge, laden with honeysuckle and wild roses, and gazed wistfully over the water to the storm-clad mountains beyond.

And there let us leave him, amid the flowers of his idealism, looking with yearning eyes toward the sunrise of Socialism! Leonard D. Abbott.

New York.

## Attacks the Constitution

It is not often that a public man, a professor in a state university, so boldly and learnedly attacks the constitution of the United States as did Prof. J. Allen Smith of the economics department of the University of Washington, last night. The occasion was the regular Sunday evening meeting of the Social Democratic party at Labor hall.

Prof. Smith spoke of the relation to the government of all forms of social reform, pointing out the present dire need of political revolution. In the course of his remarks he called attention to the fact that the constitution was formulated by representatives of the aristocracy of the colonial days; that it was written and considered behind closed doors; that the people as a whole were allowed no voice in it, and that it is and always has been a constitution better fitted for an aristocratic than a democratic form of government.

"It was formulated," he said, "with the view of protecting the well-to-do classes against the masses rising up and overturning the existing form of government. It was made a difficult matter to amend the constitution, solely with this object of stability in view. In fact, it is an extremely difficult matter even by popular vote to propose an amendment. This is wrong. The people of this country should be given power by popular vote to change the constitution of the United States whenever they see fit. I maintain, therefore, that the American constitution was not a democracy at all. On the contrary, it was a system of government in which public opinion is not allowed to dominate the governing power. Its mission is also to protect the few against the many—the aristocracy against the lower classes."—Seattle (Wash.) Star, Jan. 22.



# Social Democratic Herald

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Executive Board  
JESSE COX, Chairman  
SEYMOUR STEDMAN, Secretary  
EUGENE V. DEBS, VICTOR L. BERGER  
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CHICAGO, SATURDAY, FEB. 3, 1900.

## JOSEPH H. SCHWERZGEN

When Comrade Joseph H. Schwertzgen, after a wonderfully heroic struggle for a year against the insidious encroachments of disease, died at his home in Chicago early in the morning of Friday last week, there passed away one of the noblest men it has ever been our privilege to know. A man of buoyant, hopeful nature, courageous to an extraordinary degree, true as steel to the cause we all love and to all true friends of that cause, Joseph Schwertzgen won the affection of men in the busy mart where fortunes come and go, and in the street, the shop and the mine, where the poor struggle to sustain life; wherever there were human suffering and need that he could reach and alleviate, his generous heart and ready hand went forth.

From the time the Social Democratic party was organized until he died he was in full sympathy and accord with our purposes, a Social Democrat, and a most liberal contributor to the propaganda. Among the last to be called to his bedside were comrades living in Chicago, and while it was his own wish that his old friend, Eugene V. Debs, should speak a few words over his bier, that duty was necessarily assigned to another, Comrade Jesse Cox, who expressed in words of love and tenderness the loss felt by those who had known "Joe" as a loyal friend of labor and the Socialist movement.

He died as he lived, with supreme confidence in the cause where his heart was, and as we placed beautiful flowers upon the casket last Sunday morning and they carried his body away to be laid in the earth, with tears we enshrined him in our hearts, where, let us hope, his devotion, his courage, his sweetness will live again.

## FRATERNAL GREETINGS

The following letter from the executive board of the S. D. P., signed by Chairman Cox and Secretary Stedman, was sent to the convention of the Socialist Labor party at Rochester:

"To the Officers and Members of the Socialist Labor Party, in Convention Assembled—Comrades: The national executive board of the Social Democratic party sends fraternal greetings. The board has learned of the divisions which have arisen within the ranks of the Socialist Labor party, and, recognizing the desirability of concerted action of all class-conscious Socialists in this country, hereby extends a hearty invitation to your convention, as well as to all members of your party, to join the Social Democratic party in the struggle to emancipate humanity from class rule and the slavery of capitalism by the establishment of the co-operative commonwealth.

With an earnest desire for the success of the cause, we remain, yours fraternally,  
Jesse Cox,  
Chairman National Executive Board.  
Seymour Stedman,  
Secretary National Executive Board.

## FOR THE PEOPLE'S BENEFIT

For the benefit of the people who produce things for the capitalist class to appropriate, prices have been advanced on the commodities enumerated as follows:

Dressmakers' Supplies—Advance in everything from 15 to 25 per cent. More capital needed to carry stock.

Envelopes—Forty per cent, and notice out for a further advance.

Enameled Ware—Fifty per cent.  
Builders' Hardware—Forty-five per cent.

Iron Beds—Thirty-five to 65 per cent.  
Brooms—Forty to 50 per cent.  
Copper Wire—One hundred per cent.  
Chairs—Twenty-five to 33 1-3 per cent.

Furniture—Twenty-five per cent.  
Flour—Thirty cents a barrel.  
Glassware—Twenty per cent.  
Ham—Delicatessen, 3 cents a pound.  
Iron—One hundred per cent.  
Knit Wool—One dollar to \$1.50 per dozen.

Photograph Paper—Nearly 110 per cent.

Plumbers' Supplies—Thirty to 50 per cent.

Rubber—Everywhere greatly advanced.

Refrigerators—One dollar to \$1.25 each.

Ranges—Twenty to 33 1-3 per cent, and another advance expected.

Shoes—Advance in all grades 10 to 20 per cent.

Common Soaps—Twenty-five cents a box.

Spool Cotton—From 8 to 25 per cent.

Salt—Ten to 15 per cent.

Stoves—Twenty-five to 33 1-3 per cent.

Tea—Advance to consumers 15 to 25 cents a pound, owing to war tax of 10 cents a pound; wholesale advance, 10 to 15 cents a pound.

Tinware—From 100 to 500 per cent.

Wall Paper—Twenty-five to 80 per cent.

