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WEEKLY PEOPLE



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TIMELY THRUSTS

FOR SOCIALISM, AGAINST CAPITALISM.

Call's Address Not an Over-Statement—The Roosevelt Bladder Balloon Endangered—A Misconceived Failure—Hospital Repair for Proletarians—More Pillars of "Law and Order"—Christmas for Workmen's Children—America Photographed—And Others.

Henry Laurens Call's address before the Association for the Advancement of Science, in which he proved this country to be a "nation of debtors" by no means overstated the case. On the contrary it is understated. Apart from all the items of indebtedness mentioned by the lecturer there are others—the over capitalization and the simultaneous reduction of the nation's natural resources. When these two items are added the burden of debt is about doubled.

The enemies of Roosevelt have organized themselves into a "Roosevelt Third Term National League." The only chance that Roosevelt has to escape his fate is that his term of office will soon expire. Extend that four years longer beyond 1909 and not even "Roosevelt Luck" could prevent the collapse of the Roosevelt bladder balloon.

Another failure of Socialism! The Easton, Pa., municipal street lighting plant is to be sold to some private firm. The petition to that effect shows that the citizens are disgusted with Socialism and that Socialism is a failure. No mention is made of the amounts with which the firms who are about to buy the plant bribed the municipal officers to mismanage things.

The installation of a medical service department in his shoe factories by the shoe manufacturer Douglas will surely be heralded by the conservative capitalist press as an evidence of kindness towards employees. Fact is a surgeon at hand to dress wounds comes out cheaper than proper appliances to prevent wounds—especially if the surgeon is paid proletarian wages.

Whom did Andrew S. Draper represent when, addressing the State Teachers' Association in Syracuse, he deprecated "any combination of teachers with some other combination which operates through politics"? Roosevelt represented the railroad interests when, besides "deprecating," he disciplined with expulsion the letter carriers, who, in imitation of the railroad carriers of mail, sought to bring political pressure in behalf of their earnings. What particular capitalist interest did Mr. Draper aim at keeping the political path free for, by chasing the teachers out of it?

There go two of our "Pillars of Law and Order"—Perkins and Fairchild, leading financial magnates, one a Republican, the other a Democrat! They are both indicted for forgery. If the Grand Jury keeps up this pace it will, as it stated before that it would have

STILL WORSE FOR SHERMAN

HIS ACTS AS TO TRAUTMANN AND THE CONVENTION DECLARED ILLEGAL.

Chicago, Ill., December 31.—In spite of statements appearing in the pure and simple political Socialist press, the injunction of the Industrial Workers of the World against C. O. Sherman et al. has not been dissolved. The Volkszeitung and Jewish Vorwaerts reports are absolutely false.

All the findings of the Master in Chancery give the new administration a substantial victory. At two o'clock Saturday afternoon Judge Honors decided to issue an order to the Master in Chancery to notify the members of the organization that they may pay to either side, this order to be made Wednesday.

Meantime the injunction stands. The Judge maintains all material points in the Master's report in favor of the new Board. Among these are: the legality of the Convention, despite Sherman's oath that he never called the Convention; the validity of Trautmann's secretaryship, the illegality of Sherman's expulsion of Trautmann and Riordan; and the illegality and nullity of Sherman's appointment of Hanzemann as secretary.

The raising of the injunction by the order that declares Hanzemann's ap-

PRELIMINARY FUNERAL ORATIONS

The report of the proceedings of the late A. F. of L. convention, on what may be called the "Case of the Brewers," is almost thrilling enough for yellow covers.

As is known, the "Case of the Brewers" has been pending and hanging fire for over four years, and been the cause of much friction and commotion in the A. F. of L., and of many a resolution in its conventions. What is that "Case" all about?

The events in the Labor Movement will remain an incomprehensible jumble to any who imagines these events to be "peculiar." They are not. There is no Union, however reactionary it may be, but, will ye mill ye, acts responsible to certain immanent laws. Nor are these laws peculiar even to the Labor Movement itself. Being, however unaware any portion of the Labor Movement may be of the fact, essentially a manifestation of social development, the Labor Movement of to-day is to a large extent a repetition of Movements that have preceded it, and which, owing to the lower stages of social development in which they figured, assumed exclusively political aspects. He who would understand the American Labor Movement will first have to be clear upon its trend—the revolutionizing of capitalist society; accordingly, the construction of a new social order. This point once grasped, the seemingly chaotic events of to-day recall to mind events of yesterday. No little light is shed by the latter upon the former.

When the thirteen colonies, just emerged from feudal dependence upon the Crown of England, weak in numbers, weaker in resources, weaker still in experience, were going through the travail of building up a capitalist Nation, Aaron Burr rebellions, Hartford conventions and the like were frequent occurrences.

Personal vanities, rooted in personal interests, and personal interests fired by personal vanities, frequently strained for "independence." The bee of independent Presidents of independent little Republics, together with a swarm of other and similar bees, not all of show but often of quite material aims, buzzed in the heads of schemers. In the measure that the Nation gained strength in numbers, in resources and in experience the schemers subsided, and the Nation leaped forward into full stature. That which the then forming capitalist Nation was experiencing a hundred years ago, the now forming Republic of Labor is getting foretastes of. Industrial Unions, States in themselves, or embryo States, frequently experience to-day serious convulsions of rebellion; and these rebellions are captained by schemers, the Aaron Burrs of branch crafts in whose bonnets buzz the bees of independent presidencies and secretaryships, together with their emoluments. This is the "Case of the Brewers." The United Brewery Workers' Union, in the nature of a powerful State, gathered within its confines all the crafts engaged in the production of malted liquors—not brewers only, but teamsters, engineers and firemen, etc. The Brewery Workers' organization was in the direction of Industrial Unionism. The bees of independent Statehood, so to speak, having for their object independent Presidents and Secretaries, plus emoluments, began buzzing in the bonnets of the Aaron Burrs in the teamsters' and in the engineers' and firemen's subdivisions of the United Brewery Workers. The very reason that caused the political Aaron Burrs to be snuffed out, added oil to the flame of the economic Aaron Burrs in the A. F. of L.—the capitalist Nation was cast in the Industrial, the A. F. of L. in the craft mold. And thus it happened that since the New Or-

leans convention, four years ago, instead of the A. F. of L. sustaining the Industrial Statehood of the United Brewery Workers, it supported the Aaron Burr insurrectionists, notwithstanding the manifest desire of the rank and file teamsters and firemen and engineers to remain loyal. The decisions of the A. F. of L. conventions ordered the Brewery Workers to recognize the secessionists, or themselves stand outlawed.

Thus stood matters when this year's convention of the A. F. of L. met. The matter of the brewers came up again, now for final decision. It was thrashed out during the ninth, the tenth and the eleventh days. Two resolutions had been introduced—both hostile to the Brewery Workers' Union; the committee in charge condensed the spirit of the two resolutions into one, containing six paragraphs, the sixth of which was the crack of the whip. It instructed the Executive Committee "to immediately revoke the charter" of the United Brewery Workers if it continued to disobey the orders of the convention to grant craft independence to its seceding members. A substitute was offered, also an amendment striking out the sixth paragraph; the matter was lengthily discussed; the substitute was defeated by a viva-voce vote; the amendment fared no better; and finally the original resolution was adopted upon roll call by 7,775 votes against 5,630, with 577 not voting. One more nail, stout and strong, was thus self-driven into the coffin of the A. F. of L. Immediately thereupon—and surely not by accident, but contrived by that providential dispensation that sets carion-crows hovering in the wake of armies—President, sexton, undertaker and master of funeral ceremonies Samuel Gompers introduced to the convention the Rev. J. A. Ryan, who whined a dirge, to the tune of "A Living Wage."

CHARGES BREYER

WITH BEING AGENT OF BOSS SPONGERS' COMBINATION.

President of New I. W. W. Organization Declares He Uses Union to Crush Independent Concerns, and to Exploit the Members of His Union—Also States That Secretary Ernest Bohm of the C. F. U. Is Involved.

Abraham Rosenbaum, formerly vice-president of the Cloth Examiners and Spongers' Union, affiliated with the A. F. of L., is now connected with the Industrial Workers of the World. He is president of the I. W. W. Cloth Examiners and Spongers' Union. Rosenbaum furnishes the Daily People the following signed statement making important revelations concerning the A. F. of L. organization and its connection with the Boss Spongers' Trust, upon whom the Attorney General should bestow his attention, the same as he is now bestowing it upon that other criminal combine—the Ice Trust.

"A new organization, known as the Cloth Examiners and Spongers' Union, has been formally organized. It is affiliated with the Industrial Workers of the World, by whom it was chartered. The object of this new Union is to work for any firm, whether in the Boss Spongers' Trust or not, so long as it pays Union wages, works Union hours and runs a Union shop.

"We broke away from the old Cloth Examiners and Spongers' Union because the Union is an adjunct of the Boss Spongers' Trust. The affairs of the Boss Spongers are controlled by M. Breyer, its president, and President Loeb of the Boss Spongers' Trust. Although members could have bettered their conditions, they were not allowed to work for certain firms, unless they were in the Boss Spongers' Trust, although these firms complied with Union rules.

"Breyer, besides being president of the Union, has an interest in the firm of T. Schneider & Co., a member of the Boss Spongers' combination, in his wife's name. He also is trying to force out of business all the smaller concerns, although they hire men from his Union and Union conditions prevail in their establishments. His motive is to form a

Trust with the remaining large shops, after he has the smaller shops frozen out.

"The main reason this new Union was formed, is because members were fined for going to work in shops not in the Boss Spongers' Association. One of our members was fined \$10 for going to work for James Nutley & Co., 8 and 10 Jones street. Nutley & Co. were running a strict Union shop at the time, and our constitution plainly says that a working card must be issued to a member in good standing on such application. When this matter came up before the Union at its regular meeting, Breyer took the floor, and I, being the vice-president, presided. Breyer insisted that I should declare this member fined without any discussion and when I refused he said I was not fit to preside.

"The game is worked in this manner: when a member opposes any action that Breyer and his cohorts want, he is laid off the next day. Breyer goes to Loeb of the bosses, combination and he, in turn, goes to the boss whom the member might be working for, and the member cannot get work as long as other men can be had, and then he has to get a new job every week.

"When a Boss Sponger wants to leave the association or does not pay his dues and assessments, Breyer forces them to time by ordering the men to get sick so they cannot work.

"When a new firm wants to start in business, Breyer tries to get his men to perform the work in such an unsatisfactory manner that they at once lose most of the trade that they might get, and when the firms rebel and get non-union men, Breyer starts to boycott them in the following manner: These sponging houses get their work from the wholesale clothing and cloak houses. First, Breyer applies to them with a threat to stop giving work to these independent firms. If they refuse, he hires a man to watch their shipments and gets the addresses of the firms to whom they sell their wares. He then sends the latter a boycott circular, with the usual veiled threats.

"The boycott is carried on with the assistance of Secretary Ernest Bohm of the Central Federated Union of New York. Bohm issues these circulars under the stationery headings of the C. F. U. These boycotts are not ordered by the C. F. U. of New York.

"The last firm to be boycotted was the National Sponging works at 56 Prince street. The books of the C. F. U. will show that Bohm was not authorized to boycott this firm, but he used the power

WHICH REMINDS ME

RAILROAD METHODS TO SKIN AND DECEIVE.

"Chiefs" and Companies—Irregular Trains and Reason Thereof—The Mystic "Public," Duller Than Mystic—Huge Dividends on "Raises in Wages."

Jersey City, December 29.—"There are more ways of running a horse to suit your book than pulling his head off in the straight," says Kipling in one of his stories, which reminds me of some recent and present happenings in the railroad world of labor.

The increased cost of living has been hitting the railroaders the same as every one else, with this difference—the railroader's wage, the first to come down, is the last to go up. For some time discontent was openly voiced by the men; then we had the railroad brotherhood chiefs swooping down on Chicago, Pittsburg, and lastly New York. The capitalist press was filled with the big talk of the big chiefs, and shippers and commuters were made nervous with talk of strikes, tie-ups, etc. The upshot of all the agitation, in the railroad centers named, was concessions and wage increases won for the men by the brotherhood chiefs—at least so the capitalist press announced, but the roads don't have to pull the head off the horse to accomplish a certain purpose.

The brotherhood chiefs have been and gone and the men are now enjoying the fruits of their visit. Here is a sample of the fruit: Passengers on the Jersey Central who happened to be of an inquiring turn of mind, set out to ascertain why it happened so frequently of late that trains were all the way from a quarter to three-quarters of an hour late in leaving the Jersey City depot. In order to appreciate this you must know that heretofore Jersey Central commuters have been in the habit of setting their clocks and watches by the trains, such was the regularity of the service, and the accommodations were ample.

As a rule railroad employees are not communicative to outsiders, but some of them will confide in the old-time commuters, and it was thus that the

CONGRESSIONAL

THE ATTEMPTED SALARY GRAB IN DECEMBER.

Strange Arguments for Higher Salaries from the Mouths of Representatives of Lowerers of Workers' Wages—Significant Arguments Against the Grabbers—Both Sides Are Silent on "Supply and Demand" as the Determiner of Wages.

It does not matter that the proposition introduced in the House of Representatives to raise the salaries of Congressmen from \$5,000 to \$7,500 a year was defeated. The important circumstance is that such a proposition was at all introduced, that arguments were advanced in its support, and that it gathered 106 votes in its favor against only 188 opposing. No less important is the nature of the arguments for and against the proposition.

The leading argument in favor was repeated by all the advocates of the measure. It was that the present salary of \$5,000 was fixed forty years ago, and that since then the cost of living has gone up so high that a rise of \$2,500 would barely cover the difference. The side-arguments in support of this central one were of a piece with it. Both deserve the close attention of the workingman. They were: Congressmen are "practically divorced from their families"; their "election expenses" are a considerable item; the "work has become more arduous."

The similarity between this language, and the language held by workingmen in quest of higher wages, is striking. The cost of living, Bradstreet's proves, has gone up, since 1896, 55 per cent. No claim of higher wages being now paid, however brazen the claim, dares assert that wages have risen 55 per cent. That workingmen often have relatively "heavy expenses" to get a job is well known to all who follow closely the doings of the labor lieutenants of the capitalist class. These labor lieutenants know a dozen tricks to compel an applicant for work to pay them blackmail, and the blackmail is enforced with the aid and connivance of the employer. Finally that in numerous cases the workingmen also are "practically divorced from their families" is one of the suggestive commentaries on that "sanctity-of-the-family"-promoting social system—capitalism.

All this notwithstanding, it requires no great imagination to depict the faces of the very Congressmen who were striking for higher wages, when workingmen assume a similar posture. Workingmen get their pittance only when they work. The Littauers and Burtons, the scores of lawyers, businessmen, farmers, bankers, etc. in Congress draw pay whether they are on deck, or gone home to see to their business. And, as to the "expenses to get the job," the political contributions of Congressmen to the campaign funds of their parties are, being corruption funds, a reason to reduce rather than to raise their salaries. Moreover, it is well known that the \$5,000 of Congressmen is merely "pin money." What the revenue of the post amounts to may be judged from the circumstance that a \$50,000 contribution by a Congressional or Senatorial candidate towards his election is nothing uncommon. The "election expenses" of Senator Clark of Montana and of ex-Governor Flower of New York when he ran for Congress are classic on the subject.

Readers of this review of the debate

probably are curious to know what arguments did the opponents to the salary-grab present. Two of these arguments deserve special mention. They betray the fact that none dared raise the real objection, and that the objectors were divided into two categories—those who were angry at the greedy lackeys of the corporations, and the corporations' leading politicians themselves who sought to conceal their cloven hoof under the cloak of lofty aspirations.

Under this second head came the Congressional squad captained by Boutell of Illinois. Boutell opposed all raises of Congressional salaries on the ground that these salaries were not "compensation for work done" but "honorariums" awarded for honorable work "which could only be degraded by increasing the salary." Poor Boutell was, however, stopped short at this point in his flow of rhetoric by Representative Sims of Tennessee, who put in this question: "In order to increase the honor, suppose you knock all the salary out." The "Congressional Record" does not reproduce a picture of Boutell when this blow below the belt was administered to him. His looks may, however, be conjectured. He made no answer; dropped that tack, floundered along for a little while longer, and then sat down.

