

AN OPEN LETTER.

THE MONEY QUESTION;

Or, Misfortunes of the Plain People.

A Fable by D. H. Rummel.

Mr. Bossall: As a treatise, your book—"Money, Its Nature and Function"—is a valuable work, indeed; but as a solution, or even a partial solution of the labor problem, I question its merits.

The conclusion at which you have arrived after your earnest research for the solution of the social problem—the conclusion inspiring the writing of your book—this conclusion, Mr. Bossall, is not, as I see it, the fundamental cause. It is not logically final.

To illustrate: Turn to the preface of "Money, Its Nature and Function"; read paragraphs 3 and 4: "That class laws concerning money and monetized coin have been more potent in this direction [for despoiling the mass of people of its wealth] than all other factors combined."

Let us condense and analyze the foregoing thus: Class laws concerning money have been the most potent factors in despoiling the mass of people of its own created wealth.

Class law is the result of society's being divided into classes; therefore, if there were no recognized classes, there would be no class law, and no class to be despoiled.

It has been said that selfishness is the one great despoiling factor. Granting this to be true, we would say that it is not individual, but rather class selfishness that is robbing the mass of people today.

Only once—when they had decided to give themselves a name—was there any noticeable sign of contention. The majority wishing the colony to become known as "The Republic" had created quite a dispute; however, after an ardent discussion lasting several hours, they mutually agreed to call themselves "The Plain People."

It was a custom of the Plain People to hold an annual conference, similar in character to the last one they had held while yet among the hills.

At present, these buildings, with few exceptions, were placed upon wooden foundations; and before the appearance of the foundation bill, no one had discovered that this was unsatisfactory material on which to build.

This at once caused a great deal of alarm; upon which the people, being anxious to save their homes from destruction, accepted the "Sound Foundation Principle" as their saviour.

One thing was known for a certainty: without a sound foundation their houses would not stand. It was this bald fact that had blinded them to the real cause of their trouble.

Each wing having equally good arguments in support of its principle, created widespread confusion.

The strongest argument in favor of the "Sound Foundation" or "Stone Theory" was, that stone, being hard, and having no defective properties, will not bend under the intense strain that is brought to bear upon it; moreover, stone, being used as a foundation, would not deteriorate with age.

On the eve of the national day, Mr. Brown—a wood foundationist—who knowing Mr. Russell as a crafty politician, ventured a surprise upon the more popular citizens by speaking to the people from the steps of the public building.

In a short time, if not prevented, will lie in ruins at your feet.

"Believe me; I come not here to theorize; neither do I speak for selfish purposes. Your interests are my interests; if any great calamity should befall the people of this plain, I, too, would suffer in consequence."

Turning partly around and pointing to the building, he continued: "This building, the pride of the plain, I call as a witness to prove to you the truth of what I am about to say.

It spreads a harmful shade around; It spoils what else were useful ground. No fruit for years on it we've found— Cut it down—cut it down.

Canadian Parliament Passed Several Important Capitalist Measures. Ottawa, May 11.—The present session of the Dominion Parliament has been the shortest on record, with one exception, and that session was in no way important.

In many respects the meeting of Parliament on this occasion has not resulted in passing any very important legislation, but two bills which were introduced are of the highest significance.

There were a large number of railway bills passed. Among these are two for transcontinental roads. One of them is the Mackenzie and Main proposition, which will connect the various roads they have built in Ontario, Manitoba, and the Northwest, and proceed by the Pine River Pass right on to Fort Simpson.

Three facts he endeavored to impress upon the minds of the citizens: 1. That there was cause for alarm. 2. That this was due to the unstable condition of their buildings. 3. That the buildings were sinking in consequence of their foundations.

He had produced a good argument in support of the wood foundation, proving his theory with facts that none were able to gainsay; to deny or refuse to accept his evidence would have been the height of folly.

Considerable legislation has been adopted affecting the Yukon territories. The Dominion Government has now realized that the Yukon is a permanent mining camp, and therefore is proceeding to deal with it on these grounds.

It is just probable that the Hon. G. H. Ross, the present Commissioner of the Yukon, will be the governor candidate in the Yukon when the election comes on. The bill provides that the election must be held before January 1, 1903.

to part with the foundations of their fathers—silver and paper.

Evolution, you people of the plains, never ceases to evolve. That which is once adopted will bear its fruit in the course of time. It is by the fruit the tree is known—if you would know the nature of the tree under which the human race takes shelter, taste of its fruit; if the fruit is discovered to be bitter, cut the tree down—cut it down rather than stunt its growth by reactionary measures.

For other use the soil prepare: Some other tree will flourish there: And in our vineyard much fruit bear. Cut it down—cut it down."

SIGNIFICANT LEGISLATION.

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PEASANTS NOT FREE.

You do not change a man's state by calling him another name. The liberation of the serfs was merely a juggling of words; the Russian peasant is not and never has been free.

TYPE WRITING

Agreements, notices of meetings, consultations and all kinds of typewriting done at the shortest possible notice. 2 1/2 to 6 N. K. Pryor, New York.

MUNICIPAL PLATFORM

Of the Socialist Labor Party of San Jose, Cal.

The City Convention of the Socialist Labor Party, held at S. L. P. Headquarters, 42 El Dorado street, San Jose, on March 22, 1902, adopted the following platform:

The Socialist Labor Party of San Jose, Cal., in convention assembled, endorses the principles, policy and tactics of the Socialist Labor Party of America in the political field and of the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance in the economic field.

Resolved, That we endorse the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance, the only economic organization organized on class conscious lines and using the best method of striking: that is, at the ballot box.

