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WEEKLY PEOPLE

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REVIEW AND DIGEST

HAPPENINGS OF A WEEK AS SEEN BY A SOCIALIST.

War As a Means of Propping Up a Tumbling System—Free Trade and Protection, and the Advocates of Each—A "Union Man" Lances the S. P., but Falls into a Trap Himself.

"Look for the woman" is the French adage that directs people desirous to get to the bottom of a private row. The direction is said to have stood the test of time. Equally correct is, in these days, the direction "Look for the railroad," to people desirous of getting to the bottom of an international row. What's at the bottom of this row in the Balkan peninsula? What is it that causes Kallim Pasha to fall from power, as if by magic, and, as if by equal magic, Riza Bey to get to the top in Turkey?—Look for the railroad.

Hard times, not as hard as at present, but, all the same, distressing, afflicted the people at the time of McKinley's first election. The war with Spain "pulled us out." Artificial respiration works only for a short time. Relapse followed. We are now, have been, for nearly two years, in that state. One war with a weak nation pulled us out once; why may not another war with some other weak nation pull us out again? So, no doubt, the powers that be are reasoning. The war with Spain was brought on by the theft of the Spanish minister's mail, by the dark affair of the blowing up of the Maine, and other such manoeuvres. Why not manoeuvre similarly for a war now?—The milk is leaking quite sensibly to feeling as to sight out of the cocoa-out of the "troubles in Central America," with U. S. battle ships hovering along the coasts of Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Guatemala like carrion-crow over expectant prey.

The Congress that just convened in extra session meets, no doubt, under the futilities and blunders of the old girl Mammelle Frow Trade. It meets obedient to a Presidential call to revise the tariff. That is the chance of the old and much jilted girl—at least, unshooled by the experience, the deity believes so. Poor thing! It is as clear now, as it will be when the new tariff will be enacted, that the one-sided, shallow principles of Protection, upon which Free Trade feasts, will receive their regulation black-eye. Protection in principle and practice, will triumph as triumph it must in capitalist society, in a country that raises both raw and manufactured products. Each of these "interests" craves protection for itself, and free trade against the other. The consequence is obvious—the threat of such retaliation in case the other links at the scrawny Old Girl, will cause both to leave her in the cold—as usual.

The achievements of heels-over-head democracy received striking illustration from the net results of the late conflict in Congress between the "Insurgents" and the "Despots" over the House Rules. Summed up these results are that the Speaker loses no essential power, while he is relieved of certain irksome responsibilities, now thrown upon the House itself, and certain to put the Insurgents together by the ears. The acknowledged parliamentary authority Asher Hinds sums up the summary of the net results thus tersely—"a perpetual Speaker and an ephemeral membership."

If Spencer, he who was Herbert, only lived! When in the flesh his hobby was, implements of war are the greatest, the real promoters of human good will. The woe that is sown, the German and the British armaments-furnishing Companies are proving the hobby. Germany decides to have 19 Dreadnoughts which is done through the skillful wire pulling of the Armament Companies of the Empire, accompanied with knowing and suggestive winks to this British ditto. These, encouraged, bring pressure to bear upon their own Government, which thereupon gets ready to go Germany some better, a move that is likewise accompanied by return winks, knowing and suggestive. In short, war implements are promoting brotherly feeling.

Stepping forward in the capacity of special agent of the Boot and Shoe Workers' International Union, Philip J. Byrne has started an agitation in the interest of "admitting hides into this

country duty free." Special Agent Byrne does not seem to know that a large portion of the hides tanned in this country—the Labor hide—is admitted duty free.

J. T. Paul, writing from New Zealand in the London "Socialist Review" on the recent electoral campaign in New Zealand, is of the opinion that "the vote against Socialist candidates was cast partly on personal grounds, partly against Socialist methods, and still more so against their denunciatory and vituperative propaganda." Good for New Zealand. Molasses may catch flies—men never.

Disappointment must have turned necessarily pessimistic the "Democratic Senator of national reputation" who is reported to moan: "What have we left now that the Republican party has taken from us the issue of tariff reform and actually landed a large number of Democrats in the Republican fold?—What is now left to the Democratic party? Why the same old ash-barrel towards which ever gravitate all the left-over-frayed remnants of undigested disgruntledism. The ash-barrel never need fear being left empty. As far as rubbish is removed, fresh rubbish comes in. Cheer up, old "Senator of national reputation!"

"La Follette's" of the 13th of the current month advances, through a new writer, Carl Vrooman, the still newer theory that denounces "untried radicalism." Whereupon the tide of history is forthwith rolled back. The American Revolution, having been "untried," was N. G.; the British Revolution, which put a stop to Charles I's sport of splitting the noses of those who disagreed with him, having been "untried," is likewise N. G. The theory may be brilliant but is startlingly novel. Or is it the same old moss-back theory according to which a man should not go into the water until he is an expert swimmer?

The appointment of soldiers to take the place of the striking post office employees in Paris is calculated to have the effect of an eye-opener on Comrade Gustave Herve, whose specific tactics have been to seek to initiate the Social Revolution via the Army.

The New York "Times" anonymous correspondent "Union Man" chooses a bad mask—"Union Man"—behind which to prod the "Christian Socialists." Correctly enough does "Union Man" ask "these Socialists who call themselves Christians" and who "are always yelling about the brotherhood of man, that the black, red and yellow men are their brothers"—correctly enough does "Union Man" stick the knife into these "Christians," together with the so-called Socialist party which they support, by asking them: "Why, then, does the Socialist party of this Nation endorse the programme to restrict Chinese and other Asiatics from coming to the country?" The mistake of "Union Man" lies in the mask he assumes of a Union man, seeing that the pace-setter for the Socialist party's iniquitous anti-brotherhood-of-man posture is—what?—why, the A. F. of L. itself.

Seeing that the Baltimore priest Casper P. Elbert, who is discovered to have spent and lost \$130,000 of borrowed money "in backing and promoting various enterprises," cannot be got at, he being "consigned to a sanitarium," a question, that would have been put to him directly, may now properly be put to Cardinal Gibbons, whose name appears on some of the notes. The question is: Where were the profits on the said various enterprises expected to come from if not from the unpaid wages of wage earners, and how does such "backing and promoting" of enterprises, together with the endorsing of notes therefor, square with the teachings of the Nazarene, which the "backer and promoter" and the endorser of his notes affect such zeal in promoting?

Whatever the new tariff bill, just introduced in Congress, will do, one thing it will undoubtedly accomplish—to reduce (on paper) the wealth of deceased lords. The new tariff bill provides an inheritance tax of 1 per cent on direct inheritances of \$10,000 to \$100,000; 2 per cent on \$100,000 to \$500,000; and 3 per cent on those over \$500,000. The appraised size of inheritances will undergo a miraculous shrinkage.

At the St. Patrick banquet in the Brooklyn Academy of Music Father William B. Farrell orated in denunciation of Socialism. Said he: "The

INVERTED MONASTERIES

The student of history—who reads the Little Land League tract, holding out the prospect of spiritual, mental and physical well being on two acres of land, and issued under the auspices of Bolton Hall, E. R. A. Seligman, Seth Low, Philemon Tecum Sherman, J. Pierpont Morgan and eighteen other god-fathers of the National Organization for the Promotion of Living on and from the Little Land—could hardly help seeing, rising before his mind's eye, as he reads, the picture of society when medieval monasticism sprang up and, indeed, flourished. And, as the picture gathers vividness and stands out in all its fulness—by that time the reader will have reached the end of the tract—then, if he be at all familiar with English literature, upon his memory are sure to force themselves the Shakespearean lines—

How many things by season season'd are
To thy right praise and true perfection!
—and vice versa.

The monastery sprang up in the darkness of the Middle Ages. Had it depended upon religious conviction only, there had been few of them, and these few would have been shriveling specimens. Instead, the monasteries cropped up in gigantic numbers; still more gigantic was the number of those who flocked, supported and inhabited them; and mammoth was the wealth and comfort

gathered within their precincts. With exceptions that only prove the rule, the monastery was not sought as a living grave but as a living paradise. Such were the economic and social conditions of the times that the large number of those, whose temperament, or other qualities, rendered unfit to cope with the then existing turmoil, fled to the monastery as a place of refuge from the rowdy-down without. The monastery was an oasis, surrounded by a mind and body-wracking desert, and insuring spiritual, mental and physical wellbeing. The monastery was a device by season season'd to its right praise and true perfection.

Times have changed, and we have changed with them. Large production to-day renders the life of the small producer a long and prolonged, usually subdued, at intervals high pitched wail. Man is a gregarious animal—or angel, if that taste better. The torture of the small producer in town or city is somewhat soothed by contact with the crowd. The torture of the small producer on farm is unallayed; it is accentuated by solitude.

The economic, combined with the psychic causes, turn the two-acre man into a Yahoo. The sketches of New England inner life by the New England writer Mary Wilkins Freeman afford many a stray peep into the home of the two acre family. Unable to compete with the larger farmer; subject, without appeal, to what

fundamental error of this dangerous doctrine is its disrespect for legitimate authority." Father Farrell considers himself legitimate authority.

"With a national union able and willing to discipline its local unions, the leading coal operators assert that they can carry on their business to better advantage with the union than without."—"Charities and the Commons."

On account of which operators in all large industries set on foot, and, with the help of their labor lieutenants, keep up such unionism—to the "better advantage" of themselves.

"Many American cities of 50,000 have congestion of population in tenements, factories and offices, which creates problems for which we cannot find solutions," declares the Committee on Congestion of Population in New York. The trouble with the Committee is that it is like the amiable Sam Weller, who when asked by the court whether his father were present, looked straight at the ceiling and replied "I don't see 'im, Sir!" although his distinguished parent sat only a few benches from him.

Just in time, as the merry-widow hat is becoming passe, the estate of the late and much lamented Right Rev. Bishop Henry Codman Potter is appraised, throwing out distinctly the suggestion of a merry-bishop hat as the next *outré* headgear for milliners to catch the popular fancy of the fantastic. A "merry" widow sounds like a contradiction, and the jest thereof was cleverly exploited by the eye-catching prodigiousness of the hat scheme and named after her. A bishop, whose private estate consists of bonds in Gas and Electric Companies, Power Companies, Railways, Telegraph Companies, etc.—industries the dividends of which are the liquefied blood, bone and marrow of workmen, workingmen and children—such a bishop is so Hindu-brastic a piece of ecclesiastical furniture that, if milliners know their trade, a hat will speedily be concocted and named after him.

It surely must be with the purpose of proving once and for all time that riches are the reward of industry, managementship and ability, and that they can come in no other way, that Hunt Tilford Dickenson, a nine-year-old boy has been left a legacy of \$4,000,000 by his deceased Standard Oil uncle W. H. Tilford.

J. A. Chaloner, having been declared incompetent by the courts of New York state, has decided to remain in Virginia, in which state he is adjudged sane, and where he will lead "the life of a country gentleman" on \$13,000 per. In the coming Industrial Republic those who would live without work will be adjudged insane in whatever State they may be. Where will they go then?

CHICAGO SOCIALISTS

HOLD CELEBRATION IN HONOR OF COMMUNARDS.

Program Includes Speeches, Songs and Music, with Gillhaus the Main Orator—Christian Rudowitz Attends—Is Staunch Supporter of Party and Refuses to Be Bribed to Leave.