Under the first head, the head of Representatives who were increased as the greedy corporation lackeys who were serving the corporations too well to suit the middle class, under this head came Representative Lamar of Florida. He gave the salary-grabbers two shots, each better than the other. "This House," said he, "is constituted practically of three classes of membership—one very rich, who do not need any raise of salaries at all; another class, who represent railway and other corporations in addition to being members of this House, and do not need any raise of salary at all; and the other class are those who cannot make more than \$5,000 a year in the communities in which they live."

The second shot was a conversation he had with "a distinguished Member of the House." This distinguished member had said to him: "Well, Lamar, do you believe these Pickwickian stories [about the hard work that Congressmen had to perform]. I said, 'Well, I do not know. I'm inclined to doubt some of them.' Said he, 'I do not believe a word. I do not know how it is with other men, but THIS IS THE SORTEST SNAKE EVER STRUCK IN MY LIFE.'"

There was one argument that the position failed to use. It was the argument of "supply and demand." When workingman wants higher wages he told that wages are regulated by the supply of labor and demand. The supply of labor being high the wages must be low. Applying this capitalist argument to the Congressional lackeys of capitalism their salaries should be reduced at least 75 per cent. That would be about the height of the Congressional wage barometer, if determined by the supply of aspirants for the Congressional jobs and the limited demand for incumbents.

AN AVOWED ENEMY.

To Industrial Unionism Denounced by British Columbia, I. W. W. Local.

Whereas, It has several times come to the notice of Local 322 I. W. W., that E. T. Kingsley, editor of the "Western Clarion" is an avowed enemy of Industrial Unionism, and especially at a "Socialist" meeting held Sunday evening, December 2, 1906, at the Grand Theatre, at which he deliberately misstated and maligned the Industrial Union movement and at which he called the leaders and officers of the I. W. W. Anarchists, Traitors and Freaks and tried by all manner of lying and abuse to prejudice the minds of his listeners against the principles and aims of the Industrial Workers of the World; and Whereas, Much of the support received by this enemy of the Working class is through subscriptions to his "Western Clarion," by the Industrial Unionists of this section, and Whereas, Silence on our part at this time, and after this nefarious abuse and misstatement could and might be considered consent and neglect; there-

fore be it

Resolved: That this Local 322, I. W. W., at a regular meeting held Thursday, December 6, hereby denounce said E. T. Kingsley as an enemy to Industrial Unionism and to the working class; and be it further

Resolved, That we caution all Industrial Unionists and especially the members of the Western Federation of Miners, Mining department of the I. W. W. in this district not to support this enemy of Industrial Unionism by subscribing to his privately-owned paper; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the Miners Magazine, the Industrial Worker and the New York "People" for publication and that a copy be spread on the minutes of this meeting.

Bert Surges, Secretary.
34 Cordova street.
Vancouver, B. C.

Watch the label on your paper. Will tell you when your subscription expires. First number indicates the month, second, the day, third the year.

"COMRADE"

A TALE, BY MAXIM GORKY.

In the town everything was strange and incomprehensible. Many churches lifted up their tall spires in brilliant array, but the walls and the chimneys of the factories towered still higher, and the cathedrals were lost amidst the magnificence of the merchant houses, lost in the silent labyrinth of the stone walls like adventurous flowers in the dust and decay of old ruins, and when the church bells rang out for prayer their metallic voices reverberated across the iron roofs and lost themselves mutely in the silent nooks and crannies of the houses below.

The houses were gigantic and sometimes beautiful. The people were ugly and always looked poverty-stricken. From morning until evening, like gray mice they hurried to and fro along the narrow crooked streets of the town, looking with hungry, eager eyes for bread and for pleasure; while others, again, with hostile, suspicious looks, watched that the weak subjected themselves to the strong without protest. For to them the strong meant the rich. And they all believed that money alone gave them power and freedom. All struggled for wealth and power for all were slaves. The luxury of the rich inflamed the envy and hatred of the poor. No one knew a finer music than the sound of clinking gold. Every one was the enemy of his neighbor—and the ruler of all was Cruelty.

Sometimes the sun shone over the town, but the light in the streets was always gray, and the people resembled shadows. At night, there appeared many brilliant lights, and then hungry-looking women glided along the streets and sold their love for money. The odor of rich and savory foods filled the air, while out of the silent darkness of the night the mad eyes of the starving glittered eagerly, and above the noises of the town could be heard the low groaning of the unfortunate.

All the people lived unhappily and restlessly, all were at enmity with one another, and all had guilty consciences. There were a few who believed that they were righteous, but these were as cruel as wild beasts and were the most malicious of all.

All wanted to live, but none knew—none could understand how to follow

the straight path of their wishes and desires. Every step into the future forced them involuntarily to turn back to the present, while the present held the people with the relentless grip of an insatiable monster whose embrace is death.

Doubtful and intimidated, Man stood before this distorted picture of life which seemed to look into his heart with a thousand helpless and mournful eyes, as though pleading for something, and all the air dreams of the future died within his soul. And the groans of his own helplessness were lost in the discordant cries of suffering and complaint from those who had been crushed by life.

Always sad and restless, sometimes even terrible, like a prison shutting out the rays of the sun, stood that dark melancholy town, in the midst of whose repulsively regular masses of stone the church spires were lost.

And the music of life was the suppressed shrieks of pain and fury, the low whispers of concealed hatred, the threatening cries of cruelty, and the wailing of the oppressed.

In the midst of this somber restlessness, of misfortune and pain, the terrible struggle between need and avarice, and the depths of miserable egotism, there walked unnoticed through underground passages in which poverty dwelt—that poverty which the riches of the town had created—a few lonely dreamers, who believed in mankind, dreamers whose attitude was strange and distant to all, preachers of revolt, rebellious sparks from the distant fire of Truth. Secretly they carried into these underground passages fruit bearing little seeds of a simple and great teaching. And sometimes with love, they sowed unnoticed the seeds of the clear-burning Truth into the dark hearts of these human slaves who, through the power of the avariciousness and the will of the oppressors, had become blind and dumb instruments of good and gain.

And these unenlightened, worn-out slaves listened doubtfully to the music of these new words, a music which their sick hearts had unconsciously long hoped for. Slowly they lifted up their heads and tore asunder the net of falsehoods with which they had been ensnared by

their all-powerful and insatiable masters.

Into their lives which were full of dull and suppressed hatred; into their hearts which were poisoned by many bitter insults; into their consciences which had been deadened by the many lies of their oppressors, and into their whole sad and dark existence, saturated with the bitterness of humiliations, one simple word shone out clearly:

Comrade!

The word was not new to them; they had heard it and had used it themselves; until then it had sounded as empty and meaningless as many other well-known useless words which one can forget without losing anything. Now it had a different sound. It rang out clear and strong; it was hard and brilliant, and finely polished like a diamond. They clung to it and made use of it cautiously and with care, nursing the sound in their souls as tenderly as a mother nurses her new-born babe.

And the deeper that this word entered their souls, the more full of light and meaning did it seem to them.

"Comrade," they said.

And they felt that this word had come to unite mankind and to raise it to the heights of freedom, making the whole world kin by new bonds, the strong bonds of reciprocal respect, the respect for the freedom of man, for the sake of freedom.

When the true meaning of this word entered the souls of the slaves and the oppressed, they ceased to be slaves and oppressed, and one day they announced to all the town and to all the men in power the great human cry:

"I will not!"

Then life stood still, for they themselves were the moving power of life, and no one else. Water ceased to flow; the light was extinguished; the town was hidden in darkness, and the strong became weak as children. Terror possessed the souls of the oppressors, and suffocating in the stench of their baseness they hid their anger against the revolted out of dread and fear of their strength.

The phantom of hunger stood before them, and their children cried sadly in the darkness.

The houses and churches, shrouded in blackness, resembled a chaotic mass of stone and iron. A threatening silence settled down on the streets. All life died out because the creative strength of the men slaves had awakened to consciousness, because it found the unconquerable magic word of its will and had thrown off the yoke.

These days were days of fear for the strong—those who had till now considered themselves the masters of life—and each night was like a thousand nights, so dense and impenetrable was the darkness, so poor and so dimly did the lights of the dead town shine. And this monster, sprung up in the course of centuries, and nourished by the blood of the people now seemed to them in all its repulsive ugly worthlessness, a miserable heap of stone, wood and iron. The closed windows of the houses looked coldly and gloomily into the streets. And there the real masters of life walked joyously. True, they were hungry—hungrier than the others, but hunger was not strange to them. Physical suffering was not so painful to them as the present suffering of the former masters of life. And it did not extinguish the fire in their souls. The consciousness of strength burned within them, and the presentiment of victory shone in their eyes.

They went through the streets of the town, their dark and narrow prison where they had been treated with contempt, and where their souls had been bruised with bitter insults, and they saw the great significance of their work. And this realization led them to the consciousness of their sacred right—the right to be the masters, the lawgivers and the creators of life. Again the uniting word came to them with new power, with greater brilliancy, that life-giving word:

Comrade!

The people gathered in close groups in the streets, and like sparks from fire the word flew from one to the other—the word which was destined to unite the whole world.

Comrades!

A very important and serious looking policeman, with a large moustache, came up to one of the crowds which had assembled at a street corner around on

old man who was speaking. He listened and said, considerably:

"You are not allowed to assemble in the street, please disperse, gentlemen . . ." He was silent for a moment, lowered his eyes to the ground, and added, softly:

Comrades!

The faces of those who carried the word in their hearts, who were ready to sacrifice themselves, and to whom the word meant unity, bore the proud consciousness of the strength of youthful creators, and it was clear that the power which they had put into this living word was irresistible, irrevocable, and imperishable.

But already a gray, blind mass of armed people were gathering to form silently into rank and file. These were the preparations of the oppressors to resist the mighty wave of justice which threatened to roll over them.

But in the small narrow streets of the gigantic town, in the midst of the silent gloomy walls which had been erected by unknown hands, there grew and ripened the belief of man in the brotherhood of all.

Comrade!

Sometimes here, sometimes there, a spark shot up, destined to grow to a great fire which will spread all over the earth a consciousness of the brotherhood of man. The whole earth will reach out for this fire, and in its flame all wickedness and hatred and all the cruelty which disfigures our life will burn to ashes. Our hearts will be touched by this fire and will melt together into one huge heart of the world—one heart. The hearts of all the sincere and noble minded will be bound together by truly indissoluble bonds of friendship to the great family of free workers.

In the streets of the dead city which had been built by slaves, in the city where cruelty had reigned, there grew and prospered the belief in mankind, the belief in its final victory over itself, and the victory over everything that is bad in the world.

In this chaos of a restless, joyless existence there shone one bright light, a beacon fire of the future, that plain simple word as deep as a soul:

Comrade! —[The Craftsman.

WOMAN'S FIELD

A LITTLE DIALOGUE ON SOCIALISM WHICH HELPS TO MAKE ITS MEANING PLAINER.

"You are always talking about Socialism and I do not even know what you mean. What is it, anyway?"

Pardon me, I have been dull not to explain this before. I will try and do so now, and ask you to read and reread carefully what I try to make plain. When you thoroughly understand and know, I am sure you will talk as much about Socialism as I do.

You know that men and women go out into the world and work for wages, sometimes small and sometimes large ones. You know also that as a man and woman work for somebody, either a woman, man, company or corporation.

"Yes, very good."

Now when a man or woman works for somebody else, he or she gets pay or wages; but the wages are only a part of what the worker produces, the rest of it, (which is not paid in wages) being the share kept by the employer and used by him. This is called "profit" and it generally means much the larger share.

For instance: John works for Mr. Moneybags and gets \$1 per day. Besides this \$1 paid John, Mr. Moneybags expects John to produce enough of whatever he works at, so the profit on this will support Mr. Moneybags and family in luxury besides supplying him with more capital, while John and his family are compelled to live very poorly and hardly have enough to eat and clothe them.

"But profit is right. It always has been so."

A wrong is never made right by what has "always been." The more ancient a wrong is, all the more urgent is its overthrow. For a man and his family to live in luxury and pile up capital off the work of others, while they and their families can hardly have enough to live, needs no words to prove it an unjust arrangement.

"What would John do if Mr. Moneybags did not give work to him? He would starve."

That is an error. Work, as you call it, or the production and distribution of wealth, is not a gift of the Moneybags. It grows out of the necessity of providing food, clothing and shelter for ourselves, and of administering to our intellectual and spiritual wants. There is no danger of John being deprived of work as long as this necessity prevails. What you may have in mind is this: seeing that John receives wages from Mr. Moneybags, you therefore conclude that he is dependent on him, and that, inasmuch as Mr. Moneybags gives him wages, Mr. Moneybags is his benefactor. That is also an error. As we saw, wages is a part of the wealth which the workman or workwoman produces; another and larger part being the employer's profit, with which he supports himself and family in luxury and augments his capital. It follows that instead of being John's benefactor, giving him wages and enabling him to live, Mr. Moneybags is his exploiter, living in affluence and growing ever more powerful on the wealth stolen from him, in the form of profits.

"But Mr. Moneybags put his capital into the factory where John works!"

Where did he get that capital from? The nursery tale that says the beginnings of capital arise from abstinence, is not borne out by the obituaries of the capitalists. The Jay Goulds have their Colonel Pratts, the Rockefellers their ruined competitors—victims of rascalities and crimes to which abstinence, as a moral quality, can in no way be related. In fact, modern history makes stupendous capital synonymous with stupendous crime, both in origin and operation.

"I don't see how you can help this being as it now is."

First, let us see who made all the machinery that does the greatest part of producing wealth on a large scale. You know hand work is used very little now; almost everything is done by machinery.

Did Mr. Moneybags make the machines he has in use in his factory? Not a bit of it! They were planned and thought out, as well as made by workmen, and Mr. Moneybags got them by merely paying for them in wages. Now, if workmen could make the machines they plan and make, they would be able to do work for them-

seives and then could have all they produce. That would mean that instead of getting \$1 per day from Mr. Moneybags, John would have what he now produces, including the larger share which Mr. Moneybags takes in the form of "profit." Then, you see, John would be able to have some of his time to really live, to educate his children, who now must go out to earn money without having had proper education and training; while Mr. Moneybags' children go to College, live well and turn up their noses at John's children, who help to earn their money for them.

"Yes, but if this is true how are you going to help it. I don't see."

In the first place, you will understand that to have all he produces John must possess his own tools, or he will have to pay a big price to Mr. Moneybags for their use, which was what he was doing when he got but \$1 per day. Now, Socialism teaches that John and his fellow workmen must take and hold the tools with which they work, whether such tools are small or large, machines, railroads, factories, etc.

"Oh, that would be stealing if they took such things and did not pay for them."

You forget that John and his fellow workmen thought out and made the machinery and tools of the world. Suppose Mr. Moneybags paid John \$100 in wages for inventing and building a machine and that machine was capable, with the help of one man, of turning out "profits" at the rate of \$25 per day. Do you think John got pay for his machine? No, he simply got what his necessities compelled him to take. That is not saying the deal was right. If a man stood and held a pistol at your head and made you take \$1 when he should give you \$5 would you think that right? Now, John's need to live was so great that Mr. Moneybags used it as a pistol (not a real one, but something just as effectual), with which to force John to make his machine for \$100; and the question of right and justice is just as strong in the one case as the other. So, you see, John is forced to work for \$100 and give up his machine and then he is compelled to work for Mr. Moneybags (or another Moneybags) for almost nothing, in order to make his own machine increase the wealth and power of Mr. Moneybags.

Therefore, taking and holding the machine meant that John has taken back his own and will now have a chance to earn enough so he can spare a share of his time to enjoy life and educate his children so their childhood will not be spoiled by sending them into factories and such places to work.

Socialism means that each one, whether man or woman, shall have all he or she produces; that none of it shall go to some one else in the shape of "profit" and that the tools of production, whether great or small, shall be the common property of all. So the case stands that each would have work, and only have to work half the time now required, while making a better living than is now possible. That would also mean room for all workers, as one would not work ten hours here, while there a man or woman is idle and suffering for want of opportunity to work. All would work and all would have what they produced. Poverty would be unknown and after a time the morals of the people would become refined and humanity uplifted; for you must know, it is the strained conditions of this working hard for a little that produces most of the crimes and ills of life.

