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WEEKLY PEOPLE

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POINTED REMARKS

CALLED FORTH ON A VARIETY OF CURRENT EVENTS.

Helping Earthquake Sufferers Abroad, but Neglecting Wage Workers at Home—"Unconstitutional" Always in Favor of Enthroned Powers.

While hundreds upon hundreds of thousands of dollars are being sent abroad to Messina to alleviate the suffering caused by an unavoidable phenomenon of Nature, not a copper is being gathered to prevent the suffering caused by the avoidable cave-ins and other mine disasters that come from the man-made social system which sets up property above life—the life of the wage-slave.

Six thousand Constantinople spies, thrown out of employment by the Turkish revolution, have organized themselves with the other 60,000 spies of the old regime who are now also out of employment. The Spies' headquarters has been set up in Athens and premises to restore the reign of law, order and religion in the Ottoman Empire, now torn by dissensions through the unpatriotic conduct of the young Turks.

"The next step will be outrages against property and life on a large scale," exclaims the London Graphic indignantly after a review of the violent conduct of the Hindus in trying to shake off the yoke of British vassalage and plunder. "Outrages against property and life on a large scale!" Suddenly the organ of the most outrageous outrages of Hindu property and life becomes sanctimonious. The Graphic does not seem to be acquainted with Burke's speech in the impeachment proceedings against Warren Hastings and the whole East India Company.

It is a pity Roosevelt goes out of office next March 4th. The man is a re-incarnation of Charles I., walking into the House of Commons, whip in hand, and browbeating the members. Four more years of Teddy blackguarding Congress, and blackguarded back by Congress, would have done wonders towards whipping the masses into some solid action-producing thinking.

Mr. Justice Daniel Thew Wright has turned his hand to the turning of himself into a martyr. The Justice is engaged in forwarding to himself letters making lurid threats against him for his decision against Gompers, Mitchell and Morrison. If Justice Wright is not himself the author of the letters which he is giving to the press, perhaps MacParland and Orchard are the busy ones.

The Taft inauguration plans are reported to contemplate "ceremonies that will surpass all preceding ones." No doubt. And Taft's successor will, eight years hence (if Taftism lasts that long) be inaugurated with ceremonies still more dazzling—and so on until (if the show still lasts) the series of inaugurations will be capped by a procession in which President Hog will ride in a triumphal chariot, with the phallus hanging from the dashboard, and disrobed maidens strewing flowers in his path, as at the entry of Charles V. in Antwerp.

"Unconstitutional!" muttered the Connecticut court—and, like the baseless fabric of a vision, the cloud-capped seasons, the gorgeous sentences, the satirical phrases, the great Corrupt Practices Act itself that dreamers expected was to put an end to election frauds in the State of Connecticut, by starting with Governor-elect Lilley, yea, and all which it inherits, did dissolve. Like an unsubstantial pageant faded, they left not a wrack behind.

"What next?"—well may Uncle Sam, as represented in the cartoon of the Spokane "Spokesman-Review," look agape. The bath-tub in which he is scrubbing his dirty children—until recently the elite of San Francisco, New York, Philadelphia and St. Louis, is full, and the bathroom door flies open, and another dirty urchin is thrust in from Pittsburgh. "Tarnation! What next?" cries the bewildered Uncle Sam. What next? Look at Congress. Well may Uncle Sam look distracted.

What the much boasted of chivalry of

Kentucky has failed to accomplish, poverty is now in a fair way of doing for the State. It was hitherto found impossible to put an end to the murders, feuds and brawls of the State. Chivalry was deaf to all appeals for redress. The poverty such conduct has steeped the eastern part of the State in, now, finally, got upon its ears. Material interests having asserted themselves, chivalry will henceforth no longer reel, like a drunken man, its head in the clouds.

As a matter of curiosity, it will interest The People readers to know that John H. Work, S. P. National Committeeman for Iowa—a State in which the S. P. vote of 1904 (14,847) dropped in 1908 to 8,287, a decrease of 6,560—has moved that the S. P. elect from its membership an additional member on the International Bureau, and request the International Bureau that he be seated in place of the present representative of the Socialist Labor Party.

Will the hundreds of thousands of dollars spent on lawyers to make the Gas Trust disgorge stop the mouth of those who claim that Socialism would be wasteful? Practically four years have been taken up with the Gas Trust litigation. Four years of endeavor that could under civilized conditions have been turned to better use.

The earthquake that steeped the people on both sides of the straits of Messina in dire distress is not limited to that locality. Its devastating power envelops also the hundreds of thousands of the workers in America who were thrown out of work by the capitalist earthquake of the panic of 1907. The Messina disaster now furnishes a pretext to forget all about the nome sufferers. They may now starve, while funds are collected with a great parade of philanthropy to aid our distant fellow men.

Prof. George Soule, of New Orleans, is the latest capitalist professor to define Socialism as "such a reorganization of our present social system as would compel the rich to divide up with the poor." By the which token Prof. Soule bertillonizes himself as a man who advocates the continuance of "our present social system" which compels the poor to divide up with the rich.

Not a bad name for Taft—"the Titan of the golf links"—given him by the Texan Congressman Morris Sheppard. When the Ancient Regime of France was fast going to the dogs it was named "a despotism checked by epigrams."

There is now nothing left to wonder at by those who, these many years, have been wondering at the existence of Turkey. They called Turkey the "Sick Man"; and sick Turkey did look, yet never died. What was the secret of the toughness of Turkey's thread of life? Here was a mystery. The mystery is now uncovered. From Berlin comes the information that an understanding exists between the British and the Turkish Government whereby the Sultan, who is recognized by Mohammedans throughout the world as the head of Islam, and wields thereby an immense political influence, will use the influence of the priesthood in India to support British rule; and, in return, the Sultan will receive active British diplomatic support in the Turkish controversies with other European powers. No more mystery.

"It seems as though our judges have gone mad," exclaimed an official of the Boston Central Labor Union in sight of Judge Wright's sentence of Gompers, Mitchell and Morrison. "Gone mad? Not at all. Growing sensible, class sensible, is the better term. Hitherto the craft unionism of Gompers was a rose, true enough, to capitalism, yet a rose with thorns—the strike and the boycott thorns. The decision is to preserve the rose with all its flavor, yet strip it of its thorns. Not bad economic culture."

Miss Ethel Roosevelt, the President's daughter who was "presented to society" on December 28 at a reception in the Blue Room of the White House, "wore an Empire gown of soft white satin with crystal embroidery." Capitalizing only the "Empire gown of soft white satin," the young lady was robed in 200,000 bowls of soup of the quality and containing the quantity that are dealt out in the soup-houses to the out-of-work class that "bulldozed" the "Empire gown of soft white satin

THE MISSION OF JUDGE WRIGHT

Not indignation, not condemnation, not reproach should be expressed with regard to Judge Wright's action in sentencing Gompers, Mitchell and Morrison to jail for the doing of acts that no law forbade, and that were entered upon the list of crimes only after their commission and by the legislative action of the court itself.

No; not indignation; not condemnation; not reproach—but applause should greet the deed.

Deeds such as Judge Wright's are great historic landmarks. They are

with crystal embroidery." At the same time that Consolidated Gas stock dropped 26 points upon the announcement that the Supreme Court had decided in favor of the 80-cent gas law—at the same time that the Gas stock took a tumble, there were others offering to bet a dollar to a doughnut that the law would remain unenforced. Such is the general estimation in which the Law has itself caused itself to be held in.

A new "consumption cure" has been discovered in Philadelphia. What each one of these "cures" proves is the oneness of the science of the alleged discoverers. It was not "cure" that stamped out the pest, which periodically ran its devastating course in the Middle Ages. If the pest had to await a "cure" for its extinguishment, then it would be reaping its periodical crops to this day. What stamped out the pest was, not "cures," but preventives.—the improved sanitary conditions that allowed no pasture to the Pest Microbe. The "discoverers" of "cures" for consumption had better quit; learn epizootics; discover that the scourge of consumption is itself the inevitable consequence of another scourge—capitalism; and then find an antitoxin for that scourge which compels vast numbers of the population to live and labor excessively in consumption-breeding dark and ill ventilated rooms.

Asiatic Turkey, threatened with a famine in the regulation style of olden times, now that she is represented in a parliament, will have leisure to realize that political parliaments do not feed; that what political parliaments do is to buttress up the power of an economic oligarchy. If Asiatic Turkey does not herself profit by the self-taught lesson, other nations may—at any rate, should.

The priest who "nabbed a burglar" in St. Mary's Church in West New York, N. J., is more of an amender of the Gospels than a pillar of law and order. "Resist not evil" and "him that taketh away thy cloak forbid not to take thy coat also" are Gospel behests that the Rev. Father Peter D. Lill has substituted with a revolver.

Congressman Bonyne of Colorado should move to have the Secret Service extended to the White House. While he was conversing with the President, another visitor walked off with his overcoat.

If one were not acquainted with the psychologic fact that he who cries "Stop thief!" loudest, is usually the nearest one to the plunder, one might be puzzled to account for the mental kink of the up-state sociological genius who defined the labor union as "a band of men bent only on the destruction of property and the disregard of law." As it is, we know just what the matter is with him. He is a member of some trust or other which has been shooting competitors, whipping their wives, or setting fire to their warehouses.

Commissioner Bingham of the New York Police Department transparently comes out in aid of Roosevelt's desires to have a Department of Spies represented by a Head of Department in the Cabinet. The Commissioner is of the opinion that the term of office of the Chief of Police should be at least nine years—to start with.

In line with Judge Wright's decision in the District of Columbia against Gompers, Mitchell and Morrison for boycotting Oliver T. Crane, master in chancery in the Circuit Court of Montana, adjudicates the Anacosta Typographical Union and the Montana Federation of Labor guilty of violating the Anti-Trust Law, convicted of manslaughter and sen-

ment to promote reaction: they are, in fact, the powerful stimuli for revolution.

Without the stimulus given by a Louis XIV., the French nation might have stagnated to this day in the swamp of a Mazarin's apathy. The French Revolution, together with the impulse forward that it imparted to all Europe might never have been.

Without a Charles I., who knows how long the British nation might not have plodded along, quiescent in the benumbing toils of feudalism? The English

THE VOTE—FINAL

Of the S. L. P. and of the S. P.

With the exception of California, Minnesota, New Hampshire and Nevada (on the S. L. P. column), and of the State of Arkansas (on the S. P. column), the below figures are taken from the official returns furnished to this office by the respective Secretaries of State from the States and Territories.

As to California, Minnesota, New Hampshire and Nevada (on the S. L. P. column) the Party's vote was cast by postmen. The figures were furnished by Party officers, or representatives from those States.

As to Arkansas (on the S. P. column) all attempts made by this office to secure the official returns from its Secretary of State having failed, the figures are reluctantly taken from the World Almanac. Although the tables of the World Almanac are in numerous respects unreliable, the figures it gives for Arkansas tally substantially with those that have appeared in S. P. publications.

States.	S. L. P.	1904	1908
Arizona	82	69	
California	296	24	
Colorado	333		
Connecticut	575	608	
Illinois	4,698	1,680	
Indiana	1,538	643	
Kentucky	306	404	
Massachusetts	2,359	1,011	
Michigan	1,183	1,096	
Minnesota	974	107	
Missouri	1,674	668	
Montana	208		
Nebraska	3		
Nevada	8		
New Hampshire	2,680	1,198	
New Jersey	9,127	3,877	
New York	2,633	721	
Pennsylvania	2,211	1,222	
Rhode Island	488	182	
Texas	421	176	
Virginia	218,	25	
Washington	1,592		
Wisconsin	223	314	
Total	34,172	14,237	
A decrease of 19,935.			

States.	S. P.	1904	1908
Alabama	853	1,399	
Arizona	1,304	1,912	
California	29,535	28,639	
Colorado	4,304	7,974	
Connecticut	4,543	5,113	
Delaware	146	239	
Florida	2,337	3,447	
Georgia	197	584	
Idaho	4,949	6,400	
Illinois	69,225	34,711	
Indiana	12,613	13,476	
Iowa	14,847	8,287	
Kansas	15,494	12,420	
Kentucky	3,692	4,066	
Louisiana	995	2,538	
Maine	2,103	1,758	
Maryland	2,247	2,223	
Massachusetts	13,994	10,778	
Michigan	8,941	11,586	
Minnesota	11,492	14,471	
Mississippi	333	378	
Missouri	13,959	15,431	
Montana	5,676	5,855	
North Carolina	134		
Nebraska	7,412	3,524	
Nevada	925	2,029	
New Hampshire	1,090	1,299	
New Jersey	9,587	10,253	
New York	36,883	38,451	
New Mexico	162	1,656	
North Dakota	2,005	2,421	
Ohio	36,200	33,785	
Oklahoma	4,445	21,770	
Oregon	7,189	7,339	
Pennsylvania	27,863	33,913	
Rhode Island	956	1,365	
South Carolina	22	100	
South Dakota	3,138	2,846	
Tennessee	1,254	1,870	
Texas	2,791	7,870	
Utah	5,767	4,895	
Vermont	868		
Virginia	818	255	
Washington	10,023	14,177	
West Virginia	1,572	3,679	
Wisconsin	28,220	28,170	
Wyoming	1,077	1,715	
Total	408,204	422,950	
An increase of 14,746.			

PRESTON'S PARDON DENIED.

State Board of Nevada Refuses to Free Wrongfully Imprisoned Union Picket.

Carson, Nev., January 9.—The State Board of Pardons has denied the application of M. R. Preston and Joseph Smith, two men wrongfully convicted of the murder of John Silva, a restaurant keeper of Goldfield, Nevada, on March 10, 1907.

Preston was convicted of "murder" and sentenced to twenty-five years in the State penitentiary. Smith was convicted of manslaughter and sen-

tioned to twelve years' imprisonment.

The shooting of Silva was the culmination of a strike of waiters and waitresses in a restaurant in Goldfield, which followed Silva's refusal to board persons hostile to the Goldfield union of the Industrial Workers of the World.

Smith himself was nowhere near the scene of the shooting, but was nevertheless arrested as an "accomplice." On Preston's part the act was one of self-defence. He had been doing picket duty for his union in front of Silva's place when all of a sudden the restaurant keeper rushed out of his store pointing a gun and tugging at the trigger to shoot Preston. Preston seeing his own life in danger whipped out a pistol and shot his would-be assassin.

BALTIMORE S. L. P.

Greatest Consternation in Ranks of Socialist Party.

Baltimore, January 6.—Within the last four weeks the Socialist Labor Party of this city has given the Debsite party, the Socialist party, an uncomfortable shaking up. These Socialist party fellows have been proclaiming to their followers, that the S. L. P. was dead, and thought they were secure. Then August Gillhaus and Boris Reinstein of the S. L. P. came along and created an immense stir in the S. P. camp, with the result that there has been friction in that camp and all is not well there.

Gillhaus spoke here three times and made splendid speeches on each occasion. At his first meeting he covered his subject thoroughly and no questions were put to him when he was through. At his second meeting an S. P. man put a question just to be funny. The drubbing he got from the speaker made him sore clean through. I was in the rear of the hall attending to literature as this "funny" questioner walked out. He showed that the fun was all taken out of him.

