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# WEEKLY PEOPLE



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## CONGRESSIONAL

### "PARTIES," WHAT THEY ARE AND WHY.

The leading event of the week in Congress took place in the Senate. It was brought about indirectly by the proposed San Domingo treaty. It would be a pity if the obvious demerits of the treaty, and the still more obvious improprieties of the Executive methods to secure its ratification, were to obscure the issue that it indirectly provoked. That issue is the duties of an elective official to his party, the extent and the limitation of such duty. It came and comes about in this way:

According to the constitution, a two-thirds majority is needed for the ratification of a treaty by the Senate. The Republicans have a majority in the Senate but not the requisite two-thirds. They fall short of four votes. If the treaty is to be ratified, the President needs at least four Democratic votes. The treaty is far from popular with the Republican Senators themselves. It is one of those Rooseveltian moves that are a combination of heels-over-headedness, bumpiness and a readiness to yield to the importunities of personal friends for jobs. In a nutshell, the treaty proposes to bind the United States to take over the administration of the custom houses of Santo Domingo, and distribute the proceeds between the Dominican government, on the one hand, and the foreign creditors of Santo Domingo, on the other. The treaty has been well criticized as a first step to render Uncle Sam receiver in general in bankruptcy of all the bankrupt Latin American Republics. Its advocates claim that, without such a measure, European powers will take possession. In the course of the discussion it has turned up that, notwithstanding the Senate had, at its previous session, failed to ratify the treaty, the Executive proceeded to act in Santo Domingo the same as if the treaty had already been ratified. A Col. Colton, one of the President's chums was, at the President's suggestion, placed by the Morales Government in charge of the custom house, drawing a salary both as Colonel in the United States Army and as Customs Collector in Santo Domingo. All these circumstances have made the treaty so distasteful to the Republicans themselves that nothing but extreme party fealty, and fealty to the person of the President is able to keep the Republican Senators in line for the treaty. Moreover, such is their dislike for the treaty that the Executive has had to use all the power of patronage, even to the point of estranging Republican Representatives, whence the "insurrection" in the House, in order to insure their loyalty. Naturally, under such cir-

cumstances, the Democratic Senators are indignant at the treaty. They expected to find themselves solid against it. Presently, one of them, Senator Patterson, of Colorado, bolted their caucus, introduced a resolution in the Senate condemning caucuses as tyrannous, announced his intention to vote for the treaty and made a eulogy of the President. This was the occasion on which the duties of elective officials towards their parties came up for discussion.

Senator Bailey of Texas, was the spokesman for the Democrats. It is immaterial to the point that Patterson was proved to be himself the product of a caucus, and that only two years ago he voted for the caucus in the matter of the ratification of treaties. Patterson's theory may be right whatever his inconsistency or even motives may be. These can be of interest only to aggravate his offence if his theory is wrong. Bailey trituated his theory.

The Pattersonian line of argument was the sacredness of the human conscience, etc. Bailey granted that and claimed that if a man's conscience is against his party's action, then his duty is to leave his party. Bailey showed that a party is responsible for the men whom it elects to office, consequently that if a man is elected to office by a party and then disagrees with it, his duty is to step out—not to sow the seeds of dissension in its ranks and use the office to which he was elevated as a means to injure it.

So long as there is political government, which means, so long as the Socialist Republic, whose government is merely administrative of the people's productive powers, has not yet overthrown the capitalist—so long will government by parties be inevitable. Bailey's argument upon how the compulsion of party organization forced the changing of the constitution, which had ignored parties, is a profound piece of historic argument. The Texas Senator did more than demolish the Colorado Senator's false theory. He, however unwittingly, helped to prove the perniciousness of a social system that renders necessary the building of parties in order at all to be workable. Under capitalism, party divisions are not only unavoidable, they are necessary. The necessity implies organization and discipline. Parties are responsible for their political products; being responsible they must hold the latter to strict accountability. The party that does not enforce such discipline is an irresponsible body; being irresponsible it is a mob and can accomplish nothing except serve as a stepping-stone for individual self-seekers.

## INDUSTRIAL COUNCIL

### INTERESTING MEETING OF I. W. W. DELEGATES HELD FEB. 6.

Permanent Headquarters Engaged at 59 E. Fourth Street—Reports of Various Locals Show Activity of New York Membership—Good Progress All Around.

The Industrial Council of New York City, I. W. W. had another interesting and progress making meeting at Link's Assembly Rooms, on Tuesday, Feb. 6. The Local Unions of Greater New York were well represented and many instructive points were brought out in the discussions over the various matters brought up by the delegates.

The report of the Capmakers' Industrial Union delegate showed that despite the unscrupulous use of slander and even thug violence by the A. F. of L. in the effort to drive the I. W. W. men out of business, good progress has been made, and at this meeting the delegates requested that their desire to grant the Universal Label to two shops be endorsed by the Council. These are the Peretz & Geist Co. and Milkowsky's; all the employes of both being I. W. W. members. This matter was referred to the organization committee with instructions to delegate Organizer W. Shurtleff to investigate. The committee later reported that it had given the organizer power to act at once if he found conditions right at the shops named.

Silk Workers Local 170, reported gain of 20 new members. Stated that strike at Tremont Mills is still on with hope of winning. Also at West New Brighton, Star Ribbon Co. strike off in both mills, the larger mill having gained all the strikers had contended for, including the Saturday half holiday. Italian workers to the number of 290 were reported to have joined the Broad Silk Weavers' Local.

Local 206 has added 16 new members and donated \$4 to aid silk strikers. The Leather workers reported successful mass meeting, 4 new members, holds open meetings. Building Trades 95, 8 new members, donated \$17 to silk strikers, collected \$67.75 in aid of Russian Revolution, and is working up a plan to place an organizer in the field. Local 91, Yonkers, co-operating with 179, in efforts to organize workers in Westchester County. Endeavoring to organize Educational club jointly with S. L. P. and S.

organization pledge themselves most particularly to educate in Socialism and anti-militarism the young men who are on the lists for conscription within the year. To this end, they have procured the names and addresses of the young fellows, and are at present sending them the pamphlets best calculated to give them the desired education.

### JAPAN.

The Tokio "Hikari" figures that the number of unemployed laborers in Japan is over 800,000 at present. This estimation, it seems, is based upon the number of soldiers who are now returning from the front. If that is the case, it is impossible to say that the calculation is correct. It is, however, correct that great many laborers are out of work. Unless something is done at once to rescue them, there will be great calamities upon the laboring classes.

As the result of scanty harvest, many millions of people of Hohoku districts are suffering, and some of them are nearly starving. Several schemes have been adopted to rescue them, and funds are collected by several newspaper offices. But these are not enough, and some fundamental remedy must be resorted to at once.

On the 6th ult., representatives of several political associations in Tokyo met at the Kaikatei in order to discuss the plan of joint movement on the question of universal suffrage. It was finally agreed upon that they should distribute pamphlets, take as many signatures as possible for the petition to be presented to the Diet, and hold as many meetings as possible.

During last month, Socialist meetings were held at Yokohama, Yokosuka, Mayebashi, Kokura, Kagoshima, and Kobe. Socialist oratorical meetings were also held at several places. At present, however, soldiers' triumphal returns eclipse everything, and these meetings were not very successful.—The Tokyo, Japan, "Socialist."

### HOLLAND.

Troelstra has handed in his resignation from the central Council of the Party in Holland. A certain disagreement between him and another member of the party concerning the general strike of 1903 is the cause. The Council has decided to hold an investigation on the matter. Troelstra is not in accord with the manner in which the investigation is to be carried on.

### ITALY.

To obviate the dangers of the anti-militarist propaganda in the barracks, a band of anti-militarists have decided to found an "Association of Future Conscripts." The active members of the or-

P. at Yonkers. German Engineers, 110, held mass meeting, confident of good results.

Hotel and Restaurant Employes, 130, reported having organized two branches, Italian and English. Delegate Fischer of 130, stated he had been instructed to again urge the need of the Industrial Council establishing headquarters, securing a paid organizer and also arranging to hold a series of Sunday afternoon open lectures on Industrial Unionism. The matter of headquarters was later settled by the Council voting to share the headquarters of Garment Workers' Local 61, at 59 E. Fourth street, where a whole floor has been leased. The other matters are to be made the first order of business at the next meeting of the Council. Locals are requested to instruct their delegates to state how much they can contribute weekly to an organizer fund.

Bronx Borough Labor Union 179 showed by its report that its members are very active in carrying on agitation in the Bronx and Westchester County, by which it adds to its strength and lays the foundation for new Locals.

Coatmakers 186, Brownsville, has had a strenuous time since last meeting, have had two strikes on, and in a third place going through the odd experience of having the boss put it to a vote of the shop as to whether he would retain in his employ certain of the most active members of the Union. The strikes were well supported locally and in addition \$129 were sent on from the General Office. This also served to bring out a display of solidarity as evidenced by the sympathy shown by the other workers in Brownsville. In one shop, Cutler's, the strikers won easily. At Koppelman's, the employes went back on Monday but while agreeable to other things contended for, Koppelman refused to take back two or three men discharged before the strike. At Rouser's the vote resulted in a majority deciding that the I. W. W. members be retained.

Local 25, Machinists, reported 11 members. This Local at every fifth meeting holds a lecture and open discussion which is proving of great value. Last meeting was of this kind and a delegation present from an I. A. M. Local, declared themselves so satisfied with what they had heard, that they proposed to try to have their Local join the I. W. W. At this meeting 8 new members were admitted.

Organizer Shurtleff reported that Italian laborers of Jamaica had perfected an organization. Also, that a meeting of Italian Tailors had been arranged with the aid of Porters' Local. He also stated that organizations of Bookbinders and Blacksmiths were in sight, the latter at Paterson, N. J.

S. French stated that Typographical Industrial Union 244 was in good working shape and would have delegates at next Council meeting.

Secretary Hanneman announced that he will presently be prepared to publish in labor papers a calendar of I. W. W. Locals and their meeting places.

### LAWRENCE'S RED SUNDAY.

English, French and Jewish Speakers Well Received—Large Collection Sent Direct to Brussels.

Lawrence, Mass., Feb. 5.—A Red Sunday demonstration which was a success educationally and financially was held here on January 22, under the auspices of the S. L. P., the S. P., the Bund, the Jewish Benevolent Society, and the German Socialist party. The collection amounted to \$24.70.

Gilbert Smith acted as chairman. Excellent speeches were made by James Wilkinson and William Carrol, in English; Talbert in French, and a speaker in Jewish.

The entire amount collected was sent to the International Socialist Bureau at Brussels. The organizations participating in the demonstration paid all expenses.

### ANDREAS DEFENCE FUND.

J. D. Castro, Jacksonville, Ill., \$50  
Val. Martis, Jacksonville, Ill., \$50  
Louis Brenaman, E. St. Louis, Ill., \$50  
Julius Nocker, Shawnee, O., \$200  
Leon Lacoste, New Orleans, La., \$25  
Edw. Haerbich, \$100  
Walter Goss, \$51  
Previously Acknowledged, \$78.99  
Total, \$82.25  
Walter Goss, 701 Bristow street, Belleville, Ill., Treas., Illinois S. E. C.

The New York Labor News Company is the literary agency of the Socialist Labor Party and publishes nothing but sound Socialist literature.

## SEATTLE SOCIALISTS

### PUT UP MUNICIPAL TICKET ON SOUND MUNICIPAL PLATFORM.

Expose Fake Labor Party and Uphold Genuine Trades Unionism—Addresses Open Letter to Industrial Union 178—Another Convention with a Different Story to Tell.

(Special Correspondence.)  
Seattle, Wash., Jan. 29.—The Socialist Labor Party met on January 21, and adopted the following municipal platform, resolutions, ticket and open letter to Industrial Union, 178:

**MUNICIPAL PLATFORM.**  
The Socialist Labor Party of Seattle in convention assembled indorses the platform, principles and tactics of the Socialist Labor Party of the United States,

We reassert the inalienable right of man to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness and hold, that the true purpose of government (Municipal and National) is to secure to every Worker the enjoyment of this right. But taught by experience we hold, furthermore, that such right is illusory to the Working Class under the present system of economic inequality, that is destructive to their life, their liberty and their happiness.

Being deprived of land (their natural inheritance) and tools (the result of their labor) with which to work, the Working Class is compelled to sell themselves as merchandise, for a bare subsistence wage.

In this transaction the Capitalist Class, the owners of land and tools (which they do not till or use) are enabled to appropriate all the products of labor, except enough to allow the Working Class to live stingily and produce, while the Capitalists riot in luxury, debauching social institutions and stifling human progress.

We therefore call upon the Wage Workers and all intelligent Citizens of Seattle to support the ticket of the Working Class, the Socialist Labor Party, that, by working jointly with the Industrial Workers of the World (on the economic field), we may restore to Labor the Land and the Tools with which to work, establishing economic Equality—an industrial republic—that all willing to work may enjoy Life, Liberty and Happiness.

### MUNICIPAL LABOR PARTY RESOLUTION.

Whereas, A Municipal Labor Party has been launched in Seattle, for the purpose of coralling the Discontented Labor Vote for the Democratic Politicians;

Whereas, Municipal Ownership would enable the property interest to more economically operate the utilities of public service, thereby lowering the taxes, by dispensing with labor; and

Whereas, The Candidate for Mayor (Judge William Moore) on said Municipal Labor Ticket is not a Union, nor a Workingman, but a Democratic Judge (part of the legal machinery of Capitalism) and

Whereas, A Democratic Governor has built Bull Pens for Workingmen; a Democratic President has ordered troops to shoot down Workingmen and Democratic Judges have repeatedly served injunctions on Workingmen when struggling for better conditions and purer environment; therefore, be it

Resolved, That we condemn the said Municipal Labor Party as a fraud and a conspiracy between Capitalist Politicians and the Local Labor Lieutenants of the Capitalist Class to ride into fat offices upon the backs of Labor.

And again we call upon the Wage Workers to sever all connections with the political scab body.

### TRADE UNION RESOLUTION.

Whereas, A political organization of the Working Class can only oppose and prevent the execution of the present political administration in its outrages against the Working Class; and

Whereas, An economic organization (Trade Union) is necessary for the Working Class to express its might; in taking and holding the land and means of production; and

Whereas, The American Federation of Labor (led by Samuel Gompers and John Mitchell) have joined the Belmont-Hannan Civic Federation for the purpose of

## MAYOR FAGAN

### THE ACTS AND PROSPECTS OF REFORM AND REFORMERS IN JERSEY CITY.

At a recent session of the New Jersey S. L. P. Conference, Comrade James M. Reilly, of the S. P., in arguing that the Socialist political movement of labor could not hope to accomplish the Social Revolution unless economic organization of the workers on class lines was there to back up the fiat of the ballot, said, even reforms cannot be brought about without organization—that is organized support behind them. Comrade Reilly's observation is a correct one as we will show.

We have in Jersey City a mayor, Mark Fagan, who has been heralded far and wide as a great reform mayor, and no matter how strong his desire he cannot inaugurate any reforms worth speaking of.

