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# WEEKLY PEOPLE

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## MEN AND THINGS OF THE WEEK

### POINTED COMMENT FROM SOCIALIST STANDPOINT.

**America Good Field for Foreign Capital to Invest in—Material Base of Religion Manifested—Conduct of Woman Suffragists Contrasted with Antis.**

Any wonder European capitalists are ever anxious to invest in American securities in preference to securities in their own country? Just contrast the "law abiding" posture of the New York National Federation of Post Office Clerks with the "riotous" conduct of their Parisian fellows; just contrast the latter's "vituperative language" with the soothing tone the former use in referring to their official superiors. Truly America is the Promised Land—for the international bourgeoisie.

Frederick Moore, the talented "Sun" correspondent who was wounded during the recent fighting in Constantinople, furnishes, in the course of his description of Albania and her people, the following valuable contribution to the understanding of the political concerns known as "creeds":

"Until about 100 years ago the inhabitants of a certain little group of villages had retained their Christianity. Finding themselves unable to repel the continual attacks of a neighboring Moslem population, they met in a church, solemnly swore that they would fast until Easter and invoked all the saints to work within that period some miracle that would better their miserable lot. If this reasonable request were not granted they would all become Mohammedans. Easter day came, but no sign from saint or angel, and the whole population embraced Islam. Soon thereafter the change of faith was rewarded, for they obtained the arms which they desired and had the satisfaction of massacring their old opponents and taking possession of their lands."

The Madrid, Spain, "El Socialista" gives this vicious all-around dig: "According to what we read in the daily press the Jesuits of Durango have succeeded in converting to their creed a well-known and fire-eating Anarchist of Bilbao, and the ceremony was celebrated with all the pomp and circumstance that the interesting event demanded."

"The paper, from which we gather the news, adds that the capture or conversion was founded in reasons relating to the stomach."

"The Anarchist in question will have no difficulty in finding a precedent for his action in the biblical passage about Esau."

"If Esau sold his birthright for a mess of pottage there can be nothing strange in that an Anarchist should barter his conscience for a vulgar stew."

"In the end it is all done for the benefit of the individual's anatomy."

A signed article by Troelstra, the leader of the Social Democratic Labor Party of Holland, in "Het Volk" of April 20, the organ of the party, commenting upon the appearance of the new Marxist weekly, which is issued under the editorial management of the Marxists who remained loyal to the party, gives little hope that the wounds of the Marxist secession, which matured in the launching of a new party, the Social Democratic Party of Holland, will be healed. Troelstra states:

"The secessionists are mostly the intellectual progeny of the Marxists who remained in the party [and who have the editorial management of the new weekly]. The misconduct which the secessionists were guilty of against the party were merely unbearable exaggerations of that which they were frequently taught by their intellectual parentage."

Seeing that the Marxists' revolt took place to the slogan of "Down with Revisionism!" Troelstra's words, provoked by the loyal Marxist organ, tell plainly enough that the feud is deep-rooted.

Coolly undertaken and systematically conducted frauds against the Government for over ten years, and netting not less than \$2,000,000 stolen, having been conclusively fastened upon the Sugar Trust, its President and other officers acknowledge that, "as a result of the trial, they are convinced that fraud was perpetrated." The President and Directors of the Sugar Trust are, according to Mallock,

the captains of industry whose directing ability is the sole source of the Company's prosperity. How come these deposits of ability to need being raked over the coals of a trial in order to be instructed on what was doing in their plant? Can Mallock be wrong? If he is not, then President Thomas, and the rest of the ability-dispensers, are what?—well we forbear.

"Mr. Chairman," sonorously declared Congressman Benjamin G. Humphreys of Mississippi in the House, "I think it would be a very good mental exercise if every Democrat here would repeat this sentence at least once a day for the next two weeks: 'The tariff is a tax, and the consumer pays it.'—The sentence is incomplete, defectively so. It should read: 'The tariff is a tax, and the capitalist consumer pays it; the working class consumer does not pay a cent of it because he is not a tax payer, the wages he receives being determined by the supply of and the demand for him in the Labor market.' This is the sentence that should be repeated at least once a day for the next two weeks by all the Republicans and all the Democrats in Congress, Mr. Humphreys included. The time they may take in learning and repeating the sentence will keep them all away from uttering mischievous nonsense."

"This pity and 'tis suspicious that the failed stock brokerage firm of Ennis & Stoppani publish the names of only one of the ministers and of only one of the college professors who gambled in stocks through the firm. It would be interesting to know what other reverends, besides the Rev. Dr. Andrew V. Raymond, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Buffalo, were thus religiously 'laying up treasures in heaven' while denouncing Socialists for irreligiosity; and what other college professors, beside E. F. Ellwood of the chair of sociology in the University of Missouri at Columbia, were thus sociologically practicing 'spirit and industry' while condemning Socialists for wanting to live without work."

The "womanly woman" argument against woman suffrage was placed at a heavy discount by two contemporaneous events—the first entrance of women in the city council of Copenhagen, Denmark, and the campaign conducted in Washington, D. C., by the Daughters of the American Revolution at the election of their General President. Our Daughters, hardly any of whom would "unsex" herself by handling the ballot, presented in numerous instances a picture very much the reverse of the "womanly woman"; the Copenhagen women, on the contrary, all reports concur in describing in colors very much the opposite of the "UNwomanly woman"—and that despite having touched the "unsexing" ballot.

On the Burlington Railroad, near Chicago, a device that will automatically stop trains upon a danger signal has been in successful operation for a year, not missing a single trial, summer or winter. Yet 798 persons, employes and passengers, were killed on the roads of the country for the last three months of 1908. The railroad's motto is: "Why spend money for safety devices, even perfect ones, when human life is cheaper?"

There surely is progress in the move of Local New York of the Socialist party in demanding, however timidly, that the party at least have a voice in the election of the Editor of the "Call." But—the move will come like a shock to the innocents who, being in the habit of swallowing Mr. Robert Hunter's loose and reckless statements, read last summer and accepted as true the gentleman's article on the "Party Press" in the Chicago "Daily Socialist," to the effect that the Editors of the S. P. press were all elected by the party membership. The move to strive to get some kind of control over the "party press" surely is progress. But—again—

The knowing will wink an eye when they learn that on the party committee to make the demand is Mr. Alexander Jonas of the Volkzeitung Corporation, who and which would rear on their spavined hind legs and snort defiance were their "Partei" to demand that it have a voice in the election of the Editor of the "Volkzeitung."

Not often does a child, 13 years of age, contribute so much to general information as did Adele Boas, the 13-year-old daughter of the rich silk merchant, Arthur E. Boas, in one short sentence. The child was missed from home for several days. Detectives, sent out in quest

## THE REFERENDUM IN TURKEY

With us here in America, when the party dominant in Congress has adopted a decision, a "knot is tied," in order to prevent slippings, by a motion to reconsider, followed immediately by a motion to lay the motion to reconsider on the table. The motion to lay on the table being carried with the promptness usual with such motions, the episode is closed. In modern Turkey the parliamentary practice to accomplish the same end, in cases of deposing the monarch, seems to be for the Sheikh-ul-Islam to issue a decree to that effect, which, being ratified by motion in parliament, the knot is likewise tied, the episode is closed. The practice was put into effective operation upon the Sultan.

Abdul Hamid being now done for and the Constitution emphatically reasserted, a bird's-eye view of the stirring events that occurred since the palace mutiny of April 13 brings into relief just one significant fact and lesson, a fact and lesson that all the dust of the turmoil should not suffice to becloud—THE REFERENDUM NEEDS NO LEGISLATIVE ENACTMENT: IT IS A

THING DE FACTO: ANY COUNTRY CAN HAVE IT FOR THE WILLING. Turkey has willed, and applied the referendum with witness and precision.

When, incited with money and prelatism, some 7,000 Moslem soldiers in Constantinople broke loose from their officers, and, led by sergeants, surrounded the parliament, demanded the deposition of the Young Turks ministry, slaughtered those they could lay hands on, and virtually restored the loathsome regime which the Constitution had replaced—when these events occurred the language, inspired from the Yildiz Kiosk, no doubt, was that the parliament consisted only of puppets, that the real ruler was the Committee of Union and Progress, and that this organization had only upturned one autocracy to substitute a worse. The Editors of the two Turkish papers in New York had themselves interviewed and expressed these views, and their views were echoed and reechoed in the columns of the capitalist press. Exactly two weeks after the "puppets" had been told what was what, a salute of 101 guns, ordered by that very par-

liament of "puppets," announced the end of Abdul Hamid and the beginning of a new reign, with Constantinople, and virtually all Turkey well in hand.

What was it that had happened? A miracle? The age of miracles is gone by. What happened was that the referendum—an automatically working thing, if at all in working order,—was heard from.

Members of a delegated body are not Toppies that "grow" but are not "born." They are born of the will of constituents who are clear on what they want, and, therefore, are organized to get it. If the delegates are legitimate children of their parentage their action can not choose but reflect the will of those not seated in the parliament, and these are ever ready organized for the referendum. To monkey with such a delegation, backed by such an organization, is to monkey with a buzz-saw—as Abdul Hamid in Turkey did, and our own Abdul Hamids will eventually find out.

"All About the Referendum" should be the collective title of the last two weeks' happenings in Turkey.

held responsible for the panic. It shows that the workers to-day feel so dependent on the master class that they will rather hang with them than listen to the protestations of reactionary demagogues."

James T. Hunter also spoke, and Joseph Schlossberg, editor Der Arbeiter, spoke in Jewish.

### BROWNSVILLE CELEBRATES.

**Large May Day Demonstration Across the River.**

Under the auspices of Branch IV, S. L. P. of Brooklyn, a large and successful May Day meeting was held last Saturday afternoon at Metropolitan Saenger Hall, on Pitkin avenue. An audience of over five hundred listened to ringing revolutionary addresses by Joseph Chalkin, J. Vladik, representing the Bund; Joseph Schlossberg, and others. The Schubert Singing Society rendered exquisitely the Marseillaise and a thrilling Russian revolutionary hymn, and H. Jaffa, read a brilliant poem written for the occasion.

### AT UNION SQUARE.

At Union Square Saturday afternoon, a stalwart body, six and one half strong, the remnants of the Bush Templars "I-am-a-Bum" outfit, held forth in giant despair to the multitude that was to be but came not. There was an audience of three and one-half spectators and three dozen policemen. One of the speakers, Mr. Frank Bohn, said to be a teacher of history (!) at Saxe's Institute, grew blue in the face shouting "Give us a fair day's wage for a fair day's work!" Failing to attract one workman though repeatedly uttering the phrase, he retired with a scowl upon his dismayed countenance.

Thereupon a Westerner of rotund belly, Ettor, who sports the title of member of the General Executive Board, jumped up, and, referring to the chairman, Trautmann, said: "He may beat me at drinking beer but I can beat him—" the reporter didn't catch the last words. At any rate, whatever they were, Ettor didn't do it, and it was not long after that the whole sturdy six and one half "beat it" disconsolate down Fourth avenue.

### PLEBS LEADER DINES WITH PATRIOTICANS.

No big functions are being held any more in N. Y. City without the attendance of some plebian leader. Invitations to such men while ostensibly meant as a recognition of Labor, are really sops thrown out to hush Labor's murmurings. The presence of plebs leaders are a "recognition" of their worth to the industrial patricians.

The latest of these functions occurred on April 28, when Oscar S. Straus, former Secretary of Commerce and Labor, and Mrs. Straus were the guests of citizens of New York at the Hotel Astor. The dinner was attended by several hundred business men and officials and John Mitchell, Vice-President of the American Federation of Labor. Mitchell said that he had known Straus when it was not as fashionable to know a labor man as it is now, and he thanked him on behalf of the labor organizations for his "spousal of the cause of organized labor."

Among those at the dinner were: Collector William Loeb, jr., Gen. Leonard Wood, Cornelius N. Bliss, Edward Lauterbach, John J. McCook, W. G. McAdoo, Admiral Charles D. Sigbee, Herman Metz, John D. Crimmins, J. Clafin, Nathan Straus, W. F. Havemeyer and Isaac N. Seligman.