Resolved, That we pledge our support and call upon all wage workers to support the WEEKLY and DAILY PEOPLE, the official organs of the Socialist Labor Party.

Resolved, That we demand that the tax assessors do their full duty by assessing all property at its full value, and that said property be taxed to the full extent required for the carrying out of the measure of public relief and improvements herein contemplated.

Resolved, That we demand that the workers be obliged to strike against oppressive conditions imposed on them by the capitalist class, the city government shall furnish all possible aid to the strikers.

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at a city election can be nominated only in the manner provided in Section 1188 of the Political Code.

Second. The city to acquire street railways, lighting plants and all public functions requiring franchises from the city, the same to be operated (not for profit to reduce taxes of the property owners) but for the benefit of the employees, the employees to manage the same co-operatively, under control of the city administration, and to elect their own superior officers, no employee to be discharged for political reasons.

Fourth. Free medical attendance to be furnished at the homes of applicants when necessary; also medicines, food, etc.; depts to be established to furnish the people, at cost, food, fuel and other necessities now sold at prices largely in excess of their value.

Sixth. Abolition of contract labor on all city works. Direct employment of labor by the city. The city to adopt means for the relief of the unemployed; that all employed by the city receive at least \$3 per day. Eight hours to constitute a day's work. Equal pay for women.

Resolved, That we demand that the tax assessors do their full duty by assessing all property at its full value, and that said property be taxed to the full extent required for the carrying out of the measure of public relief and improvements herein contemplated.

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Trades' & Societies' Directory

SECTION ESSEX COUNTY, S. L. P. The County Committee, representing the Sections, meets every Sunday, 10 A. M., in hall of Essex County Socialist Club, 78 Springfield avenue, Newark, N. J.

NEW JERSEY STATE COMMITTEE, S. L. P., meets every third Saturday at 8 P. M., at 83 Prospect street, Jersey City. Secretary, George P. Hertschaft, 93 Prospect street, Jersey City.

NEW YORK MACHINISTS' LOCAL 274, S. T. & L. A., meets every first and third Tuesdays at 8 P. M., at 2 to 4 New Reade street. Secretary, Ed. McCormack.

SECTION HARTFORD, S. L. P., meets every Wednesday, 8 P. M., at S. L. P. Hall, 892 Main street.

S. T. & L. A. LOCAL NO. 307, meets second Thursday at above hall. Visitors are welcome.

SCANDINAVIAN SECTION, S. L. P., Branch 1, meets second and fourth Sunday of month at 10 o'clock A. M., at 235 E. 38th street. Subscription orders taken for the Scandinavian Socialist weekly, "Arbetaren."

SCANDINAVIAN SECTION, Branch 2, meets first and third Sunday of month, at St. Louis Hall, 443 Atlantic avenue, Brooklyn.

SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY CLUB, 14th Assembly District. Business meetings every Tuesday evening, 8 P. M., at Club rooms, southwest corner of 11th street and First avenue. Pool parlor open every evening.

SECTION LOS ANGELES, S. L. P., Headquarters and free reading room, 205 1/2 South Main street. Public meetings every Sunday, 8 P. M., 107 1/2 North Main street. PEOPLE agent, L. C. Holler, 205 1/2 South Main street.

NEW HAVEN, CONN., SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY meets every second and fourth Friday, 8 P. M., S. L. P. headquarters, 853 Grand avenue. Westville Branch meets every third Tuesday at St. Joseph's Hall. Visitors welcome.

SECTION CLEVELAND, OHIO, S. L. P., holds public agitation meetings every Sunday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock at 356 Ontario street, top floor.

HEADQUARTERS SECTION SOMERVILLE, S. L. P., 437 Somerville avenue, Somerville, Mass., will be open every evening and all day Sundays. Papers and books on Socialism for sale. Free reading room.

BUFFALO, N. Y., Section Erie County, S. L. P., meets first and third Saturday, 8 P. M., in Florence Parlors, 527 Main, near Genesee street. Every body welcome.

PIONEER MIXED ALLIANCE, L. A. 345, S. T. & L. A., meets every Tuesday, 8 P. M., at headquarters, 119 Eddy street, San Francisco, Cal. Free reading room. Visitors are welcome.

CHICAGO, ILL.—Public educational meetings held by Section Chicago, S. L. P., every Sunday, 3 p. m., at Madison sts. Opera House bldg., 83 E. Madison sts. Able speakers will address the meetings on most important subjects. Every comrade, sympathizer and reader of THE PEOPLE should attend; bring your friends. Questions invited; free discussion. Admission free. M. C. Hiltner, Organizer.

SECTION CANTON, O., S. L. P., meets second and fourth Sundays at 2 p. m. in Union Hall, 118 North Pied-month street. All are welcome. Discussion invited.

DAILY PEOPLE BUILDING.

S. T. & L. A. CIGARS.

Our Jewel, a good cigar. . . Bx of 50, \$1.25 Old Judge, equal to any 5c cigar . . . 1.45 Arm and Hammer, a good combination . . . 1.75 Invincibles, in the cheapest place, \$2; our price . . . 1.75 Nature Beauties, in your locality, \$2.50; we charge . . . 2.00 Medallion, equal to any 10c cigar . . . 2.25 Shipped on receipt of price to any address.

WE PAY EXPRESS CHARGES. ECKSTEIN BROS.

2-6 New Reade Street, New York.

Section Minneapolis, Minn.

Headquarters at LABOR LYCEUM, 34-36 Washington Avenue, South.

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