

MERLIN'S MIXTURE

The golden wedge. Our public school system has ever been regarded as one of the realized ideals of democracy. We have pointed to it, with justifiable pride, as the institution wherein the children of rich and poor had equal access to the pursuit of knowledge.

Recently I had a conversation with a teacher of one of Boston's suburban schools. In the course of our talk I learned that our school system has not escaped from the contaminating influence of the dollar.

She said that in her school the punishment of misdemeanors and the marking of examinations were controlled almost wholly by the financial and social standing of the parents of the child in question, by order of those in office superior to her own.

A child misbehaved. She reported to the principal. The first question she is asked is "Whose child is it?" If it is the child of some well-to-do and influential citizen, she is almost invariably told to let the child go. "We can't afford to get out with Mr. Goldberg," pleads the principal. If it be the child of a poor laborer, the full punishment is "conscientiously" awarded.

So, too, in the case of examinations, the pupils of the wealthy are allowed to pass oftentimes by reason of money, and not merit.

How long are we going to permit the existence of an industrial system that forces us to contribute to the fortunes that are thus undermining democracy and discriminating against our children?

A double-jointed prayer. "Is there anything I can do for you?" asked Bishop Hurst of President McKinley, hearing of His Majesty's slight indisposition.

"Yes, there is," he replied, "Keep on praying for me; that will help me more than anything else."

This statement will afford much gratification to those who have the double misfortune of being both poor and pious. The throne of deity will be deluged with their petitions in behalf of the prayer-needing president.

No one will deny that William is in need of the blessings of divine grace. If he is not already on his "spiritual uppers," having lost his "sole" in the labyrinths of political intrigue, he sadly needs all the help that deity can supply.

Or perhaps he needs grace to become meek and resigned, so that he might the better serve God and obey Hanna. The chief requisite of presidential figure-headship today seems to be passive pliability.

I am of the opinion that there was a typographical mistake in the report. McKinley said "Prey for me," instead. This is infinitely more in accord with the methods adopted by his managers in placing and retaining him in office.

This is McKinley's double-jointed prayer. To the parsonial Hurst and his class, he says "Pray for me." To the political Hanna he says "Prey for me."

A practical prayer. Talking about prayer reminds me of an incident that occurred a few months ago.

I was present at a certain church banquet held in Music Hall, Boston. The hour for commencing the feast came. Somebody on the platform rapped for order, and when there was silence, called on a clergyman to offer grace.

He began rather a long blessing in which he thanked God for the bountiful spread.

The reverential hush was disturbed by the waiters in the ante-rooms, who were preparing to serve the banquet. The head waiter tiptoed out, and I heard him say, in a loud whisper, "Keep quiet, you fellows, they're saying grace." Then from a fellow who was making vigorous lunges over an ice-box, there came the gruff reply, "Well, what if they are, we're cutting ice!"

I tried to be as reverential as I could, consistent with my environment, but I found myself saying, "Yes, you're cutting a good deal more ice than the other fellow." Up at the front God was getting thanked for what the negro waiters were doing in the back rooms.

And so, to point a moral to the tale, while the pious are praying for the coming of the kingdom of heaven, the socialistic workmen, often irreligious and noisy, are realizing the latter by their own stalwart efforts.

Is ever thus. Labor is the great creative force of the universe. It is the power by which all things are made. Labor is the divinity in existence, and lies at the basis of all things.

Everybody near Boston has been in and admired the Boston Public Library. The marble staircase, the stately columns, the splendid pictures, all combine to make it a place of beauty.

How came it there? For many months before it was opened workmen were busy on its site. They were rough, rugged fellows, clad in dirty duck, and working in dingy little sheds.

They excited no attention. The passersby never gave them a second look. The city council never came in a body and congratulated them on the progress of their work. No newspaper ever wrote them up. No artist ever found them worthy of a picture.

But they kept on hewing away, until at last the work was done. The opening of the building was announced, the doors were flung open, and admiring crowds thronged the place.

And the humble creators of it all were away on some other barren site, hewing, and cutting, and chiselling at some new creation.

Patriotism gone mad. In a dispatch this week from Manila, it is stated that 450 insane soldiers are being shipped back to the United States. This is a literal instance of patriotism gone mad.

The mere fact of insanity is nothing in itself. In fact, only those who were touched more or less by the virus of madness could have been induced to join in the devilish heathen-hunting expedition against the Filipinos. The trouble with this particular shipload of fools is that they are inconveniently crazy. They have crossed the limit of useful craziness. So long as they were only insane enough to murder Filipinos, they were of use, but when they became so violently insane as to turn upon their fellows they were sent back to America. When they return they will doubtless be given government positions, where they can exercise their particular mania to advantage.

What an indictment is this against the powers that misrule our land! In a moment of delirious enthusiasm or of pressing need, men enlist in the U. S. army. They are sent to the east, marched against naked bolomen, and compelled to fire at and kill and murder them like so many rats.

Is it any wonder that if there were a grain of common humanity left in these soldiers, the feeling of revulsion against the bloody task should unbalance their minds. There was no alternative save to shoot, or be shot as traitors.

Let Edward Atkinson lead this procession of dribbling imbeciles through the country, and it will do more to kill the expansion craze than a bushel of his smuggled pamphlets.

Barbaric Britain. We have heard much in the last few years about Anglo-Saxon civilization. We have read concerning the British Bible society, and the British Missionary society, and a score of other organizations professedly Christian.

But how can we harmonize the triumphant march of British civilization with the war pictures now on view in South Africa? We see a nation distributing Bibles with one hand and arming Kaffirs with the other.

The English have flung away their robe of righteousness, as an incumbrance in the mad race for gold.

All their religion has been but a thin veneer, giving an outward respectability, but ready to peel off at a minute's notice. It simply reveals the soulless commercialism that is the life of brute Britain. It shows that real reform and real religion demand the eradication of the money power.

It affords a grim satisfaction to see Britain being soundly spanked by the farmer Boers. It is a pity, though, that you have to kill an Englishman before he's alive to the injustice of his cause.

Merlin.

Antithesis. Conservative, thou radical of the passing generation, thy useful work is done; the hour is striking; the darkness of the night is passing; I see the dawn of a brighter day. Conservative, good-night.

Progress, we bid thee welcome. With thy quickening step, new ideas, new conscience, thou wilt build the world anew.

