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MERLIN'S MIXTURE

Art in China.

Once upon a time the Goulds used tin basins to wrestle with dust. That was before they began to smash railways, and accumulate dust of another sort.

Lately, presumably in a revulsion from the plebeian habits of his ancestors, Gould invested in a European basin and ewer. The article in question evidently was possessed of rare beauty, as it cost him \$14,000.

Bringing it across to his American palace, the government officials, in accordance with the law, charged the usual duty levied on decorated china.

Gould entered protest against this customary tax, and brought the matter up in the courts. It was a contest between legal right, on one hand, and moneyed might on the other.

Last week Judge Wheeler handed down a decision against the government, and permitted Gould to bring in his basin. The crockery, decided the learned judge, could be classed as oil and water paintings!

And so Gould, as the result of this brilliant decision, is spared the extra expense of \$8.00 for the privilege of scrubbing his ears in a concave oil painting.

Your ewer.

This is no trivial incident. It is pregnant with lessons that should be learned. It is full of warnings that should be heard and heeded.

It was Gould's ewer, but it was your gold. No man has ever yet, by reason of industry and economy, been able to indulge himself honestly in a \$14,000 wash-basin. The fact that some of you are not able to replace the old cracked basin you use by a new one, is coincident and explanatory of the fact that Gould is able to buy this bit of costly china.

Every pound of food, every yard of cloth, every dollar of rent, every ticket of travel that you buy contributes indirectly to the incomes of these princes of capital.

We are taxed that the rich might purchase their European crockery and we pay the tax. The rich are taxed that these luxuries might be imported into the country. They refuse to pay it, and succeed.

Why not imitate their example? If one man can resist a rightful tax, why cannot a majority of millions resist and escape an unjust tax?

The Social Democratic party, with some optimism, says we can.

Colts and Children.

At the annual meeting of the National Live Stock Association last week, Col. Henry Exall made an address showing the profitable character of colt-raising. He quoted his own success as proof of his assertion.

In marked contrast, is the case of George Simonds, of Boston. He was a tailor, whose marriage was blessed—an old phrase—*with ten children*. The family circle increased, until a dozen chairs surrounded the home table.

But all the father's troubles were not "little ones." The time came when he was unable to get work, and hence he was compelled to return, time after time, to his hungry brood without the means of satisfying their hunger.

At last, impotent, thwarted, foiled, he awoke one morning without the courage to face another day of disappointment, and thinking himself a hindrance, rather than a help, he swallowed a bottle of carbolic acid.

What hellish conditions have we when the man who raises colts makes money, and the man who raises children is crushed by the fact of fatherhood into failure and death?

Heart-breaks.

Dr. Seymour, a veterinary surgeon of Wolcott, N. Y., tells a story of a horse dying of a broken heart. When the horse died suddenly and strangely, an autopsy was made, showing that the animal's heart had been ruptured longitudinally. In looking for a cause, it was found that the horse had been suddenly separated from its mate, a young mare, and from the day of separation, had eaten nothing and had finally died, literally, of a broken heart.

How often, as the result of our competitive system of industry, are human beings forced from the side of those they love! How often are men compelled to pursue the will-o'-the-wisp of a job from state to state, leaving their wives and children behind! How often does the selfish negligence of the employer allow whirling wheels to, permanently separate the husband from the wife!

If a horse can feel such grief as to break its heart, what must be the agony of the desolated human heart? Who shall measure the sorrow of the one who

mourns beside the corpse of a loved one stricken by the plague of poverty? Who shall compute the guilt of that one who, seeing the hearts broken by the cruel wheels of capitalism, persists in pushing them around?

The Criminality of Riches.

The rich are not to be blamed for the evils caused by the system that made them rich. Wealth is not a guarantee of vice, any more than poverty is a badge of virtue.

Still, while we must blame the mass, instead of the class, there are still indictments against the rich, strong enough to deprive all of them of the title to virtuous life.

A house is burning. The flames creep from floor to floor, breathing death at every lurid breath. The inmates rush to the upper windows and shriek for help. A ladder leans against a neighboring house. With it the endangered ones may be saved. The owner refuses its use. The flames spread. "The ladder cannot be used. It is mine. It will be burnt." The walls fall. The flames gush forth. The victims perish. And the man's ladder is unhurt.

So today the flames of poverty endanger a multitude of lives. In many cases there is no choice save starvation or suicide. Every paper chronicles a case of one or the other.

The millionaire has a ladder of wealth which might save thousands. Every millionaire represents 20,000,000 loaves of bread. That means a solid pyramid of bread 100 feet square, and 500 feet high.

Now, when thousands are starving, I say that no man has any moral right to retain, in his private greed that which is essential to the life of his fellow men. He has a legal "right," but it is a right he exercises at the cost of character and conscience.

Sometime we shall apply the law of eminent domain, not only to real estate, but to wealth as well.

Blind Man's Buff.

A one-time socialist, now a "reformer" a la "The Golden Rule," who has extinguished his socialist lantern in order to make money in the dark, gives utterance to the opinion that nothing can be done for Socialism so long as times are so prosperous! He says that money is so easily got, and that everybody in New York has a job!

In the words of Dooley, I can only say "The divvie he has!" Last week a man in New York found a two-dollar bill. He rushed to a restaurant, ordered a meal, and in his ravenous hunger choked to death.

The aforesaid opinion reminds me of an expression of a wealthy clergyman, who said he had lived in New York for five years and had only seen two cases of poverty in that time. He evidently lived on Fifth avenue, and was too lazy to walk.

The same parson, in speaking of the bonds of poverty, said he "felt no chains," and therefore denied the existence of any chains at all. The driver has no reason to complain of the steepness of the hill up which he whips his horse.

When a blind man declares that something does not exist because he cannot see it, it is not wise to accept his opinion as conclusive or correct.

Is Poverty Necessary?

But, to consider the assumption seriously, is it true that nothing can be done for Socialism, so long as men are prosperous, or fairly so? Is it wise to leave all effort looking toward the change of the industrial system until humanity shall have been crushed by the iron heel of poverty into a puttyish and pliable pulp?

On the contrary, I believe that the only hope of a peaceful and orderly solution of the question is to educate people in Socialism now. Otherwise, we shall be plunged into the horrors of mob rule, as the ignorant dash blindly for an unknown gate.

If all the prosperous will not listen to us, none of the pauperized can. You cannot talk sense into a starving man. You may urge him to do some desperate deed, but you cannot make him an intelligent believer in a just system.

It is an encouraging sign that so many of the better class of workers—financially and socially considered—are becoming active members of our party branches. It is a manifestation of that high ethical and moral feeling that is the mainspring of a true socialist's activity.

Merlin.

The Democratic party, which clamors for the annihilation of the trusts, had an opportunity to put that policy to the test under Cleveland. Did it do any "smashing" then? No, and it will not if the opportunity should occur again. But the opportunity will not come; and besides, the people are beginning to understand the trust problem—thanks to the Socialists—and they have serious doubts about the wisdom of trying to "smash 'em."