Chicago, March 17.—The Socialist Labor Party here celebrated the event of the Paris Commune of 1871, at Workmen's Hall, last Sunday. There was an excellent program of speeches, recitations, songs and music. August Gillhaus, national organizer of the party, made the address of the occasion. He spoke upon the rise and the fall of the Commune, and warned his audience to have no faith in any other social class except its own, the working class. Gillhaus, in closing his speech, made an earnest appeal to those assembled to seriously study the literature of the Socialist Labor party.

Other speakers followed Gillhaus, speaking in several languages. Mrs. Oscar Neebe gave an excellent recitation in German. It was on the Paris Commune. A feature of the occasion was the presence of Christian Rudowitz who just escaped the Russian Czar's clutches as a political refugee. Rudowitz is and has been practically a member of the Socialist Labor party, he being a member of the Lettish Federation of the S. L. P. Rudowitz was warmly greeted by those present.

A fact not generally known about Rudowitz is that the Socialist party tried to buy him over, as it were. They knew him to belong to the Socialist Labor party and promised him if he would leave the organization and join the S. P., they would gather enough money to bring his family here from Russia. But Rudowitz, through an interpreter, told his interviewers that had he wanted to become a traitor to his class and the cause he is fighting for he would have turned traitor in Russia. He refused to become a turncoat and remains loyal to the S. L. P.

I asked Rudowitz how he came to choose the Socialist Labor party as the one with which to cast his lot. He told me that he investigated the policies of both the S. P. and the S. L. P. and he found the latter correct, and considered the former a counterfeiter.

Section Chicago will take in hand arrangements to help Rudowitz to bring his family to this country. D. R.

REAP THE WHIRLWIND.

Jersey Building Trades Pay Price for Keeping Men Divided.

Jersey City, N. J., March 19.—The building trades crafts of this city are now reaping what they sowed a few years ago. When times were "good," Italian and Jewish mechanics, who applied for membership in the various craft unions had slim chance if any of being admitted. As there was lots of work these union-made "scabs" found employment. Then came the hard times when any kind of job is hard to get.

The scale for carpenters is supposed to be four dollars a day, but the needs of the men, who were kept out of the union, has fixed the standard at from one-sixty to two dollars a day. The union men are working for what they can get, and there is hardly one that knows what another gets. One thing is sure, few, if any, are getting the scale.

If you talk with some who are walking the streets they will tell you that they are doing it to uphold wages, but the fact is they can't find jobs. Union meetings are being held to try and boost wages and revive the spirit of unionism. The trade schools are denounced as the source of cheap labor.

There was a strike recently on a big Catholic school, which had some novel features. The plumbing was being done by a leading plumbing firm, who ran an open shop. On the job at the same time were union steampipe fitters, union painters, and union carpenters. For three weeks the union men worked with the non-union plumbers without a murmur. Then the plumber foreman was asked when he expected to get through. He didn't know.

The union men were called off the job, non-union plumbers remained at work and when they had finished the union men went back and did their work; the "scab" atmosphere having been cleared in some way. Some work is now being done on the rectory and union carpenters are working with the very "scabs" against whom they had struck.

The "top hat" men, the bricklayers, did not join in the strike against the plumbers. The aristocrats of the building trades are "independent," which means that while they have no grievance, no grievance exists. Their scale is supposed to be \$5.70; but the knowing ones say that they don't balk at \$3 when nothing better is offered.

The contractors may not be doing as much work as before, but they should be making more money, as they can get labor at pretty near what they choose to offer. Out in Newark the unions are holding meetings, trying to revive the organizations and enforce the scale. Conditions, partly of their own making, are against them.

Jerseyman.

S. L. P. OF MICHIGAN

Holds Mass Convention and Makes Nomination.

Detroit, Mich., March 6.—A mass convention of the Socialist Labor Party in Michigan was held in Hinz's Hall, 75 Gratiot avenue, on March 4. The following ticket was nominated for the coming spring elections:

Justices of Supreme Court:
Henry Ulbricht, Archie McInnes.

Regent's of the University:
Hermann Richter, William Hoag.

Superintendent of Public Instruction:
Frederick Hitchcock.

State Board of Agriculture:
Thomas Grabuski, Shephard B. Cowles,
John A. Ingram, Albert B. Latta,
John H. Latta.

The National Platform was re-indorsed, and the State Committee was instructed to take all necessary steps to have the ticket properly filed and carry on such propaganda as time and means permit.

The election takes place on April 5. The conventions for county, city and ward tickets have already taken place and a full ticket is placed before the voters. The State Convention made it evident that the working class cannot be humbugged all the time. There were delegations present from the Polish and Hungarian organizations which have lately organized upon the principles of the Socialist Labor Party. H. R.

U. S. EMPLOYEES MUST NOT TELL.

No Matter How Much Imposed Upon, Dare Not Speak.

Washington, March 20.—Miss Anne Morgan, daughter of J. P. Morgan, and other welfare workers of the Civic Federation, met with 100 girls of the Bureau of Printing and Engraving at the Public Library last evening. They learned that, though the meanness of conditions were forced upon the government employes, these dared not complain.

The New York ladies were shown the department where plate painters work. At the best this is a nasty, messy work, and the pay is small. In a short time the clothing of the girls is soaked with the oils, and inks and they must work in that condition for eight hours. It is the hardest and most unpleasant labor performed for the Government in Washington. The women also complain that the conditions under which they work are not as hygienic as they should be. The workrooms are warm, the air bad and close. There are not sufficient lockers or retiring rooms.

The girls have been afraid to speak of their condition because it is contrary to the regulations for Government employes to organize and make complaint. When it became known that Mrs. Taft, at her own request, had been appointed on a committee to learn the conditions they mustered up courage to come to this meeting, but they did not have anything to say.

W. F. M. IN DEAL.

Labor Members of Colorado Legislature Must Pass Peabody War Debt to Get \$65,000 for Miners' Organization.

Denver, March 14.—The reported deal between the Western Federation of Miners and the representatives of the Mine Owners' Association whereby the bills to refund to the federation about \$65,000 in claims arising from loss of property during the Cripple Creek and Victor riots and to pass the war debt fund amounting to about \$950,000, is not being pulled off smoothly.

Yesterday C. E. Mahoney, vice-president of the Federation, was taken to task by one of the House leaders for the refusal of some of the labor members on the House Committee on Finance to report favorably the Peabody war debt bill.

"Straighten out those labor fellows on that committee," was the command passed to the Federation official, and it was given with a significance that unless they report the big bill favorably there is no hope for the several bills to pay back the Federation the amount of its claims.

The way to build Socialists is through the party press. Send in one reader for the Weekly People.

CAPITAL AND LABOR

OR LION AND LAMB LIE DOWN TOGETHER.

Railroad Workmen and Companies Jointly Seek Legislation to Maintain Freight Rates—Denver Paper Admits Purpose Is to Protect Earnings of Corporations.

Denver, March 14.—Who said that the workman and the master, the slave and the slave-driver are not loving brothers? Let those who hold such language turn their eyes toward this State and witness employe and employer joining in mutual embrace and marching to the legislature of the land for laws beneficial to both.

A number of railroad workmen have been induced to join in a legislative fight which the railroad companies are involved in. The companies want their present freight rates maintained, and, as an aid in this direction, and just to show that the poverty-stricken magnates need the money, Brother Labor will be ushered in to offer his humble testimony. Therefore, for the time being Brother Labor and Brother Capital will slumber peacefully. What the big fellow Moneybags will do after he has attained his object—well, that'll be found out later.

The "Denver Post" to-day is all praise for the pooling of the "interests" of the men and the companies. While usually giving the workers the worst of a write-up when they are on strike, it now has the following to say:

"It will probably be but a short time until Denver and all cities in Colorado and the West will witness the organization of branches of the American Railway Employes and Investors' Association, the new society formed in Chicago a few months ago to advance the interests of the toilers of the rail, protect the railroads from adverse legislation and an abnormal public sentiment against railway corporations and work for a mutuality of interest and a closer bond of relationship between employer and employe."

"It is a magnificent army of defense, led by one of the most successful labor leaders of recent history and including in its membership not only the heads of the great railway brotherhoods, but the presidents and general managers and the directors of every great railroad system in the country."

"Representatives will work in congress to secure legislation beneficial to the men and companies alike and will do the same in the States."

"The association will combat the reduction of freight and passenger rates and all such restrictive measures as will effect the earnings of the companies. It will endeavor to secure for the railroad investor a fair share of profit on his investment. Politics is absolutely barred from the organization."

"A better balanced association could hardly be imagined and there is no way for either the employes or the railroads to secure advantage over the other. On the one side, as members of the executive board, there are Warren S. Stone, of the engineers; W. S. Carter, and John J. Hannahan, of the firemen; A. B. Garretson, of the conductors, and P. H. Morrissey, of the trainmen, while the secretary of the association, C. D. Kellogg, used to be the editor of the Railway Conductor, the official organ of the Order of Railway Conductors."

"On the other side are such great railway men as Early, Ripley, Winchell, Yoakum, Scott and others to look after the roads and the investors."

"The national headquarters are in room 233 Railway Exchange Building, Chicago, and the president is P. H. Morrissey, for years grand master of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen. Secretary Kellogg is a writer of national repute on labor topics."

"It is a significant tribute to the railway labor organizations to have both the president and secretary selected from their ranks."

OVER THIRTY MINERS KILLED IN EXPLOSION.

Evansville, Ind., March 20.—Nearly all of the thirty-seven miners at work in the galleries of the Sunnyside Coal Mines in this city are believed to have been killed by an explosion this afternoon. Only two conscious survivors have been taken out.

SLUM TACTICS

WILLIAM HAYWOOD DRAGGING HIS ANCHOR.

By Olive M. Johnson.

Fruitvale, Cal., March 15.—The question of the tendency towards slum tactics in the Revolutionary Movement, raised by Comrade Reinstein in a recent New York speech, is one of such vast importance at this time that it should not be allowed to rest. The current drifting slumward in the American Movement is a strong one, and it cannot be too energetically opposed.

Last Sunday evening I had the opportunity of hearing at a public meeting Wm. D. Haywood, the erstwhile secretary of the Western Federation of Miners, and the once central figure in the trial for the murder of ex-Governor Steunenberg. His speech should have caused no comment, for it was but a sample of the usual semi-sentimental, bombastic S. P. agitation talk. But it furnished such an excellent text for a lesson in "Slum Tactics" that it is only fair that this lesson should be drawn.

In commenting upon the inability of Taft to solve the question, "What is a man to do who is out of work and has no money?" and proceeding to solve that question himself, Haywood said:

"In that case there are only three things for you to do—BEG, BORROW, or STEAL. But a proud man will not beg. An honest man will not borrow, as he knows he has to pay back. But there is one thing you must not do, that is to starve yourselves, for starving is to commit suicide, and suicide is against the law. Therefore there remains but one thing for a proud and honest man to do, namely, TO STEAL. The Bible tells that Christ advised his apostles, when hungry, to eat of the fruits of the field, but carry none away. It was a California Judge who once refused to sentence a man for stealing a loaf of bread. If a mule walks down the street and spies a green cabbage on a vegetable wagon it goes to it and eats it. Have you less sense than a mule? The workers need the luxuries that exist. They make them and they have a right to take them. The factories of this country must run, and they shall run if we have to go to work with a dinner bucket in one hand and a shot gun in the other."

Without producing further quotations let me examine this masterful array of "Revolutionary Tactics," and see where they lead to.

