



S. T. & L. A.

Call For the 2d Annual Convention in Faneuil Hall, Boston.

To the Local and District Alliances of the Socialist Trade & Labor Alliance:

Greeting—You are hereby called upon to send delegates—one for every L. A. and three for every D. A.—to the second National Convention of the S. T. & L. A., to be held in Faneuil Hall, Boston, on Monday, July 5. The convention will be called to order at 10 a. m. sharp.

The condition in which the working class finds itself, thanks to the usurpations of capitalism and the aid lent to the capitalist class by an ignorant and corrupt set of labor leaders, to whom the workers had confided their interests, calls every day more loudly for reorganization upon the more intelligent plane of the S. T. & L. A.

When a year and a half ago the parent bodies of the S. T. & L. A. issued the call to set up this new organization, and subsequently called the first convention in New York, many honorable people doubted the wisdom of the act. They doubted, first, because they saw around them the demoralizing effects of "pure and simple" leadership upon the masses, and concluded that the just hatred and contempt which the A. F. of L. and the K. of L. labor chieftains had engendered in the rank and file, had so thoroughly disgusted the workers that these had lost all faith in trades unionism, and, having been so scandalously cheated by the officers of these old organizations, would be apt to conclude that all trades unions were futile, and all officers equally ignorant and corrupt; consequently, that the establishment of a new national and international central body, however sound its basis, however intelligent its aims, and however wise its tactics, would receive no response from the disheartened toilers. And, secondly, they doubted because they considered too arduous for execution the task of erecting such an aggressively progressive body, in the very teeth of the violent opposition that was to be expected from the combined forces of capitalists and their lackeys, the labor fakirs. They were mistaken in both respects.

Disgusted and disheartened, and suspicious of everything that bore even the semblance of a "union," the rank and file recognized in the language of the S. T. & L. A. manifesto the ring of honesty and note of sound judgment. It was to them like a ray of light that pierced its way through the dense clouds of dark hopelessness that hung over their heads. From ocean to ocean, from the lakes to the Gulf, the subjects of the S. T. & L. A. became the subject of discussion. They breathed a new spirit into those who had dropped out of labor organization, and they nerved many of those who still held their membership but cared not to wage a hopeless war against incompetent leadership backed by a listless mass. The appearance of the S. T. & L. A. gave both something to fight for. In some places new organizations were formed, in other places organizations tore loose from their previous "pure and simple" affiliations, and in yet other instances the honorable and intelligent element took up the fight within their own bodies. Gauged by these manifestations alone, the work of the S. T. & L. A. cannot be estimated too highly. The word "unionism," which had sunk to the lowest ebb of infamy—the bulk of the unions having become simply buffers for capitalism and merchandise for a disreputable pack of labor fakirs to trade upon—has been rescued and shown to be capable of aiding the onward march of the proletariat to emancipation.

And as to the second cause of doubt, there is no task so arduous to those who determinedly assail wrong and are armored with the armor of science. The parent organizations of the S. T. & L. A. fully understood the situation. They knew the power of capital, and that of the labor fakirs, but they also knew the inherent weakness of both. They knew that it is the law of capital to eat its own throat, and that one of its important missions is zealously to furnish object lessons to verify the preachings of the revolutionary Socialists. The parent organizations of the S. T. & L. A. could confidently rely upon aid from the development of capitalism; that aid comes in every day; and our warning that labor can not expect any improvement, can not even expect to hold its own, under the capitalist system, is being daily verified. On the other hand, the illusions that capitalism fosters among the rank and file of the workers were fostered by the aid of the labor fakirs; these illusions could not vanish without at the same time undermining the fakir himself. Time, if left to itself, was bound to bring help; with the aid of the S. T. & L. A. the destructive forces within the old unions were stimulated, and simultaneously the constructive forces of New Trade Unionism reared a home for the future economic wing of the Army of Emancipation. The parent organizations of the S. T. & L. A. undertook a task that was arduous, but that to the knowing and the brave had only success in store.

At this second gathering of our noble organization we find the economic organizations of labor that are outside of our own ranks in a pitiful condition. Reared upon the false dogma that Capital and Labor are brothers, kept alive in the past with the false hope that "something will turn up," directed by the false tactics that split the ranks of the workers into warring fragments—these unions have wasted their energies and have answered no purpose other than to keep in affluence, in food and liquor, the paid officers that they supported, and to postpone the day when the usurping capitalist class will be hurled out of power.

The S. T. & L. A., however, reared on the principles that he who does not labor cannot be justly entitled to any portion of the wealth that is produced; that the capitalist class is an idle class, entitled to nothing but political and economic burial; that the power of this class and the inevitably deepening misery of the proletariat is due to the private ownership by the former of the machinery of production; that the proletariat is, under the existing order, nothing but a merchandise whose price depends, like that of all other merchandise, upon the supply of and the demand for it; that such an inhuman and beastly condition of things can, in the very nature of things, no longer be mended, and must be ended; that an irrepressible conflict rages between the capitalist class and the class of the proletariat; that this conflict can be ended only by putting in the hands of the whole people the whole machinery of production; and that, to accomplish this the class of the proletariat must organize to fight the capitalist class unitedly in the shop and at the ballot box—reared upon these sound and irrefutable principles, the S. T. & L. A. has taken a commanding place among the forces that in this country are in social conflict.

Nor has the S. T. & L. A. taken the field too soon. Capitalism in this country is in its last paroxysms. The internecine feuds between the several and conflicting interests in the camp of the capitalist class are splitting that class into numerous and irreconcilable fragments. Left to the guidance of the ignorant and perverse adventurers who have hitherto led the hosts of labor, the working class would, instead of forming one solid body pursuing its own great historic mission of wiping out class rule and establishing actual freedom, be found to reflect the divisions in the ranks of their masters, and arrayed against each other on the various economic capitalist platforms of free trade and protection, gold and silver, "Glasgow plans," and "individualism," etc., etc. Our organization, by holding up clear the only principle that alone can unite the proletariat and keep it united, fills a place of high importance in this generation, and moving on parallel lines with the Socialist Labor party, supplements on the economic field the efforts of the latter on the political.

The nation's condition at this our second annual convention renders our gathering one of great historic importance. A full delegation is invited to aid in the performing of our work to the full extent of our powers, and in a manner becoming to the high aspirations of our great cause.

By order of the General Executive Board.

ERNEST BOHM, Secretary.

THE "DEBS PLAN."

Its Upholders Being Out-Argued Resort to Blackguardism.

It is significant that the "Coming Nation" prints with evident glee an idiotic misrepresentation from the "Western Miner," criticizing THE PEOPLE and its editor because THE PEOPLE told the truth about the Debs plan of colonizing a State. The idiocy of the editor of the "Western Miner" and "Coming Nation" is shown when not a line of THE PEOPLE article is refuted.

It is simply a howl and an echo. The "Western Miner" and E. V. Debs both preach Socialism, and both say Socialism is the only remedy, but neither ever supported or voted for Socialism or a Socialist candidate. Both supported William J. Bryan, who has declared that he is NOT a Socialist. The editor of THE PEOPLE, nor any other real Socialist, is trying to catch flies. We are after men, and we are not looking to increase the number of dissatisfied men, but to convert those who are already dissatisfied. Nine out of every ten men in this country are today dissatisfied, and the labor leader or labor paper that refuses to point out the true path to economic freedom certainly fails to do a duty.