By this time the Socialist party men were beginning to find out that they hadn't quite "buried" us, and they came to the third meeting of Gillhaus only to have their knuckles rapped again. At the close of this meeting they tried to put Gillhaus "in a hole" in this manner. A young fellow walked up to Gillhaus smiling and asked him to sign a paper to prevent the extradition of a Russian who was held prisoner in New York. The other S. P. men gathered around, also with broad grins on their faces.

Gillhaus asked to see the petition. It was handed to him and the smiles on the S. P. faces expanded. Then Gillhaus, after looking over the paper, quietly told the crowd, "You fellows are three months behind the times. You had better get a move on or those papers will be worthless." Their smiles at once changed to chagrin; they were stung again.

Then came Reinstein's meeting and complete rout for them. Reinstein spoke in Russian to an audience of over 200. He started his meeting at 8.30 and so much interest was shown that it was past midnight before adjournment occurred. Even then the audience did not desire to leave.

In a talk I had with some of this audience it was told that it was the best talk ever heard here, and that S. P. speakers never imparted the knowledge and information which Reinstein had given them. We secured the names and addresses of twenty-five men whom we will supply with literature.

Reinstein made such a marked impression upon the Polish Federation here that they are talking of having him speak here again. They would like to have him give a lecture on industrial unionism.

Section Baltimore, Socialist Labor Party, feels proud of these meetings.

They show that the S. L. P. has the right message, and it needs but to fall upon the right ground to take root. It also shows that we are the party, present and future. But we must get our message to the workers, and to do that, we must circulate the party press and literature along with sending out speakers.

BRITISH LABORITES.

Will Discuss Matters of Political Policy

London, Jan. 9.—About the most important conference in the history of the British Labor Party up to date will be the forthcoming Portsmouth convale. Upon its outcome will depend to a great extent the future career of the independent labor organization.

If the so-called socialist element secures control of the conference and seeks to commit the delegates to the even loose socialist resolutions such as Ramsay Macdonald announces he will propose, the effect cannot fail to be to widen the breach between the Laborites and the Liberals, and maybe to split the trades unionists in such a way as to necessitate a reconstruction of the Labor party.

One of the leading topics to be considered as the basis of action is the course to be pursued if the House of Lords confirms the decision of the Court of Appeals forbidding a trade union to contribute to the payment of members of Parliament.

Another is the report drawn up at the request of the Labor party by Arthur Henderson, its chairman, and George Barnes, newly appointed chief of its organizing department, as to the position of the German workman and the method adopted in Germany in dealing with unemployment.

Laborites are now committed to putting forward candidates in all constituencies where there is a fighting chance of wresting the seats from Liberals. If trade unions may not contribute to payment of members of Parliament, the Labor party will suffer in its representation. The House of Lords has in view of the probability of a confirmation, the conference will be asked to make a provisional demand upon Asquith for legislation to reverse it.

A large section of the Liberal element consider the decision sound and wise, and they will resist all proposals to set it aside. The proceedings at Portsmouth promise to be extremely vivacious.

POUREN CONFERENCE

Has Started Movements in Brooklyn, Buffalo, and Philadelphia Looking Toward Abrogation of Russian Extradition Treaty.

The Pouden Defense Conference has established permanent headquarters in Room 10, Clinton Hall, 151 Clinton street, near Grand, New York city, where it held its first weekly meeting of the Executive Committee on January 5.

Reports were received from Brooklyn, Buffalo and Philadelphia, where auxiliary offices have been organized, to cooperate with the parent organization in the campaign for abrogation of the Extradition Treaty with Russia.

The Committee decided to cooperate in this campaign with the Political Refugees' Defence League in Chicago, the latter body organizing the territory west of Chicago.

The Committee on Manifesto submitted its final draft of the document, which was adopted.

Arrangements were made to secure the signatures of all organizations actively engaged in the campaign against the Treaty. When this is done the Manifesto will be published in the press. A detailed statement of the Rudowitz case was also submitted and approved. It had been prepared by Prof. J. A. Hourwich, who had taken a prominent part in the proceedings before Commissioner Foote in Chicago.

There was also submitted a draft of resolutions to be used at meetings called to agitate in favor of abrogation of the obnoxious Treaty.

From reports coming in from all parts of the country it appears that the agitation against the Treaty is steadily growing in vigor and commanding a great deal of support by liberty-loving people.

Counsel stated that the decision in the Pouden case by Commissioner Hitchcock would, in all probability, be rendered before the close of this month.

SEATTLE SOCIALISTS

STRONG S. L. P. OUTPUT ON PACIFIC COAST.

Hold Agitation Meetings and Make Splendid Sales of Party's Journal—Receive New Members—Outlook Good for Party—Language Branches Organized.

Seattle, Wash., January 3.—The Socialist Labor Party organization of this city is steadily engaged in the work of gaining recruits to its cause. Campaigns with this organization are never-ending. Election day is not the signal to go into a break up of camp until the next canvas gets started. But the local S. L. P. men are right on the job from one year's end to the next.

These Seattle Socialists admitted eleven members to their organization at the last business meeting, and all of them were good material for taking part in furthering the cause of the S. L. P.

The Section organizer, G. D. O'Hanrahan, was busy holding three street meetings and three indoor meetings last week, and as an indication of the telling work which he put in, it is only necessary to mention that 360 copies of The People were sold at these meetings.

The members of the party lay particular emphasis upon the need of circulating this journal. The speakers are told that they must make it a point to advertise the paper when they occupy the platform. While they do the announcing part there are several who pass through the audience, selling the papers. In this way, and by the success which has attended these sales, the Socialist Labor Party has made itself known to many workmen here.

The business meetings of the local organization are always the scene of seriousness on the part of the members. It is pointed out that each and every individual has a responsibility resting upon him, and he is urged to attend to his part of the great work which confronts the organization. Here again there is much enthusiasm shown for the party's press. That is a topic which is always uppermost in the minds of those who are the hustlers of the Section.

One of the members has well said: "Those that attend to routine work regularly are ever the most energetic supporters of the official journal, and of the party's proceedings. They are right in the current of events. Maybe once in a year some one has fault to find, but it generally turns out to be one who hasn't been keeping track of things."

This same member, when asked as to the future prospects of the movement, said: "Things look bright, in fact, from my point of view things look brighter to me now for the success of our party than they ever looked before. Especially is this true of Seattle and of the Pacific Coast."

The Scandinavian Federation is doing excellent work about these parts. It is but a young organization but it receives applications for membership regularly. At its last meeting five applicants were up for admission. In the last week the Federation held four street meetings.

The German Branch and the Lithuanian Branch held encouraging sessions. Lately a Russian Socialist Club has been organized.

J. E. Riordan.

RAILROAD TRAINMEN ASK FOR LAWS.

Indianapolis, January 8.—The railroad trainmen's organization to-day laid before members of the Legislature the demands that it will make for new laws. It will ask the enactment of a law compelling railroads to establish a standard eight-wheel caboose, the enactment of an employer's liability law similar to the federal law, the strengthening of the law requiring the adoption of the block signal system and the strengthening of the safety appliance law.

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

SUNDAY CARS

The Business Classes of London, Canada, Greatly Exercised for the Welfare of the Workingman.

London, Ont., January 4.—The Sunday street car question is a subject of considerable discussion here just at present, and it is about as amusing as Puck, Judge, or any of these comic papers to read the reasons advanced by one side why we should have Sunday cars, and by the other side why we should not. And if it wasn't a shame it would be a joke for its becoming a "workingman's" question. The workingman is the central figure and members of the capitalist class are fighting each other to do him justice?!

The Lord's Day Alliance says that the workingman requires a day of rest, which no doubt he does, and therefore no Sunday cars, because he would turn the day of rest into a day of pleasure, and then he would be tired through the week and not so productive to his boss. This the organization doesn't want.

But here comes an argument that "sweeps the Socialist off his feet." Now he is at last squelched. The argument is, "Vote for Sunday cars because it makes the poor men equal with the rich. He will be equal to the man who has his own carriage and coachman or automobile."

It would seem that those business men advancing this argument are fighting the workingman's cause with a vengeance, but let all the workingmen in this city ask for just one cent per hour more and where will all these friends be?

Then there is the moral side to it. If we have Sunday cars the workingman will go to the park and places of amusement, and the Sabbath will be desecrated and vice, immorality, will let's draw the curtain. "No! No! Not so," shout the opposition. "Only start the cars and let the public frequent the park you speak of and immorality will be stamped out under the public's gaze; the public is the curb for this. Hoorah! for our side."

At one of the churches here the minister was about to say something very radical, so after prefacing his remarks with the statement that he was not an Anarchist or Socialist who believed in dividing society into classes and setting class against class which he was utterly opposed to, he said that a letter appeared in one of the city papers written by a street car employe in favor of Sunday cars. He knew for a fact that ninety-five per cent. of these men were against Sunday cars. Why were there no letters from any of them? Because their jobs depended on their silence. These large corporations cared nothing for the working class. He had been talking to a railroad engineer and this intelligent man said that the last thing these large corporations thought about was their men.

At the end of the service he was at the door shaking hands with the people as they went out. One who was present tried to avoid the handshake, after his remarks on Socialism, was the preacher reached forward with a "How-do-you-do. Ah, do you attend this church, er—ah—what might your name be?" The stranger replied, "My name is Bryce. I don't attend this church, and I don't agree with your misrepresentation of Socialism."

"Er—ah—ah"; then turning to some one else: "Oh, how-do-you-do?" and his dissimulation went on.

The Differences

BETWEEN THE Socialist Party AND THE Socialist Labor Party ALSO BETWEEN Socialism, Anarchism AND Anti-Political Industrialism

BY A. ROSENTHAL Price : : : : 10 Cents By Mail, 12 Cents

NEW YORK LABOR NEWS CO. 30 City Hall Place, New York.

SCANDINAVIAN SOCIALISTS.

Socialist Labor Federation In Convention in Boston—Secretary Reports Increase in Membership.

Boston, Jan. 7.—The national convention of the Scandinavian Socialist Labor Federation convened January 1 in Ideal Hall, 566 Tremont street, this city. Swangren, of Boston, was elected temporary secretary.

Permanent organization was effected with delegates from the following cities:—Boston, Cambridge, Brooklyn, New York City, Lynn, Worcester, Quincy, Springfield, Mass., New Haven, Brooklyn, Chicago, Providence, New Britain.

N. Malmberg, representing the National Executive Committee of the S. L. P., and F. Houtenbrink representing the Massachusetts S. E. C., S. L. P., were seated as fraternal delegates.

The National Secretary of the Federation, J. Rudquist, read his report which showed that the branches had increased in number from fourteen to twenty-four during the last two years, and the membership had increased from 300 to 700. As to the official organ, The Arbeteren, the secretary reported that it had a hard struggle during the panic, being compelled to reduce the size of the paper from twelve to eight pages.

The following preamble which aims at clarifying the purpose of the Federation was adopted:

We Socialists know of only two nations, the Capitalist Class and the Proletariat. Between these two an inevitable and continuous war exists.

As in warfare every part of a country's army has to arrange its movements and tactics according to the territorial conditions of the place where they operate, and according to the position of the enemy, so must also every country's proletariat in the war against the capitalist class form its movements and tactics according to existing economic conditions and the country's political constitution, and to the position a country's capitalist class in general possesses.

We immigrants belong to the moment we put our foot on American ground to the American division of the International Proletariat, and it is our duty to take active part in the existing war against the foe that here immediately confronts us, that is, against the American division of the International Capitalist Class.

This war can be carried on only by the country's economic and political labor organizations; that is, Socialist organizations.

Our Federation is not suited to carry on such a war, it being neither an economic nor a political organization as that term is generally understood. Our Federation is solely an organization for agitational purposes. As such it has a problem to fulfil for the Socialist movement in this country as long as Scandinavian workingmen in large numbers continue to come here.

We intend to explain to those through our native language the existing conditions in this country. And through our Federation we further intend to give to those comrades who come here from the Old World, having Socialist sentiments and enthusiasm for our cause, a chance to be at once active in the Socialist agitation here.

In the execution of this, our problem, we intend to do all in our power to spread among our comrades information regarding their situation as wage slaves, and to loyally support the political and economic organizations in this country based on the principles of International Socialism which are appropriate to the conditions of this country.

A change was made in paragraph I. of the Federation's constitution. The paragraph now reads as follows:

The object of the Federation is to unite all political clubs in which any of the Scandinavian languages are spoken, and which acknowledge the Socialist Labor Party as the only political party of the working class, and hold that the working class must organize itself along industrial lines on the basis of the class struggle to establish the Co-operative Commonwealth.

The seat of the National Executive Committee of the Federation will be at New York beginning April 1. Steps were taken to raise a \$2,000 fund so as to again enlarge the size of "Arbeteren," the official journal to twelve pages.

The convention adjourned its work on January 8.

TEN CENT BOOKS.

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New York Labor News Company, 30 City Hall Place, New York.

S. P. MAN CRITICIZES HIS PARTY

GRAND RAPIDS, MICH., MEMBER POINTS OUT FATAL WEAKNESS OF HIS ORGANIZATION.

[From Article In "Wage Slave," S. P., Jan. 1, 1909.]

I have just read the articles in current issue of the Wage-Slave in answer to the query "Would They Submit?" written by the comrades from Detroit and Florida, and this, too, with no small degree of interest.

I must confess that comrade Richardson's remarks seem to me a little on the pessimistic order, though, in spots, offering food for reflection.

For instance, he says "The A. F. of L. is impotent, the I. W. W. a failure, the S. L. P. is in the last stages of consumption and the S. P. is nothing but a big bag of wind."

Is the I. W. W. a failure? Why? Since when? Can such a statement be made truthfully?

With the last statement referring to the Socialist Party I am almost inclined to co-incide. Before election it was "a million votes" or "we had over 400,000 in 1904." Now those votes in 1904 weren't Socialist votes at all! Just plain Democrat votes, that's all. What a difference just a few hours make!

After bawling the movement in Massachusetts (no doubt with some reason) and what the employers are going to do with the ringleaders in other localities when we get to the "obnoxious" point, he seems to take the air line route for a solution to these problems by saying "the solution is not in destroying our present organization, but adding to it new features."

Comrades, take a fool's advice. If you want an organization, a real, live, moving organization on the political field; if you want to see the co-operative commonwealth "in our day" or if you want to see something in the shape of "a bag of wind," "a failure," or if you are particularly anxious to make what we now have—a wishee-washee-reform and conservative "well-pay-for-them" organization, or if we all want a pedro party club or a "ladies aid society" then let's tack on a "\$100 death benefit" to our party organization. Why? You'll have every kind of a "sympathizer" with an "incentive" to come into it and stay in. Is this what we want? We've got muddle-heads enough now dictating our policy in the organization without giving any of those on the outside any "incentive" to come in. Let's take what we've got and never mind breaking our necks getting in the stragglers. Take those we have, educate them (the writer needs considerable, to know who we are, who "this fellow Marx" is, etc.

I do not wish to be understood as condemning workingclass fraternity. I am a firm believer in the worker being his own protector against capitalism. But—keep the organization separate. If fraternity it must be—we couldn't do better than join such a fraternal organization as the Modern Sons of Marx, which I understand prepares its members for the oncoming revolution through very instructive and educational tactics, and I should be surprised if some of its members don't come to the front with the question, now that the matter is up for discussion.

