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ILLINOIS LEGISLATORS TOOLS OF CORPORATIONS

A Trip to Springfield in the Interest of Municipal Ownership Bills and What Came of It—How the People Are "Represented"

BY PHILIP S. BROWN

On the 10th of this month, in company with about thirty men, I went to Springfield, Ill., to advocate some socialist measures touching the gas and electric lighting question. The party left Chicago on the Alton Limited and the first incident of note was a wreck of the train, caused by a carelessly placed rail. The company did not care to spend money repairing its track because it would by so doing decrease its dividends. After a five-hour wait a new train was made up and we finally reached Springfield late at night.

We were told that the committee on municipal corporations, before whom we were to appear, would hear us at 9 in the morning next day. We then held a meeting and looked over the various bills that had been introduced, and decided on two, one of which enabled cities to furnish electricity to their inhabitants and the other regulated the price to be charged for gas. There were some forty bills to choose from, most of which had been introduced by the notoriously corrupt politicians who wanted to be bought off by the corporations affected. We were further advised that it would be impossible to have any bill recommended which "provided for municipal gas," because the arguments of the gas companies had been received before we came.

The next morning we appeared before the committee and proceeded to lay our case before them. They gave us a short hearing and were seemingly attentive, but looked, through it all, decidedly bored. Some one moved that the committee go into executive session, which motion was promptly seconded. At this point a representative whose influence the corporations did not want, rose and denounced the entire committee in the strongest language. He told them they were "liars," "thieves" and "robbers," and said they had all "been fixed." When you conceive how low his sense of honesty and decency was you can form some opinion of the average of the entire committee. They decided to give us another hearing that afternoon.

I then went in upon the floor of the House of Representatives. My general idea of its rottenness was confirmed. As I looked over the hall I scarcely saw the face of one honest man. The speaker of the House, the leader of the republicans, struck me as being as bad, if not worse, than his cartoons. Tall and awkward, with a face full of cunning and eyes full of deceit, he looked fit to be

the leader of the majority of the men there, irrespective of party.

That afternoon our hearing was postponed till evening, but I had the "pleasure" of listening to some corporation lawyers advocate the street-railway bill, which promised municipal ownership on its face. This bill was so much in the "interest of the people" that the street railways themselves were lobbying for it.

About one-half of the committee was on hand when we met that evening and that half had dwindled to a quarter when we finished. Two of us spoke and were again met with the same apparent attention and with the expression of "ennui." When we finished we were told that the committee would have to hear from the "other side" before expressing any opinion of the merits of our bill. The "other side" is the corporate interests, and those interests know only one argument and that is money. That argument goes farther in Springfield than any other that can be adduced.

The whole thing proved conclusively to my mind the futility of striving for legislation in the interest of the people so long as there is one corporate interest to hinder it. The wreck was caused by a private corporation trying to pay large dividends at the expense of endangering the lives of its passengers. The legislature is corrupt and rotten because it is the willing tool of the corporate interests. These men are nominated by the corporations, but are elected by the people and they are sworn to protect their interest. When at Springfield they are for sale to the highest bidder. The corporation lobbyists are with them during the entire session.

So long as there are large corporate interests will the "servants of the people" be for sale.

We must, however, put the blame where it belongs. It is not the fault of the individual, but of the system that produces both the briber and the bribed. If we do away with private ownership we will at once strike at the root of bad government and forever end the evil practices that follow in the wake of corporate interests. Instead of working for men who are pledged to the old regime, work for a party whose principles are opposed to that system and which would totally eradicate it. Work for the public ownership of the means of production and distribution and when it comes the present system will be thought of as only a bad dream.

MEETING OF THE PRIEST AND PLUTOCRAT

BY EUGENE V. DEBS

To those who do not know how the anthracite coal strike was averted the following New York special to the St. Louis Republic will be interesting:

"When I left the office of J. Pierpont Morgan I was happy with the belief there would be no strike. Today I will put it stronger. I will say I am willing to venture everything I own or may own on earth—yes, and my hope for future happiness—there will be no strike."