### COLLEGE PROFESSORS.

**Preached Protectionism for Their Jobs' Sake, Says Lecturer.**

That college professors have bowed to the protectionist doctrine for years because they were afraid to do otherwise, and that they are now likely to be left in a ridiculous position by the retreating tide, was asserted by Byron Holt of the Reform Club-Tariff Reform Committee at Columbia last week, in an address before the American Academy of Political Science. It seems that the assertion has drawn much fire from Prof. E. R. A. Seligman and others whom the shoe fitted.

### HERVE SUSTAINED.

European exchanges announce that Gustave Herve, the prominent French anti-militarist, was elected by the National Convention of the French Socialist party, that met at St. Etienne from April 11-15, one of the members of the National Committee. Several resolutions were introduced against Herve by members of the convention who object to his tactics. These were all either voted down, or withdrawn.

## SUGAR TRUST'S PLAIN STEALING

### GIGANTIC SYSTEM OF TARIFF FRAUDS REVEALED.

**For Ten Years Flagrant Cheating Has Gone on by Which Patriotic Trust, Apparently with Knowledge of Its Officials, Defrauded Government of Millions of Dollars—The Story as Revealed in the Trial.**

Greatly to the surprise of all and the doubt of some, it was announced Thursday, April 29, that the American Sugar Refining Co. had confessed its guilt by offering to make a cash payment in settlement of all claims growing out of the recent suit won by the government for the collection of duties fraudulently evaded by the company.

The exact amount of the settlement could not be learned, but it probably will not fall far short of \$2,000,000. The settlement affects in no way the outlook for criminal prosecutions of Sugar Trust officers and employes.

Noteworthy was the astounding disclosure made as the trial progressed concerning the systematic and long-continued stealing in which the American Sugar Refining Company engaged. Here was no mere question of rebating or of secret trade agreements, nor even of low business standards or sharp practices. It was a case of larceny as plain as that against the man who robs a bank or steals a jewel casket. Ordinary embezzling even appears almost excusable in comparison.

Whatever illegal operations the Standard Oil Company was guilty of, it can at least be said that they were the result of an attempt to overcome their competitors, who for the most part were not guiltless of like practices. Ruthless and indefensible as they were these acts were committed in the heat of a battle for trade supremacy. But the sugar frauds practiced by the employes of the American Sugar Refining Company were coolly undertaken and carried on through at least a decade in an underhand and flagrantly criminal manner. And worst of all, as the evidence showed, it was practically impossible to have carried on such systematic stealing without the knowledge of some of the company's officers.

The conviction of this great corporation for illegal practices serves a most useful purpose in the example it affords of the depths of degradation and criminality that the present system of production develops.

The trial of the sugar frauds case consumed a month's time. The beginnings of the story take one back to the days before the Spanish war. Then, as now, the American Sugar Refining Company, popularly known as the Sugar Trust, maintained two big sugar refineries in the neighborhood of New York, one the Havemeyer & Elder refinery on the banks of the East River in Williamsburg; the other in Jersey City, overlooking New York Bay. Here the sugar from the producing countries is unloaded, weighed, and the duty paid according to these weights.

On the face of it there doesn't perhaps seem to be a great deal of chance for fraud there, yet it has now been proved beyond a reasonable doubt that, since the enactment of the Dingley tariff in 1897, the Sugar Trust has bought and paid for on these docks millions of pounds of sugar on which it has never paid a cent of duty. The duties thus evaded have aggregated in that time about \$2,000,000. And this evasion has been due neither to mistakes nor technical errors on the part of weighers, but to systematic stealing by various fraudulent practices and devices, such as tampering with the scales.

That any corporation conducted on a reasonably sane business basis could have derived such a benefit without knowing it, is as unimaginable as that any corporation with all its officers honest would have long continued it, once it was discovered. Furthermore, it may be added, that it is just as difficult to see how any set of government officers not guilty of collusion could have been so long blind to

(Continued on page 2)

## MAY DAY MEETING

### BIGGEST AUDIENCE FOR YEARS JAMS COOPER UNION.

**Keynote of Demonstration Struck by Reception to Jan Pouden, the Rescued Refugee—Audience of Three Thousand Carries Ringing Resolutions With a Vim—Addresses by Pouden, Chas. H. Corrigan, Daniel De Leon, Joseph Schlossberg, and James T. Hunter.**

With an audience that packed Cooper Union fuller than it has been packed on similar occasions for many a year, Section New York County, Socialist Labor Party, held its annual May Day demonstration on May 1st.

And a demonstration it was, with a capital D. From the moment, shortly after 8 o'clock, when Organizer Abelson called the meeting to order, until long after 11, when the last speaker had made his last bow to the wildly cheering audience, it was one feast of enthusiasm and inspiration, making it clear that, as Chairman Levine declared, the working class would soon put an end to the present order of things.

Perhaps the keynote of the demonstration was set by the reception given to Jan Janoff Pouden. At the mention of his name the huge audience broke loose with cries and hand-clappings, which died down only a second to allow Chairman Levine to introduce him, and then broke loose again wilder than before.

Pale, shaken in health by his fifteen months' imprisonment in the Tombs at the Czar's behest, Pouden delivered a brief address in his native tongue, Lithuanian. Though his voice was weak and low, the large house was so still a pin would have been heard dropping, and nearly every word carried.

All, whether they understood him or not, hung on the words of this man whom only the united action of the working class of America saved from the Czar's hangman, and when, at the close of his brief talk, he added a few words in English, the applause was so deafening that it came like a roar of thunder after the unusual stillness maintained while he was speaking. "The Russian Government seems to be a good friend of mine; this is the second time it has arrested me," he said, making a brave effort with the English. Nowhere that Pouden has spoken since he was released, it is safe to say, was he received with more vigor and heartfelt rejoicing than at this demonstration.

Immediately upon the close of Pouden's address, the following resolutions were read, and unanimously adopted with a rousing three-times-three:

Whereas, By leaps and bounds the irrefutable evidence is piling up, making it clear even to him who would keep his eyes shut, that our ruling class is a class of corruptionists and incompetents, and that their society is one vast sink of illegality and crime;

Whereas, These gigantic shames, huge as they are, pale into insignificance beside the fact that this class only lives

of her, found her on a train hiding her face behind a newspaper. Her statement to them was: "I left home because I wanted to be independent and earn my own living." What a flood of light upon the standard of life in the homes of our modern rich! What a flood of light upon the family relations of our pillars of the sanctity of the home!

Lo, a bare-foot mendicant friar on the Board of Education. The women teachers being active in organizing to secure higher pay, Commissioner Freidfeld with them with the remark: "the attitude of the women teachers is a sordid striving after more money." It would be just like the "blackguard Socialists" to impute the uninterested sentiments of this bare-foot mendicant friar to the doubly sordid desire to protect himself, a tax-payer, from the increased taxes that an increase of pay to the underpaid and overworked women teachers would involve.

Lack of thoroughness has never been one of the failings attributed to Jos. H. Choate, and yet he did not go near far enough when he urged his hearers at the Associated Press banquet to leave out of their papers suicides, divorces and family scandals. All land frauds, customs dodging, rebate-taking, illegal combination, bank looting, labor law violation, and a host of other things indulged in by our moneyed over-lords should also have been named. Then the press would become truly harmless for consumption by the working class.

Whoever Patrick Donahue may be, whether a "hiring of Belmont," or "a hiring of Morgan-McAdoo," he deserves credit for the pluck with which he tore off the Sprague Smith mask of democracy at the public meeting called by Mr. Sprague Smith's "People's (?) Institute (!)" to consider the rapid transit situation. A large concourse responded to the call, but when Donahue offered a resolution, different from the one that Tribune Sprague Smith had brought in his pocket, the worthy Tribune declared it out of order; and when, this notwithstanding, Donahue put his motion to a vote and it was carried overwhelmingly, Tribune Sprague Smith declared the meeting was "packed." The double attitude of silliness and browbeating by Master Sprague Smith is luminous of the tribe of "democratic reformers."

Though thousands of others will remain out of job in New Jersey, three men in each municipality are soon to be taken care of snugly. They will be the three appointees in the several municipalities who are to decide whom bar-keepers may sell liquor to, and whom not. The Board is justly named a "Board of PROTECTORS." It protects the lucky three. They will be so full of "convincing arguments" that no longer will they be put to it to pay their bills.

### EYES OF THE POOR.

"Doctor," growled the patient, "it seems to me that \$500 is a big charge for that operation of mine. It didn't take you over half a minute."

"My dear sir," replied the famous specialist, "in learning to perform that operation in half a minute, I have spoiled over eleven pecks of such eyes as yours, among the free patients in my dispensary."

# CAPITALISM AND SOCIALISM

THE ONE HAS FULFILLED ITS HISTORIC FUNCTIONS AND MUST MAKE WAY FOR THE OTHER.

By J. C. Custer, Bridgeport, Conn.

Socialism, the all-absorbing topic of to-day, has taken hold of the tolling masses as no other movement has ever done before. Politicians, press and pulpit are recognizing it as the coming issue. A short time ago Socialism was discussed in one of the Bridgeport churches. Everything went all right until the question was asked: "What will you do with the lazy man under Socialism?" Then someone in the audience sprang the remedy, saying: "We will shoot him." Of course, there was trouble at once, trouble over the lazy man, while the industrious man with a starving family on his hands was lost sight of. Socialism is not an industrial order by which the lazy man will be forced to work, but it is an order in which the industrious man will receive the full product of his labor multiplied by the arts and inventions that aid in production.

Many are apt to think that Socialism is impossible because "things always have been as they are." Even the Bible says: "The poor ye have always with you." But it must not be forgotten that the Bible says many things; among others, it says: "He who labors not, neither shall he eat." A moment's reflection, however, will show that things were not always as they are now. We did not always ride in trolley cars; our mothers and grandmothers did not always have sewing machines and pianos; we did not always have multi-millionaires on one hand, and paupers on the other; nor did we always live under the capitalistic system of production. Production, in its early stages, was individual, i. e., one man with his tools made the whole article and owned it. The articles were mostly made to order. This was the only method of production known at the time and was carried on in that way for ages. If one man employed another man he had to give him in wages an amount about equal to what he could earn if he followed his trade independently. All was hand production, very hard and slow.

Then by degrees subdivision of labor was introduced. One man, instead of completing the whole article, now only made one part of it, while another man assembled the finished parts. In this way the efficiency of each was greater than before. This subdivision of labor made it possible for an employer to pay his help in wages an amount about equal to what a journeyman could earn by practicing the trade for himself, and yet, have a profit left by reason of the increased output through the scheme of subdividing the work. Up to this time the output could not be increased except by increased toll, but by organizing and subdividing labor the employer received a value that was created by others and for which he gave no returns. That was the point at which the cleavage between master and employee started. Since then it has widened, so that now we are confronted with the sad spectacle of seeing one class taking their places in the breadline, seeking shelter in the mission houses, committing suicide to end their miseries, while another class is revelling in debauchery, Seeley dinners and Bradley Martin balls.

The capitalistic mode of production began about in the middle of the eighteenth century. It was brought on by a number of inventions of labor-saving machinery. Many of these machines or devices were still driven by hand or water power, but with the invention of the steam engine, matters went forward in leaps and bounds. Production now was carried on in an ever-increasing ratio, while the sub-

division of labor was extended, and skill was more and more eliminated. At that time the foundations for future large fortunes on the one hand, and intense misery on the other, were being laid. The result is that how we have a small class possessing nearly all the wealth of the nation, while the other, a large class, possesses barely 5 per cent. of that wealth; one class that produces nothing and has all, and another class that produces all and has nothing.

During the last century the inventions of labor-saving machinery and the manufacture of goods were enormous; the growth and extension of new enterprises was stupendous; a workshop, mine, mill or factory no more counted its employees by dozens, but by hundreds, thousands and tens of thousands. Competition was once considered the "life of trade," but soon it was seen that monopoly would be productive of more "life," profits. As the capitalist class began to realize this new truth, there grew up the individual corporations, and monopolies or trusts, and as a result of this we now have the coal trust, sugar trust, tobacco trust, oil trust and a hundred and one other trusts.