"I don't believe poverty would ever cease."

If everybody worked and had all he or she worked for, as each would have under Socialism, how could people be poor unless sick and old? In that case, we surely would be glad to turn in and take care of them, not as a matter of "charity," but as giving them what was their due, as they had been self-supporting as long as they were able.

All of this applies to men and women alike. Think it over and if you wish to ask any questions, do so and you will receive a reply. Seek for light and apply to the Daily and Weekly People for any help you may need.

RHODA M. BROOKS.

A CRITICISM OF THE DECISION

OF THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES, IN THE MOYER-HAYWOOD-PETTIBONE CASES.

(From the Idaho Unionist.)

Roosevelt, while threatening to use the United States regulars to compel the people of San Francisco to admit Japanese children to the same schools, and while children, and while recommending to congress the passage of an act admitting the Porto Ricans to the vote of citizenship, which he denies the three native-born Americans, Moyer, Haywood and Pettibone, says the courts are not above criticism, and in such eminent authority we, in a quaking and trembling, venture to analyze a recent decision of the United States supreme court in the Moyer-Haywood-Pettibone cases and to point out how the law has been overridden by the three accused men deprived of the rights guaranteed to them by the constitution of the United States and as an act of congress relative to extradition.

The reader should bear in mind that in the record before the supreme court, when the decision was rendered, it is not only not denied but it is admitted by the prosecution, that neither Moyer, Haywood nor Pettibone were within the state of Idaho at the time Governor Steunenberg was killed; that Moyer had not been in Idaho for several months prior to that time, and that Haywood and Pettibone had not been within the state for years.

The contention of the defense was, and is, that the courts of Idaho have no jurisdiction over the accused men because of the fact that they were brought to Idaho from Colorado in direct contravention of the constitution of the United States, the act of congress relating to extradition, the decision of the supreme court, and as the result of an admitted conspiracy entered into between the prosecuting attorney of Canyon county, Governor Gooding of Idaho, and Governor McDonald of Colorado, each of whom were advised and well knew that the steps they were taking were in violation of the law.

Section 2 of Article 4 of the constitution of the United States, provides that if "a person charged in any state with treason, felony or other crime, shall flee from justice and be found in another state, shall, on de-

mand of the executive authority of the state from which he fled, be delivered up, to be removed to the state having jurisdiction of the crime."

Section 5278 of the Revised Statutes of the United States, provides that:

"Whenever the executive authority of any state or territory demands any person as a fugitive from justice, of the executive authority of any state or territory to which such person has fled, and produces a copy of an indictment found or an affidavit made before a magistrate of any state or territory, charging the person demanded with having committed treason, felony or other crime, certified as authentic by the governor or chief magistrate of the state or territory from whence the person so charged has fled, it shall be the duty of the executive authority of the state or territory to which such person has fled to cause him to be arrested and secured, and to cause notice of the arrest to be given to the demand, or to the agent of such authority appointed to receive the fugitive, and to cause the fugitive to be delivered to such agent when he shall appear. If no such agent appears within six months from the time of the arrest the prisoner may be discharged. All costs or expenses incurred in the apprehending, securing and transmitting such fugitive to the state or territory making such demand shall be paid by such state or territory."

The supreme court of the United States, in a number of cases, has construed those constitutional and statutory provisions to mean precisely what the language implies, and that is that a person cannot be extradited unless he is a fugitive from justice, and in the case of Hyall vs. New York, 188 U. S. 691, that court said: "The person who is sought must be one who has fled from the demanding state, and he must have fled . . . to the state where he is found."

"It is difficult to see how a person can be said to have fled from the state in which he is charged to have committed some act amounting to a crime against that state, when in fact he was not within the state at the time the

act is said to have been committed. How can a person flee from a place he was not in? He could avoid a place that he had not been in; he could omit to go to it; but how can it be said with accuracy that he has fled from a place in which he had not been present? This is neither a narrow, nor, as we think, an incorrect, interpretation of the statute. It has been in existence since 1793, and we have found no case decided by this court wherein it has been held that the statute covered a case where the party was not in the state at the time when the act is alleged to have been committed. We think the plain meaning of the act requires such presence, and that it was not intended to include, as a fugitive from justice of a state, one who had not been in a state at a time when, if ever, the offense was committed, and who had not, therefore, in fact, fled therefrom."

In the Moyer-Haywood-Pettibone cases the prosecution contends that the defendants instigated the killing of Steunenberg, and for that reason were constructively present when the crime was committed. The same question was raised in the case of Munsey vs. Clough, 196 U. S. 36, decided January 30, 1905, by the same men who decided the case under discussion, and in that case the court said:

"When it is conceded, or when it is so conclusively proved that no question can be made, that the person was not in the demanding state when the crime is said to have been committed, and his arrest is sought on the grounds only of a constructive presence at that time, in the demanding state, then the court will discharge the defendant."

We submit that every man who reads the foregoing and who understands the English language will unhesitatingly say that Moyer, Haywood and Pettibone could not under the law, be extradited from Colorado, they not being fugitives from justice.

Now let us follow the supreme court through a labyrinth of words and ascertain, if we can, upon what legal authority its recent decision is based. It lays great stress upon the decision in the case of Kev vs. Illinois, 119 U. S. 426. In that case Kev was, as a matter of fact, a fugitive from justice, and it was only when his case was brought on for trial that he raised an objection to the methods employed to bring him to Illinois. He contended that his arrest and deportation from Peru was in vio-

lation of the 14th amendment to the constitution, and of certain treaty obligations between this country and Peru. The constitutional provision, with regard to interstate extradition quoted above and upon which we relied, was not raised and could not of necessity be raised, because Kev was brought from a foreign country.

The supreme court absolutely declined to pass upon the question of his deportation to the United States by force and fraud for the reason that our laws afforded no protection against "a forcible seizure in another country." The court also said: "So here, when found within the jurisdiction of the state of Illinois and liable to answer for a crime against the laws of that state unless there was some positive provision of the constitution or of the laws of this country violated, in bringing him into court, it is not easy to see how he can say that he is here without process of law."

In the case just decided there was a "positive provision" of the constitution, to wit: Sec. 2 of Art. 4, "violated," and the law of this country, to wit: Section 5278 of the Revised Statutes of the U. S. was violated.

The distinction between the two cases was clearly defined and pointed out to the court, but "there are none so blind as those who will not see," and the court did not perceive it.

Another case from which Justice Harlan quotes at length, in support of his opinion, is that of Mahon vs. Justice, 127 U. S. 700. In that case also, Mahon was a fugitive from justice, he having killed a man in Kentucky and thereafter fled to West Virginia. The governor of Kentucky issued a requisition for him, but before the governor of West Virginia, honored it, Mahon was kidnapped by private individuals, and taken into Kentucky. In passing upon the case the supreme court of the United States, among other things, said: "The only question therefore, presented for our determination is whether a person indicted for a felony in one state, forcibly abducted from another, and brought to the state where he was indicted, by parties acting without warrant or authority of law, is entitled, under the constitution or the laws of the United States, to release from detention under the indictment by reason of such forcible and unlawful abduction."

The court held that under those circumstances Mahon was not entitled to his release, and referring to the state of Kentucky the court said: "She did

not authorize the unlawful abduction of the prisoner from West Virginia"; and again: "But that was not the act of the state, but of a few of its citizens, for which the constitution of the United States has provided no reparation." And again: "The officers of the law take the requisite process, and the prisoner charged within the jurisdiction and 'this, too, without force, wrong, fraud or violence on the part of any agent of the state or any officers thereof.'"

In the cases of the Federation men it was the states of Colorado and Idaho, acting through their governors, who had conspired together to evade the law, that authorized "the unlawful abduction" of the three men; it was "the act of the states" themselves and not of private citizens; and it was brought about by "force, wrong, fraud and violence" on the part of the agents of the states and the governors thereof, as shown by the uncontradicted record before the supreme court.

In the miners' cases they had no opportunity to apply for a writ of habeas corpus in Colorado, as the officers of the law (?) refused to permit them to consult an attorney, and took them out of the state on a special train, as is admitted in the record, and the case of Cook vs. Hart, 146 U. S. 133, cited by Justice Harlan, has no application to the facts in this case, as Cook not only was a fugitive from justice, but had an opportunity to apply for and did make application for a writ of habeas corpus, and when his right to release was denied by the Illinois courts he did not question the decision but accompanied the officer to Wisconsin, and when his trial came on, after the lapse of several months, he made application to a federal court for a writ, which was very properly denied, as he had not exhausted his remedy in the state courts of Wisconsin.

Mr. Justice Brown of the U. S. supreme court, who wrote the opinion in the Cook case, said that "if he were not, in fact, a fugitive from justice and was entitled to be relieved upon that ground, by the courts of the surrendering state, he ought not to be deprived of that right by a forced deportation from its territory, before he could have an opportunity of suing out a writ of habeas corpus."

In the case of In re Moore, cited by Justice Harlan as authority for his decisions, and with all the matters concealed by false affidavits and testi-

mony, and with all the matters concealed by false affidavits and testi-

SWEDISH WHICH IS RIGHT?

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(Continued on page 6.)

FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION

AN ELOQUENT SUMMARY OF THE "DEAD LINE," THE "PERSONAL RECORD," AND THE "INSURANCE FUND," THOSE GLARING ABUSES PUT UPON THEIR WAGE SLAVES BY THE GREAT RAILROAD CORPORATIONS.

[Chapter I. of "His Personal Record," by Wm. John Pinkerton, Transportation Worker, delegate to the late I. W. W. Convention.]

Experience, it is popularly supposed, increases a man's value to society, no matter how humble or how exalted his station. Years spent in perfecting himself in his chosen profession, craft, or trade are accounted so much capital by the lawyer, physician, sculptor, painter, stone-mason, or carver of wood. Experience is the world-wide test of reliability, the gauge of safety. The framers of the Constitution of the United States held that a man had not reached the age of maturity until thirty-five years had tried him in their fire and currents of adversity. When they agreed upon that clause of our governing code which closes the office of President of this Republic against men under thirty-five, they set what has long been supposed to be the bar at which the period of a man's usefulness actually begins; the standard of age for a nation.

But capitalism has set a different standard of age. The great railroad companies have declared that a man has progressed beyond the period of usefulness at from twenty-five to thirty-five years. Thirty-eight is the average standard age limit of most of the great railway corporations of the United States. One who has lost his position through resignation or discharge, in many of the departments of service on all the big systems, is barred from further employment at the vocation at which he has spent the morning of his life, if his age is above the limit. The limit for the various occupations, in "station order," to use a railroad term, is: firemen, 25; brakemen, 28; switchmen, 35; engineer, 37; shopman, 45.

"Public safety demands caution, and caution is synonymous with youth, clear eyes and clear brains," say the railway capitalists, folding their hands complacently across their paunches. And the public feels a little ripple of gratitude, an electric thrill of safety flash up its back, and it snuggles contentedly against the cushions and lapses into a doze. But wait a minute.

It is the province of this book to tell you the age limit is unjust; wherein works hardship and suffering; drives a man to criminal practices, destitution, a suicide, and sacrifices the public because experience is cheaper in the labor market than experience—cheaper for the capitalist who buys.

It shall be the endeavor of the writer to make plain the abuses practiced by the great railway corporations of the United States against their employes, to give you for the same, without malice, but bias; to read his indictment before a tribunal of public opinion—the forum which there is no appeal.

It is not generally known that the age limit of railroad corporations is thirty-eight years. Some companies, in their eager thirst for new blood and their jealous care of the public safety, have materially reduced this standard.

It is not generally known that all the great railway companies of the United States maintain systems of espionage and espionage of information, interchangeable and unlimited in scope, through which every act of the employes' life is traced, tabulated, and in time arrayed against him; that an applicant for a position in the traffic service of a railroad must fill out a "personal record" blank, covering his entire life, and must file, in many cases, a tintype photograph of himself—a tintype because it cannot be retouched, and because it will show, therefore, all facial marks and blemishes that surgery might, at some future time, remove.

The public does not know that a candidate for employment on a railroad is subjected to a more rigid physical examination than a recruit to the United States Army, or any army, for that matter. The public is not aware that some stripping from the bench of a machine medical college is the final arbiter in such case, and that experience and qualifications must yield to his distorted ideas of physical perfection. Give the medical examiner a good animal, sound of wind and limb, fresh from the handles of the plow, and he will not thump the occupant for a hollow sound. But the veteran railroad man, with the tip of a finger missing since he made a coupling in the dark one winter night, is thrown on the rubbish-heap undone by his experience.

It must not be surmised, at the beginning, that the writer objects to or that the brotherhoods of railway employes are antagonistic to a reasonable physical examination—examination for color-blindness and hearing, which is a safeguard to public welfare. But a protest is entered, emphatic, strenuous, against it.

universal practice of these greedy powers of making the physical examination and age limit serve as excuse for disposing of the veteran before he shall become a subject for participation in the various so-called "relief funds," unjustly retained and employed under the guise of charity.

Millions of dollars are collected annually in hospital and pension fund assessments by the railroad companies of the United States. Not one-tenth of the money thus collected is ever expended, and yet it is not charged that the railroads do not fulfill their obligations. But, by ridding themselves of old employes and taking in their places men who are less liable to lay claim to assistance, they protect these vast funds and have the millions for use in the prosecution of their business. It is cheaper by far than issuing bonds. Good risks, and good risks only, are wanted by the insurance departments of the railways. They are jealous in the protection of these vast funds, to which they do not contribute one cent themselves; careful that the men who maintain them are removed before age or misfortune shall make them subject to the benefit to which, in human justice, they are entitled. This reason, and this alone, is the explanation of the age limit and physical standards of railroads. This will be made plain as we progress.

That these gross injustices are practiced is due alone to the lack of unity in the various organizations of railway employes. Instead of federating, as their employers have done, for the purpose of eliminating competition, they have each other by the ears over trivial matters—matters of no moment in comparison with the wrongs practiced against them in the form of age limits, physical examinations, and the perfect system of black-listing.

There is a caste among the brotherhoods of railway employes. The touch of one is defiling to another, each imagining itself a degree above its neighbor at the right or the left. Questions of precedence, of etiquette, mind you, divide them and blind them to the evils men work against them.

The railroad companies are cognizant of these dissensions. They nurse them, as a scientist cultivates germs, knowing that a house divided is a weak opponent. The railroad companies realize that concerted action on the part of their employes would put an end to the reign of greed and the rule of merciless depopulation.

A united protest must come sooner or later. When it shall come, the railroads desire to be prepared. They see the shadows of coming events; they know the various brotherhoods will forget their internal jealousies and strife and take up these flagrant injustices in their conventions of the near future; they know that the indiscriminate dismissal of men without reason or excuse, without explanation or warning, will school those who remain in the feeble tenure of their own positions. The railroad companies have a well-defined purpose in hounding men from place to place, persecuting them from lodgment to lodgment, driving them, on account of some old score—some part in the great A. R. U. strike, perhaps, or some small falsification in a personal record—at last out of the vocation they have grown into and followed until their minds are molded around it and their hands are cunning in its ways; in driving them at last into the degrading station and abject slavery fate has fashioned for the unskilled, unclass laborer.

Hardship and persecution break the manhood of the bravest. The railroad man who has been black-listed, hunted from place to place, forced to abandon the name of his father, like a criminal or disgraced outcast, in order to free himself from the shadow of some previous personal record in which the date of his birth stands between him and his chance of further employment at the only trade he knows, loses faith in the potency of unionism. He grows bitter in time, and resentful. He argues:

"My union has done nothing for me in the hour of my extremity; it has not reached out its hand to stay the lash; it has not comforted me. In the strength of my youth, the confident morning of my life, I was faithful to it, and now, like a wanton mistress, it turns from me when the luster is dying from my hair and the footprints of experience track my brow." It is to this reasoning the railroads desire to bring him. Then, when the strike comes, their agents seek him. He takes out the abandoned engine, or makes up the train in the congested yards. Chance, fortune, circumstance has favored him again. He sees the path he has followed the better part of his life again open to him, even though

he must begin it anew at reduced wage. But, he believes he has been wronged more deeply than he can wrong. It is an individual struggle, as it appears to him, each man for himself. So he turns deaf ears to entreaties, threats, slanders. He becomes a scab.

