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WEEKLY PEOPLE

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NOTE AND COMMENT

REMARKS ON DOINGS AND THINGS OF THE WEEK.

"Godliness" of the Catholic Political Machine—A Few More Exposures Suggested for Congressman Parsons to Make—Machinery Displacing Farm Labor.

The Hamilton, Canada, "Herald" should not neglect to rub under the nose of the President of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association the October copy of Gompers' Cigarmakers' Journal which argues that strikes are numerous in "non-Union," or "Open Shops," while in the Union Shops brother Labor lies peacefully inside of Brother Capital's stomach. Only a month ago the President of the C. M. A. thunderously demanded the chasing away of Gompers' agents, and the "Herald" very long-headedly opposed him, and parliamentarily called him an ass.

Those who imagine that human nature is different with the Catholics of Ireland from what it is with the Catholics of France, Italy and other Catholic countries who have put their foot down upon the Roman Catholic political machine, may be surprised to learn that the "Irish Nation," a bona fide Roman Catholic publication, has this to say of the political Catholic bishops:

"They may gradually come to see the wisdom and necessity of interfering less in politics and the people's business. . . . We want less politics, or no politics, but a vast deal more of Christianity and Christian propagandism from the Bishops. . . . But alas! as every reader knows in his or her own heart, our Irish Bishops display no special enthusiasm in the way of helping the toiler or the thimble."

From realizing this to beginning to hauling these politicians in ambush the way they deserve and are handled in France and other Catholic countries is no very long step.

How completely the time for discussion between the classes has ended and the time for action has begun may be judged from the utterance, coolly made by the New York "Times," the organ of the Repo-Demo plundering class, that "we know of no orderly and law-abiding persons in the city of New York who have found occasion to complain of Commissioner Bingham as an oppressor and disrespector of the laws." To send his mounted police to disperse a peaceful meeting of the unemployed, and to trample down even the people who stood on the sidewalks—that was an exhibition of the kind of "respect for the laws" that advancing civilization will yet one day have to settle for with the "Timeses" and the Binghames.

The Rev. Jesuit Father J. F. X. O'Connor should brush upon his Euclid and on elemental logic. Father O'Connor denounces our public schools as "ungodly and immoral" because they do not teach his brand of religion,—that is legitimate enough, seeing that Father O'Connor belongs to a political hierarchy that makes religion a specialty. Father O'Connor also denounces France and Italy as "unjust and wicked"—that also is legitimate enough seeing that two political systems cannot long exist, one within the other, without one or other is put down, and that Father O'Connor's political system has been put down in Italy and France. But to make the two denunciations in one and the same breath, as Father O'Connor did in his sermon at St. Ignatius Church, Nostrand avenue and Carroll street, Brooklyn, on Sunday the 3d of this month—that is ill-advised because illogical. Father O'Connor should not remind his hearers of how things are in France and Italy, two countries that have long been under the "godly and moral" sway of the school system of Father O'Connor's political hierarchy. By reminding his hearers of that significant fact, the Father flatly contradicts his claim concerning the godliness and morality-breeding powers of the school system of his hierarchy. Can a godly and moral school system produce two such "unjust and wicked" daughters as France and Italy? Father O'Connor should learn to think.

Now that the Republican Congressman Parsons has charged Republicans with being in a corrupt league with Tam-

many, it would be timely for the Congressman to furnish the details of the steal committed by Congress with the aid, of course, of Republican Members, whereby, under the pretext of indemnifying the Bishop of Manila, \$400,000 were taken from the Federal Treasury for mainly Demo-Tammany political use at home. Congressman Parsons might also let the public know where he was when that vote was taken, and how he voted. Out with the secret of these political deals between ostensibly hostile political forces.

With the appearance of "The Casque's Lark," the fifth of the series of historic novels by Eugene Sue, there are now out the first successive twelve stories of the series. These comprise the world's history for a period covering about 1,200 years, beginning with the invasion of Gaul by the Romans before Christ. The fourteenth story of the series, "The Iron Trevet," having been out some time before, the appearance of the thirteenth story, "The Iron Pincers; or, Mylio the Trouvere," now going through the press, will speedily place within reach of readers the first fourteen and consecutive stories of the series. The man who does not know history is a cripple; the sport of mystificationists. None, surely not the militants in the Movement, can afford to be without this work—the best universal history extant. Thanks to Comrade Frederick Ball who, as our readers know, undertook the financing of the work of publication, the Labor News confidently expects to have the rest of the set out before the close of next year.

"Each machine does the work of five men" is the statement that accompanies the new milking machine. With machinery displacing labor on the farms almost as fast as machinery is displacing labor in the cities and with conditions in farm-neighborhoods that bear upon the proletariat with old-time feudal harshness and immunity, 'tis small wonder that the rural districts are becoming depopulated and urban centers congested.

"A ballot thief," announces the Republican candidate for Mayor Bannard, "is no better than a burglar or a murderer." Seeing that Mr. Bannard and his class keep the workers hustling for a job from New York to California so that they lose their residence and cannot vote; and seeing that to deprive a man of the opportunity to vote by either "repeating" in his name, or slugging him, or chasing him away in search of a job comes down to the same thing, it will be interesting to inquire from Mr. Bannard whether it is himself and his class he had in mind when he condemned the ballot thief as no better than a burglar or a murderer.

The Hon. Carl D. Thompson, a Socialist party Senator in the State of Wisconsin, informed the hearers, who came to Carnegie Hall on the 3d of this month to receive the message he brought to them from Milwaukee, that "something could be learned from the forty-nine nations that already owned all, or a part of their own railroads." Decidedly so and not something but something. The employes on the said railroads, like soldiers and marines, cannot demand better treatment, let alone strike, without being de facto court-martialed.

Samuel Schiff, the New York executor who slowly and no doubt arduously, sponged up all-but \$5,000 of the \$100,000 of his wards left to him to administer, is a sample of the "original accumulation" accumulator. Some time, if there is a strike in the millinery trade (Mr. Schiff's line) the unreasoning employes should be reminded that, had they executed as well as Schiff, they would be on top and not at the bottom. They should be reminded that the possession of wealth is the reward of intellect, and that they lacked the intellect to originally accumulate the original accumulation which bears the fruit of unpaid wages.

President Hadley of Yale surely made a hit when he warned the students against the habit of "drifting," which consists in "going with the crowd." But did President Hadley realize that in the making of his hit he tore to shreds the false claim of American "individuality"? There would be no occasion to make the hit if the habit, born of mental cowardice,

A CHARITY PRODUCT

One James Ford, who is advertised as "one of the best known authorities on mendicants in this country," and long an officer of the Charity Organization Society, is moving for the incorporation of a National Association that is to conduct the work "under broader lines." What the "broader lines" are Mr. James Ford's application for incorporation explains in detail.

The Association is to "investigate the causes and effects of destitution"; it is to inquire into the sources and the consequences of "homelessness, vagrancy and mendicancy"; it is to consider new methods for the "discouragement of mendicancy, begging and imposture"; finally, it is to "promote the physical and moral rehabilitation of individuals and prevent them becoming vagrants, tramps," etc.

did not widely prevail of being ashamed to "stand alone."