Formerly, a young man who was a master of his trade could set up shop for himself and become independent, but now, under trusted capital, that chance is gone for ever. Forty years ago Horace Greeley's advice was: "Go West! Young man, go West!" And the young man did go West and made a fortune, but the young man of to-day beats his way to a large city and works for a big corporation and lucky he is if he can do that much.

Trusted capitalism is what we are living under now, the next form of society will be Socialism, the Co-operative Commonwealth.

Capitalism had a useful mission to perform for society, that of organizing the scattered industrial units, but now that its principle is fulfilled, it must give way to its successor, Socialism. To allow capitalism to continue longer, means that we will have disaster such as we are now going through. Just imagine the "captains of industry" playing the dog in the manger. They own the tools of production and distribution which they themselves can not use and do not want to use, but keep them under lock and key, and by doing so they hold the nation by the throat. At this writing, men, women and children are footsore tramping the highways and byways in vain search of a chance to make a living.

If it were a case of not being able to produce the necessities of life in a sufficient quantity then it might not be so hard to bear our suffering; we would have to make the best of it; we would gather strength and courage from the hope that some day we would be able to produce enough. But, as it is, we are suffering the pangs of hunger because we have produced too much foodstuff; we go in rags because every warehouse and storehouse is bursting with shoes, clothing and raiment; we are building palaces and live in hovels. Why should the working class be reduced to beggary? The tools of production are ample, men are willing and anxious to work, and the Republican national platform states that "There are in this country 3,000,000 square miles bursting with latent wealth waiting for the magic touch of labor and capital." Is Labor willing to apply that touch? Yes, Labor is chasing up hill and down dale in a desperate effort to apply that magic touch, but capital says: "Ye shall not unless I can make profits."

These conditions will never exist under Socialism. We never will suffer be-

## COST OF LIVING.

Scars Far Above Rise in Rates of Wages.

That living has soared rapidly upward in the last ten years does not need statistical proof. Common experience is enough for most of us. Yet the figures are interesting. For instance, take what the bulletin of the labor bureau calls the "annual per capita cost of the necessities of daily consumption." It rose from \$74.21 in 1896 to \$107.26 in 1906. Coal which cost \$3.50 a ton in 1896 cost \$4.50 a ton in 1906. Manufactured commodities were thirty-two per cent. higher in 1906 than ten years before. What one calls raw commodities are fifty per cent. higher. "All commodities" averaged 35.4 per cent. higher. Rents have soared everywhere.

That wages have increased in a number of industries, in this decade is equally true, but they have not increased correspondingly. The last government bulletin on wages covers an investigation into about 4,000 establishments, employing 324,000 persons, engaged in manufacturing and mechanical industries, the kind of establishments where, of course, the forces which raise wages act most freely and successfully. This bulletin shows that in 1906 the weekly wages of the 324,000 were 19.1 per cent. higher than in 1896—while, as said, the cost of all commodities was thirty-five per cent. higher. Wages increased 3.9 per cent. in 1906 over 1905, while the cost of commodities increased 5.9 per cent.

Now what does this mean? Why, simply this, that at a time when wealth is rolling up as never before (this country increased its wealth between 1900 and 1904 by about \$20,000,000) a vast number of hard-working people in this country are really having a more difficult time making ends meet than they have ever had before. It also means that in a great number of other hard-working families the increase in wages has been so little in excess of increase in the cost of living that it may be almost said to be a discouragement instead of a comfort by intensifying a common conviction of the workingman that no matter how much he earns, he will still have to spend it all in the same hard struggle to get on; that there is no such thing for him as getting ahead.—Ida M. Tarbell, in the American Magazine.

## FREEDOM OF SPEECH?

French Postal Officers Who Spoke During Strike to Be Disciplined.

Paris, April 30.—The Cabinet has decided that seven postal officers, who are under inquiry for speeches recently made, shall appear before the disciplinary council.

The Cabinet is resolved to dictate to the council that the "suitable" punishment for them would be dismissal.

cause of over-production. If we find that the good things of life accumulate too fast, we will cut the work day shorter and give the toilers of the land a chance to rest, a chance for recreation, a chance to study, acquire knowledge and culture, instead of wearing their lives away in mine, mill or factory for a mere pittance at best. It has been estimated that if the industries were organized, three hours work per day for two hundred days in the year by every able-bodied man, with the aid of modern machinery, would be sufficient to produce an amount of wealth equal to what can be purchased with ten dollars per day now.

There is only one issue up for solution, so far as the working class is concerned, and that issue is Capitalism or Socialism. Capitalism means working class subjection; Socialism means working class salvation. Let the workers but get wise and the solutions will never be in doubt.

# TRAGIC CONTRAST

Sumptuous Feasts on One Hand, Gaunt Starvation on the Other.

A comfortable public, those who are in neither extreme of the social scale may most impartially comment on the tragedy in contrast. Penury waits and weeps in wretchedness while plenty revels in wanton waste of luxury. Is it only a survival of the fittest that is typical in this contrast?

Two hemispheres gasp in astonishment at the splendor of Gotham's social extravagance in the recent famous Martin dinner entertainment, while the problem of the unemployed grows greater and more difficult for philanthropy to cope with.

There was once a beautiful queen who wasted the treasure of Egypt in profligate revelry. At a most wonderful banquet designed to dazzle the ruler of another nation, she dissolved two magnificent pearls in some chemical solution, and mixing them in a goblet of wine, drank to the health of her monarch guest. And her impoverished subjects found in this vainglorious display no new respect for their sovereign. The recent dinner party, where the feast was spread on a mammoth round table thirty-five feet across, and the floral decorations alone cost a comfortable fortune, is similar to the historical folly of the Egyptian queen. In this glimpse of Fifth avenue luxury run riot, the disinterested spectator sees a strange portent of coming rebellion.

The pulse beats of general revolution are more distinct, so declares astrological prophecy, than ever before in modern times. Social extremes and their contrast must be considered among the many signs of the times.

The tragedy of contrast is pressing its unwelcome lessons on the minds of American people. The sumptuous feast on Fifth avenue, and perhaps less than a mile distant, the bread line loaf and the lodging ticket! And this is only one illustration among many. Homeless and hungry men, whether through fault or misfortune, are ever recruiting the ranks of the unemployed. Hopeless children and ragged women are to be provided for, and charity struggles with the situation.

The tragedy in contrast is the play of human events. At this time, and the mighty pageant of excessive wealth and torturing poverty is sufficiently realistic to make countless millions mourn. Its pathos would seem enough to make even "angels weep."

Mammon has built a great chariot whose wheels are crushing and bruising humanity in the wild, idolatrous march of so-called progress. The money-mad few in the gilded chariots are deaf to the anguished moan of the victims in their path. They heed not the appeal for mercy from the needy through forming a part of the great parade. They are too engrossed with the pomp and vanity of their own part of comedy to look for a while on the multitude below them who take the role of tragedy.—Margaret Scott Hall, in "The Carpenter."

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## SUGAR TRUST'S PLAIN STEALING.

(Continued from page one.)

what was going on under their very noses.

Inspectors Transferred for Objecting.

That the efforts of some men in the government employ who long ago discovered the fraudulent practices, and reported it to their superiors, were in vain, is a sad commentary on the probity of some officers higher up in the Federal customs service. One assistant United States weigher back in 1896 caught a checker of the sugar company in Williamsburg tampering with the weights; he reported it, and was shortly transferred. A government weigher named Hyatt became head weigher at the Havemeyer & Elder refinery in 1897. He made a report to his superiors declaring that a company agent on the docks tried to bribe him. "See the cashier every month," was the way the agent put it, "and he'll give you an envelope. We do all our business with the head weighers, and we make it a good thing for them." Hyatt reported this talk, and later he, too, was transferred. Gascoigne, another assistant weigher in 1902, discovered irregularities, but didn't report them. "We've got influence enough to have bigger men than you put out of business," Spitzer, the company's dock superintendent, said in effect. "I didn't want to commit suicide," he explained on the stand. Later he objected to an attempt to run trucks by the scales without weighing them. He was getting all together too troublesome, apparently, for soon he was got work elsewhere.

Juggling with Truck Weights.

Early in the administration of Surveyor Clarkson in 1902, a conviction that something was wrong led him to make a personal investigation at the Havemeyer & Elder refinery in company with Deputy Surveyor Vail. It was then discovered that after the trucks on which the sugar was to be moved had been weighed in order to determine the amount to be deducted, the company was in the habit of substituting lighter trucks for the actual weighing.

By this means the government was defrauded of the duty on six tons of sugar a day. This discovery resulted in the adoption of trucks of uniform weight, but nothing was done to the sugar company. Following this disclosure, and before it, other practices were in use. One of these was what is known as rolling the ball—turning the ball on the scales, by which the balance is made, so as to make a false balance. Another plan was to hang hidden weights on the beam, so that it could not rise to its proper level. Still another practice was the simple one of having the checker put his foot on the beam, but some courageous weigher "tipped the government off," and a stop was put to that by having the beam boxed in.

The Steel Spring Makes Its Debut.

It was some time after this, apparently about the beginning of 1904, that the sugar company hit upon the most ingenious and the surest method of perpetrating its fraud. This consisted of a thin steel corset spring, which was inserted through a hole drilled in the uprights or stanchions supporting the scales. If inserted at a time when there was a load on the platform, its pressure against the walking beam of the scale resulted in creating a false balance, and in making the load appear considerably lighter than it really was. This little device proved to be so satisfactory for the purposes for which it was designed that it was fitted to all the seventeen government scales at the Havemeyer & Elder refinery. Holes were drilled in the stanchions of each of the scales—hence the "case of the seventeen holes" to which Stimson called attention. So successful was the operation of this mechanism that it was used constantly down to the very day, November 20, 1907, when a United States Treasury agent found it in use.

Oh, So Easy to Cheat!

The method of use was simple. The scales were placed with the stanchions in a dark corner, next to the wall, and close beside this stanchion sat the company's checker, whose ostensible duty it was to record in a little book the weight of each load as it was read off to him by the government weigher standing at the other end of the scale. The checker's really important duty seems to have been, however, to manipulate the steel spring through the hole in the stanchion, so that on each truck load, the company which employed him was saved the payment of some fourteen pounds of sugar.

Evidence was adduced at the subsequent trial to show that the company considered this special service on the part of its checkers worthy of additional compensation. For although there were seventeen scales, all of which could be used for this purpose, practically all the weighing was done on six, and the six reliable checkers who, year in and year out, operated the little steel springs, all

received extra pay in their weekly pay envelopes for this service.

Extra Pay in Secret.

It so happened that this sextet of confidential workers always found in their pay envelopes an additional amount of money, although on the outside, apparently to save the feelings of their co-workers, was written the same amount that was received by all the other checkers.

Whether or not any government weigher suspected what was going on, it is difficult to say. It seems almost incredible that they should not have discovered what the checkers were at, but there is no record that they did. Still, at least three of them did notice something peculiar in the action of the beam. One testified that sometimes after an apparently true balance was obtained and the poise was moved along, a new balance would be obtained. Another, who noted a similar phenomenon, testified:

"Sometimes before I would start to make the weight the beam would have a certain action that would indicate the beam was at a certain place, and suddenly I would realize that the beam was at another place altogether." But mysterious as these things were, no one reported them. Perhaps it was due to fear of the fate that others who had "told things" had met; perhaps, the fact testified to, that some government employees were seen to visit the cashier's office where they could have no legitimate reason to go, and regularly receive little envelopes from him, may have had something to do with their silence.

Company Leaves the Evidence.

All this time the sugar company was paying for its sugar according to consular invoices or the figures of the city weighers, irrespective of the easily ascertainable fact that if the government weighers' figures were correct, they were paying the planters for hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of sugar that they were never getting. The records of their checkers at the government scales were bound up with the records of the city weighers' checkers, and it would have taken but a cursory examination to prove that there was a discrepancy which meant either that they were cheating the government or that the planters all over the world had formed a mammoth conspiracy to cheat them.