But, however, this is hardly to the question. The question, as I see it, is "will the capitalist class submit on a Socialist political victory?" If the party "keeps in the middle of the road" and demands the surrender of the capitalist class through political channels only, they will find themselves face to face with a problem beyond their scope. Why? Because all they could do would

be to "demand" it, and that don't hurt. The question of using at that time the forces at hand to compel them legally to submit, such as the army, navy and the judiciary, are merely conjectural. There is no certainty about either. We will have to back up our demand with something stronger than these.

We, the working class, must organize industrially and by so doing we form the structure of the new society within the shell of the old, notwithstanding comrade Richardson's remarks to the contrary that it is a failure. We may yet wake up some day and look into this question deeply and with consideration. When? When we cease to be idol worshippers, utopians and band-wagon-hangers-on, and do our own thinking, instead of letting our "eminently respectable" leaders do it for us.

The only reason this question is not more discussed than it is in our party press and party circles is because our preachers, lawyers, doctors, editors, politicians and presidents of gold mining companies don't consider it "policy." We might offend that magnificent body of voters the A. F. of L. and scare them most awfully, so we couldn't ever get them to notice us again. And besides they can feel the wrongs inflicted on the working class by this system as the workers themselves only can. When these leaders are forced to admit the superiority of industrial organization of the working class over the trade union form—as a good many do and still adhere to the old worn out, tattered and torn, thread-bare aggregation, supporting it morally, financially and in every other way possible and still remaining in the harness of supposedly revolutionary activity, the Socialist Party, and the reins well in hand, it speaks for itself that we are hypnotized.

No; this wont bother the capitalist class much, at our present rate. Organize according to industries. From the bottom of each to the top, into solid, impregnable, revolutionary organizations of production. Organizations for the production of the needs of life. Organizations that recognize the value of concentration of effort to carry on life's labors affectively and with a minimum of human effort.

Organizations that don't follow political will-o'-the-wisps' whose object is to retard progress and send us back to the primitive days of production. Organizations that are built on the solid rock of cold facts as well as the class struggle, with the motto "Abolition of the Wage System" instead of "A fair day's pay for a fair day's work" and "Reward your friends—punish your enemies."

Organization of the kind the very thought of which makes the capitalist class stop long enough to try and kill (with the aid of not a few so-called Socialists) in its infancy, because its a real menace to the acquisition of dividends. This alone is suggestive enough of what they will do on the eve of a Socialist political victory at the polls.

In conclusion I would say "Yes, they will submit" when we come out of the spasm or trance we have been lulled into, and demonstrate that we are the people and must not only be respected but heeded.

But as long as we keep busy chasing pretty butterflies, and don't bother them they will be content to let us slumber on.

E. W. Grogel, Grand Rapids, Mich.

RETROSPECTION.

Employed till one who works for less Displace him to do more: A human merchandise, a pawn, A bee to honey store,

A slave to pile a pyramid Of good things for his lord, And vegetate in poverty Himself, in hovels ward.

The kin-beasts of his wretchedness His festering hell who share, (A family! Hooray!) Good turned to curse is there!

The sons degraded, stunted, thin, By ignorance depraved; The mother time-worn, haggard, wan, By poverty enslaved;

The daughter of his love, for bread, A child of the abyss: Great God! And have the ages past Been spent; and but for this?

Each plant reveals its life to him, Each turn enchantment gives— A creature stamped with God's own mark, Freedom is his! He lives!

Now comes the workingman— Nay! Nay! A factory "hand" With toll-bent back and calloused palms, Bereft of home and land;

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Physical Basis of Mind and Morals, Fitch. Socialism and Philosophy, Labriola. Essays Materialistic Conception of History, Labriola.

THE OUT OF WORK

Picked Up By Cold Wave and Hurlled on Bread Lines.

As was to be expected, the cold wave which reached New York last week picked up the tens and twenties of unemployed men who previously had made shift to get along somehow, and hurled them upon the bread lines and charity organizations for a bite to eat and place to shelter their heads at night.

The Bowers Mission bread line was from 1,500 to 2,000 and will remain at that figure until Easter. Every night now for weeks many men have been turned away because the basket was empty and the directors of the mission decided they must take measures to meet the necessity.

They don't say matters are worse than they were this time last year, but the John G. Hallimond, the Superintendent, says they are just as bad, and that there is a steady flow of men out of work converging to New York from all over the State.

Skilled mechanics stand waiting for hours in the cold for a cup coffee and hunk of bread, besides educated men who can talk in several languages.

The men looked to be an average gathering of workmen, the chief thing noticeable about them being that the clothes of many showed that they were more used to clerical than manual toil.

Hallimond thought of calling upon them to tell their experiences in the search of work and at various charitable institutions. A sailor got up first.

"I tramped from Detroit to Pittsburg and from Pittsburg to Philadelphia," he said. "Then I came here. I haven't earned a cent and couldn't even find a place to leave my clothes. I had to put them in a saloon."

"I've been in the Salvation Army's Industrial Home in Jersey City to-day," said the next man. "I worked for four hours chopping wood and got my dinner. I didn't get away till 3:30 o'clock."

"You got your dinner," said Hallimond. "They call it a dinner. It was peasoup and a cracker." A burst of laughter interrupted, then he went on. "I said, 'You're a charitable institution, I suppose,' and they says, 'yes, we are.' 'You're charitable all right,' I said to them."

Complaints of the severity of the tasks in the woodyards were numerous, and the point raised was not that the work was too hard, but that it took so much time that a man had no chance of seeking a job the same day. Hallimond brought out that the man who had just spoken was handicapped by the loss of a hand, but immediately another man arose and said:

"I haven't lost a hand, but I've worked steady for fifteen years on the Pennsylvania. I went to the woodyard at West Twenty-sixth street and worked every moment of time, and the job took me from 10 till 5:30. My saw wouldn't cut butter. I was the sickest man in New York when I got through. I tell you right now I won't go back there if I drop in the street."

"What did you get?" asked the chairman. "Thirty-five cents, and I didn't get money at that."

Laughter, bitter with experience, went up, and the speaker was cheered as he told how he had to walk from the west side over to the Olive Tree Inn at Second avenue and Twenty-third street to exchange his ticket for two meals and a bed.

"How old are you?" asked Hallimond. "Forty-four; time I was dead. Those two meals wouldn't have fed a cat."

"How many agree with this man's testimony?" asked the chair. A forest of hands shot up. It was clear that work-tests are not popular, and when some one spoke of the kind treatment accorded to applicants to the New York Home for the Intemperate the speaker was interrupted with "It's a lie."

The clerk of the labor bureau of the Bowers Mission also bore witness to the fact that it is not the actual hard work of the 'labor tests' to which the men object. It is the inordinate time the tests take.

"My experience is," he said, "that good mechanics can't get a job now. They come to me with tears in their eyes and offer me a bribe to pick them out first for a dishwashing job at \$1 a day."

What a dishwashing job means was told by an ironworker, who has made his \$6 and \$7 a day.

"I reckon its no job for an indolent man. You stand over a steaming copper for twelve hours a day, scalding yourself if you aren't careful. Then about 2 or 3 in the morning you start in to polish up the brass kettles before

they're cool. Then you split the kindling wood for next day and carry coal up from the cellar. You earn your dollar, don't you forget it."

But even dishwashing is not to be had for the asking. One man told of applying for a job at 4 o'clock in the morning and finding that there a dozen others ahead of him. A painter saw an advertisement for a man to paint ironwork, and fifty craft union members were gathered on the sidewalk when he reached the address.

"Why," he said, "on the Mlackwell's Island Bridge on city work which should pay the full union rate of \$3.50 a day there are men with their cards in their pockets taking \$2 and glad to get it. You'll get any number of union members now for \$1.50."

Then arose another speaker, grizzled about the temples. He told of his adventures in pursuit of a job.

"I went over to Brooklyn," he said, "where I heard a man wanted some one to look after his horse. 'You're too old' he told me."

Supt. Hallimond raised the question of the State Labor Bureau. Most of the men said they had never heard of it. Those who had declared that it demanded references and threatened arrest if they were not forthcoming.

Some frank opinions were given of the municipal lodging houses as seen from the inside.

"The hands just treat 'em like dogs," said one.

"He's right," came from a multitude of voices.

The Joint Application Bureau of the Charity Organization Society didn't seem popular either.

"I went there the other day, said one, "and they wanted to send me to the workhouse."

"That's the only place they can send you to," jeered another amid general approval.

J. T. Hunt, Hallimond's secretary, told how he had sat in the room of applicants for work for nearly three hours and no one had paid any attention to him whatever, until he had been recognized as a mission worker.

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

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.

Section San Francisco, Cal., S. L. P. Headquarters, Hungarian Socialist Federation, Lettonian Socialist Labor Federation, 883 McAllister street.

Los Angeles, Cal., Headquarters and public reading room at 317 East Seventh street. Public educational meetings Sunday evenings. People readers are invited to our rooms and meetings.

Section Allentown, Pa., S. L. P., meets every first Saturday in the month at 8 p. m. Headquarters, 815 Hamilton street.

Section Providence, R. I., 81 Dyer st., room 8. Regular meetings second and fourth Tuesdays of each month.

New Jersey State Executive Committee, S. L. P.—John Hossack, Secretary, 22 Fulton ave., Jersey City; Fred Gerold, Financial Secretary, 102 Waverly st., Jersey City, N. J.

Chicago, Illinois.—The 14th Ward Branch, Socialist Labor Party, meets every 1st and 3rd Sunday, 2 p. m. sharp, at Friedmann's Hall, s.e. corner Grand and Western avenues. Workingmen and women cordially invited.

Section Seattle, S. L. P. headquarters, free reading room and lecture hall, No. 2000 Second avenue. P. O. address, Box 1040.

Section Salt Lake, Utah, meets every Wednesday, 8 p. m., Rooms 4 and 5, Galena Block, 69 East 2nd So. street. Free reading room. Weekly People readers invited.

All communications intended for the Minnesota S. E. C. should be addressed to Otto Olson, 310 7th ave., So. Minneapolis, Minn.

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SLAVES TO "SOCIETY"

THE CAPITALIST CLASS CONSTITUTE SOCIETY TO-DAY AND DRIVE OTHERS BEFORE THEM.

[Suggested by reading Mrs. Gilman's "Have You Paid Your Board?"]

By Mrs. O. JOHNSON, Fruitvale, Cal.

In these days of a complicated industrial system there is a question which we workmen and women should ask of the great financiers and the idle men and women parasites of society, a question of far more importance to us than if they had paid their "board bill" to society. That question is: Have they paid us our board, or, in other words, the value of our labor, and if not, why not?

No individual to-day deals directly with society. His duty to it cannot be measured in pounds. By society to-day we must understand the society of a class. Dealing in board bills with society presupposes a primitive status of communism, or in a larger and broader sense, a Socialist Republic. In primitive times the society or the community was a tangible thing. The house, goods and chattels were held in common. Each one owed it to the community to bring his share to the common store, and the share was easily estimated in kind. The wants were simple, and the material to satisfy them was at hand. The lazy one was not long tolerated. He was given a chance to apply his vigor or get out of the community. In a future Socialist Republic, where the means of production will be held in common, he only that produces values for society will be entitled to receive from it the voucher that entitles him in turn to consume values.

Since the days of primitive society, however, the wants and desires of humanity have become complicated and are not always confined to the necessities of life.

Values may be necessities of life, of health, of pleasure, of art, of education. They may even be luxuries, so that they fulfill an actual human want. The point of importance is that nothing from the smallest to the largest can be withdrawn from society unless an equivalent in human labor has first been rendered. Then, indeed, will man pay his board bill or starve, and pay for his pleasure and luxury or go without them.

But in the present capitalist regime, or in all class society for that matter, it is nonsensical to talk about our "board bills" to society. Talk to a capitalist about his first duties to society and he will tell you: "Society be damned!" His duties to himself and his corporation are first principles with him. And flinging sentimentalism aside, he is right.

True duties as well as true rights are reciprocal, and upon the question of board, at least, modern society owes no debt to the individual. The most industriously inclined individual is complacently allowed to starve to death in the midst of plenty. Society has no time to spend on such matters. Between it and its individual members stands the class that owns the land and the means of production.

My lady may write a story for a magazine and be well paid for it. She may consider her duty to society fulfilled and society lets it go at that. But how about my lady's gardener? She pays him \$15 per, not to serve society but to serve herself. He produces vegetables as a fruit for my lady's table, and flowers to decorate her room. He keeps the lawn like a carpet and attends to the trees so that they throw proper shadows. He attends entirely to her necessities and pleasure. Whether or not he receives proper value to his mistress is no business of society. It is my lady's own look-out entirely. If he does not, she always is cheated. If my lady does not pay her "worth his hire" or can find no one to garden for her, she is at liberty to discharge her first employee. Society takes that transaction very coolly. He may starve to death for want of a job and society does not institute any lengthy "investigation." The most society will do for him is run him in for vagrancy to keep him from annoying my lady's servants at the back door for a "hand-out," or from breaking in to her silver chest at night.

Take the big financier. He is "wrecking railroads." But wrecking railroads is a non-productive business. He must do something else for his "board," or rather hire some one else to do it for him. We find that wrecking railroads is only incidental to his real business. He is building railroads, too, i. e., he hires others to build them for him. He is running railroads, too; i. e., he hires them to run them for him. That is the manner in which his values are produced, but society has nothing to do with that. It enjoys "liberty of action." He may need call upon society (if we may use that term for the government) to help

him in the wrecking process with special legislation and court decisions. He may use the government to break a strike if his workmen become rebellious. The capitalist and his kind are the "pillars of society" and insist on proclaiming themselves such.

The capitalist alone deals with his workmen. He pays them collectively so much in wages. Collectively they produce so much wealth. Whatever wealth they produce is HIS. He is the lord; he is society as far as the workmen are concerned.

Then take the fine lady. As far as production is concerned she is counted entirely out, of course. She lives in idleness and debauchery. But idleness and debauchery do not give her that with which to furnish her board bill. She is the owner of industrial plants, directly or indirectly, and in being such she is a "society" to those dependent upon her. Presidents, kings and popes bow to her; priests and cardinals bless her; flunkies wait upon her, and tradespeople grovel before her in the dust. Capitalist society is well paid by her. She produces "economic goods" by proxy through thousands of workmen—managers, superintendents, clerks and "mere" laborers. Collectively they work for her; collectively they are paid—by her managers—collectively they produce, over and above their collective wages, that which she squanders. "Society" admires her and considers that she has more than settled her bill. She is even considered a benefactress because she is a liberal squanderer.

The right of a free press indisputably carries with it the right to write nonsense. But working men and women cannot afford to let economic nonsense cloud the issue with capitalist society. As to actually paying one's board in an equivalent in labor, this is to-day a very easy matter. With the modern facilities of production, not only the necessities of life, but enough for health, pleasure, education, comfort, and luxury can be produced with very few hours of toil. No sane and healthy human being need balk at that task. But between the facilities of production and the producers stand the capitalist class. This class once had a mission to fulfill. Its duty was connected with wrecking railroads and small concerns in general; in short, to wipe out the middle class, and to organize the industrial workshop with thousands upon thousands of workmen producing collectively by co-operative labor. In performing its historic function, the capitalist class as whole paid its board bill. That duty being fulfilled, the class became thereafter wholly and totally parasitic, and parasites have neither rights nor duties. Of course, this is said, not from a capitalist point of view, but from a human point of view. It would be folly to expect parasites to settle their board bill with the victims upon whom they prey. The working class is the victim in this instance and it must stamp the vermin out.