Charles T. Raines, the son of the Republican up-State leader, exposed of having received a \$3,000 job at the hand of Tammany at the time that a legislative committee was to be appointed to investigate New York, and the Democratic ex-Borough-of-the-Bronx President Louis F. Haffen, who was removed by the Republican Gov. Hughes for selling to the city for over \$200,000 strips of land he had just bought for about \$3,000, setting himself up as a candidate for reelection, announcing that he will be supported by "many Republicans"—are not these events conformitory of the Socialist Labor Party statement that the Republicans and Democrats are in one boat?

"Mr. Gaynor's intellectual ability," says the Judge's sponsor Edward M. Shepard, "his powerful will, his very face and figure, his voice and peculiarities of speech—all these things are well known by the workman of this city." We knew full well that Judge Gaynor's appearance, at least, is well known by John O'Connell, the one-time K. of L. Secretary of a Brooklyn brewers' Union who received a political job from the Judge in the Judge's Court. We were not aware that O'Connell was so numerous as to be "the workmen of this city."

How much like extracts from Tweed's ledger do the reports of the expenses of the Hudson-Fulton Show read. Items of \$1,000 a month salaries step upon the heels of \$300,000 disbursements for cheap floats and the like; and upon the heels of these troop other unaccountable items! And all this while the identical folks promise to give New York "an economic business administration" if elected this Fall.

REVOLUTIONS THE RESULT OF RE-PRESSING SOCIAL WANTS.

The times of that superstition which attributed revolutions to the ill-will of a few agitators have long passed away. Everyone knows nowadays that whenever there is a revolutionary convulsion, there must be some social want in the background, which is prevented, by out-worn institutions, from satisfying itself. The want may not yet be felt as strongly, as generally, as might ensure immediate success; but every attempt at forcible repression will only bring it forth stronger and stronger, until it bursts its fetters.—Karl Marx, in "Revolution and Counter-Revolution, or Germany in 1848," 192 pages, cloth, price 50 cents. New York Labor News Co. 28 City Hall Place, New York.

Prepare to Cut Mine Wages.

Philadelphia, Oct. 7.—Further steps toward a more compact organization of the soft coal operators of the central Pennsylvania district, were reported at a meeting of the association in the Bellevue-Stratford, when 30 new members were announced.

For several months members of the Bituminous Coal Operators' Association of the central district have been engaged in perfecting their organization so as to present a merciless front to the 30,000 miners of the district where the question of the wage scale comes in for settlement next April.

It is the operators' lying contention that the present wage scale agreed upon last April is "too high" for them to enter into a reasonable competition with soft coal operators of the other districts.

Is Mr. James Ford a Rip Van Winkle? Is he not aware that the "causes of destitution" have been amply investigated; have been found to be that social system that fatedly plunders the masses of the wealth they produce and concentrates the same in the hands of a few? Has he never heard that the "effects of destitution" are,—at one end of the line—a mass of people who, their living depending upon the sweet will and general incapacity of a class of plunderers, necessarily become improvident, and that improvidence breeds a large brood of Drunkenness, Prostitution, Insanity and Crime; and—at the other end of the line—an elite few, who, being goaded with affluence, through plunder, are likewise steeped in Immorality, Insanity and Crime? Did it never reach Mr. Ford's

S. P. GOING TO PIECES

To the Membership of the Socialist Party of the United States.

Whereas, it has for some time been apparent that the Socialist party of the United States is not a revolutionary organization of the working class, based on the principles of SCIENTIFIC SOCIALISM, but is merely a stamping ground for faddists, careerists and notoriety seekers bent upon obtaining pelf and power at the expense of an already overburdened class; and

Whereas, Practically all of the official positions in this organization have been usurped by a conscienceless crew of bourgeois buccaners as have ever practiced piracy on the high seas of Liberty, Equality and Fraternity; and

Whereas, This cockroach element, composed of preachers without pulpits, lawyers without clients, doctors without patients, storekeepers without customers, disgruntled political coyotes and other riff raff, through its self-appointed leadership, has relegated the real proletarians to the rear; and

Whereas, In their mad scramble for votes, these middle-headed marauders of the middle class have seen fit to foist upon the Socialist party, in the name of the working class, such infamies as "Craft Unionism," "Anti-Immigration," "State Autonomy," and a series of ludicrous and illogical "Immediate Demands"; and

Whereas, The final act, the climax, the culmination of these and other prostitutions came when the Socialist party by referendum vote decided to drop SOCIALISM from its platform and adopt in its stead an emasculated form of the late lamented Single Tax; be it therefore

Resolved, That we, the fifty-five proletarian members in good standing of the Third Ward Branch of Local Denver, Socialist party of Colorado, do re-affirm our allegiance to the principles of SCIENTIFIC SOCIALISM and to the cause of OUR class, and do hereby withdraw from the organization falsely called "The Socialist Party of the United States"; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the State and National officials of the party and to the Socialist and Labor Press of the United States. Third Ward Branch of Local Denver, Socialist Party of Colorado, by Herbert Graham, 1762 Champa. Philip Engle, 1830 Champa. Walker C. Smith, 715 W. 11th ave. Committee.

Dated at Denver, Colorado, September 23, 1909.

SEAMEN'S CONGRESS

Call Issued for International Convention in Denmark.

An international congress of the representatives of an alleged two million seamen throughout the world has been called by Andrew Fursueth, the president, and William H. Frazier, the secretary, of the International Seamen's Union of America, to plan legislation for the improvement of conditions for seamen in all civilized countries. The convention is advised to be held in Copenhagen, Denmark, in August, 1910. The call states in part

"To the World's Seamen:—Comrades—In reading over the different maritime codes it must become plain that there is no practical difference between them in reference to the status of the seaman. In all codes he is made the property of the vessel on which he sails. Once having signed, he must serve, with or against

attention that homelessness breeds the "bum"? Has he not yet learned the lesson that the promotion of the physical and moral rehabilitation of the individual depends upon his facility to earn his living and enjoy the fruit of his labor? In other words, did Mr. Ford never make acquaintance with American Colonial history whose pages are eloquent on the subject, British "branded criminals" here speedily having become founders of "First Families of Virginia," just so soon as their living was assured?

Once again is Mr. James Ford a Rip Van Winkle?

Not at all. The gentleman is a specimen product of Charity Organization training. As Charity begins at home, Mr. James Ford is charitably looking for a sinecure job for himself.

TAFT HANDSHAKE.

With Diaz Means Demise of Small Republic.

The Taft handshake and interview with President Diaz, of Mexico, on October 16, at El Paso, Texas, is not merely an interchange of friendly feelings, but foreshadows events of international significance, appears from an article which the New York Times published October 10. The article is from the Times' correspondent in Mexico City, and reports an interview with a leading South American diplomat. According to this statesman, whose name is not revealed, the meeting of the two presidents on October 16 means the completing of arrangements to wipe out the Central American republics, and possibly, to change the map in South America.

It is said that diplomatic circles in Mexico City are intensely interested, and the Central American representatives, decidedly alarmed over the purposes of the forthcoming interview between Taft and Diaz.