For some reason not exactly apparent, the late H. O. Havemeyer, president of the company, was apparently interested in the possibility that some discrepancy existed, for he called in one of his confidential clerks and commissioned him to make schedules of weights which showed the differences between the duty weights and the purchase weights. This was done, and the cold facts were thus set forth where they could be plainly seen and where one of the two inferences must have been drawn.

Havemeyer Knew of Differences.

Havemeyer himself never called for a report and it is not on record that he ever knew its result, but the clerk continued to make the comparison and submitted it periodically to the treasurer of the company, who examined it and, without comment, told him to keep on making the record.

That was the situation when, in the fall of 1907, information was conveyed to the government by a former checker for the company named Richard Whalley, as to the nature and extent of the fraud that was being practiced upon it. Secretary Cortelyou at once ordered an investigation, and two special treasury agents were sent to the Williamsburg refinery on November 20. These agents were Richard Parr, who had already been making some investigation on clues of his own, and Brezinski. Entering a scale house they watched a government weigher, Japha by name, and Kehoe, a company checker, at work. Parr noticed that Kehoe had only one hand free and that the other was hidden in the dark recess behind the stanchion. Something in the movement of the man's left arm attracted Parr's attention, and he said: "What are you monkeying with there?"

"Nothing," replied Kehoe.

"Nothing."

"Well, get up and let me see, anyhow," said Parr. Throwing his hand down back of the stanchion he felt the end of the steel spring. He then reweighed the load of sugar already weighed, and found it considerably heavier than the previous weighing showed. He carried his investigation further and found holes in every one of the seventeen government scales. While he was proceeding with this work, Spitzer, the company's dock superintendent, came up to him, and exclaimed, so Parr testified:

"We've got to fix this thing up. If we don't it'll get a lot of people into trouble." Finding Parr obdurate, Spitzer tried a new tack:

"If you'll report these scales out of order you can name your own price, and it will be all right," he said, according to Parr's testimony.

can't do anything with me," replied Parr, and turned away. Spitzer was subsequently tried in Brooklyn for attempted bribery, and acquitted, probably because Brezinski, Parr's companion, opportunely forgot what had occurred. Brezinski thereafter was dismissed from government service.

Indignant Denial.

After Parr's discovery of the fraudulent Dave, several indictments were found against the Sugar Trust's employees, and with that discovery as a basis the government began to work up its case. An indignant denial of wrongdoing was issued from the head office of the American Sugar Refining Company, and a generous offer made to place at the disposal of the government all the books and records of the company bearing on this case, as proof of its innocence and good intent. These, of course, have been obtained by subpoena anyway.

A further investigation on the field by the government brought to light the fact that the holes in the stanchions had been used for a considerable period. Some of them had been so worn by the constant pushing in and out of the little steel spring that it had been found necessary to mend them. In some cases this had been done by the insertion of a small block of wood into the enlarged hole; in others by driving several tacks into the under side of the hole at its inner end, over which the spring might slide easily without wearing the wood away.

The Evidence Clinches Itself.

When the government came to work up its case and to fix approximately the amount out of which it had been defrauded, it was found possible to present a piece of evidence which so thoroughly clinched the case that defence, when it came to be made, was so weak as to be negligible. This evidence consisted of a tabulation comparing the weights on which duty was paid and the weights for which the company paid the planters between the time the first cargo of sugar of December, 1901, arrived at the refinery and the discovery of the fraud in November, 1907.

It took a score or more of accountants, working steadily for six months to complete the tabulation, but when it was finished the astonishing corroborative story it told made it well worth all the time and trouble expended. Never was there a better example of the deadly parallel. For every entry the weights on which duties were levied was set alongside of the weights for which the company paid the planters. In two additional columns were set forth respectively the entries on which the duty weight exceeded the purchase weight, and those in which an opposite result was revealed.

Brilliant "Exceptions."

When the table was completed it was discovered that the first of these two columns was practically empty, while that which told how much the company had profited showed a continuous column of black figures.

One thing that puzzled the government attorneys was why there should have been any exceptions at all. When they came to inquire into the matter they unearthed a new lot of interesting facts that still further corroborated the facts already ascertained. The two exceptions in 1902 were found to correspond with the visit to the docks of Surveyor Clarkson and Deputy Surveyor Vail. One of the exceptions in 1903 was due to the fact that the sugar was in hogheads which required the government weigher to score his weight on the hogheads with a scoring iron. Obviously, it would not do to have those figures staring the city weigher in the face when he came to weigh it. So that too was passed over. Fifteen cargoes that were allowed to pass in 1907 were easily attributable to the present at the docks, throughout the several weeks concerned of Treasury agents who were investigating frauds in the sampling of sugar. It was therefore clear that it was only when there was apparent danger of being found out that the fraudulent practices were abandoned.

"Nothing," replied Kehoe.

"Nothing."

**MARX on MALLOCK**

or

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# UNDER THE SOUTHERN CROSS

THE POLITICAL MOVEMENT IN AUSTRALIA.

By I Mackenzie Sydney, Australia.

The maritime strike in 1890, with its defeat of the strikers, was instrumental in bringing to life the political organization which had been germinating in the ranks of the working class. It was known as the Political Labor League, or the Labor Party. The workers were successful in electing their candidates in the working class districts of Sydney and in several outlying towns. Great was the enthusiasm of the workers at their political victory, but their ardor was damped when their representatives split in Parliament on Free Trade versus Protection, and became the tail end of the two capitalist parties.

The first "Labor" platform embodied no concept of the class struggle between the capitalist and the worker, nor of the workers' historic mission—to put an end to economic slavery.

The second attempt at drawing up a platform was little improvement on the first, though the Conference, which was composed of delegates representing the trades unions of New South Wales, succeeded in adopting the principle of the "Caucus." This was to be held by their representatives before voting on any question of importance, real or fancied, in the State Legislature. The second aggregation of Labor members were equally as impotent in the cause of labor. Their whole thought and action was for "reform of the Upper House," "land and income taxes," etc. However, the most intelligent members of the rank and file were dissatisfied with the Political Labor League's platform, and in 1897, amidst the howls of the office seekers (members of the legislature are paid \$30 a week), a resolution was adopted declaring: "That the time has arrived for the nationalizing of the land, and the instruments of production, distribution and exchange."

At the election to decide who were to be the ten representatives of the colony of New South Wales in the Federal Convention for the purpose of creating a United States of Australia, instead of separate Colonies, the ten candidates of the Political Labor League were defeated. After the defeat, the executive board of the Political Labor League decided to have the Socialist plank removed at the next Convention.

In 1897, an organization came into existence known as the Australian Socialist League. This was largely due to the work of a man named Andrew Thomson, now dead. His name and work is revered by the Socialist Labor Party of Australia. The members of this league were very active and aggressive in the ranks of the Political Labor League, "boring from within" and supporting the Labor Party in the political field. They allowed members of that party the use of their platform. Socialism, as it was then understood, was also advocated by the league, and a clause in its constitution prohibited its members from belonging to any other political party.

In 1897, after the Federal Convention election, the labor movement was a lifeless concern, politically and industrially. The Australian Socialist League was a mere handful, just emerging from the payment of a large debt, left to it by aspiring politicians who had used it as a stepping stone to position.

In order to meet the objections based on the Australian Socialist League, of preaching Socialism to the workers and urging them to vote for it, with no candidates on the ballot, it was decided to launch the political organization under the name of the Socialist Labor Party. The party entered the field in New South Wales with the full Senate ticket in the first Federal election, 1900. The succeeding state election was contested on practically the same platform of immediate demands, but the following annual convention discarded all reform planks and stood for one demand: the complete surrender of the capitalist class.

Each succeeding Federal Senate election was contested with the full ticket, but as the election laws require each candidate to deposit \$125, which is forfeited unless he receives 20 per cent. of the votes polled for the lowest successful candidate, the Socialist Labor Party has been in the position of losing \$375 at each election.

For this historical matter, I am indebted to the energetic National Secretary of the Socialist Labor Party, I. O. Moroney. What follows are my impressions of the political movement here.

The Socialist Labor Party is like its counterpart in America, of which it is undoubtedly the offspring. It is democratic in character, stands as uncompromisingly for the complete surrender of the capitalist class, and for the industrial union of the working class. There are organized two branches in Sydney, two in the country districts of New South Wales, and one in Melbourne, Victoria. The National Executive Com-

mittee is composed of members of the Sydney branches. This city is the location of headquarters and the party press.

The National Executive Committee draws up the list of speakers for each month. Considering the number of members, there is a marvelous amount of propaganda done. In the Public Domain, or Common, a meeting is held on every Sunday in the month except the first. On the first Sunday of each month the I. W. W. Club holds its regular propaganda meeting in the Domain. On two streets adjacent to the hall, known as Marx Hall, meetings are held in the evening. These close about 8 p. m., the audience being then invited to the hall meeting. The first Sunday in the month is musical evening, members and friends contributing to the enjoyment.

Owing to the usual affliction which affects the Socialist Labor Party wherever that revolutionary organization has unfurled the banner of revolt, lack of finance, there are but few pamphlets printed. However, the party having received permission from the American Socialist Labor Party to print their splendid series of pamphlets, an appeal is now made in the official organ for \$100 as a literature fund. The first pamphlet to be run off will probably be, "What Means This Strike?"

There is a greater proportion of speakers in the Socialist Labor Party of Australia than in America in ratio to membership, but that is partly owing to the fact that propaganda is all done in the English language. A foreign population is practically non-existent. The vast majority of the immigrants, known as "new Chums," are from Great Britain. The gestures and oratorical abilities of the Socialist Labor Party speakers differ considerably, but the Socialist Labor Party of Australia easily secured my allegiance and enthusiasm. The arguments and logic used transported my mental vision to America and the fighting Socialist Labor Party. I again felt myself back among friends in the various Sections of American Party, and 'twas only too evident to me that the "Weekly People" has sown good seed here.

At the first meeting of the Sydney Branch, my card was received without question. Having copies of the "Weekly People," "Daily People," "Arbeiter," "Arbeiter," "Ragione Nuova," "Arbeiter Zeitung," leaflets of the New York Labor News Company, I was granted the platform and addressed the members on the Socialist Labor Party of America and its press. Great interest was shown regarding the papers, as such publications, excepting the Daily and Weekly People, had not been seen before. These papers gave them an opportunity to comprehend the system of agitation which must prevail in a cosmopolitan country.

I offered to answer any questions regarding the movement and the characteristics of the prominent men in the United States. All interest was practically centered around Daniel De Leon, who has certainly got as enthusiastic supporters and admirers in Australia as ever he had in America. It was humorous to watch the expression on their faces when I told them De Leon was about five feet two inches high. I think they must have anticipated a physical giant equal to the mental one. They admire him as the foremost man in the Socialist movement in the world to-day.

The Executive Committee gave me the platform for three successive Sundays, each meeting having a relatively large and very attentive audience. Having several documents and Socialist Party Assemblymen's attitude on "Immigration," etc., in Wisconsin, besides other papers gathered in my experience in the labor movement in America, I produced the goods to prove that the statements in the "People" were correct regarding labor fakirs and pure and simple political Socialists. The greatest interest was shown on my criticism of Debs' attitude to industrial unionism, and on the Unity proposals of the Socialist Labor Party.

At the third lecture I gave my impressions of the labor movement in Australia. This was well received. Describing Australian conditions in American vernacular seemed to tickle them more than anything else.

As an organization is judged by its publications as well as its principles and tactics, some comment is necessary on "The People," the official organ of the Socialist Labor Party of Australia. This paper and the printing plant is the property of the Party. A committee of three conduct the paper: J. O. Moroney, General Secretary; F. Drake, Financial Secretary; O. T. Batho, Manager of the plant. The "People" of Australia has a snap and zest to its articles, which is peculiar to itself, and makes very interesting reading to the proletarian. The class struggle and the remedy for it is presented in lucid language, and it does not depart from the

# Tom Watson's History of France

A Criticism by H. K., Brooklyn.