The working class has now its historic mission to perform, not as concerns any board bill, for upon that point it has surely settled all scores. It has produced an enormous amount of wealth that society is the lawful and historic heir to. The workers' duty is to recognize that they alone are the wealth producers; that in capitalist society there is neither right nor justice to be obtained; that only wealth producers have a right in society, that therefore the workers de facto should be society. It is the duty of the working class, therefore, to actually constitute itself society and make the presumptions parasites get off the earth or become useful servants of society.

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By Eugene Sue

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THOUGHTS AND THINGS

By H. S. K.

Oh! ye soap-suds blowers,
Pause and look around!

—Mackay.

To jail, or not to jail, that is the question that is bothering the capitalists just now. Our palladiums have been getting a good many kicks of late. Maybe they can stand one kick more.

The "Tobacco Worker" for December credits to "Exchange" the following squib: "Labor Unions are no new invention. Accurate records of their existence in Roman times have been dug up in Pompeii."

It must have been from this lava archive that the following came: "Don't weaken your organization by radical unionism. Look out for the agitators. Beware of him who thinks that a good union man must be the enemy of the boss. Honest employers and honest workmen could easily agree but for these meddlesome agitators," etc., etc., to the extent of a newspaper column and a half.

But hold, while this does sound archaic enough, still it has a modern ring. To be sure it is modern—modern-archaic. It is from the pen of Fred M. Young, and appears in the "American Pressman."

The writer of that article, and the paper that prints it, must be to the capitalists darlings after their own hearts. "It is to the interest of every union man and to the success of the employer that harmonious relations exist between them." So says Young.

The old "brotherly relationship" again between the capitalist class and the working class. The fact concealed that the capitalist is a sponge on the worker, and the relations between the two are those of hostile classes. The worker is told that his welfare depends upon the welfare of the idler.

Surely such gentry deserve a big subvention from the employing class. Think of the trouble they have with the "younger and inexperienced members" and in keeping down the "agitators" who "place organized labor in bad odor with the public." Surely such devoted servants of capitalism deserve more than a bone.

A coroner's jury has declared that the owners of the Marianna mine are not to blame for the disaster that killed outright 154 men. One day we hear a lot of the responsibilities of the capitalists, the next day along comes a court decision, or a jury verdict, certifying that the capitalists have no responsibilities at all.

The capitalists must surely be beginning to think that they are to have all fun and no trouble—they are free from work and free from responsibility.

But they are not all free from the fear that it is too good to last. Some of them have heard of a determined band called the S. L. P., which can be neither "tamed nor cowed," and whose cry "surrender of capitalism" plagues their dreams.

"Be sure you're right, then go ahead." We know that we are right, and that fact in itself is a tower of strength to us of the S. L. P. We feel the solid ground under our feet.

What though we are a minority? The great events of the world were all accomplished by minorities. Minorities that acted timely, were thoroughly posted, and determined.

THE "FREE PRESS"

Editors Themselves Confess It Is a Creature of Capital, and Must Say What Capital Orders It to.

William Marion Reedy, the editor of the St. Louis "Mirror," in an address delivered before the Missouri Press Association and printed in pamphlet form, declares flatly that there is no such thing as a "free press" in America:

"The prizes of journalism are not for those who can think soundly or write well. The man who writes has no chance to reach the real topmost power in journalism. He can only become an employe of some rich concern, writing not what he believes, but what his employers order him to think. What editor to-day controls his paper? I can think of but one—dear old Henry Watterson, a relic from the golden age. Where is there an editor to-day like Dana, Greeley, Halstead, McCullagh, Hyde, Joseph Medill, Raymond—a man who makes his paper's policy the expression of himself alone? . . . The owners of newspapers are business men. They want dividends. They want the business the commercial ideal, upheld, at all hazards. They must get the money from the men who have it, they must cater to please the men who run the community, and such men are out for their own pockets first, last and all the time. All the rest is 'leather and prunella.' The great intellectual personality no longer dominates the great paper. The supreme headship of a great newspaper is not the man who may be turned out in a school of journalism, but a money maker. The journalist proper can never be more than a hired man on a great paper. So a school of journalism does not promise the sort of success that means the exercise of the real power of journalism. . . . Everything in this country has been regulated, more or less, except the daily press. The daily press has participated, more or less, in the regulation, but there are reasons for believing that one of the greatest evils in the United States is this same daily press itself."

In support of this contention, Reedy cites the cases of the New York Sun and Evening Post: "The two best written papers in the United States, in the opinion of journalists generally, are in the city of New York, and both of them are hopelessly committed to plutocracy. I refer to the Sun and to the Evening Post. Of these papers it was once said by a wit, that 'the citizens of New York, finding vice so attractive in the Sun in the morning, and virtue made so repellent in the Evening Post in the evening, there was nothing to do but to take to one of Beadle's dime novels.' Unfortunately, the literary merit of both papers is such that they are in demand in the editorial sanctums of every other daily paper in the country, and there is very little written in comment upon any serious, vital general topic, for any of the great dailies outside of New York, that is not based upon the opinion of one or the other of these New York dailies on that subject. The papers in the 'provinces' may occasionally traverse the opinion expressed in the Sun or the Evening Post, but always the influence of the underlying thought in the editorial betrays the color of its origin in one or other of the two papers I have mentioned. Each of them is an organ of special interests, with some academic exceptions. Their inspiration is found in Wall Street, and their attitude is always one of antagonism to any of the proposals for changes in the social or economic system of the country, that emanate from any quarter not approved either in the office of Mr. Morgan, or Mr. Rockefeller. Once in a while they make some concessions to the cry of reform when some particularly glaring case of plutocratic or corporatist crime is brought to notice, but in the main they stand for the situation as it is, and for the perpetuation in power of the franchise corporations that make up the great aggregation of wealth that dominates the cities and States, and eventually the whole country."

These cases, Mr. Reedy argues, are typical, and conditions everywhere are much the same. "The independence of the press," he avers, "is a joke." He adds:

"In every city the papers may appear to fight one another upon the surface, but in every case they have a business combination to shut out the new comer. The established daily papers in any city are as much a trust as the steel trust or the Standard Oil—while the Associated Press is another national trust—and it is exceptionally rare that anyone can break in upon the combination and fight it; and if one does, it must be solely through the possession of financial support, great enough to fight to a finish the established newspaper wealth

of the community, controlling and owning carriers, newsboys and newsdealers absolutely. Of course, when a new paper so backed succeeds in establishing itself, it is not to be expected that the paper will take up the cause of the people against the interest of the men of great wealth, who have put their money into the new journalistic enterprise. The newspapers of any city will always be found a unit when there comes up any matter in which the public service interests of the advertisers are a unit."

An anonymous "New York Editor," who writes in The Atlantic Monthly, takes much the same position. He says: "A newspaper is a business enterprise. In view of the cost of paper and the size of each issue, tending to grow larger, every copy is printed at a loss. A one-cent newspaper costs six mills for paper alone. In other words, the newspaper cannot live without its advertisers. . . . If a newspaper has such a circulation that complete publicity can be secured only by advertising in its columns, whatever its editorial policy may be, the question is solved. Nevertheless, within the past three years the department stores have combined to modify the policy of at least three New York daily newspapers. One of the most extreme and professedly independent of these newspapers, always taking the noisiest and most popular line, with the utmost expressed deference to labor unions withdrew its attack upon the traction companies during the time of the Subway strike, on the threatened loss of its department store advertising. It has never dared to criticize such a store for dismissing employes who attempted to form a union. In other words, this paper is not independent, and in the last analysis is governed by its advertisers."

WOMEN—AS OTHERS SEE THEM. "When you're scrippin' along on eighteen per' and the girl next to you in the dressin' room comes down to the show every night in a benzine buggy, all done up in ermine fur and wearin' diamonds as big as oysters, gee! it ain't religion so much as a firm grip on home and mother that keeps you handin' out the icy mit to the man behind the bank roll."—From "The Chorus Lady."

When descent was changed from the female to the male, it operated injuriously upon the position and rights of the wife and mother. Her children were transferred from her own gens to that of her husband, and she forfeited her agnatic right by her marriage, without obtaining an equivalent. Before the change, the members of her own gens, in all probability, predominated in the household, which gave full force to the maternal bond and made the woman rather than the man the centre of the family. After the change she stood alone in the household of her husband, isolated from her gentile kindred. It must have weakened the influences of the maternal bond and have operated powerfully to lower her position and arrest her progress in the social scale.—Lewis H. Morgan.

On the cars was a he-looking female, with a green cotton umbrella in one hand and a handful of Reform tracks in the other. She sed every woman should have a Spear. Them as didn't demand their Spears, didn't know what was good for them. "What is my Spear?" she axed, addressin the people in the cars. "Is it to stay at home and darn stockings and be the ser-lave of a domineerin man? Or is it my Spear to vote & speak & show myself the eak of man? Is there a sister in these keers that has her proper Spear?" Sayin which the eccentric female whirled her umbrella round several times, and finally jabbed me in the weiskit with it.—Artemus Ward.

Wife and children are a kind of discipline of humanity.—Bacon.

Love with men's what woman choos to make him,
Seraph strong to soar, or fawn-eyed elf.—Lowell.

PLATFORM

Adopted at the National Convention of the Socialist Labor Party, July, 1904, and Re-adopted at the National Convention, July, 1908.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

HOW TO JOIN THE SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY.

All persons desiring to attach themselves to the Socialist Labor Party, either by the formation of a local organization known as a "Section," or by joining as members at large, may proceed as follows:

- Seven or more persons may form a "Section," provided they subscribe to the platform and constitution of the S. L. P., belong to no other political party and are not officers of a pure and simple trades or labor organization.
- Isolated persons, unable to find six others to join with them in organizing a "Section," but desiring to become members, may do so by becoming members at large by signing an application card, subscribing thereon to the platform and constitution of the S. L. P. and answering other questions on said application card.
- For application blanks to be used in the formation of "Sections" and for application cards for the use of individual members as well as all other information apply to the undersigned, Paul Augustine, National Secretary—23 City Hall Place, New York City.

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SATURDAY, JANUARY 10, 1909.

There is no harder lot in all human fate than when the powerful of the earth are not at the same time the first men. There everything becomes false, and warped, and monstrous.

—NIETZSCHE.

A WORD FOR ROOSEVELT.

Congress, like the ass in the fable, is kicking the dead—or dying lion. That, in short, is the spectacle presented by the present attitude of the Capitol towards the White House.

That every charge that is being preferred against Theodore Roosevelt in Congress is true, none will deny. That Roosevelt is a lawless personality, the very breath of whose nostrils has been an infection to the land is true. That the man has no regard for the difference between truth and falsehood none can gainsay.

Roosevelt's latest doings that have aroused the righteous indignation of Congress are as nothing to those in the past.

As a Police Commissioner in this city Roosevelt proposed a spiked police club, and he had to be mandamused to place the "Ship Democracy" in the column to which it was entitled by law.

High-handedly Roosevelt had ordered that ticket elsewhere. His conduct in the Cuban war was a piece of craven rowdiness, well characterized by Col. Bacon.

Then followed his career as Governor, one of his acts being the signing of the law, needed by Harrison, to place railroad bonds on the list of savings bank securities.

Despite the traits of character denoted by such acts, Roosevelt was nominated to the Vice-Presidency, and subsequently to the Presidency itself.

During his virtually seven years' term misdeeds followed misdeeds. The Spooner law was deliberately violated by the Executive.

As a consequence came the ignominious act of dismembering Colombia under the guise of protecting her territory. The Panama Canal scandal followed.

Appointments were made during an "infinitesimal recess." Citizens of the land, about to stand trial for their lives, were called "undesirable" in the vestibule of the White House.

Women were brutally handled by his Janissaries, who took their cue from their master. His pets, like Bishop, were illegally placed in lucrative berths.

A murderer and ex-Rough Rider was appointed to a Federal office in the West—and so forth and so on, and all the while the press boomed Teddy's unhallowed swagger as scintillations of genius—and Congress looked on and listened admiringly.

Why this sudden change?

Us seems Congress protests its honor too much just now.

Why so?

The body, that, by its silence condoned the long sequence of illegalities and affronts done to the country; the body that never brought up impeachment proceedings against the Disgrace in the White House, and from whose midst more than one man is now doing penal service—surely that body should be the last now to raise its voice.

Why, then, is Congress suddenly so alert to the "country's honor"? Simply because the Brute in the White House is about to die. His term will expire within two months. There are no more favors to come from that quarter.

Roosevelt needs no condemnation. He stands condemned at the bar of the Nation's conscience. The attempted condemnation by Congress only condemns Congress itself—as the ass that would play Sir Valor.

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

THE SUEZ CANAL JUNKET.

Who was it "paid" the \$130,000 that it cost to toll our homing squadron through the Suez Canal?

It hardly could have been "paid" by the proletariat: they did not have the sum in their pockets. It surely was not paid by the capitalist class out of their own product: they produce nothing.

Who, then, paid it? Where did it come from? What does it all mean?

Where did the \$130,000 come from?—It came out of the hide of the working class. It is the money equivalent of the marrow and bone of the wage slave class of the land, crystallized in the goods that the amount will fetch.

Who paid the \$130,000?—The amount was paid by the capitalist class. It was paid by their political mace-bearers out of that portion of the wealth, which, though produced by Labor, and Labor only, never entered the pockets of Labor. It was paid out of that portion of Labor's product that is plundered from Labor in the shop itself by the lego-economic contrivance known as "wage slavery."

What does it all mean?—It does look odd, at first blush, that a capitalist class, which periodically yells against taxes, and demands their reduction, should indulge in such excesses as involve a \$130,000 expenditure that must be taxed out of their plunder. Odd as the sight may seem, the oddness is in seeming only.

Taxes are but a manifestation of capitalist debauchery. Plunderers are both misers and squanders. The same Bradley-Martin, who will cheese-pare in one direction, will lavishly spend in a luxurious ball. The identical Seeley, who will cut into the quick to save one day, will squander thousands in a supper of debauchery.

That, ditto, in the instance of the globe-circumnavigating junket of "our" navy, which has reached the Suez Canal stage, and been there made to pay through the nose.

Seeley suppers, Bradley-Martin balls, Wanamakers Paris dinners, etc., etc. These are all birds of a feather with Suez Canal prodigalities.

Labor "pays the piper"—in the sense that it all comes out of Labor's hide—and there is supposed to be more coming for ever and for aye.

THE GAS DECISION.

Accepting the not unlikely theory that the Consolidated Gas Company will "bow to the decision of the Supreme Court," and return to the consumers the \$9,443,350 that it has overcharged them since June, 1906, the conclusion is justified that the Gas Trust has "a kick coming," and that it justly feels it has been made a scapegoat for the other Trusts to cut their capers with increased security.