The "Times" correspondent quotes the South American official as saying the following

"The Taft-Diaz interview will be written history in the years to come, as one of the events on which turned the map-changing of the Western Hemisphere. When the two presidents meet on this Saturday of October, the preliminary steps toward the perfecting of an international pact will be taken which will mean the obliteration of the Central American republics and the possible erasing of Peru, Ecuador, Colombia, Venezuela, Uruguay, and Paraguay, as national entities.

"That this is not the wild dream of a visionary or an alarmist can be verified easily enough by feeling of the pulses of the embassies and legations of the Central American and South American republics here, in Mexico, and in Washington. There is not a representative of the countries named but would give much to have his suspicions allayed, or to know the real purposes of the United States and Mexico during the coming five years.

"The building of the Panama canal will force Uncle Sam to lead the orchestra, so far as the powers of the Western hemisphere are concerned, and Mexico has got to play second fiddle or suffer the fate of her lesser neighbors to the southward.

"We would suggest that such a meeting be held in Copenhagen, Denmark, in August, 1910."

S. L. P. TICKET WINS.

Rockville, Conn., Rep and Dem Votes Thrown Out, but Former Aged Seated.

Rockville, Conn., October 11.—The entire ticket of the Socialist Labor Party here has been elected. Votes, 35. The Republicans and the Democrats made mistakes on their ballots and were therefore thrown out. The Republicans were sworn in anyhow. The Socialist Labor Party will make a test case.

REVOLUTION IF LORDS BALK.

Newcastle, England, October 10.—David Lloyd-George, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, received a peculiar welcome this afternoon at the Palace Theatre here, where he gave to an audience of 4,000 what he called a "plain talk" on the subject of the budget.

"We are going to send that bill up to the House of Lords and get all the taxes or none," said the Chancellor. He did not know, he said, what would be the final action to be taken by 'poor Lord Lansdowne with his creaking old ship and mutinous crew,' but if the Lords tore up the Constitution by interfering with the money bill they would force a revolution.

"The Lords may decree a revolution, but the people will direct it if it is begun, and issues will be raised that are now little dreamed of, and answers to which will be charged with peril for the order of things which the peers represent."

RAILROADS TO FIGHT PAY LAW.

Buffalo, October 10.—The Erie, Lackawanna and Buffalo Creek Railroads pleaded not guilty yesterday to twenty five indictments charging them with violation of the labor law requiring them to pay employes twice a month. The attorneys reserved the right to demur later. The cases had been presented to the grand jury in September on evidence furnished by the State Labor Department. There is no dispute about the facts. The fight will be on the constitutionality of the law.

FERRER'S TRIAL

SPANISH REVOLUTIONIST SENTENCED BY COURT-MARTIAL.

Batches of Hearsay "Evidence" Introduced Against Him—Vague Statements Cited—Ferrer Makes Good Defence in His Own Behalf.

Paris, October 12.—Demonstrations and protests are being held by Socialist and labor organizations all over Europe denouncing the injustice of the Spanish government court-martial in sentencing Prof. Francisco Ferrer, the revolutionist, to death. Jaures and other members in the Chamber of Deputies made speeches denouncing the trial. The papers declare the court-martial proceedings were a travesty on justice, and the French Bar Association has taken the same stand.

Barcelona, Oct. 10.—The trial by court-martial of Ferrer, the former director of the Modern School of Barcelona, who is accused of having been the principal instigator of the recent revolutionary movement in Barcelona, is proceeding here. Col. Lacalle has been appointed Presiding Judge of the court in the place of Col. Aguerrot.

The evidence submitted by the Judge who conducted the preliminary investigation included some documents relating to the proclamation of a Spanish republic. It also comprised letters from Republicans, Free Masons, and Free Thinkers residing in various foreign countries, as well as political and revolutionary documents referring to the organization of a universal proletarian society, which, it is argued, proved Ferrer's complicity in the revolutionary agitation.

It was stated in the course of the evidence that Ferrer conducted his campaign in connection with Senor Iglesias, whose newspaper, El Progreso, is said to have vocated a revolution if the sons of the people should be forced to enter into the uncalled for war with Morocco.

The investigating Judge submitted the deposition of a witness who declared that he heard Ferrer say: "If it is necessary we will do as they did in Russia."

Much other hearsay testimony regarding remarks attributed to Ferrer was introduced in the course of the hearing. Gen. Brandeis testified that he had heard it said that Ferrer, had made large amounts of money in speculation.

Ferrer, speaking in his own defense, described how, with the police dogging his steps, he tried to keep out of sight during the rioting in Barcelona and vicinity. He denied that he had been involved in politics. He declared that he was solely interested in the improvement of the education of the youth of the country. He considered that the rising in Barcelona was quite spontaneous. He attributed the incendiaryism that had occurred to the madness of the moment. He was convinced that his prosecution was the work of enemies who wanted to destroy his printing establishment, as they had his modern school.

He denied the testimony of other witnesses and protested against the acceptance of hearsay evidence and the introduction of what he wrote as a youth twenty-four years ago, when he agitated for the establishment of a republic with the aid of the army.

THANKS FROM SWEDEN.

Fifty Thousand Determined Strikers Still Out, Grateful to America.

Arbetaren, the Socialist Labor Party's Swedish official organ, was in receipt on October 9, of a despatch which read:

"Arbetaren, 25 City Hall Place," "New York City." "The struggle in Sweden continues hard and bitter, with more than 50,000 still out, probably to remain out over winter.

"Powerful help is needed. We have got from America altogether more than 50,000 kroner (\$12,500).

"A hearty thanks to all for this display of solidarity.

"For the Landesskretariatet, "Lindquist."

The lessons learned by the Swedish workers in this gigantic struggle have been incalculable, and the determined men and women still out are not the kind to say die. All monies for their relief should be sent direct to the Landesskretariatet, Stockholm, Sweden.

(Continued on page 6.)

A QUESTION OF TACTICS

A PARTY OF SOCIALISM, IN ORDER TO TRIUMPH, MUST BE POISED ON BONA FIDE REVOLUTIONARY PRINCIPLES.

By Louis C. Fraina.

The controversy that has been agitating the Socialist party of Washington state contains much food for thought to the militant Socialist. The causes underlying the controversy, and its outcome—the splitting up of the organization into two hostile factions, each claiming to represent the true Socialist party; and the talk current in one of the factions of launching a "Wage-Labor" party—constitutes material from whence tactical conclusions of the utmost importance to the revolutionary Socialist movement are to be drawn.

To adequately understand the controversy necessitates our going back a few years to the inception of the Socialist party, the causes that led to its formation, and an analysis of the elements constituting its membership. The causes leading to the upheaval in the Socialist movement in 1899 had not their roots in personalities; they were the legitimate off-spring of two hostile elements battling for control within the Socialist Labor Party. The revolutionary proletarian element sought to put the Socialist movement on a firm proletarian and revolutionary basis, a policy that led to the formation of the S. T. & L. A., a class-conscious, economic organization; their propaganda was strict, educational, imbued with the spirit of uncompromising class consciousness. The bourgeois-reform element opposed these methods. The propaganda of the S. L. P. was, to them, "narrow," "intolerant," etc., an intolerance, however, bred of obedience to facts, and a revolt against which constituted a revolt against facts, and the theories flowing therefrom. A controversy ensued which culminated in an upheaval in 1899, when the bourgeois-reform element bolted the S. L. P.