I have often heard people—proud, independent people—make the remark that, reduced to extremity, they would rather steal than beg. That I have always looked upon as an expression of the utter contempt in which a respectable workingman holds charity, private or public. As such it illustrates an innate virtue and perhaps also a certain latent adventurous spirit. He means to say that, while theft or robbery is a foul thing, indeed, yet its practitioners at least run the risk of punishment for their crime, a crime for which capitalism in the last analysis, is, in reality, responsible; but that, to a man ready, able, and willing to work, there can be nothing more degrading than to humbly ask for the crumbs that fall from Dives' table. However, at the best, the expression has always made me smile. The proud exclaimer never seems to calculate that between him, in the bosom of his family and in the strength of his manhood, and that second self to which the alternative of BEG or STEAL would present itself, a long series of protracted misery and gradual reduction of mental and physical resistance intervenes; that want, starvation, and long knocking from pillar to post has humbled many a spirit as proud as his own. But one thing certain is that he, to whom the alternative presents itself, stands on the brink of the slums, when he tumbles in for lack of further resistance there is no telling where he will land, and it appears to me that, once among society's off-scouring it would not much matter. Reduced to the alternative, there is but one thing for a proud strong, decent man to do, namely, to struggle to the bitter end against that one last fatal step.

I have brought this up only because I wished to do away with that objection at once, as many readers would be sure to make it, and the rest of the argument would be lost upon them. But there is no connection otherwise between this exclamation of private sentiment and the utterances of advice made by a would-be revolutionary agitator on the public platform. In the latter case it is held out as revolutionary tactics. It is just therein that the danger lies.

That there is a relation between hard times and crime, there can be no question. During the hard period following the earthquake and again during the past hard winter, a perfect wave of

midnight robberies and housebreaking swept over the cities about the San Francisco Bay. Not only was it a menace to property, but to life as well.

It never should be forgotten that murder is the next kin to theft. The streets are dangerous and the homes are not safe. This condition certainly is not pleasant. There is nothing in it to glory over. It is gruesome. It is not "revolutionary," it is simply and detestably criminal. However, there is one fact worth rejoicing over. A little study of the criminal calendar will soon convince one that it is not the industrial proletariat, even in the times of a crisis, that contribute the inmates of the prisons. It is the real slums on the one hand, and the upper, middle and professional classes on the other. It is the people who have always lived without work and by the exploitation of others that will continue that exploitation by hook and by crook, even if the path leads to the gallows. Because of this fact, borne out by criminal statistics, we proletarians can feel a pride and glory. It proves that the industrial proletariat, in spite of all reverses, is the only honest, decent, moral civilized class in society today. The Socialist, of all persons, should be the one to point with pride to this condition, as it proves beyond dispute that the industrial proletariat is the only class in existence fit to run an honest, decent, moral, civilized society.

But we all are forced to admit that morally there is a tendency slumward in the revolutionary movement. This is to a great extent a result of the deplorable fact that in this country the actually industrial proletariat is not the backbone of the Socialist Party movement. The unions are pure and simple conservative unions, not revolutionary unions. The controlling factors of what is generally understood as the entire revolutionary movement are on the one hand middle class and professional adventurers, who exploit Socialism for a livelihood, or for glory in lieu of a better game, and, on the other hand, of a floating, crushed proletariat, whose existence is one of protracted misery and continually lowers on the brink of the slums. Both these classes are sources of danger to the movement, for each in their status ever lend a willing ear to the preaching of the tactics that will furnish a revolutionary pretext for their existence on the back of the movement, or at the expense of their fellow men.

In the Haywood trial there came to light, through Richardson's cross-examination of Orchard, doings which probably were the direct result of the glorification of theft as revolutionary or union tactics by the officers of the W. F. M. Richardson made Orchard admit that he, Adams et al., during the time of the Colorado strike and in times of distress, foraged for chickens, sheep and other small "prey." At such a time of capitalist lawlessness an honest man could scarcely be blamed for doing that much, not as a "right" but as a NECESSITY. But Richardson further brought out that during the time when Orchard and his gang were in Denver a perfect "Carnival of Crime" of hold-ups and robberies swept the city. The man who has once come to look upon his union card as a license to commit theft to preserve life has but one step to take from the stealing of sheep to the stealing of other necessities and LUXURIES. Then again, once started on the road, there is but a short step from the sneak-thief to the masked highwayman and house-breaker, and then, again to "preserve life" in a dilemma—may he not easily become a real thug and red-handed murderer? After having scaled this ladder, and with bombastic revolutionary phraseology running through his brain, is there any wonder if the man becomes a political assassin for private vengeance, and as a crowning act in his career of crime, hidden under revolutionary pretexts, tries to lay the blame for his act on the organization and its leaders, who preached the doctrine of crime and extolled it as a revolutionary virtue?

I do not mean to say that Haywood and others intended anything like such a consequence; but this IS the consequence, and in this manner the Haywood "revolutionary morality" leads directly to the Orchard tactics.

Let us proceed with the Haywood text. Even to-day it would scarcely be considered much of a crime on a tour in the country if one should, from a loaded fruit tree, eat what one needed but carried none away. But we should bear in mind that the starving masses in our modern cities are not thrown in contact with the products of nature in the field. To help themselves in stores and kitchens is quite a different

proposition. This would make them either sneak-thieves, robbers, or house-breakers, and even with a great deal of stretching and much "interpreting" it cannot be said that Christ's precept advised that. It is only in few cases that it is safe for Socialists to quote moral and ethical precepts from past ages.

One of the basic principles of Socialism is that the morals and ethics of a people are the outgrowth of the economic conditions that surround them. And the condition that surrounds the involuntarily idle workers of to-day is certainly quite different from that which surrounded the slaves and other proletarians in old Romanized Canaan during the first century of our era.

It is true that as Socialists we censure the judge that will sentence a man who takes a loaf of bread to satisfy his hunger. But that is not done to make a hero of the man who did the act, but to demonstrate the nastiness of a society that forces a man, able and willing to produce his livelihood, to commit a degrading act and then to make a criminal of him for doing so. It is one thing to extol crime to the position of virtue; it is quite another to show up the vileness of a society where such a crime can ever come upon the calendar.

To make a comparison between man and donkey morality is a piece of very common "stump-oratorical" stupidity that can none too soon be, for ever and ever more, eliminated from the vocabulary of the Socialist agitator, as a piece of nasty demagogism unworthy of his dignity. There is no comparison between a man and a donkey in the case in question. The man is a being endowed with reason, the donkey is the type of the animal that is devoid of reason. When a man is reduced to theft he is morally degraded. He does what he knows and feels to be a shameful, nasty act. When a donkey spies a green cabbage and goes for it, he probably thinks not at all about it but simply goes ahead and satisfies his brute instinct. But if any thought should at the moment enter his assine skull it would naturally be a beastly, beautiful thought about fresh green cabbage put just there for an ass's benefit. There would be nothing degrading to asininity in that. If we could imagine any poetry in assdom, there indeed would it be. The ass certainly could no more be accused of theft than could man in a state of nature when he satisfied his needs from the fruits of the forests. But if a man who refuses to steal is more stupid than a donkey, if the working class in general is more stupid than donkeys, what use then is there to talk about working class emancipation and self-government? Indeed, this sort of talk is worse than poor Socialism, it is real capitalist doctrine. The capitalist class likes nothing better than to make the workers believe that they are next kin to the ass. The capitalists continually tell us that they have all the brains while the workers have none, and give it as the reason why they should be left in control, while the workers should never try to meddle in the governmental affairs, nor in the running of industry. But we Socialists know that the collective working class possesses the combined intelligence of all ages and all classes. Thereupon we base the hope, yea, the certainty, that the workers will be able to accomplish their emancipation. It is the Socialist's duty to teach the workers to scorn the bestiality that would degrade them individually, and instead, to teach them that grand class-consciousness whereby they can lift themselves, their whole class, and entire humanity into the Socialist Republic.

To take the "luxuries" that the workers have produced because they "need" them is quite a different thing from the revolutionary act whereby the workers would "take and hold the means whereby they can produce for themselves all the necessities and luxuries of life." As a revolutionist, I am far from awed by the "Goddess of Private Property." There is to me in all history nothing more craven than the awe with which a few sentimental middle class people at the Paris Commune of 1871 bent before that Goddess. But they were engaged in a Revolution, and the property before which they bowed with respect was just that which they needed in order to conquer. In such matter the Revolution makes its own code of ethics and sweeps all aside that stands in its way. Those who are not alive to this fact are not Revolutionists. The future Socialist Revolution will abolish all private property in the means of production. But while the Revolution will make its own ethics, the revolutionists have no revolutionary right to make them from semi-revolutionary precepts and then practice them in a pre-revolutionary period. That is as bad as to take our ethics from donkeydom or to jerk them out of precepts that are 2,000 years old.

The declaration that "the factories must run and shall run if we have to

go to work with a dinner bucket in one hand and a shot-gun in the other," is another sample of bombastic phraseology devoid of sound reasoning. If we concede the right of the capitalist to own the factory he certainly has the right to shut it down if he sees fit. How is a gun to keep the factory open, and how is it going to compel the capitalist to hire the workers and pay them wages? But such an utterance applauded to the echo in a would-be Socialist audience illustrates how far the tactics of riot and slummary have taken hold. It is catering to the brute in man, to the thug element, the lawless class, the slums in society, the very people that never can usher in the Socialist Republic.

The Revolutionary Movement truly is a law-abiding movement. It follows the grandest and highest law in the world, namely, the law of progress. The Socialist Movement therefore should be composed of the very best elements in society. The Socialist should, and the genuine Socialist does, strive above all things to remain a decent, moral and law-abiding citizen. It is the slum on the top and the dregs below that are the real riotous elements in society.

The Socialist, of course, knows that things are wrong and that the working class is submitted to outrages and indignities. Therefore, he is arrayed against society. But not as an individual who takes every opportunity to butt his head against the hard stone walls that society has raised. As a sensible man who knows the injustice and vileness of society he avoids, as much as possible, to get hit. But he combines with his fellow-workers to overthrow capitalism, which would make of him an ass, a beggar, a thief and an all-around beast and criminal. He dedicates his life-energy to upbuilding of the economic and political organizations that will be able to accomplish the establishment of a just and sane society, the Socialist Republic.

PROTEST AGAINST "VORWAERTS."

Strike Sympathizers Pack Theatre and Denounce So-called Socialist Paper.

A mass meeting packed the Thalia Theatre, N. Y., Sunday afternoon, March 21, and protested 1,000 strong in favor of the three locked-out writers on the East Side Jewish Socialist party paper, "Vorwaerts." Besides the admission, a good collection was taken up.

Among the speakers were Antip, Zametkin, Winchevsky, Milch, M. Katz, and Kornbluth. The "Vorwaerts" and its A. F. of L. backers in the Hebrew Trades were roundly lashed.

One speaker declared that the Hebrew Trades had decided the strike to be a contest between capital and labor, and then decided in favor of capital. Winchevsky said that the "Vorwaerts" was the most indecent paper he knew, and that when Roosevelt attacked the Socialists in the "Outlook," he must have had such literature in mind. Zametkin paid the Socialist Labor Party the tribute of stating that while the old "Abendblatt," controlled by the S. L. P., was alive, it was always clean and true to the movement.

When the question was put to the audience, What is Max Pine (the secretary of the United Hebrew Trades) to the audience with one voice cried "A schäl!" Pine is now working on the "Vorwaerts."

Abe Resine, whom the "Vorwaerts" had imported from Russia since the strike, declared to the audience that upon finding what sort of a position the "Vorwaerts" was in he had severed connection with it, and would return to Russia.