"Thus spoke the Rev. Father Edward S. Phillips of Hazleton, Pa., Thursday. 'Morgan is the greatest man I ever met,' said Father Phillips. 'I look upon him with wonder. In the few minutes I was with him he reached my innermost thoughts before I could express them.'

"He knew what I wanted to say, and said it better than I could. He got at the very truth of the matter in a flash."

"I had dreaded that interview with Mr. Morgan. I feared him as a great capitalist, but the moment he grasped my hand my fears were gone. In an instant I knew he was a friend of mankind who could be trusted. I do not believe a higher-minded, more conscientious man than he exists today."

"I have been a student of human nature all my life, and I know I have been correct in summing up the character of Mr. Morgan. He is the great mediator between capital and labor."

"A strike is no longer to be feared." If the priest is correctly quoted he made a "holy" exhibition of himself and it is not strange that Morgan saw through him in an instant. It doesn't take a capitalist of Morgan's caliber long to size up a sicksplittle who crawls apologetically toward his boots. Think of the miners' grievances being "arbi-

trated" by such a capitalist! Oh, for a tongue to rouse the slaves!

Mayor Jones of Toledo is in for another term. I missed my guess. I cannot help overestimating the intelligence of the working class. I will not lower the estimate, but the workers will increase their intelligence and then I'll be a prophet. In this day of political charlatanism, Mr. Jones, who is a politician without politics, is elected, while a Socialist who stands for principle and talks sense doesn't get support enough to be counted among the defeated. But it will be different by and by.

George W. Boyer, aged 80, the last surviving member of the jury which convicted John Brown, died a few days ago. I had never heard of him. Who can remember the name of a single jurymen, of the judge, or the lawyers, or anybody else connected with John Brown's capture, trial and execution? None. Every patriot who distinguished himself as the defender of "law and order" is buried in oblivion, but the soul of old John Brown, the rebel, goes marching gloriously on.

It is said that no prince or potentate ever rode in as luxuriant a train as the one that will bear President McKinley to the Pacific coast. The report says, "All that money can command has been put into the train—the finest the world has ever seen. Luxury and elegance have been called into play by the Pullman company and the special will represent an outlay of thousands of dollars. The President will sleep in the magnificent Pullman, the Olympia. A descrip-

tion of this car would fill an oriental prince with wonder."

What a treat I missed by a few votes last November! It is really too bad that I was counted out. President McKinley should enjoy the trip. Some will envy him, but they shouldn't; for he is doing his best to please the people, and the Pullman company and the railroads are doing all they can to help him. I don't suppose they charge the President any railroad or sleeping-car fare. The people would object to that, especially the wage workers who elected him; they insist on footing the bills for the special train. They know they are indebted to McKinley and his party for the privilege they enjoy of hitting the ties when they travel, and they propose to stand by their friends.

There are curses loud and deep among the Indiana miners. This means that they are waking up, and I hail every oath as a note of freedom. For three weeks they were "in joint conference" with the operators at Terre Haute. When the agreement was finally signed it provided that the miners must buy all their powder from the operators at \$1.75 per keg, notwithstanding the market price is \$1.25 and notwithstanding there is a state law which makes such a contract a felony. The operators are entirely within their rights. The Indiana miners, with few exceptions, voted last fall that their hides belonged to their capitalist masters and they should in good faith submit to the flaying. When enough of them have been skinned often enough the proceedings will cease. Till then the operators will continue to operate.

This reminds me that I am still looking for some one to tell me what part of the mine the "operator" operates. Is it the mine he "operates," or does he simply "operate" on the miners? He mines no coal, yet the coal is his, because he owns the mine. And for the same reason he also owns the miners.

Say, Mr. Miner, can you see just a little—as much as a mole? Very well, then you must see that nothing short of the ownership of that mine and the machine and mule you work with can make you your own master. Socialism will put you in possession of that mine and when you mine coal it will be your own. Your "operator" will then dig his own coal, or its equivalent. Under Socialism you will be your own operator. Until then you must slave for one, and the "operation" will continue as long as you enjoy it.