The Socialist Labor Party, rid of the elements that had paralyzed its normal development, was now free to develop the principles and tactics that American full-grown capitalism rendered necessary. This development culminated in the present posture of the S. L. P.—a posture that calls for the unconditional surrender of the Capitalist Class; and for the POLITICAL and ECONOMIC organization of the Working Class—the first for agitation and warfare on the field of political action; the second to execute the revolutionary act of "taking and holding" the industries of the land, and to carry on production when capitalism shall have been overthrown.

The bourgeois-reform element organized in the Social Democratic, now the Socialist, party. The policy of the new organization was one of "broad," "tolerant," "practical" inconsistency and opportunism, thereby attracting a large element of freak-frauds to their ranks; so much so, that A. M. Lewis, writing in the International Socialist Review for January, 1906, states (page 438) that in the Socialist party "every third person is a spiritualist or Swedenborgian or theosophist or seventh day adventist or divine healer or astrologer or a believer in the great gospel or 'message' that 'Man is God' or 'I am it' or 'I am that I am'—which, if not literally true, nevertheless gives a hint as to the elements within the Socialist party—freaks and muddle-heads who perennially attach themselves to a radical organization the propaganda of which is not sound, and "tolerant" to the core. The effect is heightened when we add to this the bourgeois would-be-Socialists who, attracted by the "broad" policy of the Socialist party, by its immediate demands and bourgeois-reform character, joined the organization for the purpose of doing "something now" for the "oppressed and suffering proletariat," the miseries of whom rent their hearts with anguish. And beneath these elements the voice of the proletariat was stifled and hushed.

In such an organization, wherein such contradictory elements existed, unity and harmony were impossible. A conflict was inevitable from the first, a conflict between that element that had some inkling of revolutionary proletarian ideas, and the muddle-headed bourgeois-reformers. Since the inception of the Socialist party, this conflict has been waged within its ranks. Indeed, so virulent became this conflict in some states that, if it had not been for the state autonomy that prevails in the Socialist party, the whole organization would have been rent asunder, as Berger himself admitted at the 1908 convention of his party.

This conflict has been especially virulent in the State of Washington. These matters have come to a head, and a split has ensued. The proletarian element, seeing that harmony was an impossibility so long as their party was dominated by the

middle class, sought to rid their organization of this bourgeois element; and are now agitating for a strictly proletarian, a "Wage-Labor" party, to which none but wage-workers shall be admitted as members. With such an organization they believe it possible to avoid all "entangling alliances" and to have a real revolutionary Socialist party.

The proletarian element has acted obedient to a healthy instinct. The revolutionary force requisite for the overthrow of capitalism must come from the only class whose material interests are in harmony with the aims of the Social Revolution—the class of propertyless wage-workers. The mistake incurred by the proletarians of the Washington S. P. lies in their failing to grasp the fact that the strictly PROLETARIAN CHARACTER OF AN ORGANIZATION IS NO CRITERION OF ITS REVOLUTIONARINESS.

Instances of this are not lacking. The trade unions are notoriously conservative and reactionary. The British Labor party is a "Wage-Labor" party, and yet it is not a revolutionary Socialist organization. A Socialist party requires something more than proletarianism, and that is a propaganda that is uncompromisingly revolutionary in nature, thoroughly class-conscious, that aims at the political and industrial unity of the working class. A Socialist party with such a propaganda would be proof against the freak-frauds that now dominate the Socialist party. The proletarians of Washington, however, do not possess or believe in such a propaganda, theirs differing but slightly from that of the middle-class element. Both believe in pure-and-simple political action and in "immediate demands"; their slogan is, "Revolution at the ballot box!"—in short, theirs is the propaganda of the reformer, not the revolutionist. No reformers will stand. "Capitalism is a Usurpation: the Usurpation must be overthrown. Labor produces all wealth; all wealth belongs to Labor. Any act that indicates—or, rather, I shall put it this way: any action that, looking toward 'gentleness' or 'tolerance,' sacrifices the logic of the situation, undermines the Revolution. With the Proletarian Revolution, every proposition must be abreast of its aspirations; where not, it limps, it stumbles and falls." The Socialist party, with its "tolerant" and "broad," therefore inconsistent, propaganda; its talk of "buying out the capitalists," thus putting a class of social felons on a plane of equality with the workers; its general policy of opportunism and reform, has invited to its ranks the reactionary elements that now dominate it. A party that is revolutionary to the core, that demands the unconditional surrender of the Capitalist class, cannot be made the roosting-place of reactionary bourgeois-reformers. What bourgeois recruits may join its ranks will be thoroughly revolutionary.

The above pregnant facts lead to the following pregnant conclusions, which may be termed "canons of the Proletarian Revolution": First—Futile and chimerical is the idea of admitting none but proletarians to membership in a Socialist party; its function being, primarily, one of agitation and education, it can ignore only at its peril the intellectual forces in revolt against existing society. These forces must be bent to the service of the Socialist movement; but so as to insure a Socialist party retaining its Working Class character, its propaganda must be thoroughly PROLETARIAN and REVOLUTIONARY in nature; it dare not meddle with bourgeois-reform ideas, but must demand the unconditional surrender of the Capitalist Class.

Second—The force requisite for the overthrow of the Capitalist system of society can only issue forth out of the ranks of the proletariat; this proletarian element must be organized at the point of production, where they are exploited, hence it is the task of the political movement of Socialism to agitate for and seek to promote the integrally organized industrial organization of the Working Class. The industrial organization is the embryo of the future Socialist or Industrial Republic; it alone is fitted to "take and hold" the administration of the country's productive activity.

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CHattel SLAVERY

Still Exists in Its Most Brutal Forms in "Catholic" Mexico.

That chattel slavery, the last stage before wage slavery, still exists on a large scale in Mexico and that the republic of Diaz is in fact an extreme despotism are the charges made by John Kenneth Turner in a series of articles entitled "Barbarous Mexico," the first of which is published in the October number of "The American Magazine." The writer asserts that he got his facts at first hand on a trip through Mexico last year, in which he posed as an American capitalist seeking to buy a plantation, thus being able to acquire an inside knowledge of conditions. In view of the statements made, it is not surprising that "certain parties in Mexico have sought, by appeal to President Taft, to have the article excluded from the United States mails."

The State of Yucatan, in Mexico, described as a frightfully hot country, has a population of 300,000, of whom more than a third are estimated to be slaves. These human chattels are employed on great plantations of henequen or sisal hemp, which is grown chiefly for export. There are 250 members of the "slaveholders' club" in the city of Merida, "but the vast majority of the lands and the slaves are concentrated in the hands of fifty henequen kings." The chief henequen producer is Olegario Molina, Governor of Yucatan and a federal official, whose holdings of land are estimated at 15,000,000 acres. Of the human chattels in Yucatan there are said to be 8,000 Yaqui Indians, 3,000 Chinamen and more than 100,000 native inhabitants or Mayas.