SOCIALIST'S VIEW OF BOER-BRITISH WAR

By Edward Carpenter.

"But what they fought each other for I could not well make out."

Yes, what are we fighting about? The Dutch are our nearest neighbors on the continent—nearest by ties of blood, language, customs and traditions. Amity has always prevailed between the English and Dutch peoples, bound together as they are in Europe by a common tradition of liberty and independence. Why then are we fighting each other in Africa? What are we fighting about?

This question has never been answered. We are plunged in war. The soil of Africa runs red with the blood of Boer and Briton; but as to the reason—we have never had a solid one, or anything like a solid one, yet. Chamberlain certainly, in his cheapjack style, has slid from pretext to pretext, pocketing one and producing another with unblushing effrontery. At one time we were treated to "wrongs of Outlanders"—but then, unfortunately, Cornish miners, themselves Outlanders, came home and told us they had little or nothing to complain of; and it turned out that of the 21,000 names to the petition which started this subject, many, perhaps most, were signed under pressure or without the contents being known, while many were actually written down unbeknown to their owners. And so that matter fell through.

Then came the franchise. But the difference between a franchise obtainable after five years' residence and one obtainable after seven, obviously could not serve as an excuse for a war—especially for a government which at home opposes every spread of the franchise! So that was dropped.

And a move was made to the suzerainty question. The cheapjack, in his slippery way, alluded to the suzerainty, in his dispatches, as if we still retained a right to interfere in the private affairs of the Transvaal. But a glance at the convention of 1884 showed that we had abandoned that claim fifteen years ago, and that it could not be openly revived now.

So at last there was nothing for it but to hurry out troops to Africa, and say we were doing so for fear the Boers would invade us—for fear, as Mr. Stead says, that the lamb would eat the wolf! For fear that the little Transvaal, with a population equal to that of Brighton, would attack against the great British empire. That ruse was successful—as, of course, it was bound to be. And Boer and Briton are now in mortal combat.

But what are we fighting about? Every one knows, yet every one is silent, because we are ashamed to say.

Just think for a moment of the situation. Think of these Dutch batters or boers (farmers) who emigrated to South Africa in the 17th century; and one of the French Huguenots who followed—some of the best people in Europe. They settled at the Cape; but the English coming there a hundred years ago, soon began to crowd them out. And so, in 1836, occurred the Great Trek. Harnessing their bullocks to their wagons, and putting their wives, their families and all their possessions on board, they tracked a thousand miles up into the interior, and made for themselves a home afar from the English, in an arid, unfertile land where before the wild beasts had been. If ever a people on earth made good their right to their land these people did. They loved it passionately—it was the Promised Land of their wanderings—and they love it still. (Perhaps our people who have no land, cannot understand that!) And they will fight for it to the end.

They may have their faults. They have been hard on the Kaffirs and other natives, barbarous at times, but I doubt whether they have been so systematically cruel as the English. They may be narrowminded and old-fashioned in their ideas, but so far in the present war they seem to have acted more humanely than our professional troops. Religious, almost puritanical (for they descend from much the same puritan sources as we do), simple in their lives, loving their land, their cattle, their homes—they have only asked to be left alone in their own country.

Well, think of this people so living; and then think again of Johannesburg since gold was found there, since the gold fever set in—a hell full of Jews, financiers, greedy speculators, adventurers, prostitutes, bars, banks, gaming saloons, and every invention of the devil. Think of this people, these peasant farmers, not only witnessing with utmost disgust this open sore of commercial corruption, but seeing the covetous eyes of Rhodes and his crew fixed upon them for their undoing, and the certainty that ere long their land would be completely overrun. You see, if the boers had chosen to

pack off the whole crew they would have had a perfect right to do so. (Think for a moment, if Liverpool were to be overrun by 100,000 Chinese, smothering our civilization, and introducing their hated customs and ways—what should we do?) They would have had a perfect right to pack them off, according to the very ideas of independence and freedom which the name of England has always stood for.

Instead of doing that Kruger and his people gave way. They climbed down from point to point. They offered terms of franchise, etc., most reasonable terms. But when, each time, our government evaded coming to a settlement, the meaning of it all became clear. It became clear to Kruger, it became clear to his people, it became clear to the whole world (except those among ourselves who were deluded by the press)—clear that if "the cry of the women and children" in 1895 was but a trumped-up excuse for the Jameson raid, "the wrongs of the Outlanders" and the other cries of '99 were only a pretext for another raid, and this time on a much larger scale.

So at last, and quite recently, the boers turned (our troops were already massing on the frontier)—they turned, took John Bull by the horns and declared war on him. They could do nothing else. Ever since 1895, and perhaps before that, they had foreseen these dangers; and had—and very rightly, too—prepared themselves.

And now, because they are prepared and can show fight, Chamberlain (having perhaps hoped that they would not venture to fight) makes his latest accusation—namely, that they have been intending this invasion for years, and that we are only defending ourselves against a deeply laid plot! (And yet after that we call Kruger a hypocrite!)

If ever there was a case of Naboth's Vineyard it is this one.

And now listen again! Commercial capitalism has been rampant in South Africa for years. Capitalism, the bloodless, soulless rule of companies, is bad enough here in England; but in Africa it is far worse. There is no public opinion to restrain it there; the Kaffirs and even the white wage-workers are at its mercy. Terrible have been the cruelties perpetrated in the diamond fields of Kimberley, and in the gold mines of Rhodesia. Kimberley itself, about which there is a good deal of sentiment just now, has been of late years uninhabitable except by minions of the De Beers Syndicate. A commercial tyranny reigns there, exceeding anything we know in England. Conditions in Johannesburg were rapidly drifting in the same direction. The financiers have been looking forward to complete control of the labor conditions there. "Wages would be cut down, dividends would be increased," said Mr. Hammond to the South African Goldfields Company, "by two million sterling per annum" as soon as the English obtained control. The Stock Exchange shouted itself hoarse with fiendish delight when war was declared. Rhodesian stock went up; the Chartered Company's shares rose from 2-5-8 to 4-1-4. Lies were circulated by a corrupt press; and a wave of silly jingo-imperialism swept over our land. And so in obedience to this money-mongering capitalism—our princes, our government, our official classes being all more or less entangled in it—we are fighting an inglorious war—a war to which there can be no satisfactory end, since with it the flames of disaffection spread faster than they can be extinguished.

HERE AND NOW

Stand not aloof nor apart,
Plunge in the thick of the fight;
There in the street and the mart,
That is the place to do right.
Not in some cloister or cave,
Not in some kingdom above,
Here, on this side of the grave,
Here should we labor and love.
—Ella Wheeler Wilcox.