Neither THE PEOPLE nor the Socialist Labor party has ever called the rank and file of labor unions fools and rascals. We have shown up the fakirs, and will continue to show them up. But both the "Western Miner" and the "Coming Nation" display their ignorance in printing that: "We don't care what school of economic thought a man has." If a brother wished to go to New York and started from Richmond, Va., towards the South Pole, that logic would let him proceed. But the logic of the Socialist Labor party would say to this brother: "Turn about, the right road is North, not South." The statement about the S. L. P. meeting in the back rooms of saloons is too contemptible a lie to be noticed. The fact that the S. L. P. is making a steady advance, and will number 16,000,000 votes in 12 years if it maintains the ratio of growth it has had in the last 8 years, makes some half-backed Socialists quite mad. Hence the bray of the "Western Miner's" jackass.

G. R. GORDON.

Manchester, N. H., May 15.

A new pamphlet on Socialism has been issued from the San Francisco headquarters. It is entitled "The Coming Social Struggle: Capitalist Contradictions Exposed; Socialism Defined," and is the work of Comrade William Edlin.

The pamphlet is 23 pages long, and contains a compilation of points that may serve as tips to students and as aids to speakers.

Its price is 5 cents a copy; special rates for large orders. Apply to the author at "The Temple," 115 Turk street, San Francisco, Cal.; or at Labor News Co., 64 East 4th street, N. Y.

THAT DIAMOND JUBILEE.

Irish Socialist Republican Party to Irishmen.

In the Midst of the Noise Started in Great Britain by the Parasite Class of Capitalists and Landlords and Echoed by the Unthinking, the Socialist Organization of Ireland Utters a Clear Note in Manly Strain.

Fellow Workers—The loyal subjects of Victoria, Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, Empress of India, etc., celebrate this year the longest reign on record. Already the air is laden with rumors of preparations for a wholesale manufacture of sham "popular rejoicings" at this glorious commemoration (?) Home Rule orators and Nationalist Lord Mayors, Whig politicians and Parnellite pressmen, have ere now lent their prestige and influence to the attempt to arouse public interest in the sickening details of this Feast of Flunkies. It is time then that some organized party in Ireland—other than those in whose mouths Patriotism means Compromise, and Freedom, High Dividends—should speak out bravely and honestly the sentiments awakened in the breast of every lover of freedom by this ghastly farce now being played out before our eyes. Hence the Irish Socialist Republican party—which, from its inception has never hesitated to proclaim its unswerving hostility to the British Crown, and to the political and social order of which in those islands that crown it but the symbol—takes this opportunity of hurling at the heads of all the courtly nummers who grovel at the shrine of royalty, the contempt and hatred of the Irish Revolutionary Democracy. We, at least, are not loyal men, we confess to have more respect and honor for the ragged child of the poorest laborer in Ireland today, than for any, even the most virtuous, descendant of the long array of murderers, adulterers and madmen who have sat upon the throne of England. During this glorious reign, Ireland has seen 1,225,000 of her children die of famine; starved to death, whilst the produce of her soil and their labor was eaten up by a vulture aristocracy, enforcing their rents by the bayonets of a hired assassin army, in the pay of the "best of the English Queens;" the eviction of 3,668,000; a multitude greater than the entire population of Switzerland; and the reluctant emigration of 4,186,000 of our kindred; a greater host than the entire people of Greece. At the present moment 78 per cent. of our wage-earners receive less than £1 per week, our streets are thronged by starving crowds of the unemployed, cattle graze on our tenantless farms and around the ruins of our battered homesteads, our ports are crowded with departing emigrants, and our poor-houses are full of paupers. Such are the constituent elements out of which we are bade to construct a national festival of rejoicing!

Working Class of Ireland—We appeal to you not to allow your opinions to be misrepresented on this occasion. Join your voice with ours in protesting against the base assumption that we owe to this empire any other debt than that of hatred of all its plundering institutions. Let this year be indeed, a memorable one, as marking the date when the Irish workers at last flung off that slavish dependence on the lead of "the gentry," which has paralyzed the arm of every soldier of freedom in the past. The Irish landlords, now as ever, the enemy's garrison, instinctively support every institution, which like monarchy, degrades the manhood of the people and weakens the moral fibre of the oppressed; the middle class, absorbed in the pursuit of gold, have pawned their souls for the prostitute glories of commercialism, and remain openly or secretly hostile, to every movement, which would imperil the sanctity of their dividends; the working class alone have nothing to hope for save in a revolutionary reconstruction of society; they, and they alone, are capable of that revolutionary initiative, which with all the political and economic development of the time to aid it, can carry us forward into the promised land of Perfect Freedom, the reward of the age-long travail of the people. To you, workers of Ireland, we address ourselves—AGITATE in the workshop, in the field, in the factory, until you arouse your brothers to hatred of the slavery of which we are all the victims—EDUCATE, that the people may no longer be deluded by illusory hopes of prosperity under any system of society of which monarchs or noblemen, capitalists or landlords form an integral part—ORGANIZE, that a solid, compact and intelligent force, conscious of your historic mission as a class, you may seize the reins of political power whenever possible, and by intelligent application of the working-class ballot clear the field of action for the revolutionary forces of the future. Let the "canting, fed classes" bow the knee as they may, be you true to your own manhood, and to the cause of freedom, whose hope is in you, and pressing unweariedly onward in pursuit of the high destiny to which the Socialist Republic invites you, let the words which the poet puts into the mouth of Mazeppa console you amid the orgies of the tyrants to-day.

But time at last makes all things even, and if we do but watch the hour, There never yet was human power That could evade, if unforgiven, The patient HATE and vigil long, Of those who treasure up a wrong.

CENTRAL COMMITTEE.

PRESIDENT BOYCE.

An Address that Marks the Development of Things.

The President of the Western Federation of Miners Discovers that the Silver Barons are no Better than Shylocks—He Falls into the Error of Giving Unionism up Because of Pure and Simpledom.

President Boyce, of the Western Federation of Miners, delivered at Salt Lake City, on the 10th instant, an address before the convention of his organization that contains more than one point of interest.

CAPITAL'S SILVER MASK.

We have for over four years been pointing out the fact that the People's party movement was in the control of an element not a whit friendlier to labor than the "monopolists" or "gold bugs." We have persistently argued that the silver mine bosses were using the popular discontent, not to relieve, let alone remove, the cause of discontent, but to feather their own nests; we pointed out the identity of interests there is between all capitalists, whether of the silver or the gold variety, that these interests require the exploitation of labor; and that the declamations indulged in by the silverites in favor of the workers was simply a mask to cover their dastardly purposes. We adduced facts and reasoned closely, and all the while were answered either with the childish jip about "there being no authoritative Socialism," about "this silver movement being the 'American' form of Socialism," or we were even roundly blackguarded, and the facts which we adduced, historical though they were, and taken from Congressional and other official records, were denounced as "lies." Now comes President Boyce, himself an ex-free coinagist, and says:

"For eighty years the two great national parties have had control of this government to the detriment of labor—and yet laboring men are so blinded by party idolatry that they hug and kiss their chains. The miners are no exception; they will support their worst enemy—PROVIDED HE WEARS A SILVER MASK. Among all the silver champions from the West no one has ever introduced a measure in the interest of labor; nevertheless, we hear workmen proclaim that the very existence of the Republic depends on the Silver Democrats or the Silver Republicans. THE SILVER BARONS OF THE WEST ARE AS BITTER ENEMIES OF ORGANIZED LABOR AS THE GOLD BUG SHYLOCK IN HIS GLEDED DEN ON WATTS STREET."
Score one for the Socialist Labor party and its uncompromising gospel of truth despite all the howlings and vituperations hurled at it by the schemers and their parrots.