Unless the strike is soon settled by arbitration, it was stated Sunday, a call would be issued to boycott the "Vorwaerts."

TRY TO DO SOMETHING.

Many of our readers have by this time received a letter which we addressed to them requesting their active support for the Weekly People. Some of those addressed have already answered our request. Comrade Peter Faber of Kent, O., sends a new yearly subscription and one dollar for the Operating Fund. He says that he hopes that all other readers will try and do something. So do we.

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GILLHAUS IN SPEECH

POINTS OUT EVER WIDENING GULF BETWEEN CAPITAL AND LABOR.

National Organizer of the Socialist Labor Party Addresses Milwaukee Audience—Makes Pointed Remarks on Immigration and Scores Socialist Party—Takes Fall Out of the A. F. of L.

Milwaukee, Wis., March 14.—August Gillhaus, national organizer for the Socialist Labor Party, addressed an audience last night in Bohemian Turn Hall, on the subject: "The Class Struggle." Gillhaus delivered an instructive lecture and scored a number of good points.

"The concentration of capital and the development of industry is widening the gap between capital and labor," began the speaker. "Things have come to such a pass that practically sixty individuals control this country."

Gillhaus showed how the various manufacturing and railroad corporations are linked together by the directors holding office in many different companies. Thus the Rockefeller interests are found extending out into many other profitable enterprises besides oil. The extension of this system is bound to encroach upon the middle class and wipe out its holdings, and thereby send that class into the ranks of workmen.

The speaker pointed out that the iron ore of the Himalayas was coveted by the U. S. Steel Trust. The steel corporation was now erecting mills in Asia for the purpose of exploiting these resources. The international character and the interests of capital thus become evident. The working class must also learn internationality of interests.

At this point Gillhaus launched into a discussion of immigration. He said that Labor had nothing to fear from "foreigners," or "backward races." The proper thing to do was for the whole working class to unite against the capitalist class. Labor should not split itself up into warring branches.

The Socialist party was trounced for dividing workmen upon the "issue" of immigration. "It is through the raising of such 'issues' that the Socialist party admirably performs the nefarious work of the capitalists to their utmost satisfaction. This party is simply a lightning rod to run the revolutionary spirit of the workers into the ground," remarked the lecturer.

"The American Federation of Labor has a favorite slogan: 'A fair day's pay for a fair day's work.' What is a fair day's work? An employer would like to squeeze 36 hours' work into 24 hours if he could. That would represent a fair day's work to 'Brother Capital'."

Gillhaus urged the formation of industrial unions instead of craft unions. Industrial unions were the only possible organizations that could achieve anything for Labor, because they would tie up the entire industry, instead of allowing each department to fight alone. "But the industrial union means more than simply an effort to secure a little now. That union will lead the workers to economic freedom. This is what must be the objective point of the world's workers."

Gillhaus was asked what the outlook was for the Socialist Labor Party. He said that the party had the whole future before it and that he felt great encouragement for its success.

A. S.

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COAL CO'S PREPARE FOR STRIKE.

Philadelphia, March 19.—No word has yet come from the anthracite coal mining companies as to the annual reduction of 50 cents a ton in the domestic sizes of coal, which for some years had been going into effect on April 1.

Dealers and consumers are waiting for an announcement, but none is expected until after the convention of miners at Scranton next week has acted on the proposition to renew the present working

agreement. Every colliery in the hard coal fields is working full time and will continue to do so up to the end of the month.

Rumors that the companies will shut down for an indefinite period pending a settlement of the wages and hours question cannot be officially confirmed, but reports from the coal regions tend to support such rumors.

The miners look for a shut down during April.

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SPEEDING UP IN THE STEEL INDUSTRY

PRESSURE FROM ABOVE, AND STIMULATED RIVALRY—MEN DRIVEN TO CREATE "RECORDS," AND THEN COMPELLED TO KEEP UP TO THEM.

The tendency of present day conditions seems to be in the direction of increasing the intensity of physical exertion in the mills. This has been the trend for twenty-five years past. The output of rolls and of furnaces has doubled or trebled in that time—a matter of record which can easily be verified. A hoop mill in Pittsburg in 1892 produced 450 bundles of cotton ties in eight hours on a single train of rolls. In 1903, a train of rolls in the same mill was producing 1,300 bundles in eleven hours—an increase of over 200 per cent per hour. A blooming-mill in one of the Pittsburg plants that was rolling 300 to 400 tons in twelve hours, fifteen years ago, is rolling now 900 to 1,200 tons in the same time. Twenty years ago the Edgar Thomson steel works were turning out 600 tons of rails in twenty-four hours and the plant was considered one of the best in the world. At present, mill No. 1 in this plant has a capacity of 100 tons an hour and an average of 2,000 tons in twenty-four.

A great deal of this increase in output is due to improved machinery, but not all. In the hoop-mills there has been no great mechanical improvement during the period in which the output has doubled. In sheet mills, where tonnage has increased a hundred per cent, there has not been a single important change in machinery or method in the last twenty years. But not even in the mills where inventions have revolutionized the process, can all the increased speed of production be traced to the machinery. The importance placed on human exertion is evident in the constant efforts of the steel companies to "speed up" their workmen. The very terminology of the steel mill communities bears witness to it, where the overseer of a gang of laborers is colloquially known as the "pusher." The men higher up have the more dignified titles of foreman and superintendent, but their function is not different excepting as their fields of administration are broader and more difficult. They must get out the product.

This constant pressure of men in authority who urge on and drive the men below them is what I call the direct stimulus. A tonnage system of wages governs very largely in the steel industry but I do not mention this piece-rate system of payments as a direct stimulus, because that, in itself, has never been strong enough to produce the results secured by other methods. In contrast to this direct, active pressure, are indirect stimuli which have even greater influence than the direct in boosting the output. One of these is a skillful use of the spirit of emulation. It was

used years ago in the infancy of the business. When a mill broke a record the men who accomplished the feat were praised, their names sometimes published in the trade journals, while superintendents of other mills taunted their men with the disgrace of being beaten. This would rouse all the skilled men to greater activity and another mill would establish a new record. For years a piece of steel plate, cut to the shape of a huge broom, was kept suspended above the Edgar Thomson blast furnaces at Braddock as a symbol that all competitors had been swept aside, and that these furnaces were producing more pig iron a day than any others in the world. This made a strong appeal to the men and they were constantly on edge to retain that record.

In the same way, the Bessemer converter men in one of the steel mills near Pittsburg were constantly induced to break their former records. They kept raising the pace until finally, when it had reached a very high point, the superintendent told them that having demonstrated their ability to produce that much steel it would thereafter be expected of them. Consequently the system is well established to-day. Superintendent is pitted against superintendent, foreman against foreman, mill against mill. When a record is broken it means simply that the goal to be struggled for has been set ahead. In the mills of the Carnegie Steel Company two months in each year, usually March and October, are known as "record months," and are sacred to the breaking of records. The mills are pushed to the limit; every possible advantage is given in the way of perfect equipment, and all known obstacles are removed beforehand. Some departments are run straight through the month without an hour's stop, and all are run overtime. If records are broken, the superintendent passes the cigars. The new record has an effect, for what is done in March and October is of course possible in April and November.

In all the speeding up, it is readily to be seen that superintendents and foremen are the major factors. The forces that move them to action are the source of compulsion behind all the increased physical effort that has been noted. Of course emulation is a factor with foremen and superintendents as well as with workmen. Competition for positions is sufficient to keep them alert, for if one superintendent does not make good some other can. These are the negative forces, however; the positive are gifts, extra favors and, most important of all, the bonus system of the United States Steel Corporation.—John Fitch Andrews, in *Charities and the Commons*, March 6.

WHY BE FOOLISH?

The Story of Yung Man's First Job in New York City.

I had been slowly getting rid of the night, on a bench in Washington Square. Toward dawn I had fallen asleep. I awoke now, and stood up and stretched to throw off the stiffness. Then I sat down and began the old business of sizing things up. I had been a month in the city and still I had no job. The first light of day was making the Arch, the trees, the buildings, the pavement, all gray and cold; the spray from the fountain was hazy and blue—and cold. Around me some sixty men lay asleep. A few still tried to look decent; one grey headed man had tucked a handkerchief over his collar to keep it clean for to-morrow's job hunt. But most were in hopeless rags. A group of city failures,—bums. I had no job.

This was about what dad had foretold. It had been mighty hard on dad. He was one of the millions of men who struck out for the West and the prairies, and since then by hard work have made good; and now they see their children, one by one, leave home and go back to the cities. It was hard, but it had to be. He wanted to be a farmer; I wanted to be a physician. He chose the place where the chances were best, and I did the same. But he couldn't see it, and things grew strained between us two; and so, when at last I could hold back no longer, I took no money from him, only the forty odd dollars I had earned as a clerk in the village drug store. And here I was. A month of hunting for work, no job, and all but nine dollars gone. I had given up my room to make the money last longer.

A young foreigner sat up on the bench next to mine, and stretched and yawned, and then smiled at the fountain as though he liked it. He was slight and wiry, with a dark narrow face and eyes that went with the smile. When he turned and saw me, his smile broadened. So did mine.

"No job?" he asked, with a strong foreign accent. I shook my head. Just then the round jovial sun cocked one eye over the roofs in the East.

"Well," he said, "fine day!" "Yes," I said, "fine day." He turned toward the Arch.

"You go this way?" "Yes," I went with him up Fifth avenue, which at this hour was empty for miles ahead. A few blocks north, we found a man beginning to paste a huge poster up on a bulletin board. All at once my companion stopped.

"Hal Kubeliki!" I looked at the poster, but it meant nothing to me. "Kubeliki!" he repeated. "Fine—from my country—fine!" His dark face lit up, his eyes sparkled, and he stood there watching proudly, muttering fast in Bohemian. "Now," he said at last, "to-day I get my job!" And as we walked on, he talked so hard, he was so proud of his countryman and so sure of his job, that I too caught the spirit. We celebrated our splendid luck by a hearty breakfast at thirty cents each. I tried to pay for both, but he refused.

"No," he said gayly, "I have still two dollar forty-two cent. An to-day I get my job!" We parted, soon after. I heard him humming a marching song as he walked off down the street. I have never seen him since.

I missed my job that day and the next. But on the third day I found it at last on the upper East Side, in a snug little drug store. I wrote my first letter home that night.

The druggist was a comfortable little old man, somewhat bent, with long soft white hair and frank reassuring blue eyes. The narrow crowded store was like him. From the one show window, from every nook and cranny on the walls, and even from strings in the air, your eye was met by smiling signs which assured you of comfort, relief and miraculous cure. Few patients came here with prescriptions, for this was a tenement quarter. The druggist was doctor too. And as he stood at his counter, with row on row of patent medicine bottles rising behind him, questioning patients in his soothing old voice and then prescribing one of the bottles with placid absolute faith that in a few hours all would be well, he made a perfect picture of benignity and wisdom. My weekly pay was five dollars and twenty-five cents.

"The extra quarter," he said, "is just to—" he waved his hand. "I hate close bargains," he ended. He also gave me constant smiles and kindly advice. He seemed amazed at my skill, and assured me that I would rise fast and very high. He showed me how simple the science really was, in spite of the pompous doctors. One by one, he made

me acquainted with his various patent miracles. "My pets," he called them. Some I had known in the village drug store, but most were new,—nerve tonics, powerful stimulants, narcotics. I was an ignoramus those days; but even then I could vaguely feel that this amiable little boss of mine was a wizard dealing out fire.