"The Story of France, from the Earliest Times to the Consulate of Napoleon Bonaparte," is the title of a work by Thomas E. Watson (published in two volumes, by the Macmillan Co.), which is apt to hold the attention of the reader throughout and, by virtue of the fact that the author has paid close attention to the social and economic factors that dominated the different stages of historic development, is well worth the perusal, aye, the study of the Socialist.

The life of the ancient Gaul, the Roman invasion which brought to a hitherto free people the institution of slavery, the gradual decline of the Roman power and its crumbling away under the onslaught of the Frankish invasion (A. D. 481)—all this is vividly portrayed. Then follows the rise of the feudal system, the structure of which is well described, the advent of Christianity by the conversion of Clovis, the subjugation of the mass of the people in serfdom and the everlasting conflict between royalty and nobility from which royalty finally emerged victorious.

Side by side with this development we see that of the Church. Converting at first the great and the mighty and ever on the side of these and against the weak and lowly, a solicitor of and participant in the spoils, acquiring boundless wealth and hanging onto it with savage ferocity, spreading a pall of ignorance and of superstitious fear over the masses of the people so that they might be the more docile and submissive under the terrible exactions of a ruling system of which the Church was a part, cruel, relentless, steeped in worldliness—such are the cold historic facts about an institution professing to represent the doctrine of the meek and lowly Nazarene.

What is left in France of popular spirit finds refuge in the walled town, the commune. In the struggle for mastery between King and noble the commune plays its part, throwing its weight against the noble who waylaid and plundered its traveling merchant citizen, gaining and losing, losing and gaining, but on the whole gathering strength and developing that class which in our day has come to hold the reins—the bourgeoisie.

Royalty triumphant, reaching its height under Louis XIV, is full of the germs of disintegration. The subdued nobility, no longer the vigorous ruffians of an earlier day, largely dependent upon the favor of the King, is drawn into the swirl of a corrupt court, is emaciated, effeminated, demoralized; a mere reed for royalty to lean upon; the mass of the people are in utter misery, exploited to the marrow, subsisting often below the animal level; the higher orders of the clergy wallow in corruption, the lower clergy in a state of sullen discontent. Such was the state of affairs during the latter days of the "ancient regime" when, finally, the pent-up forces of national life explode when the great historic drama of the French Revolution unfolded and a proless social system went down ignominiously, carrying with it Church and state into the abyss.

As if a nightmare had been removed, the hitherto latent forces of the nation get into action. New men take the stage; and it is a magnificent spectacle to see how, almost with a rush, ability comes forth from hidden places. Privilege dethroned, merit comes to the front. The spectacle has its lights and its shadows like all else that the sun shines on. Good men and bad men and men indifferent, the unselfish and the covetous, the patriot sternly and dangerously honest, as well as the sneak and self-seeker; all these types of men appear and disappear.

But what a France there was compared with the France there had been! Royal France, during the close of its life, cut but a sorry figure among nations. Her colonies, gained when that regime had yet vigor, fell prey, one after the other, to England; her armies were routed on almost every field; her people were in the stupefaction of misery; her finances had been disrupted and every branch of her administration reeked with corruption.

But rejuvenated, republican France, confronted at every frontier by a coalition of continental European monarchs,

principles of International Socialism. Half of the paper is practically given to I. W. W. agitation on the lines of the original Preamble. This is the only paper in Australia that devotes space to advocating industrial unionism.

To the comrades and Sections in America, I recommend the Australian "People" as the only scientific Socialist paper in Australia. As it is necessary, at times, to refute the statements about the "workers' paradise" in New Zealand and Australia, it is well to have this paper at hand. The subscription price is \$1 for six months, \$2 for a year.

chies, its coast line menaced by England, its territory invaded, insurrections started in her midst by emigrant nobles and British gold; how vigorously and efficiently did not her people rise to the needs of so grave a situation! Her raw troops, poorly equipped and at first commanded by generals of the old royalist army in whom the soldiers had but little confidence, met with reverses. The nation was equal to the occasion. New men were put in charge of the armies, some of whom had never been soldiers before, and the republican forces, abandoning worn-out military tactics and inspired by high ideals, hurled back the invading mercenaries of Austria, Prussia, Holland and England; carried the war into the Netherlands, Germany and Italy, threatening to inflame their people with the hot breath of the Revolution and humbling them into the dust.

The Socialist reader will be gratified and instructed by the care with which the work makes clear the all-important measures taken by the Revolution on the economic field and how it is shown what influence these measures had upon drawing out and focusing, so to speak, the powers inherent in the nation.

The Socialist reader will be less gratified, though not less instructed, where the author deals with the period after the execution of Louis XVI, when the struggle between the bourgeois and the more or less sharply defined proletarian element begins. Here the middle class mind of the author gets the better of the historian. The forces that broke down royalty and entrenched privilege seem commendable; the forces that assailed the bourgeoisie come to power and beginning to entrench itself against those who, as yet vaguely, seek to end all class divisions, seem less so. The latter are often referred to as "the rabble," whilst the former escape such designations. But, after making due allowance for the middle class tendencies of the former Populist candidate for President, the picture drawn by the author of the titanic struggle of the young republic both fascinates and instructs.

Moreover, we see him often above these tendencies, and freely give credit where credit is due, even when it must be given to representatives of "the rabble." Says he, when dealing with the period following the fall of the Girondists:

"Historians have not wearied of telling the story of the crimes of the Convention. The blood-stained record has been kept perseveringly uplifted to the gaze of a shuddering world. What has not been so industriously circulated is the story of the work of reconstruction which was attempted, the new system which was sketched, the new order which was planned. The guillotine, standing in gaunt nakedness before the ancient palace of the Kings, and casting its blank shadow athwart the eyes and upon the souls of men, is not by any means the surest proof of the inward nature of the men who built it, and who fed it with daily victims. No institution would willingly be measured by its mistakes or its crimes. The Church should not be judged solely by the stake, the rack, the dungeon, and the gibbet, though it made regular use of them all. Admirers of the old French monarchy and of its Grand Monarch would not cheerfully consent to have the case closed with no proof offered in its favor save the Dragonnades and the wholesale slaughter of the Waldensians."

And again, it is shown how the Jacobin Convention abolished imprisonment for debt, negro slavery in the colonies and sternly repressed the monopolist and speculator in food who, with French ports blockaded by England, was only too anxious, after the manner of such patriots, to enrich himself by making the extremity of the people his opportunity.

"Remember," says the author when speaking of these efforts to suppress the gambler in the people's necessities, "while these acts violate the freedom of trade, they were enacted to meet a special emergency; and they met it. France had fourteen armies to feed and clothe; the world was up in arms against her; no ship could come into her ports or go out, and she therefore had to live at home. She could not afford to let the inhuman monopolist now down the helpless people by putting starvation prices upon provisions. The law succeeded. The armies were fed and there was no famine in France that winter" (1793-1794).

The fact is that the men of the Terror were veritable humanitarians when compared with the ferocious, savage methods in vogue under the old regime. They had to deal with enemies who would have gladly slaughtered the Republic and its defenders, and they rid themselves of these by shearing off their heads. They did not break their bones on the wheel, one by one; did not roast them over a slow fire; and did not invent a thousand other fiendish tortures as Church and State had so diligently done before with their victims. When the test of numbers is applied, the guil-

lotine begins to look like a rather harmless instrument as compared with the massacres of the Waldensians, the Albigenes and the Huguenots, to say nothing of the slaughter of the Jaqueries, nor yet of that of the Paris Commune of 1871, when the French bourgeoisie showed that it could give cards and spades to even the old regime. Fact is also that, despite the gory-hued accounts of royalist, clerical and even bourgeois writers, the people were freer under this so-called reign of terror than they had ever been. The author makes this very clear. He says:

"The guillotine might chop off fifty heads a day, the prisons might hold several thousand prisoners and a tremor of terror might pervade the entire aristocracy; but the fifty heads, the thousand prisoners, the trembling aristocracy, amounted to a very small percentage of the 30,000,000 of French people. The Terror was a political condition; as a rule it affected those only who were accused of meddling with politics and obstructing the Revolution. It taxed the rich bourgeois, but the money was spent in his protection. It smashed the speculator in the necessities of life, but he deserved to be smashed. It called for many soldiers, but these soldiers were fighting for their own rights and were cared for by those who called them out. Woe to the officer who betrayed them, robbed them, or let them suffer. During the later years of the old regime the French armies had not been able to find any troops they could whip. Under the Great Committee they found no troops they could not whip. They beat the English at Toulon, in Corsica, and in Holland. They beat the Germans on both sides of the Rhine with equal ease. They chased the Spaniards across the Pyrenees, crushed the Italians and drove back in utter rout the stolid Russians, though led by the hitherto invincible Suvaroff. Officers in the army rose by merit, and merit was evidenced by deeds accomplished. If generals fled in panic before advancing foes without a fight, such generals were put to death. Thus the others were encouraged to fight. If commanders surrendered besieged cities without reasonable defense, such generals were guillotined. Thus the others were warned to hold out to the last extremity. If officers within relieving distance of a besieged town failed to send relief and the town fell, such officers likewise fell. Thus other officers were impressed with the importance of sending relief and one arm of the service compelled to aid the other.

Paris was tranquil during the Terror. There was no insurrection against the guillotine. Ordinary criminals were awed to inactivity; burglars, thieves and pickpockets are said to have disappeared. There were more places of amusement open than ever before and the crowds which filled them were greater." The men of the Terror did not ask to enrich themselves at public expense. Most of them lived simple lives in the face of boundless opportunities. The few who loved pleasure in their private lives paid for it out of their own pockets. Unlike Marie Antoinette; they did not shower sight drafts upon the national treasury. Perhaps, also, it would have been unwise, denoting a lack of the most ordinary caution. Times were improper for the grafter. When a representative of the Government of the Terror abused his power, and committed unwarranted cruelties in the suppression of insurrectionary movements, such as Carrier at Nantes, Schneider at Strasbourg, etc., a commissioner of the Government would go after him and he would wind up his earthly career on the guillotine.

Of interest is also the author's estimate of Chaumette, a member of the Club of the Cordeliers. He says: "He had no belief in man's immortality, but had a profound interest in the happiness of his brother mortal. The world and this life being all he knew anything about, Chaumette believed in making the best of them, making the world as free from suffering and as full of light as possible. He had banished the lash and corporal punishment from the schools; had suppressed lotteries in the city of Paris; had closed the gambling halls and had thrown open the libraries to the daily use of the public. It was Chaumette who had procured the order that patients in the hospitals, horribly crowded in those days, should have each a separate bed and that books should be supplied them if they wished to read. He had also obtained for lying-in women the use of a separate building, had softened the treatment of criminals and had influenced the government to found an asylum for the old and poor. These facts carry with them the convincing proof that Chaumette was not the vile creature the royalists and the orthodox have so bitterly denounced. Chaumette honestly and earnestly hated the church and its gospel. He saw in the one organized and tyrannical despotism and in the other a degrading and demoralizing superstition. He saw in the church an aristocracy intrenching itself in arrogant pretensions to divine authority and miraculous virtues; in its gospel he recognized the humiliating attempt to make mankind submissive, credulous,

ignorant, cruel and cowardly. The clerical aristocracy taxed the people, even as kings and nobles taxed them; and ruled them with an iron rod, even as kings and nobles did. Thus the Church kept the pocket empty, while its gospel kept the head bent, the knee pressed to the ground, the heart burdened with sadness, the mind enslaved in infinite doubts and fears. Chaumette was the one systematic attempt to abolish ecclesiasticism and to bring mankind to a reliance upon reason, nature and the loftier feelings of humanity. He followed, however, the bad example of the Church and practiced intolerance. He did not burn the priests, but he burnt their garments. Historians who are lenient with the Church where it has burnt the heretic, are merciless with this heretic who stopped at burping vestments."

These quotations portray the spirit in which a great subject is handled. Thomas Carlyle, that incomparable declamationist, is often taken to task for his biased treatment of this revolutionary epoch. American and English eye-witnesses of the scenes of court life before the Revolution, as well as of the Revolution itself, such as Gouverneur Morris, Mr. Miles and Dr. Moore are frequently and interestingly quoted.