IS TRADE UNIONISM A FAILURE?

Again, it has been one of the burdens of our song that the effect of "pure and simple" trade unionism and of the labor fakirs upon the rank and file was to destroy the confidence of the masses in labor organizations, and thereby to tend to strip the labor movement of a valuable weapon in its struggles against the capitalist class, to wit, the union. Accordingly, we reasoned that the labor fakirs were enemies of the workers; we showed that the ignorance of the fakirs built the unions upon the false foundation of imagining Labor and Capital to have common interests, and that their corruption guided the unions to destruction. For these reasons we preached the gospel of New Trade Unionism, we organized the workers upon the scientific basis that Capital and Labor are enemies born, and the one or the other had to go down for good; we insisted upon the unity of the workers in the shop and at the ballot box, and emphasized the fact that obedience to union rules in the shop should cover obedience to union rules at the hustings, he who voted for a capitalist candidate on a capitalist platform being a political scab. In pursuit of these tactics we waged and continue to wage relentless war against the cormorant labor fakirs. For all this we were called "union wreckers"—this epithet being the only argument used by the felons who were the real wreckers of unions. And now comes President Boyce, and gives testimony on our side. He says:

"As delegate to the American Federation of Labor Convention I have little of a report to make; the convention met December 14, and continued in session 6 days. DURING ALL THIS TIME THERE WAS NOTHING—ACCOMPLISHED IN THE INTEREST OF LABOR. I do not believe American workmen can ever regain their rights through 'Trades Unionism.' Every wage earner knows, if a corporation orders a reduction of wages, or an increase of hours among its employees, ALL THE TRADES UNIONS IN AMERICA CAN NOT PREVENT IT. With this knowledge—and the bitter experience of the past—SURELY IT IS TIME FOR WORKINGMEN TO SEE THAT TRADES UNIONISM IS A FAILURE."

Here we have all the evil results of "pure and simple" prophesied by us. The conclusions of President Boyce that "all the trades unions in America could not prevent" a reduction in wages and the other that "trades unionism is a failure" are serious errors. But they are the natural errors into which a man will fall who is acquainted only with "pure and simple" unions. What he says is true of the "pure and simple" unions; it is false as to a labor movement in which the unions are built upon the principles of New Trade Unionism, and, consequently, are backed by a strong and ever stronger labor political party.

A unionism that ignores the basic

principle of labor movement: a unionism that ignores the one point of common interest among the workers, such a unionism cannot bind the workers together; it instills economic errors into their minds; and the result is that the men will fight each other instead of pulling together. The attitude of the pure and simple leaders on the tariff is a case in point. The earnings of the wage workers depend upon the supply of labor and the demand for it; machinery and the concentration of capital steadily lower the demand and increase the supply; the common interest of the proletariat is to gain possession of the machinery of production so that improved machinery, instead of throwing men out of work, should reduce the hours of labor and increase the earnings of the workers. This is their only issue. Now, then, in what way does protection or free trade aid the workers in gaining possession of the machinery of production? In none. Yet the pure and simple labor leaders take up the tariff issue, and that issue, thrown in among the workers, can have no effect other than to split them up among themselves according as their respective bosses may need protection or free trade. So of all other capitalist issues, such as gold or silver. It follows that unions built upon such false principles can never present all the workers in a solid front. Strikes cannot succeed under such circumstances, and such unionism is an unqualified failure.

But there is worse yet. By reason of the false economics upon which the "pure and simple" union is built, the workers divide at the ballot box as food for the political cannon of their warring bosses, with the result that, whichever side wins, the boss class gets into power, i. e., on the right side of the policeman's clubs, of the State and National soldiers, and of the "gating guns on paper." Let a strike break out under such circumstances, and what chance has the union? The bosses who see their "union" men vote them into power and then strike against them can entertain no respect for the power of the employees; they will feel free to lower their wages, lengthen their hours, and in other respects maltreat them; they will feel they can do so with impunity, because those same striking "union" men will on election day vote upon capitalist principles, and thus vote their identical bosses into power again. Such is "pure and simple" unionism, and such unionism is indeed utterly impotent and so unqualified a failure that it should be thrown overboard without loss of time.

Otherwise with New Trade Unionism. It is built upon the exclusive class interests of the wage slave class; it seeks the overthrow of capitalism; and the public ownership of the whole machinery of production. No capitalist issue of free trade or protection, of gold or silver, of water or rum, can ever make its way into such a body and thereby split up the workers. A New Trade Unionist movement of the magnitude of the present "pure and simple" unions would have the workers moving so compactly, animated by such a sense of the solidarity of their class that their power would be infinitely greater at the economic conflicts called "strikes."

But not alone from this source would unionism have superior force. It would have a positive, irresistible force by reason of its political reflex—the political party of labor that it would set up would give it a protection that now the unions have not. What the boss now dares to do, he will either think twice before he attempts it, or would not dare at all if he knows that the workers have discovered the secret of where they are strong and the bosses weak—the hustings. A strong Socialist Labor party, growing rapidly from year to year, would be a shield under which the economic warfare could be conducted by labor under circumstances infinitely superior to what they are now. No! Unionism is not a failure; what is a failure is that British abortion of "pure and simple" unionism.

AIMS.

Having incurred the gross error of throwing up the sponge of unionism, owing to the bitter experience of pure and simpledom, President Boyce takes a further step in error. He recommends the arming of the unions; in other words, he gives up the ballot and recommends the drilling for war. The ballot has not failed. Crazy men are now going about in the country howling that the ballot has failed and the bullet must be resorted to, and they are getting up idiotic pamphlets on the subject. The last elections did not demonstrate the futility of the ballot. They demonstrated the futility of any political move in behalf of the workers that was not direct, plump and plain couched in the revolutionary language of the Socialist Labor party. If the working class do not know how to vote neither will they know how to shoot. Unhappy the nation if the heels-over-head notion prevail of throwing away the ballot at this stage of the conflict. Not until the working class of America is extensively converted to Socialism would it shoot in the right direction, and when it shall be so far, 10 to 1 it will not need to shoot, its ballots will have drowned the capitalist class too deep for the hand of resurrection to fathom.

Take it all in all, President Boyce's address is replete with object lessons, all of which point emphatically to the necessity of organizing the workers on the New Trade Unionist lines—in a solid body acting as one man in the shop and at the hustings.

The dainty poem, "On the First of May," by our young comrade, Elizabeth Serber, and published in our May Day issue, has been put to inspiring music by the composer, Platon Brounoff, and is dedicated to the "Young generation of America." All who can play or sing should have it. Inquire Labor News Co., 64 East 4th street, N. Y.