Progress, thou art relentless, cruel; Nothing withstands thy power, Like the sands upon the seashore, Changing for evermore.

Progress, help us to understand thee; Cease our senseless opposition, Free us from the rule of dead men, Place us in the right position.

Progress, take us with thee; Show us the future, bright; Guide our faltering footsteps Through darkness unto light.

George G. Cutting. Boston, Mass.

SENATOR LODGE ON EXPANSION

In the issue of Collier's Weekly of Feb. 10, a weekly which claims to be "an illustrated journal of art, literature and current events" (of course of the capitalist brand), is contained an article by Senator Henry Cabot Lodge entitled "Shall We Retain the Philippines?" The significance of the article in question lies not in any originality on the part of the author in the arguments which he advances in support of his position, for in the main the arguments are about the same that have been served out to the "American people" on this "burning question" by other expansionists for some time; but its import is found in the fact that he fully substantiates one of the basic principles of socialism in a most logical manner. That principle is the materialistic conception of history first discovered and given to the world by Karl Marx, which is, to state it briefly, as follows: That in every age of the world's history, since the dissolution of the primitive communistic stage, a certain class has risen to supremacy in society through peculiar economic advantages which it holds, and by means of this supremacy has been able to mold and does mold the popular conceptions of "right" and "wrong," "moral" and "immoral," so as to coincide with their own material interests. Furthermore these dominant classes determine all questions of "public" policy and social institutions, and they who rebel against them are traitors and "unpatriotic" or even enemies of "society."

Having given this brief definition, we will proceed with the article under discussion. It is a source of gratification to the Socialist when he sees his views demonstrated by representatives of the ruling class, for it removes his ideas from the domain of theory to the domain of facts. Not that the facts have been wanting to demonstrate the Socialist view of history, but that these facts come to the surface at times in such a glaring light and with a force so convincing, that the Socialist is surprised that others can not see that which is made so plain. Senator Lodge's article is a demonstration of one of these facts. Hence the notice taken of it. After stating that "nine-tenths of the arguments" of his opponents are "inapplicable eulogies upon the Declaration of Independence" and "the other tenth based on newspaper reports," the senator proceeds to tell us what goes to make up the nine-tenths of his argument in favor of retention. He who reads the senator's article will perceive that the same method of division into "one-tenth" and "nine-tenths" of the arguments of his opponents is followed in his own treatment of the subject. Let us examine the first division of the senator's article. Under the first division he points out the victory of Admiral Dewey as a military measure the wisdom of which no one can dispute. He then proceeds with a short history of the negotiations at Paris between the representatives of America and Spain over the disposition of the islands, and concludes that the "islands came to us as rightfully and as righteously as the possession of any territory ever came to any people." All of which (interpreted in terms of capitalist morality) the Socialist will agree with. He then examines and discusses the climate and wealth resources of the "new territory," much the same as the slave owner of the south would examine the physical characteristics of the slave before purchasing him, and shows that these resources have never been developed to any great extent and that great opportunities awaits us if we only have the sense to grasp them. We will let the senator state it in his own words: "We need ample markets in the interests of our farmers and workmen. We not only need them, but we must have them." Here we have the quintessence of capitalism and here we will find, as we proceed further, the "nine-tenths" of the senator's argument. Of course the senator's reference to the workingmen is a huge joke. Think of the working class of America disposing of the only commodity which they possess in the Philippines! Think of them bottling up their labor power and shipping it to our "new" possessions, while they stay at home with their feet upon the mantelpiece smoking cigars made by our "citizens" in Cuba, and enjoying the evening newspaper, or possibly reflecting on the superb knowledge of our senators in discussing "benevolent assimilation" through "criminal aggression." Think — But enough.

Anyone with the thinking apparatus of Balaam's ass ought to be able to see the class character of the senator's article, to say nothing of the two-legged species. If we conclude that the workers have no product to sell in the Philippines (as we must from the very nature of the case), then we must conclude that the sena-

tor's "we" is synonymous with the interests of capitalism, or in other words, he has only the interests of the capitalist class in mind when he uses the term "we." Let us wade through some more of this capitalist slush. The senator points out the "danger looming over China" (prior to "our" assimilation of the Philippines) from the "great northern power of the Slav." And what was this "danger"? Why the great northern power would "grasp that empire (China) and shut its gates upon the trade of the world." But why would the entrance of the great northern power into China be a "danger" to the latter country, while "our" entrance would be a "blessing"? We will let the senator answer. Because "it will be an important and direct material benefit to the agriculture and the industries of the United States" for us to enter, while for "other powers to shut the gates of China upon us would be a real disaster to the industry and the agriculture of the United States." He who can read between the lines can see the relation between "danger to China" and "real disaster" to our ruling capitalist class. But the senator is afraid that we will not understand him and he states his position in so clear a manner that there is no room for doubt. He says: "Will the American people reject this opportunity? Will they throw away all this trade, and all this wealth? They have not yet shown themselves so stupid or so timid, and I do not believe that they will begin now."

The capitalist class has never shown itself "stupid" or "timid" in dealing with the workers at Homestead, Buffalo, Pana or the Bull Pen at Wardner, Idaho. The working class have often been guilty of stupidity, but the capitalist class has never been, and in all probability never will be, guilty of this sin. But to return. "Will they throw away this vast material advantage . . . ? In view of the character and the history of the American people such action seems to me improbable." The "character and history" of our ruling class precludes the possibility of "us" ever giving up this "vast material advantage," hence "manifest destiny" commands that we must expand.

The Socialist knows that foreign markets and expansion are simply the reflex of modern economic development and that the policy of isolation no longer "pays." Besides, as the senator says in concluding his article, "Every consideration of material interests demands that we should retain the Philippines." Of course. The Socialist has always maintained that the material interests of the class in power have always shaped the policy of nations, and that other considerations of "humanity" and "justice" are secondary and play a subordinate role. From the numerous quotations from the senator's article it will be seen that "nine-tenths" of his argument is found in the material interests of the class which he represents, while the few considerations aside from this are not of much importance and form only "one-tenth" of the argument. When will the working class of America awake to the fact that they as a class play a subordinate role in society? When will they awaken to the fact that their backs are used as an economic chess-board and that the capitalists use their votes in order to prolong the game? When will such articles as that from the pen of Lodge awaken them to their material interests? These questions are now up for solution, and they can be solved if the workers are fired with the class-consciousness displayed by the capitalist class. When the workers exhibit as much interest in the welfare of their class as the Lodges do for theirs, then they will wield a class-conscious ballot in favor of socialism and the abolishment of all class rule. When they do this the Lodges will have to find new lodgings, but not before. Jas. O Neal.