British Land Grabbers

One hundred and twenty thousand square miles of country north of Alice Springs, in the northern territory of South Australia, has been applied for and granted to the Lands Department Syndicate, London. Australian papers say that Mr. Chamberlain is up to his neck in this land-grabbing scheme, and that all his influence and that of the Colonial Office is behind the gang who now seem to have got possession of this vast amount of territory. The next step will probably be to bring pressure to bear on the federal government to build a trans-continental railway, and thereby enhance the commercial interests of the earth-stealers. The territory will be worked by black and Asiatic labor to produce goods in competition with the goods produced by the better-paid labor of the eastern states. This will be called developing the colonies, but the profits will belong to the London syndicate.—Labor Leader.

MUSINGS IN MY LEISURE HOUR

John Ruskin, too, is now out of the ranks of the living. There are very few left of the intellectual giants of the Victorian age, except the aged Victoria, and she is only a figurehead, varnished and gilded, made to look as much as possible like a real live monarch, and preserved in good condition by being kept out of use.

Poor woman! To the ignorant she is still a picture card. Queen is queen of spades to the yokel, queen of clubs to the "policeman," queen of diamonds to the snob and his helpmeet and queen of hearts to the country parson who worships God in heaven and the squire on earth. But she is always conscious of being nothing more than a card in the governmental pack, to be produced every time the political game is on, when the shuffling and dealing are duly completed.

Britanniarum regina! A doll playing the part of a queen! Well, it may not do honor to my Socialistic heart, but I pity her.

I always did.

Years ago I witnessed in London the performance of an unusually clever ventriloquist. The fellow had a dummy rigged out like a lady, whom he made say all sorts of things, to the great delight of a large deception-loving audience. A day or two later parliament assembled, the Grand Old Man was to come out in a new part, having, like all modern histrionic stars, the chief monologue and the best part of the dialogue. In due time he appeared before the footlights and the performance began. Before, however, he started, he had the time-honored queen's Speech (a capital S, please!) blazoned forth. As I afterward read it I heaved a sigh, and speaking to myself I said: "Alack-a-day! Here is the ventriloquist and his doll over again."

To start with John Ruskin and switch off to Queen Victoria! This is another illustration of the old adage that there is but a step between the sublime and the ridiculous.

What was Ruskin? William Morris has unfortunately gone before him, and he was the only one besides Ruskin himself who could have given us the true definition. To us of the disinherited class who have been reared in poverty and brought up amid scenes of misery, squalor and suffering; who have all through life been divorced from nature without ever being wedded to art; who have seen no pictures but to have our eyes ache, as we have never listened to strains of music but what were in our ears mingled with groans and sighs—what are to us Ruskin's word-paintings? How can we understand his "Stones of Venice," his "Modern Painters" and all the rest?

"We whose right to light
Heaven's high noon denies,
Whom the blind beams smite
That for you shine bright
And but burn our eyes"—
As Swinburne, addressing the rich, has put it.

But then there is, of course, the other Ruskin, the philanthropic sage, the seer, the workingman's friend, the man who takes up the cudgels in behalf of humanity against the British school of political economy, the author of "Fors Clavigera," "Time and Tide" and "Unto This Last"—the enemy of humbug and the truth-seeker. Him we understand. We cannot help it. The ancients said that the Gods must have spoken the language of Plato; if so, Wisdom and Logic could only have used the English of Ruskin if they hoped to find a place in the minds of men.

But he is not 'up to date'? Of course not, Ruskin, don't you see, was the connecting link between the outgoing and the incoming order of things. He was the early dawn that has not yet quite shaken off the night but is already a promise of the bright day to come. He was the April that links the warm fruit-bearing summer to the winter just past and gone, the winter with its gloom and chills and barrenness. He was the light-winged dove that left the ark and proclaimed the end of the flood. Him we understand and love and honor, while we battle for freedom and right.

M. Winchevsky.

This is the year when Socialism as a political factor in the United States will make itself worthy of attention. Organize for the great battle at the polls. Read the "Call to Action" and organize.

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CHICAGO, SATURDAY, FEB. 10, 1900.

NO INFLUENCE AT WASHINGTON

The correspondent at Washington of a Chicago daily newspaper directs attention to the opposition of private concerns to any attempt of the government to engage in any enterprise that would compete with their interests. The navy department wants an appropriation of money to build a plant for the manufacture of powder; but the powder manufacturers are making big profits by supplying powder to the government and oppose the plan. Millions of people favor postal savings banks, but they cannot get them because private savings banks are opposed. The parcels post has been urged and approved by the people, but the private express companies see in it a loss of revenue, so there will be no parcels post. For years a public telegraph system has been urged by strong delegations representing the people, but the private telegraph companies have more influence at Washington than the people, and there will be no public telegraph.

All this proves what the Socialists have long declared—that government is controlled by the masters of the economic system under which we live; it also proves that the people have no influence at Washington. And they will have none so long as the present economic system, which involves government by capitalists, shall continue.

GLAD WE CAN'T DO IT

We have received a beautiful political mosaic from Pittsburg urging a union of Social Democrats with Bryan Democrats, Prohibitionists and other people having confused ideas of the social problem, "to win Nov. 6." We can't do it. Fact is, we don't want union of that kind. If we did, the Prohibitionists and Bryan Democrats have made it impossible by uniting against us, as they did at Haverhill. Yes, with loud protestations of love for the workingman and a deep yearning to save him from the saloon, both combined with the Republicans to beat us. Perhaps the "unionists" are not aware of this. Another fact is that Socialists do not combine or trade with any party, however lustily it may proclaim its profound concern for the workingman or its high "moral" principles. There is only one escape from the tyranny of capitalism, and that is into Socialism, and that is something more than "direct legislation or public ownership of street railways," etc. Unless your etcetera includes the land and the entire productive capital of society, you are not favorable to Socialism. Neither Bryanism, Prohibitionism, Populism nor Single-Taxism stands for the adequate programme; therefore, save yourselves disappointment by abandoning the hope that Social Democrats will unite with any movement having as its objective anything short of the Co-Operative Commonwealth.

"UNPRECEDENTED PROSPERITY"

An "unprecedented year of prosperity" is followed by a winter of the usual hardship and deprivation for the poor, and the daily newspapers throughout the country are telling of great suffering among people whose poverty and wretchedness are due to inability to find employment. One Chicago paper appeals to the well-to-do to "give, give, give," and thus relieve the distress, and a Chicago merchant is giving soft coal by the half-ton to "deserving poor people," and thousands of such people, it is admitted, are in need of this help, after a year of "unprecedented prosperity." Many of those in need of assistance this winter are young married men who are compelled for the first time to ask for charity. They have failed for months to procure any sort of employment, have been living on credit, but the small merchants' inability to any longer carry them forces these young men to the extremity of seeking aid from public sources and charitable organizations. Poor men without work froze to death in the streets of Chicago last week.