By those who know him Mayor Fagan is spoken of as a man absolutely honest, well-meaning in intent, and unbribable, which so far as I know is true. But there is one other thing true, and it plays an important part—accounts for much in the mayor's character and history. Mark Fagan besides starting in life without opportunity like the rest of the working class, lacks somewhat that natural ability or instinct, which after all, education merely develops. Even his friends will acknowledge that the mayor is a man of limited capacity. His honesty keeps him personally clean, but his lack of knowledge, and of powers of observation, render him incapable of comprehending the men and forces that confront him. Thus when his ideals are shattered against the hard rock of material interests of the capitalist class he is very much perplexed, he had no idea that the rock was there, it was not mapped out on any chart that the mayor was familiar with.

In "write-ups" of the mayor much stress is laid upon the purity of his character and the religious side of his life. It is somewhat significant that what might be termed his political nomination was made one Sunday on the steps of a church, in reality the proposition that he run for the board of freeholders was put to him when he was coming from service. He accepted and was elected as a Republican. Coming up for reelection he was beaten.

In 1896, the Bryan year, Mayor Fagan was nominated for the State Senate by the Republicans. The ticket failed in the county but Fagan ran ahead and in fact carried Jersey City, a Democratic stronghold. This made him the logical Republican candidate for mayor in 1901, and, though mistrusted as a man who could not be handled, the bosses gave him the nomination and he was elected and has been elected twice since.

In 1901 "Bob" Davis, the Democratic political boss, had imposed upon him as mayoralty candidate by E. F. C. Young, all around capitalist boob-bah, Young's son-in-law, George T. Smith. Banker Young's daughter has all that money can buy, yet 'tis said she hankered after social distinction—had social ambitions that the title of Mrs. Governor, or Mrs. Senator, alone could perhaps ultimately satisfy. "Bob" Davis the political boss had to bow against his will to the edict of his boss, the corporation boss. The story goes that a day or two before his nomination George T. Smith was taken down and introduced to boss "Bob."

It so happened, perhaps through the grace of Banker Young, that George T. Smith then was, and still is an official of the Pennsylvania Railroad. This fact helped Fagan's candidacy. In the public eye the fifteen-dollar-a-week clerk of an undertaker had pitted against him the hated corporation power in the person of Young's son-in-law, and this aroused much sympathy and enthusiasm for Fagan, and as yet the Republican machine was with him.

Mark Fagan is no orator, his apparent simplicity and straightforwardness seem to have made up for this lack. His campaigning savors very much of the old style—hand-shaking, personal solicitation of votes—not however with the old-time fawning, but with an earnest appeal that the voters would enable him to do something for them. I recollect how members of the same faith as the mayor, but Democrats, were violent against him, charging that he visited the tenement districts and furthered his campaign by utilizing his church connection. However that may be I think it was the anti-cor-

poration sentiment that elected Mark Fagan.  
There is perhaps no city in the country with greater natural advantages than Jersey City, and yet less of all that goes to make up, what even under present conditions may be termed civic pride. True the suburban and the residential quarter of the rich may compare favorably with any city, but the conditions in the tenement, factory, and railroad freight districts are such that I for one must pronounce it the most frowny of any city that I have visited. It was to remedy this state of affairs that Mayor Fagan set himself. He wanted to make Jersey City a pleasant place to live in, so he said. He thought the poor needed something done in their quarter the most.

It takes money to accomplish such reforms as clean streets, good lighting service, ample school room and the like, and the mayor found that he could not get the money. He started to find out why the revenues of the city did not provide enough funds to give even a semblance of decency, and he found that the railroads were the great obstacle. Jersey City is the terminal of half a dozen railroads and their yards take up practically the whole waterfront, on which, under a State law, they pay tax separately from other property holders and at much less rate. When a railroad gobbles up more property, that property pays less tax than before, the more the railroads expand the less the income of the city.

The railroads have been a burning question to the whole State for many years, they have owned the State ever since the palmy days of the Camden & Amboy railroad, when the state in derision was dubbed the State of Camden & Amboy. To the steam monopoly, which facetiously calls itself the Public Service Corporation.

To make a long story short Mayor Fagan found when he got after the railroads that he was getting after the most influential men in his own party and in the Democratic party. The scent led him upon all kind of trails and he finally took up the one leading to the State House in Trenton, to the cry of "equal taxation," only to find the corporations more strongly entrenched there than anywhere else. Bills that he had introduced were buried, mutilated or otherwise deprived of any good there was in them.

The machine broke with the mayor, his home paper is on the outs with him, and the man is said to be very pessimistic at the outlook for the realization of his hopes. Instead of him possessing the idea, the idea now possesses him, he voices his equal tax cry in season and out, at opportune and inopportune times. The Democrats and Republicans have united against him—in the board of aldermen, and by allowing things to go to the dogs they hope to get rid of Mayor Fagan before next election. That is they propose to make his performance, as compared to his promises, so ridiculous that his "record" alone will defeat him should he run for office again.

The hopes of his enemies may however be blasted. There is a man of some ability behind the mayor. He is George L. Record, the corporation counsel, an able lawyer and a good talker. A Single Tax acquaintance tells me that at heart Record is "all right," and true to the Single Tax faith, whatever that may mean. Record keeps himself and the mayor before the people, going anywhere to speak that occasion offers. I have never heard the gentleman, but have heard his utterances quoted, one to the effect, that of two men, one a worker the other an employer, the one enjoying all the luxuries, the other having nothing but hardship, the rewards of the two are not commensurate with the difference in ability or industry. Before Mr. Record was given his present job he was connected with a contracting company but left it to "serve the people." Record realizes the need of organization, and there is prospect of his joining with Colby of Essex, who jumped the traces and was elected to Trenton last fall, and other reformers to build up a machine.

For city comptroller Mark Fagan has Thomas McEwen Jr., an ex-Congressman and all around politician. In days long

## THE MOVEMENT ABROAD

### REVOLUTIONARY PROPAGANDA AND ITS EFFECTS IN FRANCE, GERMANY, HOLLAND, ITALY, AND JAPAN.

### FRANCE.

After the recess and the disturbances incident to the presidential election, the Chamber has set to work again on the law on workmen's pensions.

Constans presented and spoke for an amendment proposing to establish the pensions with the sums raised by abolishing intestate inheritances outside of the second degree in the collateral line, by levying a tax of fifty per cent. on the inheritance of heirs, and by limiting the pensions of public officers to 2,000 francs. In the stereotyped official language, "The Chamber failed to agree."

After this set-back, Constans proposed an amendment aiming at the establishment of a special progressive tax "of social solidarity" on all salaries above 3,000 francs. It was rejected by 430 votes against 133.

All the Socialist members voted for it.

### GERMANY.

At Leipzig, Dresden, and in all the towns of Saxony, the police forbade the proposed January 23 demonstrations, organized in favor of the Russian revolution, and universal suffrage.

At Landsberg, 2,000 textile workers gave gone on strike.

A large meeting organized in Hamburg was the scene of the usual brutality on the part of the police. The "Vorwaerter" comments on the affair in this language: "So long as the session of the Reichsrath lasted the police refrained from acts of violence. But towards evening, feeling themselves more free, they

commenced their exploits. A stranger passing by the meeting was greeted with a blow across the shoulders with the flat of a saber. A looker-on then demanded of the policeman whether he had received instructions to that effect. The answer was that that honor was reserved for the recalcitrants." Just then one of the policeman's colleagues came along, and cried out: "Give him a couple, too!" meaning the speaker, who had only to wheel around, to put the courageous sergeant to flight. The women were not spared. Between 30,000 and 50,000 persons took part in the demonstration.

Of the twenty-six prisoners taken during the universal suffrage demonstrations on the 5th and 17th of December, only one was acquitted. The others were sentenced to terms varying from six months to a year.

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# Milton on "Sacred Contracts"

Deep down in every heart that is human, though buried and well-nigh smothered therein, there eternally smolders the inextinguishable fire of the desire for freedom. That men for countless ages have suffered slavery, is not an evidence of their love for it, nor yet of their powerlessness to resist it. Had they not power to resist slavery? Were not the slaves ever the many and the oppressors ever the few?

But such is the power and influence over the human mind of mere names, and appearances, that the sword of oppression, though many a time and oft gripped by feeble imbecility, has cowed and terrified men till they have forgotten their power and have been destroyed. What bags of bluff have not men bowed down to, simply because such bags were clothed with ermine and crowned with gold. Before what shrines of superstition have not men for ages excoriated themselves, simply because of the terror of a name of some unknown and unknowable bogey beyond. What social institutions and convention have not chained men to misery simply because of their fearful veneration of some hoary lie.

In the last analysis, not conscience, but ignorance makes cowards of us all and makes us choose to bear those ills we have rather than shake the shackles from our limbs and march forward to the yet undiscovered land of liberty.

Given a continuance of their ignorance, slaves would forever feebly consent to their own enslavement. But during the progress of human history, from time to time, in response to differing, stimulating factors, intelligence has been quickened and spread amongst the submerged classes and revolution has resulted.

But this awakening intelligence does not from the first steer clear to its goal of revolution.

Before it realizes its clear cut mission,

it first is seen in the wide-spread criticism and destructive questioning of every social institution existing under its contemporary social system. Every revolution has its prelude of such questioning, while it is vaguely groping its way to its true track.

That the English revolution of 1648 was preceded and accompanied by such rude and irreverent questioning of social institutions, we could naturally infer, and expect to find. But the extent of the questioning is not apparent in the manifest results of that revolution. Feudal absolutism was certainly ended with the beheading of Charles I. and the establishment of the so-called commonwealth by Oliver Cromwell. But that the questioning which accompanied these events, struck out wider and deeper than the historical events themselves, remains to be proved, not by the outwardly apparent and actual changes accomplished, but by the revolutionary literature written during that period which has come down to us—come down to us, not in reprints, for the successful revolutionary bourgeoisie of England had no use for revolutionary literature after they themselves had mounted the saddle of power. To reprint such literature would be to endanger their own precious and tender skins.

Some of those books and tracts were written by John Milton, who during the commonwealth was secretary to Cromwell, but whose present day fame rests mainly upon his great poems, "Paradise Lost" and "Paradise Regained." The English bourgeoisie have reprinted the poetical works of the revolutionary Milton hundreds of times, but reprints of his revolutionary tracts I have not yet seen one. Copies of the original editions of these tracts, such as have survived the exigencies of time and escaped the destructive maws of fire and mildew, have become the coveted objects of quest of curiosity hunters. So that these sparks from the revolutionary fire of 1648 are to-day finding their way to the dusty shelves of the libraries of wealthy bibliophiles, lovers and collectors of curi-

ous editions and rare books.

A few days ago, in course of my work, one of these tracts fell into my hands. The title of this particular one was "The Tenure of Kings and Magistrates, proving that it is lawful, and hath been held so through all ages, for any, who have the power, to call to account a Tyrant, a wicked King, and after due conviction, to depose and put him to death; if the ordinary Magistrate have neglected, or deny'd to do it." It was written by John Milton and published in London in 1649. The tenor of the book is indicated in the title. On the book generally I shall not comment, but one passage struck me as particularly worthy of attention.

During his criticism and questioning of institutions which surrounded him, it would seem that the author in a prophetic moment had looked down the future for two and a half centuries to another revolutionary period and had anticipated and warned against the reactionary pure and simple craft union of to-day, with its fetish of "sacred contracts."

I will reproduce the passage verbally, and in the quaint orthography of the original. "No understanding man can be ignorant that Covenants are ever made according to the present state of persons and of things; and have ever the more general laws of nature and of reason included in them, though not expressed. If I make a voluntary Covenant as with a man to do him good, and hee prove afterward a monster to me; I should conceive a disobliment. If I covenant not to hurt an enemy, in favor of him and forbearance, and hope of his amendment, and he, after that, shall doe me tenfold injury and mischief to what hee had don when I so Covenanted, and still be plotting what may tend to my destruction, I question not but that his after actions release me; nor know I Covenant so sacred that withhold mee from demanding justice on him."

Read the quotation over again till you get the gist of it. These words of Mil-

ton apply to any kind of covenant entered into by anybody at any time. The strong-minded person will ever thusly regard the covenants that he honestly enters into, be their nature what they will. But the "covenant" which plays the most conspicuous part in our affairs as workingmen at the beginning of the twentieth century is the trade union "contract." The trade union contract has with us become an industrial and social institution. In obedience to the interests of those who profit thereby it has come to be venerated as a sacred, and on the part of the workers, an inviolable thing.

Now, my brother of the pure and simple craft union, Milton speaks to you down the megaphone of history to tell you practically the same thing that De Leon told you at Minneapolis last July in his address on the preamble to the constitution of the I. W. U., and that is, that when your boss uses the agreement existing between you and him as an instrument to compel you to remain at work and scab it on an allied craft which is on strike to better its condition, or in any other way seeks the ultimate degradation of you and your class by the aid of that agreement, he by that action has proved himself a "monster" to you, and has thereby shown himself to be plotting to do you tenfold more injury and mischief than he had done before you and he had signed the contract. He has by that act virtually forsaken the spirit of contract. The contract is dead and no longer exists, except on paper. It is a contract only in appearance, it is in fact a lie, and you are no longer bound by it.

But what of the "contract" that was in the first place deliberately designed and executed to do you injury, such as those contracts which provide for longer hours, less pay or more intensified labor for you? No man ever of his own free will contracted for his own injury.

Be not like frightened children. Do not let names and appearances deceive you. Such a contract is not a contract at all, and morally does not bind you

for a single moment, even though under the threat of starvation you were compelled to sign such a document fifty times, you are free of it. And now play the man. Boldly march up to that hypocritical document and expose it for the thing it really is. Do not be afraid of the rudeness and irreverence of your questioning. You cannot be delicate about these things. Tyrant bosses and criminal fakirs who over your heads execute contracts tending to your destruction, cannot be handled with silken gloves.

If you feel the revolutionary embers in your heart warming into a flame, do not strive to hide it fearing to be alone. There are men all around you thinking more or less vaguely the thoughts that you think. At the signal from you other hearts will kindle up, take courage and battle for their freedom and yours. You are by no means alone.

The workers of the world have for ages in their ignorance bowed before the oppressor and suffered themselves to be robbed, but now they are awakening and questioning the rights of their oppressors to steal the product of their toil. The hour of their freedom is near.

Just as the language of Milton in his tracts, was symptomatic of the revolutionariness of his time, just so is it symptomatic of the revolutionariness of the present time, that De Leon in his I. W. U. preamble address using language almost identical with the passage I have quoted from Milton, and applying that language to a specific recognized social institution of to-day, namely, the trade union contract, aroused a responsive voice from the awakened workers in Minneapolis and that voice has echoed from Minneapolis to New York and from New York to San Francisco on the one hand, and on the other hand has rolled over the Atlantic billows and is reverberating on the shores of the countries of Europe.

Workers arouse, the questioning is in progress. The goal is defined. The revolution is on.

T. J. Holmes.

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# The Goddess Constitution

To be read in the light of recent Russian events.—Tr.

(By Alexander Amphitheatrov. Translated from the Russian by Dr. A. Levine.)

