

Volcanic Rumblings

From Dec. 14, 1904, Helena, Mont., "Montana News", an organ of the so-called Socialist, Alias Social Democratic Party. In the movement in Minnesota there appears to be a very strong following of the sentimental kind...

that signify that he knows something according to a diploma, let us look at the facts in the above utterances of this doctor. It would not be so bad, had he supported the Democrat four years ago...

What Is Capital?

(By FERDINAND LASSALLE.) II. INDUSTRIAL SOCIETY IN CIVILIZED ANTIQUITY. Now let us take a look at the condition of civilized antiquity. Here we already have a certain amount of division of labor and greater wealth...

against the public opinion of the ancients. You can easily comprehend why it was considered, according to their view, shameful, mean, low, dishonest, in the ancient sense, to lend at interest. If Aristotle, Cicero, Seneca, the Fathers of the Church, and the Canon Law, one and all, consider interest on capital shameful...

The ancient landowner and slaveowner commanded that articles of use for his own household needs should be produced in the first place. He sold only the surplus of such articles. Or if he carried on manufacture with his slaves...

* In the days of small production, the usurer was simply a leech, who profited by the distress or the improvidence of others to suck their blood. The money which he loaned to others was, as a rule, put only to unproductive uses. If, for instance, a nobleman borrowed money...

SOCIALISM IN JAPAN

"The Socialist" of Tokyo, Tells of Its Difficulties—Officially Persecuted. Against the Government's suppression of a Socialist society, the Kobe Chronicle says: "The Government appears to be greatly concerned whenever there is any appearance of Socialist agitation..."

PERSECUTIONS. It is evident that the Government is determined to nip Socialism in Japan in the bud, before it bears any fruit. On the evening of the second ult., a large meeting of Socialists was held at the Y. M. C. A. Hall...

On the sixth ult., the sale of the Heimin Shimbun, a weekly journal of Socialist propaganda, was prohibited by the Government. The journal contained many articles on educational questions. We regret that we are not allowed by law to discuss the matter...

On the nineteenth ult., Comradé Nishikawa, the editor of the Heimin Shimbun, was sentenced to five months' penal servitude and a fine of fifty yen. Comradé Kotoku, the publisher of the journal, was sentenced to seven months' penal servitude and a fine of fifty yen...

On the sixteenth, the Shakaishugi Kyokai (the Socialist Society), was suppressed by order of the Home Minister. It was the only Socialist institution in Japan since the organization of the Socialist party was prohibited...

The Class Struggle

(By Mrs. Olive M. Johnson.) This class wealth has a number of functions to fulfill and is far from allowed to remain undisturbed in the coffers of the individual capitalist employer. A large part must be reinvested so that the capitalist may buttress his capital and keep abreast of capitalist development...

Again, from this wealth comes the share of the mouthpieces of capitalism: the editors, preachers, professors, teachers, lecturers, etc., to say nothing of the lower species, such as labor fakirs, politicians, and lackies of every description.

By guiding the elections the capitalist class have capitalist robbery sanctioned every 2 or 4 years. By controlling the legislative halls they are not only able to legalize the robbery of the workers, but they can work out the details by which they can make it very systematic and effective.

Then again an enormous surplus is drawn by the governmental arms of oppression and repression—the army and navy, the militia and police force, etc. All this is highly necessary, both to protect and advance capitalist interest abroad, and to control and enslave the workers at home.

These and many other expenses make a tremendous inroad on the capitalist surplus. It is the peculiarity of the capitalist system that its greatest strength is its greatest weakness—it is the old tale of the dragon whose tail destroyed what the body could build up.

The capitalist government is of utmost importance to the capitalist class, it is the workshop where capitalist genius can truly assert itself, it is the place where more or less consciously the capitalist class fights out the class struggle.

Very different is the situation of the working class. Stripped of all the means of production, it has no alternative but to sell itself into wage slavery. In this slavery it receives in return for its work—like every other slave class in history—on an average only its food, clothing and shelter.

of production and earns his livelihood by selling his labor-power to a capitalist. There is no difficulty, whatsoever, in distinguishing the two. The remark has been made that there exist mongrels whom it is utterly impossible to define, or to say as to what class they belong, as they own means of production and yet work, it is sometimes said, harder than the genuine proletarians; and, it is added that therefore no class divisions can be drawn in society.

At this point it may be proper to make a diversion and touch upon a notion of some so-called schools of economy, that contend that the points of contact are two and the most important one is by far where the capitalist and the worker meet in the market, the former as owner and seller of his commodities, necessities of life of the workers, and the latter as buyers who must have these necessities.

Now the point of contact between the two classes; the point where they cannot possibly avoid each other, is when the worker in order to exist MUST sell his labor-power and the capitalist, also in order to exist, MUST buy it. There they must meet, and around that point, consequently, centers the class antagonism in modern society. It is to the working class' interest to sell as dear as possible, while the capitalist class' interest is to buy as cheaply as possible.

The General Executive met at Marx Hall on Friday, October 28, Comradé Dobson in the chair. The "People" and Press Committee report for the week was received, and speakers for the various meetings were appointed for the month. The committee appointed to prepare a statement embodying certain suggestions and alterations in connection with the working of the State electoral machinery, submitted a copy of statement, which was accepted by General Executive and ordered to be forwarded on to the Committee of Inquiry.