The decision of the Supreme Court establishes two principles, both of which will receive the long, loud and prolonged applause of Trusthood—

The first principle is that 6 per cent. profit on "its capitalization" is a "reasonable return" for a corporation;

The second principle is that the rate proposed must be with reference to the value of the property at the time when the rate takes effect.

In other words—a decision, supposed to hit monopoly between the eyes, actually furnishes it with legality.

When capitalists talk of "value" they mean "price." To them price is value. Now, then, price may soar up regardless of value. One of the ways to accomplish the trick is through monopoly. Monopoly can reduce supply. A reduced supply, in the face of an unchanged demand, sends prices up, and send them up still higher if the demand increases.

Whether in the matter of land, or actual capitalist opportunities, a capital of \$1,000,000 and entitled, according to the Court, to 6 per cent., entitled, therefore, to a profit of \$60,000, may, by virtue of the identical decision, be entitled to \$600,000 profit.

The trick is simple. Monopoly accomplishes it. The monopoly of land may raise the price of the land, on which the plant is located, from \$10,000 to \$100,000; the monopoly of a franchise may raise the other "implements of production" even higher. An actual, original investment, accordingly, of \$1,000,000, may, through monopolistic manoeuvres, be raised to the price of \$60,000,000, and then be legally entitled to \$600,000 profits—entitled thereby to the suzerain of the cavalry, the artillery and the infantry of the land in the protection of its "lawful rights."

What Trust can find fault with this? Not even the Gas Trust. Even the Gas Trust may henceforth proceed upon its robber baron career with increased swing. The moment that, not actual investments but prices become the lawful basis from which to compute a "reasonable return," the robber barons' old oriflamme, "We charge all that the trade will bear!" acquires actual sanctity—the sanctity of "Law."

The kick that the Gas Trust has coming is that it, and no other Trust, was

chosen to sugarcoat the pill for the people's throat by disgorging a round \$2,000,000 of loot.

MANUFACTURING PROSPERITY IN KANSAS.

If Kansas lay in New Zealand, the conclusion would be justified that the State Bank Commissioner's report, showing \$145 on deposit in Kansas banks for every individual, was a sort of boom to attract immigration. As Kansas happens to be located in the United States, the conclusion is that the State Bank Commissioner is a sort of "puller-in" for the realm of Capitalism.

The total deposits reported by the State Bank Commissioner are \$160,000,000. This amount the Commissioner divides by the number of the inhabitants of the State, and presto, he makes out each the happy holder of \$145.

The Kansas Commissioner's theory has often been exposed in these columns with figures that will bear repetition:

Depew, as a Director of the New York Central, receives \$50,000 a year as his "wages," as he insists upon calling his swag. A laborer along the Central road receives \$1.25 a day, or \$7.50 a week, or \$25.00 a year. According to the Kansas Commissioner's system of ascertaining the average, or per capita earning on the New York Central, he would argue that, seeing that \$50,225 is the total earnings of wage earner Depew and wage earner Giuseppe Barbatto, each of them earns \$25,112.50 a year!

If in a room, where there are 100 men, one of them has in his pockets \$199.01, and the other 99 men have a cent each in their pockets, the Kansas Commissioner would argue that, seeing that \$200 is the total amount of cash in that room, therefore there are \$2 in that room for every man.

The dodge is stale: it is a three card monte game that has lost its conjuring powers. The overwhelming number of persons in Kansas who have not their per capita, are not reimbursed by the dodge. It is moreover a dangerous dodge. It betrays the minimum that each person is entitled to, and it allows vistas of the much larger per capita that would be enjoyed were Capitalism abolished, and thereby the system were done away with, the law of whose existence is to keep production down in order that prices may be jacked up.

If "averages," or "per capita," could fill up pockets and deplete them, then there would be neither pauper wage slave nor gorged multimillionaire to plague the souls of the statistician manufacturers of prosperity.

KICKING AGAINST PRICKS.

The correctness of each of the shots, in the volley of shots fired by Senator Culberson of Texas on the 7th of this month against Roosevelt, is the exact measure of the size of the pricks that the Culbersons are kicking against.

Correct is the charge that the President's permitting the Steel Corporation to absorb the Tennessee Coal and Iron Co. is "one more lawless act of the President, who is sworn to uphold the laws and punish those who violate them."

Also correct is the charge that this latest act of Roosevelt's is but an exemplification of "his main dogma that he is absolutely absolved from any legal restraint whatever."

This is all true. But what does it avail mentioning correctly the symptoms of pneumonia when the afflicted patient is being persistently treated with Blue Jay Corn Cure?

The Culbersons of this generation live in an Age that has gone by, and they have not the slightest inkling of the nature of the Age they are now living in.

A social system at the stage of dissolution has but one of two chances before it—either fall into the chaos of Anarchy, or fall into the hands of a Despot. Either choice resolves itself into "Lawlessness."

The American Commonwealth has taken the second choice.

For the last eight years, Lawlessness has characterized the conduct of the Federal Executive. Providentially the Lawlessness is executed by a man so exactly the opposite of McKinley in character that the Lawlessness has not been concealed.

The Culbersons are like men worshipping at the shrine of Jupiter, after the Jovian niche has been filled with some other deity. The chords they touch are unresponsive. Capitalism has cast its democratic slough; it now figures in the only skin that fits the economic season—the Lawlessness of Despotism.

"Checks and balances" once were the panacea for governmental usurpation. "Checks and balances" will stand no more. Political Government is running its course. It is now beyond all "check" and "balance." It will run straight to

the Dictatorship—or must be overthrown by Industrial Government.

The Culbersons but kick against pricks.

WHY WE CAN'T.

In a recent otherwise interesting lecture, Prof. Franklin H. Giddings, of Columbia, committed the blunder of saying:

"Why should we not have a state of affairs in which the economic situation is socialistic control of big things, and yet a broad field left for individuals to prove, if they can, that they can produce more economically as individuals than the great public activities could produce?"

Why not? Because the plan is unthinkable, upon the premises.

Economical production implies mass production; no one can to-day produce economically individually. Economical production implies division of labor; division of labor implies large numbers of workers to be divided. Economical production implies improved machinery; improved machinery implies large forces to handle and operate it. In short, as Prof. Giddings elsewhere disclosed in his lecture, by "individuals" he did not mean "individuals" at all. What he meant was "individual employers," men "permitted to employ their fellow men."

Now, the only reason on earth an employer becomes an employer is to make profits. These he makes by withholding from the workmen whom he employs a certain, usually the major part, of the value produced by them.

Again, the sole object of establishing Socialism is to ensure to the workers the full value of what they produce. In the Socialist republic not 18 per cent. or 75 or 95 per cent. of what a worker produces, but the whole 100 per cent. of the social wealth he socially helps to create, will be his inalienably.

This being the case, every worker receiving the 100 per cent. of the value of his product, which among them will be so foolish as to cease working for the state, and go to work for a private employer whose only object in being an employer is to give him less!

Prof. Giddings "individuals" would be left like potato-bugs without a potato-plant in sight—with nobody to live on.

Tom Longboat, the Indian runner, having turned Christian in order to wed a Protestant Episcopal girl is rejected by the Archbishop of Toronto, on the ground that the conversion was inane and there was no evidence of Tom's conversion to Christianity. It is strange no such rejections were heard about the time that Marguerita of Anglican England turned Catholic to wed Spanish Alphonso, or more recently when the Duke of Chaulnes turned Protestant to espouse the money bags of Theodora Shonts.

Capt. Johannes Larson is receiving the praises of the ship-owning world for compelling his crew to run his steamship, the Mumin, over a hundred miles with a raging fire in her hold and an explosion of her kerosene cargo imminent every minute, after she had once touched at land and the men could have disembarked. "Hero" he is called now. Under a sane system of society such conduct would earn the title of would be murderer.

The more the decision of Judge Wright is studied all the more clearly does it prove that the worst foe of the judiciary are the Wrights. If they are left alone whatever dignity attaches to the ermine will evaporate into a "wraith."

A loot, amounting to \$20,000 in watches, diamond pins, brooches and rings, besides \$5,000 in cash, having been scooped in by burglars from the jewelry store of Oscar C. Jackle with such skill that the detectives are left clueless and amazed, Police Commissioner Bingham's "talented thief-catchers" are reported to be "stirring before a baffling problem." Is it because the problem out-baffles Bingham's "talented thief-catchers" that they never stir foot or hand when identical burglaries are committed by bankers and financiers who, almost every day, get "skillfully" away with, not \$25,000, but many times that much loot?

Undeterred by the revelations of what "business principles" mean, the "business men" of New York whose principles, whenever uncovered, took them to jail are beginning to organize with an eye to next year's mayoralty campaign. The aim is to put out the "business men" of Tammany and put in their own "business principles." Business principle for business principle. Who can tell the difference?

Who knows the secret of how the bourgeois social reformers, whose "life work" is to "raise politics above the level of money-making and office-brokerage," manage to keep their faces straight?

ST. JOHN'S CHAPEL

Rarely have sentimentalists portrayed themselves more completely as the combination of lampoonists and lamentationists, than, from Richard Watson Gilder down or up, is being done by howlers against the decision of Trinity Church Corporation to remove St. John's Chapel from where it now stands, in the slums of Varick street, to a more polite region.

The Trinity "Church" Corporation is not, and never was what its name is meant to imply—a religious concern. It ever was and continues to be a political government of property-holders in ambush.

When the American Revolutionists were praying for George Washington the Trinity "Church" Corporation was praying for George III., and furnished money and men to harass the rear and flanks of the patriot army. Owing to the Trinity "Church" Corporation New York City was the last spot evacuated by the British. Such were the pre-revolution antecedents of the owners of St. John's Chapel.

The post-revolution record of the Trinity "Church" Corporation was in keeping with its previous record.

The bulk, at any rate the most valuable of the Trinity "Church" Corporation lands are stolen property—just that. Students of early New York history are familiar with the Anneke Jans litigations. Anneke was simply crowded out of territory belonging to her. She was hounded and persecuted, and, unable, through poverty, to keep up the theory of equality before the law, had to let go.

The Trinity Church Corporation thereupon became a land speculator, making fortunes for her "trustees" collectively, or bestowing fortunes upon some of them individually, the Astors, for instance. It was to these speculative ventures of this "religious" institution that St. John's Chapel owed its birth. In order to draw population north of Wall and surrounding streets, the chapel was built. It was purely a real estate move, with as much religion to account for it as there is in a coyote. Hence the site then chosen, Varick street.

The move succeeded. The value of the land, from being worthless marshes, rose apace—and so did the ground rent that Trinity religiously pocketed—and used. How?

The ground which Trinity leased became soon a replica of London's White-chapel. The houses were rookeries; the worst dives, grog-shops, and disorderly houses were the sources of fat revenues. The sanitary laws of the State were defied. Trinity's tenements became proverbial for their unspeakableness.

Nor is this all. Nine-tenths of the Trinity Church Corporation's real estate has long ago reverted to the State's School Fund. Through the connivance of State and Municipal officials Trinity has escaped the penalty of its unlawfulness, and the State's School Fund is today deprived of property which at any time it may seize, and which would remove the excuse of lack of funds for the raising of the requisite schools that the city's increasing population demands.

From start to now—such is the civic record of the Trinity "Church" Corporation. No wonder it now decides to remove St. John's Chapel to "better surroundings"—no wonder, seeing that only lamentations and lampoons are thrown across its path, and never any attempt made to seize the brigand by the throat and make him disgorge—no wonder Trinity looks down upon the lamentationists and lampoonists with the cynic leer that played around the lips of Tweed when he asked: "What are you going to do about it?"

Y. M. C. A. PRODUCES BEST RESULTS FOR BOSSES.

Kannapolis, N. C., January 2.—J. W. Cannon, president of the Cannon Manufacturing Co. and Patterson Co., erected some time ago a building to be used by the employes of the mill. When this building was approaching completion, Cannon instituted an investigation to determine a plan upon which it could be operated "in order to secure the best results." A representative spent some time visiting various points, gathering information, with the result that the management presented the building to be operated as a Young Men's Christian Association.

At the dedication, W. E. Harris, speaking for the management, expressed the desire that the building would contribute to the "physical, intellectual and spiritual welfare of the people of the community."

It is recognized that the wages earned by the employes do not enable them to provide themselves with physical, intellectual, and spiritual needs.

The same company controls a dozen other cotton mills, and already the intention has been expressed to organize the Y. M. C. A. work at some of these points.

MOVEMENT ABROAD

Belgium's Plural Voting System—Socialist Gains in French Chamber—The Boycott Law in Italy.

BELGIUM.

According to the new electoral laws in Belgium, there are twenty classes of voters, entitled to votes as follows:

- 1.—To 1 vote, men aged 30, three years residence. The qualifications of age and residence remain the same for all, except that to enjoy the supplementary vote as father of a family, one must be 35 years of age.
2.—To 2 votes, fathers of families, paying 5 francs (franc=19 cents) personal taxes in towns of 2,000 or less.
3.—To 2 votes, fathers of families, paying 10 francs personal taxes in towns of from 2,000 to 10,000.
4.—To 2 votes, fathers of families paying 15 francs personal taxes in towns of more than 10,000.
5.—To 2 votes, possessors of a landed income of 48 francs.
6.—To 3 votes, possessors of a landed income of 48 francs who are also fathers of families paying 5 francs.
7.—To 3 votes, possessors of an income of 48 francs who are fathers of families paying 10 francs.
8.—To 3 votes, possessors of income of 48 francs who are fathers paying 15 francs.
9.—To 3 votes, possessors of a landed income of 150 francs.
10.—To 3 votes, bearers of university degrees.
11.—To 3 votes, those occupying or having occupied a set governmental office.
12.—To 4 votes, owners of an estate paying 150 francs, and who pay in taxes 5 francs.
13.—To 4 votes, owners of estates yielding 150 francs, who pay 10 francs.
14.—To 4 votes, owners of an estate yielding 150 francs, who pay 15 francs.
15.—To 4 votes, bearers of University diplomas, paying 10 francs.
16.—To 4 votes, bearers of degrees, who pay 15 francs.
17.—To 4 votes, bearers of degrees, with a landed income of 48 francs.
18.—To 1 vote, employes enrolled on the lists of the Council of Industry.
19.—To 1 vote, workmen enrolled on the lists of the Council of Industry.
20.—To 1 vote, workingmen enrolled on the lists of the Council of Industry.

FRANCE.

The Socialist Mayor Robillard, of the town of Pavillons-sous-Bois, has been suspended from office on a charge of inciting the town council to adopt a resolution offensive to one Maujan, and with using "abusive language." Robillard is a candidate to the Chamber of Deputies from this district, and the procedure is obviously trumped up to hinder his campaign.

Two more new seats in the Chamber have been won by the Socialists on the bye-elections. One is for Charolles (the scene of Sue's "Branding Needle"), won by Ducarouge; the other, won by Cabrol, is for Deczeville and Aubin.

ITALY.

Some time ago 14 organized country workmen were condemned at Crespellano to, between them, 50 years' imprisonment for "using force" by means of a boycott. This sentence was corroborated by the Court of Appeals in Bologna, but has now been annulled by the Court of Cassation in Rome. The court was of opinion that though the boycott is not justified, yet it did not constitute an offence against the "freedom of labor." The case is now being carried back to the Court of Appeals by the employers.