In a certain city, once upon a time, they were waiting for the appearance of a great, wise, and all-powerful goddess. But the goddess did not show up. And as she was slow in coming, many who were impatient, became tired of waiting; others, of weak faith, forgot her, and turned to other gods; others again, remonstrated, saying: "Will indeed this goddess ever come to us at all? Perhaps our climate does not suit her? Aye, is this goddess at all in existence? Here we have been waiting for her, praying to her, and are we about to learn she is nothing but a myth!"

The goddess felt offended to be considered a myth and though she did not come, she appeared in a vision to her chief high priest and said: "Listen, priest. This is very foolish on the part of your people. They alone are to blame for my staying away and yet they insult me by styling me a myth. How can I come to you when none of you calls me to him? Whatever I might be, after all I'm a lady: I never make any calls uninvited."

"Pardon, goddess! Pardon, little mother!" cried the priest. "How is that? God bless you! We do not call you? Why, everyone in town, old and young, from morn till night, does nothing else but this at present; we all are shouting in one voice: Come, dear divinity! darling, come!"

"I don't know," answered the goddess, grimacing. "I hear you well enough, but my real name, pronounced aloud, I have never heard . . . You all seem to call some 'Unknown Lady', some 'Aerial Female', but me—never! Have never heard it!"

"Oh, Goddess! Fairy dear!" exclaimed the priest. "A misunderstanding! Heaven sees, 'tis but a misunderstanding. How is it you didn't guess it? Both the 'Unknown Lady', and the 'Aerial Female', and a dozen other names we might recall, why, it's all meant for thee, thee! It is for thee under various names that we wait for and call for! And it is time that you respond to our call!"

The goddess shook her head. "No, brother. We, gods, are straightforward people; metaphor, allegory, and other rhetorical figures are not in our line. If a man wishes the gods to come to him, he must loudly and clearly, before the whole people, call for them, and call them by their real names too. Wherefor

do we need our holy names if not for this? Why, you seem to know my real name? Don't you, old man?"

"As for knowing . . ." said the priest. "And, if you know it, why use pseudonyms in calling me?"

"Dear little goddess!", plaintfully murmured the old man. "Do you think I like pseudonyms? No! A thousand times no! but what can I do? You look to the right: there stands a soldier with a gun. You look to the left: a soldier with a sabre. You look ahead: a soldier with a bayonet. You look to the rear: a soldier at a cannon; and this whole breed cannot bear to hear your real name mentioned. And, I need but to call your name aloud once and I am done for."

The goddess smiled.

"Well," she said, "you know, this is your business, priest. You have your reasons, I have mine. To pseudonyms, though you yell yourself black and blue, I will not respond!"

And she flew away humming Nekrasov's:

"Gratis nothing is given: fate  
Expatriating victims demands . . ."

On the morrow the high priest called together his subordinate priests and said: "Gentlemen, this night I had a vision: I saw . . ."

Here he became bold of a sudden. "Yes, indeed," he thinks, "what's the use of hesitating, what have I to fear? I'll catch her, the darling, and here in front of everybody, I'll pronounce her name aloud, en toutes lettres, and in a second it's all over."

He had already opened his mouth wide, ready to shout, but behold! a stack of bayonets is looming against the window.

The priest turned away, cleared his throat, blew his nose, wiped it, and continued, an octave lower:

"Ye-yes, that it-it, s-so, be kind enough to listen, I have been deemed worthy to see with my own face . . . her . . . that well known being . . . of the female sex . . . yes, indeed! and she told me, this well known person of the female sex, that—so long as you will use pseudonyms to call me, that long you will have to wait for me, oh, priests! but if one of you will be bold enough and call for me alone by my real

THE COST OF LIVING

STEADY INCREASE FOR FIFTEEN YEARS—ALL SO-CALLED WAGE INCREASES COMPLETELY WIPED OUT.

It is shown by a recent bulletin issued by the Bureau of Labor that the living expenses of the average family during the period between 1890 and 1904 have increased from twenty-five to fifty per cent.

There has been no corresponding increase in wages. While the laborer works just as hard to-day for the same wages he earned fourteen years ago, the prices for all the actual necessities of life have increased so greatly that he must now pay out nearly ninety-five per cent of his entire income to protect himself and family from exposure and starvation.

Beans and salt beef have gone up fifteen per cent, salt pork and bacon 25.5 per cent, lard 10 per cent, butter 24.7 per cent, cornmeal 38 per cent, crackers 18.9 per cent, molasses 6 per cent, eggs 79.6 per cent, herrings 58.9 per cent, salt 15 per cent, pepper 65.3 per cent, and currants 30 per cent.

These are only a few of the articles which show an increase. Although the Bureau of Labor claims that articles classed under the general head of "Food" have increased in price only 7.2 per cent, the argument is a false one. The figures themselves are made to tell a false story.

While it is shown that flour has increased 36 per cent, and eggs 79.6 per cent in price, nutmegs have decreased 35.7 per cent, and prunes 44.6 per cent. Nevertheless they are all lumped in together under the head of "Food" and an average increase of 7 per cent is obtained. This is the merest sophistry.

We could get along very nicely without nutmegs or vinegar, but eggs and flour are pretty hard to do without even at skyrocket prices.

The Bulletin makes the following estimate of the increase in price of nine groups of commodities, taking the prices of 1890 as a basis of comparison:

Table with 2 columns: Commodity and Percentage Increase. Includes Farm products (22.2), Food (11.1), Clothing and clothing (9.8), Fuel and lighting (32.6), Metals and implements (9.6), Lumber and building materials (22.4), Drugs (10.0), Household goods (11.7).

Specifically these increases were as follows:

FARM PRODUCTS.

Price Increased.

Table with 2 columns: Commodity and Price. Includes Hogs, light (1.4), Flaxseed (2.9), Hogs, heavy (3.3), Hay (4.9), Barley (5.0), Oats (9.3), Sheep (11.1), Sheep, native (14.9), Cattle, steers, good to choice (16.9), Corn (22.1), Cattle (26.2), Rye (39.5), Hides (48.9), Wheat (54.9), Hops (94.8).

Average, farm products 22.2

Increase in Price of Food.

Table with 2 columns: Commodity and Price. Includes Starch, pure corn (4), Bread, loaf (Washington market) (1.6), Mutton (6.1), Bacon (6.2), Mackerel (6.2), Molasses, New Orleans, open kettle prime (6.3), Bread, loaf, Vienna (N. Y. market) (13.6), Flour, buckwheat (14.5), Salt, American (15.0), Beans (15.3), Beef (17.1), Bread, loaf, home-made (N. Y. market) (18.6), Bread, crackers, Boston X (18.9), Cheese, New York State, full cream (19.0), Butter, creamery, extra (N. Y. market) (20.4), Butter, dairy, New York State (22.3), Butter, creamery, Elgin (Elgin market) (24.0), Sugar (24.7), Onions (25.0), Beef, salt, hams (25.8), Sugar (27.3), Cod (29.8), Currants (30.1), Flour, wheat, winter straights (35.3), Flour, wheat, spring patents (37.6), Meal, corn, fine white (38.3), Flour, rye (38.7), Meal, corn, fine yellow (42.6), Milk, fresh (47.1), Herring (58.0), Pepper (65.3), Eggs (79.6).

Decrease in Price of Food. Meat, hams, smoked (1.1), Tea, Formosa, fine (4.9), Vinegar, cider, monach (6.7).

Table with 2 columns: Commodity and Price. Includes Crackers, soda (10.5), Raisins (10.0), Rice, domestic, choice (30.2), Vegetables, fresh, potatoes, Burbank (32.5), Apples (32.0), Coffee (35.2), Soda, bicarbonate (38.2), Apples, evaporated, choice (38.0), Prunes, California, in boxes (44.6), Nutmegs (55.7).

Here is a revelation in statistics. Almost everything that is an actual necessity to human life has risen in price.

Since 1894, canned goods have advanced over 25 per cent. on the dozen cans. The Standard Oil Company has advanced the price of oil eight cents a gallon in the same time. Bread is still five cents, although the price of flour has risen 36 per cent. This is because the bakers, to protect themselves, were forced to make the loaf smaller.

The hens of to-day produce four times as many eggs as a similar number did ten years ago. The advance in price has been phenomenal. We eat eggs laid a year ago. We eat chickens and game that was killed last year and beef that has been on ice for years. You may find in these cold storage houses barrels of frozen turkeys which were killed last Thanksgiving Day and which you may probably eat next November.

Soda crackers have decreased 10.5 per cent in price, and about fifty per cent in size. Fresh vegetables cannot very well be kept for next year's consumption, consequently they have decreased naturally in price with the advance in truck farming.

Coal has clambered up the scale about \$2 a ton since 1890, without counting the extra high figures reached in 1903.

As for clothing, cotton flannels have increased 33.3 per cent, common suitings 14.1 per cent, common boots and shoes 16.2 per cent, women's dress goods 16.8 per cent, blankets 18.3 per cent, and thread 20.1 per cent.

The laborer pays more by 15 per cent for his furniture now than ten years ago. He pays about 10 per cent more for the commonest kind of dishes and table cutlery, and for the luxury of tobacco 17 per cent more.

On top of all this, the wage earner, in this city at least, is called upon to pay an advance in rent from 25 to 30 per cent.

It has been charged by those who are disposed to find excuse for the raise in prices of almost all the commodities of life that housekeepers are more extravagant than they were ten years ago. This assertion has no foundation in fact. The wife of a day laborer with a family of four cannot be much of a spendthrift on \$1.50 a day and make both ends meet.

If she would have a decent quality of butter on her table she must pay thirty cents a pound for it, where four or five years ago she could buy it for twenty-four cents, and other necessities of life in proportion.

Instead of increasing extravagance among housekeepers, it is a noticeable fact that the standard of living among salaried men and wage earners is steadily declining, principally owing to the high price of living.

On July 1, 1897, the per capita cost of clothing in the United States was \$13.80. Last year it was \$17.42. Thus on this item of living alone the cost has been increased by over 26 per cent, or about \$18 per family, throughout the United States.

On July 1, 1897, it cost at wholesale \$34.71 to buy a year's supply of food for one person in the United States. It now costs \$48.78, an increase of over 40 per cent.

It takes a salary of about \$1,400 a year now to buy the same household necessities that a salary of \$1,000 would have bought eight years ago. In other words, it takes \$1.25 now to buy the things a dollar would have bought in 1897.

In 1861, when the civil war had just begun, the annual cost of living was \$122.63, and in 1864 it had risen to \$312.73. The year 1870 saw the allowance for each person reduced to \$165.47. There was a gradual decrease, until the lowest mark, \$72.45, was reached in 1897.

The cost for the succeeding years was: 1898, \$79.94; 1899, \$80.42; 1900, \$95.20; 1901, \$95.66; 1902, \$101.59; 1903, \$100.35; and 1904, \$100.14.

The income of the average skilled mechanic is about \$700 a year. Out of this he pays about \$200 a year for rent, \$50 for gas and fuel, \$32 for care; clothing for family of three, \$75; incidentals, housefurnishings, etc., \$50. This leaves about \$1 a day for food.

BUSINESS DEPARTMENT NOTES

For the week ending February 10th, we received 175 subscriptions to the Weekly People, and 24 mail subscriptions to the Daily People, a total of 199, which is a falling off from the record of the past few weeks.

The roll of honor, for five or more subs by one person is: Morris I. Becker, Duluth, Minn., 13; Fred Brown, Cleveland, O., 9; J. H. T. Juergens, Canton, O., 8; E. Morin, Duluth, Minn., 6; Frank O'Neill, Pomona, Calif., 6; S. B. Hutchinson, Grand Junction, Colo., 6; O. J. Switzgabel, Kansas City, Mo., 6; G. A. Jenning, E. St. Louis, Ill., 5; F. Schade, Wilkesbarre, Pa., 5; R. Katz, New York, 5.

Prepaid postal cards sold: E. Hauk, Buffalo, N. Y., \$5.20; F. A. Uhl, Pittsburgh, Pa., \$5; J. A. La Bille, Kansas City, Mo., \$5; Thirty-fourth A. D., New York, \$5.

The above shows that the comrades of the West are doing good work. In the industrial centres of New England, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and other States contiguous, conditions are just as good for propaganda as in the West. Hustle, comrades, hustle.

Make a note of it: The offer of three yearly subs to the Weekly People for one dollar closed January 31st.

LABOR NEWS NOTES.

This department had a good business for the week ending February 10th. The more important orders were: I. W. W. leaflets, 10,000 to I. W. W. headquarters, Chicago; 5,000 to Section Houston, Tex.; 2,000 (Italian) to Butte Mill and Smelters' Union, Butte, Mont.; 4,000 to Local 206 I. W. W., Brooklyn.

Pamphlets: Section Hartford, Conn., \$7; Section San Francisco, Cal., \$10.45; Section Newport News, Va., \$8; Buffalo, N. Y., \$3.40; Auburn, N. Y., \$2; A. Holst, Butte, Mont., \$2; Duluth, Minn., \$1; I. W. W., Fruitvale, Cal., \$1.75; E. J. Drugmand, Imperial, Pa., \$1.65; J. A. La Bille, Kansas City, \$1.05.

Cloth bound books: Wm. Kohn, N. Y., \$8; Cleveland Labor News Agency, 5 Bebel's Woman, 10 Sue books; J. Billow, Chicago, Ill., \$2.60 for Sue stories; S. Bailey, Delta, Colo., 2 Sue books.

The book binder assures us that the I. W. W. Convention Report will be in our hands the coming week.

We are able to announce that the organization in general has its accounts due here pretty well paid up, and we would call attention to the fact, that under the Party constitution, we are not allowed to extend credit: see Sec. 17 of Article XI. Once Sections get paid up they will find the cash system just as easy, and more satisfactory all around. Sections sending in orders and then paying immediately on receipt of bills are considered as doing business on a cash basis.

SEATTLE SOCIALISTS.

(Continued from page 1.)

fostering and defending the present Capitalist exploiting system; be it Resolved, That we condemn the American Federation of Labor as a Capitalist Adjunct; and heartily indorse and work jointly with the Industrial Workers of the World for Labor's Emancipation.

Vote for the Following Workingmen: For Mayor, A. Brearcliff, Tinner; Corporation Counsel, S. Dehly, Printer; Comptroller, C. Nielsen, Laborer; Treasurer, S. Brearcliff, Plumber; Councilmen-at-large, A. Ellings, Fisherman; W. Farde, Laborer; 1st Ward, P. Wagner, Laborer; 2nd, C. Kauffman, Teamster; 3rd, N. Luff, Brewer; 4th, J. Tunney, Laborer; 5th, J. Jinkens, Plumber; 6th, G. Swyne, Plumber; 8th, J. Schafer, Logger; 9th, W. Walker, Shoemaker; 10th, J. Monette.

OPEN LETTER

Seattle, Jan. 21, '06. To the Seattle Industrial Union, No. 178. Comrades and Brothers, Greeting—The Socialist Labor Party of Seattle, in convention assembled, beg leave to extend good cheer and hearty cooperation in your primary step of organizing the working class economically for its final emancipation. The S. L. P. of Seattle desires L. U. 178 to study its political record, and, if found to be pure, fearless and sound, we will expect your support in the coming municipal contest.