I worked for him eight months. I went out more and more, in off hours, to see big sights of the city. I read a few medical books, but more newspapers. I cut my hours of sleep down to six. When this re-acted on my nerves, the old druggist suggested a bottle. But this I refused.

Meanwhile, watching our patients, certain faces grew familiar: faces thin and hollow and flushed, with eyes unnaturally bright. "The cough with blood," was what they called their trouble.

To meet it, the benign old druggist gave them a certain bottle that held forth amazing promises; and he told them, with that gentle absolute faith of his, that all these promises were true. I watched these people come again to buy more bottles, and still look eagerly at the quiet reassuring old face,—and again take hope.

I traced fourteen of these neighborhood cases that year. Eleven died. This I told to the druggist one night. Very quietly the old man looked up. "Do you wish to go on with your work?" he asked.

As I rose slowly, staring at him, he added with a smile, "If not, you may go."

I still stood there staring. He rose, his smile grown doubly kind, and laid his hand on my shoulder.

"Why be foolish, son? You are so young. You know so little. You call this medicine bad. Will you prescribe another? Why be foolish?" It ended in my leaving.

I took a long tramp that night, thinking on the lesson, the lesson taught by the town of tens of thousands of us country cubs. In the next five weeks it sank in deep.

The fall had come again, and the city was filled with job seekers. Often I stood in line in the dark, at 4 a. m., waiting. And in hours like these, which are not sane hours, the old druggist's face used to rise up as I had seen it last. And he seemed to stand for the whole cold sparkling city, holding out the lesson of Graft to the raw recruit—and smiling and asking—"Why be foolish?"—*La Follette's Magazine*.

Puddlers Refuse to Stand for Cut.

Reading, Penn., March 16.—Following an all-day conference of the National officers of the Amalgamated Iron, Steel, and Tin Workers' Association and representatives of the locals of the eastern district of the United States east of Pittsburg, for the purpose of discussing the wages of the puddlers and finishers, it was decided not to accept a reduction as proposed by the iron manufacturers. While no definite action was taken in the proposed reduction, it was the unanimous decision of the representatives not to accept the contemplated cut. The question was given into the hands of the Executive Committee of the district, which will convene at the call of Vice President Mencher of the eastern district.

Maryland Steel Wage Sliced.

Baltimore, March 16.—A general reduction in wages at Sparrow's Point, amounting to 10 per cent, and affecting all divisions of the works of the Maryland Steel Company, will be put into effect on April 1, according to a high official of the company to-day.

The order to reduce wages, the official said, was in line with a general policy of retrenchment, considered necessary until after the adjustment of the tariff question allows the resumption of normal business in all industrial lines. Approximately 1,200 workmen will be affected. In normal times upward of 4,000 men are exploited by the company.

Another Anti-Hatworker Injunction.

Orange, N. J., March 19.—F. Berg & Co., hat manufacturers of this city, today obtained an order to show cause why the union hatters should not be restrained from picketing the streets about the factory operated by the concern in the Orange Valley district as well as the railroad stations in this vicinity. The order, which is returnable on Tuesday, is directed to the national body of the union hatters and all the officers of the various locals in this city.

Penna. Steel Cuts Wages.

Harrisburg, March 16.—The Pennsylvania Steel Company, one of the largest of the independent steel companies in the country, has announced a reduction in wages approximating 10 per cent, effective April 1.

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

COMPETITION IS PROGRESS?

A MIDDLE CLASSER DRAGGED OUT OF HIS SHELL AND EXPOSED.

Do you ever hear of the fellow who always knows more about your business than you do yourself, that is he is convinced he does? He is always giving you his advice. There is such a one who writes to a New York daily and makes a plea for the restoration of competition among railroads. E. C. Laird is the individual's name. Unfortunately, he does not tell what particular calling he follows. If he did, it would be possible to expose just why he desires competition in full swing.

A guess at Laird's business pursuit, however, may be ventured, and that is: he is a shipper who is hit by the railroad companies' agreements to maintain rates.

Laird does reveal the commercial pursuit of a fellow tradesman, a Mr. Gibbs, of the Gibbs Preserving Company of Baltimore. This Gibbs spoke before the Cannery Convention at Louisville and advocated the "principles of competition," that is, so far as railroads are concerned. He said naught with regard to the "principle" in his particular line of preserves. Laird, writing on the question, has this to say in the "Journal of Commerce":

To the Editor—In writing one of our Congressmen on January 30, 1909, urging his support of the Fulton bill enlarging the powers of the Interstate Commerce Commission, I deprecated the absence of competition among the railways in the matter of making freight rates as being an unwholesome condition, subversive of progress, and gave expression to the following views: "Competition is the electricity that pushes forward the wheels of progress. It was ordained in the beginning and must continue to the end. Wherever it has been temporarily eliminated, there is invariably found an artificial and unnatural condition that places a severe check on the progress and development of the individual man. Competition causes striving and progressive effort and this makes for the development of the individual.

"The principles underlying the trust, Socialism and government ownership do not appeal to me. The trust is advocated by the laggard; and government ownership by the man whose intentions are good."

Competition is the spur that is urging forward the human—in the school, in the newspaper office, in the mine,

on the farm, in the factory, and it is a great influence even in the church. Many a lazy man, influenced by his regard for the good opinion of his fellow-men and the mortification that would overtake him if he should allow his competitors to far outstrip him in the race, has been forced by competition to make a supreme effort and has accomplished, under that strain, much in the development of himself and for the advancement of humanity.

Competition among railroads, no doubt, looks good to a Mr. Laird, who would see in it a chance to secure lower rates. If, however, Laird owned a corner grocery, and a Butler store or an Acme store came along with its "cut prices," what a different screw he would give to his visage, and descend on the tribulations of a small store-keeper getting along with a fierce "competition" "spurring" him on.

Probably Laird would not mind the Acme store,—probably. In such case he would jump into the "race" and give his competitor a run for his money. He would reduce prices accordingly. But how long would he last? He'd make excellent progress "down and out."

Take the case from a workman's standpoint. Isn't it the height of irony to tell the millions of unemployed that what they need is "competition"? Where shall they compete when their labor is not needed? What about those at work? Shall they offer themselves at less than they now receive, and strive to do a bigger day's work than they now are doing? Such competition is certainly good for the Lairds. But how about the wage-earners, where is their "come-back"?

Competition is good for the middle class, the men of small property. Competition is the Bryan hobby, the Democratic Party's lament. Monopoly is death for that class.

The formula reduces itself to this: For the Middle Class, Competition among big fellows—good; Monopoly, bad. For the Workers' Class, both Monopoly and Competition, bad.

The workers must march forward with their own particular demands, and these are abolition of private ownership in the means of life, and the rearing of the Socialist, or Industrial Republic. The Socialist Labor Party is the organization which stands for this program.

A VALUABLE DOCUMENT.

To comrades who keep a file of the documents issued by the Party we would announce that a few spare copies of the S. L. P. Report to the International Socialist Congress, Stuttgart, neatly printed and bound, may be had for 25 cents each. New York Labor News Co., 28 City Hall Place, New York.

50-CENT BOOKS.

Origin of the Family, Engels. Positive School Criminology, Ferri. Ethics and the Materialist Conception of History, Kautsky. Social and Philosophical Studies, Lafargue. Socialism, Positive and Negative, La Monte. Revolution and Counter Revolution, Marx. Collectivism and Industrial Evolution, Vandervelde. NEW YORK LABOR NEWS CO., 28 City Hall Place, New York.

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 the parts have been translated into English. We don't know the reason. One medieval episode, telling of the struggle of the commune 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 SOC. . . 50c. THE BRASS BELL . . . 50c. THE LITTLE ANANT'S SKULL . . . 50c. THE PONIARD'S HILT . . . 75c. THE PILGRIM'S SHELL . . . 75c. THE BRANDING NEEDLE . . . 75c. THE IRON TREVET . . . 75c.

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

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.

Headquarters Section Cincinnati, O., S. L. P., at 1414 Race street. General Committee meets every second and fourth Thursday. German, Jewish and Hungarian educational meetings every Wednesday and Sunday. Open every night.

Section Cleveland, Ohio, S. L. P., meets first and third Sunday of the month at 3 p. m. at Headquarters, 1366 Ontario street, near St. Clair avenue.

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.

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

Section St. Paul, Minn., S. L. P., holds a business meeting every second and fourth Sunday in the month at 10 a. m. at Federation Hall, cor. 3rd and Wabash streets.

SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY ORGANS

Weekly People, 28 City Hall Place, N. Y., per year . . . \$1.00 Daily People, 28 City Hall Place, N. Y., per year . . . 3.50 Arbetaren (Swedish Weekly) 28 City Hall Place, N. Y., per year 1.50 Der Arbeiter (Jewish Weekly) 28 City Hall Place, N. Y., per year .50 Volksfreund und Arbeiter Zeitung (German Weekly), 1866 Ontario street, Cleveland, O., per year . . . 1.00 Nepakarat (Hungarian Semi-weekly), 516 East Sixth street, N. Y., per year . . . 2.00 Ragione Nuova (Italian Monthly), 206 Atwells ave., Providence, R. I., per year 35 He who comes in contact with workingmen reading any of these languages should not fail to call attention to these papers and endeavor to secure subscriptions. Sample copies will be sent upon request. Address each paper as per address given above, and not as often the case to the Labor News. Paul Augustine, National Secretary, 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.

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.

Woman Under Socialism

By August Bebel

TRANSLATED FROM THE ORIGINAL GERMAN OF THE THIRTY-THIRD EDITION BY DANIEL BELEON.

The Woman Question is not a question by itself; it is a part of the great social problem. Preceding along this line, Bebel's work is an exhaustive analysis of the economic position of woman in the past and present. Despite the boasts of Capitalist Christianity the facts show that under Capitalism woman, especially at the work ing class, is degraded and dwarfed physically and mentally, while the word home is but a mockery. From such condition of parenthood the child is stunted before its birth, and the miasmas, bred from woman's economic slavery, rise so high that even the glided houses of the capitalist class are polluted. Under Socialism, woman having economic freedom equal with man, will develop mentally and physically, and the mentally and physically stunted and dwarfed children of the capitalist system will give way to a new race. The blow that breaks the chains of economic slavery from the workingman will free woman also.

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WEEKLY PEOPLE

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Table with 2 columns: Year, Circulation. Rows for 1888, 1892, 1896, 1900, 1904, 1908.

Subscription Rates: One year, \$1.00; six months, 50c; three months, 25c.

All communications for the Weekly People, whether for editorial or business departments, must be addressed to: The Weekly People, P. O. Box 1576, New York City.

Subscribers should watch the labels on their papers and renew promptly in order not to miss any copies.

Subscribers will begin to get the paper regularly in two weeks from the date when their subscriptions are sent in.

SATURDAY, MARCH 27, 1909.

Service is on few, but many seize on her.

THE TARIFF BILL.

The new tariff bill, which it took the clerk of the House over five hours to read on the 10th, and upon which the debate was opened upon the 22d, is a document the purpose of which does not concern the working class.

But there is another angle of vision in the matter. The tariff bill affords several insights into the mechanism of capitalist thought.

The charge against capitalism and proof that it compels its own overthrow is that it concentrates wealth instead of diffusing it.

WHO ARE THE TEASPOONERS? The late Walter A. Weyckoff, the so-called "tramp professor" of Princeton, used to tell the following story:

"Isn't it a shame, George, to shovel dirt that way?" asked one of two workmen watching a steam shovel in action.