While the constitution of Mexico forbids slavery, says Turner, the constitution is a dead letter. The masters do not publicly call their chattels slaves, referring to them as "people" or "laborers," but these "people" or "laborers" have a market value, are bought and sold, are kept in perpetual bondage, are punished, and killed at the pleasure of their owners. They are not merely peons; they are downright slaves, says Turner. Some owners make a pretence that the slaves are free laborers working out debts. In private talks such fictions are waved aside.

"The slaves are transferred from one master to another, not on any basis of debt," says Turner, "but on the basis of the market price of a man. In figuring on the purchase of a plantation I always had to figure on paying cash for the slaves, exactly the same as for the land, the machinery and the cattle. Four hundred Mexican dollars apiece was the prevailing price, and that is what the planters usually asked me. If you buy now, you buy at a very good time. I was told again and again. The panic has put the price down. One year ago the price of each man was \$1,000."

Yaqui Indians are much cheaper than the natives, for the Mexican government sells them to the planters for \$65 apiece. The reason for the low price of the Yaquis is that they die quickly in the torrid heat of Yucatan. It might be expected that a slave could at least free himself by paying his market price to his master, as did the black chattels of the Southern American States in many cases, but this by no means follows. Only one case was known to the author of a master permitting his slave to purchase his freedom. The fiction of working out debts not only fails to alleviate the condition of chattel servitude, but is an instrument of enslaving free laborers and adding them to the plantation force of human cattle. They are men who make it a business to get free city workers in debt and then to sell them in practically everlasting bondage to the henequen kings.

"The amount of the debt does not matter," says Turner, "so long as it is a debt, and the little transaction is arranged by men who combine the functions of money lender and slave broker. These men buy and sell slaves. And the planters buy and sell slaves. I was offered slaves in lots of one up by the planters. I was told that I could buy a man or a woman, a boy or a girl, or a thousand of any of them, to do with them exactly as I wished; that the police would protect me in my possession of those, my fellow beings. Slaves are not only used on the henequen plantations, but in the city, as personal servants, as laborers, as household drudges, as prostitutes.

"The slaves of Yucatan get no money. They are half starved. They are worked almost to death. They are beaten. A large percentage of them

are locked up every night in a house resembling a jail. If they are sick, they must still work, and if they are so sick it is impossible for them to work they are not permitted the services of a physician. The women are compelled to marry men of their own plantations only, and sometimes are compelled to marry men not of their choice. There are no schools for the children. Indeed, the entire lives of these people are ordered at the whim of a master, and if the master wishes to kill them he may do so with impunity. I heard numerous stories of slaves being beaten to death, but I never heard of an instance in which the murderer was punished, or even arrested.

"One of the first sights that we saw on a henequen plantation was the beating of a slave—a formal beating before the assembled toilers of the ranch, early in the morning, just after the daily rollcall. The slave was taken on the back of a huge Chinaman and given fifteen lashes across the bare back with a heavy wet rope—lashes so lustily delivered that the blood ran down the victim's body. This method of beating is an ancient one in Yucatan, and is the customary one on all the plantations for boys and all except the heaviest men. Women are required to kneel to be beaten, and sometimes are men of great weight. Men and women are beaten in the fields, as well as at the morning roll-call. Each foreman, or captain, carries a heavy cane, with which he punches and prods and whacks the slaves at will. I do not remember visiting a single field in which I did not see some of this punching and prodding and whacking going on."

Mediaeval tortures were heard of though not seen by the author. He was told of the favorite amusement of a planter, which consisted of timing the beating of his slaves by the period required to smoke a cigar. The master, sitting on horseback, would light a cigar, and the first whiff was a signal for the wet rope to descend on the bare back of a slave. Having smoked the cigar with a double enjoyment of its flavor and the satisfaction of his desire for cruelty, the master would throw the weed away, and the beating would cease.

On one plantation with several hundred slaves Turner found the human chattels existing on one meal a day, consisting of two corn tortillas, a bowl of beans and some decayed fish. The slaves rose at 3:45 o'clock in the morning and worked in the fields until dark, cutting the leaves of the hemp plant, loading the product on tractors, hoeing the stony ground, attending to the mill which tore the leaves into fibre. Those who were sick had the privilege of working in the drying yard. At nightfall the slaves were herded into a high walled inclosure by armed guards, received their one daily meal and were turned in to a thatched building to sleep in rows of rope hammocks crowded closely together.

There is no chance for a slave to escape in the barren land of Yucatan. He cannot subsist in the open without food and water. As soon as he appears at another plantation his photograph and description identify him. The author quotes a comparison he heard between Yucatan and Siberia: "Siberia is hell frozen over; Yucatan is hell aflame." But, pointing out that political exiles in Siberia are not slaves, may take their families with them, choose their own abodes, occupy themselves as they wish, and often receive a stipend from the government, Turner says: "I could not imagine Siberia as being as bad as Yucatan."

For the Student

- Communist Manifesto \$10
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- S. L. P. Report to Stuttgart Congress 25

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CLERICS BUSY

Want to Run Things Generally, from Minor Conduct to Colleges.

The preachers are getting bumptious these days. It was only recently that Father Henry F. Xavier of Yonkers, was threatening to cane those of his flock who did not obey him, next we have the Rev. Percy Stickney Grant, a Protestant preacher, dictating how the women of his congregation shall dress their hair. Over in Brooklyn a Roman Catholic priest tells his congregation that, "parents who do not send their children to the Catholic schools are endangering the souls of their children, and are disobedient to the church," and on top of that comes Bishop McFaul with a denouncement of the secular universities of the country.

In a letter sent October 4, to the priests of the Diocese of Trenton he appeals to priests and laity to patronize Roman Catholic institutions and to shun the secular colleges. In the letter he said:

"In announcing the annual collection for the benefit of the Catholic University of America, (at Washington, D. C.) let me draw the attention of the clergy and the laity to the danger of patronizing non-Catholic institutions of learning. Every one knows that it has been repeatedly stated on the best of authority that certain professors in our great secular universities deliver lectures calculated to subvert Christian faith and Christian morality.

"They assert that there is no God, at least as men heretofore conceived of him; no divinely given Ten Commandments; no church, and as for the Bible, one must be freed from all slavery to the sacred myths which it contains.

"It is needless to say that the christianity which these alleged scientific gentlemen attack is not christianity as expounded by the Catholic Church. They build up a straw religion of their own, and then take delight in knocking it down.

"When visiting our secular universities I have been amazed at the wealth they possess, and the generosity of their friends. At the same time I have been saddened at the thought of how little Catholics do in comparison with their non-Catholic brethren for the building up and the maintenance of higher education in this country.

"It certainly is provoking to learn of Catholic parents sending their sons and daughters for a year or two to Catholic institutions where the annual tuition is only between \$200 and \$300, then to hear them grumbling about the buildings, the food, the studies, and the teachers, and the next year to observe that they have selected some high-priced non-Catholic college or seminary, where the expenses range from \$800 to thousands of dollars.

"I most earnestly exhort all Catholics, especially those under my charge, to patronize Catholic institutions, to support them generously, and if God has blessed them with sufficient means to offer large donations, that their usefulness may be extended and all those departments established which will eliminate every excuse for our young men and women to seek an education where the atmosphere is such that it may prove detrimental to their temporal and spiritual interests."