## HEADED FOR THE MILLENIUM

The news that a prominent company of labor exploiters at Chicago has decided upon a new departure that will result in the speedy inauguration of the millenium will be received with joy by readers of The Herald everywhere. It appears that the John V. Farwell Company, manufacturers of overalls, shirts and coats have made the discovery that the air of Chicago is smoke-laden and foul and is not fit for girls and women employed at overall and shirt making to breathe. If there is any one thing that employers of labor are solicitous about in these times of benevolent assimilation of the fruits of labor, it is the health of the people employed. We have noticed that large employers have been engaged in a strenuous effort to outdo each other to better the condition of their slaves. The Farwell company, however, proposes to beat the record, and is looking for a country town where a factory can be built to employ 500 girls and women under conditions that will enable the latter to retain their health. The city is not conducive to health and the importance of keeping slaves in a fit condition physically to perform their work is at last being recognized.

But, hold on! The report says further down that something else actuates the Farwell company. It says: "Fear of strikes and the belief that country-bred girls are better workers than their sisters in the cities has caused the Farwell company to seek one of the smaller towns near Chicago in which to establish a factory." And—what's this? "Benton Harbor agrees to furnish a suitable building free for five years." So the truth is that the Farwell company, while professing deep concern for the welfare of their employes, is interested quite as much in getting free rent for itself as in securing fresh air for its factory hands. It is a perfectly safe proposition that the company's main object is fresh victims instead of fresh air for old ones, for one of its managers said: "The girl who is raised and lives in the city is not as strong nor can she accomplish the work as can the girl who has been raised amid green fields."

So it is not the millenium that the John V. Farwell Company are headed for after all, but fresh victims and free rent, more work and larger profits. By and by the bloom of youth will fade from the cheeks of the "country-bred girls" at Benton Harbor, while the hideous factory system goes on with its horrible grind and their sisters in the cities eke out an existence by resorting to ways that a brutal economic system forces upon them and then shamelessly calls them criminal.

For all this there is no help, no cure, no reform, only in the substitution of social production and distribution in place of the private factory system which destroys body and soul in the interest of profit. Socialism, with its free life and its economic security for women and men is the hope of the world. Workingmen and workingwomen unite for the overthrow of oppression!

## GEORGE D. HERRON, SOCIALIST

On the first page of this paper will be found as full a report as we are able to give of Prof. George D. Herron's declaration for Socialism, made just before leaving New York for a trip abroad. The significance of Prof. Herron's coming out, taken in connection with what must be the inevitable future attitude of a man of his profound convictions to the Socialist movement, seems to have been fully appreciated by the journalists of capitalism, for, with few exceptions, they found it convenient to ignore the speech. So long as Prof. Herron presented to the people his high ideals—and no man living has purer ideals than he—there was scarcely any limit to the space given his utterances. But now, when after years of serious preparation for bearing a practical part in the arena where all questions are decided in this country, still holding to his ideals, he declares for action, the overthrow of the capitalist system, and proclaims the co-operative commonwealth, the truculent penmen find a sudden pressure on their space, and his speeches are thrown out. It makes a vast difference to the apologists of capitalism whether one regards the social problem from the academical point of view or from that of the masses who feel the galling chains of oppres-

sion and struggle to cast them off. The one is a harmless speculator to be tolerated, the other a menace to property and to institutions maintained to conserve property, therefore an object for derision or neglect. But all history proves that the tactics of oppression ultimately prove futile and react upon those who use them.

In addition to his address before the Social Reform club, Prof. Herron spoke at Dr. Rainsford's church, the Get-Together club, and wrote an article published by the New York World. In the latter he distinctly declared against Bryan and the Democratic party. He said:

"Bryan's election will not help conditions. His election would not help solve the social problem. Anti-trust legislation is child's play. In the white house his hands would be tied. Bryan does not understand the great social economics of the present day."

Prof. Herron strongly insists in the World article that existing politics must be overturned, and says:

"There is no remedy but a changed economic system."

A system that enables one man or a set of men to starve thousands at his will, this is the disclosure that will awaken the masses, this is the rapidly approaching climax to which Social Democrats direct attention, and Prof. Herron says "the result is inevitable."

More than this it is unnecessary to say to convince Social Democrats that ere many months have come and gone this man who has done so much to awaken the social conscience to the dangers that threaten society and is so admirably equipped for effective appeal to the people to avert the storm by intelligent, collective action, will find comradeship and a welcome and a place to work in the Social Democratic party.

## NOTES AND COMMENT

Who are the prosperous? Well, there's the Standard Oil company, with a prospective dividend this year of 45 per cent; and for last year, the Central Trust, 263; Farmers' Loan and Trust, 88; New York Life Insurance and Trust, 80; Union Trust, 78; Mercantile Trust, 44; Continental Trust, 41; Guaranty Trust, 40. And while this sort of thing is going on the workingman who is sure of a dollar and a half a day for the year round is exceptionally fortunate. And this is the sort of thing most workingmen vote for—prosperity for the rich and those who speculate to get rich and a mere subsistence for themselves.

F. W. Reitz, the Transvaal state secretary, has written a parody upon Mr. Kipling's "Recessional." It is entitled "Progressional" and is dedicated to "Mudyard Pipling." The first stanza follows:

Gods of the jingo, brass and gold,  
Lords of the world by right divine,  
Under whose baneful sway they hold  
Dominion over mine and thine—  
Such lords as these have made them rotten,  
They have forgotten. They have forgotten.

The teachers' organizations of Chicago are in favor of quitting work when the appropriations for their wages become exhausted. They think there is no justice in requiring their services without remuneration. And we think so, too; but it seems rather a funny position for teachers to be in. As a class they are arrogantly patriotic and indifferent to the struggle of other people who work for wages. Wonder if they will learn anything from the cut in their wages, due to the tax-dodging corporations?

The Pullman Sleeping-Car company wants to build a monumental school in honor of the individual who caused the strike of 1894, and in order that it may be able to do so in a manner worthy of the great labor oppressor, a 20 per cent cut has been ordered in the wages of its sleeping-car conductors. Such a canting, hypocritical outfit, with enormous wealth at its command, deserves to be wiped off the face of the earth in order that decent people may breathe freely and enjoy life.