If found otherwise, we ask you to join us as individuals that we may make the S. L. P. the political expression of the Industrial Workers of the World. Read our platform and resolutions. Fraternally, Section Seattle, S. L. P., S. Brearcliff, Secretary.

The S. P. held their convention yesterday. It was a tame affair, only 26 members voting. At the last business meeting blows were struck by fighting members. They are in a sad condition. Their members are not paying dues. Their school vote dwindled from 1,300 last year to 500 this year.

WILL THE "HERALD" EXPLAIN

WHY IT PALMS OFF PURE AND SIMPLE UNIONISM FOR INDUSTRIAL UNIONISM?—WHY, OH, WHY?

[From the "Miners Magazine" of February 1.]

In the Social Democratic Herald of January 20, under the head of "Editorial Etchings," we find the following:

"The success of the demand for an eight-hour day on the part of the Printers of the country suggests a thought or two. The printers are well equipped for the struggle, for they have practically an industrial organization, through their Allied Printing Trades agreement, and can bring no little pressure to bear by force of numbers and inclusiveness and discipline. Under the allied trades agreement they have banded together for defensive purposes the compositors, the machine compositors, the machinists employed in the printing trade, the pressmen, feeders and helpers, the stereotypers and electrotypers, the mailers, the book-binders, the photo-engravers and the newspaper writers. Besides this, we understand that in the larger eastern cities even the handymen who do work in connection with the newspaper and other offices are also organized and included in the general organization. And this is nothing new, this tendency toward the industrial form of organization has been going on in the American Federation of Labor for years, vide the miners, the brewery workers, and so on. The tendency will continue to manifest itself and with more rapidity as the unionists get wiser from actual battle with the enemy."

"This paper has long been an advocate of the industrial form of organization, even long before some of those who are now trying to make a fad of it and to make it minister to their personal ambitions and purposes, knew what unionism was. And in answer to the wild claim of these particular people that the unions affiliated in the A. F. of L. can never accomplish anything we point to the present victories of the printers."

"The printers represent real industrialism, industrialism brought about by actual contact with the enemy, instead of industrialism planned out on paper by dreamers and inexperienced men, more poetic than practical. The only industrialism that can hope to be permanent and effective is that which conditions have produced, not the sort which tries to conform to man-invented zodiac or chart. We prefer the genuine to the spurious."

It is very probable that when the Industrial Workers of the World becomes a strong and powerful organization the Herald will make strenuous efforts to prove that it was always arrayed on the side of industrial unionism. The mere assertion of the Herald that the American Federation of Labor tends "toward an industrial form of organization" will not carry conviction to the minds of men who are acquainted with facts and who know the history of the A. F. of L. for nearly a quarter of a century.

The statement that the printers are "practically an industrial organization" is not borne out by the facts. If the Typographical Union is an industrial organization in fact, then why have the printers of Milwaukee, where the Herald is published, failed to respond to the call of the International organization for an eight-hour day? Why do we find the printers of Milwaukee tied up in a contract that does not expire until the year 1907? The Herald is attempting to prove too much, and as a result, scarcely proves anything.

We would again ask the Herald if the Typographical Union, through its Allied Printing Trades agreement, is an industrial organization, why do we find an organization of pressmen sending out a circular instructing the pressmen to remain at work? Again we would ask the Herald to explain the following from the pen of Max Hayes of Cleveland, Ohio, who is a member of the Typographical Union:

"The eight-hour strike of the printers has been dragging along wearily for four months, with the men making steady headway and on the first of the month the struggle broke forth in all its fury from one end of the country to the other in a general walkout of fifty per cent. of the members, the remainder having succeeded in gaining their demand through negotiations or short strikes. The foolishness of craft autonomy is once more exemplified in this sanguinary engagement. Here, on the employers' side, organized capitalism has been supporting the United Typothetae of America (the employing printers' organization), both morally and financially for months. Parry's National Association of Manufacturers, the Citizens Alliance and similar bodies of capitalists have deliberately donated money, restricted production by holding up their printing, and brought every pressure possible to bear upon unorganized capitalists, including printing office proprietors, to force them to oppose the International Typographical Union. There, on the side of the workers, the compositors stand practically alone. The other crafts of the trade have been mere onlookers, aside from a few exceptional cases. The pressmen and feeders have been tied down by an alleged agreement that provides for the open shop, and which has another year to run. The bookbinders and rulers have a bankrupt treasury and no support to extend to those among them who evinced a desire to take a hand in the fight. In most places these union people worked upon scab jobs produced by strike breakers, and quite naturally received the highest and most enthusiastic laudation from their bosses who were busy attempting to smash their sister organization. Yet the pressmen, feeders, binders and rulers know full well that if the eight hour day is enforced in the composing room it will naturally be introduced in other departments. What the outcome will be is difficult to predict."

If the American Federation of Labor is an industrial organization will the Herald tell why it is that so much time of the annual convention is consumed in jurisdiction wrangles?

Will the Herald tell us why the teamsters, firemen, engineers and coopers have been taken away from the United Brewery Workers, and instructed to enter craft organizations?

Will the Herald tell us why the steam fitters were snatched from the plumbers and the seamen from the longshoremen if the A. F. of L. has any faith in industrial unionism?

The Herald mentions the miners as a proof that the American Federation of Labor is an industrial organization, because we find in the United Mine Workers employes of various crafts in the membership of the organization.

But we wish to remind the Herald of the fact that the coal miners, through the numerical strength of their organization, are able to say to the American Federation of Labor: "Hands off!" The American Federation of Labor does not dare to take the firemen and engineers away from the United Mine Workers, but it dares to take the firemen and engineers from the United Brewery Workers.

Will the Herald please tell us what brand of industrial unionism this is? But the United Mine Workers is only an industrial organization in the industry in which the membership are engaged. The vision of the organization does not extend beyond the industry.

The very fact that a resolution for industrial unionism was defeated in the recent Indianapolis convention, and that even Mitchell himself opposed the resolution, is sufficient evidence to refute the statement of the Herald. We are glad, however, to assure the Herald that the membership of organized labor throughout throughout the country, in every craft and trade, are showing symptoms of rebellion against imprisonment in the narrow confines of craft and trade autonomy, and that it is only a question of time until labor, recognizing the class struggle will come together as a unit on the economic field.

whom a slight decrease in taxes is always welcome. The friends of the mayor hold that the poor pay taxes on 70 per cent of the value of their property, while the corporations pay on all the way from 30 per cent to nothing. Evidently the reformers hope to get the help of the workers behind the new machine. It will fail. Either these people know, or they don't know, that their action implies revolution. If they don't know it not therefore do the economic powers of usurpation labor under the same disadvantage. Instinctively these powers know better better. They set all their insidious agencies to work, and the scheme of the unwitting revolutionist will be crushed.

Or, these "reform" gentlemen are well aware that what they contemplate im-

PLATFORM

Adopted at the Eleventh National Convention of the Socialist Labor Party, July 1904.

The Socialist Labor Party of America, in convention assembled, reasserts the inalienable right of man to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

We hold that the purpose of government is to secure to every citizen the enjoyment of this right; but taught by experience we hold furthermore that such right is illusory for the majority of the people, to wit, the working class, under the present system of economic inequality that is essentially destructive of THEIR life, THEIR liberty and THEIR happiness.

We hold that the true theory of politics is that the machinery of government must be controlled by the whole people; but again taught by experience we hold furthermore that the true theory of economics is that the means of production must likewise be owned, operated and controlled by the people in common. Man cannot exercise his right of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness without the ownership of the land on and the tool with which to work. Deprived of these, his life, his liberty and his fate fall into the hands of the class that owns those essentials for work and production.

We hold that the existing contradiction between the theory of democratic government and the fact of a despotic economic system—the private ownership of the natural and social opportunities—divides the people into two classes: the Capitalist Class and the Working Class; throws society into the convulsions of the Class Struggle, and perverts government to the exclusive benefit of the Capitalist Class.

Thus labor is robbed of the wealth which it alone produces, is denied the means of self-employment, and, by compulsory idleness in wage slavery, is even deprived of the necessaries of life.

Against such a system the Socialist Labor Party raises the banner of revolt, and demands the unconditional surrender of the Capitalist Class.

The time is fast coming when in the natural course of social evolution, this system, through the destructive action of its failures and crises, on the one hand, and the constructive tendencies of its trusts and other capitalist combinations, on the other hand, will have worked out its own downfall.

We, therefore, call upon the wage workers of America to organize under the banner of the Socialist Labor Party into a class conscious body, aware of its rights and determined to conquer them.

And we also call upon all other intelligent citizens to place themselves squarely upon the ground of Working Class interests, and join us in this mighty and noble work of human emancipation, so that we may put summary end to the existing barbarous class conflict by placing the land and all the means of production, transportation and distribution into the hands of the people as a collective body, and substituting the Co-operative Commonwealth for the present state of planless production, industrial war and social disorder—a commonwealth in which every worker shall have the free exercise and full benefit of his faculties, multiplied by all the modern factors of civilization.

plies a revolution, in that case they will fail. Their "cleverness" will defeat them. They imagine it cleverer not to say what they want. They thereby deprive themselves of the support of the hosts, whom the revolutionary spark only can emancipate from the controlling influence of the insidious agencies above mentioned, which the economic powers will set in motion.

Nothing but the revolutionary spark, well backed by the economic interests of the only revolutionary class, the working class—only that spark can weld and raise the masses of the working class into a host, too powerful to be insidiously lamed, and with sinew and intellect enough to smash usurpation.

J. H.

SECTION CALENDAR. Under this head we shall publish standing advertisements of Section headquarters, or other permanent announcements. The charge will be five dollars a year for five lines.

Kings County General Committee—Second and fourth Saturdays, 8 p. m. at Weber's Hall, corner of Throop avenue and Stockton street, Brooklyn.

General Committee, New York County—Second and fourth Saturday in the month, at Daily People building, 2-0 New Reade street, Manhattan.

Offices of Section New York County at Daily People building, 2-6 New Reade street, Manhattan.

Los Angeles, Cal., Headquarters and public reading room at 205 1/2 South Main street. Public educational meetings Sunday evenings. People readers are invited to our rooms and meetings.

San Francisco, Calif., S. L. P. headquarters and free reading room, No. 280 Jessie street. Open day and evening. All wage workers cordially invited.

Tacoma, Wash., Section headquarters and public reading room corner 12th and A street, room 304, over Post Office. Open every evening. All workingmen invited. Business meetings every Tuesday.

Section Providence, R. I., 77 Dyer st., room 8. Every Tuesday night at 8, and 4th reg. business, others devoted to lectures, Science class Wednesday nights.

Section Indianapolis. Meetings first and third Tuesdays of each month, at 29 1/2 South Delaware street, third floor.

Detroit, Mich., "Socialist Labor Auxiliary Reading Room, room 10 avenue Theatre Bldg., Woodward avenue. Open every evening, Sunday all day. Discussion meetings every Sunday.

Section Chicago, Ill., meets second and fourth Tuesday in the month 8 p. m. at 155 E. Randolph st. 3rd floor. Sec. Cleveland, Ohio, S. L. P. meets every first and third Sunday of month at 356 Ontario Street (Ger. Am. Bank Bldg.) top floor, at 2.30 P. M. Sec. St. Louis, Mo., S. L. P. meets every second and fourth Friday of each month, 8 p. m., at Smith's Hall, 21st and Franklin ave., 3rd floor.

BOOK CATALOGUE

We have issued a descriptive catalogue of our publications, all of them standard works on Socialism—the Labor Movement. The catalogue will be sent to anyone on receipt of a two cent stamp.

NEW YORK LABOR NEWS COMPANY

2-6 New Reade St. New York City. The People is a good broom to brush the cobwebs from the minds of the workers. Buy a copy and pass it around.

**WEEKLY PEOPLE**  
4 and 6 New Leads St., New York.  
P. O. Box 1576. Tel. 129 Franklin.

Published Every Saturday by the  
Socialist Labor Party.

Entered as second-class matter at the  
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Owing to the limitations of this office,  
correspondents are requested to keep a  
copy of their articles, and not to expect  
them to be returned. Consequently, no  
stamps should be sent for return.

**SOCIALIST VOTE IN THE UNITED STATES:**

In 1888.....	2,058
In 1892.....	21,157
In 1896.....	36,564
In 1900.....	34,191
In 1904.....	34,172

Whenever you hear a man dissuading  
you from attempting to do well, on the  
ground that perfection is "Utopian,"  
beware of that man. —RUSKIN.

**SCHURZ'S CONFESSION.**

The history of the German disturb-  
ances, some call them the Revolution of  
1848, forms the substance of an auto-  
biographic sketch by Carl Schurz, now  
running through McClure's Magazine. As  
to the subject itself, it has been dealt  
with often before, not infrequently bet-  
ter. In so far, however, as the sketch  
is an autobiography, it is of exceptional  
value. Since the days of Montaigne,  
whose philosophic essays are substan-  
tially autobiographic, the value of  
autobiographies has been in  
exact proportion to the truth-  
fulness with which they reproduce the  
author's secret sentiments, and thus give  
others an insight into their own and  
themselves. The foundation of human  
sentiment is one, mankind over. Auto-  
biographies being essentially "Confes-  
sions" any true autobiographer's confes-  
sions are human confessions. A passage  
there is in these Schurz confessions of  
inestimable value, inasmuch as it fur-  
nishes the clue to understand class "feel-  
ings", and the proof of Marxian wis-  
dom. The passage relates to Marx, whom  
Schurz, then a young man of about nine-  
teen, met at the Cologne convention.  
Speaking of his impressions of Marx,  
then about thirty, Schurz says:

"Marx's utterances were indeed full of  
meaning, logical and clear, but I have never  
seen a man whose bearing was so offensive  
and intolerable. To no opinion, which in  
the slightest degree differed from his, he  
accorded the honor of even a condescending  
consideration. Everyone who contradicted  
him he treated with the most abject con-  
tempt; every argument that he did not like  
he answered with biting scorn at the un-  
fathomable ignorance that had prompted it,  
or with approbrious aspersions upon the  
virtues of him who advanced it. I remem-  
ber most distinctly the cutting disdain with  
which he pronounced the word 'bourgeois';  
and as a 'bourgeois' that is as a pitiable  
victim of the most depraved mental and  
moral tendencies, he pronounced everyone  
who dared oppose his opinions. Of course  
the propositions advanced or advocated by  
Marx at that meeting were throughout vetted  
down because every one whose feelings had  
been hurt by his conduct was rather in-  
clined to support everything that Marx did  
not favor. It was very evident that he not  
only did not win any adherents but that he  
repelled many who otherwise might have  
become his followers."