THE IRREPRESSIBLE CLASS CONFLICT IN COLORADO

(Continued from page 2.) have strained every nerve and expended thousands of dollars in an attempt—I cannot say, to catch the perpetrators of the crime—to incriminate the union, nothing has resulted. Even their regiment of spies has failed them. The inference is unmistakable. No attention need be paid to the so-called confessions that have been made. They are fakes, pure and simple.

(To Be Continued Next Week.)



BOOK LIST

Table with two columns: 'Paper Bound Socialist Books and Propaganda Pamphlets.' and 'RELIABLE WORKS ON HISTORY AND SCIENCE. Cloth Bound Books.' Lists various titles and prices.

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capitlist system, and a real Socialist party to follow in any parliament in the world where Socialists may be elected. Resolved, That the foregoing be sent on to the S. L. P. of America, the General Secretary to inform them also that the General Executive will shortly consider the whole matter.

Are We at Bulgaria or Italy?

I am unalterably opposed to Comrade Ollendorff's proposition that the S. L. P. appoint a conference committee in company with the S. D. P. I repeat the words of old Liebknecht: "No compromise." The Socialists of America are not fighting for a Republic in place of a Monarchy. The field here is clear for a bold front against the capitalist class. If the S. L. P. will commit itself to such a proposition (which I doubt) the day of clear cut Socialist teaching will be at an end in this country.

III. The discussion among our comrades in The People raised by Comrade De Leon's flash-light "Enrico Ferri and Bulgaria", is certainly commendable as it serves to test the opinions of the comrades regarding what is called unity. However, it seems to me that some of the comrades are straying wide of the mark. In his flash-light on the conditions in the two countries, Bulgaria and Italy, Comrade De Leon points to the fact that a Socialist movement, after it has passed through a clarifying rupture, may, in the course of events, reach a stage where unity would be imperative. This, to my mind, would imply that the movement being clarified, all the elements coming into this category would unite to carry on straight, clean, revolutionary agitation for the realization of the final aim—Socialism.

identical with those in any other country, for this reason our attitude here can not be the same as those abroad. If, however, conditions in America should be ripe for decided action on the part of the workingclass every honest revolutionary member of this class will find room in the Socialist Labor Party. It is really amusing to see the analytical review of the situation by Comrade DeLeon misinterpreted as "flirtation". How can anyone suspect that Comrade De Leon would be courting unity with an element that has been continually denounced by the Socialist Labor Party? Such courting, were it at all possible, would indeed put the S. L. P. on "dangerous ground", as this would mean that the pure name of the S. L. P. is being dragged in the mud of fusion.

He refers to Bryan's radical element as something prominent, and that every one in the Socialist Labor Party must know Socialism from A to Z. Now, on both propositions I must disagree with the comrade. If we do our duty and do it thoroughly, that a political party must be of all kinds of human nature and that our leading men must be to a great extent a composite of the whole, is natural. What we need most is to get the enemy on the serious fighting line, and also to put the labor fakirs in an embarrassing position, if such a thing is possible, and now while that contradictory bunch of half-brained ambitious office-seekers, backed by other people's barrels when in a fight or scattered to the winds, we who have learned by our own party's fight and have also learned the S. P. and have seemed to draw closer from each other's blows, can and should now unite, if we can do so on strict lines.

cialist Labor Party convention, those who read the report of the Illinois delegation, know that I stand squarely upon the Party's policy as to "other intelligent citizens who have certified to their intelligence, their honesty of mind, etc." Any one who is not what Comrade De Leon so pointedly calls a knipperdolian could easily perceive that what in this connection is meant by a vote "behind" there stands a class conscious proletarian, it meant a vote behind which there stands a person clear upon the class position of the proletariat. And the votes we don't want are the votes of the members of the working class caught by snares and delusions, such as old age pensions, public baths, and what not—in short, such votes as the S. D. P. is continually hungering for. As reasonably should Comrade Ollendorff ask when I say "It is the duty of every S. L. P. man, upon what authority I exclude the women? The one idea ought to be as easily understood as the other and it is a shame to be obliged to take up The People's space for such simple explanations.

mind." If a shrewd and clear sighted politician like Hanna feared the election of a Carey of Haverhill, Mass., of a Johnson of Chicago, or of a Berger of Milwaukee, methinks he were anything but a clear sighted politician. The party which propagates the "unconditional surrender of the capitalist class," etc., such a party, although not an electing party, as yet, is the party the capitalist class watches. The capitalist class was never very much troubled about the "giant" organization of the A. F. of L., but when the S. T. & L. A. was launched, which sinks into nothingness when compared numerically with the A. F. of L., Senator Perkins of California, read the Declaration of Principles on the floor of the U. S. Senate, saying, "this is how workmen are beginning to organize now." This goes to show that the capitalist class does not watch the parties that "elect and influence elections," but the parties and organizations standing on firm and unshakable principles.

what has happened and continues to happen right here in the city of New York, and the writer has seen and heard it for the past three years. When the cart-tail campaign starts on the lower East Side it seems to be the delight of the party members to keep the wagons upon which the speakers of the S. L. P. are, as close as possible to those of the S. D. P. After two years of this kind of campaign work I fail to see where we have derived any benefit from it. Instead I know from actual experience that it has done us more harm than good. It is bad enough when the Police Department with the aid of the S. D. P., conspire to disturb our meetings by allowing the two parties to hold meetings on the same corner in the one night, without us purposely going to such trouble. I have heard the comrades many times denounce the Police Department for their trickery in this respect, yet these same comrades, whenever they get a chance, deliberately do what they denounce the police for allowing; and that is the S. D. P. and the S. L. P. holding meetings on the one corner at the same time.