Senator Thurston has accepted employment with the Standard Oil company, and will represent that corporation in the senate for the next year. Senator Depew is a director of the Western Union Telegraph, so is Secretary Hay. All three are Republicans and supposed to be representatives and servants of the people. But they really represent capitalism and are serving the corporations.

A record-breaking meeting is what Comrade Debs had at New Orleans. For two hours and a half, says the Daily Picayune, he spoke to an audience that overflowed Washington Artillery hall, and it was the great popular demonstration in the history of the city. All classes of men and women heard him and applauded to the echo his eloquent presentation of Socialism.

Mark Hanna's organized raid on the public treasury for \$20,000,000 to pro-

mote the building of ships to be privately owned is getting along very nicely and promises to go through. Hanna is a Republican and the closest personal friend of that esteemed patriot and friend of the working class, William McKinley.

It is really too bad that Mr. Roberts of Utah ever tried to break into our moral congress. He seems to have been quite unaware of the high Christian character of the political tools of capitalism at Washington.

A bible trust and a raise in prices owing to increased cost of production is the latest phase of the industrial question with which the gospel promulgators have to deal. It's all an economic question from whatever point of view you regard it.

Since a union of all the "reform forces" to support Bryan is impossible, all who believe in the order of society that Socialists propose will vote for Socialism this year.

## WHAT JOHN RUSKIN SAID AND WROTE

The true veins of wealth are purple, not in rock, but in flesh. The final outcome and consummation of all wealth is in producing as many as possible full-breathed, bright-eyed and happy-hearted human creatures.

You were ordered by the founder of your religion to love your neighbor as yourself. You have founded an entire science of political economy on what you have stated to be the constant instinct of man—the desire to defraud his neighbor.

Luxury at present can only be enjoyed by the ignorant. The cruelest man living could not sit at his own feast unless he sat blindfolded. Raise the veil boldly! Face the light! And if, as yet, the light of the eye can only be through tears, go thou forth weeping!

Dick Turpin is blamed (suppose) by some plain-minded person for consuming the means of other people's living. "Nay," says Dick to the plain-minded person, "observe how beneficently and pleasantly I spend whatever I get!" "Yes, Dick," persists the plain-minded person, "but how do you get it?" "The question," says Dick, "is insidious and irrelevant."

The guilty Thieves of Europe, the real sources of all deadly war in it, are the Capitalists—that is to say people who live by percentages or the labor of others; instead of by fair wages for their own. All social evils and religious errors arise out of the pillage of the laborer by the idler; the idler leaving him only enough to live on (and even that miserably), and taking all the rest of the produce of his work to spend in his own luxury, or in the toys with which he beguiles his idleness.

I have been asked to contribute to the purchase of the Alexandra Park, and I will not; and beg you, my working readers, to understand, once for all, that I wish your homes to be comfortable, and refined; and that I will resist, to the utmost of my power, all schemes founded on the vile modern notion that you are to be crowded into kennels till you are nearly dead, that other people may make money by your work, and then taken out in squads by tramway and railway, to be revived and refined by science and art. Your first business is to make your homes healthy and delightful; then, keep your wives and children there, and let your return to them be your daily "holy-day."

We, of the so-called "educated" classes, who take it upon us to be the better and upper part of the world, cannot possibly understand our relations to the rest better than we may where actual life may be seen in front of its Shakespearean image, from the stalls of a theater. I never stand up to rest myself, and look round the house, without renewal of wonder how the crowd in the pit, the shilling gallery, allow us of the boxes and stalls to keep in our places! Think of it;—those fellows behind there have housed us and fed us; their wives have washed our clothes, and kept us tidy;—they have brought us the best places,—brought us through the cold to them; and there they sit behind us, patiently, seeing and hearing what they may. There they pack themselves, squeezed and distant, behind our chairs;—we, their elect toys and pet puppets, oiled and varnished, and incensed, lounge in front, placidly, or for the greater part, wearily and sickly contemplative.

Fort Smith (Ark.) Democrat.  
Socialism is the hope of the just man in things governmental. When we have a socialistic government many abuses now existing will depart. We shall get the benefit of the cooperative trust and not its extortion. We shall get the good of a monopoly and not the effect of its rapacity. We shall profit, for we shall run trusts ourselves.

## WHAT THE EDITORS SAY

Public Ownership, Erie, Pa.  
Quitting work and being starved into submission will never solve the trouble between the masters and the men. Not quitting, but working and keeping all the products of their labor is what will solve it. The miners of Pennsylvania are now engaged in trying to starve the mine owners into submission. And at the last election they voted all their power into the hands of the masters! They never will get relief until they learn better than that.

Farmers' Review, Bonham, Tex.  
We must have united labor for the advantage of every human being, and united enjoyment of the fruits of labor. The present injustice can only be abolished by labor working for itself instead of for the idle rich, who make profit off of labor. Labor should reap the fruits of labor and not a few idle capitalists. This can only be done by labor owning a' the machinery, all the land, in fact all means of production and distribution. These opportunities should all be free for labor to apply its energies to, in the creation of the necessities of life.

Appeal to Reason, Girard, Kan.  
So you think there would be no incentive for men to do the work assigned to them when the income were an approximately fixed sum, eh? Sure of that now? Well, how do men work today who have fixed salaries—congressmen, senators, postmasters? Do they see how slow they can work because they cannot hope for increase in pay or even permanency in position? Do teachers, foremen, clerks soldier on their work more than those in private employment? Do postmasters and letter carriers become drones and sluggards and lose all interest in progress?

Warren (Mass.) Herald.  
Representative James F. Carey of Haverhill, the Socialist leader who was re-elected last fall, does the state a service by attacking the lobby directly with a bill which he has introduced, obliging each lobbyist to wear a badge inscribed "legislative counsel" or "legislative agent." The bill further forbids any person employed as legislative counsel or agent of any corporation, firm or person engaged in mercantile, manufacturing, transportation, insurance or commercial business to enter the smoking, reading, writing or other rooms appropriated to members of the General Court, or the halls upon which such rooms open.