Even if Schurz had said that such  
were his impressions during the salad  
days of his green and inexperienced  
youth—even then the confession would  
have been valuable. It would have illus-  
trated how the spokesmen of class inter-  
ests, even when enthused with the fumes  
of college ideology, resent as "offensive",  
"opprobrious" and "intolerable" the ut-  
terances that, being "full of meaning,  
logical and clear", hurt, and cannot  
choose but hurt, the interests which  
they, even though unconsciously, happen  
to represent; it would have illustrated  
how the mere advocacy of given class-  
interests, though the advocate may not  
himself be well aware of them, identifies  
him with them; causes him to be instinc-  
tively repelled by the arguments leveled  
at such interests, all the more if the  
arguments are "full of meaning, logical  
and clear", that is, hit bull's-eye; in-  
duces him to consider impolitic him who  
uses such shots; and misleads him into  
the illusion of opining that suaver lan-  
guage, that is, arguments less "full of  
meaning, logic and clearness" would  
have turned hostile class-interests into  
adherents. In short, the confession  
would have illustrated the fact that,  
even unconsciously, aspiration is ruled  
by Material Interest. The confession  
would have been the illumination by a  
riper mind of its own status when still  
immature. The Schurz confession, how-  
ever, is fuller than that. Seeing he con-  
fesses his present sentiments to agree  
with the ones originally formed; see-  
ing that all the experience he has since  
made—the wreck of his own "revolu-  
tion"; the impotence with which all the  
opposites of "intolerance", of "offensiv-  
ness"; of "impatience to contradiction",  
of "scorn", of "aspersions", of "dis-  
dain", in short, how all the methods of  
conciliation and compromise dashed  
themselves against the stubborn class-in-  
terests of the American slaveholder,  
which he himself later had to struggle  
with—seeing that all that has gone for  
nothing with him, the confession is  
prime. For one thing, Marx's temper  
is vindicated against the aspersions of  
the autobiographer by the autobiograph-  
er himself; for another, and most im-  
portant of all, the Socialist principle,

learned from Marx, is demonstrated—  
class-interests are not to be coerced;  
their heads must be stayed in; only  
ruthless shots, ruthlessly "full of mean-  
ing, logical and clear" are equal to the  
task. All else is a waste of breath.  
No coy maiden is more sensitive than  
class interests; none is as quick to take  
offense; nor is any hypocrite more dex-  
terous in translating an argument  
against himself that is "full of meaning,  
logical and clear" into "blackguardism"  
than class-interests, that are battered  
with acts of their OWN DOING. The  
battery that is "full of meaning, logical  
and clear", may not, at a certain time,  
triumph; but then the time is not ripe  
for the triumph of its Cause. Its day  
will come. The fly-paper tactics for a  
Revolution will fail forever. Their day  
never dawns.

**SAMSON AGONIZES.**

None would impute Samsonian qual-  
ities to the physical, mental and moral  
degenerate who figures to-day as Tsar  
of all the Russias. And yet, in a way,  
the puny Nicholas is performing, how-  
ever unwittingly, a Samsonian task—  
the task of tearing down the pillars of  
sanctimony that uphold the superstruc-  
ture of "Vested Rights". The latest  
utterance of the Russian "Samson" is  
a proclamation to the peasants—that  
"Property is Sacred and the severest  
punishment will be meted out to whom-  
soever raises his hand against it". It  
should need nothing more in order to  
illumine the claims of "Sanctity" in be-  
half of "Property" than to have the  
Tsar stand out prominently as its in-  
carnation. The "Sanctity of Property"  
throws light upon him, he throws light  
upon it; and the oneness of the two can  
not escape.

The peasants of Russia watered the  
fields with the sweat of their brow,  
fructified the land with the marrow of  
their bones. Whatever value the land  
has is the fruit of their labor. They are  
seeking to take and hold their product.  
In doing so they are guided by the idea  
that "the laborer is worthy of his hire".  
"Not so!" shout Vested Rights. "We  
have taken and held these many years.  
How? Never mind that! Time cures all  
defects and creates a new right—Vested  
Rights. By these rights the land is the  
property of the original robber. The  
property becomes vested in them. It  
thereby becomes Sacred. Hands off!"  
But the peasants are too dull to appre-  
ciate so much wisdom; they keep on.  
Thereupon Vested Rights turn to the  
Tsar and say: "You are assailed by ev-  
ery blow that assails us. Our Vested  
Rights are only fractions of one great  
Vested Right—yourself. Allow the frac-  
tions to be broken down and the whole  
will crumble. Help!" And the Tsar  
answers: "Ye speak truly. If ye have  
no Vested Rights I have none. I am  
by the grace of whatever it be the in-  
carnation on earth of Vested Right. Mine  
is the duty to come to your aid", and  
he does.

Things invisible to the naked eye are  
seen in all their fullness through the  
microscope. The Tsar acts as a micro-  
scope. Through him Vested Rights may  
be appreciated in all their bearings. Be-  
ing appreciated how can they survive?

Every ukase by the Tsar on the "Sac-  
redness of Private Property" is a Sam-  
sonian shake given to the pillars on  
which Vested Rights rest, the world over.  
Our own American capitalists—the Rog-  
eres, Hydes, Shifts, etc.—are com-  
pared to him, but obscure Samsons en-  
gaged at the same work. Infinitely more  
powerful are the shakes from the throne  
of a Tsar. Nothing will become these  
Samsons so well as their taking off,  
crushed under the debris of the structure  
of Vested Rights. This sorry Tsar may  
yet become immortal as the Samson of  
the capitalist Philistine Temple.

**TALKING OUT OF SCHOOL.**

A. B. Stickney, President of the Chi-  
cago Great Western Railroad, is no Wild  
Man of Borneo. He is an expert on  
his class, clear-sighted and knowing.  
What he says about his fellows is no  
"reformer's rant". He has just paid his  
compliments to the non-railroad capital-  
ist interests that are bothering the rail-  
roads with threats of rebate bills and  
the like; being about it, he has extend-  
ed his observations over some of the  
trustified industries. Mr. Stickney, evi-  
dently, is hot in the collar. Evidently, al-  
so, heat with him does not melt, but is  
productive only of intensified delibera-  
tion.

This is what the gentleman says con-  
cerning an important part, according to  
him, the bulk of his class:

"In the discussion of this problem  
much is made by some advocate of leg-  
islative control of the 'water' which the  
capitalization of many railway com-  
panies contain. It is well to know that  
the capital of the farms and other fixed  
property of the Nation contains about  
one part of 'actual cash cost' to ten or  
more parts of 'water,' which exceeds by  
manyfold the ratio of 'cash' to 'water'  
in the proudest re-Morganized railway  
companies. Farms and other fixed prop-  
erty with a capital containing one part  
of cash to ten or more parts of 'water'

are permitted by the law to earn interest  
if they can—and they generally do—  
upon their entire capital value, water  
as well as cash, and as long as the ma-  
jority of the universal partnership are  
permitted to earn dividends on the larger  
proportion of water in the capital value  
of their property, all fair-minded men  
must admit that it would be unfair for  
them to provide by law that the minor-  
ity partners should not earn dividends  
on the smaller proportion of 'water' in  
their capital value."

And this is what he says concerning  
another set:

"Through the medium of the stock ex-  
changes and by the methods of stock  
gamblers they have distributed to the  
public billions of nominal dollars en-  
graved on bits of paper, and have thus  
become the possessors of wealth. A few  
men have become enormously rich and  
conspicuous. Their names and tricks  
of finance are continually in the head-  
lines. They have made money fly. They  
have plunged into speculations and have  
boomed stocks. They have built palaces  
with most expensive and luxurious fur-  
nishings. Nothing has seemed of value  
which is not expensive, so some have  
divorced their old wives and bought  
younger and more expensive wives."

We are well aware that Mr. Stickney,  
unless premature death overtake him,  
will rue the day he thus talked out of  
school, and furnished such cues for that  
grand National Investigation where the  
Working Class will be the prosecuting  
attorney, with the Capitalist Class to  
be investigated concerning the "honesty"  
of its business and the "purity" of its  
family relations. What will then become  
of the beautitude of "law and order" and  
the "Sanctity of the Family"? Ten parts  
of "water", or fictitious capital, to one  
part of bona fide capital will make a  
prime case for conviction, while "young-  
er and more expensive wives", bought in  
lieu of older ones cast off, will furnish  
matchless reason for "extenuating" cir-  
cumstances.

**GLADSOME TIDINGS.**

The following press dispatch follows  
as close as a thunder clap after light-  
ning upon the heels of the prosecution  
of the Standard Oil Trust by the State  
of Missouri:

"Several oil producers from Indian  
Territory and Kansas met in Kansas  
City, Mo., to-day to discuss the ques-  
tion of a market for their product.

"H. L. Woods, of the Oil City Derrick,  
who is in the city, said:

"I understand that as the Standard  
Oil Company has ordered work stopped  
in Missouri on its Whiting pipe line the  
producers see their chance of a market  
slipping away from them. The agitation  
against the Standard in Missouri is hurt-  
ing the oil business in the Territory and  
Kansas. I think the producers will send  
a committee to Governor Folk and At-  
torney General Hadley to ascertain, if  
possible, what are the prospects of a  
cessation of hostilities."

There are people, who, when they read  
such news, will act like ducks in thunder.  
Being of the duck level of information,  
they will imagine that the country has  
fallen upon evil days—the days when a  
private concern has the living of so many  
people in the hollow of its hands that  
all it has to do is to pull its fingers  
tight in order to cause Governors, Legis-  
latures and Courts to be overrun with  
applications to stop prosecuting the mag-  
nate who owns the mighty hand. Peo-  
ple, however, who are above the duck  
level of information will not be startled,  
neither will they sigh. They will be  
delighted.

Ignorant and designing people charge  
Socialists with "creating discontent." Powerful  
though the Socialist is by virtue  
of his knowledge and intrepidity, he  
lacks the power to "create discontent."  
Discontent is a staple product of capital-  
ism. Once created, discontent is  
"treated." There are two treatments.  
One may be called "doping." It con-  
sists in trying to wreck the mind of the  
workingman with a code of unctuous  
maxims recommending to him submission  
and obedience, so that he may en-  
joy Paradise hereafter. The other treat-  
ment consists in tonicking the working-  
man's mind by showing to him the reason  
for his discontent and the intelligent  
way out. The former, the "dope" treat-  
ment, feels greatly disconcerted at any  
and all causes that tend to aggravate  
discontent, or at all symptoms that  
justify the expectation of discontent  
being goaded. All such causes and  
symptoms only lay a heavier strain on  
the quack administrators of the "dope."  
The "dope treatment" cannot stand too  
much of a strain. On the other hand,  
the "tonic treatment" welcomes all ag-  
gravations of discontent, on the same  
principle that the surgeon welcomes the  
coming to a head of the boil. The sooner  
the putrid matter in a body comes to a  
head, the sooner will the boil burst, or  
be ready for the lancing, and cure set in.  
The sooner the causes of discontent be-

"They let biggest grafters escape,"  
says Lawson of the insurance investiga-  
tion. What does he expect; the delib-  
erate self-destruction of capitalism?

Railroad President Wilcox seconds  
Labor Fakir Pat Dolan's argument that  
the miners have received a great in-  
crease in wages; and, like him, he is also  
silent regarding the greater increase in  
price in all those commodities which  
the miner requires to pursue his trade  
and live. The capitalist and the labor  
fakir employ identical arguments to  
keep the working class ignorant and  
enslaved.

come obvious, all the sooner will the  
social malady be ready to be ejected from  
the body social. For this reason the So-  
cialist can only feel delight at so en-  
couraging a symptom as the one brought  
out by the news despatch.

The capitalist class rules the land. It  
rules with the rod of the despot: Gov-  
ernors, Legislatures, Courts are but  
masks. Behind them the capitalist con-  
ceals his hand. They are there for the  
oppression of the people; they are there  
to furnish the political club which will  
supplement the economic club wherewith  
to keep the workingman in subjection. Oc-  
casionally these political offices forget  
themselves, and seek to keep the capital-  
ist "in order." So long as they seem  
to succeed, it is a sign that the boil is  
yet far from coming to a head. When,  
however, they fail; when the capitalist  
can draw in his fingers, and Governors,  
Legislatures and Courts must draw in  
their horns, as now with the Standard  
Oil Trust and the State of Missouri,  
then it is a sign that the boil is fast  
coming to a head, and final "treatment"  
and cure is at hand.

Gladsome are the tidings from Kansas  
City.

**TALKS LIKE THE VOLKSZEITUNG.**

A gentleman, referred to by a Western  
despatch as "a leading railroad man," is  
reported to have said: "The railroad  
monopoly can not be destroyed by law  
or revolution without destroying the  
railway." This language bears startling  
resemblance to that held by the Volks-  
zeitung Corporation when it says of it-  
self: "Our private ownership can not be  
destroyed without destroying the papers  
that we publish." Indeed, the oneness of  
sentiment of the Corporation and the  
Railroad Companies is undeniable.

One day, the Railroad Companies de-  
clare that they are the people's servants;  
the next day the people are informed  
by the Railroad Companies that these  
hold a "sacred public function" with  
which to meddle is treason.—One day  
the Volkszeitung Corporation declares,  
in words, that it is the property of its  
party; the next day it informs its party  
by acts that the party is its property.

One day, the Railroad Companies ap-  
ply to the Government for subsidies on  
the plea that the roads can not subsist  
without Government support; the next  
day the Companies insist that it is they  
who support the Government.—One day,  
the Volkszeitung Corporation makes a  
poor mouth, and passes around the hat  
among the faithful, on the plea that its  
"loyalty to Cause leaves it no source of  
revenue but the Cause"; the next day  
the Corporation throws itself back on its  
hind legs and haughtily announces that  
it has "sacrificed its substance in support  
of the Cause," whence the Cause is its  
debtor.

One day, the Railroad Companies fu-  
riously deny that they are a monopoly,  
in proof of which they show, as does  
the New York Central, that they are  
held by 10,000 different shareholders; an-  
other day, investigation shows that 4  
men hold ninety-hundredths of the  
shares, and the majority of the stock-  
holders, the other 9,900, are free to stand  
by, suck their thumbs and look on as  
the 100 cut their capers, rake in the  
dividends, determine the salaries for  
themselves and otherwise dispose of the  
income.—One day the Volkszeitung Cor-  
poration pronounces it a "DeLeonite Lie"  
that the Corporation is a private insti-  
tution, responsible only to its sweet will;  
another day the Corporation asserts that  
only people who do not know what they  
are talking about would think of setting  
up a paper as public party property, and  
it proves its prerogative of doing as it  
likes by selling out the brewery em-  
ployees to the brewery bosses for adver-  
tisements, and asking "kickers": "What  
are you going to do about it?"

The Railroad Companies have their  
Dewey, their Morton, their Shouts pets.  
—The Volkszeitung Corporation has its  
Niedermeyer pets, who run away with  
Union funds and its Braun pets, who sell  
workingmen on strike to Belmont.  
The Railroad Companies have their  
Anna Goulds and Consuelo Vanderbilts  
to display in costly dual palaces the  
wealth plundered from the railroad  
workers.—The Volkszeitung Corporation  
has its usurious money-lenders and other  
favorites display in tenements and other  
real estate investments the funds that  
it sponges up from the working class.  
The parallel may be continued ad  
infinitum.

"They let biggest grafters escape,"  
says Lawson of the insurance investiga-  
tion. What does he expect; the delib-  
erate self-destruction of capitalism?