"Why, that machine is taking the bread out of the mouths of 500 men that would be required to do the same work with hand shovels."

George laughed. "Go on!" he said; "you don't reason right. Look here—if this steam digging would give work to 500 men with shovels, why not get 5,000 men with teaspoons for the job?"

George was right. Yet to-day, who are the teaspooners?

It is not the revolutionary-enlightened workmen;—they least of all. They know that economical and copious production is the keystone of the arch of plenty which they hope to rear over the future society.

There remain but two other sets of persons who can fall into that class, and in both cases their outlook is based upon hopelessness.

THE ITALIAN ELECTIONS. What remains to be settled by the few supplementary balloting, yet to be had in Italy will not affect the main results of the elections.

The first of the three main results is that the ministry triumphs. This circumstance deserves first mention only because of its general character.

The threatening political weather in the Balkans has received from the Italian electorate a response that rather makes for progress.

Orange Carpenters to Get Wage Cut. Orange, N. J., March 19.—It is said the master carpenters will notify the union in a day or two that reduction in the prevailing scale of wages will go into effect with the expiration of the agreement now in force on May 1.

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

the Balkans. Its anti-Austrian policy triumphed.

The second result, and what with an eye to the future is of prime interest, is the solid gains made by the Socialists.

The significance of this second result is considerably heightened by the third—the pitiful showing made by the forces of darkest reaction, the Clericalists.

In 1870 the political center, distinctly known as the Vatican, issued through its head, the Pope, a decree known as non-expedit.

The election laws of Italy demand, besides a property qualification, a certain degree of elementary education.

LOOKED AT FROM THIS ANGLE OF VISION the recent elections in Italy greatly clarify the situation there.

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a menace to his job. Hence he swears by the teaspoon, and passes resolutions in his craft union against the steam-shovel.

But far more vicious and harmful to society than the occasionally teasing workingman is the constantly teasing capitalist.

Whoever "Union Man" may be, his unerring arrow evidently quivers below the rhinoceros hide of the S. P.

LOLA THEN, AND LOLAS NOW. The Paris, France, "Temps" publishes a never before published letter written by Lola Montez, the celebrated courtesan of mysterious origin.

Although Lola's letter, which is addressed from Munich to a male friend, Pierangelo Fiorentino, is dated December 5, 1846, it is of choice interest today.

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a "backward races" anti-immigration resolution, which was ignominiously hooted out of the Congress—the hooting led by the Socialist Labor Party.

At the following Stuttgart Congress, 1907, the S. P. delegates re-introduced the identical resolution, only mystified in the sauce of a different verbiage.

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THE HOUSE RULES

To the tune of "Down with Cannonism!" a word that is being used as synonymous with "despotism," a conflict has raged for over a year in the Federal House of Representatives, between the "Insurgents" against the "Regulars."

What does all this rumpus mean? It means a good deal, well worth a little scrutiny.

All the facts alleged with regard to and against the old rules were true. The old rules, so-called, they are comparatively new, placed in the hands of the Speaker the power to say what bills should be considered, what bills should be pigeon-holed, the amount of consideration each should receive, and which should pass and how and when.

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THE POISONED HOUSE

A New York City Tenement Which Is a Feeder to the White Plague.

Down on the East Side of New York stands a poisoned tenement. It was built twenty-seven years ago. So dark are its hallways that, on a mid-summer noon, the stranger must grope his way.

What does all this rumpus mean? It means a good deal, well worth a little scrutiny.

All the facts alleged with regard to and against the old rules were true. The old rules, so-called, they are comparatively new, placed in the hands of the Speaker the power to say what bills should be considered, what bills should be pigeon-holed, the amount of consideration each should receive, and which should pass and how and when.

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UNCLE SAM AND BROTHER JONATHAN.

BROTHER JONATHAN—I happened to come across a Socialist paper; I read the thing. Do you know that I find there is much good in Socialism?

UNCLE SAM—You don't say so! B. J.—Yes; there are many good points in it. For instance, the nationalization of the railroads. That should be the first step.

U. S.—(meditative)—The "first step"? Hem! "First step." Do you mean the first, very first step?

B. J.—Yes; that's just what I mean; this individualistic way of doing things has run its course; the railroads are just the thing the society should begin with as first step.

U. S.—Do you see that building? B. J.—Yes; that's the Post Office. U. S.—Is it run individually?

B. J.—No; it is run by the nation. U. S.—The business of letter delivering was not always run collectively, as now, was it?

B. J.—No; wasn't it originally a private undertaking? U. S.—So it was. Originally run individually; now it is run collectively.

Accordingly, nationalization of the railroad now would not be the "first step" taken by society.

B. J.—Well, no; the nationalization of the mail business was done first. U. S.—And how about the employees of the Post Office? Are they a happy, free lot of people?

B. J. (reflectively, with a distant look)—N-o; they surely are not happy; they surely are not free.

U. S.—Guess they are not. Look at the letter carriers; they who do the work, are kept down with low wages, are subjected to all manners of petty vexations, and their tenure, despite the civil service regulations, is quite precarious; look at the girls who work in the mail-bag department, mending the bags; it is a regular sweat-shop affair, to say nothing of the mean, petty tricks the poor girls are subjected to. You know all that, don't you?

B. J.—Yes, I do; it is a burning shame, too!

U. S.—And I have only mentioned one half of the burning shame. You know, don't you, that little bill for the improvement of the conditions of these employees are either promptly pigeon-holed, or are handled like a football from one chamber of Congress to the other, and allowed to drop dead in the end, while all bills providing larger pay to the railroad companies for carrying the mails go through "with promptness and precision"; don't you know that too?

B. J.—Course I do. And I know also that the claims of these railroads are fraudulent, to the knowledge of Congress.

U. S.—Right you are. Now, doesn't the experience with that Post Office prove that there is no help in nationalization?

B. J. contemplates the ground. U. S.—Now, this is the point: Nationalization is not of itself a step toward Socialism.

Nationalization IS, only when it redounds to the interest of the working class. Such nationalization nationalizes; the other don't. The nationalization that is done and superintended by the capitalist class, does good only to the capitalist class.

Capitalist society is like a barrel leaking from a thousand holes, each hole being a capitalist-run concern; stop ONE hole and there will be just so much water to run through the remaining holes. There is no nationalization worth the name, or worth straining for, except that one thing, knowing of all the holes, has a program whereby all the holes are to be stopped.

B. J.—But one thing will have to be done at a time. U. S.—Not at all! No ONE thing will ever be feasible until the working class is sufficiently informed, united, to undertake ALL things.

At the same time the workers in ONE trade will nationalize the trade in their charge, the workers in other trades can nationalize the other trades. To do this, the working class must have learned the true meaning of solidarity, and hence, among other reasons, the Industrial Union is a social-political necessity. The only ONE first step, that is a step, is the revolutionary education of the workers. The S. L. P. and the industrial unionists are attending to that.

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

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.]

BROOKLYN PITCHES IN FOR OPERATING FUND.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—At the general party meeting of Section Kings County, held on Sunday, March 14, the matter of the Operating Fund of The People was discussed, and it was decided that a committee be appointed consisting of the undersigned and one from each Branch to solicit donations to the Operating Fund from members and sympathizers. The result at the above meeting was \$6.50, which we send you. The work will be carried into the Branches.

J. Hall.
Brooklyn, N. Y., March 15.

THE WAY TO HELP.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Enclosed please find \$1 for the Operating Fund. Though you have already received three dollars from me this year as a sympathizer, I will endeavor to give a dollar as often as possible. I make a statement of the three, for the benefit of many, who could also sacrifice a few cigars for the sake of doing something for The People.

A Sympathizer.
New York, March 13.

TRAUTMANIANA AND OTHER I-A-M-A-BUMIANA IN PATERSON.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—The Grand Jury did not indict the Trautmanites who, led by Frank Bohn of New York, on midnight of December 22 of last year, broke in the I. W. W. Hall and took the furniture and other property.

One F. Koetgen brought counter charges against R. Katz for "false arrest and perjury," and Katz was placed under \$100 bail by Justice of the Peace Cocker. The Grand Jury threw this case out also.

The I. W. W. brought civil action for the recovery of its property, which in the meantime is in safe keeping, before the District Court and time and again the defendants had the trial postponed upon the plea that the defendant proper and chief witness, Frank Bohn, was in New England, and could not appear for trial. The trial was finally set for to-day, but again we were informed by our attorney that Frank Bohn had sent a sworn affidavit that he could not appear on that date, the trial has again been postponed.

The general opinion among the members in Paterson is that the "chief witness" will never appear, for obvious reasons.

Trautman was recently here and large posters were distributed, inviting all workmen who did not want to work more than eight hours to come to a meeting where he was to speak. Some did come to the meeting and stayed until the collection was announced, then they left the hall and poor Trautman's illusions about getting money in Paterson vanished.

Promissory notes for about \$175, given by Trautman, are in possession of the I. W. W. organization here, but are worthless now, of course.

Approps of the letter published in The People by Mrs. Oscar Neebe of Chicago, in regards to Mr. Heslewood—

When Heslewood was to leave for Stuttgart as a delegate of the I. W. W. to the International Congress, Trautman's emissary, E. Fisher, had to come to Paterson to raise the money. Comrade F. W. Ball advanced the bulk of the sum that Heslewood needed. Bail was paid back, but not by Trautman. The Financial Secretary-Treasurer, J. C. Butterworth, of the Paterson District Council, paid Ball and sent Trautman the receipts in payment of per capita, also a loan which Heslewood borrowed from Ball while at Stuttgart. (This was also a rub down). Now Trautman writes in the Industrial Bulletin that a "strike took place in 'P. Ball's mill' in this city, and that 'P. Ball is treasurer of the S. L. P.' This is a lie. Comrade F. W. Ball is not the manufacturer P. Ball, which Trautman knows. Trautman also writes that 'Papa Glanz remained at work.' Fact is that it was the ribbon weavers in P. Ball's and who were unorganized, that went out on strike.

Glanz worked at broad silk weaving in a different department, and the strikers insisted on settling their difficulties themselves without seeking or desiring the intervention of the I. W. W. in any way. It also must be stated that with

the imperfect organization of the I. W. W., which we had here, it was at no time possible to carry out the real industrial strike. There never were all departments organized.

Trautmann—take note—also spoke, like Heslewood in Kalispell, as I see by today's Daily People, before the S. P. Club in this city at their hall, but he had only the empty chairs to speak to.

R. Katz.
Paterson, N. J., March 16.

WEEKLY PEOPLE SETS HIM STRAIGHT.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—I have been wearing an S. P. button which I have decided to discard for an S. L. P. one, having recently discovered that the S. P.'s one is not an emblem of the true revolutionary movement, the evidence of which is very clearly shown in the Weekly People, which I have been reading of late.

Howard Bramhall.
No. Woburn, Mass., March 14.

AN UNKNOWN QUANTITY IN EL PASO.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—A heavy snow-fall, one of the heaviest in years, brought with it for the first time in the history of El Paso, Tex., an unknown quantity (more or less). This unknown quantity, Emma Goldman, "the Woman with a Message," as B. Reitman announced, lectured at the El Paso Theatre, March 12; subject, "Why I Am an Anarchist." Very few workmen graced the small audience, perhaps directly attributable to the fact that they were not in a position to spend the 25 or 30 cents admission.

Of course, Miss Emma told the audience she believes not in government, and that the Socialists, her "step-comrades," do. But did Miss E. tell in what kind of government the Socialists believe? No. Clarification of that utterance was left for mountain winds to whisper.