Chicago Evening Journal.  
The only change for the better in the relation of the people to the street car monopolies of which there is the slightest hope, is the acquirement of the roads by the municipalities and their management for the people. This is not Utopian, not beyond the possibility of accomplishment—though it must be admitted that Mr. Johnson himself has dealt it a staggering blow by trying to sell his Detroit railways to the city at a price scandalously above their value. Probably when the people get ready to take the street railroads for themselves they will find safer guides than Mr. Tom Johnson, whose principles shine so much brighter in the preaching than in the practice.

The Co-Operator, Burley, Wash.  
"Non-partisan" movements are always one man movements. They grow up around some one man's personality, and their object is always to give political expression to his views. The views are always good, and the man who holds them is always a strong, self-poised man, lacking, however, in the essentials of political leadership, because egotistical to a degree that prevents him from rallying his following around a set of principles that are dissociated from his personality entirely, and will not permit him to see that a party organization is the only thing that in the long run can accomplish the purpose he aims at. It must be a party, and a strong one at that, that will put in practice the principles the mayor stands for, and he will find before he is many years older that his "non-partisan political action" idea is a delusive dream. If he would throw his support to the Social Democratic party he might be able to make an impression on things political within a comparatively short time—but that is not a Jones movement!

## LABOR AND PROGRESS

The Pennsylvania Railway Co. on January 1 relieved from active service about 960 employes, as a result of the operation of its new pension system.

Stenographers at Memphis have formed an organization, with registry office and headquarters for the convenience of business men requiring their services.

Under the wire trust the increase in the price of nails since 1897 is 100 per cent. The increase in nailmakers' wages in the same period amounts to only 12 1/2 per cent.

Woodworkers' Union, No. 15, San Francisco, has passed resolutions urging the members of the International Union to support such political parties as advocate Socialism. The intercolonial labor conference at Sydney, Australia, has adopted the following fighting platform: "To one adult, one vote; the national referendum for exclusion of undesirable races; and old age pensions."

At the recent municipal election in London, Ont., Canada, Fred J. Darch, the Socialist candidate, received 2,419 votes, against 2,638 for the coalition ticket. David Ross, Socialist alderman in Ward 3, was elected.

A glass factory has been started at St. Helens, in which the whole system of blowing is replaced by an automatic arrangement of molds and blow-pipes worked by compressed air. The output has been much increased.

An English commission is busily engaged in investigating and preparing a report on the automatic coupling of railroad cars, as the percentage of injury and death caused by the present system has been so great a reform in the system has been demanded.

The Ohio miners declared for Socialism and the Associated Press suppressed the news. They declared in favor of "harmonizing with the economic emancipation movement of the world, whereby finally through political and legal means the present planless production, industrial warfare and social disorder is to be substituted by the co-operative commonwealth, and all means of production shall be owned collectively and operated scientifically by the people."



ANOTHER PRIZE OFFERED

Last week the announcement was made of three prizes offered by Comrade Albert Forman, of Milwaukee, for the three largest lists of new subscribers to The Herald sent in between February 1st and April 30th.

For the Largest List—One set of Carlyle's "French Revolution" and Dicken's complete works in fifteen volumes.

Second List—One set of Carlyle's "French Revolution" (two volumes).

Third List—One set of Carlyle's "French Revolution" (two volumes).

Comrade Geo. H. Goebel, of Philadelphia, believes this is a good way to increase The Herald's circulation and endorses Forman's initiative with the offer of a fourth prize of a first-class fountain pen for the fourth largest list.

Now let everybody hustle three months for The Herald.

NEW BRANCHES

The signs of the times, to eyes that are open to see, are multiplying upon every hand, and at no time since the organization of the Social Democratic party has there been so much activity or more substantial cause for encouragement to the comrades than now.

Not the least important event of the past week was a public declaration for Socialism by Prof. George D. Herron, and if the comrades will read between the lines they will doubtless discover suggestions as to what will probably be Prof. Herron's line of action on his return to the United States.

The month of January was one of marked growth in the membership of the organization, and when, as in this issue of The Herald, we report one branch a day, it will be seen that if this rate of new branches instituted is maintained, the whole country will soon be alive with Socialist activities. All the branches reported below start the work with enthusiasm and a determination to make themselves felt in the communities where they stand for emancipation from wage slavery and the inauguration of international Socialism.

BOSTON, MASS.—Chairman, H. A. Goodwin; secretary, A. G. Clifford; financial secretary, W. E. Tibbitts; treasurer, H. A. Goodwin.

ROSLINDALE, MASS.—Chairman, T. Goetz; secretary, Gustav Oberacker; financial secretary, Andrew Seidel.

MILWAUKEE, WIS.—Chairman, John Bettendorf; vice-chairman, Christ Stein; secretary, Jacob Reidenback; treasurer, Joseph Korbel; organizer, Henry Zens.

OMAHA, NEB.—Chairman, Clement Ryan; vice-chairman, James S. Collins; secretary, Walter M. Breen; treasurer, Joseph T. Miller; organizer, T. A. Edwards.

HIGBEE, MO.—Chairman, O. D. Wallace; vice-chairman, J. S. Watkins; secretary, Adam Young; treasurer, William McDonald; organizer, William Richards.

MANITOWOC, WIS.—Chairman, R. W. Burke; vice-chairman, John W. Steible; secretary, Joseph Spevacek; treasurer, Charles Frisemuth; organizer, Fred M. Althen.

WASHINGTON, MO.—Chairman, E. V. Mealer; vice-chairman, J. C. Eklers; secretary, S. K. Caldwell; treasurer, C. Hollman; organizer, A. H. Vitt.

Washington on the Watch

What we want is organizers in the field to boom our party and to put them in the field it requires money.

Now, we have talked this matter up here amongst ourselves and the boys are willing to do their share towards this work. We have found eight comrades that have agreed to contribute \$1 per month for an organizer for the state of Washington, and I think we will be able to raise more than that per month.

Look Out for Swindlers

At the last regular meeting of the Evansville branch the following resolution was introduced and unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the public of this city be and hereby is warned not to pay money to any persons claiming to be a Social Democrat unless such persons shall first produce his membership card in this branch and shall by it be known to be a member in good standing, and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the Social Democratic Herald for publication therein.