It is reported that the Bishop will take further steps toward diverting the children of Catholic parents from secular institutions.

AGE OF REASON.

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TO YOU, COMRADE

Not Passive Adherence Alone but Your Activity and Support Are Needed.

The world wide industrial depression has seriously hampered the work of the Socialist and labor press the world over. London "Justice," after its twenty-six years of existence, finds itself compelled to call loudly upon its readers for help. Harking back to the strenuous days of Marx, a writer in "Justice" goes on to say:

"The intervening years have been years of tragedy for the working class, and years of sublime effort on the part of those gathered under the Red Flag. What conflicts and strikes and lockouts have happened since then! What examples of heroism and zeal; of sustained enthusiasm; of self abnegation; of wonderful idealism have those years produced! Every country has contributed its quota of heroes and martyrs. Every big, gloomy city could tell marvellous tales of devotion and courage.

"No drama that man has ever imagined can equal in intensity and power the universal drama of the class struggle. The flame-lit sky and bloody gutters of the Paris Commune; the meetings in the fog on the evening of the Chicago Haymarket outrage; the Terror in Warsaw and St. Petersburg and Moscow, and the other Russian towns; the Trafalgar Square riots; the sanguinary strikes in France, in Spain, in Italy, in England at Featherstone, in Ireland at Belfast, in America at Homestead and in Colorado, are mere scenes in the play that is now nearing the curtain.

"And the actors in this immense drama that has the world for a stage and the happiness of humanity at stake—what of them?

"Incidents crowd on one's mind. The gentle, but intrepid Marx—having been hounded from country to country—writing his analysis of capitalist society in the Dean street rooms in the midst of bitter poverty and suffering; grand old Liebknecht going gladly to prison at seventy years of age—after a life spent partly in exile and partly in strenuous agitation; the Sergeant of the Commune, who, found dying in the streets of Paris, and asked what he had fought for, replied: 'For the solidarity of the human race'; Parsons—the Chicago martyr—who preferred death on the scaffold with his comrades to liberty; the beautiful Russian girl who cried, with the hangman's rope about her neck, 'Hail to the Revolution! My life was all I had to give'; the veterans of the grand, though terrible, Old Guard, in the many trials and battles of their struggle; Bebel in his German prison, Stepiak, and the rest. Such have been the actors. By their life has been reckoned cheap; liberty has counted as naught; wealth and position, bodily comfort, peace of mind—everything—has been sacrificed; and because of that sacrifice the spirit of revolt has spread over the entire earth.

"This wonderful devotion and sacrifice should mean a lot to you, comrade! It should show you how necessary is sacrifice. It should point out to you the demands of the movement. It should prove to you that 'being a Social-Democrat implies not merely a passive adherence to certain principles. It should make you understand that Social-Democrats have to work and strive and fight besides believing in Social Democracy.

"Although in every city of capitalism there is an earnest band of revolutionary propagandists; although in every country the strength of Socialism is increasing amazingly, yet all is not won. Victory is in sight, but yet remains to be achieved. There is still much to be done. The work and the sacrifice still devolves upon you, comrade."

We are having our own financial troubles here. Help us get over the difficulties by doing as these have done—contribute your mite.

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OFFICIAL

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE Paul Augustine, National Secretary, 28 City Hall Place, N. Y. City. CANADIAN S. L. P., Philip Courtenay, National Secretary, 144 Duchess avenue, London, Ont. NEW YORK LABOR NEWS CO., the Party's Literary Agency, 28 City Hall Place, N. Y. City. NOTICE—For technical reasons no Party announcements can go in that are not in this office by Tuesday, 10 p. m.

NEW YORK S. E. C. A regular meeting of the New York State Executive Committee, Socialist Labor Party, was held on Friday, October 1st, at 8 p. m., with Joseph P. Johnson in the chair, there being also present Kuhn, Donohue, Hiltner and Moonelis. Walters and Wilson absent with excuse; Scheurer without excuse. Mrs. A. Grieb appeared before the Committee on behalf of her husband, the new member in place of Hanlon, asking that he be excused for this meeting on account of being out of town, which, upon motion, was done. Kuhn having an important matter to attend to elsewhere, was excused early in the meeting. Minutes of previous meeting adopted as read.

The Secretary reported he had notified all members to attend, as well as Grieb the new member; that he had written Wilson at Rochester urging him to extend his trip to Buffalo for a week or so, but Wilson replied he could not see his way clear to do so, and advised Buffalo direct to that effect; that in the matter of gathering signatures at Buffalo for City and County ticket, finding that William H. Carroll had just returned to town from Pittsburgh, he wired Reinstein at Buffalo asking whether they wanted Carroll for this work receiving an affirmative wire in return, sent Carroll that evening to Buffalo, where he would be in the pay of the Section at Buffalo, and not of the S. E. C., as that Section had expressed its willingness to pay all wages and expenses; that he had followed this by letters to Reinstein and Carroll, pointing out what was necessary to be done. He further reported that he and the National Secretary visited the General Party meeting called by the S. E. C., for Saturday, September 18th, in Kings County, and after a thorough discussion of the needs of the moment officers were shifted and work planned for the ensuing campaign; also caused William Goeller, Jr., Notary in Queens County, to be supplied with City Nominating blanks. Secretary's actions endorsed and report received.

Comrade George H. Wilson submitted a report in writing of his trip to Utica, Syracuse and Rochester, details of which have already appeared in the Daily People; successful meetings were held in all three places and new members added to the Party; held a meeting in Rochester attended by several sympathizers and S. P. discounters, and laid out plans for local work, which each one present pledged himself to undertake; took up collection at meeting of \$6, and promised on behalf of the S. E. C., their cooperation in any effort the Section would make to build itself up; that in all the places visited he made personal calls on members, sympathizers and others, made collections, sold papers, pamphlets, Labor News and Sue books, and got subs. for various Party papers; more monies were collected than cost of trip, but Kuhn having taken Wilson's bill along with him earlier in the evening, same did not come before the meeting. The report was received and actions of Wilson endorsed.

Financial Report:—August: Receipts, general, \$84.24; mileage, \$9.21; total, \$93.45; Expenses, \$110.80. September: Receipts, general, \$30.20; mileage, \$7.05; total, \$37.25; Expenses, \$3.06. Meeting adjourned 9 p. m., to meet again Friday, October 15th, 7 p. m. Edmund Moonelis, Secretary.

MASSACHUSETTS, ATTENTION! The leaflets containing the State ticket of the Socialist Labor Party and the address to the workingmen of Massachusetts are ready for distribution. Readers of the Weekly People can, in their respective localities, do some propaganda for S. L. P. principles, and bring to the attention of workingmen the Weekly People. Write to the undersigned and have a small bundle mailed to your address. John Sweeney, 85 Centre street, Roxbury, Mass.

Not infrequently we get conscientious reading: "Someone handed me a copy of your paper and I want to know more about it." Pass your paper along when read.