OFFICIAL BRAND

Placed on Kurzenkabe and Kurzenknabism.

On the 18th and 19th instant the case of Ernest Bohm, the Secretary of the Socialist Trade & Labor Alliance, against Ernest Kurzenkabe, the editor of the "Brauer-Zeitung," and leading luminary in the labor fakir brigade, for malicious criminal libel, was tried in Part I. of the City Court of this city, with the result that the jury promptly found Kurzenkabe guilty, and mulcted him in \$750, besides additional allowance to Bohm's counsel and costs.

This case and this event have much more than a local significance. Not only have the labor fakirs disgraced the labor movement by their crass ignorance; not only have they piled upon it the still greater disgrace of corruption; but they have dragged it down into the mire by their fishwife style of debate. Worsted in every argument, and convicted of ignorance and of crooked practices, they have taken refuge to defamation of character. They go about whispering every infamy that occurs to their degraded minds; occasionally they indulge in vile insinuations in their organs, yet in so cowardly a way that they cannot be seized. In short, their weapon has become that of the midnight assassin, hitting from behind and from cover. The suffocating atmosphere thus created by these worthies was becoming intolerable, when Kurzenkabe, who had been resorting to all of the above blackguardly tactics, forgot himself for a moment and put his charges against Bohm clear and explicit in print. He was promptly pounced upon by Bohm. Were the "Brauer-Zeitung" a New York publication, Kurzenkabe would have been promptly put in the hands of the District Attorney, and by this time would have been behind the bars in a striped suit and shaven face and head. As it was, he could only be sued in a civil court. But the verdict of the civil jury is emphatic, and no doubt will do much towards clarifying the atmosphere throughout the field of labor.

But the vindication of Bohm and the rebuke of Kurzenkabe is fuller than appears on the surface. The case of Kurzenkabe was felt to be the case of the capitalist class; the case of Bohm was felt to be the case of the decent and therefore intelligently aggressive element in the ranks of labor. Had Bohm lost, the capitalist press would have teemed with items on the subject. This city prepared the day before for an onslaught by some preliminary remarks on the trial scandalously favorable to Kurzenkabe, and yet the following day, the verdict having been so emphatically adverse to Kurzenkabe—neither the "Daily News" nor any other paper had a line or a word on the subject. The judge himself had charged the jury in a manner that greatly favored Kurzenkabe by falsely stating that the burden of proof lay with the plaintiff, when it is an axiom in law and sense that the burden of proof, in libel cases, lies on the defendant, who must prove the correctness of his charges. But all this notwithstanding, so plain was the testimony, Bohm's innocence was proved so conclusively with the office books of the defendant himself, which he was forced to produce, that the jury swept aside the false testimonies of the defendant and his witnesses, the judge's misleading charge, and the evident desire of the capitalist class, and placed its mark of condemnation upon the whole conspiracy and all the conspirators.

It is not Kurzenkabe alone who was branded guilty on the 19th instant—Kurzenknabism, which means labor fakirism and its abettor, capitalism, each and all carry the brand on their ignoble brows.

And so it will be every time a charge is made in print that is distinct enough. Let Gompers, Weissmann, Harry White, P. J. McGuire, Henry B. Martin, Alec Wright, of Toronto, etc., etc., take notice.

The 68,000 votes of protest, nominally polled by the apostate Henry George in 1886, will yet cause some people to land in the lunatic asylum. The Rainsfords, the Wingates, the Whites and as many other charlatans as are trying to set up and run the so-called Citizen's Union, are scheming how to get the 68,000 again. It is time lost to spend it on such speculations. Those days are over. Hurray driftages, like the one of '86, can't recur. Henceforth it will be Socialism or no Socialism, with the driftages scattered in the air.

Captain of Industry Consuelo, the Dutchess of Marlborough, née Vanderbilt, is displaying great expertise in that chief proficiency of the "captain's"—the proficiency of political tight rope dancing to the end of escaping all sorts of taxation. Being asked to subscribe for the poor in London on a list gotten up by Americans, she declined on the plea that she had ceased to be American.

When it is a question of fleeing the American workers, she is an "American," with a right divine to all the fleecings her capitalist gear can swoop in; when, however, contributions are asked from Americans in Europe, on several refusals on the plea that she is no longer an American.

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SOCIALIST VOTE IN THE UNITED STATES.

Table showing Socialist vote in Presidential elections: 1888 (2,068), 1890 (12,331), 1892 (21,157), 1894 (33,133), 1896 (36,564).

There is a history, in all lands, lives, of the nature of times decayed; The which observ'd a man may prophesy. With a near aim, of the main chance of things. As yet not come to life; which in their seeds And weak beginnings lie intressured. Shakespeare.

NO ONE CAN BECOME RICH BY LEGISLATION.

The working class should read carefully the debate that is going on among the capitalists on the subject of the tariff bill, now pending in Congress. Everyone cannot read the debates in Congress on the subject; but everyone can read the debates going on among the various editors of the various capitalist organs, misnamed "organs of public opinion."

Every time there seems to be a danger of the working class taking the political bit into its own mouth and running away with it to promote its own interests, a howl is raised in chorus by the above named editors of the "organs of public opinion" to the effect that the workmen are tugging at the wrong end in their desire to improve their condition; that the hope to change the social ills by the conquest of the public powers is "rainbow chasing;" in short, that "no one can become rich by legislation;" wherever riches may come from, we are at such times admonished in chorus by these editors, they do not come from legislation. Now, let us turn to some of their statements made ament the proposed tariff bill.

A Louisiana paper that represents the interests of the "American Cane Growers' Association" is up in arms against the Senate sugar schedule, and says: "The Senate sugar schedule means that the masses shall be taxed to the end that fat dividends may be paid to the owners of the sugar trust."

And a New England paper that failed to get hush money from the sugar trust indignantly cries out:

"Those not familiar with the refining business may not realize that the sugar schedule of the Senate really means an enormous addition to the sugar trust's profits."

"Enormous additions?" "Fat dividends?" How can that be if it is true, as these identical present paladins of the people only recently said that "No one can become rich by legislation?" Surely here is a contradiction!

Let's see further. A Chicago organ of the Western cattle raisers insists that:

"There is no use concealing the truth. Either leather is put on the free list and the cattle raisers will be ruined; or leather is put on the dutiable list and the cattle raisers will be able once more to see the smiles of prosperity upon their homesteads."

"Smiles of prosperity," if a certain piece of legislation goes through? "Ruin" if an opposite piece of legislation gain the day? Surely the times are out of gear! What becomes of the admonition, so unctuously bestowed upon the workers that "no one can become rich by legislation?"

Fact is that legislation is the strategic point of private wealth and of all that thereby hangs. Remove legislation, do away with it altogether, and our glorious capitalist class are as weak as soft shell crabs. Blow up Congress and the other branches of Government, and wealth will no longer be a stagnant pool in the dirty hands of our elite. It will fluctuate backward and forward like water driven by a hurricane. It is due to this fact that, on the one hand, the capitalist class seeks to keep possession of the government, of the legislation-dispensing and enforcing powers, and that, on the other hand, the intelligent workmen seek to gain control of those powers so as to be able to legislate wealth into the clean hands of the proletariat.

The key to the fortress of the capitalist class is the government of the nation. Onwards, proletarians, to its conquest!