Railroad President Wilcox seconds  
Labor Fakir Pat Dolan's argument that  
the miners have received a great in-  
crease in wages; and, like him, he is also  
silent regarding the greater increase in  
price in all those commodities which  
the miner requires to pursue his trade  
and live. The capitalist and the labor  
fakir employ identical arguments to  
keep the working class ignorant and  
enslaved.

**Wall Street Philoshophy**

Answering some wild ranters—one of  
whom luridly hints at "the day of re-  
stitution", and another of whom lays  
claim to private information concerning  
"7,000,000 men, all fighters with hard  
hands and strong arms, ready to fight  
for the conquest of wealth and the over-  
throw of existing society"—the "Wall-  
Street Journal" organizes itself into a  
tableau of deep erudition. It justly  
smiles at these utterances, not, however,  
because they are wild and "yellow", but  
because "it takes refuge in the historic  
fact that great social revolutions are  
brought about as the result of starva-  
tion." It reasons that the people being  
prosperous there is no danger of their  
striking "to overturn the existing order  
of things"; and it clinches its point with  
the maxim: "Revolutions do not thrive  
on full stomachs". Here we have in lump  
a neat travesty of the philosophy of  
history, coupled with the requisite igno-  
rance concerning contemporaneous  
things as they are.

The "historic fact" is that no great  
social revolution was "brought about as  
the result of starvation". It was not  
starvation that brought about the first  
great social revolution, that revolution  
that overthrew the Mother Right, shat-  
tered the gentle order, and set up the  
territorial system with private owner-  
ship. It was not starvation that or-  
ganized the Roundheads of England, or  
that organized the Revolutionary  
Fathers of America, or that organized  
the rising bourgeois of France in 1792  
to the successive overthrow of feudalism  
in these countries. These were all "great  
social revolutions". In all of them it  
was a great gathering power (never the  
concomitant of starvation) that brought  
about the revolution. Starvation does  
occasionally play a role in these up-  
heavals; but it neither was an inevitable  
accompaniment of revolution, nor a  
cause; where it appeared, it figured  
merely as a weapon in the hands of the  
actual revolutionists. The poverty-  
stricken condition of the masses of the  
French people when the curtain rose over  
the French Revolution, together with the  
noise that the bourgeois revolutionists  
partly allowed and partly drove the pau-  
perized masses to make in that great  
upheaval, has misled superficial observers  
into the double error of looking at the  
French proletariat of the eighteenth cen-  
tury as the revolutionists, and to fall  
into the further error of generalizing  
from that error upon revolutions in gen-  
eral. No more than the dynamite bomb  
that explodes is the engineer, were the  
proletarian explosions in France the re-  
volutionists. The revolutionists were the  
bourgeois, the on-coming capitalists;  
starvation was not the badge of their  
class; starvelings were used by them.  
In the instance of the French Revolution  
the starveling was used conspicuously;  
he was less conspicuous in the English  
Revolution; he figured not at all either  
in the old historic revolution that threw  
down the Mother Right, or in the modern  
one that overthrew feudalism in Amer-  
ica. In all these great historic revolu-  
tions, the fact is precisely the reverse  
of the principle set up by the "Wall  
Street Journal". It was on full stomachs  
that the revolutions thrived.

Proceeding from these facts and reason-  
ing the conclusion might be drawn  
that the capitalist world, the United  
States included, is NOT headed towards  
a revolution. The fact of increasing  
misery is too obvious to require any  
lengthy refutation of the "Wall Street  
Journal's" opinion regarding universal  
prosperity. The "Wall Street Journal"  
probably believes in that myth. The  
paper's mental status is much like that  
of Marie Antoinette, who, when told  
the people were crying for bread, naively  
asked: "Why do they not eat cake?"  
There is no arguing with minds in such  
a pathologic state. With the student of  
the times who is of healthy mind the  
discussion may be continued. To him it  
is of profit.

The great historic revolutions that  
have gone before were not the product  
of starvation. They were the product  
of increased and increasing economic  
well-being. Now, then, Socialism holds  
that the next revolution in the order  
of succession and victory, is that for  
the overthrow of capitalism and the rise  
of the Socialist Republic, and that the  
revolutionists in this upheaval ARE,  
MUST BE AND CAN BE NONE OTHER  
THAN THE WORKING CLASS. Is the  
theory correct, in sight of the fact that  
previous revolutionists were men  
of a class that was rising, whereas the  
Working Class is declining in economic  
well-being? It is absolutely correct, so  
correct that he who does not keep it  
ever in mind does so at the peril of be-  
ing snatched into the delusion that  
Hearstism is Socialism—a delusion paral-  
lel to that to which the old Roman pro-  
letariat succumbed when it mistook a  
Caesar for the spokesman of its wants.

History repeats itself, but not as a  
parrot. The essence of previous revolu-  
tions was not the increasing economic  
well-being of the class below, but the in-  
creased might of a rising economic struc-  
ture of society: capitalist, was approv-  
ing itself the "better man"; feudalism

the poorer. The increasing economic  
well-being of the revolutionists was an  
incident. The incident was of deter-  
mining force; it was inseparable from,  
therefore indispensable to the then re-  
volutionists. It is not, therefore, always  
indispensable. It is not indispensable  
with the Working Class, or Proletarian  
revolution of this generation. Other  
things, in these changed times, take the  
place of economic well-being in olden  
days. These things are concrete en-  
lightenment upon the pending issue. The  
bourgeois revolutionist getted substan-  
tially blind; his increasing well-being  
stood the stead of knowledge. The class  
conscious proletarian acts with eyes  
open; his declining well-being helps to  
keep his eyes open. What economic well-  
being did for previous revolutionists, at  
an age when the law of social evolution  
was not yet ascertained, economic and  
sociologic enlightenment does for the  
present revolutionist, the proletarian, in  
these days of deeper and wider knowl-  
edge, when the laws of social evolution  
have become known. Increasing econ-  
omic well-being PUSHED the bourgeois  
revolutionist; increasing enlightenment  
LEADS the proletarian revolutionist on-  
ward. Hence the strenuous efforts of  
all the agencies of capitalism to keep  
this knowledge from the proletariat.  
The inevitable bankruptcy of capi-  
talist society, the mold of Socialism  
that capitalist society itself has founded,  
the power of overwhelming numbers  
with the proletariat—all that alone would  
not suffice to organize the Working Class  
into a revolutionary body, fit to triumph.  
But what with these three elements, cou-  
pled with the class enlightenment that  
the age affords, and irrepressible, un-  
flagging Socialist propaganda insures, the  
Working Class Revolution, that is, the  
triumph of Socialism, is assured.

Both historic facts and the existing  
conditions will convert the haven into  
which the "Wall Street Journal" has  
fatuously "taken refuge" into a mael-  
strom, that will make the ship of the  
"Wall Street Journal" turn turtle—eventually  
IF NOT SOONER.

Hello! Is this another cat let out of  
the bag? In "The National Civic Federa-  
tion Review" for February, there is an  
article descriptive of Octavius C. Beale,  
the Parry of Australia, and his visit to  
this country. In the article this para-  
graph appears:  
"In a conversation with a representa-  
tive of the 'Review', the Australian man-  
ufacturer spoke with much emphasis of  
his surprise at the attitude of many  
American employers toward the ques-  
tion of shorter hours for their work-  
men. IT WAS ALMOST BEYOND HIS  
COMPREHENSION, HE SAID, THAT IN  
THIS AGE AND COUNTRY HE  
SHOULD HAVE FOUND SO LARGE A  
NUMBER OF INDUSTRIAL PLANTS  
WHERE THE DAY AND NIGHT  
SHIFT SYSTEM OF ELEVEN AND  
THIRTEEN HOURS WAS IN OPERA-  
TION, NOT TO MENTION MANY  
CASES OF A LESS AGGRAVATED  
NATURE. He thought it a serious mis-  
take for any employer to show as little  
concern as he had seen some men exhibit  
for the length of the working day; and  
he was again most emphatic in his pre-  
diction that, unless employers in the  
United States themselves inaugurated re-  
forms in the hours of labor, it was only  
a question of time when the workmen of  
the country would unite and force them  
to grant an amelioration of present con-  
ditions". (The Caps are ours.)  
When the "Review" printed that, it  
must have overlooked the boast of its  
vice-president, Gompers, regarding "the  
shorter work day secured by the power  
of organized labor". It was unkind of  
the "Review" to thus expose "Belmont's  
bluffing braggart".  
As for Beale, he is foolish to believe  
American manufacturers will change that  
which is so profitable to them; and, as  
long as the workmen of the country  
are hypnotized by the Belmont-Gompers'  
Civic-Federation-and-A.-F.-of-L. combine,  
there will be no fear of their uniting  
and forcing the "amelioration of present  
conditions". As experience has proven,  
with such a combine in operation, con-  
ditions will grow worse. This fact is sub-  
stantiated by the conditions described  
by Beale; for it is under the Belmont-  
Gompers alliance that such conditions  
have flourished.

J. A. Cable, editor of "The Coopers'  
International Journal", causes smiles to  
chase themselves across the face of the  
reader of his heavyweight editorials.  
Arguing against Socialism and in favor  
of capitalism, in his February issue, he  
gets off the following profound observa-  
tion, "As for the 'capitalist system',  
God in his wisdom created that \* \* \*  
What God had done in the creation of  
Man no human being or association of  
human beings can undo." "God in his  
wisdom" also created the Parry Associa-  
tion and anti-union cooperages, yet  
Cable is trying to undo them both. Does  
Cable think his wisdom is greater than  
that of God? To read his arguments  
against Socialism, one would think he  
does.



UNCLE SAM AND BROTHER JONATHAN.

BROTHER JONATHAN—This Social-  
ist card-house of yours can never stand.  
As soon as it is established it will crum-  
ble down about your ears, and we'll be  
right back where we are now.

UNCLE SAM—Marry, now, unmuzzled  
your wisdom.

B. J.—Well, suppose a man was doing  
a certain amount of work, for which  
under Socialism, he got \$20, and needed  
all the twenty, to live.

U. S.—Yes.  
B. J.—And suppose another man was  
doing the same work, but because of a  
smaller family, or some other reason  
needed only half as much to live.

U. S.—Well.

B. J.—Would you Socialists then pay  
him only \$10 for the same work that  
brought the other man \$20?

U. S.—Assuredly not. Since under  
Socialism, each will get the full value  
of his labor, the second man would get  
\$20 as well as the first.

B. J.—Now I've got you! By your  
own statement, the second man could  
save \$10 a week. In a year he would  
have \$500, in two years, \$1,000, in  
twenty years, \$10,000. He could then  
build a factory, employ men, and bring  
about the same conditions of so-called  
exploitation you are now kicking about.  
I knew your structure was top-heavy!

U. S.—Not so fast, Jonathan. Your  
would-be capitalist might build work-  
shops from here to San Francisco. No  
one would stop him. But where would  
he get his wage-slaves from?

B. J.—Why, just where he'd get them  
now, in the labor market.

U. S.—See here, Jonathan. Do you  
imagine anyone would willingly agree  
to work under conditions by which he  
will be plundered out of four-fifths of  
what he produces?

B. J.—Guess not!

U. S.—To-day he is forced to agree to  
that. He is so forced because he lacks  
the necessary means of production. Say  
that someone saves up and builds a fac-  
tory. What good would it do him?

B. J. looks puzzled.

U. S.—It would do him no good. It  
would be like burning his money. To  
operate his factory successfully he has  
to pay the workmen less than they pro-  
duce. Otherwise he would make no pro-  
fits. Now, then, who is going to go to  
work in that private factory and be  
plundered, if he has access to the public  
factory and there receives the full re-  
turns of his labor?

B. J. remains dumb.

U. S.—The trouble with you is you  
do not grasp the essence of capitalism.  
Capitalism is that Social system in  
which there are propertyless proletarians  
and property-holding capitalists. The  
plunder of the former is inevitable  
under such conditions. Remove the con-  
ditions and the plunder ceases. Under  
Socialism the necessities of production  
being public, all own them and have  
access to them. That being so, there  
are no proletarians. There being no pro-  
letarians none but idiots will set up fac-  
tories to plunder people who do not ex-  
ist, and none but still bigger idiots  
would relinquish their freedom and "wil-  
lingly go into wage slavery."

B. J.—I feel knocked out.

U. S.—Some folks imagine that So-  
cialism would forbid any one from put-  
ting up a factory if he wants to—  
B. J.—Oh, yes, I heard that.

U. S.—It is nonsense. Why enact a  
superfluous law? If it depended on the  
murdered man whether a murder should  
be committed or not, there would be no  
murders. Just as soon as it becomes pos-  
sible for a man himself to decide whether  
he shall be exploited or not, there  
will be no more exploitation. Only So-  
cialism, by conferring economic liberty  
upon the citizen through his ownership  
of the means of production, can put men  
in the position to decide that question,  
and

**CORRESPONDENCE**

CORRESPONDENTS WHO PREFER TO APPEAR IN PRINT UNDER AN ASSUMED NAME WILL ATTACH SUCH NAME TO THEIR COMMUNICATIONS, BESIDES THEIR OWN SIGNATURE AND ADDRESS. NONE OTHER WILL BE RECOGNIZED.

**UNITY IN THE AIR.**

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Local Philadelphia, Socialist party, in session last night (January 7) recommended to the State Committee that steps be taken to place themselves in communication with the State Committee of the Socialist Labor Party for the purpose of uniting the forces of the contending factions. Looks as unity is in the atmosphere. To push it along will be the next proposition.

J. J. McK.

Philadelphia, Pa., January 8.

**PROGRESS IN NEW ORLEANS.**

To the Daily and Weekly People:—The six Weekly People subscriptions herewith, are all from Socialist Party members. There is a hot time in the S. P. here because of the stand the local leaders have taken with regard to the I. W. W. The intellectuals, or pure and simple political Socialists, have been called upon to show their hands, by the real workmen in the organization. The revolutionists have had a motion passed to organize a committee on education, and that committee recommended the gathering of a fund of \$25 to purchase scientific Socialist books and pamphlets. I understand that an order will be placed with the Labor News Company as the real workmen in the S. P. recognize that the teachings of the S. L. P. are the correct ones for the guidance of the working class.

We have a local of the I. W. W. here, and when it comes up to a discussion for the good of the organization all traitorous acts to the working class are shown up, those by the S. P. included. The local has purchased 100 of the Preamble Address pamphlet, and 1,000 copies of the Weekly People containing Debs' speech. Two S. L. P. men are on the literature committee of the local, and strong sympathizers of the S. L. P. have started two Marx Clubs. Take it all in all we ought to have a Section of the Socialist Labor Party here in from three to six months time.

The carriage drivers and the plumbers here on an strike, and of course the other pure and simple unions are scabbing on them as usual by remaining at work, notwithstanding all are affiliated with the Central Trade and Labor Council of New Orleans, and the A. F. of L. of the United States.

The I. W. W. local is holding street meetings at night, and every third Tuesday in the month, open meetings, with good speakers, at their hall, 508 Carondelet street. I. W. W. men coming through here are invited to call. Hall open from 7 a. m. until 8 p. m.