Branch 7, Indiana.

Measures Introduced

In the Massachusetts house Representative MacCartney of Rockland introduced a bill to change the designation of the Democratic Social Party on official ballots to the Social Democratic Party; also a resolve to provide for the submission to the people, at the next state election, of the Boston & Albany railroad lease to the New York Central railroad, and the question whether the state shall own and operate the road.

Representative Carey of Haverhill introduced a bill to prohibit corporations requiring their employes to give bonds to cover damages or injuries suffered by such employes; also a bill giving any person except peddlers, book-agents, upon commercial business, the right to a private interview during working hours.

From Terry Hut

Although the comrades have not heard from the "Hut" for some time, it does not follow that we are dead or even dying. On the contrary, we are very lively in this part of Hoosierdom, and a constant agitation is being kept up all along the line, and scarcely a day passes that does not witness the surrender of some "Fillies."

There are now eight branches well organized in Boston. Comrade William Horgan is actively at work preparing the way for organization in Chicago.

SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY AND TRADE UNIONISM

For the information of new members and readers of The Herald the following resolutions, adopted when the party was organized, are printed:

"Whereas, We hold the trade union movement to be indispensable to the working people under the prevailing industrial system in their struggle for the improvement of their conditions, as well as for the final abolition of the wage system; we further recognize the need of organization among the workers; therefore, be it

"Resolved, That we commend an honest co-operation to that end by the members of the Social Democratic Party of America, by becoming members of the unions in their respective trades or callings, or of the Federal Labor Unions, and strive to organize all such trades as have heretofore not been organized and assist the organization of labor in every way possible.

"Resolved, That in order to more effectively resist the encroachments upon labor we advise organized labor to combine into national and international unions, pledging ourselves to extend to them all possible assistance to accomplish this end.

"Resolved, That we reaffirm the truth expressed in the proceedings of the International Labor Congress, held in London in August, 1896, that while it is absolutely necessary for the working people to make use of the political power in order to secure and enforce the demands of labor, yet differences of political views held by members of the labor organizations should not be a reason for separate organization in the economic struggle, causing dissensions and disruptions.

"Resolved, That we consider strikes and boycotts as historically necessary weapons to obtain the demands of trades unionism; we further recognize in the union label an important factor in strengthening the power of organization, and educating the public to demonstrate in a practical way its sympathy and assistance to the cause of labor; and we therefore indorse all the labels of the bona fide trades unions, earnestly recommending to the membership of the Social Democratic Party of America to patronize only such concerns selling products bearing the same."

Have your card inserted in the BRANCH DIRECTORY, 25 Cents per Month. It will help you in the work in your locality.

A SPECIAL EDITION

"To signalize in an appropriate way the first national campaign of the Social Democratic party, the issue of The Herald for March 17 will be a special eight-page paper of extraordinary value to the movement. It will contain the most complete exposition of Socialism in all its phases we have ever attempted to present to our readers, together with portraits of writers and of our candidates for president and vice-president who will be nominated at the Indianapolis convention; also a vast amount of interesting information about the Socialist movement in general, making it a paper for effective propaganda and a worthy opening of the great campaign for Social Democracy. We want the comrades in every branch to assist in putting a copy of this number of The Herald into the hands of all their friends. We shall be obliged to charge 1 cent per copy in bundle orders, but this is a small item for consideration in these times and on the eve of our first campaign. Every branch can raise a purse, large or small, for the purpose of carrying the good news of Socialism to the homes of those who do not yet understand it. Orders for this special number may be sent in, with cash, at any time up to March 12. We know of nothing more important than that the branches immediately after the national convention devise ways and means to attract the attention of the people at large to our candidates and our principles, and The Herald for March 17 will be just the thing. Don't pass this by till later, but take it up now and give it your best support."

NOTES FROM THE FIELD

There are now eight branches well organized in Boston.

Comrade William Horgan is actively at work preparing the way for organization in Chicago.

Comrade Victor L. Berger has visited Brockton, Haverhill, Boston and other places in Massachusetts.

Comrades F. O. MacCartney and Howard Gibbs were speakers at a meeting at North Abington, Mass.

Prof. Geo. D. Herron left New York Wednesday morning, Jan. 24, on the steamship Augusta Victoria for Europe.

Comrade Leonard D. Abbott speaks before the Printers' Club of New York, Feb. 21, on "Art and Socialism in England."

Comrade H. Gaylord Wilshire is announced to lecture before the branch at Los Angeles, March 4, on "The Danger of Thrift."

Old Missouri has "moved." She is setting a hot pace for other states. Hoehn and Putnam make a warm team and are watching the run with great satisfaction.

The Los Angeles branch, at a meeting held January 21, adopted a resolution welcoming all members of the antileon S. L. P., but strongly opposing any change of name, which would be detrimental to the best interests of the cause of Socialism.

A fact worth noting is that the new branch organized at Washington, Mo., by Comrade Hoehn, consists wholly of farmers. This is the first farmers' branch in the country, and we hope it will prove to be the forerunner of a thousand. This, by the way, is another sign of the times.

If fifty Social Democrats will hustle lively during the next ten days for new subscribers to the Appeal to Reason, that band can be won for this city. G. H. Merridith, 3501 Wabash avenue, authorizes us to say that he will be one of a hundred to contribute \$1 to cinch that band. If you want to co-operate with him, drop him a postal card.

Resolutions commemorative of the life and work of Comrade Henry Lenarz, recently deceased, have been engrossed upon the records of Branch 3, New Haven, Conn. Comrade Lenarz was a most devoted and unselfish worker. We extend to his family our deepest sympathy and to his co-workers our appreciation of their great loss.

Brockton's solitary Social Democratic common councilman will not lose his seat, a recount of the votes showing that he received more votes than did Mr. George E. Horton, Republican, who petitioned for a recount. Horton gained one vote and Brodeur lost two, and the vote as finally announced was Brodeur 323 and Horton 320.—Brockton Journal.