AT ANY RATE, SIGNIFICANT.

A metropolitan paper gives very soberly an account of a scheme presented to and seriously considered by the Secretary of the Treasury, Lyman J. Gage, whereby gold is to be manufactured out of lead. The gist of the

report is to the effect that an alchemist, who claims to have discovered the secret of this "philosopher's stone," has gained the ear of Mr. Gage on this subject. The report may or may not be a hoax. Yet, whether hoax or not, it is significant of our times.

The closing days of the feudal regime on the continent of Europe were marked by the appearance of the alchemists, men, some of whom were big with swindle, and others of whom were big with craziness. The stimulus to this crop of crooks and cranks was the national bankruptcy, the feverishness it engendered in the ruling class, and the resulting proneness to belief in the miraculous.

That a similar crop of cranks and crooks should appear in our generation is no wise surprising. All the conditions that breed such apparitions are here. A national deficiency in the treasury looms up more and more portentous, while schemes to supply the want by a tariff bump themselves against so many irreconcilable capitalist interests that the danger, sought to be averted by high dues, is only aggravated. A "gold reserve," that has an exasperating tendency to sink out of sight, keeps the "confidence" of the mercantile class in perpetual hot water, and the financiers perpetually at the end of their wits. The men in Washington have no more a conception of the nature of the present social malady than the men who bowed before the French monarch at the receptions in the "Oeil de Boeuf" had of the then nature of the disease that gnawed at the vitals of feudalism. The nervous tension produced by continuous and approaching danger, the cause of which is a mystery to those whom it threatens, is the parent of credulity. It would not at all be surprising if the "intelligent" Secretary of the Treasury were really lending an ear to a scheme whereby gold could be manufactured dirt cheap.

But there is another circumstance that gives additional significance to the event. Cranks and crooks carry their mark upon their faces; their whole make-up proclaims what they are. Such people could hardly recommend themselves to a Lyman J. Gage sufficiently to dignify them with an audience. That Mr. Gage should have granted such audience is an evidence that the crank-crook species of our days has evolved so far as to appear clad in the preposing garb of a Cagliostro, and to assume the facial expressions of wisdom.

Take it all in all, the report is significant. The death rattle of a departing social system is distinctly audible in the throat of capitalism.

POLITICAL and ECONOMIC.

At this season in our national existence when the large majority of our people is deeply concerned about the question, How at all to get something to digest? The New York "Voice," organ of the Prohibition party, is publishing double-headed columns with the question, "Does alcohol aid digestion?"

We have here a striking illustration of the scientific fact that the questions that preoccupy the capitalist parties are questions that don't concern the working class, and leave the working class out in the cold. The working class is interested in getting something to eat; before it need consider what "aids" digestion it must have something to digest. The Standard Oil magnates, however, and other wholesale fleecers of labor, who are more and more depriving the workers of something to digest, and who run the Prohibition party, they are not interested in getting something to digest; they are beyond that point; having more to digest than they can attend to, they are now fretting about "aids" to digestion. How foolish were it not for men, who have nothing to digest, to fight a political battle upon the issue of whether this, that, or the other thing "aids" digestion! The political issue that interests such men certainly must be one as to how to get something to digest.

On this special issue the working class is pretty clear, and, consequently, we see the Standard Oil's Prohibition party growing beautifully like a cow's tail—downward. On other issues, however, the working class is not quite as clear. But surely the time is coming when they will realize that the issues of protection and free trade, or gold and silver, are identical with the issue of, Does alcohol aid digestion?

The Independence, Kans., "Star and Kansan," is of the opinion that

"The men like the editor of the New York PEOPLE, who say they are in favor of the public ownership of all the means of production and distribution, and yet oppose public ownership of street railways, and gas and water plants, seem to me about as foolish as a man who should insist that he wanted to go to Kansas City, but absolutely refuse to go to Cherryvale or Neodesha."

He who does not see the difference between "public ownership" such as Socialists demand, to wit, the ownership of gas, street railways, etc., by the people in such way as to abolish the wages system of slavery under which the employees now work—he who does not see any difference between that and "municipal ownership," a la Glasgow plan, where the fleecers rule the roost and the workers continue fleeced just

the same, is like a man, freezing on the frozen Hudson's Bay, who would like to go to Kansas to enjoy the more genial temperature of the Sunflower State, and is stuffed with the notion that if he spreads a map of Kansas on his Hudson's Bay ice and squats on that he has "got there," or is any nearer to his wishes.

But, after all, the illusion is perfectly natural in the columns of a paper that imagines the road to Socialism lies via voting for the Presidential candidate of the silver mine barons, who fleece their workers and then shoot them down.

Comrade G. B. Leonard, of Minneapolis, Minn., is leading the "Times" of his city a wild dance. To the communications that he has been sending to the paper, and which it has been publishing, editorial comments are added which reveal the editor's bankruptcy. The poor capitalist editor—poor in the stock of his information—finds himself driven to catch at such straws as these: "Socialism is foreign."

"The Anglo-Saxon race is hostile to Socialism," etc., etc. In view of these two gems of stupidity we would say that Comrade Leonard may consider the "Times" as water-logged by his cannonade, and may turn his fire on some fresh adversary.

The "Shenandoah (Pa.) Daily," the property of silver mine interests, is alarmed at the successful agitation of the Socialist Labor party in its State, and issues this amusing warning:

"The agitator has appeared among foreign-born citizens, and it behooves them to be wary of the glittering oratory and golden promises to which they may be treated. These people have had a recent experience by which they may profit, if they will only give it due consideration. In the last Presidential campaign, paid demagogues were sent out among them in all the large cities and centres of population, and with promises and assurance of an era of golden prosperity to begin immediately after the triumph of McKinley and the gold standard, aided by other influences, the success of these demagogues was magnificent, so much so, indeed, that leading gold standard partisans and organs felt constrained, after the election, to extend thanks publicly to the foreign-born citizens for 'saving the honor and integrity of the nation.' Something was saved, no doubt, to the great manipulators of elections, but the golden prosperity for which the votes were cast has not yet appeared, and instead we find the soup-house and almost universal distress. Truly, these people should look out for the demagogue, and seek a safer guide in their own intelligence and experience. All that glisters is not gold."

Quite aptly does the Wallace, Id., "Idaho State Tribune" characterize Gompers and Gompersism: "Mr. Gompers does not realize the spirit of the institutions under which he lives. He looks upon the lawmakers of this country much as does the tenant farmer in Ireland look upon his landlord; Lords, indeed, before whom we must bend the knee and implore an opportunity to live."

The Cleveland, O., "Citizen," justly observes that:

"Dating from the last Presidential election, when Socialism was momentarily eclipsed by the revolutionary reaction as exemplified by Bryanism, the Socialist cause has experienced a healthy growth, as the phenomenal gains at the recent municipal elections clearly demonstrated, and the growth of the Sections and the manifested enthusiasm of the members, as well as the better understanding of the principles of Socialism on the part of the thinking people, adds further proof that this growth will be permanent."

The crucial test was passed in November, 1896, when all minority parties except the Socialist Labor party were swept from the field. And as Bryanism becomes more dim as time passes, so the cause of Socialism will gain strength from that movement by absorbing the class-conscious proletarians that it contained and who mistook opportunism for real progress.