The book is well worth reading.

## 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 817 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 1808 Elm 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 5. 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 Herbert Johnson, 475 Comu avenue, St. Paul, 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.

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# 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.]

## SUPPORT STAUNCHLY THE PEOPLE.

To the Daily and Weekly People.—The working class cannot afford to do without the Daily People. If the majority of the workers realized this fact there would be no need for an Operating Fund. As it is, however, only a few realize its importance at the present time, hence it devolves on these few to swell the Operating Fund.

The enclosed find \$3 from Comrade S. P. Kazie and \$25 from the undersigned.

C. A. Johnson.

Fruitvale, Cal., April 21.

## GILLHAUS AT WORK ON PACIFIC COAST.

To the Daily and Weekly People.—The San Francisco "Daily News" of April 19 contained the following despatch:

Seattle, April 19.—There is much denunciation and considerable indignation in labor circles here to-day because of the statements made by August Gillhaus, Socialist Labor candidate for President last fall and the nominal head of the party on the Pacific Coast, who in a speech here last night, denounced the anti-Japanese agitation in the West, declaring that to keep out the Japanese would harm rather than help the condition of the working class.

"We have nothing to fear from the Japanese workman," Gillhaus declared. "Had the people who are urging this exclusion proposition half as much spirit as the Japanese in California, they would have earned the right to call themselves Socialists. I saw Japanese laborers down here packing oranges and a number of them struck four times in one day, returning to work at an advance of a quarter of a cent a box. These are the kind of people the American Federation of Labor and the Debs Socialists want to exclude from our shores. The Federation took up the cry to fool the laborers and the Debs party to get votes, which failed to materialize."

Gillhaus is at work and putting in some telling strokes.

H. L.

San Francisco, Cal., April 20.

## WISH THEY HAD HELPED OPERATING FUND SOONER.

To the Daily and Weekly People.—A small but enjoyable package party was held in the house of comrade Warner in New Haven, on Saturday night last, and the proceeds, which amounted to \$2, has been turned over to the Operating Fund of The People. This is the first affair of that kind we have had in New Haven and the only regrets are that we have not had more earlier in the season. There was plenty of good music, singing, and recitations.

H. G.

New Haven, Conn., April 26.

## REPROBATION.

To meet the objections hurled by the Australian Socialist League to the Socialism considered the religious theme of their most efficient antidotes for budding class conscious in the proletariat. When conditions in a given industrial center reached the stage where the wage slaves could not be controlled by less expensive means, the most sensational and popular evangelist was imported in hopes that he might be able to blur class lines and re-establish "the brotherhood of man."

Such were the conditions in Denver for the past winter, when Gipsy Smith, a few weeks ago, began his "famous revival." The daily papers, which are usually engaged in a "death struggle" among themselves, seemed to drop all their differences and vie with each other in boosting "the great revival for the common good of the people."

The services of their highest salaried reporters were "donated" to the cause, and their write-ups were given the top of the front page, and decorated with glaring headlines. The city authorities, not to be outdone, threw open the doors of the new auditorium to accommodate the seething throngs. Hysterical ecstasy was the prevailing spirit. In the Socialist way was the auto-va-va-va when the cool ones analyzed the throngs they were found to consist of upper and middle class people, with a sprinkling of the slum proletariat led in by the Salvation Army. The proletarian proper was conspicuous by his absence.

Very soon after Gipsy's departure, it was evident that there was disappointment in the results, even though he had

admittedly "converted thousands." The same old nerve was still aching. Crowds of idle men were still walking the streets earnestly searching a job. The employment offices were still overwhelmed with applicants. But it remained for the Rev. B. B. Tyler to give expression to the dissatisfaction, and at the same time veil the real cause for the same. In the "Christian Century" for Easter he says: "The religious results of 'the Gipsy's' visit to Denver, so far as I have been able to discover, are almost nil, and the dollar mark was all over 'the Gipsy' and his efforts in Denver." Tyler even challenges his earnestness, and his ability to think seriously. All of which, and more, is probably true.

Verily, the light is beginning to beam on the capitalists themselves, that it will require something more drastic than a revival meeting to stay the social revolution; and that, so far as the proletariat is concerned, the Gipsy Smiths were "born to blush unseen, and waste their sweetness on the desert air."

J. D. De Shazer, D. G.

Durango, Col., April 21.

## CANADIAN "LABOR" SHEETS AND "LEADERS."

To the Daily and Weekly People.—There is a curious stock of "labor" papers and labor fakirs in this town of Hamilton. We have here the "Hamilton Herald," one of the worst opponents of the Socialist Labor Party. It struts around in a cloak of "fairness" boasting municipal ownership schemes and trades unionism of the A. F. of L. kind and the ignorant working people think that it is the fairest of the fair. The sheet is very popular among the local labor fakirs. One of its straw bosses is president of the Hamilton Trades and Labor Council; it is labor editor used to be a delegate to the Council, and an ex-president of this Council is its advertising manager. I suppose that when the labor member of Parliament for East Hamilton has run his course in the House he will get the "printers' devil's" job on this daily dope sheet.

The Trades and Labor Council, while opposed to entering politics, think it their duty to use their "influence" (what ever that means, it don't make the politicians quake) with the powers that be in getting laws passed in favor of Labor. As to politics, they voted \$50 to the Independent Labor party. Of course that is not getting into politics; it is not officially endorsing the I. L. P., but it would be harder for the fakirs to run on the other parties' platforms as was the case at the last municipal elections. Their president, Charles Bird, was nominated by the Conservative party to run for alderman. He was a member of the Labor party, but he resigned and ran on the Conservative ticket.

This same featherless Bird is a clerk in a drygoods store which advertises the "union label" extensively. He was invited to a banquet of the manufacturers when they held a convention here a year ago and he was there "with bells on." He said, in a speech, that he was glad that the employers and employees were on good terms in Hamilton, as the absence of strikes showed. At the last Trades and Labor Council election he was nicely turned down along with the rest of his clique, but it was not for his stand in with the manufacturers' association or with the Conservative party. It was for work in connection with the Labor Day committee of which he was chairman. It appears they were paying themselves about \$2.50 a day for being on the committee, whether they worked or not, and they got ten per cent for the money collected for the Labor Day demonstration.

The Trades and Labor Council stands in line with the business men. They get numerous presents from businessmen every Labor Day for their prize drawings, as they call them. And it doesn't matter whether the gifts are scab or not. I saw one of the presents in their show window a year ago last Labor Day. It was from the Canada Cycle and Motor Company whose machinists were on strike at the time for a nine hour day. Some of the local fakirs on that committee thought it was an awful crime because one of the machinists went into the store and took the present out of the window without the committee's consent.

H. Simpson

Hamilton, Can., April 18.

## AS TO THE MILWAUKEE ELECTION.

To the Daily and Weekly People.—The editorial on "The Milwaukee Election" in The People of April 14th is interesting reading. Mr. V. L. Berger speaks of the opposition, the hostile attitude of the Roman Catholic Church against his Socialist Democratic party. I do not think that the statement Mr. Berger makes in regard to the warlike posture of Rome here in Milwaukee is overdrawn. There is really a strong current flowing from

the church of Rome. There is a mighty opposition against the Socialist Democratic party right here in the city of Milwaukee. In so far, Mr. Berger is in the right. But now the question: Who fanned that fire? Who is, or was, instrumental in arousing the "faithful" to action? Shifted to be bottom, we find that it was chiefly the Democratic politicians. Thus, through political influence, the church has been, and still is, drawn into politics. We should not take it that the church as such began war against the Socialist Democratic party. Of course, there has always been opposition from this source, but in very few places have hostilities, bearing such an open character, developed to such proportions as here in this city. We must understand the cause before drawing a conclusion.

Mr. Berger ought to have stated why the Roman Catholic Church was so very hostile to "Socialism" in Milwaukee. He should have gone to the bottom of things.

For years past there has been competition between the Democrats, led by Rose, and the Social Democrats, under leadership of Berger, competition to get the most and best berths for their political workers. Rose, seeing that his political fences were hauled down by the faithful of Berger, and his political career being thus endangered, knew that his only help lay in working in conjunction with the servants of Rome to stir up "bad blood" against the spectre of Socialism. And in this, Rose and his Democratic party have been quite successful as can be seen from the utterances of Berger himself. Mr. Berger ought to have stated all these facts. The readers could then have drawn their own conclusion. But he has kept from them the real causes in this case.

To-day it is Rome, and to-morrow it is Dordt that will meddle in politics, doing the bidding of low, cunning politicians who themselves have long ago thrown all religion overboard. In reality, there is no greater hostility against Socialism manifested from the Roman Catholic Church than from the different, and many Protestant creeds; they are all hostile to a certain degree, to all parties that make for progress, and have always been. Thereupon it is very dangerous, as The People justly stated, to meddle in church affairs, to take up the weapons against just one denomination, when all are equally guilty.

But, as a matter of fact, our time should not be wasted with any nor all of them. It is not in the line of industrial development. The bad elements in the church will disappear gradually of themselves. And the good elements will remain.

H. B.

Milwaukee, Wis., April 22.

## MUST HAVE THE DAILY PEOPLE.

To the Daily and Weekly People.—Enclosed find one dollar for which send me the Daily People for three months. I have been without the paper for some time and find that I am going backward, or like one groping in the dark.

J. T. W.

Everett, Mass., April 25.

## A. F. OF L. A HA S P "INDUSTRIALISM."

To the Daily and Weekly People.—Last month the Chicago Federation of Labor expelled the Chicago Beer Drivers' Union because it failed to affiliate with the International Brotherhood of Teamsters. A committee from the Federation made several visits to the local unions of beer drivers but got evasive answers as to what action was taken. Upon recommendation of the committee, and at the behest of the teamsters' delegates, the drivers were expelled from membership in the Chicago Federation of Labor.

The brewery workers then got busy and renewed their efforts to get the beer drivers of Chicago to join the United Brewery Workmen's Union. At present the international secretaries of the brewers are in Chicago looking after the interests of their local unions and of the beer drivers. Letters have been sent out to every beer driver in Chicago urging him to affiliate with the brewerymen. Success was evidently crowning the efforts of the brewers in this direction, when the local unions of teamsters in Chicago started to prevent, if possible, the beer drivers' affiliation with the brewery workers.

The below resolution speaks volumes as to the spirit which animates and pervades the A. F. of L. and also exposes the hypocrisy of those S. P.-ites who claim that the A. F. of L. is broadening to an industrial form of organization. What is really taking place is that the United Brewery workmen, through sheer strength, are defying every decision of the A. F. of L. and of the international craft unions of teamsters, engineers and firemen.

What caused the A. F. of L. to re-admit the brewers upon the expulsion following the convention, 1906, was not growth of belief in industrialism, but fear of the I. W. W. and the growth of a powerful industrial national organization. When, now, organized scabbery comes into bold relief in Chicago, it is well to remember those things.

The declaration of war upon the brewers in Chicago by the teamsters is em-

bodied in the following resolution:

Whereas, The brewery workers of Chicago are about to center their fight on the keg and bottle beer drivers of Chicago to disrupt them, be it

Resolved, That we, the Chicago Teamsters and Helpers of Chicago and Vicinity, give our moral and financial assistance to the keg and bottle beer drivers of Chicago and vicinity; and

Whereas, The ice wagon drivers and helpers of Chicago can assist the keg and bottle beer drivers, be it

Resolved, That the ice wagon drivers and helpers of Chicago give locals No. 744 and 748 all the assistance they may require in bringing about a settlement of any difficulty that may arise between the teamsters and the brewery workers.

Committee:—  
C. G. Sagerstrom,  
Ice Wagon Drivers and Helpers.  
M. Booth,  
Coal Teamsters.  
Ed. Coleman,  
Excavating Teamsters.  
John Sheridan,  
Gen. Sec.-Treasurer.

Ind.

Chicago, Ill., April 19.