A little while ago J. Pierpont Morgan and his special train went to Washington. The next day the President announced the appointment of Philander C. Knox, Carnegie's lawyer, as attorney-general of the United States. As lawyer for the Carnegie steel works the salary of Mr. Knox was \$50,000 a year. As attorney-general it will be \$8,000. Mr. Knox is a patriot and ought to be President.

I confess to some admiration for the open and above board policy of this administration. It is living up to the high water mark of its principles and giving the people the full worth of their money.

The spring election returns are exceedingly cheering to Socialists. In every instance there was a decided increase and in some places the vote was extraordinary.

The mills of capitalism are grinding. We wait and work. However dark the past, or trying the present, the future belongs to Socialism.

April 13. Eugene V. Debs.

But None of Them Are Socialist!

The New York Sun, a newspaper founded by a man of deep Socialist convictions, but conducted on lines of conservatism, says:

"As for the west, Tom Johnson in Cleveland and Sam Jones in Toledo are representatives of a spirit of deep and wide revolution against social and economic conditions."

Tom Johnson stands for three-cent fares in street cars, for municipal ownership of franchises, for fair treatment of workmen, for government ownership of land.

Sam Jones of Toledo has an idea there should be enough kindergartens for all little children. He believes in public baths, plenty of public parks and music in those parks.

He believes in making life cheerful for those who are less lucky than some of the rest of us. He believes in the Golden Rule, and, pushing eccentricity to the limit, accepts seriously and literally the teaching of the Founder of Christianity.

If these two men "represent deep and wide revolution against social and economic conditions" we are sure that the Sun will agree that existing social and economic conditions are badly in need of a change.—Chicago American.

When will Socialism cease to agitate? When the tides cease ebb and flow.

CATAclysm OR EVOLUTION FROM SOCIALIST VIEWPOINT

The Mistake of Identifying Socialism with Obsolete Jacobinic Upheavals—Socialism Teaches the People to See Coming Events and Prepare for Them

BY ISADOR LADOFF

Times are changing and we change with them. It cannot be otherwise. Life itself is constant change, perpetual transformation, everlasting development. That life on earth, or, rather, its forms and manifestations, are not uniform and constant, but subjected to changes and transformations of the most pronounced character was noticed by thinkers of all ages. Observers of nature could not fail to discover that species of plants and animals existed at some periods and were replaced by quite different types at other epochs of the existence of our globe. The human mind could not, however, be satisfied with the mere statement of these facts. The religious philosophers explained the changes of forms of life on earth as the results of activity of a personal, human-like, supernatural being, as acts of consecutive creations. The earth was looked upon by them as a kind of divine experimental station, where the deity indulged in the sport of creating, destroying and creating anew different species of plants and animals according to whim and fancy. Poetical as this assumption may appear, it did not satisfy the analytical mind of modern scientists. The great French naturalist, Cuvier, for instance, advanced the semi-scientific theory of cataclysms. According to this theory, the globe is subjected to periodical violent perturbations, changing its entire surface and burying under its ruins the existing types of life. These cataclysms are followed by a long period of creative rest, during which new types of plants and animals reappear and multiply. The theory of cataclysms fails to explain the causes of the violent perturbations and presupposes the possibility of creation of living organisms out of mere debris of a dilapidated world. In some respects the Cuvier theory was less satisfactory than the previous theological, with its supernatural *deus ex machina* of a creator of something out of nothing.

Darwin (the grandfather of Charles Darwin), W. Goethe, Lamark, Jofroi, St. Iller, Charles Darwin and other modern naturalists established firmly the theory of evolution, of gradual development of life on earth from the most simple and primitive forms to its highest type, the human race.