Even property-owners, failing to collect rents because of the pecuniary distress of tenants, are seeking relief, and in Buffalo, N. Y., the authorities have been compelled to pay the rent for occupants of their houses who have not been touched by the "unprecedented prosperity." Women and children are found every day in every great city in the

country sick and without food or proper clothing. Men, disheartened by failure to get work, are asking the police to arrest them, declaring that they are slowly starving to death.

But the other class—the class which appropriates the earnings of the poor when they have work—is wearing silk stockings at \$10 a pair, and the great labor-skinning corporations are declaring dividends ranging from 40 to 400 per cent, and the country is enjoying a season of "unprecedented prosperity"!

THE S. L. P. CONVENTION

The convention of the Socialist Labor party at Rochester, N. Y., was attended by fifty-nine delegates, representing California, Connecticut, Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New York, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Ohio and Pennsylvania. The subject of union with the S. D. P. occupied the attention of the body for one day, following the reading of a communication and greetings from our national executive board. A reply was adopted conveying the notification that the S. L. P. will communicate its views on the relation of the respective parties to the national convention of the Social Democratic party at Indianapolis. Resolutions were adopted favorable to union by a vote of 55 to 1, three delegates not voting. A committee of nine was elected to convey these resolutions to the Indianapolis convention and invite the S. D. P. to choose a similar committee, the two to act as a permanent committee on Socialist union until the question is definitely disposed of. The members of the committee are: Hayes of Ohio, Harriman of California, Hillquit of New York, Sieverman of New York, White of Connecticut, Barnes of Pennsylvania, Fenner of Massachusetts, Stone of New York and Benham of California. The comrades of the S. L. P. will be cordially welcomed at Indianapolis, and it is our sincere hope that the work of the joint committee on union may in due season be crowned with success.

A CAPITALISTIC WAR

All wars are capitalistic and have as their procuring causes the extension of the dominion of capitalism over the world. The Boer-British war is peculiarly so. It had its origin in an economic question—the desire of the British to gain possession of the natural resources of the Transvaal. Of this there is no doubt, and no amount of sentimental or patriotic gush, no pious asseverations concerning the purposes of the Almighty, and no hypocritical cant about extending a superior civilization can alter the fact. In this issue of The Herald appears the view taken of this war for the extension of the empire of British capitalists by Edward Carpenter, the well-known English author and Socialist. It is well that Socialists in America should know that the war has from the beginning been denounced as unnecessary and brutal by our comrades across the sea.

The controversy over the war in England has brought out a statement from one writer which throws a flood of light upon the whole question of militarism, and plainly shows to what purpose the burden of taxation is placed upon the producing classes of the world. It is for no other purpose than to provide privileges for a class of aristocrats whose lives are spent in dissipation and intrigue resulting in war and the legalized murder of people between whom there is no quarrel.

This writer says that the British army in its higher branches is a great social class; that the society from which British officers are drawn is "distinctly degenerate, due to lack of intellectual training and the dissipation and vice of the aristocracy." "The class commonly known as society," he says, "provides 99 per cent of the officers." He then declares that if England is to win this war it can only be done by the English democracy.

If the English democracy and the American democracy—the common people everywhere who do the work of the world—would organize themselves to seize the political power of their respective countries and put an end to capitalist exploitation, they would be doing more good for themselves and future generations than by killing Boers in South Africa or Filipinos in Luzon.

NOTES AND COMMENT

The bankers of New York had a banquet and wanted the ice-cream served in a novel style. Each plate was set up to represent a pile of gold eagles with milled edges and the stamp; the motto "In God we trust" was changed to read "In good we trust." That was more than the vigilant and moral officers of the law could stand and the ice-cream counterfeiter of the coin of the realm was confiscated. If the bankers had only stamped the delicacy "In gold we trust" they would have been nearer right and the law officers, recognizing the appropriateness of the motto, would probably have allowed them to finish the banquet according to the menu card.

A writer in the Forum calls attention to the futility of anti-trust legislation by pointing out that the Sherman law of 1890 has been a complete failure for ten

years. The reason for this is that the trusts have always been powerful enough to decide the choice of the attorneys-general under both Republican and Democratic administrations. The writer says, and of course Socialists do not believe it, that the Sherman law was adequate to reach every form of combination or monopoly. The Sherman law never was meant for anything more than a vote catcher, just as the Republican and Democratic anti-trust clamor now is. There is not a Republican or Democratic politician living who really believes the trusts can be disbanded; but they must have votes, hence the talk of regulating or smashing the trusts.

One of the pretenses for war set up by Great Britain was the excessive taxation put upon food by the Boers in order that a corrupt and riotous government might wallow in wanton luxury at the expense of the unhappy outlanders. What are the facts? Keir Hardie says in the Labour Leader that, in common with every colony in South Africa, the Transvaal republic has its customs tariff, but it is the lowest on the Dark Continent. Comrade Hardie gives the following comparison between the Transvaal and Cape Colony (British):

Taxes per 100 lbs.	Cape Colony (British).	Transvaal Republic.
Butter	£1 5 0	£0 5 0
Cheese	1 5 0	0 5 0
Coffee	0 12 6	0 2 6
Sugar	3 6 8	0 2 6
Soap	0 4 2	0 5 0

The assassination of Goebel in Kentucky is the logical outcome of a system of politics that is dominated by the interests of capitalism. Such occurrences ought to have the effect of opening the eyes of the working class to the fact that the real anarchists and disturbers of the peace in this country are the political tools of the corporations in both the Republican and Democratic parties. No really sane and unprejudiced man doubts for a moment that if the position of the two capitalistic parties in Kentucky was reversed Mr. Taylor instead of Mr. Goebel would have been the victim.

Socialists did not make the classes, be it remembered. They have been made by the economic evolution, and their existence in every country where capitalism holds sway is undeniable. In affirming the class struggle Socialists merely recognize the FACT. While the means of life are possessed by a few and the workers are dependent upon the few to gain a livelihood, there will be classes and a necessary struggle of classes.

What "cause" is it you want to aid? The Bryan cause? Then don't bother us; you are coming to the wrong shop. If you read The Herald and understand the language it is printed in, you should also understand that in sending your frenzied clamor for union here you are wasting both time and money.

Never hesitate to support a principle if it is right. You know Socialism is right. Don't wait for it to become popular before joining a Socialist organization. Unite with the Social Democratic party now and share with us in the great national campaign we will make this year for Socialism.

The answer to the question "What are the English fighting about?" is given in an article by the well-known Socialist writer Edward Carpenter, which The Herald received from England a few days ago. It is being extensively circulated among English workingmen in leaflet form.

The American Fabian has been eliminated from our exchange list by reason of suspension. The Fabian was in some respects an excellent publication, but so many Republican and Democratic journals in this country have adopted Fabianism that there was really no place for it.

Twenty-six millionaires legislating (for the people? nit!) in the United States senate. No wonder that all influence at Washington is monopolized by corporations and the tools of corporations, while the people who foot the bills are no longer in the governing business!

