

WEEKLY PEOPLE

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SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 1908.

Truth scarce ever yet carried it by vote anywhere at its first appearance. New opinions are always suspected, because they are not already common.

RIGHTS.

Mr. Thomas Ryan is a member of the circle of "high finance." He is one of the elite who moves within the charmed sphere of the two groups of banks that hold the country by the throat.

There is a suit brought against the Directors of the Metropolitan Street Railway Company to recover damages sustained through alleged misstatements of the value of the stock issued by the Company in 1905.

These are not things for lamentations; least of all are they for lampoons. These are things to grasp. Once grasped, they point unerringly to the conclusion that a SOCIAL CRASH IS IMMINENT—unless sufficient numbers of the population can be reached with the Evangelium of the Socialist Labor Party.

THE LATEST CRISIS CRASH.

"He was a Grand Juror, Justice, and strong in the granges and the church and socially" is the description given of Kerrill Kimberley of Goshen, Conn., now in prison under a bench warrant charging him with a number of burglaries, several of which the prisoner has since confessed.

A farm-hand, working hard from early dawn to dusk, and attending when not at work, merely to his own physical and immediate necessities, may become brutified. The narrowness of his own horizon allows him no peeps across other borders.

burst of brutality. This was not Kimberly's case. He had opportunities for mental expansion. His horizon extended beyond that of his own private economic status.

The criminal is society, because society is the criminal-breeder—wherever there be a criminal. Capitalist society bred the Grand Juror, Justice and active granger, and church man Kimberly burglar.

FINANCIAL PATRIOTISM, OR PATRIOTIC FINANCE.

The money kings of the land were haloed for us in all the wealth of language, pictures and paper at the command of the capitalist press, from the yellow journal up, or down, to the sedatest magazine, as the saviors of society during the stress of the money panic.

William Barker, the Young Patriot.

"No, William Barker, you cannot have my daughter's hand in marriage until you are her equal in wealth and social position."

The speaker was a haughty old man of some sixty years, and the person whom he addressed was a fine-looking young man of twenty-five.

With a sad aspect the young man withdrew from the stately mansion.

THE U. S. CONGRESS.

A Millionaires' and Capitalists' Club, Not a Representative Body. The Congress of the United States, house and senate combined, has 289 lawyers, 27 bankers, 15 who used to be farmers, (farm-owners), 11 manufacturers, 8 ex-editors, 7 real estate men, 6 merchants, 5 insurance men, 4 doctors, and 8 business men and financiers now on the retired list.

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"And," continued the old man, in a voice husky with emotion, "are you in favor of a rigorous prosecution of the war?" "I am! I am!" "Then, boy, take her! Maria, child, come hither. Your William claims thee. Be happy, my children! and whatever our lot in life may be, let us all support the Government!"

THE CAUSE THAT WON AND THE CAUSE THAT LOST.

The convention of the Democratic party of the State of New York has come and gone. It has been described as "the most turbulent and riotous convention ever seen." Why the turbulence? Why the riotousness? Epithets speakable and unspeakable were hurled by one set of delegates at the other set.

The premonitions of the free fight that made up the principal work of the convention were furnished by the falling out between Bourke Cockran the Tammany Congressman from this city and Charles F. Murphy, the Tammany Chief, several weeks ago. The two Tammanyites denounced each other as "bad Democrats".

He who would really believe that the Murphy element was indignant at the "McCarren methods" of fraud, of stuffing primaries, of enlisting the services of thugs, and of voting dead men, must be an Innocent Abroad.

But while these two "Causes" were in each others' hair on the floor of the Democratic convention, justly denouncing each other as scoundrels and liars, there was a third Cause present.

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SOME OBJECTIONS

RAISED AGAINST SOCIALISM BY CAPITALISM—THE ANSWER.

One of the most widespread prejudices against Socialism, fostered by pulpits, newspapers and capitalist professors, who are in the pay of the capitalist class is that Socialism proposes to abolish the family.

It doesn't take a very old man to remember, that even in his day, skill and strength were necessary for a workman, and that apprenticeship or training required several years.

The woman became self-supporting, as it is called. Many men unthinkingly hate the woman who competes with them. They talk as if women did it as a matter of choice, whereas they do it as a matter of necessity.

In recent investigations into the conditions of child labor in the textile industries of the South—now made by Socialists, mind you, but by Congressional and other investigations, it is shown that the natural order of things was reversed, the wife and children being in the mill, while the husband and father, displaced by his own flesh and blood, has no work to do.