I. W. W. Socialist.

New Orleans, La., Jan. 30.

**PUT THE SCANDAL-MONGER TO HIS PROOF.**

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Please answer through the Letter-Box on the following:

A person here claims he has reliable information from Minneapolis that De Leon would not lecture in said city without a consideration of \$600, or something like that. He also claims De Leon is now and always has followed the tactics he condemned Debs of following. Your comrade,

Goldfield, Nev., Feb. 4.

Wm. J. Oberding.

[What is there to answer? As to the \$600 yarn, the retailer there says he has reliable information. Compel him to produce his proof, or stand branded for what he is—either an inventor of slander, or a light-headed repeater of the slander that others invent. As to "De Leon's tactics," they are a matter of record.

—ED. THE PEOPLE.]

**A GOOD PLAN TO FOLLOW.**

To the Daily and Weekly People:—As I seem to be the only one here reading The People, thought it my duty to try and get some more readers, so that I could have some one to discuss the topic of Socialism with. As a result of my efforts I got three and hope to get more.

D. S.

Easley, Ala., February 6.

**THE "COLORED BROTHER."**

To the Daily and Weekly People:—The "pure and simpler" have been having a real "hot" time this week. During the convention held here a "colored brother" was to speak; the president of the labor council objected strenuously. The objections didn't go, so Mr. President resigned. His resignation went to be accepted so the genial Max Hayes says, "cause 'twas only the president's way of expressing his private views on the race question. The question naturally comes up: why

have a president who lets his private views give public expression on a question so vital to the interests of the working class?

But, of course, it's a job trust, is the "pure and simple" union. The members would rather see the "colored brother" "scab" it through fear of starvation than take him in as a fellow wage slave.

Further comment is absolutely unnecessary. God—he's the only one that can—help the unfortunate member of a pure and simple trades union who will not see the light.

Yours for the revolution,

Eugene Creed.

E. Cleveland, O., February 2.

**SUICIDE THE ACCOMPANIMENT OF THE AGE LIMIT.**

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Last year there were in Milwaukee seventy-two persons (forty-six of whom were over forty years of age), who concluded that self-destruction was the only way of getting rid of their earthly troubles.

The act of self-destruction, of committing suicide, this terrible act, has become, as have many other horrors, a common, every-day affair. The man who is comfortably seated in a well-lighted and heated room does not bother his head whether there are two or twenty persons who are driven to desperation through the only crime of having grown old, too old to be of any further use to capitalism. The man in the easy chair, and warm room, seldom seeks the cause of self-destruction—the cause, the only cause that lies at the bottom of it—the system of capitalism. No, he takes more interest in the money market; his wife, with a deft look is deeply interested in the page containing "Society News"; the grown up children ape their parents.

To them the life of a worker—a man of coarse manners, such an ill-bred man—is a matter of indifference; what does it matter to them, if one of them commits suicide? There are plenty of workmen; a few more or a few less does not concern this class of people; they are morally too low to feel and comprehend the untold and fathomless sea of misery that drowns its victims—victims that could have been useful members of society, if society was organized on another basis than the exploitation of labor.

Likewise are the great masses mentally unable to grasp the full significance of why so many of their fellow-workers die an unnatural death. Often are results taken for cause: the cause usually lies deeper than these people imagine.

Forty-six persons were over forty years old—a true picture of modern capitalism, an incentive to the "indifferent" to learn the habit of thinking; and for the Socialist one more crime of capitalism to be added to the already long list of horrors which that monster breeds and nurses.

Milwaukee, Wis., February 6.

**THE GOOD BEING DONE BY THE I. W. W.**

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Just a few lines of encouragement to my fellow brothers and workers in the silk trade. At the C. E. Hartliu Mills, One Hundred and Forty-eighth street and Brook avenue, Bronx, where we have worked fifty-nine hours a week before, we now, since joining the I. W. W., have been given a half-holiday on Saturdays, which commenced last week, and we hope in the near future to have every one employed by this firm with us in our new organization.

I would like to have you print this in one of the early issues, so all my fellow workers from other shops can see what good is being done by the I. W. W.

Yours truly,

H. Wm. Lee.

New York City, February 8.

**A TRANSITIONAL PERIOD**

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Under the auspices of the Socialist party of Canada Eugene V. Debs gave an address in Association Hall on Thursday evening, and to-day (Sunday) in the Labor Temple. Good audiences greeted him upon both occasions. At the Association Hall meeting about 500 Weekly Peoples, containing his address upon "Industrial Unionism," 500 "Industrial Workers of the World" leaflet and 150 "Industrial Workers" were distributed. Dealing with the two addresses it might be as well to quote one or two past utterances of the speaker from his pamphlet "The Coming Labor Union," and his speech upon "Industrial Unionism," which appeared in the Weekly People. Take these from "The Coming Labor Union": "The choice is between the A. F. of L. and Capitalism, on the one

side, and the I. W. W. and Socialism, on the other"; "How can a Socialist hesitate in his choice an instant?"; "The Time has come to strike out boldly and cut loose from all associations that are not with and for the revolutionary program of the working class." And this from the speech upon "Industrial Unionism": "Economic solidarity is to-day the supreme need of the working class." Are these words uttered in all sincerity, uttered to be acted upon on all occasions, or are they just a number of words so far as the one who utters them is concerned? From the experience here in the five hours which the speaker occupied upon the platform the great opportunity of educating the wage workers present in the principles of the I. W. W., the "supreme need" of an economic organization based and acting upon the class struggle, and the absolute necessity of throwing the A. F. of L. form of organization aside and joining the I. W. W. was sacrificed to the making of a semi-sentimental speech, with not the faintest allusion to "the supreme need of the working class" to-day—the economic solidarity; instead of that, recommendations to the wage workers to join the Socialist party of Canada, all the spokesmen of which, together with its official organs "The Voice" and "The Clarion," condemn and ridicule the I. W. W.

No questions were allowed to be asked at either meeting but one dealing with the I. W. W. was handed personally to the speaker and the attention it received was a microscopic allusion to organizing industrially; this was applauded by those who have no use for the I. W. W. It did not disturb any idols at all and therefore hurt nothing in the nature of a cherished tradition. Is this "to strike out boldly and cut loose from all associations that are not with and for the revolutionary program of the working class"?

James M. Reid, Pres.

Local 198, I. W. W.

Toronto, Feb. 4.

**FORCE I. W. W. MAN TO RESIGN.**

To the Daily and Weekly People:—On the 24th day of November, 1905, I obtained a position with a trunk line railroad company in Jersey City; to-day I am walking the streets seeking a position, because I am a member of the I. W. W. and because I had awakened to the fact that I was not receiving my rights as a workman.

The assistant yard master learning that I was an I. W. W. man filed complaint of "neglect of duty" against me, which I can, and have proven, to be false, but owing to binding ties between the men "higher up" I could not bring my proof to the point where it would bring justice and amend the wrong done me.

I am sorry to say that I once belonged to an organization that meets with the hearty approval of the company—the National Guard of the State. It is alright to belong to that but all wrong from the company's viewpoint to belong to a genuine labor organization.

I went into the National Guard when 18 years of age, at a time when all I saw in it was the good times, the summer camping, etc. But now I realize what the Guard is organized for. I have had riot duty explained to me, and this use of the word "riot," is only another term for the strike. I would that all young men could have this pointed out to them and I am sure there would be less workmen joining the militia.

If any I. W. W. or S. L. P. men know of a clerical position for a young man who has had experience as a railroad yard clerk, and will send information to the address below they will oblige

B. O., c/o Daily People.

New York, Feb. 7.

**SECTION LOUISVILLE'S BRIGHT OUTLOOK.**

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Section Louisville at its business meeting held on the 1st Saturday evening in January for the ensuing term, elected the following officers:

Recording Secretary, Frank Giffey; financial secretary, Louis Fleischer; treasurer, Emil Guth; librarian, Thos. Sweeney; organizer, and agent for the Weekly People, J. H. Arnold.

I am glad to be able to report that we have had three new accessions to the Section, one of whom, Karl Bach, recently from Berlin, is an aggressive and enthusiastic worker. He has been a member only one month yet he has taken hold like a veteran. The other two were admitted last night. At our meeting last night plans were discussed and formulated for organizing a German speaking branch, and a good committee chosen to take hold and push this part of the work.

From this time on until warm weather comes we will hold one S. L. P. agitation meeting a month, every third Sunday afternoon. The I. W. W. will also hold one special agitation meeting a month; and when warm weather

er comes we will hold street meetings in the open air. We are resolved to awaken the revolutionary spirit of the wage slaves of this city from its pure and simple slumber if it is possible to do it.

I have been chosen agent for the Weekly People, and I can safely assure you that our paper will have, when my next annual report is sent in, a much larger circulation than it has now.

We are now numerically somewhat stronger in speakers, stronger financially than we have been for a longtime; and the outlook is brighter.

The local "S. P." doesn't amount to much, and we shall I hope in a year or so have a clear field, with the S. P. opposition, now feeble, entirely gone.

Fraternally yours,

J. H. Arnold.

Louisville, Ky., Feb. 4.

**CRAFT SUICIDE VS. INDUSTRIAL VICTORY.**

To the Daily and Weekly People:—The conditions that exist among the workers in the lithographic industry today are fraught with danger, and the methods pursued to stave off disaster, are so ridiculous and impotent as to be almost beyond belief. The poster artists who are at present the high-priced men in the industry, and are organized in an autonomous craft union, are looking askance at the commercial artists, whose craft union is dominated through the trade agreement by the employers.

The commercial artists are very skillful, but receive less wages than the poster artists. The latter fear that with a promise of more wages, the commercial artists may be induced to fill the places of the poster artists in case of trouble. The only remedy (?) that the majority of the poster artists can see, is to save their money in the hope of becoming real estate speculators or cockroach capitalists in some other line.

The transferrers, it is said, do not desire to be drawn into any trouble, for fear that females may be employed in sticking up transfers which would displace men and bring about a competition for jobs, which means less wages. The only remedy (?) that some transferrers advocate is the forming of an organization of their own, apart from the pressmen. How this isolation would aid them in case the employers decided to employ female labor, is beyond my understanding.

The pressmen fear the competition of the feeders, who are ambitious to become printers and in the endeavor to stifle this ambition the pure and simple union of which the pressmen are members, entered into an agreement with the employers whereby apprentices should start with \$8 in Buffalo, and \$10 in New York city, instead of the wages they received as feeders which are from \$2 to \$6 higher. This agreement has proved to be a boomerang, for feeders who were employed in Buffalo have taken the places of pressmen who went on strike in Toronto, Canada. Craft is played against craft, instead of all the crafts against the employers. Thus are the workers forced to become scabs in order to better their conditions.

Fellow litho. workers, there is a way out of the wilderness:—you must be men, brush aside all petty jealousy and selfishness. Organize yourselves, i. e., all your crafts, into one industrial organization, in which an injury to one is an injury to all; and, by joining the Industrial Workers of the World, become affiliated with other members of yours, the working class. Then, in case of trouble, the capitalists will find that they have not only the members of one craft or one industry, but the entire working class to fight. You must also learn that the mission of a true trade union is not simply to obtain an eight-hour day and nine hours' wages, but to take and hold the means of production, so that they may be carried on for the benefit of mankind.

The much vaunted brotherhood of the capitalist and working classes is of the same sort as exists between the flea and the dog, with the workers as the dog. There can be no harmony, there can be no peace, while the few have all the good things of life and the many all the poverty. To-day there is no valid excuse for poverty. Were all those that are physically and mentally able employed at useful labor for not more than four hours a day, they could produce enough to satisfy the needs and desires of all mankind. That poverty exists at the present time is due to the fact that the working class allows the capitalist class, which comprises but a very small part of the population to own and control all the means of production, distribution, etc. Thus they are the masters, who, obedient to the laws of capitalism, dictate when we, the workers, the producers of all wealth, shall and shall not work, and whether those that are allowed to work shall be men, women or children.

These conditions can be abolished as soon as the workers become united upon both the economic and political field, for by capturing the political powers

through the Socialist Labor Party which demands the unconditional surrender of the capitalist class, the economic organization can take and hold the means of production; and by reducing the hours of toil in proportion to the progress of production, give every one that is able an opportunity to get employment and to receive the full value of their labor. Then and only then will peace and good will reign upon earth.

Printemps.

New York, February 7.

**OLYMPIA'S CONDITIONS AND SUSPICIONS.**

To the Daily and Weekly People:—There is much interest manifested out here in the new economic movement, designated as the I. W. W. The De Leon-Minneapolis and Debs New York addresses are hummers; which find earnest readers among the more advanced proletarians, especially in Seattle and Tacoma. Some of the intellectuals are investigating, who think De Leon and Debs sound on the economic phases of the labor movement. Not very long ago many of the Social Democrats, who thought De Leon an extremist, who with a clearer vision, admit his propositions to be sound.

The Seattle local of the Socialist party and the State Committee of this party are having tilts about the disbursement of funds; charges and counter-charges are made by the factions. It is claimed that Martin, the state secretary, has his accounts so mixed there is no head nor tail to them. But the fact seems to be, it is the continuation of the old Herman Titus fight: Martin having cast his fortunes with this uncertain intellectual, succeeds to his unpopularity. The Seattle local is desirous of ousting Martin, and promises to do the work Martin has been doing free of cost to the party. The trouble with this local seems to be that it fails to grasp the underlying principles behind the proletarian movement, as often pointed out by Socialist Labor Party speakers. The Socialist Labor Party is actually in it in the coming city election, and refuses to make any deals with the public ownership political hucksters. Claude Knight's egotism does not seem to diminish; he still continues to revise Karl Marx and De Leon.

Some of the old group here seem to be favorably inclined towards the I. W. W.; but on the whole this seems to be a very slow burg. There is quite a sprinkling of pure and simpledom; but no active Socialist Labor Party sentiment that I have been able to find thus far. We have a coterie of fakirs of the A. F. of L., who advise their dupes in the trade unions to vote for the best men in the old parties; and not to listen to the ranting Socialist Labor Party fellows.

I wonder if the miners will again be fooled by Mitchell in placing themselves within the power of the coal operators. From the proceedings of the Indianapolis convention it would seem the I. W. W. agitation has done some good among the rank and file: we can tell better later on.

There is one matter which has occurred to me very frequently of late, when there is so much corruption and graft being revealed daily. We have heard about crookedness in the P. O. department, and among land officials; in fact, in almost every branch of the public service other than the treasury branch of the federal government. Can it be possible officials in that branch of governmental administration are more honest with more temptations before them, than they are in the other departments of the public service? When money and bonds are issued, the plates from which they are struck are supposed to be destroyed; but suppose they were not; and through some hocus pocus, millions of duplicate National bank bills and bonds should be issued, and put up on the country, who would be the wiser unless some of the participants should squeal? It is impossible to take an inventory of all the money in the country at any given time. Neither could it be told if duplicate bills were found which were the genuine. We do know some men have become immensely rich of late years with very little effort. Moreover, if high officials knew of such frauds, they would be slow about bringing them to light; fearful that it would show up the rottenness in public affairs at the core; cause a consternation in political and government circles, which might shake the structure to its center.