It would be out of place to enter here into an exhaustive exposition of the theory of evolution, this crowning glory of modern science, this highest achievement of the human mind. Our task is of a more circumscribed character and must be limited to the phenomena of social-economic life of the humankind. Mankind is but a part of animal life on earth. Obviously the philosophy of life as advanced by the Darwinian school must find its application in social economics. The last of all sciences, however, to apply evolutionary principles appears to be sociology, the science of human society. This curious fact finds its explanation in the comparative youth of the just named science and its great complexity.

The honor of the first attempt to apply evolutionary methods to the history

of men unmistakably belongs to the great founder of the materialistic conception of history, Karl Marx, as we stated in some of our previous articles in The Herald. Without the conception of human society as a product of evolution, scientific Socialism would be an impossibility. As a matter of fact, scientific Socialism is nothing else but conscious social evolutionism, a rational system of philosophy of human social life in the light of the theory of evolution. The so-called materialistic conception of history is to be called more properly the evolutionary conception of history. Indeed, to explain all changes in the social-economic life as the results of gradual development of modes of production and distribution from the simplest and therefore most stable forms to the most complex and consequently least stable means to apply evolutionary methods to social-economic sciences, if it means anything. That the evolutionary or materialistic conception of human history ought to lead to such an eminently evolutionary movement as we witness in modern Social Democracy goes without saying. Historians, economists and sociologists of the old schools could well afford to adhere either to the theological theories of the interference of a supernatural being in human affairs or adopt Cuvier's theory of cataclysms or revolutions, according to their respective personal predilections. They might consistently recognize so-called revolutions, violent social upheavals, as the efficient causes of different types of social-economic life and activity. Scientific Socialism, however, must necessarily look upon social-economic cataclysms, as the great French revolution, not as efficient causes of a change in social-economic forms of life and activity, but as their inevitable consequences. Revolts and revolutions in social life are what thunder and lightning are to atmospheric electricity. Social forces if checked and hampered by irrational and anachronistic institutions turn destructive, but destruction is not by any means the essential feature of social evolution. Social forces intelligently and rationally managed are constructive. That cataclysms in social life or revolutions are not necessarily progressive is known to every high school boy.

In view of these facts, it is rather humiliating to see and hear Socialism identified with obsolete Jacobinic cataclysmic aspirations, as it is frequently the case in our time of general confusion of causes and effects in social life. We do not mean to maintain that there will be no social cataclysms in the future, or that Socialism will necessarily be inaugurated peacefully. But scientific Socialism in its educational crusade will teach the people to see coming social events and use its clear vision for the purpose of foreseeing and avoiding, as far as possible, social cataclysms. The knowledge of social forces will enable humanity to control and direct these forces in channels of the greatest constructive usefulness. Socialistic or rather pseudo-socialistic jingoism is just as contemptible as any other indulgence in irrational misuse of language.

STATE SOCIALISM AND SOCIAL DEMOCRACY

State ownership and control is not necessarily Socialism—if it were, then the Army, the Navy, the Police, the Judges, the Gaolers, the Informers, and the Hangmen, all would be Socialist functionaries, as they are all State officials—but the ownership by the State of all the land and materials for labor, combined with the co-operative control by the workers of such land and materials, would be Socialism.

Schemes of state and municipal ownership, if unaccompanied by this co-operative principle, are but schemes for the perfecting of the mechanism of capitalist government—schemes to make the capitalist regime respectable and efficient for the purposes of the capitalist; in the second place they represent the class-conscious instinct of the business man who feels that capitalist should not prey upon capitalist, while all may unite to prey upon the workers. The chief immediate sufferers from private ownership of railways, canals, and telephones are the middle class shop-keeping element, and their resentment at the tariffs imposed is but the capitalist political expression of the old adage that "dog should not eat dog."

It will thus be seen that an immense

gulf separates the "nationalizing" proposals of the middle class from the "socializing" demands of the revolutionary working class. The first proposes to endow a Class State—repository of the political power of the Capitalist Class—with certain powers and functions to be administered in the common interest of the possessing class; the second proposes to subvert the Class State, representing organized society—the Socialist Republic. To the cry of the middle-class reformers, "Make this, or that, the property of the government," we reply, "Yes, in proportion as the workers are ready to make the government their property."—Workers Republic, Dublin.