A woman living at Frederick City, Md., is trying to sell the Bible once owned by Barbara Frietchie, the heroine of Whittier's poem. The book is highly prized by the owner, but poverty compels her to sell it "to make my dear mother comfortable while she lives."

With all the brag and insolence of the military jingoes, it should be a source of real gratification to all lovers of freedom that the trained troops of one of the great military powers of the world are fought to a standstill by a band of farmers.

It is amusing to notice how some of the big trust managers insist that their concerns do not come within the provisions of any anti-trust laws. But suppose they did—what of it? Nobody doubts the ability of trusts to evade the provisions.

The most effective work that any man can do is to organize for the new order of things for which the Social Demo-

cratic party stands—the order that is to succeed the present state of political and industrial anarchy.

A Socialist in this year 1900 is a man who, understanding the platform of the Social Democratic party, votes for its principles this year and at all times, to emancipate himself from wage slavery and the tyranny of capitalism.

Members of the party are now selecting delegates to the national convention of the party at Indianapolis, March 6. Let no branch go without representation, though some sacrifices are necessary.

The poor are with us yet, as reports from every city in the country when the mercury is low clearly indicate. Where's your vaunted prosperity when people can't get employment enough to sustain life?

A curious but not inapt typographical error occurred in the Chicago Tribune a few days ago. It was in the narration of a Philippine war incident, the word comrades being spelled "comraids."

Free speech in the United States senate means speech that is in accord with the knavery and hypocrisy of the administration.

If "God is a Republican," as Mark Hanna said, one wonders whether He approves assassination.

AN OBJECT LESSON

By Charles Trench

There was a time, within the memory of men not yet old, when authors, statesmen, actors and men of science formed interesting topics of conversation in both the press and in society circles, but all this interest has been supplanted by news and anecdotes of millionaires and their families. We are informed, for instance, of Miss Shoddy's coming marriage with an earl or a duke, and that the fortunate couple are to set up housekeeping with twenty millions of dollars. Then the public is told about Mrs. Bullion's ball, the jewels she wore, and the great people who honored the occasion with their presence, not omitting the fact that the whole affair was a brilliant success and cost fifty thousand dollars.

All this is not to be wondered at, seeing that the orthodox press has degenerated into a mere tool to flatter and promote the gigantic interests of the moneyed power. Hack journalism now finds its most profitable field of enterprise in pandering to the vanity and greed of mammoth swindlers. No wonder that titled spendthrifts and scapegrace scions of nobility seek to retrieve their ruined fortunes by marrying American heiresses! What signify twenty or thirty millions to an American money king who can "jam" an appropriation bill through congress and obtain any amount he wants from the national treasury?

"The amount of money," says Prof. Davidson, in the Forum, "of which this country is annually drained in providing titled husbands for the daughters of millionaires is enormous. Such is the craze for title among the moneyed classes that no degree of iniquity will stand in the way of its attainment. If all the sacrifices which American fathers and mothers have made to buy titled husbands for their daughters were recorded, they would form a revelation so ignominious that it would not be believed. And after such a revelation patriotic Americans would hardly dare to look foreigners in the face."

It is not, however, the fathers and mothers of the brides who make any of the sacrifices just mentioned, but those fathers and mothers who struggle in hopeless and desperate poverty—a countless multitude of men and women whom protected barons can fleece at will. Never did eastern despots, in the olden time, hold their subjects more securely by the throat than do monopolist magnates hold the American people today. When King Oil, King Coal, King Meat, or king anything else wants to purchase a title for his daughter, or to reimburse himself for a bad speculation, he has only to increase the price on the commodity he controls, and the job is done!

What can the workman do under this grinding tyranny? A great deal besides scratching his head and dolefully repeating that phrase so familiar in every toiler's household: "Coal has gone up! Meat has gone up! Oil has gone up!" The way out of this wilderness of spoliation and robbery is straight. Socialism is that way. The power of the masses is unquestionable. It is only intelligence and determination that are needed.

Haverhill (Mass.) Social Democrat. The ubiquitous reporters of the capitalist press are nominating Mayor Chase for Congress, and we should humbly suggest that the Social Democratic party be given a voice in the choice of a candidate. When the time comes the party will name the man to make the race from this district and whoever he may be, Mayor Chase, or anybody else, he will be worth voting and fighting for.

CLUBBING OFFERS

The Herald and Appeal to Reason .70
" " " Public Ownership .70
Order from THEODORE DEBS,
126 Washington St., Chicago, Ill.

LABOR AND PROGRESS

Mr. Ernest H. Crosby tells of a factory he inspected where the manufacture of cheap socks was carried on. The manager showed him 400 machines that did the entire work of making a sock without the aid of human hand. Twenty boys did the work necessary in oiling the machines and putting the material in place. The machines run twenty-four hours in a day, and only fifty boys are needed for all shifts. Five thousand dozens of socks are made daily. Under the old method this work would have required 50,000 men.

The Hamburger Echo says that the doing away with school fees, one of the demands of the Social Democracy, which has been refused in Hamburg, on the flimsiest grounds, has been accomplished in great part in the grand duchy of Hesse. Up to the present, 676 parishes have abolished it, leaving but 310 in which the reform is yet to be accomplished. In all the common schools of the Mainz and Bingen district the fees have been abolished.

Gerault-Richard urges great activity by the Socialist party in La Petite Republique. Let us, he says, work so that the proletariat may find all its wants supplied by the Socialist party. The workman should be able to find in Socialism moral, political and economic training.

The city of Chicago has within two years passed five ordinances touching department stores. The department stores carried the cases to the Supreme court and recently the court decided the five ordinances unconstitutional and void.

The Socialists of Denmark have been very successful in several communal elections. They have carried their candidates not only at Copenhagen and Elsinore, but also in several of the rural communes. Altogether fifty-nine Socialists have been returned.

The honesty of civil servants in Great Britain is shown by the fact that in twenty years only twelve cases of official corruption in the higher branches of the service have been discovered in the administration of the affairs of about 400,000,000 people.

One of the smallest of the states of the German empire is the principality of Reuss, a little state of 62,754 inhabitants. It returns one member to the German parliament (reichstag), and he is a Socialist, and is elected by universal suffrage.

There is a club in Vienna all the members of which pledge themselves to marry poor girls. If one marries a rich girl he is fined £400, the fine money going to some impecunious couple engaged to be married.

Chicago contractors adopted rules that oppose trade union principles, no limitation of amount of work done in a day, no restriction as to machinery or use of non-union material; right to discharge at will.

Immediately after Stitt Wilson's return from England, about the beginning of April, the members of the Social Crusade will open a school of applied Christianity at the Hull house, Chicago.

Austrian coal operators say they will not arbitrate until the men return to work. Public sympathy is with the miners. Government ownership of mines is being hastened by mine owners.