The larger this floating, discontented, almost desperate element, the better for the railroads in time of need. In pursuing this course the railroad companies are taking advantage of the lack of unity and concentration of force in the unions to turn them against themselves. This is the principal reason for the black-list or personal record system.

The outcast "scab" is used until some student, innocent of a past and of experience, can be persuaded, under protection of the United States militia, to take his place. Then, its purpose accomplished, the corporation relaxes its hold upon the broken tool, and the public pays, in bereavements and anguish, suffering and death and loss of limb resulting from terrible disasters, for the tutelage of the inexperienced man.

It is easily understood why a railroad prefers spending half a million dollars a year in defending, defeating, and adjusting claims for damages, to employing experienced men. As before stated, the railroads desire to flood the country with men skilled in all branches of the service to be used in time of trouble. To aid in accomplishing this end they have not alone the iniquitous personal record and physical examination systems, but the bugbear of operating expenses. Department is pitted against department, superintendent against superintendent, when when it becomes necessary, from the viewpoint of "high finance," to increase dividends.

The word goes out that operating expenses must be reduced and department heads get busy. Rerrenchment is made sometimes by actual reduction in the daily wages of the employes, sometimes by increase in the handling of tonnage, and again by adding mileage to monthly men and reducing the number employed, besides replacing brakemen on passenger trains by negro porters, who will perform in a way the brakeman's work as well as all sorts of menial tasks at less than half their pay. These rerrenchments open channels by which a big road can reduce its operating expenses a million of dollars or more yearly. What does "high finance" care about human life and big legal department costs, so long as the dividends may be increased?

To the discharge of experienced brakemen on passenger trains and the employment of cheap negro porters in their stead is due the alarming increase in railroad disasters during the past five years. Inexperience and limited intelligence cannot be burdened by detail. The porter-brakeman must clean cuspidors, carry water to passengers, make down berths, and do many other things. The protection of his train is incidental, and he is schooled by his employer to look upon it as such. Since the advent of the student brakeman, the wise and safe regulations that formerly governed the protection of trains by flagging have been changed. Now, in place of the application of common sense, these matters, upon which hundreds of human lives are daily dependent, are left entirely to the judgment of the student brakeman, or the black man pressed into service from a menial position in saloon, restaurant, or hotel.

What is the judgment of such an employe worth at a critical time? What does he know of grades, momentum, liability of failure in mechanical appliances, of the countless contingencies that arise in a moment, and that only practical experience can school a man to meet?

The training of a railroad man is a matter of years. One who has entered the service at twenty has become thoroughly seasoned at thirty-five. For the next ten years of his life he is worth more to his employer than he was during the fifteen years of his apprenticeship. He has served in many capacities, in many parts of the country. He is familiar with the peculiarities of different sections, of traffic on mountain grade and level plain. He very likely will bear scars, but they will be trade-marks of his genuineness, and it is unjust to turn them against him.

My own life is a fair sample of that of the experienced railroad man. It is marked by failures, defeats, successes, and adventures of many kinds. I have written my personal record at length, herein. I have carried with it a story now and then to serve an illumination when the run of it begins to weary, and I have made my argument against the injustices we are made to suffer. I am a switchman, and as such am now across the dead-line. I am an old man, in the eyes of the medical examiner and my employers, and must soon give way to new timber. And I know when I am turned adrift that my railroad career will be ended, because I am burdened with the weight of years. My personal record stands against me. It shows that I am thirty-seven.

SOCIALISM THE CURE

FOR MONSTROUS ECONOMIC INEQUALITIES, SAYS SCIENTIST.

Prof. H. L. Call, at Columbia Meeting of American Scientists Denounces Capitalist System of Exploitation for Private Profit, and Advocates Social Ownership of All Means of Production and Distribution—Speech Creates Sensation.

The capitalist system of private ownership of the means of production was denounced as the curse of American life, and Socialism boldly proclaimed as the only cure, on Dec. 25, at the session of the section of social and economic science, at the 5th annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, then in session at Columbia University.

Seven hundred scientists, representing practically every college of importance in the United States, were at the meeting of the Association. With the association assembled nineteen affiliated societies. The association is made up of ten different divisions dealing with mathematics and astronomy, physics, chemistry, mechanical science and engineering, geology and geography, zoology, botany, anthropology, social and economic science and physiology and experimental medicine.

Dec. 25th's most interesting session was that of the section of social and economic science in the course of which Henry Laurens Call in a speech on "The Concentration of Wealth" created a sensation by declaring that 1 per cent of the population of the United States owned 95 per cent of the wealth, condemning corporations as the cause of these unnatural conditions, and recommending Socialism as a cure.

Of John D. Rockefeller he said: "Rockefeller is the leading exponent of corporation competition as against individual competition. His millions have come to him only because he controls corporations. The concentration of wealth into such fortunes as his has practically divided industrial society into classes—the enormously rich and the miserably poor."

Continuing, Prof. Call declared: "As a result of this wealth concentration industrial society is practically divided into the two classes of the enormously rich and the miserably poor; our 18,000,000 wage earners receive an average of but \$400 per year; nine-tenths of our business men are notorious failures; our clergy receive an average annual salary of about \$500; the average for educators of the land is even lower and the income of other professional men in proportion; while of our 6,000,000 farmers, one-third are tenants, and the homes of one-third of the remaining two-thirds are mortgaged, and a debt burden is almost universal.

"We are, in fact, a nation of debtors our public and private mortgage, bond and general indebtedness alone reaching a probable total of \$30,000,000,000 or \$375 per capita, in other words, an amount equal to thirteen and one-half times our per-capita money circulation and twenty two times our savings bank deposits. But the stocks of our industrial, financial and public service corporations are expected to draw dividends, and constitute as truly an indebtedness upon the part of the public to the owners of wealth as do mortgages and bonds themselves; and these under their present enormous overcapitalization, would swell our indebtedness to a profitable total far in excess of the \$110,000,000,000 estimated as the total aggregate wealth of the nation; the whole being a first lien upon the toil and property of the nation, with the power given to these corporations to levy what tax they please thereon.

"These conditions are not normal nor the result of natural law or casuation, but are instead the result of a monopoly of land and mineral resources, of money, of transportation; and other public utilities as also of industry. This monopoly has, moreover, been brought about by means of the corporation, industrial, financial and public service. It is thus the work of human law alone, the product of vicious institutions.

"The corporation as constituted is in fact a monstrosity in our industrial system.

"But if the conditions outlined are the result alone of unjust and vicious institutions, then to law must we look for their correction. The corporation should yet be made co-operative, social, instead of as now the instrument of private greed. In the first place, the ownership of public utilities, such as railways, street and the like, should be in the public, as also the control and distribution of money. The corporation principle and function should likewise be extended to mines, as also to land in cities and elsewhere required for joint use and occupancy, with perhaps a reasonable restriction upon non-occupant ownership of land. And finally, the trust, like pub-

McCAFFREY RESIGNS

(Concluded from last week.)

With the working class the struggle assumes a different cast. The proletariat owns no property. Its strength does not flow from the ownership but from the non-ownership of property. Classes whose prestige grew from their ownership of property, no matter in what form were entirely dominated by it, especially in this true of a commodity or capitalist producing society. The proletariat's power comes from its domination over property; comes from a knowledge that capitalism is dependent upon it—so completely dependent upon it that the wheels of industry cannot be moved one cog if the working class say stop. The strength of labor keeps pace with the increased development of this consciousness, which in turn is followed by the rise of a new moral sentiment which affirms that they who operate the industries of the land should own those industries. Thus the class spirit manifests itself in the cry for solidarity in industries and in politics. The strike is the great schoolmaster which taught the working class the power it wielded over the instruments of production, which destroyed its adherence to capitalist private property, which taught it to understand that the capitalist class is a brigand crew, that capitalist society is a pirate ship that must be scuttled and sunk.

The strike pointed out the political road leading to the citadel of the praxy—the government. The strike begun, the strike will end, the revolution. A political party, therefore, although it be revolutionary is not the socialist movement but a representative of the socialist organization operating in the territory of the enemy. As a minister to a foreign court though vested with full governmental powers, may receive his passports or be recalled from his post of duty, so the political representative of the working class may be destroyed by the state or disband by the socialist movement. A socialist party is a vehicle made up from paper ballots careering the highways of capital to the socialist republic. The power that drives this vehicle is the economic force of labor. If the wagon isn't mired in the corruption of the system, nor blown to pieces by the cannons of the capitalist class we can reach our destination by that road. If destruction overtakes it, in that case the economic equipage built of socialist fibre and driven by the energy of the revolution must enter the new society through the avenues of industry. So these people who claim that the S. P. is the socialist movement are like the critics who told Marx that politics was the basis of the ancient world as Catholicism underlaid the feudal system. Marx' reply was, that the Greeks and Romans could not live on politics no more than the people of the middle ages could live on Catholicism. The S. P. is like the lost maverick. It does not know where it came from or where it is going, but it is on the way. The owner failed to brand it, therefore does not know it. Not being known, no owner is acknowledged. This gives us a pure and simple unbranded calf bawling in a political wilderness. The S. P. is the A. F. of L. materialized in the political world while the visages of other organizations may have from time to time made their appearance as was the case in Nebraska when the G. O. P. used it as trading stock or in New Jersey, Arkansas and Nebraska where the I. W. W. showed its face, but these were only spirit manifestations. The A. F. of L. alone has the power of materialization. What the A. F. of L. is on the industrial field, the S. P. is in politics. The A. F. of L. declares for no politics in the union; the S. P. cries neutrality on the union question. The A. F. of L. howls craft autonomy; its echo is the S. P. in state autonomy. The exclusion of the so-called backward races is moved by the one and seconded by the other; both hate degrading charity and advocate as remedy the exploitation of the unemployed workman on public highways. The A. F. of L. fortifies its craftsmen behind high initiation walls; the S. P. would make a year's residence in a city a qualification for getting work. The A. F. of L. is the bulwark of capitalism; the S. P. is its outpost. Both are united against the I. W. W.—the socialist movement.

Comrades, we have seen that every utility, should be made co-operative in the workers, a public, not a private possession. Moreover, in the taking charge of these properties by condemnation on proceedings some restriction should be made to the public of these enormous and iniquitous accumulations of which it has been despoiled. In the complex situation manifestly the most just as well as the most feasible solution would be to fix some maximum limit, as the amount which any man can be said to have acquired honestly, or which he could have acquired under just conditions—all above such limit reverting to the public from the holdings in the corporations."

BERNARD McCaffrey.

society has its period of growth and decay and is succeeded by a new social order with new foundations, laws, customs and institutions. We have seen that gentile society laid the foundations of slavery; slavery of feudalism; feudalism, of capitalism; and capitalist society, the framework of the socialist republic. We have seen that no society can be transformed from within; that it must be smashed from without; that not only does this apply to society as a whole but it applies to every organization, based upon the laws of the movement of that society. We have seen that the A. F. of L. is a capitalist organization, built upon capitalist premises and governed by capitalist morals. We have seen that the S. P. is the A. F. of L. politically masked and therefore instead of being the socialist movement, that it is an adjunct to capitalism, parading in Socialist disguise. We have seen that the I. W. W. IS THE SOCIALIST MOVEMENT, containing all the elements of the Socialist republic; that the political party is only a way opened by other classes in their struggle for supremacy, for the proletariat to enter the new society; in other words, that it is a weapon that condition compelled the ruling class to place in the hands of the working class; a weapon which only the revolutionary proletariat industrially organized has the power to wield. It alone can carve the way through the ramparts of capitalism; it alone can enter the domain of labor.

In conclusion, I wish to affirm that it is well for us who are attempting to organize the proletariat to ask ourselves the question what state of mind will this organization to which we belong, develop in its members? Will it suggest thoughts that will tend to cement them together into one compact whole: or will it beget a frame of mind that will serve to divide them into antagonistic groups whose very antagonism gives them over bound and gagged to the mercy of their masters? This is the problem which confronts us, the solution of which depends upon a clear understanding of socialism and its accurate application to the society we are helping to build up. Ignorance of this great arbiter of human affairs has destroyed or rendered impotent the labor organizations of the world. Therefore, it behooves us to avoid the pitfalls of misery, into which blockheads have led and are leading the working class.

Comrades, you are in bad company and the quicker you get out the better for the labor movement. An I. W. W. member has no place in the S. P. He who assists in building up the S. P. is bolstering up the A. F. of L.; as he who aids in the growth of the democratic and republican parties helps the economic groups from which they draw their nourishment, he who assists in destroying the S. P. assists in tearing down the A. F. of L. and in building up the I. W. W.; as he who helps to weaken the democratic party, strengthens the republican party and through it the element it represents and vice versa; as he who saps the vitality of all three parties and the groups from which they sprung, strikes capitalism a deadly blow, by raising up the economic and political organizations of labor.

Yours for the revolutionary organizations of labor—the I. W. W. and the S. L. P.

BERNARD McCaffrey.

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, 2-6 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 rooms at 409 East Seventh street. Public educational meetings Sunday evenings. People readers are invited to our rooms and meetings.

Section Chicago, Ill., meets second and Fourth Wednesday in the month, 8 p. m. at 502 Fulton street.

Sec. Cleveland, Ohio, S. L. P. meets every alternate Sunday, beginning first Sunday in November, 1906, at 356 Ontario street (Ger. Am. Bank Bldg.) top floor, at 3 P. M.

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Section San Francisco, Cal., S. L. P. Headquarters, Hungarian Socialist Federation, Lettonian Socialist Labor Federation, 709 Octavia street.

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Table with 2 columns: Year (1888-1904) and Socialist Vote in the United States (2,068-34,172).



Subscription price of the Weekly People: 50 cents a year; 25 cents for six months.

Force is the midwife of every old society pregnant with a new one. It is itself an economic power. —MARX.

DENNIS IN THE PULPIT.

Driven by the hand of an unkind fate, Bishop William Stang chose the textile center of Fall River—Fall River, where, under the politico-pontifical benediction of the amalgamated brotherhoods of politicians and pulpiters, riotous wealth is amassed by the idle capitalist class, while the toiling working class receives, according to both the national and the late Massachusetts census, an average of only \$7.64 per week—to deliver a sermon against Socialism in which the devil played the star role.

Being "divles" and "anti-Christ's" the Socialists can have no exact information upon the subject, nevertheless we have a dim impression that somewhere, in a certain book called the Bible, a certain personality, called Jesus, is reported to have said: "It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God"; and elsewhere else: "Woe unto you that are rich"; and again somewhere else: "Verily I say unto you, That a rich man shall hardly enter into the kingdom of heaven." We furthermore are of the impression—under the reservation above mentioned—that the views just quoted sat ill on the stomach of the rich and their ecclesiastical lackeys of that time; that the utterer of those views was denounced for one who "sowed the seed of discord among the rich and the poor," and that he was made to suffer no end of agonies therefor.

So far so good, and rather an astonishing confession on the part of the head of a capitalist Government. After Sir Henry, spoke Mr. John—John Burns, the "Labor" member of the cabinet. He said: "Infant mortality often springs from other causes than those which the factory inspector can prevent. One of the chief contributing factors towards the high mortality rates in districts where housing is relatively good, and where wages are fairly high, is the tendency on the part of the people to spend on beer what they should lay out on food for their children."

The personality, who made the utterances above quoted, is the Master that Bishop Stang is supposed to serve. Has the Bishop denied his Master? We doubt it. Not Jesus is the Master of the Stangs. The features of the Stangs, and of those who reason as the Stangs do, have been engraved with matchless burin by Dickens in the character that he draws in "Barnaby Rudge" of Dennis the hangman, who joined the "No Popery!" riots in England under Lord George Gordon. Dennis argued: "If these Papists gets into power, and begins to boil and roast instead of hang, what becomes of my work that is part of so many laws [there were at the time about 50 hanging laws, offences for which hanging was the penalty]; what becomes of the laws in general; what becomes of religion; what becomes of the country? When I heard the Parliament prayed for, and thought how many new hanging laws they made every session, I considered that I was prayed for."—The philosophy of the hangman Dennis is the philosophy of the Stangs; the Master whom Dennis served when he joined the "No Popery!" riots is the Master whom the Stangs serve when they join plun-

dering capitalists' cry against Socialism.