Charles R. Green

With the comrades of Chelsea, Mass., we mourn the loss of our esteemed and beloved comrade, Charles R. Green. Comrade Green was the nominee of the S. D. P. for mayor of Chelsea; he was a faithful and earnest worker in the cause and his death is a distinct loss that will be felt. At a union meeting of Socialists the following resolution was adopted:

"We, the Social Democratic and Socialist Labor Party of Chelsea, in joint meeting assembled, feeling that in the death of Comrade Green we have met with an extreme loss, hereby express our tenderest sympathy to the family of our deceased comrade, in this hour of their great bereavement."

What shall be the edition of the big double number of The Herald, March 17, with all its special features designed to interest people in Socialism this year? That depends on how well the comrades and readers co-operate with us. We can make arrangements for printing a million copies, but must have orders in advance. Order a thousand copies for propaganda in your town.

THE NEED OF THE HOUR

A Sermon

I will take for my text the following letter, just received: "Dear Comrade—Brighton branch is still alive, and desirous of furthering the aims of our party as much as possible. We are contemplating a public meeting some time next week or the week after, and I write to ascertain if it would be possible for us to have one or two of our experienced members at our meeting to give us a little talk. The date has not yet been set. We can arrange it to suit the convenience of the speaker."

When I read that letter I could scarcely believe my eyes. I read it over again and again, and then pinched myself to make sure I was not dreaming. No; it was no dream. Here was a branch, in very truth, contemplating a public meeting, and not asking for a mayor or a representative as speaker! A branch that actually seemed to think that the principles of socialism were in themselves worth listening to, even though they were expounded by only a plain, ordinary member, and that an audience could be gathered to hear them, without the added attraction of a mayor, a representative, a celebrated orator, or a brass band and ice cream festival!

It is literally the first request of the kind I have received in eighteen months, but I hope it won't be the last. I sincerely hope it marks the dawn of a new era in our propaganda in this state. I hope that this new departure will be followed by other branches, for the sake of the health of the party, as well as that of the speakers. Just about a year ago I entered a plea that our members in public office should not be asked to do much speaking, as they have pretty near all they can do if they faithfully discharge the duties of their respective offices. There was a let-up for a while, but I see by the Haverhill Social Democrat that the "Guilty Ghost" who walks the corridors beneath the gilded dome has had to enter a protest against the over-working of his Social Democratic proteges in the legislature. Of course, the new branches are perfectly justified in their desire to get a good start, and to have the best speakers. But we must not fall into the serious error of making too much of personalities and not enough of principles. The principles of socialism may be fully as powerful and as convincing when explained in a plain, unvarnished way by an ordinary branch member, as when presented by the most brilliant orator, or by a first Socialist mayor or representative. It is better to have a dozen people go away from a meeting saying "That man spoke the truth" than to have a hundred go away saying "That's a clever man." In the one case the speaker is remembered; in the other, the speech.

Now, don't misunderstand me, please. I know that the brilliant orator and the "great drawing card" can make the audience think, just as well as the plain, ordinary speaker. We all know that. What I want to do is to emphasize the other fellow's side of the question; and that we must not depend upon the "drawing cards" entirely. Each one of our fifty branches cannot possibly have a mayor or a representative at each meeting. We have simply got to grow another crop of speakers. That is the need of the hour. We must have faith enough in the strength of our cause to be content to have, on ordinary occasions, just what our Brighton comrades ask for, "some experienced member to give us a little talk."

This implies of course that the experienced member knows what he is talking about—has made a study of the fundamental principles of socialism. Signing an application blank and calling yourself a Socialist does not make you one. We are not a political party after the fashion of the capitalist political parties, formed simply for the purpose of getting fellows boosted into office in any old way. We are first of all a Socialist organization, and our principal work is education and agitation. Political campaigns are utilized for the purpose of education, and not to boom this or that individual, who wishes to get into office; as a means to an end, and not as the end itself. If as a result of our educational work we can elect our candidate by a straight, intelligent and at least sympathetic vote, well and good. But a candidate elected on any other basis is a source of weakness instead of strength. The fact that we in this state have first of all developed the political side of our movement before we had a chance to organize and develop the educational side presents a danger which we must guard against.

I do not by any means expect that all those who vote our ticket shall understand all the ins and outs of scientific

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CHICAGO, SATURDAY, FEB. 24, 1900.

THE CONVENTION

Ten days remain in which to make preparations for the national convention of the Social Democratic party, and in that time the duty that lies nearest is the selection of delegates by those branches that have not already done so.

It is expected that several organizations will send representatives with a view of effecting a powerful union of the Socialist forces of the country at the ballot box.

LICENSE THE TRUSTS

When one of the speakers at the anti-trust meeting last week told the harrowing story of the steel trust and how the managing president when giving testimony to a congressional commission said that he would gladly pay a million dollars a year for a license from the Federal government to conduct his business, the temptation was strong to remind the speaker that in all Mr. Bryan's flood of words, the only practical suggestion he had made was a Federal license empowering the trusts to do business.

It's a splendid scheme! Elect Bryan—license the trusts—then the millennium!

The double number of The Herald to be printed March 17 will be a good thing. Snap it up and start the national campaign right, by spreading the light among your friends and neighbors.

LABOR PAYS THE BILLS

Whom do you work for? Yourself? Are you sure of it? If you are sure that you work for yourself, how is it that so many who never work are in possession of wealth? You know that wealth is not created by the class that never works, don't you?

IS JOHN HAY THE TRAITOR?

The use of the epithet "traitor" has been a favorite pastime with the jellyfish administration and its friends, and few men who have had an idea above the plane of a subservient partisan have escaped it.

though the real traitors are those who happen to be in highest official position. The revelation of Consul Macrum shows a depth of duplicity unparalleled in the history of the country. The consul was subjected to the humiliation of seeing his official mail opened by a British censor.