The Johnston, R. I., "Beacon" has this obituary notice over the bier of a recently deceased "pure and simple" union in its State, the Cotton Spinners' Union of Blackstone:

"Another union, the Blackstone Cotton Spinners, has been forced to succumb to circumstances and go out of existence. As in other cases, strikes ruined it. It is unfortunate and saddening that epitaphs of this character are being spread before the workers with growing frequency. This union was a pure and simple organization. It 'struck' in the mill and in the polling booth voted power into the hands of its employers. There could be only one result of such a procedure, and that has now come to hand. The fate of the Blackstone Cotton Spinners' Union is pressing close on the heels of every labor union that practices 'keeping politics out of the union.'"

The San Francisco, Cal., "New Charter," publishes the following answer, made by the Oakland, Cal., Chief of Police, to the question, What share of the police business of his city is caused by the use of intoxicating liquor:

"While I realize the great harm growing out of over-indulgence in intoxicating liquor, I am not prepared to admit that a great amount of the important police business is due to that evil, as the most hardened, desperate and dangerous criminals we have are not addicted to drunkenness, and hence I cannot see that the absence of the open saloon would materially change the status of police business."

"In fact I am of the opinion that the great majority of dangerous criminals requiring large police forces are the direct outgrowth of our unnatural social and economic conditions that breed poverty, want and despair in the human heart. That men out of employment and unable to secure the necessities of life in this land of plenty

are the first cause of a much larger percentage of criminality than is the liquor evil. That it is man's inhumanity to man and our Government's partnership in that inhumanity rather than man's inebriety that demands a large police force in every city. This is the opinion of your humble servant, and I have never been accused of being friendly to rum.

"Prohibition in patches will never do anything but harm to the particular patch worked upon. If the reform could become general, there might ultimately be less demand for large numbers of policemen in all our cities, but it would require time to change people's dispositions, or rather, to work the brimstone out of their systems. Until economic conditions are bettered, I am of the opinion that there will be little improvement in our criminal record, no matter how much prohibition in patches may be applied to liquor. I repeat that want and misery caused by unnatural conditions is a greater progenitor of crime than liquor, in my opinion."

There certainly is a good deal of "intellect into" this chief of police. When he gets fully developed, he will realize that any one Prohibition party leader produces, by means of the capital which he operates, more criminals than do all the rum shops of the land put together.

DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

That in America, as in Europe, the Government is a Class Government.

At a meeting of Section Washington a gentleman, in fact two gentlemen, made the broad assertion that "this is a peculiar country, and that your (i. e., the Socialist) attempt to create a class movement will fail. It may be all right in the older countries where liberty is not, but, etc., etc."

Those gentlemen, like a great many others, are laboring under the impression that Socialism is a theory, and that the Socialists create the theory and then try to create the conditions to make the theory prove true; they seem unable to get the fact into their heads that the Socialists do not create "movements," either "class" or "moral;" that, in fact, causes altogether outside and independent of Socialists create conditions, which make "movements" necessary. In witness of the fallacy of the remark that this is a peculiar country, in the respect that there are no classes here such as in Europe, and that a class movement as proclaimed by the S. L. P. is wrong or impracticable, the following clippings, both from the same paper, are inserted:

Real Estate Broker Banes Fined in the Police Court.

Charles E. Banes, the real estate broker on Seventh street, was a defendant in the police court this forenoon. He was charged by Policeman Harries and Williamingham with indulging in profane and abusive language between 11 and 12 o'clock Sunday night at Seventh street and Florida avenue northwest.

Patrolman Harries testified that Mr. Banes approached him and his partner, Willingham, and declared in rather loud tones that "he would see whether people who pay taxes on a million and a half dollars' worth of property would run things, or the ——— police, and that ———, Lieutenant Gessford." He was complaining about the loiterers about the baseball park.

"We did not place Mr. Banes under arrest at the time," said the officer. "KNOWING HIM TO BE A RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS MAN, we procured a warrant for his arrest and notified him to be in court to-day."

Arrest of a Man After a Long Chase. Unable to Account for His Action.

Policeman Philip Browne, of the Ninth Precinct, saw a negro sneaking about the premises near the Reform School yesterday evening, and otherwise acting in a suspicious manner, and called upon the fellow to stop and give an account of himself. Instead of doing so, the negro started to run, and the officer gave chase.

The policeman shouted to several citizens to stop the man, and in doing so one of THEM FIRED A SHOT TO FRIGHTEN HIM, AND HIT THE MAN IN THE FACE WITH THE BUTT OF HIS WEAPON. After considerable resistance he was taken in a patrol wagon to No. 9 station and locked up on the charge of suspicion. He gave his name as Mike John, but was unable to give a good account of himself or his actions. It is thought that he may possibly be the man who is wanted by the Maryland authorities for assault upon a woman in one of the counties several weeks ago.

The police are investigating the matter to-day, John being held at No. 9 station as a suspicious character.

One was not arrested even though he had committed an offence in the presence of the police, and the reason given for not arresting him is that he was "a business man." I. e., a capitalist; the other is arrested on SUSPICION of having committed an offence, put in danger of his life and seriously hurt (has since been released by the lieutenant of the police, without even appearing in court), and though the LAW states he has redress, yet, as a matter of fact, he has absolutely no chance to get redress. Why? Simply because he is poor, i. e., a proletarian. No one can deny that such instances happen every day in every city of this and every other capitalist country.

To all intents and purposes we are here just as people are in Europe. ARTHUR KEEP. Washington, D. C., May 26.

The ex-Prime Minister of Italy, Crispi, is undergoing trial for theft on an extensive scale. This was the man who stepped forward in Italy with a programme to crush the Socialist movement. Of course the Socialist movement crushed it would-be crusher; but the real significance of the career of Crispi is that in nine cases out of ten these "paladins of social order" are criminals who know full well that Socialism threatens their existence, and who, accordingly, fight in the defense of their own criminal interests behind the mask of "Social Order."



UNCLE SAM & BROTHER JONATHAN.

Brother Jonathan—There surely are parties enough in the country, but not one is right.

Uncle Sam—Not even the Socialist Labor party?

B. J.—No; not even that.

U. S.—What's the matter with it? Are its aims not correct?

B. J.—Its aims are correct enough, but its construction is not; that's all wrong.

U. S.—In what way?

B. J.—Is not Socialism the movement of the working class?

U. S.—Yes, if by "working class" you mean the "proletariat."

B. J.—What is the difference?

U. S.—A good deal, sufficient difference to confuse people of scrappy information?

B. J.—And what is the difference?

U. S.—This: The working class is the class that works. To-day we have hundreds of thousands of people who don't work, but who would like to; they are the unemployed. If "work" determines the class on which the S. L. P. should be built, all the unemployed would be excluded.

B. J.—All of these belong of course to the working class.

U. S.—Certainly, and yet they are not working. Then again there are a lot of people who are not idle and do work, and who, if work is enough to determine the class to which a man belongs, would be ranked among the working class, and yet such people do not belong there. Such men are the small shopkeepers, small farmers, etc. All of them work, but seeing they also employ labor and fleece it, and have some capital, however small, to do that with, they do not belong in the working class proper.