Well may Archbishop Ireland, in face of what is happening in Catholic France, utter his note of warning to the Stangs in America.

DRINKING BLOOD!

The facts adduced in the case against the American Ice Company point to conclusions of a cruelty that transcends the darkest pages of even capitalist cruelty. It is cruelty to children, to children at their mothers' breasts! The Trust first reduced the ice fields, available for the summer supply, to one-third of what they were last year. Thereupon the Trust proceeded to raise prices higher and still higher, three, four, five hundred per cent. On top of that the Trust watered its stock, not by drops, or cupfuls, or pailfuls, but by whole hog-headfuls. The assets claimed by the Trust amount to \$46,325,488. Of this amount only \$12,964,892 was tangible. In other words, \$33,360,596 was water—or nearly three times as much water as wine! Nor was this all. The Trust declared a 9 per cent. dividend on its inflated or watered assets; the dividends actually raked in, considering the much smaller real assets, were nearer to 33 per cent., or \$4,169,293 of plunder—plunder? Nay blood.

In order that the Trust owners should enjoy the summer, and be ready for the rigors of the winter, the poor had to bleed. But not the poor adults merely, the poor babes especially. Addressing a "mothers' meeting" a few weeks ago at an uptown public school, one of those well-fed female lecturers to workingmen's wives upon their "derelictions" stated that 24,500 little ones had died in the city the previous year. How many of these were parched to death for the want of ice that has become a necessary of life! ?!

It is no figure of speech. The capitalist class is a vampire class. Thirsting for the wealth that Labor produces, the capitalist class also thirsts for the blood of the working class—and drains it. It is not sparkling wine, it is the blood of children that the Ice Trust magnates are quaffing.

PAYING THE PRICE.

Infant mortality has reached such a pitch in England that Government has found it necessary to turn its thoughts upon the plague. Accordingly Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, the Premier, recently held the following language to a deputation: "While the standard of health of the general community goes on improving, the children's death-rate gets worse and worse. Children must be well-born and well-bred or nurtured. In order to further the former, favorable conditions must be established for the performance of the functions of motherhood. Mothers are worked when they ought not to be worked; they are taken back to work before they ought to be taken back to work; and they have neither the means, nor the power, nor the vital energy to perform their part in this matter."

After Sir Henry, spoke Mr. John—John Burns, the "Labor" member of the cabinet. He said: "Infant mortality often springs from other causes than those which the factory inspector can prevent. One of the chief contributing factors towards the high mortality rates in districts where housing is relatively good, and where wages are fairly high, is the tendency on the part of the people to spend on beer what they should lay out on food for their children."

"Labor" member of the cabinet Burns' words remove what was surprising in the capitalist Premier's utterances. The latter's utterances were in the nature of those numerous "Labor" bills passed by Senate or Assembly here in America with the knowledge that they will be afterwards pigeonholed or scuttled in Assembly or Senate. The charge made against the capitalists by the "Senate" Campbell-Bannerman, was made with the knowledge that it was to be scuttled by the "Assembly" Burns. It was a comedy, nor can tactfulness and skill in the artistic distribution of the parts be denied to whomsoever planned the farce. The Working Class "got it in the neck" in gentle, yet none the less effective style. The role of justice to Labor and indignation towards capitalists was assigned to a capitalist, the role of justice to capitalists, and indignation towards wicked Labor was assigned to a "Laborite." Had Sir Henry held the language of Mr. John, the workingmen might say he was prejudiced; but the slander upon the Working Class, dropping from the lips of Mr. John, is expected both to disarm their objection and to encourage the Capitalist Class to pursue undeterred their career of promoting drunkenness through low wages and unsanitary shop conditions, of unsexing women, of

blighting motherhood, of blasting the child, and then shielding themselves behind the insult of drunkenness added to the injury of robbery.

John Burns was but paying the price of his "elevation to the cabinet"—the price ever contracted for and agreed upon between the party of the first part and the party of the second part, when a workingman receives a capitalist political job—the betrayal of his class.

KINGS COUNTY GRAND JURY'S CHRISTMAS PRESENT.

Barcly nine months ago the Grand Jury for Manhattan made a presentment to the effect that it abstained from finding indictments against the Insurance officers on the ground that if it indicted them, then, "the leading officials of the leading financial institutions of the State and County would have to be indicted also." That presentment was in the nature of a peace-setter. Thitherto the theory was that indictments were to be found, or not found, according to the presence or absence of proof of guilt. The new theory, the pace set by the April Grand Jury of Manhattan was that, not the presence or absence of guilt concerns Grand Juries, but the "station in life" of men. Guilt becomes Virtue if committed by capitalist magnates. Or, in other words, a wrong, if profitable to the capitalist class, was good ground for piling up another wrong—the affording of protection to the guilty. Speedily has the Kings County Grand Jury fallen into the new lock-step.

The Kings County Grand Jury for December recommended the abolition of home work among public school children. After giving some alleged and disingenuously pedagogic reasons for the recommendation, the Kings County Grand Jury proceeds to state its real reasons, to wit: "It is growing more and more difficult, in our opinion, for children to study at home BECAUSE OF THE GREATLY INCREASED NUMBER OF FAMILIES WHO ARE LIVING UNDER CONDITIONS WHICH MAKE IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR STUDENTS TO SHUT THEMSELVES ABSOLUTELY AWAY FROM THE DISTRACTING INFLUENCES OF THE BALANCE OF THE FAMILY AND WHAT IT MAY BE DOING."—In other words, the deepening misery into which capitalism thrusts increasing numbers of families of the land is not a subject for Grand Jury presentments; the capitalist wrongs that are undermining the opportunity for the children of increasing numbers of families to acquire an education—those Wrongs must be taken for Virtues. Instead of the Wrongs being removed and the social system adapted to the Virtues that civilization demands, society is to be adapted to the Wrongs committed by Capitalism. Seeing that the "homes" of the Working Class are becoming more and more miserable, and that owing thereto the school children's opportunities for doing home work are poorer and poorer, instead of improving the "homes," home work is to be abolished!

Such is the Christmas present that the Kings County Grand Jury, following the pace of the Grand Jury of Manhattan, tenders to the children of the Working Class.

QUIT YOUR CACKLING!

The towering divorce figures, that are coming to the surface in every State that furnishes statistics on the subject, have set the tongues of politician-essayists, professors and pulpiters awagging in their usual style. The gentry raise in chorus the cry: "More moral preaching!" The answer to the cry is: "Quit your cackling, if not braying!"

Marriage and Divorce are "economic sacraments." For the same reason that pears cannot grow on thistles, even if the farmer were to preach "morality" till he was black in the face, neither can marriage flourish on the thorny stalk of adverse economic and social conditions—not if all the morality-preaching brotherhood shouted themselves into chronic sore throats. As in the case of pears, the question is, What is the tree from which it is expected? In the case of marriage the question is, What are the social and economic conditions? The facts on the subject are enough to set on end the hair on the noddies of all those who are traveling placidly over the seething volcano of modern society.

In the United States there is an excess of males over females to the huge number 1,438,321. Nor is this symptom bad enough. Closer inquiry renders it worse. The inequality in the number of the sexes is not distributed equally over the land. In nine States, all Atlantic States,—Vermont, Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey, Maryland, Virginia, the Carolinas and Georgia—females exceed males in number, while in three western States—Nevada, Wyoming and Montana—the males are over sixty per cent. of the population. There is worse. In the counties of densest population in the manufacturing eastern States the pre-

ponderance of women is such that many a town is known as a she-town. Theoretically, this rending of the sexes apart denotes unfavorable economic conditions. The theory is proved true by the latest figures for Massachusetts, where only 19,475 wage earners are found earning more than \$20 a week, while the wages for 437,469 others ranged from \$15 down to \$5, and less—and this with a cost of living that has increased fifty-five per cent, since 1896. Needless to say that where such starvation conditions prevail among the masses of wealth-producers, immorality is bound to riot among the wealth-plunderers, while immoral practices cannot but be promoted all along the line. Accordingly, while the Nation's "elite" sanctimoniously indigates over the polygamous theories of Utah Senator Smoot, in manufacturing towns of the East the inverted polygamous practice is cropping up of several women clubbing together to keep one man; in the West polyandry gains ground; and everywhere the sumptuous houses of prostitution attest to the simultaneously polygamous and polyandrous practices that capitalism promotes among its elect.

Is it possible for marriage to flourish under such conditions? The Spanish-American War raised a bit of the curtain over this state of things. From General Merritt down, officers in the Army and Navy began marrying by the scores—the War furnished the material means for the consummation of relations that the absence of these means had barred. The facts on this head are so numerous one knows not where to begin. Just to mention one that has a gruesome bearing on the subject: The Vermont chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution encourages young girls to marry DECREPIT VETERANS,—with a pension!

Where marriages are rendered difficult by economic pressure, divorce must flourish. The essence of divorce is not the sundering of ties knotted by aldermen or parsons. Divorced are not only those whom magistrates "legally" separate; divorced are also those who are kept apart when they should be united; divorced, de facto divorced, are above all the vast number of those, who, though externally "married", are de facto separated, are divorced as though wide stretches of seas and lands lay between them,—that vast number whose "marriage" is typified by the union of young girls with decrepit veterans who draw pensions.

The true figures of the divorced in the land are so huge that the imbecile whine of the "anti-divorce" moralists sounds like mockery—is insult added to injury. To say nothing of the hundreds of men, women and children killed outright in factories, or slowly killed by factory conditions, there is hardly a vote taken in a Union by a raise of hands but reveals a number of mutilated limbs. Against this "Congo Inhumanity" at home, practiced by the capitalist class in its thirst for the wealth produced by the workmen, J. Pierpont Morgan and "twenty of the most eminent clergymen, financiers and educators" have no protest. Their protest, addressed to Washington, is only against the distant "Congo Inhumanities." The sincere indignant indigates at a nearby wrong (which he can directly redress) as quickly as against a far away wrong (which he can not so quickly reach).

The findings of the master in chancery in the case against ex-President Sherman must have hit his routed pure and simple political Socialist fellow conspirators as hard as those findings hit him. While The People published the findings in full, the Chicago "Daily Socialist" of December 22 suppresses them almost wholly, and gives a garbled little report into which it injects five distinct lies headed by the whooper that the "court" sustains Sherman. Small and foolish men (all the more when they are licked), small and foolish methods.

The New York "American" promises that within a week evidence will be placed before the Supreme Court of the State involving a number of officials from Aldermen up to State Railroad Commissioners, the "Mayor" and a Supreme Court Justice. The "American" has hitherto scrupulously redeemed all such promises. The cry may now be expected to go up again: "Whoever does not agree with Hearst becomes a scoundrel." It is the regulation cry of crooks.

Now it is Rockefeller who sounds a "warning." What has come over the dreams of our Caesars? Are they like Margaret Fuller, who was said to be so well informed that knowledge gave to her a sense of divination that appeared prophetic? Does their intimate knowledge of the body economic enable them to foresee disaster?

THINKING IN BILLIONS.

Richard H. Edmonds, editor of the Manufacturers' Record, is in favor of establishing a new way of regarding "our" great material development and the "prosperity" attending it, during the last quarter of a century. He declares that "until we learn to think in billions" we cannot measure its meaning. Mr. Edmonds goes further; not content with declarations, he proceeds to develop means to the end. He piles up columns of figures according to decades, and, by way of emphasis, illustrates them with blocks of increasing lengths.

Despite his efforts, however, Socialists are not inclined to sympathize with Mr. Edmonds' new method of thinking. It is an old device revamped. The capitalists designate as national the wealth that belongs to themselves. They make themselves and society one in order to hide the poverty of the majority in an immense aggregation of wealth that really belongs to a few. So with "our prosperity" and the billions in which "we" are to think; the first does not exist, the second belong to a declining percentage of persons. This fact is revealed, for example, in the figures relating to farm values and people engaged in agriculture given by Mr. Edmonds, when analyzed with the aid of United States Census figures. This set of figures are among the most important given by Mr. Edmonds.

According to them, from 1870 to 1905, the value of all farm property in the United States increased from \$8,000,000,000 to \$26,570,000,000. That is, the value almost trebled. In the same period, the number of persons engaged in agriculture jumped from 5,922,000 to 11,500,000. That is, they almost doubled in number. On the face of it, this would indicate an increase of wealth for the whole farming population amounting to 50 per cent. When scanned in the light of the census statistics, however, it means an increased concentration of wealth, with all that implies. The census gives the following figures on farms, farm owners, cash and share tenants, and the percentages of the last three for the decades 1880 to 1890 inclusive:—

1880—Number of farms, 4,098,997; owners, 2,984,306; cash tenants, 322,357; share tenants, 792,344. Per cent., owners, 74.5; cash tenants, 8.0; share tenants, 17.5.

1890—Number of farms, 4,564,641; owners, 3,269,728; cash tenants, 454,659; share tenants, 840,254. Per cent., owners, 71.8; cash tenants, 10.0; share tenants, 18.4.

1900—Number of farms, 5,737,408; owners, 3,712,408; cash tenants, 761,655; share tenants, 1,273,299. Per cent., owners, 64.7; cash tenants, 13.1; share tenants, 22.2.

A steady decline in the percentage of farm owners, the difference between the decades 1880 and 1900 amounting to 10 per cent.—that is what the figures reveal. At the same time there is a proportionate increase in the percentage of cash and share tenants. This decreased percentage in farm owners and increase in tenants of both classes despite the trebling of farm values, takes no account of farm laborers. Were these specified the result would be more damaging to Mr. Edmonds' "new" idea and its "illuminating" blocks. In 1900, according to the census, farm owners' and cash and share tenants combined numbered 5,738,368; while Mr. Edmonds' figures give the number of people engaged in agriculture in the same year, as 10,428,000, or almost double the combined number of farm owners and tenants of the two classes named.

All these facts, taken together, point to a concentration of wealth in agriculture, accompanied, as is the concentration of wealth in general, by increasing dependence, exploitation and wage slavery. They completely knock out the prosperous conditions for all agriculturalists that are implied in Mr. Edmonds' "thoughts in billions"; and explain the existence of radical bourgeois movements among the farmers.

The analysis of farm statistics here made is applicable to any other set of Mr. Edmonds' figures. The set relating to the railroads, for instance, show capitalization, freight tons and prospective expenditures, running up into the billions each; nevertheless, thousands of employes are compelled to resort to strikes, or the threat of strikes, to secure a small wage increase. Such is their condition,—those men can only afford to think in nickels instead of Mr. Edmonds' billions.

private ownership of natural and social resources—land and capital—which are used to exploit the great working class and render society tributary to capitalist interests. As a consequence they are agitating in ever-growing numbers for the social ownership of these essentials to well-being. Mr. Edmonds' spurious psychology, when once exposed, will merely tend to hasten their success. Speed the day!

DE LEON TO TOUR

Pacific Coast in Spring—Will Lecture for Washington S. L. P.

Seattle, Wash., December 19.—The Bulletin of the Socialist Labor Party of this State, for December, contains the following:—

"Comrades and Friends of the Socialist Labor Party.

"The good news comes to us from National Headquarters that Comrade Daniel De Leon, Editor of the Daily and Weekly People has consented to undertake a lecture tour to the Pacific Coast in the spring. The man who more than any other has moulded the thought and shaped the policies of the Socialist Labor Party during recent years, the man who is known throughout the length and breadth of the land as an arch enemy of the 'labor fakir,' and who as editor of The People has relentlessly 'shown up' through its columns the false teachings of the pure and simple political Socialist, needs no introduction to the readers of the 'Bulletin.'

"Comrade De Leon being a delegate to the last National Convention of the Industrial Workers of the World, a representative body of workmen, made notable by its uncompromising attitude toward and revolutionary methods of dealing with the 'labor fakirs' and 'grifters' of the working class, renders this tour timely and of more than ordinary interest to the workers of the West.