## JOBS MYTH KNOCKED OUT.

To the Daily and Weekly People.—A friend of mine, reading in the newspapers that there was a "great demand for labor" in the Pacific Northwest, wrote the Crow's Nest Pass Coal Company for a job. The letter he received in answer certainly disproves all statements that there is prosperity in that district. I enclose a copy of the letter.

D. R.

Peoria, Ill., April 22.

(Enclosure.)

## The Crow's Nest Pass Coal Co., Ltd.

Fernie, B. C., April 10, 1909.

Anton Piel,  
Peoria, Ill.

Dear Sir:—  
Replying to your letter of April 6 would say that at the present time there are a large number of miners and mine laborers around our collieries for whom we are not able to find work. We could not advise you therefore to come here, with the expectation of securing work at once.

Yours truly,  
Chas. Simister,  
General Superintendent.

## FOR PROPAGANDA IN THE ARMY.

To the Daily and Weekly People.—I am intensely interested in a news item in your issue of last Tuesday by which I learn that the chaplain of the 14th Regiment, U. S. Cavalry, denounced army morals, and called for legislative action making religious instruction compulsory among soldiers. He says with no regulations to force the soldiers to attend divine service, atheism, skepticism and agnosticism prevail throughout among the rank and file.

This inspires me to urge upon freethinkers that they should shower their literature upon the soldiers in the army and not neglect those of the 14th Regiment stationed at Walla Walla, Washington. They certainly need it, to mix with the instructions of their chaplain.

Since the army is now recruited to its maximum strength it should be a good field for Socialist propaganda. We are all interested in the soldiers as brothers of our class. They are not to any great extent soldiers from choice, but because no other employment was available. We must sympathize with them as we do with the unemployed.

Those comrades having personal friends in the army should see to it that they have an abundance of Socialist literature for themselves and to pass around to others who have no friends to send them such matter.

There are no doubt many comrades having stacks of copies of the Daily People accumulated that they would be glad to make useful; they would be valuable in the army. What I have said of The People would apply equally well to good Socialist propaganda pamphlets.

A word to the wise should be sufficient.

H. H. Lane.

New Haven, Conn., April 15.

## PAPAL SIMPLICITY.

To the Daily and Weekly People.—According to despatches, the pope has said, "Woman can never be man's equal, and therefore cannot enjoy equal rights." That is certainly the acme of simplification! The pope might at least have enumerated what human qualities were necessary and why they were necessary in order to enjoy the right to vote. But he had done so, it might have transpired that there was no requirement which man had to be entitled to the ballot that woman did not have. It appears to me that citizenship is the one requisite to vote, and I fail to see where woman is not man's equal in this respect.

W. S.

New York, April 22.

# 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.

W. J. BROOKLYN, N. Y.—"Effendi" is not a name; it is a title. In Turkish, "effendi" means what in Eastern Europe is meant by "royal princes," that is, blood relations, lineally or collaterally entitled to succession to the throne.

J. C. PHILADELPHIA, PA.—Now to your fourth question—

The objection to Unions on the ground that "the greatest shouters for them are the worst workmen who want to be carried along by the Union" betrays a mind that, if Christian, is Christian only as a lip-service matter: it does not recognize the brotherhood of man, or the behest "help ye one another" as a "practical" principle or behest; or a mind that, if scientific, has yet to learn the scientific fact that the human race is one. Unions are full of defective men, but these men are the product of a social system whose morality is "let the devil take the hindmost," and which morality is reflected in such objections to Unionism. Don't be angry. It is kindly meant. Learn.

Next question next week.

H. B. MILWAUKEE, WIS.—The knowledge that the capitalist pays the taxes is of prime theoretic, and of still primer practical value. In point of theory the knowledge helps making clear to the workers what their wages depend upon—the supply of labor in the market. In point of practical importance the knowledge saves the workers from being duped by bourgeois interests into bourgeois political parties. The knowledge is all the more important because of the optic illusion that Labor is a tax-payer. No workingman could be made to believe that he pays for his employer's house in the sense that if he joined his employer's party he would be saved the expense of the price of his employer's house. But most workingmen can be cheated into the belief that if they would join their employer's party and reduce the tax on leather they would be saved the expense of dear shoes.

J. A. BALTIMORE, MD.—The point is admitted. "The workingman who delights in going to a church where he is told that this is only a valley of tears where he must expect to suffer resignedly and without a murmur"—that workingman can not be a Socialist. But then you must, in turn, admit that no amount of "fighting the church" would improve that workingman. His brains have been dug out, if he ever had any. Socialism is not surgery; it does not claim to be able to pump brains into an empty skull. It can operate only upon skulls with brains. Read the Sue story, "The Poniard's Hilt." A workingman just like the one you suppose turns up there, and is treated the only way such unlikely mental cripples can be treated. Likewise in the Sue story, "The Pilgrim's Shell."

H. H. R. CHAMPAIGN, ILL.—Marx's definition of "value"—meaning exchange-value—establishes value as the index of the amount of social labor-power crystallized in and necessary for the reproduction of a commodity. It follows that "value"—meaning exchange-value—can rise or fall only in the measure that it is yielded by labor-power, and that labor-power is the sole source of "value." This definition, as Marx explains, applies only to merchandise, the quantity of which can be increased by the industry of man. The so-called value of ancient coins, old wine, old pictures, etc., is "price," not "value." They do not come under the category of staples, regularly producible.

Next question next week.

F. C. EL PASO, TEX.—The value of the imports by the United States from Japan, including Japanese China, is \$68,107,546. The value of the exports from the United States to the same countries is \$49,631,223. This was in 1908. Accordingly Japan's exports to the United States exceed the exports of the U. S. to Japan and Japanese China by \$18,476,323.

Next question next week.

T. J. V. NEW HAVEN, CONN.—The way to study is not to dig and dig, and dig ever deeper in economics. Such a method frays the mind, and rather tends to incite hair-splitting. Never dig deeper than you broaden your horizon. Socialism is the great sea to which all other branches of human knowledge art tributary. Read history; read good literature; read up on geology; familiarize yourself with plain geometry, etc.;—all these branches will throw side lights on Socialist economics. They steady Socialist economics and fortify the mind.

S. S. CHICAGO, ILL.—Bernstein's economic position differs from Marx's in that Bernstein claims the middle class is not being worn out and down into the proletariat but is becoming larger and more influential. The allegations of fact with which Bernstein seeks to support the claim are bizarre. For instance, he adduces the number of small holders of stock, as if that fact did not rather prove the contrary. This aspect of Bernsteinism is not to the credit of Bernstein, an otherwise talented man. The slip can be accounted for only as a result of his anxiety to remodel the tone of the German Social Democracy in keeping with its bourgeois radical tactics.

Next question next week.

W. G. M. WEST SENECA, N. Y.—There is no I. W. W. paper in existence anymore. As to other questions shall make inquiry, and answer when ascertained.

T. M. H. FIELDBROOK, CALIF.—Charles H. Chase, 4 East 118th street, New York, N. Y.

W. G. PORTLAND, ORE.—If the 2,000,000 men reputed to be organized in the A. F. of L. were organized in the Socialist Labor Party, then all those of them who are engaged in directly or indirectly productive occupations, and that would be the large majority, would be found also organized industrially. With one and three-quarter million men, organized in an industrially constructed economic organization, with its proper political revolutionary spokesman and shield 2,000,000 strong, that would mean a center of attraction leavening fully 15,000,000

forces that protect the exploiters.

Next question next week.

H. F. PHILADELPHIA, PA.—Now to your second question—

Eugene Sue was a distinguished Frenchman of vast learning and generous impulses. Accidental contact with workmen engaged in the revolutionary movement of France during the first half of the last century caused him to turn his mind to Social Questions. His great "History of a Proletarian Family Across the Ages," now being issued in English by the Labor News, was a fruit of that happy turn in his mental activity. His most pronounced economic work was "Marlin the Foundling." Sue was hounded out of France by Napoleon III for these noble efforts in behalf of the proletariat, and his fearless exposure of the immorality of the exploiters of the working class, and of all the social

more people. Capitalism could not survive that a twelvemonth. Next question next week.

ALL OTHERS—Wait till next week.

F. W. S. BRIGHTON, ENG.; S. H. COLUMBIA, NEV.; J. P. E. SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH; W. S. KIRKSVILLE, MO.; J. A. L. PHOENIX, ARIZ.; J. T. R. BRIDGEPORT, CONN.; J. F. D. NEW YORK; F. C. R. PLATON, KY.; C. J. W. NEW HAVEN, CONN.; W. R. S. WIGAN, ENG.; R. H. P. PATERSON, N. J.; D. B. PASADENA, CAL.; R. C. SPOKANE WASH.; E. J. M. DULUTH, MINN.; M. W. LAWRENCE, MASS.; C. B. BRIDGEPORT, CONN.; C. H. T. ATTLEBORO, MASS.—Matter received.

# Socialist Literature

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By Emile Vandervelde, member of the Chamber of Deputies, Belgium. Cloth, 50 cents.

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OFFICIAL

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. Paul Augustine, National Secretary, 28 City Hall Place.

N. E. C. SUB-COMMITTEE. A regular meeting of the N. E. C. Sub-Committee was held at National Headquarters, on Wednesday evening, April 28th, with Butterworth in the chair.

NATIONAL SECRETARY REPORT. NATIONAL SECRETARY REPORT. ED HAVING RECEIVED THE SECTION LEDGERS AND CASH BOOKS FROM THE PRINTERS, AND THAT THEY ARE READY FOR DELIVERY UPON RECEIPT OF ORDERS FROM SECTIONS.

National Secretary reported that the property of the Jewish Party Organ, "Der Arbeiter," has been sold to the N. E. C. by the Jewish Socialist Labor Federation; and that steps are now being taken in the same direction regarding the German Party Organ "Volksfreund und Arbeiter-Zeitung."

The committee having in charge the Constitution of the Lettish Socialist Labor Federation, reported that its work had not as yet been completed; and requested that another member be elected to the committee.

Moved by Deutsch, seconded by Schwarz: "That Kuhn be elected by the N. E. C. Sub-Committee to serve on the committee." Carried.

Correspondence:—From Wm. A. Applegate, New Haven, Conn., requesting speaker for May 2nd, meeting of the Political Refugee Defence League; complied with.

Section Cincinnati, Ohio, reporting the expulsion of B. S. Frayne for contempt. J. C. Custer, Bridgeport, Conn., regarding "Unity Conference in Bridgeport." J. O. Johnson, Bridgeport, Conn., requesting information regarding Party organization work; national secretary was instructed to reply.

J. U. Billings, Grand Junction, Colo., and George Anderson, State Secretary, Colorado S. E. C., giving information and reporting increased activity in the State. Illinois S. E. C. remitting on campaign fund lists, and reporting on Party matters. Washington S. E. C. sending monthly financial reports, reporting conditions in Spokane and Seattle and on Gillhaus's work. F. J. Meyer, N. E. C. member from Washington, requesting information and documents from the national secretary; the national secretary reported having complied.

I. Kromman, Cleveland, Ohio, reporting the Convention of the Hungarian Socialist Labor Federation. Jacob Procum, National Secretary, Lettish Socialist Labor Federation, requesting information relative to vesting the property of their official organ "Proletarats" with the N. E. C. of the Party. R. Katz, N. E. C. member from N. J., regarding election of members to the Sub-Committee. D. B. Moore, Granite, Okla., requesting speaker for meeting to be held in July; national secretary instructed to try and secure same.

The financial report was then read and adopted. F. Buxton, Recording Secretary.

OPERATING FUND.