B. J.—Of course they don't.

U. S.—It follows that the simple fact of working or not working is not enough to determine whether a person is or is not of the working class proper.

B. J.—Well, no!

U. S.—What marks the distinction and establishes the class differences is not "work" or "idleness;" it is the ownership of things needed for production, or the non-ownership of them. Work or idleness are a result of such ownership or non-ownership. Those who own the means of production can, by virtue of such ownership, employ others who don't, and fleece them; if such owners hold large means of production, they can live in absolute idleness upon the wealth that they fleece their employes of; if they hold only small means of production, they cannot live on only what they fleece their employes of, that would be too little, and, consequently, they have to do some work themselves. None of such are of the working class proper or proletariat.

B. J.—I admit all that.

U. S.—The class distinction of the proletariat is that its members are stripped of the needed machinery of production; that, consequently, they must sell themselves into wage slavery before they can work and eat; and that, as a result of that, they are fleeced by their employers of all that they produce except what they need to barely keep body and soul together. For this reason the term "proletariat" is preferable: it is not open to misunderstanding. And the proletariat is the class upon which the Socialist movement rests and depends.

B. J.—I accept all that; and for that very reason I claim that the S. L. P. is constructed wrongly; it is not constructed on the proletariat; it admits a whole lot of people who are not engaged in manual and productive labor; it has people who work with their jaws.

U. S.—My good man, you are more than a generation behind the times, and you contradict yourself beautifully.

B. J. (faring up violently)—I don't!

U. S.—Keep your shirt on. You contradict yourself because you just admitted that the proletariat is the class on which the Socialist movement must rest, and that a proletarian is one who, not owning any machinery of production, must sell himself into wage slavery; and now you claim that a proletarian must be a manual worker. In other words, the line you draw between proletarians and non-proletarians is manual labor, whereas before you admitted the line to be ownership or non-ownership of the machinery of production. That's a contradiction.

In the second place you are behind your times because long ago, when the scientific principle of class distinctions was not yet clear, there were people who claimed that the Socialist movement was the movement of manual workers only. The people who held so have come down in history as the theorists of the "horny hand." The ripened movement has thrown them aside as unscientific and mischievous—unscientific, because they would dwarf the Socialist movement to the dimensions of the movement of a FRAGMENT of the proletariat, whereas the Socialist movement is the movement of the WHOLE proletariat.

A drummer who "works with his jaws," a clerk, a teacher, all others, when they hire themselves out to earn a living are proletarians and belong to us. Your theory is mischievous, because it lays the foundation for the splitting up of the proletariat into as many classes as there are trades, and thereby incapacitates the proletariat from working unitedly. If you draw the line between a drummer and, say, a cigar-maker, because the former does not work productively and "works with his jaws," notwithstanding both are wage-slaves, then a farm hand will draw the

line between himself and you on the ground that he produces a prime necessary of life, while you only produce a luxury; and so on. This notion lies at the bottom of the "pure and simple" union. Hence you will find that "pure and simpledom" has never been able to unite the whole proletariat. It first drew the line, as you now do, between the "horny-handed" and the "non-horny-handed;" then it drew the line between the "skilled" and the "unskilled" among the "horny-handed;" and it has proceeded on in this way till it stands to-day impotent before the Social Problem.

The Socialist Labor party and its twin sister the Socialist Trade & Labor Alliance build upon the whole class of the wage slaves or the proletariat. Never losing sight of the scientific fact that the economic class distinctions and the class bonds of the proletariat are the fact of its being stripped of the machinery of production, the S. L. P. and the S. T. & L. A. are uniting the whole proletariat into one mighty body. And this sound position once taken, the S. L. P. and the S. T. & L. A. can safely admit in their camps people who are not proletarians at all, but whose hearts rebel at existing wrongs, and whose enlightenment teaches them that only the aims and tactics of these two bodies can solve the Social Problem.

B. J. remains silent sucking his thumb. U. S. (taking his leave from B. J.)—I hope you will suck some good sense out of that thumb, enough to prevent you from again making a "pure and simple" fool out of yourself. Ta, ta!

THE FACTORY BELL.

(Written by EDMUND CURTIS, a poor English factory boy, known all over England as the "Boy Poet of Silvertown.")

There comes a sound in the morning gray, When a few faint gleams are heralds of day; And it calls the bosoms by cares oppress'd Back from the peace-giving country of rest— Calling them back to the workshop's heat, To the benches long and engines' beat, Where the brow of the worker must ever be wet In the dew of his streaming, honest sweat.

'Tis the factory bell, the morning bell, Harsh are the notes of its tuneless knell, Calling them back from the dream-land fair, Calling them back to the world of care— The loud-clanging factory bell.

And all in a moment the streets are alive, As the toilers pour out, like the bees from a hive, The streets are awake with the tramp and the noise Of the workers—the men, the women, the boys, Onward they pour to the factory gates, Behind which the meagre-paid labor awaits— The labor that stifles the mind and the soul; And, just as they reach them, there sounds the last toll—

Of the factory bell, the morning bell, Harsh are the notes of its tuneless knell, Calling them back from the dream-land fair— Calling them back to the world of care— The loud-clanging factory bell.

But when the great engine is laboring slow, And the last few sunbeams with gold are aglow; When the heart is content and the brows become dry, And the evening is drawing her veil o'er the sky, The work is all over, the tools laid away, All bright for the use of the soon-coming day. Hark! all of a sudden, a rush and a bound, For sweet to the ear comes the now-welcome sound—

Of the factory bell—but the evening bell; Welcome its tones in the evening swell; Calling them back to the fireside bright, And a pleasant meal in the gray twilight— The welcome factory bell.

Socialist Weekly and Monthly Publications.

- ENGLISH. THE PEOPLE, 184 William street, New York, N. Y. \$1 per year. The New Charter, 35 Turk street, San Francisco, Cal. \$1 per year. The Syracuse Socialist, ————. The Rochester Socialist (Monthly), 25 cents per year. The Beacon, Johnston, R. I. (Fortnightly), 50 cents per year. GERMANY. Vorwärts, 184 William street, New York, N. Y. \$1.50 per year. Cleveland Volksfreund, 237 Clair street, Cleveland, Ohio. \$2 per year. DANISH-NORWEGIAN. Arbejderen, 6832 Marshfield avenue, Chicago, Ill. \$1.50 per year. SWEDISH. Arbetaren, 35 and 37 Frankfort street, New York, N. Y. \$1.50 per year. ITALIAN. Il Proletario, 1221 Penn avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa. \$1 per year. POLISH. Sila, 1146 Broadway, Buffalo, N. Y. \$1 per year. JEWISH. Arbeiterzeitung, 9 Rutgers street, New York, N. Y. \$1 per year. HUNGARIAN. Nepszava, 236 East 4th street, New York, N. Y. \$1 per year. ENGLISH AND GERMAN. The Truth, 514 West 3d street, Davenport, Iowa. \$1 per year.

Our Municipal Programme.

Daniel De Leon will deliver an address on this subject this afternoon at 2 p. m., at the club rooms of the Young Men's Socialist Educational Club, 98 Ave. C. Admission free. The subject is vital.

KINDERGARTEN INSTRUCTION

In the Duties of Citizenship as the Workers Should Exercise them. A new organization has been launched to stem the tide of the intellectual uprising of the people against their exploiters.