Branch No. 7, Evansville, Ind., will give a public entertainment at Weber's hall, Fourth avenue and Franklin street, Sunday evening, February 4th. Music will be furnished by Miss May Wytenbach, Mrs. Farrel, Bertha Hahn and others. Speaking by Dr. Ruminer, Russell Wytenbach and Mat Hollenberger. The public is cordially invited to attend. Admission free.

Comrade Eugene V. Debs during his visit to New Orleans was invited by Miss Lily Richardson, president of the Woman's Club, to speak before that organization. The Daily Picayune said his visit "is attracting the greatest attention from the thinking women of the city, and the representatives of all the prominent woman clubs and literary organizations have signified their intention of being present. The Local Council of Women will attend in a body, having been requested by Miss Sophie B.

LOCAL BRANCHES

Notices of Branch Meetings Inserted for 25 Cents per Month

CALIFORNIA

Liberty Branch, San Francisco, holds public meetings every Sunday and Wednesday evenings, commencing at 8. Admission free. Educational meetings (for members) every Tuesday evening. Sociology, Economics, Public Speaking, etc. Business meetings (for members) every Thursday evening.

CONNECTICUT

Branch No. 2, New Haven, meets first and third Tuesdays in the month, at 138 State St., at 8 p. m. Cornelius Mahoney, Secretary, 165 Frank St.

ILLINOIS

Meetings of Chicago Central Committee held regularly second and fourth Wednesdays of each month at Dr. J. H. Greer's office, 52 Dearborn St.

Branch No. 1, Chicago, meets every Wednesday evening, Thomas Kirwin, Secretary, 254 Westworth Ave.

Branch No. 2 (Bohemian), Chicago, meets second and fourth Sundays at 2 p. m. at Nagl's Hall, 535 Blue Island Ave. Vaclav Jelinek, Secretary, 808 Blue Island Ave.

Branch No. 3, Chicago, meets second and fourth Mondays of each month at Jos. Dundras' place, 108 W. 18th Place. Frank Ort, Secretary, 866 W. 18th St.

INDIANA

Branch No. 6, Indianapolis, meets first Saturday evening and third Sunday afternoon of each month at Reichwein's Hall, corner Market and Noble Sts.

KENTUCKY

Branch No. 2, Covington, meets first and third Wednesday evenings and second and fourth Sunday afternoons of each month. All agitation meetings except last one in month. Good speakers. Secretary, F. C. Stumpf, 201 8th street.

MARYLAND

Branch No. 1, Baltimore, meets every Sunday at 8 p. m. at Carpenter's Hall, 550 E. Baltimore St. Public invited.

Branch No. 2, Baltimore, meets every Monday at 8 p. m. at 211 W. German St. Frank Mareck, Secretary, 1408 N. Gay St.

MASSACHUSETTS

The Massachusetts State Committee meets the first Saturday of each month at 724 Washington St., Boston. All dues and moneys intended for the State Committee should be sent to the financial secretary, A. McDonald, 104 W. Springfield St., Boston. All other correspondence should be addressed to the Corresponding Secretary, Margaret Hallie, 5 Glenwood St., Roxbury.

Branch No. 2, Holyoke, meets second and fourth Mondays of each month at Springdale Turner Hall. H. Schlichting, Organizer, 30 James St.

Branch No. 5, Lynn, permanent headquarters, 32 Summer St., near Market St. Business meeting every Monday night at 7:30 p. m. Open house. Public invited. E. W. Timson, Financial Secretary-Treasurer, 23 Albany St.

Branch No. 9, Brockton, meets the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 8 p. m. for business at Socialist Hall, Clark's Block, corner Main and Center Sts. Every comrades is expected to attend one meeting a month. Frank S. Walsh, Secretary, 62 Crescent St.

Branch No. 15, East Boston, meets every Monday at 8 p. m. at 39 Chelsea St. Miss Jenny Segal, Secretary, 23 Albany St.

Branch No. 18, Newburyport, meets the second Monday of each month at Lester's Hall, 1 State St. E. F. McLean, Secretary, 39 Winter St.

Branch No. 21, Chelsea, permanent headquarters, Room 2, Postoffice Building. Open every

evening. Business meetings every Thursday at 8 p. m. Public invited.

evening. Business meetings every Thursday at 8 p. m. Public invited.

MINNESOTA

Branch 1, Red Lake Falls, meets every other Sunday in real estate office of Fred Gesswein, on Main St. Wm. H. Randall, Secretary.

MISSOURI

St. Louis headquarters, Room 7, 22 N. Fourth St. Address all communications to E. Val Putnam, Secretary. For information concerning ward branches, inquire at the above address.

Branch No. 7, Kansas City, meets every Tuesday at 8 p. m. at 1200 Union Ave. G. J. Storz, Secretary, 1230 W. 9th St.

NEW JERSEY

Branch No. 1, Secretary, Michael W. Schor, 87 Livingston St.

Branch No. 6 (German), Paterson, N. J., meets first and third Mondays a 8 p. m. at Helvetia Hall, 54-56 Van Houten St., Karl Linder, Secretary, 246 Edmund St.

NEW YORK

The City Central Agitation Committee of Greater New York and vicinity meets first and third Tuesdays of every month in Wislag's Hall, 55 E. 4th St. Elizabeth H. Thomas, Secretary.

Branch No. 1, New York, meets every first and third Thursday at 112 Clinton St. A. Guyer, Secretary, 165 Suffolk St.

Branch No. 3, 24th Assembly District, meets second and fourth Wednesdays of the month at Central Hall, 1059 2d Ave. Henry Lang, Secretary, 234 E. 90th St.

Branch No. 4, West Side Branch, New York, meets second and fourth Tuesdays of every month at headquarters, 189 W. 99th St. Elizabeth H. Thomas, Secretary.

Branch No. 10, 4th Assembly District, meets every first and third Wednesday of the month at the rooms of The Voice of Labor, 423 Grand St. Jacob Panken, Organizer, 139 Division St.

Branch No. 12, Brooklyn, headquarters, 251 Rutledge St. Meets every third Thursday at 8:15 sharp. All persons interested are invited to attend these meetings and co-operate in organizing local branches in every district in the city. Wm. Butcher, Secretary, 251 Rutledge St.