She opened up with a cursory account of existing evils (true enough); the cause thereof (ditto), and, alas, how sadly mistaken the ignorant people are of her true "belief," inundating herself in her own enthusiasm. Everything said of her by others, outside of her cult, is not true, and should be "bundled into the rag-bag of things that were."

The only salvation in sight, according to the purblind E. G., is anarchy; that heaven on earth would come to pass (not stay!) only after a campaign of education, and the foundation of industrial unions, and when all is in readiness, by calling a world-wide strike. But did she hint that such a union had already been launched and invaded by an impure element endangering the attainment of the ultimate aim? No! Why initiate the audience to such lengths?

Questions were not solicited on the part of the speaker, neither did the audience demand a hearing. Let us hope that she may not expire some day from an attack of self-complacency.

Germs cannot thrive in this city, so what chance is there for the anarchistic germ?

"The mountain wind sighed all night long and to-day, the air is, oh, so pure again."

Adios Senorita Goldman!
"Step Comrade."

El Paso, Tex., March 13.

THE USES OF FISH.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Fish is a brain food. The proper day to eat it is Friday. It results in a beautiful thirst Saturday (pay day), which is not inimical to the interest of either the breweries or the police. By reflex action it creates a desire for spiritual consolation Sunday, which leaves the worker with a contrite heart Monday—confident that Free Thought, is a fallacy and Socialism only possible in Heaven.

F. Rivers.
Saulsbury, Tenn., March 9.

DENVER S. P. LIES DOWN TO THE S. L. P.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Section Denver, Socialist Labor Party, on February 9, decided to challenge the Socialist party organizations in this city to debate the following question: "Resolved, That the Socialist party with its present principles, tactics and lack of discipline, cannot emancipate the working class." A committee of the Section presented the challenge at the meeting of the Central Committee of the S. P. Local and of the Third Ward Branch and both bodies acted as we had anticipated: laid our challenge on the table, preventing any discussion on the matter. As the S. P. Local proper only meets when they happen to have a quorum, we did not get a chance to

challenge it. But the result would have been the same.

Having failed to get a debate, Section Denver arranged for a public meeting to discuss the subject contained in the challenge. We advertised the meeting for March 7, and although a blizzard was raging all day, keeping many people at home, the meeting was a success. The audience was not large but it appeared to be entirely with our speaker, with the exception of a few members of the Third Ward Branch of the S. P. and a couple of physical force freaks. Ben Hurwitz, who spoke, showed the difference between the Socialist Labor Party and the Socialist party and proved the utter impossibility of the Socialist party being able to emancipate the working class, as it keeps the workers divided on the industrial field in its mad desire for votes.

The Third Ward Branch of the Socialist party is supposed to be composed of revolutionists, the working class element and radical wing of the party in this city, but I am sorry to say it is the queerest bunch of freaks I have ever been unfortunate enough to run across. They claim to be in favor of Industrial Unionism, but when cornered they admit that they recognize the Chicago bunch of anarchists as being the I. W. W. So we are confronted with the sight of a branch of a pure and simple political party endorsing a bunch of pure and simple physical forceists. Well, that's consistent pure and simpledom.

A member of this same branch, who is now acting as State-organizer of the party, not long ago debated with comrade Hurwitz, the subject for debate being that the conditions of the working class are improving and will continue to improve under capitalism.

And so the great work of the Socialist party, misinforming the workers, side-tracking them from the real issues and keeping our class divided, is going on, while the Socialist Labor Party, few as we are, have to fight those charlatans besides the capitalist class.

Section Denver is now contemplating the renting of a permanent headquarters where we can have regular educational as well as business meetings.

The two local unions of the I. W. W. in this city are both holding regular meetings and are getting in fine shape for some active organization work.

The two or three physical forceists in Denver are keeping quiet, as is proper for supporters of a wreck to do.

Geo. Anderson.
Denver, Colo., March 8, 1909.

THE EXTENT OF THE PEOPLE'S TEACHINGS.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—If the Daily People had all the subscribers it has readers it would be very easy sailing as regards the financial side of the enterprise. For, be it known that The People's influence extends further than to its subscribers. The People circulates and is quoted as authority in places where our comrades little imagine. It is well known what an attitude the Roman Catholic Church maintains toward Socialism, and it might seem strange that The Daily People should ever find its way into a Catholic sanctum, much less to have it quoted as an authority. Yet such is the case, as may be seen by the enclosed article, taken from the "Ohio Waisenfreund" of March 10, a German Catholic weekly, published in Columbus, O.

F. F.
Hartford, Conn., March 15.
(Enclosure.)

Prohibition Renders Pioneer Work for Socialism.

That Prohibition is a roadmaker for Socialism, we may be fully convinced. The procedure to expropriate the brewers and saloonkeepers is utterly unconstitutional and even clashes with the law of nature, and it is an instance from which Socialism may and surely will draw its entirely correct logical conclusion.

The expropriated brewers, distillers, etc., who have been robbed of their property, without recompense and without due process of law, protest with reason from the standpoint of present economic, i. e., capitalist conceptions, against this expropriation.

The organ of the Socialist Labor Party, Daily People, New York, (February 9), draws its Socialist consequences from the reckless procedure of the Prohibitionists.

"Property is destroyed," say the brewers and saloonkeepers, "and millions of property are rendered valueless." These are the identical charges that Capital prefers against Socialism. Prohibition answers calmly, coolly, deliberately, unconcernedly, even in spirited strains: "We care not! Your property, your houses, your millions are used against the public interest. As such you are a nuisance and must go!"

"Well answered," remarked the Socialist organ. "Prohibition thereby is mightily pushing forward a Socialist principle that Socialism has nailed to

its masthead, 'Life is more precious than property.'

"Let the public ear only get accustomed to the theory now advanced by Prohibitionism and nine-tenths of the objections against Socialism will have been abandoned and abolished. It matters not how large investments may be. If they work injury to the commonwealth—away with them. Prohibitionism is familiarizing the public ear with a sound revolutionary principle. Who would have thought it!"

Has not in foreign countries the same principle been applied to rich cloisters, chapters and ecclesiastical educational institutions? And you are a public injury and therefore you must be abolished! When the last consequences are drawn of Prohibition with its conjunction of expropriation, we Catholics may experience wonderful things in our free country.

ENTERPRISING JOURNALISM.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Do you notice how the New York Call has become shaky on the weather since the elements on March 4 went back upon the Call's famous "beat"? On that occasion the paper's special correspondent at Washington had a glowing description of the gorgeous decorations at the inauguration ceremonies, whereas, the fact was that the Capitol's streets were soaked with slush, and the bunting hung bedraggled in the desolating storm.

Yesterday, there being a St. Patrick's Day parade to be pulled off, and the day opening with ideal weather, the Call was not so certain but what the elements had treachery in store for its "enterprising," "journalistic" genius. So, with its "enterprise," which consists in writing up things before they happen, the Call tried another tack. This time, in its "night edition," its last edition yesterday, it announced:

"PARADE THREATENED."

"Uncertainty of Weather May Interfere With St. Patrick's Procession."

But Old Sol smiled pleasantly all day, and the "Call" was stung again.

E. S.
New York, March 18.

PARTY ACTIVITY IN DETROIT.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—The course of lectures arranged by Section Detroit is effective in spreading systematized knowledge in ever larger and larger circles of the working class. The next lecture takes place on March 28, in the same hall. "Municipal Ownership" is the subject, which is very opportune, as the city is very much agitated by the effort of both old political parties to settle the street car question in Detroit.

On Sunday, March 21, the annual Commune Commemoration takes place at 75 Gratiot avenue. A program appropriate for the occasion is arranged, and all comrades, friends and readers of The People are urged to be present. To all workers, this historical event in the struggles of the working class carries a lesson which they can ill afford to ignore.

To combine the social needs with the other requirements of a political organization of labor, Section Detroit has arranged a spring festival and bazaar for Saturday evening, April 10, in Gitcheley's Hall, 820 Gratiot avenue. All are invited to avail themselves of the opportunity to aid the movement financially, as well as to have a few hours of congenial society. All presents for the bazaar are received or collected by F. Hitchcock, Hamtramck, Mich. Tickets in advance, 15 cents, can be had from all members.

We must always remember that the working class itself must strike the blow that will free it from wage slavery. The greatness of the Socialist movement consists in doing well the small things. There is a place for every one. Let everyone be up and doing.

H. R.
Hamtramck, Mich., March 11.

THE "REWARD" OF LABOR.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—On Second street, in this city of Los Angeles, an old man 70 years of age, limps along on crutches. He wears a blue railroad uniform and cap to match, which is surmounted with "golden" letters reading "Oldest Railroad Employee" C. & P. R. Rd., (Chicago & Paducah now the Wabash-Railroad). I asked him how long he had labored for the railroads and he said thirty years. Now he has to sell lead pencils while in poor health and crippled. That's the "reward" he receives after losing his health by years of hard work, and by "energy," "persistence," "push," risk, "loyalty" and so forth.

S. A. J. Stodel.
Los Angeles, Cal., March 5.

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

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.

T. E. NEW YORK—For what reason should the Socialist Labor Party take any notice of the Socialist party's proposition to have the S. L. P. dropped from the International Bureau? The People, a month or more ago, referred to the humor of the move, in that it proceeded from the S. P. National Committeeman of Iowa, a State where the S. P. vote lost about 50 per cent. of its total. Silliness is best left alone. If the German Social Democrat, traveling in America, who recently wrote to one of the Labor papers abroad that the "dumm und fresch" (dull and fresh) German immigrants are the ones who speedily figure in America as "prominent,"—if he were acquainted with wider layers of our "prominencies," he would discover that the "dumm und fresch" are not limited to any one nationality.

W. A. S. SYDNEY, N. S. W.—It would have been folly for the I. W. W. membership to recognize the officers elected by the packed convention of Anarchists. The Anarchists were ousted by the votes. The officers betrayed their trust and simply counted things to suit themselves. The legitimate representation of the Anarchists at the late convention was insignificant. Nothing but a slugging match would have steamed. Now they can slug and thieve among themselves.

Next question next week.

F. J. B. REVERE, MASS.—Your article only proves the correctness of "The Traveler's" misleadingly defective presentation of facts. It thereby plays into the hands of the false bourgeois claim that under Socialism things would be little better "because there is not wealth enough to go around."

What does it matter if one employer scooped in \$100,000, whereas his 1,000 wage earners only received \$500 each? These are false statistics. If this were so, then an equal distribution among all the employes and the employer, who would then be working, would allow to each only \$99 more—a trifle not worth a revolution. You tripped where no reader of The People has any business to trip—in accepting as true the figure that the capitalist admits he pockets. The People has scores of times proved that such figures are false. They represent only a portion of the plunder pocketed by the capitalist class. The other portions they conceal under the guise of rent, of interest on "loans," etc., etc., etc., etc.—all of which is paid to themselves. These items being added together, the share of the worker is barely one-half his product—and that, further analyzed, leaves him about one-fifth.

"X. Y. Z." ERIE, PA.—First—The People has often warned its correspondents that its personnel is too limited to furnish personal answers.

Second—Dismiss the idea that a point can be treated so scientifically "as to make contradiction impossible." Remember there are people who contradict evolution.