"Comrades and fellow workers it is up to you to make this contemplated lecture tour an assured success. One comrade as soon as he heard the news brought in a dollar saying 'I am glad to the last National Convention of the comrades have often expressed their willingness to help defray the expenses if Comrade De Leon would come to the coast. Funds are needed. Now is your opportunity. Fill out the blank below and remit to Sev. M. Dehly, Fin. Secretary-Treasurer of the Washington S. L. P.'"

As will be seen from the above, the prospect of a Pacific Coast lecture tour by De Leon; has aroused no little interest.

THE MOVING FUND MOVES.

Push It Along! Let Every Well-Wisher of the Working Class Press Contribute!

Table listing names and amounts for the Moving Fund. Total: \$513.30.

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



UNCLE SAM AND BROTHER JONATHAN.

BROTHER JONATHAN—I and some other reformers, I mean those who advocate public ownership of railroads, street cars, etc., were holding a discussion the other day. A man in the audience broke in upon us with the following questions: "But how do you propose to get possession of these properties, which are tied up with charters, deeds and every conceivable kind of legal protection—do you intend to confiscate them?"

UNCLE SAM—What answer did they make?

B. J.—They answered "No!" And then the man went on to say: "The value of these railroads, etc., of the country represents about \$10,000,000,000—do you propose to buy them; are you ready to tax yourselves to this amount?"

U. S.—I guess the same "No" oozed out of the capitalist brains.

B. J.—Yes; and don't you really think that this squarely knocked Socialism out in two rounds?"

U. S.—(bristling up)—Socialism "knocked out"? Not much! Do you know who those were who called themselves Socialists and were knocked out? B. J.—Why, Socialists, I thought.

U. S.—Nary! They were a lot of middle class folks. Recoiling before the necessary consequences of capitalism, which they uphold, they were, of course, easily "knocked out" in short order.

B. J.—But what would a Socialist have answered? U. S.—If the Socialist happened to be in a statistical and bantering mood he would have answered "Yes, we mean to buy all those things—that is to say, we mean to pay for them. But if a man from whom you buy anything is your debtor you will first deduct the debt he owes you and pay him the balance only."

B. J.—That is what I would do.

U. S.—Very well. The Socialist would have continued thusly: "We would first appraise the things, watered stock being first squeezed out"—at this point the capitalist questioner's jaw would begin to drop.

B. J.—(brightening up)—Guess so; good!

U. S.—The Socialist would have gone on: "Then we would estimate all the debts due the Government by the owners of those things; all the debts they have dodged; all the fines they should have paid for violations of law, etc., etc. After that much arithmetic and statistics there may possibly be left a nickel due the owners of those things, and we shall be quite able to and will cheerfully pay."

B. J.—Bully! That tune sounds very different from the one that questioner was treated to.

U. S.—Exactly. But the Socialist might have been in a wicked mood; in that case he would have left statistics go and answer thusly, to wit: "Sir, did the North buy the slaves it set free during and after the war? Did the North tax itself to pay them off? Did the American Revolutionary fathers tax themselves to pay King George? Nary! they said slavery is wrong, the slaveholder is a criminal and a rebel; away with his Negro slaves; and these were set free without further ado: "These colonies are free."

B. J. (clapping his hands)—Better yet!

U. S.—By the time the Socialist got so far your capitalist questioner would have been seized with the cramps and would not have been in a condition to hear the Socialist proceed, saying: "The Declaration of Independence establishes the principle that when a social institution ceases to promote the welfare of the people, these have the right and duty to abolish it, or to so alter it that its foundations may be most likely to effect their safety and happiness. We propose to abolish it and rear in its stead the Co-operative Commonwealth, the Socialist Republic. Get from under!"

B. J.—By Jove! There are no flies on Socialism. He who comes up against it comes up against a buzz-saw.

U. S.—And don't you forget it.

Watch the label on your paper. It will tell you when your subscription expires. First number indicates the month, second, the day, third the year.

CORRESPONDENCE

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

THE BEBEL CLUB

To the Daily and Weekly People—Kindly convey my greeting to the Bebel Club (the Women's Socialist Club of Buffalo).

To my mind the Socialist Labor Party is the world's supreme organization of men, and I know something about all of them; from Masonry up or down.

And so a Bebel Club, that is what it should be, will be the supreme Woman's organization.

While it may be, or is true that other forces will help, The Bebel Club will make no mistake in assuming that woman must emancipate herself, as the Working Class must do.

In order to give the Bebel Club the assistance of the S. L. P. Press, in getting out a rousing manifesto, which they need to begin with, I send one dollar to the Labor News Company.

When the work is under way I will send another feeling sure that all wide awake revolutionary comrades will do the same according to their ability.

Live the Bebel Club. Wm. McCormick. Rogers P. O., Cal., December 19.

"PROSPERITY" FICTION VS. FACT.

To the Daily and Weekly People—The Lawrence Daily American of December 20 quotes Sir Thomas Lipton's letter to the London Weekly Dispatch on "America's wonderful prosperity" as follows:

As regards woolen goods, the largest factories in the world are in Lawrence, Mass. I visited a new mill there which is the largest worsted mill in the world, with floors nearly half a mile in length. I was taken through the place by Mr. Wood, the president. It was not quite completed but they were making woolen goods before the building was completely roofed in, and they have as many orders in hand as will keep them busy working night and day for the next two years.

It is no exaggeration to state that at no previous period of human history has such prosperity been known in any country.

Everyone in America is making money. Not only making money, but making it in piles—in such piles that the ordinary standards of comfort and luxury are disappearing, and are being replaced by new ideals.

Commenting thereon the American says:

Lawrence has no reason to feel flattered over Sir Thomas Lipton's references to the size and wonderful growth of our mills. Everyone who has seen the factories in this city and noted their progress knows that Sir Thomas' observations are correct.

Now, what are the facts? There are hundreds looking for work in this city every day, even in the Wood's mills; and the newspaper men know it.

Weavers receive very low wages in the Wood's mill, and members make from \$4 to \$6 per week.

R. L. Lawrence, December 22, 1900.

SUGGESTIONS FOR THE FUTURE.

To the Daily and Weekly People—

The smoke now having cleared away from the battlefield and leaving us an unobstructed view, I ask that space be given in the Daily People to discuss the Schenectady strike, its cause, management and failure, so that we in the future may profit by the mistakes we have made. If I am wrong in my conception of the I. W. W. I want to be proven wrong, in which case I am glad to stand corrected.

I claim that the object of the I. W. W. for the present is only one, namely, to organize and to educate; if we do that we will find that the next step is not to hoist the flag with its motto, "An injury to one is an injury to all," and then dare the first capitalist we find to pull it down, but to keep the challenge in our pocket and our hand on the pocket to prevent well-meaning but hot tempered brothers from pulling the flag out and hoisting it; and then to do some more organizing and educating. The last year has seen a lot of I. W. W. strikes that never should have been attempted and now culminating in a strike against the G. E. Co. in Schenectady, a strike that was almost ill-advised.

The I. W. W. had, according to their own statement, a membership of over 2,000 in that city, most of these employed by the G. E. Co. an institution that employs about 25,000 men, in Schenectady, is capitalized at \$60,000,000, and worst of all, has factories in several other States and in Europe as well. These men are discharged, the I. W. W. claims because these three tried to or-

ganize the draughtsmen. The company says because they did not give satisfaction and the I. W. W. immediately asks the company to reinstate the men, and, receiving a refusal, calls out its members and sympathizers and declares in public that the I. W. W. in Schenectady is out to lick this \$60,000,000 corporation that yet has 20,000 men working in its shops and several other factories it can draw upon and where the I. W. W. has no organization at all. Now for the first time it seems that the I. W. W. Local began to think and that is just what they should have done before they acted. They realized that, had the I. W. W. gone on strike for better conditions they might have had a chance to win, but no corporation has ever given up its so-called right to discharge an employe whenever it so sees fit, except after a crushing defeat and that the I. W. W. could not give. Seeing all this, and receiving no help from the members of the A. F. of L., who kept scabbing in the shops, there remained nothing to do but go back to work and this the brothers in Schenectady have done and that was the only wise thing to do.

I claim that there should have been no strike. I claim that the I. W. W. is not a child and could well afford to stick this insult in its pocket, remembering that hidden is not forgotten and that right is nothing without might. True, the I. W. W. principle is a powerful weapon in the hands of the working class, but it must also be realized that it is a new weapon the use of which involves new tactics that must be well learned before the weapon is of any use at all. The I. W. W. of Schenectady has acted like the little boy who got a new gun for Fourth of July; not waiting to learn how the thing should be done he attempted to fire it himself (having had some experience with guns of the A. F. of L. style) and finding the gun did not go off he peeped down in the barrel and just saw it coming. A strike that involves over 3,000 men can hardly be called a local affair and I would like to know if Locals can go on strike whenever they please.

In closing, I must pay my compliment to the brother in Schenectady who wrote the articles in the Daily People on the strike. First he assures us that the power house employes have gone out. The next day he tells that they have not and that there is no intention of calling them out as he is sure the company can be licked as it is. Shortly after he reports that no money is needed as the men have \$10,000 in their treasury and will not need it for a long time as they all received from three to five dollars a day. A few days after money is needed. On Tuesday he writes the strike will be over in a few days and this time he, was right for the company won on Friday. The Daily People should not give space to individuals in such cases but only reports from the strikers' press committee who can be held accountable for any misstatement. If the brother who sent in these misleading reports must write I feel sure that if he applies for a position as war correspondent at any of the leading capitalist newspapers he will be accepted gladly but in our press the members expect to see the truth and nothing but the truth; but I for my part shall hereafter not believe or take for granted any statement I see in our papers except from Comrade D. De Leon's editorials.

Julius O. Johnson, Local 266, I. W. W. Bridgeport, Conn., December 23.

SCIENCE IN CAPS AND BELLS.

To the Daily and Weekly People—First of all, we would advise our worthy critic on the Schenectady strike, to go back into the A. F. of L. hold the motto "An injury to one is an injury to all" tight in his pocket, and "educate" and organize there and then when he is ready and has the members made class-conscious to come into the I. W. W.

This has been tried by many well-meaning "borers from within" who thought that a man could be taught swimming theoretically and when he knows enough about swimming, then to go into the water. We had such individuals, who theorized on class-consciousness, but when it came to action, they acted like curs, that is, when they went into the water, they "drowned."

As far as the strike having been ill-advised, we wish to state that, in spite of advising against the strike by men that were class-conscious, by the discharged draughtsmen themselves, it was impossible to stop it, just as impossible as to stop the sun from melting the snow and ice when springtime comes. The revolutionary class spirit is so deep, unconsciously though it

was, and it would have been a crime to run it into the ground. We had about 3,200 members in the General Electric plant of Schenectady, which employs 14,000 men and not 25,000, as our critic states. Now we would ask him whether he thinks we should lay low and wait until we get all the men into our organization and only then do things, or go ahead, put the men to a test, for not only education is needed, but manhood is also important.

We know now where we stand, we know the mistakes of our organization, and, if we did not gain any victory in this strike, we gained knowledge, practical knowledge and experience, which is more than the "education" of our critic. A review of the strike is forthcoming and suggestions will be made for the organization was by no means perfect and its faults stick out glaringly and the education was done; in fact, many of us learned more in the 10 days of the strike than in all their previous lifetime.

Our critic makes several misstatements, for instance, in regards to the powerhouse men. The fact is that they came out with the rest and stayed out till the end, and it was never reported that they were ordered to remain. There were men in the power station who attended to the switches of the city waterworks, city illuminating and the street cars, that is, the public service. They were ordered by the mass meeting of the membership to remain, but these men were ordered to leave the power station by the private police force of the company, as the company feared they were there for an "evil" purpose. Further it was a fact that the Locals had an aggregate treasury of about \$10,000, but we wish to point out one instance. One Local out of the seventeen that are in the G. E. Works had a treasury of \$1,100 at the beginning of the strike. This amount dwindled down to about \$100, and pretty soon the men who were on strike and will not get their full pay until about two weeks from to-day, will have to go into their pockets, if there will be anything in them, to support those who are still out.

It is true that things looked bright on Monday and we thought we had the company beaten, but the Labor Lieutenant of capitalism in the Moulders' Union has done his traitorous work, and that practically gave the strike the deathknell. This will also be mentioned in the review of the strike.

We have to refer back to the statement of our critic where he says that this company has plants all over the world. We would like to ask him if we should wait until all the factories are organized? We think that when all the factories are organized we will not have to go out on strike to get three draughtsmen reinstated, but will be ready to take and hold, for . . . this struggle must go on until all the toilers come together on the economic as well as on the political field and take and hold that which they produce by their labor.

Our critic practically takes the side of the company when he states the company's position in discharging the three draughtsmen because they did not give satisfaction. Our critic here again misstates a fact, for the company admitted that the men gave satisfaction, but were guilty of "insubordination." As far as applying for position as war correspondents for a capitalist paper, we wish to state, that if you please to call us so, we were war correspondents for a working class paper and sent in reports to that paper as revolutionary proletaires from the battlefield of the class struggle.

The time for action is arrived. Theorists and the Intellectuals must take a "back seat." Yours for the Revolution, Max Stern, Louis Basky, Schenectady, N. Y., Dec. 27, 1900.

SPREAD THE LIGHT

For the week ending December 29th we received 134 subs to the Weekly People and thirty-five mail subs to the Daily People, a total of 169, which is the low record for the month. Only two comrades were not too busy observing the holiday, and they constitute the roll of honor, by sending five or more subs. P. J. Dwyer, Butte, Mont., sent six, and Theo. Jung, Evansville, Ind., sent five. Prepaid cards sold: Kansas City, Mo., \$5; Tacoma, Wash., \$3; Patrick, Wyo., \$5, and Boston, Mass., \$5.

We hope to see a new leaf turned over with the new year in the matter of getting subs. Unless all signs fail strenuous times will soon confront the workers and it is our bounden duty to post them as to causes and the way out. It cannot be too strongly reiterated that the paramount duty of every member of the S. L. P. is: Spread the Light!

On November 12th we sent out to all Sections a statement showing the number of Weekly People readers in their respective territories and urging that the work be taken up with vigor where it was being neglected. The subs received this month show that the response to our appeal was not what we had a right to expect. Once before we said we should like to hear from the inactive ones why it is they are inactive, and again we say tell us the reason why. The Xmas Box was increased by \$53.90 during the week, making the total receipts from this fund \$162.30 to date. Considering the call for the Moving Fund and other existing funds this is a good showing—would that Party members were as willing to go out and get subs as they are to respond to the call of the Party for funds. It would mean a big subscription list and less need for donations. Let us begin the New Year by going out boldly among the workers and deliver our message to them through the medium of the Weekly People.

wages would not accrue to the benefit of the workers but would be followed up immediately by a general rise in commodities which the workers must buy back again. He said the statement that a general rise of wages being to the benefit of the workers sounded like reasoning from Ayer's Almanac—a new name for Marx' Value, Price and Profit. In proof of his assertion that a general rise of wages would cause a general rise in the price of commodities he cited the case of an Eastern Stove firm who were forced to raise wages and who immediately sent word to the agents to raise the price of the stoves which he would have you think were on the market without competition. And the freaks encored.

Kingsley is playing the poor, half educated workers to a nicety, which half educated state of mind finds them in a psychological condition during which they are always free with their money and willing to worship any grafter with a good pair of lungs. We find that all successful grafters have and are exploiting this freakish state of mind through which the unthinking worker passes en route to the true understanding of the position and powers of the working class.

He eulogized the craft union and tried to emphasize its strength (?) as coming from its narrow line of organization, and smallness numerically. Then it must follow that the larger the organization the weaker it becomes and also following—better the individual than the class. He spoke of the "Socialists" sending more representatives to the Provincial Parliament, when the two now there are victimized and cannot secure work in their own town, nor is the Eight Hour legislation enforced.

He stated that no counting out would go in B. C. or some people would get their "heads cracked." Who is the anarchist? He said the franchise could not be taken away from the workers though I told him how the Amalgamated Copper Co. blue-carded the Amosonda Socialists a few years ago who had elected the city ticket in that town and he said that if the corporation fired one bunch of workers that the new bunch would be more radical (and would express same through the ballot box) than the old one. And the freaks encored. He has a great knowledge of such corporation-ridden sections as Wallace, Wardner, and so forth.