The Birmingham (England) city council has just formally taken over the business of the Birmingham Electric Supply company, for which it has paid the nice little sum of £420,000.

The Socialist party of Sweden has lost A. Danielsson, the editor of the Arbetet of Malmo. He was only 36 years old, but was one of the most active members of the party.

Owing to the large number of omnibus horses taken out of London for the war hundreds of employes in the omnibus yards are out of employment.

The Saturday Review thinks the first serious industrial pinch of the war will be felt in England by the breakdown of the coal trade.

In London there are 250,000 families who receive \$5 or less per week. In England and Wales there are 1,745,000 such families. The Standard Oil company, according to the Iron Age, has secured control of the total salt output of the United States.

The salary of President Gompers of the A. F. of L. has been increased to \$2,100 and that of Secretary Morrison to \$1,800.

By a reduction in wages of natives working in the mines the Transvaal government will save \$7,500,000 a year.

Kansas City has lost \$200,000 worth of job printing because of the printers' strike—and the end is far away.

The street car trust of St. Louis denies the right of the employes to organize, and a strike may result.

Henry Clews, the banker, says that wages have been advanced 5 per cent and commodities 15 per cent.

The English railway congress recently in session decided to demand the eight-hour day.

The striking Kansas City leather-workers have been injunctioned by the courts. Next!

The Standard Oil capitalists now control every public lighting franchise in New York.

Dayton, Ohio, according to recent compilation, now has over 6,000 trades unionists. In the vicinity of Chicago 25,000 labels of the broommakers are used every month.

In the fashionable thoroughfares of London a good house rents for \$50,000 a year.

It is reported that John Burns is going to Australia on a lecturing tour.

A factory at Redditch, England, makes 70,000,000 needles a week.

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,
86-88 E. FOURTH STREET, NEW
YORK CITY, ON THE EVENING OF

MONDAY, FEB. 26, 1900

AT 8 O'CLOCK

UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE
SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY
ADMISSION TWENTY-FIVE CENTS

YEAR OF EXPANSION FOR SOCIALISM

Nineteen hundred is the chosen year of American Socialists for the work of clearing away from the industrial and political problems the cobwebs of confusion and presenting to the masses of the people the complete and adequate programme of emancipation from the tyranny and hypocrisy of existing conditions through Socialism. Never in the history of the movement in this country has there been manifested among all classes of people, save and except the class which profits by a continuance of the "progress of slaves," an interest so great, backed by a desire to aid in some way the cause which proclaims the social revolution by the capture of the powers of government as the initial move, as now. The blind are beginning to see, and the blind leaders of the capitalist parties are discerning the sign that portends the beginning of the political revolution this year. "What does the Social Democratic party stand for?" is the question that is asked by thousands today, and it is being answered with good effect, as is shown in the weekly reports of new branches instituted in the various states from New York to California.

Everywhere it begins to dawn upon the minds of men who are heart-sick with the subjection of the people to organized greed, that the Social Democratic party is an attempt to realize a freer and a nobler life for those who toil. And as this conviction impresses itself upon the individual, he is moved to action and co-operation with his fellow-men to bring about the changes desired by the methods this party has adopted. Last week The Herald conveyed the encouraging news to its readers that seven new branches had been organized and this was thought to be an excellent showing. Now we are happy to announce for the week ended Feb. 4 the largest number of new branches for one week since the party was started in June, 1898. The record is a most gratifying one and should give heart to every comrade and invincible purpose to every branch in the country. We have done little boasting, as our readers know, but we do want to say that on the eve of our national convention the organization is in splendid condition, not alone because of its actual achievements to the present time, but for the magnificent promise of the near future.

NOW IS THE TIME TO EXPAND FOR SOCIALISM! While international capitalism, with its policies of imperialism abroad and its continued degradation of labor at home, vaunts itself in the temporary possession of the world, let us be alert and active for the spread of the principles of international Socialism, pressing with unflinching courage the important work of organization. Following are the new branches for the week:

CHICAGO, ILL. A branch was organized at Scandia hall last Sunday afternoon after a speech by Comrade Stedman. Comrade Charles Hallbeck was chosen temporary secretary, and permanent officers will be elected at the next meeting.

KOKOMO, IND. Chairman, A. Simpson; vice-chairman, M. Kelly; secretary, W. Blenke; treasurer, C. Favre; organizer, C. Bourne.

CONCORDIA, KAN. Chairman, C. M. Ball; vice-chairman, S. B. Miles; secretary, A. A. Carnahan; treasurer, H. B. Williams; organizer, William H. Wright.

CEDAR JUNCTION, KAN. Chairman, E. S. Murphy; vice-chairman, J. D. Hymer; secretary, Harry Corliss; treasurer, T. T. Evans; organizer, C. A. Gordon.

SOUTH BRAINTREE, MASS. Secretary, W. O. Pinkney. Other officers to be reported.

WORCESTER, MASS. Chairman, Thomas M. Carpenter; secretary, Martha C. Gibbs.

MENDON, MASS. Chairman, Horace S. Coleman; vice-chairman, Florence Driscoll; secretary, William E. Dixon; treasurer, Charles A. Johnson; organizer, Nathan F. Towne.

CORFU, N. Y. Chairman, L. J. H. Craft; vice-chairman, Robert Male; secretary, the Rev. R. E. Horn; treasurer, A. K. Maynard; organizer, Albert W. Harmon.

NOTES FROM THE FIELD

Mayor Chase has been chosen as delegate from the Haverhill branch to the convention. Both MacCartney and Carey are playing star parts in the Massachusetts state play at Boston.

Comrade William P. Lonergan has been elected as a delegate to the national convention from Connecticut. On the evening of Feb. 16 Comrade MacCartney lectures at Rockland, Mass., on "The Wage System as Slavery."

A new branch was sprouted at Scandia hall, Chicago, last Sunday afternoon. Officers will be elected at next meeting. The Rev. Charles H. Vail spoke at Patchogue, N. Y., Jan. 30, and a branch at that place will be the result of his visit.

We have left a few copies of Imogene C. Fales' pamphlet, "Buffalo Conference and the Democratic Party," price 5 cents. Branch No. 9, Milwaukee, elected Comrades Louis Arnak, Robert Meister and F. W. Rehfeld as delegates to the city convention to be held Feb. 12.

The People's Paper, Santa Barbara, Cal., is one of many weekly journals that run the platform of the Social Democratic party and indorse its principles. All sorts of brief notes of meetings, personal mentions, future events, etc., relating to branch work or party matters are welcome and will find a place in this column.

Comrades J. F. Carey and William Maily have been chosen as delegates to the national convention from the Merrimack valley branches in Massachusetts. The Public Ownership party of Erie, Pa., has reaffirmed allegiance to the principles and platform of the S. D. P. and nominated a full ticket for the city council.

At Manhattan Lyceum, New York, Feb. 26, a reception and ball will be given the two Socialist mayors of Massachusetts, Chase of Haverhill and Couther of Brockton.