MINNESOTA S. E. C. The Minnesota S. E. C. met at 1938 University avenue on October 2nd, M. J. Cikaneck, chairman. Present, Riel, Henlon, Carstensen, and H. Johnson, State Secretary. Absent, John Olson, excused. J. Jensen. Minutes of previous meeting read and approved. Correspondence: From Section Duluth, regarding loan to Daily People. Report of Committee on Party press accepted and ordered published in Daily and Weekly People. Report of State Secretary accepted. Bill for postage and stationery ordered paid. Expenses, \$1.35; balance on hand, \$19.20. Motion to adjourn carried. William E. McCue, Rec. Sec.

PRESS SECURITY LEAGUE, S. L. P. Contributor's Report. California, Los Angeles— J. Leurginni 2.00 J. Holler 2.00 J. Kolash 2.00 Connecticut, West Haven— M. Stodel 1.00 H. Gunn .75 C. Sundberg 1.09 J. Marek 1.40 C. Warner .25 J. Larsen 3.00 J. Johnson .50 O. Ruckser 1.50 Massachusetts, Pittsfield— H. Schmalfuss 3.00 Massachusetts, South Boston— C. Jocelin 1.00 New Jersey, Jersey City— D. H. Schoenleber 1.50 C. J. Wolf 3.00 New York, New York City— 13th and 16th A. D., S. L. P. 3.00 15th and 17th A. D., S. L. P. 1.00 M. Solomon 4.00 New York, Brooklyn— F. Browne 5.00 Ohio, Cincinnati— M. Eisenberg 1.00 J. Isaack 2.00 Virginia, Richmond— Section Richmond, S. L. P. 2.50 Washington, Port Angeles— A. Anderson 6.00 Washington, Hoquiam— G. A. Reuter 3.00 Total 51.00 Previously acknowledged, report of Feb. 28, 1909 109.75 Grand total \$160.75 A. C. Kihn, Sec'y-Treas., Press Security League. October 4, 1909.

SEND PRESENTS FOR THANKSGIVING DAY FESTIVAL. To members of the S. L. P. and its Sympathizers:— The annual fall festival of the Socialist Labor Party of New York City, will be held on Thanksgiving Day of this year at Grand Central Palace. A bazaar and fair will be held in conjunction with this fall festival, where articles given by members and friends will be sold at auction for the benefit of the Daily People. For this we need your hearty co-operation. What we expect of you is to send us something that your wife, sweetheart, your sister or yourself may have talent and will to create. A beautiful array of presents is usually exhibited at these affairs—the result of the efforts of all those that proclaim with pride that they directly or indirectly aid the revolutionary movement of the working class of America. We desire to put more presents on our tables at these festivals and there is no reason why we should not be helped to do it. Let everyone send something. Every little bit helps. Is it necessary to remind you that whatever you send for the Daily People is like sending more ammunition that will destroy the fort of capitalism? All presents should be sent to L. Abelson, 28 City Hall place, New York City. Please do not delay this matter. Get busy now! Entertainment Committee Section New York County. A. Orange, Secretary.

DON'T BUY SALICO — For — Rheumatism until you have tried a Free Trial Sample. Address H. L. BERGER, Ph.G. Druggist, 2nd Ave. & 96th St., N. Y. Watch the label on your paper. It will tell you when your subscription expires. First number indicates the month, second, the day, third, the year.

LIGHT! LIGHT! Is the Need of the Workers in This Befuddling Campaign.

Despite all the efforts of capitalist agencies to discredit Socialism in the minds of the workers, and despite all their efforts to arouse prejudice against Socialists, the fact remains that the workers respect the knowledge and integrity shown by the class conscious revolutionists. The freak and the fraud "Socialist" may fool them for a time, but they are not to be fooled forever. Amid all the dust raising, to fool the workingmen voters, that is going on now, the S. L. P. propagandist, standing forth and speaking with the authority that S. L. P. knowledge gives, should be the man to whom the wage workers turn for enlightenment and advice. But the propagandist should not depend solely upon what he can do by word of mouth. He can double and redouble his efforts, as a propagandist, by utilizing the Party's agencies for propaganda—the Party press and literature. There are any number of men who want to know; there are in fact more seekers for knowledge than our best efforts at present could reach. But that we are not putting forth our best efforts is shown in the following list of those who last week sent two or more readers, which contains not one name from New York or Brooklyn: J. A. Leach, Phoenix, Ariz. 4 J. W. Stewart, Tucson, Ariz. 2 Chas. Bock, Morris, Cal. 3 K. Bauer, Felton, Cal. 2 F. Knotek, Hartford, Conn. 5 H. Finken, Mystic, Conn. 2 F. P. Janke, Indianapolis, Ind. 2 F. Bohmbach, Boston, Mass. 4 J. Sweeney, Roxbury, Mass. 2 F. Hanson, Medford, Mass. 2 H. Koepke, Pittsfield, Mass. 2 R. W. Stevens, Baltimore, Md. 2 C. Benson, Minneapolis, Minn. 5 W. L. Kolkmeier, St. Charles, Mo. 2 J. Scheidler, St. Louis, Mo. 3 E. Hauk, Buffalo, N. Y. 2 C. W. Ensign, Rotterdam Jct., N. Y. 2 F. Brown, Cleveland, O. 6 C. Pierson, Cincinnati, O. 19 Fannie Chernin, El Paso, Tex. 2 A. Gillhaus, Tacoma, Wash. 2 L. Olsson, Tacoma, Wash. 5 B. H. Helming, Milwaukee, Wis. 2 Prepaid Cards sold: Buffalo, N. Y., \$4.20; Denver, Colo., \$7.75; Tacoma, Wash., \$7.50; J. McCall, Wyoming, \$10.

SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY ORGANS Weekly People, 28 City Hall Place, N. Y., per year \$1.00 Daily People, 28 City Hall Place, N. Y., per year 3.50 Arbetaren (Swedish Weekly) 28 City Hall Place, N. Y., per year 1.50 Der Arbeiter (Jewish Weekly) 23 City Hall Place, N. Y., per year .50 Volksfreund und Arbeiter Zeitung (German Weekly), 1386 Ontario street, Cleveland, O., per year 1.00 Nepakarant (Hungarian Semi-weekly), 528 East Sixth street, N. Y., per year 2.00 Ragione Nuova (Italian Monthly), 206 Atwell ave., Providence, R. I., per year .35 He who comes in contact with workingmen reading any of these languages should not fail to call attention to these papers and endeavor to secure subscriptions. Sample copies will be sent upon request. Address each paper as per address given above, and not as often the case to the Labor News. Paul Augustine, National Secretary, 28 City Hall Place, New York. HOW TO JOIN THE SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY. All persons desiring to attach themselves to the Socialist Labor Party, either by the formation of a local organization known as a "Section," or by joining as members at large, may proceed as follows: 1. Seven or more persons may form a "Section," provided they subscribe to the platform and constitution of the S. L. P., and belong to no other political party. 2. Isolated persons, unable to find six others to join with them in organizing a "Section," but desiring to become members, may do so by becoming members at large by signing an application card, subscribing thereon to the platform and constitution of the S. L. P., and answering other questions on said application card. For application blanks to be used in the formation of "Sections" and for application cards for the use of individual members as well as all other information apply to the undersigned. Paul Augustine, National Secretary, 28 City Hall Place, New York City. When you have read this paper, pass it on to a friend.