Now, if John Hay is the traitor, what is to be said of his political master, the president of the United States by grace of corporation money, coercion and corruption? It is another illustration of the power of the capitalist class, which organizes wars against peaceful people, to dominate all forms of government.

Do not forget or fail to order 100 or 500 copies of the big double number of The Herald to be printed March 17. Will contain complete report of the convention, special contributed articles, facts and data for the propaganda, illustrations, etc.

THE DYING MIDDLE CLASS

The despairing cry of the middle class is heard in the land. The power of the trusts is crushing out the small proprietors, closing the gates of opportunity and converting a large and hitherto important and independent body of business men into salaried employes or dependents in some form upon the benevolent rich.

Some of the Democratic journals of the east are endeavoring to show that this crushing out process means that thousands of business men who supported McKinley in 1896 will this year give their votes and influence to Bryan in "self-defense."

The distinguishing characteristic of the struggling middle class who look for some anti-trust legislation or financial reform to revive their vanishing glory and restore their individual freedom to make profit, is the almost universal failure of their class to understand the class struggle in which society is plunged by the simple but tremendously significant fact of the transformation of the petty modes of individual production into the gigantic trusts with which we are now familiar.

The prosperity of the middle class has always depended upon the ability of the working class to procure profitable employment. Modern discovery and invention has destroyed the opportunity of millions to do this.

the producer of things, is not only dispossessed of the wealth he creates, but also of the opportunity to further exertion. Capitalism destroys both the opportunity and the incentive to labor.

Now, in the face of a social revolution so overwhelming as that in which we now find ourselves, what would Mr. Bryan and his friends accomplish if by acts of legislation their middle-class reforms were put into practical operation. What has Mr. Bryan himself ever given a hint of that he could do? Not a single thing.

A MONTH IN THE SOUTH

It is about a month ago since Eugene V. Debs began at Louisville, Ky., a lecture tour in the south. To say that his meetings have everywhere been successful in awakening great public interest in Socialism and labor organization would, in the light of press notices which have come to us from nearly every point he has visited, be a very moderate summing up of his work.

It has been said that interest in Comrade Debs' work is not confined to any class; neither has it been to one color or one sex. All sorts and conditions of men and women—black and white—are moved to action by his earnest appeals.

"Mr. Debs has left behind him in Macon an impression that will not soon be effaced. He has given trades unionism a boom that it could not have secured from the efforts of a dozen speakers.

"His labor views were indorsed by the very people in his audience last night who had before misunderstood him. It is a foregone conclusion that the effect of his visit to Macon will be to greatly strengthen unionism and make it more popular."

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

NOTES AND COMMENT

An unusually interesting article discussing the so-called Typical Criminal from the practical man's standpoint will appear in Appletons' Popular Science Monthly for March.

Charles Lehr shot and killed himself in Chicago last week. He was driven to the act by poverty. For about one month he had been unable to find work to support his wife and four children.

A French writer who has just been elected to the Academy of Forty Immortals is so delighted with the honor that he thinks the United States should have a similar institution.

It has been proposed to revise the chronology of the world, abolish the Anno Domini reckoning and start a new era with the beginning of the Victorian era.

What are you doing to help make the special edition of The Herald, March 17, a big success and a grand opening of the national campaign? Don't mind telling you—we think it will be a little the best issue of a Socialist paper ever printed in the United States.

That venerable old pirate, Collis Huntington, has left his church in New York because the pastor criticised the trusts. Collis has made a mistake. He should have brought the pastor to terms and stayed with the church.

To the onlooker at the anti-trust conference last week, the most interesting phase of the whole proceeding could not fail to be the unwillingness of the great majority of delegates to be bound not to support any political party that did not include in its platform a declaration for the public acquisition of railroads and telegraphs.

Miss Edith Sellers, an American, who has resided several years in Berlin, declares in the current number of the Economic Review that she has never seen a hungry looking child in that city.

The newspapers one day last week reported the purchase of a child by a minister of the gospel in Pennsylvania for one dollar. That minister is not the first to believe that the buying and selling of human beings has the divine sanction.

Missionary in the Philippines: "My dear brother, have you been Christianized?" The Filipino: "Not completely. They have gobbled all my land, but I still have my breech-cloth."

The Republican senators have tacitly agreed to postpone the Matt Quay case indefinitely. This is an act of cowards in the interest of the administration.

McKinley is reported to be much worried over the failure of his political guardian's pet subsidy scheme to get smooth sailing through congress.

The anti-trust conference is a thing of the past, but the trust is as frisky as ever.

LABOR AND PROGRESS

The British secretary of state for India has received the following telegram from the viceroy on the subject of the famine: "Good rain has fallen again throughout northwestern provinces and Oudh and Punjab. Sowing recommenced in Punjab, but more rain is needed there. Situation not improved anywhere else, and distress is increasing in Bombay, Central Provinces, and Rajputana."

A bill has been introduced into the Dutch parliament which effects several very useful reforms in the factory acts. It limits the hours of labor in dangerous trades, and in all trades ensures that there should be at least 36 hours' rest in the week.

There are in Holland two groups of Socialists—one the Social-Democrats, who have the same program as the German Socialists; and the other the Socialist League, whose members are hostile or indifferent to parliamentary action.

The Russian administration in Finland has decided to impose a fine of 500 marks for any attempt to elude a prohibition to publish. The governor general is given the right to demand a change of the responsible publishers on pain of suppression of the journal.

Millerand, the French minister of commerce, issued a very stringent circular to the inspectors of factories, telling them that they are not only to visit the factories to see if there are any complaints, but that they are to act in concert with the representatives of the trade unions and also with the secretaries of the labor bureaus.

From Antwerp reports come that the diamond crisis is assuming grave proportions. Thousands of Amsterdam and Antwerp diamond cutters are now without work.

A meeting of Socialist doctors was recently held at the Maison du Peuple, Brussels. They decided to form a society for the propagation of socialism among medical men, and also, among other things, to study questions relating to school hygiene.

The Society of Friends, at a conference of its teachers, just held at York, England, devoted a session to the consideration of the best methods of sowing in the minds of boys the seeds of strong democratic citizenship.

The Brussels municipal council have voted the sum of £200 to defray the expenses of workmen delegates to the Paris Exposition. The Socialists tried, but unsuccessfully, to get this subsidy increased to £400.