Third—A feature of that which marks the class character of a ruling class—land in feudalism, capital in bourgeois society—is that such property guides throughout and keeps the respective ruling class instinctively with its nose to the wind. Thus the protection of their interests by the capitalists is an instinctive class act. The capitalist does not, originally, protect his interests because he is class conscious, he does so obediently to the instinct imparted to him by that which makes him a capitalist—capital. Effect ever re-acts back upon cause. The final consequence is the cultivated, hence deliberate exercise of the class instinct. Thus the capitalist becomes class-conscious. The real importance of this inquiry lies in the contrast presented between capitalist and proletarian. The former starts ballasted: his property directs and cultivates his class conduct. The proletarian, on the contrary, is unballasted: it is lack of property, with its consequence of wage slavery, that determines his class interests. Starting unballasted in his pockets, he has to supply the ballast in his mind. Hence the peculiar dangers that beset the Labor Movement.

Next question next week.

R. L. YONKERS, N. Y.—The passage in the Sue story, now running through the Daily People is perfectly correct. A man whose eyes have been put out can weep, and copiously, too. The putting out of a man's eyes does not necessarily destroy his lachrymal

glands. On the other hand, a man may have both his eyes, and yet his lachrymal glands may be out of commission. It will be a cold day for Sue's critics when they catch him in a blunder.

I. A. A. SALT LAKE, UTAH—Sentiment is valuable. It is inestimable. But it is no better than powder in a gun-barrel without bullet. We need, indeed, the powder of sentiment. Without, however, the bullet of sound knowledge of facts, the shot is a flash in the pan. Facts without sentiment, are inert bullets without the propelling force of powder. Sentiment, without sound facts, is powder only, making noise, and hitting nothing, good only for explosion.

D. B. M. GRANITE, OKLA.—Now to the seventh question—

Whether a man has a right to his life regardless of the consent of others is a question that probably implies a "natural right." As to that, the answer given a correspondent last week may here be repeated:—No "right" is enjoyed until conquered, no "right" is conquered until a clear perception is obtained thereof; finally, no clear conception is ever obtained of a "right" striven after until economic conditions have shifted so as to shape the conception.—The experience of the human race—shipwrecked mariners who become cannibals; infanticide, among the rich under certain conditions, among the poor under others; etc., etc., etc.—proves the question has no practical significance. See answer immediately above. It dovetails into this.

Last question next week.

F. L. CHICAGO, ILL.—Now to the second question—

On feudalism, read the Eugene Sue stories on the "History of a Proletarian Family," from the 6th story to the 9th, and then the 11th, 12th and 14th. The one in between, the 10th, is now going through the press. All the others are already out in book form. They, from the 9th to the 14th (leaving out the 13th), which covers another feature of history, furnish the best available narrative of the inception and development of feudalism.

Next question next time.

F. E. M. GRANITE, OKLA.—Now to the fourth and last question—

The immediate form of the system that is to supplant the existing one is the Republic of Labor, or Socialist Commonwealth—a social system in which the political State, having no further function to perform, is cast off, and society enters upon the stage of the co-operative system, which it tasted in its infancy, and had temporarily to discard in order to fashion the means and methods of production requisite to render production abundant for all without arduous toil.

K. A. H. NEW YORK—The paragraph in the Daily People of the 13th of this month (Weekly the 20th) on the election of the new Secretary of the French Syndicalists answers most of your questions. For the rest, the numerical strength of the French Syndicalists must be about 75,000 members. The organization tends towards the industrial system, announces the purpose of so shaping itself but is that not yet. As you will have learned from the paragraph referred to, the Anarchistic Secretary Griffuelles was removed, etc.

H. J. S. LOS ANGELES, CAL.—It would be a mistake, violating the sense of proportion, for the national organ of a Movement to attune its policy to the exceptional conditions that may prevail in some exceptional locality. Such conditions must not be ignored. That is true. The way to have them taken cognizance of is by special correspondence, which, being published in the national organ, would, without violating the sense of right proportion and thereby conveying a wrong impression of the whole, weave themselves into the whole, as considered from the national or general viewpoint. Such special correspondence would have to come from persons located in such exceptional locality, and upon whose alertness, general information furnished by the national organ, and determination really devolves the task of meeting on the spot the exceptional conditions that may face them on any particular subject of general interest. The People furnishes

illustrations of this on numerous subjects.

N. M. H. JERSEY CITY, N. J.—What is wanted is experience on prices made in households, and furnished by these.

J. T. W. SEATTLE, WASH.; K. S. H. OGDEN, WASH.; R. C. SPOKANE, WASH.; F. C. R. SAULSBURY, TENN.; E. J. M. DULUTH, MINN.; J. G. S. BUCKLEY, WASH.; O. C. BERLIN, GERMANY; C. C. C. PLEASANTVILLE, N. Y.; M. D. F. ATLANTIC CITY, N. Y.; F. F. HARTFORD, CONN.; H. L. SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.; F. P. J. INDIANAPOLIS, IND.; E. G. F. SEATTLE, WASH.—Matter received.

If you wish to keep up posted in happenings in Great Britain and the progress of Industrial Unionism there, read the official organ of the British Advocates of Industrial Unionism—

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Official Organ of and Owned by the Australian Socialist League and Socialist Labor Party.

A Weekly Paper published for the purpose of spreading Socialist Principles and organizing Socialist Thought. Its mission is to educate and prepare the working class for the approaching day of their emancipation from wage slavery; to point the way to class-conscious organization for economic and political action that the days of capitalist bondage might be quickened unto the dead things of the past.

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Paul Augustine, National Secretary, 28 City Hall Place. CANADIAN S. L. P. National Secretary, Phillip Courtenay, 144 Dues Ave., London, Ont. NEW YORK LABOR NEWS CO. (The Party's literary agency.) 38 City Hall Place, N. Y. City.

N. E. C. SUB-COMMITTEE

A regular meeting of the N. E. C. Sub-Committee was held at National Headquarters on Wednesday evening, March 18, with A. C. Kihn in the chair. Members present: Deutsch, Hammer, Hanlon, Kihn, Malberg and Rosenberg.

ATTENTION HARTFORD, CONN.

A public meeting will be held SUNDAY, March 28, 1909, 3 P. M., at S. L. P. Hall, 34 Elm street, Hartford. Joseph Schlossberg of New York will discuss "Immigration." Admission free. All are welcome.

ATTENTION PHILADELPHIA!

Daniel De Leon of New York, editor of the Daily People, will deliver a lecture on SUNDAY, April 11, at 2 P. M., in the German Theatre, corner Franklin street and Girard avenue, Philadelphia.

BIG MAY DAY CELEBRATION AT COOPER UNION, N. Y.

International Labor Day will this year find the Socialist Labor Party celebrating its clear-cut record of the past and proclaiming its antagonism to capitalism and to the insidious foes of Labor.

MONROE COUNTY, N. Y., NOTICE!

The members of the Socialist Labor Party of Section Monroe County, N. Y., are requested to attend a party meeting on THURSDAY, March 25, 8 p. m., at 42 Exchange street, Smith and Leadwich Hall, Rochester.

As To Politics

A Pamphlet of Eighty Pages. A Discussion Upon the Relative Importance of Political Action and of Class-Conscious Economic Action and the Urgent Necessity of Both.

BUFFALO LABOR LYCEUM LECTURES

The following public lectures by Socialists and non-Socialists will be held under the auspices of the Labor Lyceum of Section Erie County, S. L. P., every Sunday afternoon, 3 o'clock, at Florence Parlors, 537 Main street.

THE WORK OF PROPAGANDA RESTS UPON THE SHOULDERS OF THE ADHERENTS OF THE MOVEMENT.

While we are open to suggestions that will increase the circulation of the Party press, we must, however, remind our comrades and friends that we have yet to hear of a plan by which the circulation can be increased without effort on their part.

IT CANNOT BE SHIFTED

Getting subscribers for a Socialist paper is not just like selling merchandise, as some seem to think. It doesn't follow that a man who can sell packing house products will be successful with a Socialist paper.

HEARTY RESPONSE TO THE CALL FOR FUNDS.

If the donations continue to keep coming as well as they did recently it won't take long to make the total of \$500 that our present pressing needs require.

HEARTY RESPONSE TO THE CALL FOR FUNDS.

The comrades of Pittsburgh and vicinity remit \$24, and write that they recognize the prime importance of keeping the Party Press in the field of propaganda.

LABOR NEWS NOTES.

Business in this department keeps fair. The more important sales were: Cleveland, O. \$30.00; Pittsburgh, Pa. 13.60; Brooklyn, N. Y. 20.40; Chicago, Ill. 7.65; Boston, Mass. 7.00; Tacoma, Wash. 19.45; Jersey City, N. J. 6.75; Edinburgh, Scotland 7.05; August Gillhaus 5.80; Detroit, Mich. 2.00; Attleboro, Mass. 4.75; Hartford, Conn. 2.00; Utica, N. Y. 1.25; Nyack, N. Y. 1.90; Anaconda, Mont. 1.50; Lawrence, Mass. 1.22; San Francisco, Cal. 1.10; Newburgh, N. Y. 1.00.

SECTION DENVER UP AND DOING.

Section Denver Recently Sent Out the Following Spirited Call to Action to Members, Friends and Sympathizers. Denver, Colo., March 10, 1909.

CALL TO ACTION.

Issued by the California State Committee, Socialist Labor Party. Los Angeles, Cal., March 5, 1909. To the Comrades and Members-at-Large of the Socialist Labor Party in California, Greeting!

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A BEAUTIFUL PRINT OF: KARL MARX Socialism's Foremost Exponent. Size 16x22 inches. PRICE: TEN CENTS.

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PETITION

TO ABROGATE THE RUSSIAN EXTRADITION TREATY.

[The below petition is issued by the Pouden Defence Conference, 90 Nassau street, Room 710, New York City, to whom it should be returned when full. It enlists the sympathy of all right-minded men.]

TO THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES:

The proceedings under the Extradition Treaty with Russia against Christian Rudowitz and Jan Janoff Pouden have amply demonstrated that this treaty endangers, if it does not entirely destroy, the safety of political refugees from the Czar's dominions.

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PETITION

TO ABROGATE THE RUSSIAN EXTRADITION TREATY.

[The below petition is issued by the Pouden Defence Conference, 90 Nassau street, Room 710, New York City, to whom it should be returned when full. It enlists the sympathy of all right-minded men.]

TO THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES:

The proceedings under the Extradition Treaty with Russia against Christian Rudowitz and Jan Janoff Pouden have amply demonstrated that this treaty endangers, if it does not entirely destroy, the safety of political refugees from the Czar's dominions.

LABOR NEWS NOTES.

Business in this department keeps fair. The more important sales were: Cleveland, O. \$30.00; Pittsburgh, Pa. 13.60; Brooklyn, N. Y. 20.40; Chicago, Ill. 7.65; Boston, Mass. 7.00; Tacoma, Wash. 19.45; Jersey City, N. J. 6.75; Edinburgh, Scotland 7.05; August Gillhaus 5.80; Detroit, Mich. 2.00; Attleboro, Mass. 4.75; Hartford, Conn. 2.00; Utica, N. Y. 1.25; Nyack, N. Y. 1.90; Anaconda, Mont. 1.50; Lawrence, Mass. 1.22; San Francisco, Cal. 1.10; Newburgh, N. Y. 1.00.

SECTION DENVER UP AND DOING.

Section Denver Recently Sent Out the Following Spirited Call to Action to Members, Friends and Sympathizers. Denver, Colo., March 10, 1909.

CALL TO ACTION.

Issued by the California State Committee, Socialist Labor Party. Los Angeles, Cal., March 5, 1909. To the Comrades and Members-at-Large of the Socialist Labor Party in California, Greeting!

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