For a new member Representative McCartney of Rockland is much in evidence at the statehouse this season. The reverend gentleman has ideas and is not afraid to give vent to them.—Brockton Times.

Comrade George W. Poague of Towner, N. D., was a caller at headquarters last Thursday. He will visit relatives in Ohio and Indiana for a month and attend the national convention March 6.

The Twelfth Assembly District branch of New York has expelled several members for "scabbing" by accepting jobs with the firm of Indig, Burg & Co., where the Brotherhood of Cloakmakers is now on strike.

The boys at Brockton miss no opportunity for a good time. January 26 they had a grand jubilee and concert with speeches from Mayor Couther and Comrade W. P. Porter. The regular Friday night meetings continue to be a great attraction.

A joint meeting of the south side branches of Milwaukee will be held at Gambrinus hall, 715 Reed street, Feb. 15, at 8 p. m., to elect delegates to the national convention. All comrades are requested to be present to sign credentials of delegates.

Members of the Social Democratic party are now selecting delegates to the most important Socialist convention ever held in the United States. Upon its deliberations and action will depend in great measure the future of the Socialist cause in this country.

Comrade E. V. Debs lectured at Cleburne, Bonham and Greeville, Tex., and was at Tampa, Fla., on the 6th and 7th inst. Everywhere in the South his meetings have been unprecedented, the halls being packed to the doors and great enthusiasm manifested by the people.

Do you see how the West is moving? O, yes, it's coming! Will be irresistible before long, comrades. There's no doubt about it. Always remember that organization is our work. Comrades Gould, Rockefeller and others in the capitalist branch are doing the rest. Organize—organize—organize!

A large audience listened to an address by Comrade John N. Stewart at Somersworth, N. H., January 28, on "The Liquor Question from a Socialist Standpoint." Our correspondent says "the address created a favorable impression and was delivered in a manner to do credit to the Socialist movement."

These lectures are given at Arios hall, 341 West Forty-seventh street.

One of the largest meetings ever held for business purposes by Branch No. 5, S. D. P., of Lynn, Mass., was held Jan. 29, the event being the securing of larger headquarters and the election of officers. The regular headquarters are at 71 Munroe street, Lynn, Mass. The officers elected are: William H. Hitchcock, chairman; Fred Weed, vice-chairman; Harry Gotimer, secretary; L. Cunningham, financial secretary; G. H. Barrett, treasurer, and Harry Wright, organizer.

Arrangements have been made for a series of lectures on Socialism every Tuesday evening at Hull House, corner of Halsted and Polk. The lectures are under the management of Robert Hunter and a committee representing the Socialist Labor and Social Democratic parties. A. S. Edwards, editor of the Herald, is the speaker for February 13, his subject being "The Greatest Fact of the Century." February 20, Peter Sissman; February 27, Seymour Stedman, "Imperialism;" March 6, James B. Smiley; March 13, Charles H. Soelke.

Branch No. 1, Los Angeles, meets every Sunday evening at 8 o'clock in the room of the Friday Morning Club, 330 1/2 South Broadway. F. H. Gill, President. C. C. Ford, 622 W. 37th St., Secretary.

Branch No. 1, Chicago, meets every Wednesday evening. Thomas Kirwin, Secretary, 2501 West 12th Street.

Branch No. 2 (Bohemian), Chicago, meets second and fourth Sundays at 2 p. m. at Nagel's Hall, 535 Blue Island Ave. Vaclav Jelinek, Secretary, 606 Blue Island Ave.

Branch No. 3, Chicago, meets second and fourth Mondays of each month at Jos. Dundras' place, 1080 W. 18th Place. Frank Ort, Secretary, 866 W. 18th St.

Branch No. 5, Chicago, meets second and fourth Sundays of each month at Frank Lang's, 117 W. 18th St., corner Jefferson St. Paul Chlapka, Secretary, 47 Ruble St.

Branch No. 6 (German), Chicago, meets every first Saturday of each month at 8 o'clock at Nagel's Hall, 535 Blue Island Ave., near 18th St. Albin Geisler, Secretary, 726 W. 20th St.

Branch 9, Chicago, meets at Lundquist Hall, corner 61st and Morgan Sts., every first and third Thursday. S. L. Westine, Secretary, 623 Center Ave.

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

Branch No. 2, Covington, meets first and third Wednesday evenings of each month at 8 o'clock at St. Joseph's of each month. All agitation meetings except last one in month. Good speakers. Secretary, F. C. Stumpf, 201 8th street.

Branch No. 1, Baltimore, meets every Monday at 8 p. m. at 31 W. German St. Frank Mareck, Secretary, 1408 N. Gay St.

The Massachusetts State Committee meets the first Saturday of each month at 74 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 Halle, 5 Glenwood St., Roxbury.

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

Branch No. 5, Lynn, permanent headquarters, 71 Munroe St. Business meeting every Monday night at 7 1/2. Open house. Public invited. Harry Gotimer, Sec., 423 Essex 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 comrade 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 99 Chelsea St. Miss Jenny Segal, Secretary, 99 Chelsea St.

Branch No. 18, Newburyport, meets the second Monday of each month at 8 p. m. at 1 State St. F. P. McLean, Secretary, 39 Winter St. G. H. Evans, Treasurer, Prince Place.

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. Membership, with advantage of Educational Course and Social Democratic Herald free to each member, 25 cents per month. Apply to the secretary, John C. Wesley, 117 Turk street.

Branch No. 1, Los Angeles, meets every Sunday evening at 8 o'clock in the room of the Friday Morning Club, 330 1/2 South Broadway. F. H. Gill, President. C. C. Ford, 622 W. 37th St., Secretary.

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Branch No. 15, East Boston, meets every Monday at 8 p. m. at 99 Chelsea St. Miss Jenny Segal, Secretary, 99 Chelsea St.

Branch No. 21, Chelsea, permanent headquarters, Room 2, Postoffice Building. Open every 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 other branches, inquire at the above address.

Branch No. 7, Kansas City, meets every Tuesday at 8 p. m. at 1300 Union Ave. G. J. Storz, Secretary, 1330 W. 9th St.

NEW JERSEY Branch No. 1, Secretary, Michael W. Schor, 57 Livingston st. Branch No. 6 (German), Paterson, N. J., meets first and third Mondays at 8 p. m. at Heivretta Hall, 54-56 Van Hookes 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 Wilsig's Hall, 35 E. 4th St. Elizabeth H. Thomas, Secretary. East Side Branch, Room 1, New York, meets every first and third Thursday at 112 Clinton St. A. Guyer, Secretary, 163 Suffolk St.

Branch No. 3, 24th Assembly District, meets second and fourth Wednesdays of the month at 1029 Second Ave., at the "Central." Henry Laag, Secretary, 324 E. 60th St.