The Socialist vote in Italy has changed from 1 to 62 in 1892 to 1 to 9 at present. It is made a crime punishable with banishment for soldiers to be found with Socialist literature, but still the movement forges ahead.

The English wallpaper trust, which has been forming since September, is now complete. The capital stock is \$30,000,000, and practically every manufacturer in the United Kingdom is in the combination.

A syndicate is to be formed in Lancashire to develop the weaving branch of the cotton trade in Russia, where two large mills will be built, each with accommodation for 600 looms.

The recent senatorial elections in France have resulted in a gain for the Radicals—Socialists and Non-Socialists—of 17 seats.

It is estimated by a London paper that the strength of the Socialist vote in Europe is 7,516,000.

Over 4,000 workmen in six large cigarette factories at Cairo, Egypt, have gone on strike.

Thomas A. Edison, Jr., says he has constructed a safety electric miners' lamp.

CALL TO ACTION

ORGANIZE FOR 1900

There are few communities in this country today without one to a dozen Socialists who are not affiliated with a Socialist organization.

UNATTACHED SOCIALISTS: At the last State election in Missouri votes were cast for the candidates of the Social Democratic Party in nearly every county in the State.

In almost every community a thoroughly wide-awake and earnest Socialist, with little exertion, could in one week effect the organization of a Branch of the Social Democratic Party.

WHAT THEY CAN DO: The Declaration of Principles and Political Demands of this party will be found in this paper; read it and UNCOMPROMISING! you will see that the party is a straight, uncompromising Socialist organization, recognized as such in the International movement for Socialism.

DEMOCRATIC ORGANIZATION: The triumph of the Socialist cause, which is the cause of the world democracy, requires organization, and without it nothing can be accomplished; this party is controlled by no individual nor by any set of individuals short of its entire membership through the referendum.

THE YEAR 1900 will be one of great and far-reaching importance to the people and especially to the intelligent, wealth-producing people of the United States; the latter have surely by this time begun to see the futility of any longer giving support to capitalist parties.

THIS YEAR'S CAMPAIGN: Socialists should have as their main object in 1900 the polling of every vote possible for straight and uncompromising Socialism, and to do this the co-operation of every unattached Socialist in the work of organization, where he lives, is necessary.

ORGANIZE WHERE YOU LIVE: The Social Democratic Party is now organized in more than half the States; it consists of Local Branches, State Unions, and a National Council. A Local Branch may be organized with five members. It will nominate candidates for President and Vice-President next March.

HOW ORGANIZED: Full instructions and all necessary supplies for organizing Local Branches may be obtained from SEND FOR THE NATIONAL SECRETARY, Theodore Debs, 126 Washington St., Chicago, Illinois.

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OUR LETTER BOX

A PROPAGANDA WAGON

Editor of The Herald: Last summer I announced in your columns that I would start a fund for an agitation van for Wisconsin. The time was too late in the season, however, to make the plan very attractive, as there was no hope of getting such an establishment ready for work before the warm weather was gone. I got some responses, but thought it best to wait till winter was past before actively pushing the matter. The time is now ripe for it, and here I am again. The Wisconsin comrades have been laying up honey during the cold months and are now not only on the eve of launching a weekly paper, but have also practically closed negotiations for an organizer. This organizer will have to make excursions into the state, and a van would be a great help to him in covering some of the manufacturing towns that form a chain along the eastern state line and at other points. Also, some of our enthusiasts intend, if the materializes, to put in their summer vacation as assistant vanners—for a more novel or useful vacation could hardly be thought of. And so on—but the point I want to emphasize here is that the fund is reopened and ready for business. Send in your contributions, even if small. Every little helps. The fund now stands as follows:

- Wayfarer\$1.00
W. E. Aldridge, Milwaukee..... .50
Eugene V. Debs, Indiana..... .50
Frances Wing, La Crosse..... .10
E. G..... .15

In addition to the above, Comrade F. G. R. Gordon contributed 100 copies of his "Government Ownership of Railroads."

In England the vans do a big work. In this country they have not been tried to any great extent, owing to the distances between towns and the smallness of the number of workers compared to a country so large. Where the work undertaken is practically confined to one state, however, the first objection is removed, and the other is a condition that has about passed away, for we are getting very numerous, indeed. The last state election showed Socialists in almost every town in Wisconsin, and in looking over the subscription lists of the Social Democratic Herald and the Appeal to Reason I find that the state is very evenly planted for the coming crop. This means that the van would find friends and helpers at almost every point visited. There is missionary work to be done in Wisconsin before the presidential campaign opens. So send in your dimes and dollars—and I should also like to hear from persons who will volunteer to do vaning during their vacations. Frederick Heath.

IT'S A QUESTION OF FINANCE

Editor of The Herald: The following resolutions were passed by Branch No. 4, Roxbury, Mass., and are to be forwarded to our delegate to the national convention. We trust you will find space for them in your next issue:

"Whereas, It is necessary to the advancement of Socialism that its truths be not only disseminated, but understood by all people, regardless of nativity;

"Whereas, Our country contains a numerous foreign population to whom the English language but imperfectly expresses thought;

"Whereas, The multiplication of Socialist papers in many languages and with many separate plants results in economic waste, which we as Socialists oppose not only on principle, but because in our present financial weakness we can ill afford it; therefore be it

Resolved, That foreign-speaking persons should be supplied with Socialist papers in their own language.

Resolved, That it is an injustice to foreign-speaking members of our party to supply them with a paper which they cannot read, or at least can but imperfectly understand.

Resolved, That if practicable our national paper should be printed in several languages; if not practicable, arrangements should be made with Socialist papers now printed in foreign languages whereby they shall print certain official matter furnished by the editor of our national paper and supply the same to the foreign-speaking members in our party in place of our national paper, where such members so desire."

Roxbury, Mass. C. W. White.

NOTES FROM THE FIELD

Comrades Dillon and Arnold have been chosen as national delegates from Dayton, Ohio.

An important meeting of Branch 9, Milwaukee, will be held Friday, Feb. 23, which all comrades should endeavor to attend.

Trades unionists are cordially invited to attend meetings of the Social Democratic branches wherever it is convenient for them to do so.

Social Democratic party meetings are held every Sunday evening at Foresters' Hall, n.w. corner Second and Yamhill, Portland, Ore. You are welcome.