Branch No. 22, New York, 23th Assembly District, meets first and third Thursdays of each month at Faulhaber's Hall, 1551 Second Ave. R. Hoppe, Secretary, 328 E. 80th St.

OHIO

Branch No. 2, Cleveland, meets in Ohlsen's Hall, 65 York St., second and fourth Sundays at 8 p. m. Lectures, discussions, business meetings first and third Fridays at 8 p. m.

Branch No. 3, Cleveland, meets first and third Sundays in each month at 8 p. m. in Ohlsen's Hall, 65 York St. Lectures and discussions.

Branch No. 4, Cincinnati, meets at Richelleu Hall, southeast corner 9th and Plum Sts., second and fourth Sundays in each month at 2:30 p. m. Lectures and discussions. Public invited. Chas. D. Linsley, Secretary, 1913 S. Auburn St.

Branch No. 5, Dayton, meets every Sunday afternoon at 2:30 in room 34, Davies block, Fourth and Main streets. Every one interested in practical government is invited to be present. J. C. Schawe, president; N. Dutte, secretary.

Branch No. 8, Cincinnati, meets every second and fourth Saturday in Workingmen's Hall, 1318 Walnut St. F. Harned, Secretary, 870 First St. B. Gorman, Treasurer, Columbus. Ed Greiner, Secretary, 806 Mohawk St.

PENNSYLVANIA

Branch No. 2, Erie, meets every Saturday afternoon at K. of L. Hall, 716 State St. Chas. Heydrick, Chairman. Geo. B. Laird, Secretary, 225 W. 5th St.

Branch No. 4, Pittsburg, meets every Thursday evening at 7:30 p. m. at Funk Hall, 8. 24th and Josephine Sts. W. Bohn, President, 244 Addison St. J. H. Lewis, Secretary, 218 Jane St.

Branch No. 5 (Jewish), Philadelphia, meets every Friday at 6:30 in the Temple. Discussion from 8 to 9. J. Gairson, Secretary.

WISCONSIN

Milwaukee Central Committee meets on the first Monday of each month at 8 p. m. sharp at 618 E. Water St. Eugene H. Rooney, Secretary. John Doerfler, Treasurer.

Branch No. 1, Milwaukee, meets every second and third Tuesday evening of the month at the Ethical Society Building, 553 Jefferson St. Visitors always welcome. Howard Tuttle, Chairman. Eugene H. Rooney, Secretary.

Branch No. 2, Milwaukee, meets every second and fourth Saturday in Geatke's Hall, corner Green Bay and Concordia Ave.

Branch No. 3, Sheboygan, meets every fourth Tuesday of the month at Gustav E. Burgard's Hall on Pennsylvania Ave. R. Schoen, Secretary-Treasurer, S. 12th St.

Branch No. 4, Milwaukee, meets every first and third Friday of each month at Meller's Hall, corner 2d and Broad Sts. George Moerschel, Secretary, 891 25th St.

Branch No. 5, Milwaukee, meets every fourth Friday of the month at R. Sigel's Hall, southeast corner Orchard St. and 9th Ave. Fred Brockhausen, Secretary, 781 Windlake Ave.

Branch No. 11, Milwaukee, meets the second Wednesday of each month at the office of the Wisconsin Yvorwerts, 614 State St.

Branch No. 12, Milwaukee, meets every first and third Thursday of each month at Kraus' Hall, 21 and Center St., at 8 p. m. John Koepfer, Secretary.

Wright to give their attention to the subject which Mr. Debs will bring before the public.

The Bohemian comrades in Chicago are making an effort to start a new weekly paper in their language, which is to be under control of the national council. We now have four active Bohemian branches in this city, and the comrades are making great sacrifices for the cause. The branches all over the country are appealed to for such contributions as they can afford to aid this enterprise.

BEER DRINKING AND OTHER FORMS OF RECREATION

"I'll agree that drink leads men to ruin and poverty," said the carpenter to the Prohibitionist, at our last lodge meeting; "and yet poverty is not a result of drink. Does that seem to you a queer statement? How so? Have you figured out, from statistics on the liquor business, how many nickel glasses of beer and pints of whisky the workingmen buy in a year and how many homes that beer and whisky will ruin? Then look over your figures and see if you have allowed a greater per cent of the whole money spent during a year, for the expensive wines and drinks of the rich. Having done so see what a small factor this liquor business is in making poverty-stricken homes."

Help for Bohemian Paper

Tailor's Union, No. 102, U. G. W. of A., \$2; Vaclav Kotes, \$2; Socialin Demokrat, \$1; Ferdinand Svoboda, \$1; Frank J. Peter, \$1; F. W. Hirt, \$1; Theodore Debs, \$1; circulation, No. 72, \$3.85.

PROPAGANDA FUND

Table with 2 columns: Name, Amount. Includes 'Appeal to Reason' \$1.00, 'Branch No. 9, Milwaukee' \$.25, 'John Hagan' \$.50, 'J. Shallop' \$.15, 'C. Mahoney' \$.10.

BRANCH SUPPLIES

Table with 2 columns: Item, Price. Includes 'Charters' \$.20, 'Membership Cards (per 100)' 1.00, 'Membership Applications (100)' .25, 'Constitutions (each)' .03.



BOOK NOTICES

No Compromise: No Political Trading. By Wilhelm Liebknecht. Translated by A. M. Simons and Marcus Hitch. Charles H. Kerr & Co., Chicago.

"True in certain party circles there exists an inclination to desert the platform of the class struggle and enter the common arena of the other parties. As all the other parties stand upon the basis of a political state, therefore their field of activity is necessarily confined to the spoils of politics.

"We have now in Germany a phenomenon which has been observable in France for half a century and longer, and which has contributed much to the confusion of party relations in France, viz., that a part of the radical bourgeoisie rallies around the Socialist flag without understanding the nature of Socialism.