Yours truly,

S. C.

Olympia, Wash., February 3.

**"KLEENO"**

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**LETTER-BOX**

OFF-HAND ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

NO QUESTIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED THAT COME IN ANONYMOUS LETTERS. ALL LETTERS MUST CARRY A BONA FIDE SIGNATURE AND ADDRESS.

S. B., SEATTLE, WASH.—There are no files on the S. L. P. municipal platform of Seattle. Its economics are right, its sociology is right, and its tactics of throwing "Neutrality in Unionism" to the dogs, where such "Neutrality," belongs, are faultless.

F. N., GAINESVILLE, TEX.—The pure and simple political Socialists, who successively emigrated from the Socialist Labor Party to the Socialist party, hoping to escape the Union Question "nuisance," are much in the same boat as the European proletarians who flee to the colonies in the hope to escape capitalism. Capitalism, the latter find, has gone ahead of them, and is ready at the distant shores to receive them with the bear's hug; the Union Question "nuisance" the former set of innocents discover permeates the atmosphere whithersoever they may flee.

J. F., EVANSVILLE, IND.—Look out for the man who sets up the shout of "Bosism!" when courteously defeated in argument. Next to, aye, even more so than material interests, conceit and vanity are the spring of all villainies.

L. B. V., PORTLAND, ME.—No doubt! No doubt! It is his material interests that sway the conduct of the labor fakir in the Union. But would you therefore justify, or stand by him? To do so were to turn a scientific principle, that explains a man's conduct, that gives a cue to understand how he will act and why, and that is intended to put one on guard against and to justify the fighting him—it would be to turn the principle into an exculpation of the wrongdoer. What the principle of economic determinism does for the militant in the Socialist Movement is to enlighten him as to what he may expect from individuals, and in that way save him disappointment.

J. W. J., NEWPORT, KY.—Of course, if men who pose as and are taken for Socialists condemn Socialists for condemning arrant pure and simplers, and join these, or even emulate them, in the invention and circulation of calumnies, the pure and simplers will be all the harder to fight. The only way to counteract the malefic influence of such "Socialists" is to have them deprived of the support of all Socialists. As bourgeois radicals find their account in associating with Socialists, pro-pure and simple Socialists find their account in rubbing elbows with militant Socialists. The latter must keep their skirts clean, for their own sakes, and also lest they help deceive the onlookers.

F. J. W., NEW YORK.—Aye! aye! The Modest who was run out of the German machinists meeting to the cry of "Scab!" is the Rudolph Modest, Volkszeitung Corporation stockholder, member of the Gompers Cigarmakers' Union, and quondam loud denouncer of the S. T. & L. A.

P. K., KANSAS CITY, MO.—A Russian acquaintance of much penetration once defined Tolstoi to us in these words: "Tolstoi has evolved his views out of his own inner consciousness. Being a man of extraordinary parts his thoughts are not to be despised. But being a man who did not place himself abreast of the thought of the world, his thoughts are no better than those of the first great man who turned his thoughts upon these things. As a result of his unacquaintance with the gathered wisdom of the world, he imagines that his crude opinions are the first that were ever expressed."—Guess that's about the size of it.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN—Bert Surges, Vancouver, B. C., offers to purchase a copy of The People of November 22, 1896. Communicate with him.

R. W. S., BALTIMORE, MD.—We care not to enter into any further discussion concerning Cardinal Gibbons' scoldings against Socialism until he has answered the question we have before put to him, when he assailed the loyalty of Socialists, how he squares his own claims of loyalty to the United States with the oath he took in Rome, at the election of the present Pope, to defend the TEMPORAL powers of the papacy "issue ad effusorem sanguinis"—up to the shedding of blood.

S. M., BISBEE, ARIZ.—Victor L. Berger has come out of the I. W. W. discussion in sorry trim. He simply sank down to the level of his fellow S. P. Editors, whose level is and has been that of street-boys, who yell and make faces at passersby from behind corners, and then run away.

W. T. S., AUGUSTA, ME.—The day is upon us when revolutionary rant must be eschewed like the pest. The times require, they imperatively demand facts and cogent conclusions. No lover of the Cause will indulge in wild threats.

L. M. G., HAMILTON, CANADA.—First—The A. L. U., having been a mixed organization, like the S. T. & L. A., could not and did not preserve its identity in the I. W. W. The various craft Unions of these bodies were assorted into their respective departments. The Western Federation of Miners was already an industrial aggregation of crafts (mining crafts); it could not and did not lose its identity. It became the nucleus of a department.

Second—We have not seen Kerr & Co.'s translation of Krapotkin's "Appeal to the Young."

Third—The Business Manager informs us that he has word from the bindery that the Proceedings of the Chicago Convention will be out in the course of this week.

C. P., ELGIN, ILL.—If the Editor of this paper believed that even as few as one out of every five labor fakirs had faith in the eventual and complete emancipation of the working class, then he would exercise, within the Party, his right as a member to seek to change the Party's views on the subject, and have it adopt his views. And if he failed he would vacate this seat, being unwilling to continue, against his better knowledge on editorial policy and fight that would be harmful to the Cause. The Editor of this paper knows, however, that, wherever you find five labor fakirs assembled, you will find six of them saturated in the capitalist contempt for the Working Class, and seeking only to feather their own nests. Such people are the very material to serve as decoy ducks for the Capitalist class. They must be fought relentlessly. The S. L. P. is right.

E. C., PERKINSVILLE, VT.—First—Two per cent. of \$100 is \$2; one per cent. of \$50 is \$5. The percentage of wages to the value of the product may decrease and yet the wages may increase. Percentages only give the relative increase or decrease; wages paid give the actual decrease or increase.

Second—The productive power of labor, whether per worker or collectively, is only partially reflected in the wealth produced. It is a feature of capitalism that it lames the productive powers of the country. The capitalist produces no more than he calculates he can sell. Thus he squanders the forces available for wealth-production. Even so his stores are periodically overstocked. The productivity of the nation has increased stupendously.

Third—The wealth produced per worker in 1900 is \$381 more than in 1870. The actual wages per worker in 1900 were only \$79 more than in 1870. The increased cost of living in 1900 over 1870, rent leading, wholly wipes out the increase and makes a big hole in original earning.

W. O. M., NEW CASTLE, PA.—The instant one disagrees with a pure and simple political Socialist one is pronounced a "scab," a "scamp," a professor without a professorate, a "Dutch Jew," a "Guiana Indian," a "boss," a "tyrant," a "pasha," an "intriguer." But all that is as nothing. The moment one proves to a pure and simple political Socialist that he is wrong—then—then—well, we'll spare you. Such are the arguments of the gentry.

C. T., DES MOINES, IA.—First—In the old ante-bellum days the saying ran: "All horse thieves are Democrats, but not all Democrats are horse thieves." So now. All S. P. friends and beneficiaries of the A. F. of L. will vote against holding a national convention of their party; but not all men who vote against holding the convention will be A. F. of L. friends and beneficiaries. The "intellectuals," who have no use for any Union, together with the "Neutrality on Unionism" folks, that is, the pure and simple political Socialist element, will also, as a whole, run shy of a convention. They are the "stand patters" of the Socialist Movement.

Second—"If," says Marx, "the given limit of the amount of wages is founded on the mere will of the capitalist, or the limits of his avarice, then it is an arbitrary limit." That there is no such arbitrariness about it economic laws prove.

J. A. A., OAKLAND, CAL.—At the Cologne Convention, spoken of in Carl Schurz's autobiography, Marx was making his experience with "boring from within." Having been an honest and honorable "borer" he soon bored himself through and out, and started lambasting from without.

A. S. J., ANDREXIA, IND.—First—The Volkszeitung Corporation never expended a penny upon the S. L. P. Whatever moneys the Corporation disbursed were collected from the S. L. P. for the S. L. P., and the Party was robbed.

(Continued on page 6.)

Dogs that bark loudest don't bite.

OFFICIAL

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Henry Kuhn, Secretary, 2-6 New Read Street, New York.

N. Y. S. E. C.
Regular meeting at headquarters, Daily People Building, 2-6 New Read Street, on Friday, February 9.

Communications:—Two from Organizer Trainor, Syracuse, N. Y., on signatures for petitions, notary public and delegate to State convention.

Receipts:—By dues stamps, \$85.56; by mileage fund, \$21.39; by Party Name Defence Fund, from "Paul," Brooklyn, \$1.

Expenditures:—To Atlas of New York State for recording secretary, 50c; to postage and sundries, \$1.56; total, \$2.06; balance, \$189.04; total, \$191.10.

Correspondence Bureau then reported as follows:—During the month just past it had sent out twenty-four forms one and two, and twenty-two forms three, besides five personal letters to different parts of the State.

Upon the matter of notary publics, the Correspondence Bureau further reported that it had sent out to sixty-eight notaries in the State, and received answers from over one-half; that two of these had already been engaged, and engagements with others are still pending.

The Correspondence Bureau was instructed to write another letter to the sections, urging a reply to the former one in connection with notaries public,

and requesting them to report both to this committee and through their delegates to the State convention to be held next month in Troy, what they are prepared to do in surrounding counties to gather the necessary number of signatures for our State ticket.

It was decided that the secretary, in sending out letters to sections, urge upon them the necessity of supporting the State agitation fund in accordance with the plan of weekly collections pursued by Section Schenectady.

Meeting held in Section Boston's headquarters, 1165 Tremont street, on Wednesday, January 31. F. Bohmbach in the chair.

Communications: From Section Lynn, ordering due stamps. From Section New Bedford, list of officers.

Agitation committee reported that speakers had addressed meeting in Lawrence and Milford.

It was decided to co-operate with N. E. C. member, Comrade Brennan, to further the recommendations in his report.

RUSSIAN REVOLUTIONISTS' FUND.
The following contributions were received for the above fund during the week ending with Saturday, February 10, 1906:

Table listing contributions to the Russian Revolutionists' Fund, including names like Arvid Olson, A. J. Weindler, and amounts such as \$2.50, \$3.00, \$11.00, etc.

DEBATE IN PITTSBURG.
A debate between the A. F. of L. and the I. W. W. will be held at Central Turner Hall, Forbes street, Pittsburgh, Pa., February 17, at 8 p. m.

THE VALENCIA DISASTER

Recalls a Long List of Forerunners— "Who is Responsible?" (Special Correspondence.)

Vancouver, B. C., Jan. 27.—The five hundred copies of The People containing the speech by Eugene V. Debs, together with the one hundred "Preamble of the I. W. W." pamphlets, were received O. K. At the rate they sold late night at our street meeting they will not last long.

The writer acted as chairman of the meeting, and after making a few remarks introduced Comrade Griffiths as the speaker of the evening. Griffiths took for his subject the steamship Valencia disaster which occurred January 22, off Cape Flattery, Van Couver Island, in which one hundred or more lives were lost.

Griffiths made a good contrast, showing how things are done under the present system for profit, and how, under Socialism they would be done for use.

The way in which the grave yards of the Pacific and Atlantic oceans are being filled was well illustrated by Griffiths. This, he said, referring to the recent disaster, is certainly another hecatomb to the god capital, and civilized humanity once more stands aghast.

We also remember reading of the General Warren. She was on her way to San Francisco from Portland, Oregon, and sprang a leak off the Columbia River, in January, 1854.

In 1859 the steamship Northerner was lost on the Oregon coast. She was bound from San Francisco to Victoria with a large cargo, and had fifty passengers aboard, many of whom were drowned.

In August, 1865, the steamship Brother Jonathan, also from San Francisco to Victoria, on the second day out a fierce gale was encountered and the captain, having no confidence in the old ship as she was for a long time considered unseaworthy, put about and ran for safety.

The iron steambot Prince Alfred, in the mail carrying service between San Francisco and Victoria, in 1874 ran aground at Potato Cove and was totally wrecked. The following year, on the night of the 4th of November, the steamship Pacific sank fifty miles southwest of Cape Flattery after colliding with the American ship Orpheus which, on the next day, was wrecked at Barclay Sound.

To see so many lives lost is a terrible thing, but it is more terrible when one knows that it is all on account of this damnable profit system, where the cry is "Profit! profit! To hell with the lives!" Oh, when will the people see that it is themselves who are to blame and no one else!

The People is a good broom to brush the cobwebs from the minds of the workers. Buy a copy and use it around.

LETTER-BOX

(Continued from page 5.)
bed of a good chunk, which was sponged up by the Corporation's ruling clique and their favorites.

S. M. S. MIDDLETOWN, N. Y.—The Anarchist Cootz, referred to in Dr. Moncreu D. Conway's address was a Hollander by nationality. His desire to "abolish nationalities and have Europe consist of one State" was but a revamping of the scheme of Sully, the minister of the French King Henry IV.

J. M. O. PHILADELPHIA, PA.—There is no bottom to the argument that, if a privately-owned Socialist paper goes back on its party, it will lose money, consequently, it will remain true.

J. S. K. ELIZABETH, N. J.—The slander in the "Freiheit" that the funds collected for the Russian revolution do not reach their destination, and are squandered upon carousing idlers in Europe bears its own refutation.

P. L. Q. NEWARK, N. J.—There is nothing for it but to come down with a shillelah upon the assistant Editor who attends to the "trimming" of the notices in The People.

T. D. COLUMBUS, O.—There is no truth in the statement that the Unions in Germany are built upon the industrial plan. No doubt there are some Unions there, which, just as the Typographical craft Union here, are closely affiliated with closely kindred Unions.

G. A. D. TORONTO; R. E. B., HAMILTON; G. A. M., AND F. M., TORONTO—J. M. Reid's report covered the ground.

A. B. BROOKLYN, N. Y.—First—State passage where the first sentence occurs.

Second—No, Sir! From the fact that "the more a machine produces the more men it displaces, thereby decreasing the value of the product in the same proportion," the conclusion is not that "the greater the productivity of that machine, the less it must cost to produce a machine."

K. E. CINCINNATI, O.—There is no truth whatever in the rumor bruited around by the printers in Cincinnati that 15,000 miners, etc., are about to break away from the Western Federation of

The Miners' Magazine
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A Monthly Paper, sixteen pages, 64 columns. Subscription Price: FIFTY CENTS A YEAR. Address THE INDUSTRIAL WORKER 148 W. Madison Street, Chicago, Ill.

Table listing contributions to the General Agitation Fund, including names like Holger Schmalfluss, Pittsfield, Mass., and amounts such as \$1.00, \$1.00, \$1.50, etc.

OUR ANNUAL FESTIVAL.
Attention Called to Its Varied Features, and Its Needs.
The Entertainment Committee of Section New York County, Socialist Labor Party, herewith calls attention to the annual Spring Daily People Festival.

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup
has been used for over SIXTY YEARS by MILLIONS OF MOTHERS for their CHILDREN while TEething, with PERFECT SUCCESS. IT SOOTHES THE CHILD, SOFTENS THE GUMS, ALLAYS ALL PAIN; CURES WIND COLIC, and is the best remedy for DIARRHEA. Sold by Druggists in every part of the world. Be sure and ask for "Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup" and take no other kind. Twenty-Fcents a bottle.