Table with 2 columns: Name and Amount. Includes S. P. Kasic, Fruitvale, Cal., \$5.00; C. A. Johnson, Fruitvale, Cal., \$5.00; J. Barnot, Perkassie, Pa., \$5.00; J. Jensen, Junction City, Col., \$1.00; J. Andreas, Belleville, Ill., \$1.50; J. V. Farrell, Fort Pierce, Fla., \$1.00; Section Hoquiam, Wash., \$5.00; J. Lemmon, Moyle, B. C., \$5.00; L. C. Haller, Los Angeles, Cal., \$5.00; H. F. Welch, Mojave, Cal., \$1.00; J. Martin, W. Peabody, Mass., \$1.00; P. J. Dwyer, Dunlap, Wash., \$1.00; O. Gundermann, Wauson, Wis., \$5.00; J. O. Johnson, Bridgeport, Conn., \$1.00; A. Native Son Slave, San Francisco, \$1.50; Section New Haven, Conn., \$2.00; P. O'Rourke, Medford, Mass., \$1.00; H. Halpern, New York, \$1.00; M. S. Schneetady, N. Y., \$1.00; S. Ungerlider, Chicago, Ill., \$1.00; S. Benson, Bridgeport, Conn., \$1.00; 30th and 32nd A. D.'s New York, \$1.95; T. Grabuski, Lansing, Mich., \$2.00; J. C. Anderson, Kittitas, Wash., \$5.00; G. Anderson, Salinas, Cal., \$1.00; S.L.P. Auxiliary League, Los Angeles, Cal., \$25.00; Peter Farrell, Los Angeles, Cal., \$6.00; R. Konig, \$2.00; M. Hanson, \$1.00; L. D. Bechtel, \$1.00; C. Hartung, \$1.00; J. Feldman, New York, \$1.00; N. Gerold, Jersey City, \$1.00; H. La Belle, Bremerton, Wash., \$4.00; Section Cook County, Ill., \$5.00; M. Strauss, Rockville, Conn., \$1.00; H. Rabbin, Omaha, Neb., \$1.00; E. Wenzel Sr., New York, \$1.50; E. Moonelis, New York, \$1.00; V. Chaporich, Redlands, Cal., \$2.00; J. Lavagnini, Los Angeles, Cal., \$1.00; R. Hoffmann, Phila., Pa., \$1.00; Carl Sahn, W. Lynn, Mass., \$1.00; E. M. S. Tuolumne, Cal., \$1.00; Section Hartford, Conn., \$7.00; B. Kyler, San Francisco, Cal., \$2.00; J. Smith, \$1.00; W. J. Burns, \$1.00; Mr. Koelnicke, \$1.00; O. Polk, \$1.00; Total, \$130.20; Previously acknowledged, \$412.01; Grand total, \$542.21.

VIRGINIA S. E. C.

The State Committee of the Socialist Labor Party in Virginia met in regular session on April 25, with Rudolph in the chair. Present: F. Buxton, C. Rudolph, J. Bader, F. Jerene. Absent: F. Neff, excused.

Minutes of the previous meeting were adopted as read.

Correspondence: From Mueller, organizer Section Richmond to S. E. C. regarding Party affairs in the State; also from Paul Augustine, National Secretary, with decision of N. E. C. Sub-Committee on the Norfolk County matter.

Decided that the date for the coming State Convention be set for Sunday, July 4, State committee to make arrangements.

The communication from Organizer Mueller, Section Richmond, regarding the State Secretary was turned over to State Secretary with instructions how to answer same.

The financial report was then read and adopted.

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WAKE UP!

Too Many of Our Friends Inactive Hinder the Work.

Although we put on more subscriptions to The Daily and Weekly than were cut off, our friends by no means made May Day a red letter day for subscriptions, as we had asked them to do.

Those sending two or more subscriptions were:

Table with 2 columns: Name and Amount. Includes J. W. Stewart, Tucson, Ariz., \$3.00; F. Brown, Cleveland, O., \$3.00; G. A. Jennings, E. St. Louis, Ill., \$4.00; T. Haupt, Mansfield, O., \$2.00; J. Martin, Stevenson, Cal., \$2.00; L. C. Haller, Los Angeles, Cal., \$2.00; P. E. Nelson, Fruitvale, Cal., \$2.00; J. A. Arakelian, Santa Rosa, Cal., \$2.00; R. Williamson, Adamsville, Ala., \$2.00; F. Faber, Kent, O., \$2.00; G. M. Sterry, Providence, R. I., \$2.00; E. T. Ostley, Plainfield, N. J., \$2.00; A. Gierginsky, Hartford, Conn., \$2.00; H. L. Johnson, Braddock, Pa., \$2.00; S. Ungerlider, Chicago, Ill., \$2.00; J. Isaack, Cincinnati, O., \$2.00.

Labors News Notes.

"The Iron Collar" is the latest of the Sue stories ready for delivery in book form. "The Silver Cross," the next to come out, is well under way.

Important orders of the week were:

Table with 2 columns: Name and Amount. Includes H. Thal, New York, \$34.50; J. Kircher, Cleveland, O., \$30.00; 39 and 32 A. D., New York, \$7.72; Edinburgh, Scotland, \$4.72; Omaha, Neb., \$4.00; Tacoma, Wash., \$4.00; 23 and 35 A. D., New York, \$4.03; Brooklyn, N. Y., \$3.00; Hamtramck, Mich., \$2.75; Portland, Ore., \$2.50; New Castle, Pa., \$2.00; St. Paul, Minn., \$1.80; Jersey City, N. J., \$1.80; Los Angeles, Cal., \$1.80; Syracuse, N. Y., \$1.00; So. Omaha, Neb., \$1.00; St. Louis, Mo., \$1.00.

SECTIONS, ORDER NOW!!!

Table with 2 columns: Section Name and Amount. Includes Section Ledgers, \$1.35; Section Cash Books, \$3.35; Constitutions (English) per 100, \$2.00; Treasurers' Book, \$1.00; Der Arbeiter (Jewish Weekly) 25 City Hall Place, N. Y., per year, \$1.50; Arbeteren (Swedish Weekly) 28 City Hall Place, N. Y., per year, \$1.50; Volkstrend und Arbeiter Zeitung (German Weekly), 1386 Ontario street, Cleveland, O., per year, \$1.00; Nepakarst (Hungarian Semi-weekly), 516 East Sixth street, N. Y., per year, \$2.00; Regione Nuova (Italian Monthly), 206 Atwell ave., Providence, R. I., per year, \$3.50; He who comes in contact with workmen reading any of these languages should not fail to call attention to these papers and endeavor to secure subscriptions.

SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY ORGANS

Table with 2 columns: Name and Amount. Includes Weekly People, 28 City Hall Place, N. Y., per year, \$1.00; Daily People, 28 City Hall Place, N. Y., per year, \$2.50; Arbeteren (Swedish Weekly) 28 City Hall Place, N. Y., per year, \$1.50; Der Arbeiter (Jewish Weekly) 25 City Hall Place, N. Y., per year, \$1.50; Volkstrend und Arbeiter Zeitung (German Weekly), 1386 Ontario street, Cleveland, O., per year, \$1.00; Nepakarst (Hungarian Semi-weekly), 516 East Sixth street, N. Y., per year, \$2.00; Regione Nuova (Italian Monthly), 206 Atwell ave., Providence, R. I., per year, \$3.50; He who comes in contact with workmen 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.

THEIR JUST FATE

Peabody, Sherman Bell, and Other Colorado Labor Crushers Dogged by Relentless Nemesis.

An avenging Nemesis seems to be pursuing the men who were responsible for the Colorado labor war in 1903, and most of the principals have been victims of a cruel fate in some form or other since the deportation period. This was brought forcibly to mind by the attempt a few days ago of John Holmberg to commit suicide at his home in Denver.

In 1903 he was state auditor, one of the big chiefs in Peabody's cabinet, and an ardent advocate of crushing union labor in Colorado. As auditor he was largely responsible for burdening Colorado with its present immense "war debt." Later, when he retired from the office of state treasurer in 1907, Holmberg took with him \$10,134.61 collected under the flat tax law, which was being protested in the courts. It is said this money has never been accounted for, and the recent investigation instituted by Governor Shafroth and State Auditor Kenahan is supposed to be the cause for the attempt at suicide.

James H. Peabody, the "War Governor," is a political and financial derelict. Recently he sought appointment to an office that would pay him \$100 per month, and was turned down by his own party. At his home in Canon City he is known to be in sore financial distress. He attempted to promote a scenic railway to the top of the Royal Gorge, but could not secure sufficient financial backing to even begin to make a noise like work on the projected line.

HOUSING IN NEW YORK.

Overcrowding So Prevalent Due to Low Wages, That It is Now Taken as "Normal."

Housing naturally occupies first place. It makes an appalling showing. Although rent swallows up from a quarter to a sixth of all income, forty-four per cent. of the families live in less than four rooms, while almost half of them have more room than one and one-half persons to a room, these being the standards of overcrowding adopted. Does the committee seriously consider four New York tenement rooms adequate housing for a family of six? Such a standard is "normal" only in the sense of being usual. Even accepting this standard as satisfactory, overcrowding does not cease till income rises above \$1,100.

The undorned figures of overcrowding, dark rooms and the like facts tell an eloquent tale of civic neglect and "hindsightness." New York's experience has an ominous lesson for other industrial communities with their swelling ground rents, planless growth, and lack of public control of the uses of land. That the expenditure of an exorbitant percentage of even a \$1,000 income will not secure adequate housing accommodations is a social fact of serious significance.—Prof. Henry D. Mussey, University of Pennsylvania.

Two Pages From Roman History

I Plebs Leaders and Labor Leaders. II The Warning of the Gracchi.

Two Lectures by Daniel De Leon, Editor of The Daily People.

If you want to know why the Socialist Labor Party denounces the labor fakirs and their queasying dupes; spurs sops and palliatives; scorns fuslens with hostile classes, read The Two Pages. A 96-page pamphlet selling at Fifteen Cents.

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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."

Table with 2 columns: Title and Price. Includes THE GOLD SICKLE, 50c; CARLOVINGIAN COINS, 50c; THE BRASS BELLA, 50c; THE IRON COLLAR, 50c; THE PONIARD'S HILT, 75c; THE BRANDING NEEDLE, 50c; THE ABBATIAL CROSIER, 50c; 8 More in Course of Publication. THE IRON ARROW HEAD, 50c; THE INFANT'S SKULL, 50c; THE PILGRIM'S SHELL, 75c; THE IRON TREVET, 75c.

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PLATFORM Adopted at the National Convention of the Socialist Labor Party, July, 1904, and Re-adopted at the National Convention, July, 1908. The Socialist Labor Party of America, in convention assembled, reasserts the inalienable right of man to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. We hold that the purpose of government is to secure to every citizen the enjoyment of this right; but taught by experience we hold furthermore that such right is illusory to the majority of the people, to wit, the working class, under the present system of economic inequality that is essentially destructive of THEIR life, THEIR liberty and THEIR happiness. We hold that the true theory of politics is that the machinery of government must be controlled by the whole people; but again taught by experience we hold furthermore that the true theory of economics is that the means of production must likewise be owned, operated and controlled by the people in common. Man cannot exercise his right of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness without the ownership of the land and the tool with which to work. Deprived of these, his life, his liberty and his fate fall into the hands of the class that owns those essentials for work and production. We hold that the existing contradiction between the theory of democratic government and the fact of a despotic economic system—the private ownership of the natural and social opportunities—divides the people into two classes: the Capitalist Class and the Working Class; throws society into the convulsions of the Class Struggle; and perverts government to the exclusive benefit of the Capitalist Class. Thus labor is robbed of the wealth which it alone produces, is denied the means of self-employment, and, by compulsory idleness in wage slavery, is even deprived of the necessities of life. Against such a system the Socialist Labor Party raises the banner of revolt, and demands the unconditional surrender of the Capitalist Class. The time is fast coming when in the natural course of social evolution, this system, through the destructive action of its failures and crises, on the one hand, and the constructive tendencies of its trusts and other capitalist combinations, on the other hand, will have worked out its own downfall. We, therefore, call upon the wage workers of America to organize under the banner of the Socialist Labor Party into a class conscious body, aware of its rights and determined to conquer them. And we also call upon all other intelligent citizens to place themselves squarely upon the ground of Working Class interests, and join us in this mighty and noble work of human emancipation, so that we may put summary end to the existing barbarous class conflict by placing the land and all the means of production, transportation and distribution into the hands of the people as a collective body, and substituting the Co-operative Commonwealth for the present state of planless production, industrial war and social disorder—a commonwealth in which every worker shall have the free exercise and full benefit of his faculties, multiplied by all the modern factors of civilization.