Comrade Benham, editor of the Class

Struggle, San Francisco, will be in Chicago March 3 to 6, inclusive, to speak on the subject of Socialism.

A full attendance of Rockville, Conn., comrades is desired at a joint meeting at Turn Hall, Feb. 25, at 2 p. m., when business of importance will be considered.

The branch at Lynn, Mass., has a boom on. Ten new members were elected at a recent meeting, a piano has been secured for the hall and the branch had a whist party Feb. 20.

At a joint meeting of the South Side Branches, Milwaukee, Comrade Albert F. Forman was elected delegate to the national convention. The branches also elected a campaign committee of eight.

Among the callers at headquarters during the week was Dr. H. B. Fay, of Minneapolis, Minn., a prominent mid-road Populist with pronounced inclination toward Socialism and the Social Democratic party.

All Socialists residing at Somerville, Mass., who wish to organize a branch of the Social Democratic party at that place are requested to communicate by letter or card with S. E. Putney, 4 Belmont street.

O, yes, O, yes! Hear ye: Growth is the order everywhere. The Granite Falls (Minn.) branch is keeping up with the procession. At its meeting last week eight new members were admitted. It is the order of the day—agitation and growth.

The amount of the campaign fund which McKinley's bosom friend, Hanna, is arranging for is said to be \$25,000,000. And every dollar of it will be expended in behalf of "pure politics," for the "enlightenment of the people" and—the perpetuation of the power of the class which contributes the money.

The Cedar Junction (Kan.) branch has started a series of meetings in which music, readings and a question box afford pleasure and instruction to those attending. Questions relating to Socialism are deposited in the box and read to the meeting, thus starting profitable discussion.

Comrade A. S. Edwards spoke at the Hull House on "The Greatest Fact of the Century," Tuesday evening, Feb. 13. Comrade Peter Sissman was the speaker last Tuesday and Comrade Seymour Stedman is announced for Tuesday next. Talk up the Tuesday meetings at the Hull House.

The Herald welcomes to its exchange a new exponent of Socialistic principles in the Milwaukee Social Democrat. The movement in Wisconsin has for some time been in need of an English weekly, and the first number of the new paper shows that it will fill the bill. It is well edited and printed and sells for \$1 a year. Office, 614 State street, Milwaukee, Wis.

Susanville (Cal.) branch, at a meeting held Jan. 29, appointed a committee, composed of Comrades Hibbard, Pyle, Leonard, Brashear and Cunningham, to arrange a Ruskin memorial evening, at which members and invited ladies and gentlemen will give sketches from Ruskin's noble words, and of the good work he accomplished, with music ad libitum.

We expect to charge a small admission fee, the proceeds of which will be denoted towards the free town library fund. Similar meetings we think could be made very profitable in each branch. Try it.

NEW BRANCHES

ADGER, ALA. Chairman, F. W. Lemon; vice-chairman, James M. Melton; secretary, Daniel Foster; treasurer, T. E. Mason; organizer, Nick Geis.

MARION, IND. Chairman, John W. Kelley; vice-chairman, John A. McKeen; secretary, Jas. S. Myers; treasurer, John Hundermark; organizer, Geo. B. Pfeifer.

NEPHI, UTAH Chairman, R. T. Beagly; vice chairman, J. J. Sullivan; secretary, Chas. E. Strong; treasurer, Ed. Moorhouse; organizer, Geo. B. Hobbs.

MILWAUKEE, WIS. Chairman, R. Angelstein; vice-chairman, J. Killian; secretary, Louis Baier; treasurer, Christ Steger; organizer, Alb. Papendorf.

INFORMATION FOR DELEGATES TO THE CONVENTION

For the information of delegates and others attending the national convention at Indianapolis, March 6, The Herald is able to say:

1. That our Indianapolis comrades have arranged for the use of Reichwein's Hall, situated at the corner of Market and Noble streets. This hall will easily seat 200 delegates, is well lighted and has rooms for committees. The rental expense for convention uses will be moderate, though it may be necessary to hire additional chairs and tables.

2. The New Occidental Hotel management will make a special rate of \$1.50 per day to delegates. The hotel is centrally located at Washington and Illinois streets, three blocks from the Union depot and nine blocks from the hall.

Comrade Hugo Miller writes us that the Indianapolis friends will be fully prepared to find accommodations for every delegate according to his wishes, and has kindly offered to secure accommodations in advance for any desiring private quarters. Comrade Miller's address is 333 Davidson street.

MORE PRIZES OFFERED

Comrade Forman of Milwaukee is bound to do all in his power to have the comrades understand that one of the most important things to do is to put the circulation of The Herald to the front. We trust that the members everywhere will agree with him. He now adds to his former offer of prizes for the three largest lists of new subscribers sent to this paper between Feb. 1 and April 30 the following:

"History of the Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire," by Edward Gibbon, in five volumes; one set.

Victor Hugo's masterpiece, "Les Miserables"; two volumes, unbridged; 1,300 pages. Three sets.

The prize list as it now stands is given below:

First Prize—One set Dickens' complete works, 15 volumes; one set Gibbon's "History of the Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire," 5 volumes; one set Carlyle's "French Revolution," 2 volumes; one set Victor Hugo's masterpiece, "Les Miserables," 2 volumes.

Second Prize—One set Carlyle's "French Revolution," 2 volumes; one set Victor Hugo's masterpiece, "Les Miserables," 2 volumes.

Third Prize—Same as second prize.

Fourth Prize (offered by Comrade Geo. H. Goebel of Philadelphia)—A first-class fountain pen.

SOCIAL DEMOCRATS DANCE

The first social event undertaken by the Women's Social Democratic club of Haverhill was all that it deserved to be—a splendid success, says the Haverhill Social Democrat. There is no exaggeration in the statement that the concert and dance given on Friday evening of last week was one of the most enjoyable occasions that the Social Democratic workers of the city have known in many years.

The affair was looked forward to with much anxiety by the members and all those interested in the club and the party. The club had only been organized during the past two months, and the preparations for this, their first attempt at a public entertainment, were consequently of a hurried nature. When, too, the day arrived and with it the coldest weather of the winter, there were not a few who felt despondent and tremulous of the effect upon the coming event. When, however, the concert was over that night and 125 couples had formed into the grand march, everybody felt elated and joyous at the success already assured.