Branch No. 4, West Side Branch, New York, meets second and fourth Tuesdays of every month at headquarters, 189 W. 92nd St. Elizabeth H. Thomas, Secretary.

Branch No. 10, 4th Assembly District, meets every first and third Wednesday of the month in 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. Butscher, Secretary, 251 Rutledge St.

Branch No. 20, New York, 28th Assembly District, meets first and third Thursdays of each month at Faulhaber's Hall, 1561 Second Ave. R. Hoppe, Secretary, 323 E. 90th St.

OHIO Branch No. 2, Cleveland, meets in Ohlsen's Hall, 65 York St., second and fourth Sundays at 3 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 2:30 p. m. Lectures and discussions. Public invited. E. B. Steinhilber, Sec., 2151 Vine 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. L. Schawie, president; N. Duttie, secretary.

Branch No. 8, Cincinnati, meets every second and fourth Saturday in Workingmen's Hall, 1318 Walnut St. F. Hamel, Secretary, 184 Prutz St.

Branch No. 11, German, Columbus. Ed Greiner, Secretary, 805 Mohawk St.

TO BRANCH SECRETARIES

The work done by your branch would be interesting and oftentimes helpful to other branches. The Herald is the medium through which information is conveyed from one branch to another. Long reports are seldom read and not often necessary. But if you send us short, newsy paragraphs, telling what is going on—paragraphs that will fit in to the "Notes from the Field"—they will be always welcome and find a place and many interested readers every week. You are urged to attend to this, and if your other duties prevent it, then have the matter brought up in your branch meeting and the duty assigned to someone else. Just send us the plain facts about what you are doing.

To Our Connecticut Readers

All unattached Socialists in the state of Connecticut are requested to write Louis Schlaf, 26 Spring street, Rockville, for information concerning the organization of branches.

Have You Paid Up?

All members enrolled at the present time are liable for the current quarter's dues; unless these dues are paid members are not entitled to representation in the national convention. This is in accordance with the decision of the referendum.

The Prize Contest

Lest you forget, we again remind you of the prizes offered by Comrade Forman of Milwaukee and Comrade Goebel of Philadelphia for the largest lists of new subscribers to The Herald secured between Feb. 1 and April 30. The prizes are well worth an effort to win, and along with the effort some good work for Socialism will be done. If a thousand comrades will make a canvass among their friends the circulation of the paper will be greatly increased and Socialism made known in homes where it is now misunderstood. And the prizes will go to those sending the four largest lists.

First Prize—One set of Carlyle's "French Revolution" and the complete works of Charles Dickens.

Second and Third Prizes—One set of Carlyle's "French Revolution." This work is in two volumes.

Fourth Prize—One latest improved fountain pen.

North Dakota Socialists

Socialists residing in North Dakota and desiring to organize for effective propaganda work in that state are requested to correspond with Math. Eidsness, Towner, N. D.

Price of Gas Reduced

The Massachusetts state gas commission has ordered that the price of gas furnished by the Haverhill gas company to this city be reduced from \$1 per 1,000 feet to 80 cents. This is the culmination of a bitterly fought contest started by Mayor Chase in the latter part of his first term and carried on before the state gas commission at several hearings. Mayor Chase had the assistance of Mr. G. W. Anderson, attorney, who has a record in cases of this kind, and also of Professor E. W. Bemis.

The reduction means a saving to the gas consumer of \$18,000, there being 90,000,000 feet of gas consumed yearly in the city. That this will be of benefit to the working class goes without saying, as the majority of the consumers are working people, gas being largely used for cooking, beside the usual lighting purpose.

The case has excited a great deal of interest throughout the state, owing to the facts which came out in connection with the Haverhill Gas Securities Company, a concern chartered, as it appeared, to absorb the surplus earnings of the Haverhill Gas Company.—Haverhill Democrat.

Merrimack Valley Delegates

A convention of the Merrimack Valley Social Democrats was held Sunday, January 28, at 2 p. m., in Haverhill, Mass.,

at the hall of Branch 16, at labor headquarters.

The purpose of the convention was to decide on the advisability of the branches uniting their efforts and sending delegates to represent the valley in the national convention.

Comrade Wm. Maily of Haverhill, who is editor of the Haverhill Social Democrats, was chosen chairman and Comrade Walter R. Pickering of Georgetown secretary.

Delegates were present from Lawrence and Georgetown. Amesburg was represented unofficially.

A discussion was held in which it was the sentiment of the convention that West Newbury, South Groveland and Merrimack branches would join with the rest of the branches in sending delegates.

A lengthy discussion was carried on in regard to the anti-DeLeon faction of the S. L. P. and the S. D. P. uniting. The sentiment was that the union of forces for the purpose of Socialist propaganda was desirable, and that a union of forces for the purpose of fighting the DeLeonites was not desirable. A large majority favored retaining the name of Social Democratic Party in case of union of forces. The entire matter was finally referred to the different branches.

It was voted to elect two delegates to represent the valley at the national convention. Representative F. J. Carey and William Maily were chosen as the delegates.

It was voted that each branch attend to the collection of its share of the delegates expenses, and the secretary was ordered to so instruct the branches which were not represented.

Secretary.

OFFICIAL CALL

Annual Convention of the Social Democratic Party, March 6, 1900

In accordance with the action of the members in determining the time and place for the national convention of the Social Democratic party in 1900, the National Executive board of said party directs that said national convention be held at the city of Indianapolis, in the state of Indiana, for the purpose of nominating candidates for president and vice-president of the United States, to be voted for at the presidential election on Tuesday, Nov. 6, 1900, and for the transaction of such other business as may

properly come before it, and that said convention shall assemble at 10 o'clock in the forenoon on Tuesday, the 6th day of March, 1900.

The representation at said convention will be by delegates, chosen in accordance with the referendary vote of the members and reported in this number of The Herald, as follows:

First—Each branch shall be entitled to as many representatives as the individual members thereof in good standing may select for that purpose; provided, that each representative shall be entitled to one (1) vote for each member whose signature is attached to his credential; and provided further, that no member shall have his signature attached to more than one credential.

Second—Branches not sending their own representatives may select those of other branches of the same state to represent them; provided, that in each such case the representative shall hold the proper credential with the signatures of members attached as herein provided.

Third—No member shall be qualified to serve as representative or entitled to representation who has not been a member of the party at least thirty (30) days prior to the opening day of the convention.

Fourth—All signatures of members attached to credentials shall be certified by the chairman or secretary of their respective branches.

Fifth—The national secretary shall furnish each branch with a sufficient number of blank credentials for the purpose herein specified.

With the hope that the deliberations and action of this convention, an event of historic importance in the development of Socialism in the United States, may redound to the credit of the delegates and the glory of our cause, fraternally

Jesse Cox, Chairman. Seymour Stedman, Secretary.

PROPAGANDA FUND

Table with columns for name, amount, and total. Includes entries for 'Appeal to Reason', 'E. V. Debs', 'Class Struggle', etc.