The majority of the members of the Glasgow corporation have for several years past openly expressed favor with the Gothenburg system, so that it is with no surprise that we learn that a special committee has decided to recommend the corporation to approve of the principle of the municipalization of public-houses, and to apply for parliamentary powers to put the principle into operation.

Hurry for one hour a week and you would add fifty-two new subscribers to the Herald list in a year. This would be worth the Socialism that would count.



AROUND THE WORLD

The American Soap Manufacturing Association was organized as a result of a meeting in Chicago of representatives of thirty-five of the largest soap-manufacturing concerns in the country.

The municipal elections have been held at Copenhagen. The liberals and Social Democrats ran a joint list of candidates and returned these by 15,700 votes against 10,400 given to the conservative candidates.

On page 423 of the labor commissioner's report for the year 1898 we learn that the labor cost of shipping freight in this country is less than 10 cents a ton for 100 miles. Thus a car of twenty tons load for 100 miles costs \$3. See what it will cost you to charter the car for that weight for 100 miles.

The German minister of war has instituted proceedings against Vorwarts for publishing letters from China in which the atrocities committed by the troops at the instigation of "God's faithful ally" are related. But "there are judges at Berlin," and the result of the trial will probably make the government regret its action.

A correspondent of Le Peuple (Brussels) draws attention to the way in which the law forbidding the employment of young children in factories is evaded. Instead of the children working in a factory they work at home, and under those circumstances the law does not apply. The men and women working at home receive in many cases only 1 franc (10c.) a day.

Vorwarts publishes a protest—signed by many Russians—against the brutalities of the Russian police and Cossacks at St. Petersburg. Many students have been arrested not only at St. Petersburg but also in the provincial universities, and at Odessa 100 persons and at Riga 300 are in prison. No wonder when these arbitrary arrests take place that we hear of assassinations and plots.

A movement has been inaugurated in York, Pa., having in view the organization under one management of all the independent telephone lines in Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia and West Virginia. The new company will be capitalized at \$27,000,000, and its promoters contemplate that it will ultimately embrace under one management all the lines in the United States.

A recent article in the Berlin Tageblatt takes a gloomy view of the industrial conditions in Germany. It says: "It is safe to say that a quarter of the working people are either idle or insufficiently employed. There is little prospect of an improvement in the situation. The situation is made more serious by the uncertainty of Germany's commercial policy. The numberless industries of the country do not know whether disastrous tariff wars will not destroy the work of years."

The charter fee paid to New Jersey by the United States steel corporation amounted to over \$220,000. It is estimated that the treasury of the state will this year receive \$2,100,000 from the trusts domiciled there alone, including fees paid on filing certificates of trust incorporations. And the present costs of the state government are less than \$3,000,000 yearly. In other words, New Jersey is meeting over two-thirds of the expense of its state government from the trusts it has let loose to operate in other states.

United States Labor Commissioner Wright sets forth some very interesting facts. Aided by machinery, he says, 4,500,000 men turn out a product which would require the labor of nearly 40,000,000 men if produced by hand. In America the advantage derived from machinery is about twice as great as in Europe, so that the actual population of the United States is equal in productive power to 150,000,000 Europeans. With labor-saving machinery one generation of men can do the work of four or five generations of handworkers.

Early in this century a well-known citizen of Boston will perfect his invention for the conversion of carbon coal directly into electricity without the use of fire. He has already made a laboratory success of this; he will make it an industrial and commercial success. There are countless millions of money already committed to the enterprise and dancing attendance on his genius. This invention will make every ton of coal thirty or forty times as effective as now; our annual product of some 200,000,000 will become the equivalent of 10,000,000,000.—Henry D. Lloyd.