Kingsley, continuing stated that the Amalgamated would break the 8-hour law in Montana when they choose to do so; of course they don't want to do so yet a while. As he has it the voluntary raise of wages given by the Railroad Co's to the fake unions is not a sop or bribe but a result of scarcity of labor. Peculiar that the scarcity of labor should extend over such vast extent of territory as that covered by the American Railroads.

He said in his main speech that the capitalists retained power by the consent of the workers and that by voting to the contrary without an Industrial organization the workers could enforce favorable legislation from their enemies. I told about the 46,000 majority vote in Colorado for the 8-hour law which was annulled because the workers lacked economic unity, and how the same law is lived up to in Montana because of economic power of the workers.

He scored me for isolating British Columbia from the Nation and in the next breath said that very soon (and in advance of neighboring Provinces) the S. P. would be the governing party in B. C.

In his main speech he said that the workers had no economic power "with \$4.20" in his pocket and in his last issue of the "Clarion" urges the Smeltersmen on strike at Greenwood, B. C. to "remain in the locality, an election is to come on soon and they should refrain from leaving (eating) at least until they had exercised their rights of franchise for the purpose of preventing their brutal and conscienceless masters from still fortifying their position as slave drivers by electing a member to the Provincial House from Greenwood Riding.

"If perchance they go down in defeat in the present struggle let them have at least the satisfaction of electing a Representative of the working class to the Provincial Parliament before relinquishing the struggle. By so doing they can deal to the B. C. Copper Co. and kindred piratical gangs a more deadly blow than by all the wage troubles that ever occurred. The more completely the Houses of Parliament are filled with representatives of labor the more impossible it would become for Capitalist pirates to perpetrate their impositions and exactions upon the workers and the nearer the day . . . when labor shall be master of its product."

Kingsley shows his ignorance of Industrial Unionism by referring to the closed door proceedings of the I. W. W. He begs the workers not to be alarmed about the time of the Revolution's coming. All will be well; just leave it to form itself.

"The Co-operative Commonwealth will spring into existence spontaneously and in running order." He (in his freedom from anarchistic tendencies) referred to the Civil War veterans as heroes in the evolution of Society because they changed masters.

He accuses the I. W. W. of suffering from mental dyspepsia though his bunch of freaks have vigorous mental digestion because of being fed on Kingsley's predigested brain food (!) In answering the challenge to debate he said the challenger was showing one of the symptoms of insanity by wishing to debate. Then it follows that Eugene V. Debs is insane because he challenges any capitalist orator to debate on any platform in America. Gaylord Wilshire's attitude toward Breezy Billy (Continued on page 6.)

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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.

J. H. NEWPORT, KY.—Now to your second question—

If by science natural science is meant, yes—science conflicts more or less with Biblical utterances upon the subject.

Next question next week.

J. C. HAMILTON, CANADA—Now to your fourth and last question—

One must always distinguish between essentials and incidentals. In the birth of a child, for instance, the child is the essential, not the solture with which it is covered. The latter is but an incidental matter, unavoidable at birth and to be removed, and removable. It is so with the I. W. W. and mazy a thing that accompanies its birth and that is removable, and will be removed. The I. W. W. is, accordingly, not a pure and simple affair on account of these incidents, any more than a baby is a lump of solture because of the solture that sticks to it at birth.

E. D. BURKE, IDA.—Sherman is infamous enough without making him more so. Nearly four years ago, a Socialist party man who had begun to find out Wm. S. Dalton (just then expelled from the New York S. L. P. and welcomed by the Chicago S. P.) wrote to this office imputing malice to Dalton. The S. P. man wished to be answered under the name of "Kick." The People of Feb. 1, 1903, had the following Letter-Box answer to him:

"Kick, Chicago, Ill.—You size up Dalton wrong, and thereby do injustice to the man's peculiar genius. There is no 'malice,' 'temper' or 'resentment' in the man, for the simple reason that he is devoid of sentiment. W. S. Dalton is a cold, calm, cool, dispassionate grafter. No worse calamity could befall the Chicago Kangs and Kangleys, personally, than to have Dalton alight, locust-like, upon them. He will pull their legs all right. When the supply shall have been pulled dry, or they shall have 'got onto' him, then, coldly, calmly, coolly and dispassionately will he turn his nose to the wind, and scent for carrion elsewhere." Chicago speedily, more recently Salt Lake, found out the truth of this estimate as to Dalton. The estimate fits Sherman. There is no malice in the man, mere graft.

Next question next week.

J. F. G. MONTREAL, CANADA—Well, suppose De Leon is a millionaire. What of it? With what grace could that be made a charge against him by Socialist party folks who threw up their hats with joy when they landed millionaire J. M. Patterson, of Chicago; who could not tire of announcing that millionaire Stokes of New York, had joined them; or so many of whom are happy to be pensioners of millionaire Rand-Herron, and many others are anxious to be made as happy?

E. B. NEW YORK—Quite possibly the tenor of The People has the effect with many of causing them "to drop out of all political parties, and throw political action altogether overboard." Quite possible. That would only show that such men are unable to shake off what is illusory in politics without at first shaking off what is not illusory. These friends will presently realize their mistake. In this matter it may be as with bleeding. The loss of some blood is sometimes necessary in order to live. Life being saved, the blood is recovered. Pure and simple political fatuity leads to death. There is a chance for life if the fatuity is dropped, even if in dropping it more is at first dropped than should be dropped.

"READER," PUEBLO, COLO.—No need of a sledge hammer to flatten out a millet seed. Your article is such a hammer, O'Neill's \$500 swagger wagger is such a millet seed. He has taken points from Govs. MacDonald, and Gooding. They also defy anybody to prove that evidence is conclusive in both cases.

J. C., CHICAGO, ILL.—Would you be very unkind? Just ask Sherman to explain the difference between what he calls "Industrialism" and the stuff that Gompers deals in. Also see just below.

E. W. E., CINCINNATI, O.—Various are the ways in which capitalists and also politicians seize upon Unions. A sort of natural affinity brings them and certain individual workmen together. Through such a workman they furnish work to others. Around such a workman are then gradually gathered a number with jobs and a larger number with fall in the central figure

to give them jobs when needed. Such a band then organizes into a "Union." That's one of the ways certain "Unions" arise; that explains their abjectness to their leader; that gives an idea of their utter worthlessness in the Labor Movement. They stand lower even than the A. F. of L.

W. J., PORTLAND, ORE.—Sherman has nothing, absolutely nothing in New York. Even the local of the Tammany politician Keogh and the local of the bogus Anarchist Dumas claim to be "independent." As to Dumas's local it is going to pieces. All that Sherman may have here is the Hannemann paper local. It consists of Hannemann, a Vorkzeitung reporter, a crazy S. P. man who has made a special discovery how to rejuvenate society and is silly enough to spend money in printing and circulating his nonsense, the musician Shurtliff, and perhaps two or three others of the same kidney. The I. W. W. is safe in N. Y.

J. H., BROOKLYN, N. Y.—Moyer has not answered the open letter addressed to him. If he had it would have appeared in The People.

J. E., MILWAUKEE, WIS.—As well say: "What is the use of furnishing a hen with calcareous matter from which to construct the shell of her eggs, when the shell is to be broken so soon as the chicken is hatched?"—The first is a biologic, the second a sociologic absurdity.

M. H. S., CHAMPAIGN, ILL.—Most of your questions are more suggestive of articles, essays and pamphlets than of "off-hand answers." For instance, the Census does not give the population divided into classes. The division requires careful computation. Shall do the best we can by you with our limited personnel, and shall answer your easiest questions first.

First—The correct quotation is: "If money, according to Augier, 'comes into the world with a congenital blood-stain on one cheek,' capital comes dripping from head to foot, from every pore, with blood and dirt." (Marx) Swan Sonnenschein & Co., edition, p. 786, being the closing four lines of Chapter XXXI, "Genesis of the Industrial Capitalist," Part VIII, "The So-called Primitive Accumulation".

Next question next week if possible. F. W. K., VANCOUVER, B. C.—The resolutions appeared in the Weekly People, December 22. Were overlooked out of following Weekly for lack of space. The letter was overlooked. Both will be in the Weekly of January 5, 1901.

C. H. D., CHICAGO, ILL.; J. O. R., CHICAGO, ILL.; E. F., DETROIT, MICH.; E. L., ATLANTA, GA.; E. R. M., PITTSBURGH, PA.; B. A., INDIANAPOLIS, IND.; E. S. R., NEW YORK; T. W., ELKHORN, IND.; F. V., BUTTE, MONT.; M. T., ONEONTA, N. Y.; M. H. S., CHAMPAIGN, ILL.; G. A. W., DENVER, COLO.; A. M., GLOBE, ARIZ.; E. L. B., EL PASO, TEX.; J. A. L. B., ST. LOUIS, MO.; M. S., KALAMAZOO, MICH.—Matter received.

SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY ORGANS

Table listing Socialist Labor Party organs and their subscription rates. Includes Weekly People, Daily People, Arbeteren (Swedish Weekly), Der Arbeiter (Jewish Weekly), Socialistische Arbeiter Zeitung (German Weekly), Nepakarar (Hungarian Weekly), Ragione Nuova (Italian Monthly).

Watch the label on your paper. It will tell you when your subscription expires. First number indicates the month, second, the day, third the year.

SPREAD THE LIGHT

XMAS BOX MAKES GOOD SHOWING—MAKE READY FOR STRENUOUS TIMES.

Table listing Xmas Box contributions from various individuals and locations, including Portland, Jericho, Whitehall, Buffalo, Vancouver, Rogers, Ft. Bragg, Chicago, Meehan, Alaska, Paterson, London, Spokane, Tacoma, and Boston.

Total \$ 53.90 Previously acknowledged \$ 108.40 Grand total \$ 162.30

OFFICIAL

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Frank Bohn, National Secretary, 2-6 New Behn street, New York.

NEW YORK LABOR NEWS CO.
2-5 New Behn street, New York City

Regular meeting at headquarters, Daily People building, 2-6 New Behn street, December 25.

Secretary reported that he had sent notification of nomination to all the nominees for member of N. E. C.

Correspondence: From Section Renessee county, vote for member of N. E. C. Filed.

Financial report of party institutions, issued by N. E. C. sub-committee, was ordered sent to the sections.

Justus Ebert, Secretary.

CANADIAN N. E. C.

Regular meeting of Canadian N. E. C. London, December 16.

Communications: From Wm. Griffiths, organizer of Section Vancouver.

Unfinished Business: The bill of the New York Labor News Company was ordered to be paid at once.

New Business: After discussion, re a Ladies' Auxiliary to S. L. P.

W. D. Forbes, Sec. Sec.

HARTFORD, CONN., ATTENTION.

On SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1907, at three o'clock in the afternoon, Daniel De Leon will lecture at Parsons Theatre on "Industrial Unionism."

This announcement will be sufficient for all who are directly interested; but they should at the same time make it their special business to induce as many of their shopmates as possible to be present also, in order to fill the theatre to its utmost capacity.

Admission will be fifteen cents. Tickets may be had from members and at headquarters, 34 Elm street.

ATTENTION, BOSTON.

A series of lectures have been arranged by Section Boston, Socialist Labor Party, to be held every Sunday afternoon at three o'clock at our headquarters, 1165 Tremont street, Boston.

The future outlook for the party in this city was never brighter, and this will be a good opportunity to bring before your fellow workmen, as well as the dissatisfied element of the S. P., the principles and tactics of a bona-fide revolutionary organization.

General meeting of Section at Lipp's Hall, corner Third and Prairie streets, SATURDAY evening, January 12, 1907.

Important business matters will be transacted.

Organizer.

SCANDINAVIAN SOCIALISTS

The Federation Convenes—Requests Admission into S. L. P.—Great Progress in Northwest.

The Scandinavian Socialist Labor Federation assembled in convention Monday's at Ebnich's Hall, 241 East 41st street, with twenty-one delegates present from the various parts of the country.

The Federation is in flourishing condition, especially in the North West, where immense progress has been made among the Scandinavian wage workers.

The most important action of Monday's session was the adoption of resolutions petitioning the National Executive Committee of the Socialist Labor Party to admit the Federation as a component part of the Party.

The Federation continued in session next day. A full will follow later.

A CRITICISM OF THE DECISION.

(Continued from page two.)

mony submitted to them. In these cases the governors were not deceived as they both knew the affidavits were false. Gooding knew it when they were submitted to him as the basis for his requisition upon McDonald, and the latter knew it when he honored the requisition and issued warrants for the arrest of the defendants, as is also undisputed in the records.

An examination of the authorities cited by Justice Harlan will each and every one of them show that the prisoners were fugitives from justice, and that their abduction was by private parties, or was accomplished by imposing upon the governors.

In this case the kidnapping was by the states of Idaho and Colorado, acting through their officers, who were sworn to obey the law, and who, contrary to their oaths, knowingly entered into a conspiracy to rape it.

And yet in the face of the constitution, the act of congress, and its former decisions, and with all the matters concerning the conspiracy of the officers and the means taken to bring the accused men to Idaho, admitted in the record before it, the highest court in the land says that Moyer, Haywood and Pettibone have no remedy and no redress.

The court admits that as the defendants were not fugitives from justice, McDonald could not, legally, issue warrants for them. But he did issue the warrants and by reason of that fact the men are here. They have been incarcerated in the penitentiary and in different jails since last February, denied both trial and bail, and if the warrants for their arrest were issued without authority of law why, in the name of God, have they no remedy?

It is also admitted that the pretended extradition was based upon fraud, and it is an elemental principle of law, and so decided to be by every court in the land, that a proceeding founded upon fraud, is void from the beginning. That being true, the question naturally arises, why, if the supreme court was governed in its decision solely by the law, did it not declare the entire proceeding void and order the men returned to Colorado.

Justice Harlan says that the accused men, not being fugitives from justice, must not have been discharged had they applied for a writ of habeas corpus in a Colorado court, but as they did not do so, although they were prevented by the officers themselves, they were too late when they raised the question in Idaho, notwithstanding they had no opportunity to do so elsewhere.

The court also holds that if the steps taken by the governors of Colorado and Idaho were for the purpose of evading the law and depriving the defendants of their rights under the law, it would be highly improper for a federal court to inquire into the matter, and that "any investigation as to the motives which induced action by the governors of Idaho and Colorado would be improper as well as irrelevant, etc.

In other words, the court holds that the governor is "King" and "can do no wrong,"—that is, he can do no wrong when the men injured are those whom the corporate and "anarchistic wealth" of the country, that absolutely owns, controls and operates this government, desires to put out of the way.

"So mote it be!"

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THE DAILY PEOPLE, 2-5 New Behn St., New York, N. Y.

INDUSTRIAL COUNCIL

TAKES UP FURTHER MOYER-HAYWOOD PROTEST MEETINGS

Idaho Authorities to Be Made to Understand That Innocent Men Can Not Be Indefinitely Deprived of Liberty Without Trial—Organization Booming in Vicinity—Formation of New Unions and Reconstruction of Old Ones Goes on Swiftness—No Hope for Shermanites from This Burg.

Now that the United States Supreme Court has decided on the habeas corpus plea of Moyer, Haywood and Pettibone, and the Idaho authorities will be forced to resort to a series of unwarranted postponements in order to keep their victims imprisoned as long as possible before the inevitable acquittal when they are brought to trial, the New York Industrial Council has decided to call into life again the Moyer-Haywood Conference, under whose auspices two monster protest meetings and innumerable smaller ones were held last spring, immediately on the kidnapping of the Miners' officials.

As to the hypocrisy on Kingsley's part; one of his immediate associates in the paper enterprise told me that he (Kingsley) knew that the Industrial movement was the proper organization of the workers, but he would not help on the movement because of De Leon being in it. Thus we see the "leading light" of the Vancouver "Socialists" maligning and abusing the Industrial Union and branding as anarchists, traitors and freaks all those who are trying to organize the workers correctly.

Any fears or hopes that may have been entertained by anyone that the Industrial Union movement in New York City was to be broken up, sidetracked, or even seriously handicapped by the machinations of "your president" C. O. Sherman and his Volkzeitung "general-secretary" Hannemann, should have attended this last meeting of the Council, and had all such fears or hopes wiped out for once and all.