GERMANY.

A Landtag, or State Parliament, election is soon to take place in Baden, and the Social Democrats are nominating candidates and preparing for a stiff campaign. They expect to make good use of the fact that several state employes have been discharged because of their membership in the party.

DENMARK.

Russia is reaching out to all "civilized" countries and enlisting them to help her suppress political opposition to her regime. The Russian Bulletin reports that Russian political refugees who flee to Denmark find as little peace there as they do at home. In the last week of November there were ten arrests of emigrants of whom two were freed and two sent to Finland. Six are still in prison. Besides these ten there were eleven others taken out of the poor house in Copenhagen and shipped to Windau in Kurland. Other Russian subjects are given orders to leave Denmark if they would escape jailing by the Czar. When the police superintendent of Copenhagen was asked why these measures were taken against political refugees, he said that no one would be told the reasons for these police activities. The Russian Bulletin states that "It must accordingly be supposed that these reprisals are instigated by the Russian government. When the prisoners asked for reasons why they were arrested, they were given the laconic reply: 'Because we have the power to do so.'"



UNCLE SAM AND BROTHER JONATHAN

BROTHER JONATHAN—I think Socialists would make decidedly more progress if they would do a certain thing. UNCLE SAM—which?

B. J.—They should define accurately the Co-operative Commonwealth. U. S.—How define?

B. J.—They should describe accurately how things will be instituted, the organization of society, how the various wheels will look and how they will operate. Do you catch on?

U. S.—Guess I do.

B. J.—You agree?

U. S.—Let's see. You know all about Columbus, don't you?

B. J.—I know sure; he discovered America.

U. S.—Do you know, too, that he went from court to court, from country to country, stating his conclusion that by traveling westward he would strike land?

B. J.—Exactly.

U. S.—Was he believed by all who heard him?

B. J.—No, indeed; he had a hard time of it to make people understand the soundness of his views.

U. S.—Now, imagine some smarty like yourself, had drawn him aside and whispered confidentially to him: "Columbus, you are not making any great headway in convincing people. You would make decidedly more progress if you would draw up a map of the land that you say lies westward; point out where the mountains rise and how high; the lakes, the rivers, the plains, the highlands. If you did that people would soon be converted." How do you imagine Columbus would have looked upon that friendly advice?

B. J.—He must have looked upon him as anyone does at a donkey braying.

U. S.—Correct, and why?

B. J.—Why? Because it was suggesting an impossibility.

U. S.—And so is your suggestion. Columbus reasoned that, the world being round, if you traveled westward you were bound to reach land, though the exact shape of that land could not be described. Likewise, the Socialist. He reasons that the system of the ownership must tally with the system of operation of the tools of production. When the tools were so small that each individual could operate them, they were owned individually, i. e., privately. Now they have become so gigantic that they neither can be nor are operated individually; they are operated collectively, consequently they must be owned—

B. J.—As collectively as they are operated.

U. S.—As the whole nation now collectively operates its land and capital, so should and will the whole nation, and not a set of individuals, be the owners thereof. The Socialist were foolish if he went a step further than to show what is coming and why. Like Columbus, he says the Co-operative Commonwealth lies ahead of us, and, like Columbus, who never attempted to give the details of land, the Socialists will refuse to palm off dreams for facts.

B. J.—I see.

U. S.—But look you here. Between the Socialist and Columbus there is this difference. Europe could have gone on without the discovery of America; but civilization cannot go on without the Co-operative Commonwealth. That Socialist would be wasting his time who did not concentrate all his efforts in the endeavor to demonstrate that Socialism is inevitable, and no sensible man wants or needs further information on the subject than the broad outline of the public ownership of all that is needed for producing the necessities of life. Leave the Socialists alone. They know just what they want.

Copenhagen was asked why these measures were taken against political refugees, he said that no one would be told the reasons for these police activities. The Russian Bulletin states that "It must accordingly be supposed that these reprisals are instigated by the Russian government. When the prisoners asked for reasons why they were arrested, they were given the laconic reply: 'Because we have the power to do so.'"

When you have read this paper, pass it on to a friend.

CORRESPONDENCE

[Correspondents who prefer to appear in print under an assumed name will attach such name to their communications, besides their own signature and address. None other will be recognized.]

GOOD NEW YEAR'S START.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—I herewith enclose stamps for a six months' sub. to the Weekly People. I can't send any better New Year's greeting than this to the People. As soon as "Bill" arrives with his "prosperity", and if he comes my way, I will invest \$5 in prepaid sub. cards.

The word prosperity is getting to be such a farce that working people are forgetting all about it, and they take things as a huge joke. So do I, for wherever I go and ask how business is they laugh at me, for there is no business anywhere. In the meantime, I keep on hammering away until the working class will give us a willing ear.

D. Rudnick.
La Salle, Ill., January 5.

THE PEOPLE A BEACON LIGHT,

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Enclosed find \$1 as a renewal of my sub. for the Daily People. May the People grow and prosper and spread the light and truth in the future as in the past to the struggling masses of the world so that they may become educated politically as well as economically!

J. W.
Juniata, Pa., Dec. 30.

A "NEUTRAL" SAMPLE.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—I notice that the New York S. P. will hold a protest meeting against Judge Wright's decision in the Gompers and Co. case, the maximum sentence being twelve months of prison.

In view of the fact that these gentlemen of the S. P. always claim to be "neutral" in the matter of economic organizations, and in view of the further fact that the S. P. never held a protest meeting against the Nevada Judge's decision in the Preston and Smith case, the maximum sentence there being 300 months of prison, it goes to prove that those gentlemen are not so very "neutral" after all, but on the contrary, very, very partial indeed.

A. J. Francis.
New York, Jan. 1.

FACTS VERSUS FICTION.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—In the "Boston Traveler," December 29, '08, under the caption, "Destitution among poor," the Salvation Army officials say: "This winter will be the hardest for poor people of any in recent years. At the Christmas dinner scores of men, who had in the past given some of their earnings to the general holiday fund, came with baskets to be filled." The officials also said: "Among the well-to-do donors there had been a falling off in the number as well as in the size of the gifts." What a proof of "returning prosperity!"

Supt. Sear's of the State Free Employment bureau says: "The first ten days of December show 1,112 persons hunting for jobs, while the demand for help was 306." Thus we find there nearly four persons to each job, or 306 wage slaves out of 1,112 on their uppers. Prosperity for Big Bill and the infamous class of pirates which he represents.

Mrs. Frank W. Page, a teacher in the Cambridge public schools, charges the Boston public schools with upholding child labor, saying: "The children who made boxes were between nine and twelve years old, and the city had the boxes made there in order to save money."

The fact that there are 35,000 killed and 1,000,000 injured in the United States at their ordinary pursuits for a livelihood proves that capitalism spells murder.

In 1907, the Coffin Valve Co. employed 120 men; in 1908 they had only 80 and on Christmas eve they laid off about twenty. Then on December 28 they further reduced their force by ten men. Still the newspapers, the "Traveler," "Globe," "Post" and "American," are howling about the return of prosperity.

The Board of Health and the Boston Board of Aldermen are investigating the "Scavenger" contractors. These contractors remove the "swill" and ashes for the city of Boston. They hire "green" foreigners who can not speak one word of English for from \$2.50 to \$3.00 per week, with board and lodging. Their conditions are terrible; they eat and sleep in a place that a

self-respecting hog would disdain. They work from 80 to 100 hours per week notwithstanding that the contract calls for 8 hours a day.

The mayor, on January 1st, '09, will discharge 150 men and put \$50 on half time. This means more prosperity.

Men of the working class, unite on the political field as well as on the industrial field to emancipate yourselves from wage slavery. Don't let the plugugles and sky pilots of your masters dish out the dope to you, "that Labor and Capital are brothers, with identical interests," because that dope is deadly to your class.

The Boston Chamber of Commerce and the Merchants' Association have consolidated their interests. We must do as they do: unite. Join the Industrial Workers of the World on the Industrial field, and the Socialist Labor Party on the political field.

S. L. P.
Boston, Mass., December 30.

A UNITY PROPOSITION FROM THE TERRE HAUTE (IND.) S. P. LOCAL.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—The enclosed resolution was adopted by our Local on Dec. 27, and is sent to you for publication.

D. D. Barrett.
Terre Haute, Ind., Dec. 28.

[Enclosure.]

Resolved, That we of the International Socialist Party and a branch of our state party, known as Local Terre Haute, do desire to investigate the cause of disunity in the Socialist Labor elements, and if such can be ascertained we will do our utmost to signalize unity; and

Whereas, We learn we have two elements in the political field with the same force of action and desiring to obtain the same goal (social industrial democracy); and

Whereas, We of this Socialist branch, desiring the solidarity of the labor elements on the political field, it behooves us to unite so as to obtain our final goal, thus recording our true Marxian doctrine, "Workers of the world, unite"; and be it further

Resolved, That if such resolutions are adopted by this body upon due action, we instruct our secretary to have a copy of the same printed and forwarded to our state secretary with instructions to have a copy of the same printed for the various branches of our state to be voted on for preparation and final action to unity, with an amendment that our state secretary be instructed to attach a copy of the previous questions, brought up or spoken of at our last convention, so that the branches may be informed on the same and be prepared to know what to talk on.

OKLAHOMAN ANSWERS N. Y. S. P. MEMBER.

I.
New York City,
December 27, 1908.

D. B. Moore,
Dear Comrade,

In your letter of December 21st, to the Daily People, you claim that the policy of the Socialist party is to get votes. Are you against political action? The Socialist Labor Party is also trying to get votes. From the 27th of November, 1908, till election day, the Daily People had a large picture of a ballot on the first page, and a hand marking a cross under the Socialist Labor Party's emblem, with an inscription under it saying: "Vote this way." If that is not a vote catching plan I would like to know what is.

The organs of the Socialist party have supported both Industrial and Trade Unions in their struggles against capitalism.

Please send me information as to the National Convention voting against liberal immigration.

Fraternally yours,
Morris Geil.

II.
Granite, Okla.,
December 31, 1908.

Morris Geil,
New York City,

My Dear Comrade:—

Your interesting communication of December 27 lies before me, and I hasten to reply. From the tenor of your remarks I feel constrained to believe that you were actuated by a desire to ascertain further information as to why I left the Socialist party.

Being a devout Socialist I have no inclination to deceive anyone relative to my recent withdrawal from the Socialist party in favor of the Socialist Labor

Party. In the first place I have for some

six months recognized the superior propaganda material of the Socialist Labor Party to that of the Socialist party. Of the two organizations I consider the Socialist Labor Party the more logical, representing, I think, more definitely and squarely the interest of the proletariat on the political field. On the fundamental issue of unionism the Party is sound to the core.

The Socialist party was not a scheme; it originated from a wrong conception of the labor or Socialist movement that political action is all-sufficient for the working class to achieve its own emancipation from wage slavery. For members to longer remain, who have the elements of soundness, can but have the effect to retard the "conditions that doom the false political structure to decline and fall." Now it stands to reason that a party, whose only weapon is the ballot, will combine all of its strength on the political field to the great neglect of the economic field; hence, we see such a party catering to the labor organizations, the farmer, and the middle class in order to get votes. Certainly I am not one that is against political action.

Of course the Socialist Labor Party is trying to get votes, but I have yet to learn when it ever sacrificed a principle in order to swell its strength at the ballot box. Have you ever heard of it? I can't for the life of me see how a political party can sincerely support "both Industrial and Trade Unions in their struggles against capitalism," as you claim the Socialist party always does. The two forms of unions do not support each other, but, on the contrary, the craft unions are ever combatting industrial unionism. The two organizations have nothing in common. The A. F. of L. believes that the capitalist system is a correct system of society, and that it is to be the final order of society, while the industrial unionist is a Socialist and believes that the present system is not permanent, but that it must collapse, to be succeeded by a co-operative one.

I hope that I have made myself clear on the points touched upon in your letter. As I will likely receive many similar letters I deem it advisable to have the Daily and Weekly People publish this in its columns to save my answering personally all the letters that I may get from time to time. In the June number of the International Socialist Review you will find the proceedings of the late Socialist party convention where you will read it adopted a resolution against liberal immigration as stated in my letter of December 21 to The People. If any other points are not clear to you command me.

Yours for the Proletariat,
D. B. Moore.

THERE'S A TURN IN THE LANE IN BRIGHTON, ENGLAND.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—You will be glad to know S. L. P. principles are beginning to penetrate the "organized" workers. On Saturday we got them out with their banners to lead the unemployed of whom we have here 2,010 on register at present, the authorities up to now having found work for 250, although we have been at them since June to cope with the question. We induced the Trades Council to apply to the District Committee, Board of Guardians and Town Council, and they are sick of it all as we knew they would be. I now think it has put a fighting spirit in them.

Of course, we keep on to show their craft organizations are impotent, and I am glad to say some of their best men are beginning to perceive, and they follow our ideas that the only way to punish this ultra respectable Queen of Watering Places is to dam its respectability, by bringing their fellow workers on to the public streets and so expose the hypocrisy of the show. Official returns of pauperism of England and Wales show for London 31 per 1,000 inhabitants; Brighton, "Queen Empress City of the Sunny South" as she is dubbed, 43. The mayor's distress fund is dwindling as these figures show: 1906, £1,300; 1907, £820; 1908, £500. This year it does not touch £300. Add to this 3,000 pairs of boots beseeched for the children, the police old clothes fund going all the year, 1,000 teas to children by Salvation Army, all the benevolent clubs run by workers, a vast mass of public benevolence, yet all unable to cope with the distressed, and you have some idea of the state of this town and the complacent attitude of the well-to-do.

I tell the workers it is useless to complain; their work is to end the job. I greatly appreciate that editorial in The People, the "In Class Struggle." It was an inspiration.

F. W. Sanderson.
Brighton, England, December 21.

CONDITIONS IN INDUSTRY.

I.
To the Daily and Weekly People:—Conditions in the railroad industry around the center are not so good as they were in 1907; not so much freight is being transported, now as there was

over a year ago.

Less labor is employed than a year ago. In 1907 there was one brakeman more on every crew; there were more towermen in the towers, more yard clerks, more longshoremen, more clerks and more coal handlers.

In the classified service wages remain the same. In the unclassified service there has been a cut down of wages. The labor of switchmen and switchtenders has been affected, wages being cut from \$2.65 per day to \$2.42.

Railroader.
Providence, R. I., December 27.

II.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—I am working in the Beef gang at the Nelson Morris Packing House in this city. Last year wages were cut ten, fifteen and twenty-five cents daily per man below those of 1907. There are about 1,500 men employed in this plant. At the Swift and Armour packing houses wages were also cut. These houses employ between four and five thousand hands. A year ago there were from 5,000 to 6,000 at work.

H. Buckman.
E. St. Louis, Ill., January 3.

III.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—In the year 1907 I was working as section foreman on the Great Northern, J. J. Hill's road in the following States: western Montana, Idaho, Washington, Oregon, and part of British Columbia. In 1908 I worked on the Northern Pacific between Butte and Spokane, and on the Washington and Northern road between Spokane and East Port, Idaho. At Troutdale, Oregon, I had laborers working for \$1.17 per day last year. In 1907 the same work was paid for at the rate of \$2 per day. Some get as low as \$1.13 a day. Around Kalispel, Mont., men in extra gangs received \$1.50 as late as June, 1908. In December, 1908, these same men got \$1.10.