It was a great function. It has long been an accepted fact that there is more real fraternity to be found among a crowd of Socialists who understand each other, as all good Socialists do, than among any other kind of people in the world. And as the Social Democrats of Haverhill are in thorough harmony one with the other, this occasion was no exception to the rule. The result has been a better acquaintance, a strengthening of the ties that bind the local workers for Socialism together and a firmer determination to make the opportunities for social enjoyment easier of access to all the race.

The grand march began at 9:30 o'clock and was led by Mayor Chase and Mrs. Kate Corrigan, president of the club, followed by Representative James F. Carey and Mrs. F. G. R. Gordon of Manchester, N. H., a welcome guest of the club. From that time until midnight the dancing went on. Everybody was jolly, everybody was smiling; not one incident occurred to mar the harmony of the evening.

It would be useless to mention all who were present. It was remarked by a gentleman who had every reason to be a reliable authority that there were people in the hall who had seldom if ever been seen at an affair of the kind before. There has been so much work done by the Social Democrats of Haverhill the past two years that there has been little time for play. There have been few social pleasures, and if this occasion did nothing else, it has relieved the monotony of the grind of work both in and out of the workshop.

It was a good thing to see some folks take part in the dancing who had never danced before, as well as others who had not danced in years. The spirit of fun and good-fellowship was infectious and for the moment the cares of everyday life were thrown away. It was indeed a great function, and when the crowds good-naturedly went down the stairs to go home and greeted the cold, clear, frosty air again, it was with the satisfaction of knowing that that evening was only the first of many such for the Social Democrats and their friends in Haverhill.

The committee who arranged and managed the event was Mrs. Kate Corrigan, Mrs. F. C. Beals, Mrs. Sherman, Mrs. J. W. Evans, Mrs. A. Tracy and Mrs. Anna Young. The committee did their work well and had the hall tastefully decorated for the occasion. Sandy Hayman acted as floor manager and was assisted by Alderman Louis M. Scates and Councilman Joseph Bellefeuille.

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. Eidness, Towner, N. D.

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 7 o'clock. 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 afternoon at 3 o'clock at Woodmen's Hall, 1254 Spring St. J. Franc, 700 Dayton Ave., Secretary.

CONNECTICUT

The Connecticut State Committee meets the last Sunday of each month at Turn Hall, Rockville. L. S. Bluff, Secretary.

Branch No. 3, New Haven, meets every Tuesday evening, at 198 State St., at 8 p. m. Cornelius Mahoney, Secretary, 165 Frank St.

Branch No. 4, Rockville, Conn., meets first and third Thursdays at Turn Hall meeting room, Village street. Secretary, Richard Niederwerfer, Box 760.

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 Kilwin, Secretary, 2504 Wentworth Ave.

Branch No. 2 (Bohemian), Chicago, meets second and fourth Mondays at 8 p. m. in Dunder's place, 1080 W. 18th place. Joseph Dunder, Secretary.

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

Branch No. 6 (German), Chicago, meets every first Saturday each month at 8 o'clock at Nagl's Hall, 535 Blue Island Ave., near 18th St. Albin Geisler, Secretary, 728 W. 20th St.

Branch No. 9, Chicago, meets at 1045 W. 63rd st., first and third Sundays at 3 p. m. S. L. Westine, Secretary, 6243 Center ave.

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 third meeting in month. Good speakers. Secretary, F. C. Stumpf, 201 5th street.

MARYLAND

Branch No. 1, Baltimore, meets every Sunday at 8 p. m. at Chamber's Hall, 500 E. Baltimore St. Public invited.

Branch No. 2, Baltimore, meets every Tuesday at 8 p. m. at Wenzel's Hall, 325 W. Camden st. Good speeches. Public invited. Levin T. Jones, Secretary, 202 W. Barre 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 Halle, 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, 71 Muirroe St. Business meeting every Monday night at 7:30. Open house. Public invited. Harry Gotimer, Secy, 425 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 committee expected to attend one meeting a month. Frank S. Walsh, Secretary, 62 Crockett St.

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

Branch No. 18, Newburyport, meets the second Monday of each month at Laster's Hall, 1 State St. E. F. McLean, Secretary, 39 Winter St. G. H. Evans, Treasurer, Prince Place.

Branch No. 21, Chelsea, permanent headquar-

ters, 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 Geaswein, on Main St. A. Kingsbury, 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 1300 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 at 8 p. m. at Helvetia Hall, 54-56 Van Houten St. Karl Linder, Secretary, 246 Edmond St.

NEW YORK

The City Central Agitation Committee of Greater New York and vicinity meets first and third Tuesdays of every month in Willis's Hall, 85 E. 4th St. Elizabeth H. Thomas, Secretary.

East Side Branch No. 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 1659 Second Av. at "Central." Henry Lang, Secretary, 224 E. 60th St.

Branch No. 4, West Side Branch, New York, meets second and fourth Tuesdays of every month at headquarters, 185 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 Fankon, Organizer, 123 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. 20, New York, 28th Assembly District, meets first and third Thursdays of each month at headquarters, 185 W. 99th St. R. Hoppe, Secretary, 328 E. 90th 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 18th and Plum Sts., second and fourth Sundays in each month at 2:30 p. m. Lectures and discussions. Public invited. R. Hjergerman, 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. C. Schawe, president, 25 Duette, secretary.

Branch No. 8, Cincinnati, meets every second and fourth Saturday in Workingmen's Hall, 1318 Walnut St. F. Hamel, Secretary, 1804 Frintz St.

Branch No. 9, German, Columbus. Ed Greiner, Secretary, 806 Market St.

PENNSYLVANIA

Branch No. 2, Erie, meets every Sunday, 3 p. m., at K. of L. Hall, 716 State St. Chairman, Joseph Stain, Secretary, J. E. Perry, 119 Sassafras St.

Branch No. 4, Pittsburgh, meets every Thursday evening at 7:30 p. m. at Melville Hall, 5, 24th and Josephine Sts. W. Bohn, President, 244 Addison St. J. H. Lewis, Secretary, 2318 Jane St.

Branch No. 5 (Jewish), Philadelphia, meets every Friday at 7:30 p. m. at 7:30. Discussion from 8 to 9. J. Geary, 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 fourth Tuesday evening of the month at the Ethical Society Building, 558 Jefferson St. Visitors always welcome. Howard Tuttle, Chairman, Eugene H. Rooney, Secretary.