TAFT HANDSHAKE (Continued from page one.)

vague suggestions of the plan were made. Even then the President of Mexico slipped in an interview with a representative of a big New York daily and admitted that he favored a protectorate over Central America. Such a commotion was raised over this admission that the President promptly denied that he made it, though official Mexico knew that he had done so. "But while the statesmanship of Taft may not be so bold as that of Roosevelt, it is far more clever. Taft is smoothly paving the way for the coup with the full consent and knowledge of Mexico. Instead of wielding the big stick and rushing warships to Central American waters he is using the far more efficacious means of American gold. "Taft is going to Roosevelt's old enemy, Wall Street, for a solution of this very difficult problem. "Just glance at the press reports of the last fortnight and examine them in the light of my supposition. First, the readers of the world are told of the Presidential meeting at El Paso. Of course, it is to be but a friendly affair, a shaking of hands. Simultaneously with all this comes the announcement of the establishment of a great chain of banks throughout Mexico, Central America, and South America. American gold is backing this venture, and the State Department at Washington openly admits that the government is backing the venture in all ways except putting up the actual cash, while officials of the International Bureau of American Republics say that Washington is behind the movement. "So far the real hand of Uncle Sam is not shown. But see the next move. A dispatch from Honduras announces that arrangements have been made with the banking firm of J. P. Morgan & Co. for the refunding of the Honduran debt. This will quiet the British debtors and give the State Department time to see how the rest of Central America takes the move. Nothing alarming comes of the announcement except some stories of a proposed American protectorate, which Washington promptly denies. "Closely on the heels of this comes the announcement of a flotation of a large gold loan by the Republic of Salvador. The loan is taken by New York bankers. Then comes the announcement that the financial firm of George W. Young & Co., of New York, have completed the formal negotiations for the refunding of the Guatemala national debt of some \$12,000,000. Only Costa Rica and Nicaragua are left, and the former soon falls into line by borrowing from the Yankees. It is not in this game to have President Zelaya borrow. He would if he could. The White House and Chapultepec look to him to be the trouble maker who will make the culmination of the plans of the two larger republics possible. "We learn now that the head of the American State Department, Secretary Philander Knox, is to be of the party at El Paso, as is also that aged statesman who heads the department of foreign Relations in Mexico, Senior Ignacio Mariscal; along with these come practically half of the respective cabinets. Oh, yes, this is a simple hand-shaking affair in which eight important cabinet ministers will assist. "Central America is now in the grasp of Uncle Sam. That region is in the position of Antwerp in 'The Merchant of Venice,' and the pound of flesh will be demanded and paid in this instance, for where is the fair Portia that will prevent it? By 1915 the Republic of Mexico will extend to somewhere near the northern edges of the Panama Canal. And what will the United States get out of it all? Just this. Mexico will cede a wide stretch of land on the north in what was formerly the territory of Costa Rica; on the south matters will be arranged with Chile, as will be shown later, for that republic will perhaps be bounded on the north by the canal zone as early as 1920. Mexico will further cede the Clipperton Islands in the Pacific to the United States and enter into an agreement with her northern neighbor as to armaments that will make the respective ends of the canal as impregnable as Gibraltar. "What is planned after the annexation of Central America by Mexico is the consolidation of political South America, so that continent will be composed of three great nations; namely, Brazil, Argentina, and Chile. The last country will be extended north as far as the centre of what is now the Republic of Panama and will swallow by annexation parts of Bolivia, Peru, Ecuador, and Colombia, and a part of the former republic of Panama. The other half will go to the United States for a canal zone. In other words, Chile will comprise the whole Andean region. "Argentina will be given Uruguay and Paraguay, with the western half of what is now Bolivia and Peru, Brazil all of Venezuela and the eastern Andean slopes of Ecuador and Colombia. British Dutch and French Guiana may be acquired from the respective owning powers by

THE SILVER CROSS

Sue's Brilliant Work Well Received on the Pacific Coast. The republication of a little book once famous from the pen of Eugene Sue, would seem to demonstrate that this French writer of a bygone century originated the idea of weaving into attractive fiction the events in the life of Jesus Christ, as depicted in the New Testament, and, moreover, that he consummated this in a masterly manner, putting to shame the ambitious but often stilted narratives of a later day. In "The Silver Cross" the French novelist recounts in a vivid and realistic manner the stir made amid the rich and powerful by the appearance of the lowly Nazarene and the great following he gathered around him. The story is supposed to be narrated by Genevieve, a slave to the great Roman Lady Aurelia, much favored by her amiable mistress, and permitted to attend upon her on the occasion of notable social gatherings, where the Christ is bitterly indicted and denounced by officials, rich men and priests, whose temporal power and worldly station he has assailed. Each of the great men introduced is a type of his class, singularly enough as recognizable in this country to-day as he was a hundred years ago in France, and the wrath with which they are filled, the comments they make upon the man who dares to criticize them, their determination that he shall be brought to answer for his impudence and presumption, are precisely what might be expected to-day should some daring agitator, eloquent and persuasive, go on the streets of our leading cities and assail established social conditions, winning sympathizers and followers from all classes of society, and exciting the enthusiastic interest of high-born women. The scenes of the crucifixion are described in brutal detail. The book is translated from the original French by Daniel De Leon. (The New York Labor News Company; price 50 cents.)—San Francisco Chronicle. 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, 49 Dubose avenue. Los Angeles, Cal., Headquarters and public reading room at 317 East Seventh street. Public educational meetings Sunday evenings.—People readers are invited to our rooms and meetings. Headquarters Section Cincinnati, O., S. L. P., at 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 Hartford, Conn., meets every second Wednesday in the month at 8 p. m. at Headquarters, 34 Elm street. Section Providence, R. I., 81 Dyer st., room 8. Regular meetings second and fourth Tuesdays of each month. New Jersey State Executive Committee, S. L. P.—John Hossack, Secretary, 22 Fulton ave., Jersey City; Fred. Gerold, Financial Secretary, 102 Waverly st., Jersey City, N. J. Chicago, Illinois—The 14th Ward Branch, Socialist Labor Party, meets every first and third Friday, 8 p. m., at Friedman's Hall, Grand and Western avenues. Workingmen and women invited. Headquarters Section Seattle, Sullivan Building, 712 First avenue, Room 207. P. O. Box 1854. Propaganda meetings every Sunday, 8 p. m., Maccabee Hall, corner 4th and Pine streets. All communications intended for the Minnesota S. E. C. should be addressed to Herbert Johnson, 475 Como 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. Section Denver meets every 1st and 3rd Thursday each month, at Hall 401 Club Building, 1731 Arapahoe street. People readers invited. Agent of Party organs, Al. Wernet, Hotel Carlton, 15th and Glenarm streets. purchase. At any rate they will have been acquired by 1920 by purchase or otherwise and Uncle Sam will then see Europe forever banished from the Western hemisphere."

PLATFORM Adopted at the National Convention of the Socialist Labor Party, July, 1904, and Re-adopted at the National Convention, July, 1903.

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 necessaries 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.

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