Every report from that of National Organizer Fischer down, was full of progress and success in the work of organization. The activity and interest is great in all trades and in all sections, and is so strong and widespread among the Jewish and Italian workmen particularly, that a request will be made on headquarters for special organizers in those tongues.

New unions have been formed since the last Council meeting of the Bird Cage Makers and the Ladies' Waist Makers, both of which were chartered as branches of their proper Industrial Unions, the Metal Workers and the Garment Workers. Besides this, 226 members of Musicians' Local 41, which since the convention has refused to recognize either the new Executive Board or the old, have decided to throw overboard their reactionary-minded officers, and have been chartered as a new Musical Union; the same thing having occurred in Chicago and in several other places where the rank and file of the old so-called "sub-division of the Public Service Department" have succeeded, in spite of their officers, in finding out the true state of affairs in the I. W. W. In Brooklyn and Bayonne, N. J., the same breaking away from reaction has taken place, and charters will soon be issued there.

In several trades strong bodies of men have been brought together or have come together spontaneously, are discussing and studying the principles of the I. W. W. and will in the near future enter the organization. Among these are the Scandinavian machinists in Jersey City, and the passermenterie workers of New York. In Fort Richmond, S. I., an energetic local chartered as a craft local of machinists by former president of the fraudulent Metal and Machinery Department, C. G. Kirkpatrick, has applied for a new charter as Shipwrights, and its members intend to organize the entire force, 600 strong, of the ship yard in which they are employed, including machinists, carpenters, painters, caulkers, sail-makers, etc., and leaving out no craft engaged in the works. The men in the plant are fired with the spirit of Industrialism, and would have joined the local before but that its craft nature excluded them.

The work of consolidating the old locals into true Industrial Unions goes on apace, and with the greatest smoothness and good results. The Building Trades Industrial Union is the first really to get into shape. It has over 500 members, and includes the following branches: two branches of Painters and Paper-hangers, two of Ironworkers, a Carpenters', a Cornice Makers', and a Plasterers'. A Branch of Italian Plasterers is in course of formation, which will still further add to its strength. The Printers expect to complete their union, composed of three branches, an English, a Jewish, and a Hungarian in a short time. The union will then number close on a hundred men.

CORRESPONDENCE.

(Continued from page 5.)

platform in America. Gaylord Wilshire's attitude toward Breezy Billy Bryan must be classified as insanity. Along this line Kingsley is surely not insane for the I. W. W. and the S. L. P. have tried from the beginning to get a debate. But no, that day would mark the beginning of the breaking up of his little Empire.

Kingsley's high degree of consistency will be shown in his last issue of the "Clarion" where a D. W. J. Curry on the Educational forces of Society has the following to say:

"The Defenders of Capitalism through their refusal to come out and debate the subject of Socialism with the Public as a jury are convicting themselves of base hypocrisy and it is a proof that the thing they defend will not bear investigation and that they know it."

"What can we say of those who pose as the Intellectual lights of the World who from their cowardly castles are using the weapons of falsehoods and slander but who will not allow their opponents a chance to defend themselves?"

As to the hypocrisy on Kingsley's part; one of his immediate associates in the paper enterprise told me that he (Kingsley) knew that the Industrial movement was the proper organization of the workers, but he would not help on the movement because of De Leon being in it. Thus we see the "leading light" of the Vancouver "Socialists" maligning and abusing the Industrial Union and branding as anarchists, traitors and freaks all those who are trying to organize the workers correctly.

As usual Kingsley superceded the chairman in closing the meeting, and in giving advice to the chairman, who frequently consulted him as to allowing questions and speakers on the platform. The poor workers here are very sadly Kingsleyized. Too bad for their being just across the line at the time of his hurriedly leaving Seattle.

Yours for the working class, Fred W. Kleese.

Vancouver, B. C., December 3.

CHARGES BREYER.

(Continued from page one)

of his office (for a consideration?) to do so.

"The expense of boycotting these independent firms is borne by the members of the Union. The object is to prevent these independent firms from getting any work away from the Bosses' Combination."

"The Boss Spongers' Association has also paid Breyer large sums for expenses in levying this boycott. He acknowledged to me that he got \$700 from the Bosses' Association when they first started their combination. He told me the Bosses had to go to the committees of the Clothing Cutters and the C. F. U. who went around boycotting these independent concerns."

"We are making some progress. Our new Union has already men employed by the National Sponging Co., 55 Prince street; the Oxford Sponging Co., 8 Jones street, and James Nutley, 10-12 Jones street. Any of our members employed in these shops can verify this statement."

"ABRAHAM ROSENBAUM. 568 B'way, New York, Dec. 25"

I. W. W. CIGARS M. D. DEUTSCH, Mfr. 121 EAST 113TH STREET, NEW YORK. MAIL ORDERS FILLED.

WANTED.

ORGANIZER wanted by Section Vancouver, S. L. P., for Province of British Columbia. Address S. L. P., 123 Cordova St., West, Vancouver, B. C., Canada.

EGGS FOR HATCHING.

Single Comb, Rhode Island Reds, Prize Stock, Excellent Layers. \$2.00 Per Setting. M. RUTHER Holyoke, Mass.

AS TO POLITICS, ONCE MORE

[From the day the discussion "As to Politics" was opened by the contributor Sandgren, down to the day we declared it closed, 7 contributions were received to the discussion. They were from Frederic J. Boyle, Revere, Mass.; John Francis, Du Quoin, Ill.; "Cigarmaker," Saginaw, Mich.; Theo Bernine, Indianapolis, Ind.; Wm. Reisenberg, Chicago, Ill.; B. S. Frayne, Cincinnati, O.; and W. W. Cox, St. Louis, Mo. All these contributions have appeared in the Daily; of these, however, only the first, Boyle's, appeared in the Weekly also. Space prevented their being taken up in the Weekly. Seeing that all of them, with the exception of the last, Cox's, were unqualifiedly against Sandgren's anti-politics posture, and that the Weekly's space is much needed, all those six first ones will be "killed," left out of the Weekly. Cox's, which though standing substantially on the I. W. W. and the S. L. P. principle seems to make some slight concession to Sandgren, is herewith published in the Weekly. Since the discussion was closed two contributions have been received in favor of Sandgren's position—one from J. A. La Bille, and another from Leon Vassilio and Jos. Wagner, together, both contributions from St. Louis, Mo. La Bille's has been published in the Daily of December 31, Vassilio and Wagner's will be published in the Daily as soon as space will allow, and both will be transferred to the Weekly as soon as possible. This may be taken to amount to re-opening of the debate. It is not. Space will be henceforth allowed ONLY to contributors who support Sandgren and thereby oppose the S. L. P. position. The S. L. P. is anxious for light from any who has light to give and to show it its error, if in error it is. To these opponents, however, we would urge that they avoid repetition and surplussage. One column should be ample to make their point clear. They should remember that articles of this nature may not be "edited." Nothing may be omitted. Excessive length can only stand in the way of speediness of publication.—ED. THE PEOPLE.]

While waiting for the Flash Lights promised by De Leon, the undersigned has convictions to place before the membership of the S. L. P. for consideration. Believing it is unanimously recognized that, with the adjournment of the late I. W. W. convention, a new era began in the history of the labor movement, let us therefore look forward to the successful culmination of the revolution under this era, all of which depends upon the plans (tactics) followed. An incident happened in 1900, out of which these convictions grew, and are still growing. Let me here briefly relate and follow up.

It was in East St. Louis, on the box. After having delivered some of the causes leading up to and producing a panic, a question was asked, "If the Socialist Labor Party went into full power this election with a panic due next year, would the panic not come just the same?" I answered "Yes." I was not satisfied with this answer and when Lingenfelter and I were alone, he criticized my answer, saying, "You should have answered 'No.'" "Why?" "Because we will take possession of the machinery of production and continue production, thus preventing a panic." "Well," I said, "I am willing to stand corrected."

A short discussion followed and our conclusions were that the economic and political must work hand in hand to accomplish this purpose. From this date, the economic became the most important with me, but I believed in keeping them in separate organizations. This position was kept until the close of the 1904 campaign, when I was convinced that the two must eventually be brought under the same head—i. e., into the same organization. This was my position when meeting Comrade Frank Bohn in 1905, fresh from the Chicago Conference which issued the manifesto calling the convention which afterward launched the I. W. W. Bohn seemed to be slow to take a position. Having been criticized for attending said conference and signing the manifesto I presume he looked for another criticism, but instead approval was given. He asked me the following questions: "Do you favor the S. T. & L. A. sending delegates to this convention?" "Yes; by all means." "What should be the basis of their going?" "A revolutionary organization, embracing both the economic and political." "Suppose it should fall in this?" "The S. T. & L. A. delegation should withdraw."

These answers were out of the conviction that such an organization could be launched. Perhaps my estimate of the forces was too high; I had not yet seen the manifesto. The discussion in The People followed, and the card was struck in De Leon's illustration of the foetus in the womb; but this in no wise, as a com-

rade (I forget his name) said, separated the political from the economic.

We speak of the I. W. W. as a child one year old; this is wrong, it was born October 3, 1906; prior to this date it was yet under the process of formation, yet in the womb.

We can now say what we could not prior to the late convention, namely, that the I. W. W. embraces both economic and politics; economics leading, but leaving out the political party.

What then should the S. L. P. do as a political party? In answering this let us notice briefly the evolution of the S. L. P. from the time it assisted in launching the I. W. W. Releasing the S. T. & L. A., approving of it becoming a part of the I. W. W., we continued with our press, organizer and agitators to help build up the new organization and put it upon a solid footing, which was almost completed in the late convention. Why all this work for the new organization? The accusation is for the benefit of the Socialist Labor Party. Not so; but for the benefit of the working class, for with the passing out of the S. T. & L. A., the closing work of the S. L. P. began, and as the historic mission of the S. T. & L. A. having been fulfilled disbanded, so must the S. L. P., when it shall have fulfilled its historic mission.

The I. W. W. having embraced all the demands made by the S. L. P. the S. L. P. entrusting to it all it would accept, which was all except the political party part, it remains therefore for the S. L. P. to wind up the work of a political party and throw all its forces to the new organization and begin the fight anew, under the banner of the Industrial Workers of the World.

The above was written on October 15th and laid away to be finished at a later date, the object being to start a discussion preparatory to the purpose mentioned. In taking up the matter this December 6th, I am pleased to say, the discussion has already begun. I will therefore take but little more space as I see that the conclusion of both Sandgren and De Leon is agreed and I agree that it is to break up camp—but when and how remains to be answered.

Taking up Sandgren's letter, I will say that the I. W. W. would be as much opposed in the next convention to consider his amendment to strike out all political reference in the Preamble as it would be to consider an amendment to strike out the clause "take and hold, &c." In my estimation this Preamble needs no change now and will serve until all is accomplished.

As to his statistical arguments, I consider them superfluous. It makes no difference whether we are the majority at the (capitalist) ballot box, whether we are counted out or in, or whether we have access to the (capitalist) ballot box at all—we know we are in the majority and we know political agitation must be carried on. De Leon makes or shows the distinction between the ballot and political agitation; and whether we may or may not elect our candidates from president down—to (as De Leon says in his address on the Preamble) to disband, has nothing to do with the S. L. P. breaking up camp. Break up camp they must or be guilty of the position they are now accusing the Socialist party of pure and simple Socialists.

Political agitation is the question and the S. L. P. has been faithfully doing this all those years, in fact this has been the principal work of the S. L. P. the ballot being of but little importance, and in faithfully performing this work, the S. L. P. has done its full duty in making it possible for an organization such as the I. W. W. to be organized. The question is can we carry on political agitation without the (capitalist) ballot? Can political agitation be carried on without a political party? Does the I. W. W. provide for political agitation? I answer yes to all three. The I. W. W. has a basis from which it can prepare to equip itself to carry out the ultimate aim and objects of the revolution. Whether with or without the use of the ballot, with or without a jar, in short, with whatever means may be at hand at the time to overthrow, for it will be prepared to take possession. And the capitalist class are preparing to do away with the use of the ballot in their business; in fact, the ballot with the capitalist class is a farce, for, from an economic standpoint, they have all officials selected long before an election, and the working class ballot should be the counting of noses, it therefore needs no political party.

But the S. L. P. has a work yet to do, for the I. W. W. is not yet equipped and will not be fully equipped until the S. L. P. breaks up camp and throws all its force over to the I. W. W., which will be the final strength of equipment. But this cannot be done until the I. W. W. becomes free from entanglement, and the Socialist party has been further deserted and sifted. All of his

passengers of inquiring turn of mind got at the facts. Commuter—What is all this delay of late due to? Railroader—The company is saving money. Commuter—How does running the trains late and upsetting the schedule save them money? Railroader—Well, we have two train loads on this train now. Don't you see the people standing up? Commuter—What are we waiting for now? Railroader—The engine. It's either wait for the engine or the train crew. Commuter—Have they been cheeping by cutting down the crews, too? Railroader—Yes; that's what it amounts to. You see they're making the main line crews do a trip on the Newark branch on their swing time. Then if the Newark branch is held up by open draws or other delays, the crews get back late to go out on their regular main line runs, and that's why there is so much delay. I'm getting tired of doing from half an hour to an hour and a half's overtime every day. Commuter—I hear you got a ten per cent. increase lately, don't you get paid for overtime, too? Railroader—Overtime nothing! (with disgust.) Yes, we got a ten per cent. wage increase, and twenty per cent. increase in work (more disgust).

WHICH REMINDS ME.

(Continued from page one.)

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Railroader—Overtime nothing! (with disgust.) Yes, we got a ten per cent. wage increase, and twenty per cent. increase in work (more disgust).

Commuter—What was the quibble over a further five per cent. increase? Railroader—Oh that was for the drillers in the freight yard. They deserve it, too. I wouldn't take the job if they gave me the yard. Those fellows are on the hop the whole time, one minute on top of a car, next minute between cars making a coupling. These boys carry their lives in their hands all the time.

The railroader then proceeded about some duties. Meanwhile the passengers were wondering. One imposing-looking personage announced to his fellows that all the roads were short of equipment. He had seen in the how the makers of locomotives and cars were unable to fill orders for which the roads were most anxious. This shows how the dope of the capitalist press takes effect, for as a matter of fact the winter schedule shows less trains than in summer when the present trouble was not experienced.

Other passengers concluded that the present drawbacks, no matter to what due, were not as bad as going to Brooklyn or straphanging to the Bronx. These people were samples of that mythical thing—the public—which is patted on the back as the one to be feared of all men. That fine, too bluff old gentleman, and railroad magnate, Vanderbilt, showed how much the corporations fear the public when he blurted out his famous "The public be damned!"

The roads are making money on the ten per cent. wage increase. General complaint is made of unwarranted reductions in force. A department pay roll clerk found that the pay roll showed a lesser total for the month of the ten per cent. increase, than for the previous month at the old rate, the amount of work for the two months was exactly the same. Here is how it is worked: Say that ten men each getting \$50 per month, a total of \$500 per month, are increased ten per cent, that would mean an increased labor cost to the company of \$50 per month for the ten men. But that is not the purpose of a wage increase, the purpose is to bring about a decreased wage cost. It is done very simply—discharge two of the ten men, compel the eight to do the work of the ten, and, figuring in the ten per cent. increase to the eight who are left, the company gets the work done for \$50 less than before the wage advance. The eight men must, of course, put in more time than they did before but what is the company paying them extra for?

It is an old maxim in the railroad business when dividends are not in sight from the business in hand, and movement of rolling stock is reduced to a minimum, that the dividend must be exacted from out of labor's "share."

Meanwhile what of the brotherhoods, how do they meet the situation, you may ask. Bless your soul those organizations are headed by men who are expert at chloroforming the rank and file in the interests of the companies. The "brotherhoods" must be smashed by the railroaders.

A Jersey Commuter. will be done however while the S. L. P. is getting ready for, I see by the three letters following Sandgren's and De Leon's, that many of the S. L. P. are behind. Wake up, comrades, or you will be left: evolution and progress waits for no one.

Yours for the revolution, W. W. Cox.