F. G.
Dodsens, Ore., December 28.

S. P.-ER CAUGHT IN A STEEL TRAP.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—I was in the neighborhood of the Garrick Theatre here last Sunday and I stepped in to see what was going on. The high priest of the S. P. intellectual holds forth in the theatre Sunday mornings. I saw comrade Roth selling the Weekly People in the lobby of the theatre and I went to help him. A smooth-faced individual came up to us and started a discussion. He said The People would be all right if it only quit roasting the Socialist party. Wasn't he an "innocent"?

I took up his charge and challenged him to show where The People published anything but facts. I told him it was the facts that hurt him. Then the fellow assailed De Leon as a disrupter. I called his attention to the fact that I had not mentioned individuals at the outset of the argument, and that I had thought I was talking to a full-grown man. He saw to his sorrow that he had "put his foot into it."

Next he took up I. W. W. matters and I put him straight. Then he abandoned that and said that the S. L. P. platform was utopian because it declared for the inalienable right of man to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. I asked him to show me wherein the S. P. differed from the Democratic or the Populist party with their immediate demands which make for middle class reforms.

Meanwhile a crowd had gathered around us and left the theatre empty. My opponent felt himself "going" and gave up the argument.

I later found out that this fellow was one of the publishers of the "International Socialist Review" (Save the mark).

When such "intellectuals" assume the work of publishing "Socialist" literature, we S. L. P. men should redouble our efforts to circulate the S. L. P. press. Mine for The People and the New York Labor News every time.

Chicago, Ill., December 27.

LOCK THE SWITCHES.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Now that the judge's decision has been handed down in the case of Gompers, Mitchell and Morrison, finding them guilty of contempt and sentencing them to imprisonment, it may not be amiss to delve deep into the plot, at least it has to me all the earmarks of a plot, entered into between all the presidents of the craft unions affiliated with the A. F. of L. and the plutocratic class of the United States to sidetrack the workers and attempt to stampede them into the A. F. of L.

The evidence to me of such a plot consists of the following facts:—Unlawful acts of plutocratic class kidnaping Moyer, Haywood and Pettibone and retaining them in jail with-

out ball of trial for over a year. The S. L. P. then made things so hot for the plutocratic class and aroused such a spirit in the working class throughout the land that crafts affiliated with the A. F. of L. were disrupted and were forced to protest against such acts.

Then followed the successful attempt of the plutocratic class, aided by the A. F. of L., to capture the Western Federation of Miners and bring it in line with the present bulwark of capitalism against Socialism, the A. F. of L. by wiping out the I. W. W. local in Goldfield where our two comrades, Preston and Smith were unjustly convicted.

These two acts alone aided by the S. L. P. propaganda have had such an effect on the workers of this land as to alarm the capitalist class for their future safety, hence their counter move to offset the effect made on the minds of the workers and steer them into that safe and sane craft union movement under the banner of the A. F. of L.

Now what better plan could there be to do this than to convict three of the principal leaders of the A. F. of L. and have the capitalist papers throughout the land picture poor old Gompers with the tears running down his cheeks pleading that he had never consciously done anything wrong. The other two "leaders," Mitchell and Morrison, were stunned by the verdict. Then the very next day the same papers gave whole columns to expressions of regret and sympathy of all the presidents of the different craft unions throughout the land and devoted separate parts of other columns to Judge Parker, of New York State, stating that the law was unconstitutional. What a grand opportunity now for Taft to show his magnanimity and great love for labor by pardoning the three "labor leaders." What a prestige such action would give to the A. F. of L. and to craft unionism.

Let us get to work to knock this prestige out by pointing out the attitude of the capitalist class toward true leaders of the working class and towards traitors.

F. Haselgrove.
London, Canada, December 27.

SCAPE-GOATING ARTHUR MORROW LEWIS.

To the Daily and Weekly Peoples:—Before entering on the subject for the day, "Evidences of Evolution," in the Garrick Theater, Chicago, Sunday, December 27, 1908, Arthur Morris Lewis made some interesting statements:

"There has lately been a good deal of criticism of my lectures on the ground that they are anti-religious and that they hurt the feelings of religious people. In the future I shall take care not to hurt the religious feelings of anybody, but shall insist on speaking the truth. Why I mention this to-day is because my lectures have been blamed for the decrease of the Socialist party vote in Chicago. Documents to this effect have been sent to every Socialist Local in America, by Christian Socialists. To this I will say that the Socialist party cannot be run on the theological basis of the fifteenth century. When I can't tell the truth from this platform I will tell it from another. I am a freethinker."

The above lines contain the gist of what Lewis said, and show what new reasons have been found for the falling off of the Socialist party vote. They also show the "Christian harmony" animating the Socialist party.

Lewis has always put theology in a rather poor light in his scientific lectures, so that theology and its teachings have suffered in comparison. This has been a thorn in the side of the Christian Socialist members of the party. They now propose to use this method of discrediting Lewis and his Garrick Theater lectures. Evidently they do not wish to debate the difference, but prefer to exert their militant spirits by sending out circulars about the danger of a decreased vote. What they will gain by the fight is not yet certain.

The Christian Socialists occupy many prominent and official positions in the party. Members of the National Executive Committee of the Socialist party are Christian Socialists. Bentall, the State Secretary of the Illinois Socialist party, is an editor of the "Christian Socialist." It is therefore but natural that the "Christians" try to muzzle the Lewis lectures when they have the influence to do it.

Thus the fight is on, and the Socialist Labor Party man can but congratulate himself that the livelier the fight, the quicker the work of civilization is accomplished in the heterogeneous Socialist party.

Adolf S. Carm.
Chicago, January 2.

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.

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. A. L., PHOENIX, ARIZ.—However truthful a comrade may be, that does not free him from the necessity of furnishing this office with the official proof of the election figures he gives. This office is held responsible for what it publishes.

R. W. M., ERIE, PA.—Now to your second question—

The late International Socialist Congress indorsed neither industrial nor craft Unionism. The length of the step forward which it took lay in its proclaiming the necessity of the economic organization in the accomplishment of the Social Revolution.

F. W., ST. LOUIS, MO.—Bravery lies in the head, not behind the ribs. A man who knows, is brave on the field on which he is enlightened. Not the least of the accomplishments of class-conscious knowledge is that of imparting character to the proletariat. The class-conscious Union is, consequently, a prime educator. Next question next week.

W. A. G., PITTSFIELD, MASS.—The "Political Government" is something apart from the economic government. Under Class Rule there are two governing bodies—one "political" the other "economic." Industrial or Socialist Government is economic only.

H. S., PITTSFIELD, MASS.—Artemus Ward once took a trip down to Panama on a steamer, the Ariel. Lecturing later on that trip, Artemus would exhibit a picture of the steamer saying: "Ladies and gentlemen, if you ever want to go to Panama, remember the steamer Ariel here she is—take some other steamer." So with Prof. Giddings' book on "Sociology"; remember it—and take some other—almost any other is preferable. Buckle's "History of Civilization in England," tho' false in its economics, presents powerful facts and arguments on the materialist basis of the ideal.

W. E. McC., ST. PAUL, MINN.—Be so good as to reserve your indelible pencil for when writing to your sweetheart. When writing to this office, for printers' eyes, take pen and ink.

D. T. W., GUTHRIE, OKLA.—On the whole, the Labor material among the anti-Socialist members of the A. F. of L. is raw material; that is, material that awaits information in order to behave. There are men among them. For a man there always is hope. On the contrary as to the "Labor material" in the Socialist party, from the Hanfords down or up to the Brauns and Barneses—the least

said about them the better.

L. O., NEW HAVEN, CONN.—Admitted. There is more turmoil in the Socialist Labor Party than in the S. P. Democracies are proverbially boisterous, whereas absolute monarchies (except at the long and far between epochs of revolt) are proverbially quiescent. The S. P. is run autocratically by its privately owned press.

H. N., VALPARAISO, IND.—Understanding by "civilization" that social condition in which production, and, therefore, Nature, comes under the control of man, so as to render wealth plentiful—understanding that to mean "civilization" yes; private ownership, not of land only, but of all other necessities of production preceded civilization.

It does not, however, follow that therefore civilization will retrograde the moment "private ownership" is abolished. A building does not break down the moment the scaffolding is removed without which the building could not have been raised.

Next question next week.

W. H. C., CHICAGO, ILL.—The error in the manuscript was detected in time.

H. B. J., ST. LOUIS, MO.—There are now only two Territories left—Arizona and New Mexico. No State can be divided up without its own consent. The present basis for representation in the House is 250,000 inhabitants.

S. L., TACOMA, WASH.—See above to H. S., Pittsfield, Mass.—In addition Lecky's History of European Morals is well grounded, except the last chapter on Woman, which shows the evidence of mental slap-dash.

M. H. M., NEW YORK.—Just sit down and read the literature issued by the S. L. P. (the Labor News). Take up the pamphlets and books one after another. Such questions as you put would require the reproduction of several of those pamphlets in full, and of all the others in the main. Dismiss intellectual indolence. READ.

H. H. L., NEW HAVEN, CONN.; C. C. C., PLEASANTVILLE, N. Y.; J. D. L., BROOKLYN, N. Y.; R. R. L. M., NEW CANAAN, CONN.; L. J. L., NIOBRARA, NEB.; G. P. R., JACKSONVILLE, FLA.; L. S., LOS ANGELES, CAL.; F. C. R., SAWYER, OKLA.; J. R., BIRMINGHAM, ALA.; M. K., BROOKLYN, N. Y.; R. C., SPOKANE, WASH.; E. Z., ELIZABETH, N. J.; W. R. P., MISKAWAKA, IND.—Matter received.

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—AND THE—
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If you want to know why the Socialist Labor Party denounces the labor fakirs and their dues-paying dupes; spurns sops and palliatives; scorns fusions with hostile classes, read The Two Pages.

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NEW YORK LABOR NEWS COMPANY
28 CITY HALL PLACE, NEW YORK.

OFFICIAL

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Paul Augustine, National Secretary. 28 City Hall Place. CANADIAN S. L. P. National Secretary, Philip Courtenay, 144 Duchess Ave., London, Ont. NEW YORK LABOR NEWS CO. (The Party's literary agency.) 28 City Hall Place, N. Y. City. Notice—For technical reasons no party announcements can go in that are not in this office by Tuesday, 10 p. m.

REPORT OF NATIONAL OFFICE

The financial report of the National Secretary, from July 2, 1908, to December 30, 1908, is as follows:

Receipts: By Dues Stamps \$436.14, General Agitation Fund 285.58, National Campaign Fund 582.73, International Bureau Agreements 37.80, Supplies, stationery, etc. 25.89, Miscellaneous receipts 206.60. Total \$1877.74

Expenditures: To Salary, National Secretary \$465.00, Printing, stationery, postage, etc. 114.07, Agitation: Gillhaus, De Leon, Hogsack, etc. 570.87, Supplies 70.53, Office Rent 105.00, Miscellaneous expenses 218.94, Daily People Loans 214.78. Total \$1757.18

Recapitulation: Total receipts \$1877.74, Expenditures 1757.18, Balance on hand \$120.56

Fraternally submitted, Paul Augustine, National Secretary. Audited and found correct: Henry Kuhn, S. Winawer, Auditing Committee.

CANADIAN N. E. C.

The regular meeting of the N. E. C. was held on December 20, at 67 Bathurst street. Bryce elected to chair. Absent, Martin, Nichol and Rodgers without excuse.

Minutes were adopted as read.

Correspondence: From Leach, of Montreal, in reference to supplies; the action of the National Secretary was endorsed. From Martin, Toronto, handed into Section London by Maxwell and ordered sent to N. E. C. referring to possibility of I. W. W. Local there securing De Leon. Secretary instructed to reply asking full information. From Section London asking N. E. C. to use funds on hand to aid in organizing the working class of Canada along industrial lines. Moved by Weitzel, seconded by Pearce, "that National Secretary write O. H. Chase asking full information." Carried.

Moved by Haselgrove, seconded by Pearce, "that National Secretary write Section London asking them to arrange a series of meetings during the winter for purpose of raising funds to aid the work of organization." Carried. Moved by Weitzel, seconded by Haselgrove, "that we leave the plan of organization work over until next meeting when we expect to have fuller information; also that absent members be notified to attend." Carried.

Adjourned. F. Haselgrove, Recording Secretary.

The regular meeting of the N. E. C. of Canada was held on January 3 at 67 Bathurst street. Weitzel was elected to chair. Absent: Morrison, Nichol, and Rodgers without excuse.

Minutes were adopted as read.

Communications: From W. C. Borden, of Berwick, N. S. asking information about the aims and progress of the S. L. P. Moved and seconded that National Secretary send him copy of our constitution, Weekly People, and some of our pamphlets. Carried. From Leach, of Montreal, in reference to the possibility of being able to place an organizer in the Canadian field permanently.

The matter of organizing plan was discussed and National Secretary was instructed to write to National Secretary of the S. L. P. of the United States asking full information as to available organizers for short tour in spring.

Pearce tendered his resignation on account of leaving the city; same accepted and Section London to be notified.

Adjourned. F. Haselgrove, Recording Secretary.

When you have read this paper, pass it on to a friend.

NEW JERSEY S. E. C.

Regular meeting held in Jersey City, January 10, 1909. Present: Schwenck, Gerold, Landgraf, McGarry, Tinfowitch, Herrschaft and Hossack. Landgraf chairman.

Correspondence: From Plainfield, one dollar for Correspondence Bureau, and stating that February 28 is favored as date for holding State convention; from Newark favoring same date for convention and saying unable to help financially. Correspondence Bureau: from J. Tery, Rutherford, \$2 for Weekly People subs. turned over to People office; from Elizabeth, request for speaker, attended to; from Atlantic City, Bayonne and Cranford, on routine matters.

Hossack and Schwenck, committee to canvass vote on N. E. C. member, reported election of R. Katz, to whom credential had been issued. Report accepted and committee discharged.

Paterson and Elizabeth both reported in favor of February 28th as convention date. Secretary instructed to issue call for State convention, to be held at Newark, Sunday, February 22, 10 a. m.; basis of Section representation to be one delegate for every five good standing members or major fraction thereof.

Owing to S. E. C.'s inability to raise the money, it was decided to discontinue paid secretaryship feature of the Correspondence Bureau.

Section Passaic turned in campaign list No. 988, with one dollar collected; ordered sent to National Secretary. Section Essex turned in six lists with 55 cents collected, cash to follow. Branch No. 2, South Hudson, reported having sent to National Secretary six lists, and 50 cents collected. Section Elizabeth (McGarry) handed in \$1.00 for Correspondence Bureau. Adjournment followed.

Secretary.

MINNESOTA S. E. C.

The S. E. C. of the Minnesota S. L. P. met in regular session December 5, 1908, at 328 Edmund street, St. Paul, Minn., with N. J. Cikanek in the chair. Samuel Johnson, Thomas Doherty, H. Carstensen and N. J. Peterson absent. Minutes of previous meeting read. Motion that they be laid over to next meeting and corrected. Carried.