"The disappearance of fear and aversion to us in political circles of course brings political elements into our ranks. As long as this takes place on a small scale, it causes no apprehension because the political elements are outnumbered by the Socialist elements and are gradually assimilated.

"I simply put these two facts side by side: In the period of the constitutional struggle, when the Progressive Party stood at the height of its power and had the people behind it, Bismarck then in the beginning of his career, turned down with the greatest ease. In the period of the anti-Socialist law, when Bismarck stood at the height of his power and with all the resources of capitalism exercised a bourgeoisie dictatorship, he was turned down by the Social Democracy with the greatest ease, though it had all the spoils parties against it.

ical Synthesis by J. Howard Moore; cloth bound, 275 pages. Price, \$1. The Ward-Waugh company, Chicago. The work opens by impressing upon the reader the insignificance of mankind in the universe and his dependence upon the inanimate sphere upon which he dwells, and that the motive of conduct is to satisfy desires, increase pleasures and avoid pain, but does not qualify the pain incident at present in labor.

"History," he says, "today is the product of the conception of the universe as lawless, and for the most part it is as precious as rubbish," and perhaps the most valuable service of this work is the clear-cut method in which the author impresses upon the mind the necessity of seeking the cause and laws of social growth. He attacks that idealistic conception which is based upon the theory that we are above the materialistic or inanimate environment to which we are actually subject.

NEW MEN FOR NEW TIMES

New times demand new measures and new men. The world advances, and in time outgrows the laws that in our fathers' day were best; And, doubtless, after us, some purer scheme will be shaped out by wiser men than we, Made wiser by the steady growth of truth. We cannot take Utopia on by force; But better, almost, be at work in sin Than in a brute inaction browse and sleep.

Looks Like a Theologian

The Muscatine (Iowa) News-Tribune, in its issue for Jan. 9, precluded its report of Eugene V. Debs' lecture with these words: "Tall, gaunt, dignified, earnest, with the broad, full brow of masterly intelligence, looking more like a renowned theologian of the greatest educational institution in the world rather than an ex-locomotive fireman, which he proudly introduced himself as being, Eugene Debs appeared before an audience which packed Stein's opera-house last evening, to deliver his famous lecture, 'Looking Forward.'

For two hours last night at McDonald's opera house Eugene V. Debs addressed a packed house. For two hours scarcely a man in the audience stirred, they being intent upon the eager, earnest words of the orator that they might not miss the force of a single one of the terse epigrammatic sentences.

No orator could have had more attentive listeners. He took by storm the understanding of his audience and led it along where he would. It was all the more remarkable because the great labor leader possesses not the usual graces of the orator. To him belongs not the handsome presence, the graceful gestures and the melodious voice. Nor did he use any of the orator's tricks, the artificial vehemence, the effective pause and others. He had no use for any of these. He had been both a student and a worker. He had dreamed dreams and felt the wear of the working-man's poverty. He had a mission, and he told it in an eager, earnest manner.—Montgomery (Ala.) Journal, Jan. 24.

Comrade Debs' trip through the South has been a succession of great audiences and marked by a remarkable public interest in Socialism. At Birmingham, Ala., he spoke to an audience of three thousand, says the Age-Herald of Jan. 22. The opera house at Montgomery was "packed to overflowing" and his address, which the Advertiser says was a brilliant and eloquent plea for "Socialism in its purest form," was listened to with the closest attention. The Enquirer-Sun, Columbus, Ga., says he spoke to "the largest audience ever seen in the Muscogee Superior court room," and the audience was enthusiastic.

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A RECEPTION AND BALL

will be given to the two SOCIALIST MAYORS OF MASSACHUSETTS MAYOR CHASE OF HAVERHILL AND MAYOR COULTER OF BROCKTON WHO WILL ADDRESS THE AUDIENCE, AT MANHATTAN LYCEUM, 66-68 E. FOURTH STREET, NEW YORK CITY, ON THE EVENING OF

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THE PLATFORM

The Social Democratic Party of America declares that life, liberty and happiness for every man, woman and child are conditioned upon equal political and economic rights. That private ownership of the means of production and distribution of wealth has caused society to split into two distinct classes, with conflicting interests, the small possessing class of capitalists or exploiters of the labor force of others and the ever-increasing large dispossessed class of wage-workers, who are deprived of the socially-due share of their product.

That the same economic forces which have produced and now intensify the capitalist system, will compel the adoption of Socialism, the collective ownership of the means of production for the common good and welfare, or result in the destruction of civilization.

That the trade union movement and independent political action are the chief emancipating factors of the working class, the one representing its economic, the other its political struggle, and that both must cooperate to abolish the capitalist system of production and distribution.

Therefore, the Social Democratic Party of America declares its object to be the establishment of a system of co-operative production and distribution through the restoration to the people of all the means of production and distribution, by the organization of a society, in the interest of the whole people, and the complete emancipation of society from the domination of capitalism.

- 1. Revision of our antiquated Federal Constitution, in order to remove the obstacles to the increasing power of government by all the people, irrespective of class or party.
2. The public ownership of all industries controlled by monopolies, trusts and combines.
3. The public ownership of all railroads, telegraph, telephone, all means of transportation, communication, water-works, gas and electric plants, and other public utilities.
4. The public ownership of all gold, silver, copper, lead, iron, coal and all other mines; also of all oil and gas wells.
5. Reduction of the hours of labor in proportion to the increasing facilities of production.
6. The inauguration of a system of public works and improvements for the employment of a large number of the unemployed, the public credit to be utilized for that purpose.
7. All useful inventions to be free to all, the inventor to be remunerated by the public.
8. Labor legislation to be made national, instead of local, and international where possible.
9. National insurance of working people against accidents, lack of employment and want in old age.
10. Equal civil and political rights for men and women, and the abolition of all laws discriminating against women.
11. The adoption of the Initiative and Referendum, and the right of recall of representatives.
12. Abolition of war as far as the United States are concerned and the introduction of international arbitration instead.

NATIONAL FUND

The following is a list of comrades who have agreed, in response to the appeal of the National Executive Board, to contribute monthly for one year to the national fund. Other names will be added as they are received.

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