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

Branch No. 3, Sheboygan, meets every fourth Thursday of the month at Gustav 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 Mellor's Hall, corner 23d and Brown Sts. George Moerschel, Secretary, 891 25th St.

Branch No. 5, Milwaukee, meets every fourth Friday of the month at R. Siegel's Hall, southeast corner Orchard St. and 9th St. Fred Brockhausen, Secretary, 731 Windlake Ave.

Branch No. 11, Milwaukee, meets the second Wednesday of each month at the office of the Wisconsin Vorwaerter, 614 Wells 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.

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 to 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.

Jesse Cox, Chairman, Seymour Stedman, Secretary.

PROPAGANDA FUND

"Appeal to Reason".....\$1.00
E. V. Debs......50
Branch No. 4, Milwaukee......25
Total.....\$1.75

A PLEA FOR SOCIALISM

My working readers: have you ever attended one of our fashionable theaters? It is most probable that you have. Did the thought ever cross your mind that there was a glaring unfitness of things exhibited in what you saw around you?

Behold those groups of dames and dudes, jaded with dissipation, or bloated with sensuality. Think of it! Labor ill fed, ill housed, and ill clad, carries these worthless burdens upon its bending back.

How transcendently absurd it seems that poor toilers for bread, in pestiferous tenements and workshops, are obliged to pay for all this vulgar vanity and ostentation!

It is because labor, debarred from all that gladdens, elevates, and embellishes life, has no time to reflect. The mind of labor has become more or less torpid and stultified through its prolonged and exhausting battle for existence.

Capitalism and machinery are now the two thieves between whom labor is crucified. Demolish the first, and own the second, and then, and not till then, will the fetters of the wage-slave be broken.

Trades unions of America, what are you going to do about it? Dangers of greatest magnitude are looming on the horizon. You are one of the most powerful forces in American politics.

Come then ye workers and join the Social Democratic party. Its platform is social ownership of all land and all instruments of productive industry.

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

THE NEED OF THE HOUR

socialism, nor even that all of our members should; but I do know that before we can have the co-operative commonwealth we have got to permeate this great mass of apathetic indifferent, hopeless workingmen and women with Socialist ideas, and the better we understand them ourselves the easier will be our task.

A good book to begin on is Vail's "Principles of Scientific Socialism." Hyndman's "Social Economics" is also good; and every Socialist should read the Kautsky pamphlets, and Engel's "Socialism, From Utopia to Science."

It should be our pride and our ambition to understand our subject thoroughly, and be able, either with tongue or pen, to give a reason for the faith that is in us, to defend our principles against all attacks, and to answer all kinds of questions.

Finally, my brethren, get to work and study socialism. Let your minds be filled with its principles and your hearts with its lofty purposes.

LAW AND ORDER

The shooting of Gov.-elect W. Goebel of Kentucky, at Frankfort, is replete with significant meaning not merely to Socialists but also to that class from whose honest but misguided ranks many Socialists come.

It is a well known fact that Milton H. Smith, president of the Louisville & Nashville railroad, whom Goebel had frequently condemned and proposed to attack when in the gubernatorial chair, had publicly declared that Goebel would be prevented from being sworn in, even if violence should be necessary.

Strange to say, the day before the shooting, Bryan made a speech here in Jersey City in which he stated that progressive democracy has nothing in common with either anarchism or socialism.

With the death of Goebel the capitalist opposition to the Democratic party ceases, because T. C. W. Beckham, the lieutenant governor-elect, is a man of upper class family, is more conservative in tone in politics, and not openly opposed to the plutocracy and railroad magnates.

tained. Recent developments in Frankfort prove the contrary. Advocate a moderate reform by an advanced Democrat and you will be shot. Why not bluntly and openly demand the full platform of the Social Democrats; that is, ownership by a popular government of all the means of producing and transporting wealth?

One more peculiar feature worth commenting upon in this case is that the assassin is not a Lucheni misanthropic degenerate, ignorant and vulgar. The real murderers are railroad magnates and a Republican governor. There are honest but misguided Democrats, and to such I say: Come out from among them.

James Allman.

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 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.

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, to be administered by organized society in the interest of the whole people, and the complete emancipation of society from the domination of the few.

The wage-workers and all those in sympathy with their historical mission to realize a higher civilization should sever connection with all capitalist and reform organizations, and unite with the Social Democratic Party of America.

- 1. Revision of our antiquated Federal Constitution, in order to remove the obstacles to full and complete control of government by all the people, irrespective of sex.
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 the unemployed, the public credit to be utilized for this 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 or State laws, 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 by the voters.
12. Abolition of war as far as the United States are concerned and the introduction of international arbitration instead.

RECEPTION AND BALL

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

MONDAY, FEB. 26, 1900

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

The Sixth Annual Issue of The Labour Annual is now ready, edited and published by Joseph Edwards, Wallasey, Cheshire, England

The "American Section" (edited by Leonard D. Abbott) contains the following: "A Year's Work as Socialist Mayor," by John C. Dimes; "A Year as Socialist Legislator," by James P. Carey; "Socialism in America During 1899," etc.

- Charters \$2.00
Membership Cards (per 100) 1.00
Membership Applications (100) .25
Constitutions (each) .03
Send orders with cash to Theodore Debs, 126 Washington Street, Chicago. No supplies sent on credit.
Subscribers will find their expiration number on wrapper. Prompt renewal is requested.

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.

- CONNECTICUT: Finisilver, N.E.; Hartford, B.; Hartford, B.; Hartford, B.
ILLINOIS: Stedman, H.; Chicago, J.; Chicago, J.; Chicago, J.
INDIANA: E. V. Debs; Terre Haute, Ind.
MASSACHUSETTS: Flanders, P. B.; Haverhill, Mass.
MICHIGAN: Kehler, B.; Grand Rapids, Mich.
MINNESOTA: Geeswein, F.; Red Lake Falls, Minn.
MISSOURI: Fischer, W.; St. Louis, Mo.
MARYLAND: Jacobson, E.; Baltimore, Md.
NEW HAMPSHIRE: Gordon, F. G.; Manchester, N.H.
NEW JERSEY: Pankopf, Carl; Jersey City, N.J.
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