The following communications were received: From Section St. Paul to Otto Olson regarding nomination of Herbert Johnson and Carl J. Smith for office of the State Secretary. From C. W. Brandborg, Hennings, Minn. From Peter Riel, Organizer Section Minneapolis, regarding Section's inactivity during last national campaign. From Samuel Johnson, explaining his and H. Carstensen's absence from meeting. From P. Riel, Organizer Section Minneapolis, stating why required number of names were not obtained for petition for nomination of S. L. P. state ticket and national tickets.

Six votes were cast by Section Minneapolis for Herbert Johnson for state secretary.

C. J. Smith elected to investigate Section Minneapolis, reported that the Section had met. Motion to accept committee report as progress. Carried.

Motion to pay secretary of S. E. C. eleven cents for postal expense. Carried.

Motion that forty cents be appropriated to pay car fare for Minneapolis members. Carried.

Financial report: Balance on hand at close of previous meeting, \$29.59; income, \$3 from Section St. Paul, for due stamps; expenses, fifty-one cents; balance in treasury, \$32.08. Motion to adjourn, carried.

S. E. C. to meet again January 3, 1909.

W. E. McCue, Recording Secretary.

WEEKLY PEOPLE BENEFIT IN ST. LOUIS.

Section St. Louis, Mo., of the Socialist Labor Party, will give a dance for the benefit of The People, the official organ of the Party. The dance will be held on SATURDAY evening, January 16, at 1717 South Broadway. August Gillhaus, National Organizer of the Socialist Labor Party, will make a short address.

On SUNDAY afternoon, January 17, Gillhaus will deliver a lecture at the same hall.

KEEP IN TRIM! WITH VERA-CASCARA THE BEST REMEDY FOR Habitual Constipation AND Torpid Liver 100 PILLS 25¢

OPERATING FUND.

Since last acknowledged \$12.00 was contributed to this fund. We hope that the comrades throughout the country are not becoming lax in contributing to this, at the present time one of our main sources of income, and expect that the next acknowledgment will be more gratifying.

Geo. Miller, San Francisco, Cal. \$1.50, A. P. Anderson, Spokane, Wash. 1.00, Wm. P. Hainsworth, No. Andover, Mass. 1.00, A. Weinstein, Los Angeles, Cal. 1.00, Steve Bailey, Delta, Colo. 1.00, Section Lansing, Mich. 1.50, Ed. Lewis, Tutwila, Wash. 1.00, Marzian Club, Ogden, Utah 1.00, Holger Schmalzuss, Pittsfield, Mass. 1.00, J. W. Stewart, Tucson, Ariz. 2.00, Total 12.00, Previously acknowledged 2,419.22, Grand total \$3,431.22

COLORADO S. E. C. REPORT.

The financial report of the Colorado S. E. C. of the S. L. P., shows on hand end of December, 1908, \$12.22 in general fund, \$15.51 in state organizer fund. During the month \$5 worth of Weekly People sub cards were purchased and \$9.50 was expended for free trial subscriptions.

In sending out its report for the last month of 1908, the Colorado S. E. C. wish to urge upon the members the necessity for increased activity in the new year.

So much could be done for the cause, with only little effort on the part of our members, if each and every one of us would but lend a hand and help push the work along. So let us consider the work before us, and the way to go about it.

First of all we have our press, it must be built up and assisted financially. We must get it into the hands of our fellow workers, wherever possible; and this must be our main effort in the coming year, to increase the circulation of the Weekly People in this state. Give out sample copies of the paper and try to get subscribers, or if you think advisable, send their names and addresses to us for a free trial sub. The Daily People is ever improving its reading matter and it is our honest opinion that if our members realized its educational value and the comfort and satisfaction it is to every day receive the Socialist news and read the splendid editorials and correspondence, not one of our members would ever be without the Daily. Each member of the S. E. C. is getting the Daily People.

Then there is our literature, the books and publications of the Labor News Company. Are we doing all we can to circulate them? Can you distribute some leaflets? If so, let us know how many and we will keep you supplied, without any cost to you. Always have a leaflet with you—if it accomplishes no more, it will advertise our party and our press. And don't forget the State Organizer Fund. As soon as possible we must place an organizer or canvasser on the road, so let us be prepared. Can you spare a dime each month, a quarter, fifty cents or a dollar? EVERYBODY, NOW!

For the S. E. C. Geo. Anderson, State Secretary, Box 73, Montclair, Colo.

BUFFALO, ATTENTION!

Section Buffalo will hold a party and dance at Florence parlors, 527 Main street, on SATURDAY evening, January 30.

Sympathizers and friends are cordially invited, and the Entertainment Committee promises an unusually good time.

GILLHAUS TOUR WESTWARD.

Sections of the Socialist Labor Party will be notified by Gillhaus personally in advance of his arrival.

- Indianapolis, Ind. St. Louis, Mo. Springfield, Ill. Peoria, Ill. Chicago, Ill. Milwaukee, Wis. St. Paul, Minn. Minneapolis, Minn. Duluth, Minn. Spokane, Wash. Seattle, Wash.

Paul Augustine, National Secretary.

M. RUTHER, Manufacturer of Fine Cigars, Holyoke, Mass.

BUSINESS NOTES

Outside of conducting the regular winter lectures, active comrades will, we know, devote the remainder of their spare time to pushing the Party's literature, especially the Daily and Weekly People. Are you one of the actives? Every renewal neglected means a financial loss to our Press that must be made up in some other way, mainly through the Operating Fund.

Those sending in two or more during the two weeks ending January 6:

Section Passaic Co., N. J. 2, L. C. Haller, Los Angeles, Cal. 8, R. Katz, Paterson, N. J. 3, 30th and 32nd A. D.'s, New York 4, Fred Brown, Cleveland, Ohio 9, H. Brandborg, Hennings, Minn. 3, Jas. H. Arnold, Louisville, Ky. 5, A. Prince, Chicago, Ill. 2, G. A. Jennings, E. St. Louis, Ill. 4, H. Brod, St. Louis, Mo. 2, F. Bombach, Jamaica Plain, Mass. 3, Leon Lacoste, New Orleans, La. 2, G. J. Sherwood, Sparks, Nev. 2, Jacob Schmid, Sandusky, Ohio 4, T. J. Dean, Seattle, Wash. 2, T. W. Biddlestone, McKeesport, Pa. 2, J. A. Anderson, Gardner, Mass. 2, Aug. Reim, Hartford, Conn. 2, J. W. Stewart, Tucson, Ariz. 3, Section Denver, Colo. 6, Colorado S. E. C. 2, J. U. Billings, Grand Junction, Colo. 2, Houston, Tex. 5.25

G. Hasseler, Detroit, Mich. 3, J. H. Johanson, Buffalo, N. Y. 2, G. W. Ohio, Pittsburgh, Pa. 2, Press Committee, Cincinnati, Ohio 2, Aug. Gillhaus 5

Prepaid Cards:—

L. Abelson, New York, \$2.50; C. A. Ruby, Rochester, N. Y., \$5.00; John Kircher, Cleveland, Ohio, \$2.00; Section Denver, Colo., \$7.00.

LABOR NEWS CO.

Owing to the taking of stock, we have been unable to analyze our sales as has been our custom. Nevertheless, a casual glance through the sales books reveals a few of the always-do-wells, whom it is a pleasure to set up as an example of what can be done:

No. Andover, Mass. \$3.00, Los Angeles, Cal. 4.80, A. Gillhaus 10.40, Grand Junction, Colo. 4.00, New York 9.50, New Castle, Pa. 7.20, Cleveland, Ohio 8.62, Lamoore, Cal. 3.25, Bridgeport, Conn. 2.30, Oroville, Cal. 4.25, Elizabeth, N. J. 3.50, Philadelphia, Pa. 5.20, Cincinnati, Ohio 4.20, Houston, Tex. 5.25

WITHIN THE ORGANIZATION

SUGGESTIONS UPON HOW TO BRING RESULTS—IMPORTANCE OF METHOD IN THE PARTY'S WORK.

Membership in an organization implies that there are certain duties to be performed, and it is upon the fulfillment of duty by each member that the progress of any given organization depends.

Every member of the S. L. P. is expected to attend, as regularly as possible, the meetings of his Branch or Section. Regularity in attendance is the keystone of successful S. L. P. organization.

Members should themselves see to it that they keep their dues paid up to date and no laxness on this score should be permitted. None but members in good standing should be allowed to vote.

Members who accept office in the Party, or who are elected to do committee work, should do their best to perform the duties assigned them. Neglect of their duties by officers and committees is disastrous to organization. Members should see to it that officers, as well as themselves, do not get into the do nothing rut.

It is the duty of Party officers to see to it that all correspondence receives prompt attention. Doing this routine work methodically, thoroughly and well, makes it easier all around, and promotes effectiveness of organization.

An S. L. P. Section cannot, however, thrive by performing routine work alone, no matter how well it may be done. The purpose of S. L. P. organization is to propagate Socialism, and where that work is not carried on organization stagnates and dies.

Each S. L. P. Section and Branch should map out a plan of propaganda activity that will embrace the efforts of each member. The Party's press and literature furnish the means whereby this work, the diffusion of Socialist knowledge, can be done most effectively.

All members may not be equally qualified for every task, but when it comes to the work of propaganda, through the Party press and literature, there is no one that has not some degree of qualification for the work. Perseverance and determination will overcome what appears to be difficulties.

The purpose of our organization being the propaganda of Socialism, the measure of the success of the Sections and Branches, must mainly be determined by their efforts along propaganda lines. The Section that disposes of its share of literature and keeps up a good list of readers for the Party papers comes much nearer to realizing its mission than does a Section that does little or nothing along these lines, even though it gives needed financial support in other ways.

The Section that sends ten dollars for ten yearly subscriptions does much more than the Section that sends ten dollars in coin.

Let each member, each Section of the Party, bend all efforts to propagate the principles and advance the cause of Socialism and the problem of financing the work will be largely solved. Besides it is for propaganda that we are organized.

J. I.

HISTORY. FICTION. EUGENE SUE'S THE MYSTERIES OF THE PEOPLE OR HISTORY OF A PROLETARIAN FAMILY ACROSS THE AGES

A FASCINATING work, thrilling as fiction, yet embracing a comprehensive history of the oppressing and oppressed classes from the commencement of the present era.

Eugene Sue wrote a romance which seems to have disappeared in a curious fashion, called "Les Mysteres du Peuple." It is the story of a Gallic family through the ages, told in successive episodes, and, so far as we have been able to read it, is fully as interesting as "The Wandering Jew" or "The Mysteries of Paris." The French edition is pretty hard to find, and only parts have been translated into English. We don't know the reason. One medieval episode, telling of the struggle of the commons for freedom is now translated by Mr. Daniel De Leon, under the title, "The Pilgrim's Shell" (New York Labor News Co.). We trust the success of his effort may be such as to lead him to translate the rest of the romance. It will be the first time the feat has been done in English.—N. Y. Sun.

- 8 Volumes on Sale. 11 More in Course of Publication. THE GOLD SICKLE 50c. THE ABBATIAL CROSIER 50c. THE BRASS BELL 50c. THE INFANT'S SKULL 50c. THE PONIARD'S HILT 75c. THE PILGRIM'S SHELL 75c. THE BRANDING NEEDLE 50c. THE IRON TREVET 75c.

NEW YORK LABOR NEWS CO., 28 City Hall Place, New York

Grand Concert By Members of the METROPOLITAN OPERA HOUSE ORCHESTRA LEO SCHULZ, Conductor. Under the Auspices of the Socialist Labor Party For the DAILY PEOPLE AT Grand Central Palace Lexington Ave., Bet. 43d and 44th Sts. On SUNDAY, February 21, 1909 (Washington's Birthday Eve) Concert Commences at 3 P. M. EMINENT ARTISTS WILL ASSIST TICKETS (Admitting One) 25c. HAT CHECKS 10c. Cinematograph Exhibition to follow Concert. Ball at 8 P. M.

IMPORTANT CALL IN CONNECTION WITH BAZAAR AND FAIR FOR SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1909. To Individual Members, Sections and Sympathizers of the Socialist Labor Party. Comrades:— Is it necessary to remind you that the Daily People is the greatest weapon of our movement, behind which we should put every ounce of force in our power, that we may force its message in the minds of the working class of this country? The Socialist Labor Party of Greater New York will celebrate in annual spring festival for the benefit of the Daily People, by holding a concert and ball at Grand Central Palace on SUNDAY, February 21, 1909, the eve of Washington's Birthday.

The usual Bazaar and Fair will be held in conjunction with this affair and this is where we call upon you to do all you can in making it a big success. Whatever you may be able to produce yourself or by calling upon your wives, sisters and sweethearts who are talented with the needle or otherwise gifted in making objects for this purpose, the committee will do its best to dispose of the presents profitably for the benefit of the Daily People.

So, all together, comrades, and use your efforts in producing something yourself or call upon the women folks to exercise their talents in that direction.

All contributions and presents are to be sent to L. Abelson, 28 City Hall Place. For the Entertainment Committee, Section New York County, S.L.P. A. Orange, Secretary.

PRESENTS RECEIVED FOR BAZAAR AND FAIR. The quick response to our call for presents for the Bazaar and Fair on SUNDAY, February 21st, at Grand Central Palace, New York, is gratifying to say the least, and shows that the comrades and sympathizers of the Party are ever ready to aid the Party's official organ in its fight for the emancipation of the working class.

Mrs. F. Brauckman, Pleasantville, N. Y., three beautiful sofa pillows, handsome centerpieces, one dozen gentlemen's bows, one dozen four-in-hands, three headrests, three pincushions, three baby dresses, three handkerchief cases; Socialist Women of Greater New York, two handsome sofa pillows, ten pieces of fine crockery; on hand from last affair, two elegant hand embroidered sofa pillows, postcard album, bed quilt.

L. Abelson, Organizer, 28 City Hall Place, Manhattan.

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

If you wish to keep well posted up in happenings in Great Britain and the progress of Industrial Unionism there, read the official organ of the British Advocates of Industrial Unionism—"THE INDUSTRIAL UNIONIST" Yearly subscription for U. S. A. or Canada, 36c. Half-yearly subscription, 18c. Advocates Revolutionary Unionism without Affiliation to Any Political Party. Address:— Business Manager, S. WALKER, c/o Wm. G. Allan, G. S. T. Springfield Cottage, Hapwood, Heywood, near Manchester, England.

The Abbatial Crosier By Eugene Sue IS READY FOR DELIVERY CLOTH, 145 PAGES PRICE, 50 CENTS. NEW YORK LABOR NEWS CO., 28 City Hall Place, New York.

Three Gems OF Scientific Socialism We have just received another edition of three of the leading books on Scientific Socialism. Socialism, Utopian and Scientific By Engels. Paris Commune By Marx. Wage, Labor and Capital—Free Trade By Marx. CLOTH-BOUND, 50 CENTS EACH POSTAGE PREPAID. N. Y. LABOR NEWS CO., 28 City Hall Place, New York.

Something good for our German reading comrades and friends. "DER TRUNKENBOLD" (The Drunkard.) Ein Drama aus dem Proletarierleben in 1 Akt. Von Richard Koepfel. Instructive. Interesting. Entertaining. Price, Fifteen Cents. Cleveland Labor News Agency, 1266 Ontario St., Cleveland, O.

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