No one will want to steal under Socialism, because it will be cheaper for people to earn what they want than to steal it. Under the best conditions for organization in farming at the present time (U. S. official statistics), labor can produce twenty bushels of wheat for 66 cents, or 3 1-3 cents a bushel. This was done on a bonanza farm of 10,000 acres in California and was the average cost for the whole product of the farm. Five bushels of wheat will make a barrel of flour, and the by-product of bran, etc., will more than pay cost of milling it. At

3 1-3 cents a bushel for the wheat, the barrel of flour would cost less than 20 cents, and allow for wear of machinery, when produced under the best state of organization, or Socialism. Could any man afford to steal a barrel of flour at that price?

The Standard Oil company has agreed to pay \$5,000,000 for a patent controller by Salt Lake men, according to a dispatch to the San Francisco Chronicle. The invention is a device to convert petroleum into a gas that produces intense heat and light at a cost infinitely smaller than by any other known process. It is claimed the light is stronger than that of the electric arc and tests are said to show that as much heat can be obtained by this method from a barrel of crude oil as is ordinarily obtained from a car load of coal. The patent is controlled by a corporation which acquired from Albert Hayes, the inventor, the control of the invention on payment of \$10,000 cash and \$20,000 for perfecting the patent in other countries. The Standard Oil company contemplates pushing the invention solely as a heat generator.

The depopulation of India through famine and cholera is assuming alarming proportions. The latest advices from Simla say the census returns of the central provinces show a decrease of over 1,000,000 since 1891, when an increase of 1,500,000 might have been expected. It is estimated that 5,000,000 have died in India since 1896 from causes directly due to the famine. In western India things are even worse. The Oodeypoor state returns show a decrease of 840,000, or 45 per cent of the population; the state of Bhopal shows a decrease of 808,000; the district of Banda shows a decrease of 124,000, and so on; in Bombay city the population will have diminished by 50,000. The localities which escaped the plague show a satisfactory, though incomensating, increase—for instance, Madras, which has gained 8 per cent over 1891.

British Gods and Dutch

We have heard a great deal of late about God's Englishman, and our saintly men of God have been loudly proclaiming the gospel of the domination of the noble Anglo-Saxon race, predestined by Providence to hold sway over all the earth. According to this gospel we are the chosen race, the only race among all mankind which has found grace in the sight of the Creator. All other races have been allowed to people different parts of the earth only until such time as God's Englishman needs them. When that time arrives, God's Englishman, clad in khaki or shoddy, bred and born in a slum and reared on offal, sallies forth, and armed with the sword of the Lord and of Gideon, to say nothing of such minor accessories as magazine rifles, dum-dum bullets and lyddite shells, falls upon the heathen, be he Boer or Blackamoor, an smites him hip and thigh, amid the rhapsodical jubiliations of the saintly men of God, who look on from a safe distance. Sometimes the heathen in his blindness, not being gifted with the Christian grace of forgiveness, disdains to turn the other cheek to the smiter, but smites back instead with considerable effect. Then the saintly men of God raise dreadful howls against the heathen, and urge the slum-bred scions of the imperial race to smite back some more. But it never occurs to them that they may have made a mistake, and that the Englishman is not God's especial protegee after all. Now, however, our comrade Wilhelm sets himself to correct their error, and with prophetic inspiration informs the world that it is the German and not the Englishman who is under the special fostering care of the Most High. "The Eternal God in heaven," he says, "since the days of the great elector and the great king, always been the powerful ally of the German army." "After all, there is nothing very new in this, for the old German song tells us that "Gott im Himmel Lieder singt," but it is as well that our blood-besotted jingoes should be reminded, by so eminent authority as the kaiser, that the Deity is not English, but German.—London Justice.

A Socialist Priest's Book

"Socialism and the Labor Problem: a Plea for Social Democracy," by Father T. McGrady of Kentucky. The boldest arraignment of capitalism ever penned. Send 10 cents for a copy to the address below. Unexcelled for propaganda. 100 copies sent postpaid for \$3.50. Address Debs Publishing Company, Terre Haute, Ind.