To-day, under the capitalist system, the working class has really little or no family life, properly so called. In the first place, most of them are compelled to live in the tenement hell, which of itself is enough to destroy the family bonds.

din of the machinery drowns its cries. The slaveholder was accused of separating husband from wife, and parents from grown up children, but the babe was never torn from its mother, and yet the apologists for a system worse than chattel slavery dare accuse the Socialists of contemplating doing the dirty work that those whom they defend are doing right under our eyes!

While considering the abolition of the family argument, raised by the hirelings of the capitalist class, it will not be out of place to consider that other and twin objection that Socialists desire to have wives in common.

The paid apologists of the capitalist system will tell you that prostitution cannot be stopped, and they go even further, they declare that prostitution is a necessary evil. For once they speak the truth, prostitution cannot under the capitalist system be destroyed, and it is not only a necessary evil but a pillar of modern society.

Whenever you hear an apologist for capitalism making the charge against Socialism that it would abolish the family and that Socialists advocate a community of wives, just hurl these facts at him.

DISREPUTABLE METHODS.

Used by "Labor Leaders" of the American Federation of Labor toward Workingmen.

St. Louis, Mo., April 13.—H. Hagenson and J. Manning of the Industrial Workers of the World were arrested here last night for speaking on the street corner at 13th street and Franklin avenue.

The speakers were talking on industrial unionism. They had dwelt upon the impotency of the old style unionism, the American Federation kind, and their remarks aroused the ire of some Federation leaders.

When the case came up to-day, the police judge, Pollard, asked the speakers if the street cars had been blocked, or if people had been prevented from passing on the sidewalks.



UNCLE SAM AND BROTHER JONATHAN.

BROTHER JONATHAN—You can't imagine what I heard an Industrial Workers of the World organizer say the other night.

UNCLE SAM—Something worth listening to, I'll warrant.

B. J.—Quite the contrary! He was trying to make his audience believe that under the present system we were slaves—wage slaves, I think he called it, that we were sold in the market for pork, beef, and shoes, and a lot more such rot. Now, you don't believe that that stuff and nonsense, do you?

U. S.—Why, certainly, I do. Every fact in economics bears it out.

B. J.—What, YOU believe that YOU are a slave; that YOU are bought and sold?

U. S.—Yes, my man, let's be sensible and not allow our vanities to blind us to our own undoing. WE ARE MERCHANDISE, just as pork and beef; we ARE SOLD, the market just as shoes and stockings.—WE ARE ENSLAVED. Look as you may into the works of our Revolutionary Fathers, and never once will you come across the term: "Labor Market." Workingman was not then merchandise. Opportunities—natural and social—we then open to all—each man could be, as was, the architect of his own fortune, misfortune. In those days had any of us used the term "Labor Market," he would have been understood as little as if he had used the word "kinematograph" neither of the two was yet in existence. As the latter, so is the term "Labor Market" a subsequent development, that development is indicated by the pregnant expression "Labor Market." WE ARE ENSLAVED!

B. J.—Then all that was gained by the Revolutionary and Civil Wars is it again?

U. S.—But not beyond recall. Slavery a hundred and odd years ago arose from our political DEPENDENCY upon a foreign power; accordingly, freedom at that time had to be gained by our asserting our INDEPENDENCY. Now, then to-day our slavery arises from the circumstances of our being merchandise lying on the shelves of the market—along with beef and pork, and potatoes; accordingly, our freedom from this new bondage must be gained by stripping ourselves from the disgraceful condition of merchandise; we must pull ourselves away from the economic dependence of pork and beef, and shoes and leather, and all other merchandise; we must dare to claim our rights and perform our duties as MEN, as HUMAN BEINGS. To do that now, we must overthrow the present tyrant class—the capitalist class—the present tyrant system—the Capitalist or Wage Slavery system, and set up the Socialist Republic where the instruments of production shall be owned by all; and thus all who work may be free. Fall to, Jonathan.

LEARN HOW TO SWIM.

In a recent review of the situation at headquarters all were of the opinion based upon communications to the National Secretary, business office, and editorial department, that the outlook for the Socialist Labor Party is very favorable indeed. The only problem, strange to say, being that of arousing the stalwarts to a full realization of the situation and how to make the most of it.

It is a long lane that has no turning and it is the gritty propagandist who gets there, the other fellow can't you the why and the wherefore, and usually blames somebody else besides himself for his own lack of gettiness. The story is told of a man on horseback who came to a stream as finding no ford or bridge was puzzled how to cross. A countryman coming along asked: "Why don't you swim your horse across?" It is pretty much that way with agitation. Don't waste time in discussing what is or is not the best way to agitate, just hustle on and extend the propaganda by getting subscriptions. Join the Active Brigade—they will show you how to swim.