The growing power of the President in the matter of making appointments, civil and military, is justly creating alarm. These appointments in the various departments of the government are estimated at 3,500, requiring the expenditure of more than \$20,000,000 a year—or \$80,000,000 in four years. These appointments and the distribution of the vast sum of money strengthen the hold of the republican party upon the throats of the people, and pave the way for the inauguration of the empire.

Get subscribers for the Social Democratic Herald; this is your paper; push it to the front.

NOTES FROM THE FIELD

A new English-speaking branch at Patterson, N. J., held a meeting last Monday with Comrade Kraft of Jersey City as the speaker.

Comrade Corinne Brown is announced to speak on the "Civic Conscience" at Aurora, Ill., April 25, under the auspices of the Young Men's Club.

The comrades at Cincinnati are thoroughly alive and holding interesting meetings. Comrade McSweeney writes most encouragingly of their devotion and activity.

In the city election at Joplin, Mo., the Social Democratic candidate for mayor received 272 votes, nearly trebling the vote of last November. Sixty-two straight party ballots were cast.

Official returns of the election at Holliston, Mass., show two Social Democrats elected, Charles A. Crowley as assessor by a vote of 322 and Arthur L. Harriman constable with a vote of 298.

Comrade F. O. MacCartney is announced to speak at the South Braintree, Mass., Congregational Church Sunday evening, April 21, on the subject, "What Industrial System Would Jesus Commend?"

The Social Democrats of St. Louis ran up against public ownership and a public-ownership movement that polled nearly 30,000 votes, and received 827 votes, about one-half the vote of last November for Debs.

The Winnetka branch, S. D. P., held an open meeting at the home of Comrade Anna R. Weeks Monday evening, April 8. Comrade Corinne S. Brown addressed the meeting, dwelling on the material basis of history and the development of the civic conscience. The meeting was well attended and great interest evinced by the young people. Two new members joined the branch.

At a regular meeting of the Terre Haute branch James Oneal, after reading from extracts from the works of Karl Marx, spoke on "Surplus Value; How Labor is Robbed," which was liberally applauded by those present. S. M. Reynolds and others participated in the discussion that followed. Methods of propaganda in the coal fields surrounding the city were also discussed, it being the sense of the members that the agitation should commence as soon as the weather permits. It is the intention of the branch to hold meetings and organize branches of the party among the miners this summer, as urgent requests have been received for organizers and speakers in these districts.

Organization Fund

Table with 2 columns: Name and Amount. Total \$16.75

The Chicago Vote

Table with 5 columns: Ward, Hoyt, Tyl, Soelke, Westphal. Total 2,043 2,952 1,823 1,822

The Ruskin Colony

The Coming Nation of April 6 contains a long, straightforward and well-written recital of the troubles at Ruskin. It is the first time that the real causes of the "smash-up" have appeared in that paper, and the "Secret History," as it is called, is one of the most truthful and honorable things that has been done for many a day.

The old maxim reads: "Necessity knows no law," or, more properly, but one law, the unchangeable, the inexorable law of necessity—a law that operates always in the direction of despair. As truly as "necessity," capitalism knows no law, except to extract from the victims of necessity as much tribute money as possible, always adjusting in proportion to the "wage scales." When the time comes that necessity shall know no law, except the law of self-defense—the capitalistic law of tribute and extortion will cease to operate. Men will receive all they earn. The coming of the period depends upon the courage, the intelligence and the will-power of the victims of capitalistic laws, having one purpose in view, the increasing poverty of the poor and the increasing wealth of the rich.

GRAND EUCRE PARTY AND HOP Social Democratic Party of St. Louis

HEADQUARTERS AT CHICAGO Saturday Evening, April 27, 1901 BEGINNING AT 8 P. M. AT NATIONAL HALL ALLEN AVE. AND DOLMAN ST. Valuable Prizes Will Be Given Away TICKETS 25c

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Table listing books and pamphlets with prices, including Karl Marx Capital, F. W. Sprague Socialism, etc.

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Table listing library items with prices, including Karl Marx Capital, F. W. Sprague Socialism, etc.

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