CATECHISM.

Question—What is thy name? Answer—Wageworker. Q.—Who are thy parents? A.—My father was called wage worker; my mother's name is Poverty.

FAMILY-PROSTITUTION.

The Capitalist System Destroys the Family and Breeds Prostitution. The labor of woman in productive pursuits betokens the total destruction of the family life of the workingman.

ECONOMIC TERMS.

When is Wealth Capital and the Owner of Wealth a Capitalist? Capital is but a developed form of wealth arising out of the system of production for profit or surplus-value based on the exchange of social uses.

BOSTON BAKERS'

Address to their "Pure and Simple" Fellow Craftsmen. As you are assembled to consider ways and means to further the interests of your organization, we the Int. Executive Board of the Bakers' and Confectioners' Alliance, consider it our duty to offer to you some fraternal advice.

ever he on a progressive scale—on a scale bigger than has ever existed in any preceding economic system. If the common sense view of a capitalist by the public did not prevail we should have to admit the costermonger as coming with the conditions laid down in our restricted definition of capital.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Ed. King Sized up and Classified. To THE PEOPLE—The writer was never most forcibly impressed with the fact that the tactics as outlined by THE PEOPLE are absolutely essential to the progress of the Socialist movement.

LETTER BOX.

Offhand Answers to Inquirers. Arthur Keep, Washington, D. C.—Why, of course; send it on, monument or no monument. S. K. Chicago.—You can, of course, not have been meant. The article was directed against professional atheists.

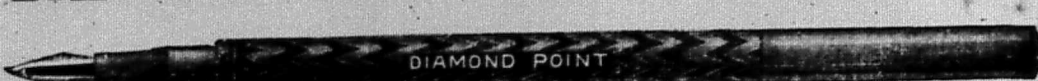
Notice.

If you are a resident of the 14th Assembly District and receive a sample copy of THE PEOPLE, will you read it carefully and subscribe? You are invited to attend the business meeting every second and fourth Friday at 233 East 10th street.

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PARTY NEWS.

Activity of Militant Socialists East, West, North and South.

National Executive.

Meeting of May 25th, with Comrade Matchett in the chair. All are present. Comrade Moore excuses his absence at last meeting, which is accepted.

The financial report for the week ending May 23d shows receipts to the amount of \$115.70; expenditures, \$31.58; balance, \$84.12.

The Committee on Charter and Awards renders its report in writing. Resolved to publish the report as given and to declare the competition off, and the designs to be returned to the senders. In view of the failure of the competition, a committee is appointed to secure for the party a suitable design for charter.

Section New York reports the expulsion of Edward Henkle for his connection with the Citizens League.

The "Labor Leader" of Glasgow, Scotland, sends \$2.56 collected for the National Campaign Fund. Branch 23, Groversville, N. Y., of the Workmen's Sick and Death Benefit Fund sends \$11, the proceeds of a concert and ball held for the benefit of the Daily People Fund.

The editor of the Italian Socialist paper, "Il Proletario," published in Pittsburgh, Pa., at 1221 Penn. avenue, reports that the paper is in a bad way owing to lack of support. He states that \$50 per month are needed for the space of five months to keep up the paper until the subscriptions for the next volume are due. After a thorough discussion of the matter the committee concludes that it is unable to stand such an expenditure without bringing to a dead stop all agitation in other directions. It is finally resolved to here call the attention of the Sections to the condition of the paper, urging them to aid it by securing subscribers, and to purchase for each a given number of copies for distribution and agitation among Italian workers.

The next meeting of the committee will be held on Wednesday, June 2, to enable the members to attend the concert given by Platon Brouhoff and the Russian Choral Society, where the Arm and Hammer song will for the first time be sung to the new music by a chorus of 60 male and female voices. The concert is to be held on Tuesday, June 1st, 8:15 p. m., at Educational Alliance Hall, East Broadway and Jefferson streets, New York.

L. A. MALKIEL, Sec. Secy.

National Campaign Fund.

Previously acknowledged, \$2,070.85
C. Massie, Washington, D. C., on List No. 12, 2.50
"Labor Leader," Glasgow, 56
Scotland 56

Total \$2,075.11
HENRY KUHN, Secy.

Connecticut.

Financial Report of State Committee for Jan., Feb. and March, 1897.

INCOME.

January, 1897.

Cash on hand, \$39.73
Section New Haven, for stamps, 10.00
Section Hartford, for stamps, 7.00
Section New Britain, for stamps, 5.00
Section Bridgeport, Am., for stamps, 1.20
Section Bridgeport, Ger., for stamps, 2.50
Section Waterbury, Am., for stamps, 3.00
Section South Norwalk, for stamps, 2.30
Section Ansonia, Polish, for stamps, 1.00
February, 1897.
Section Danbury, Ital., for stamps, 6.00
Section Waterbury, Ger., for stamps, 2.00
Section New Haven, for stamps, 10.00
Section Bridgeport, Am., for stamps, 5.00
Section Waterbury, Ger., for stamps, 3.00
March, 1897.
Sec. Ansonia, Pol., for dues, 1.00
Sec. Danbury, Hung., for dues, 2.30
Sec. Meriden, for dues, 2.00
Sec. New Britain, for dues, 5.00
Sec. New Haven, for dues, 10.00
Sec. Rockville, for dues, 5.00
Sec. South Norwalk, for dues, 3.00
Sec. Bridgeport, Am., for dues, 5.00

Total \$33.30

Total for three months, \$91.30
On hand Jan. 1, 1897, 39.73

Total \$131.03

EXPENDITURE.

January, 1897.

To Nat. Exec. for stamps, \$15.90
To F. Serrero, for postage, etc., 74
February, 1897.
To Nat. Exec. for due stamps, 10.00
To advertising in Italian paper, 4.50
To F. Serrero, for railroad fare, postage, etc., 1.82
To Sec. Hartford for Italian handbills, 1.50
March, 1897.
To H. Carlsson, for agitation, 12.40
To Nat. Exec. for due stamps, 10.00
To F. Serrero, for postage, etc., 1.08

Total for three months, \$58.05

Total income, \$131.03
Total expenditure, 58.05

Balance on hand April 1, 1897, 72.98
JOS. MAREK.

Treas., Connecticut State Committee, CONNECTICUT STATE CONVENTION.

The tenth annual convention of the Socialist Labor Party, State of Connecticut, is to be held Sunday, May 20, at

St. George Hall, Cutler Corner Building, 568 Chapel street. The convention will be opened at 10:30 a. m. The order of business will be: Report of State Committee and Sections; arrangement of literature; selecting the place of next State Convention and seat of next State Committee. At 6 p. m. the convention will adjourn. The hall will be open to all visitors during the session.
F. SERRER, 21 Nash street.

Illinois.

Financial report of the Illinois State Committee for March and April, 1897.

RECEIPTS.

Mar. 2-La Salle Club, 15 stamps, \$1.50
Mar. 2-Engels Club, 50 stamps, 5.00
Cash, Feb. 17, 14.77

Total \$21.27

EXPENSES.

Mar. 2-Car fare, \$0.10
Mar. 16-Postage stamps to organizer, 1.00

Total \$1.10

Cash on hand Mar. 17, \$20.17

STAMP ACCOUNT.

Mar. 2-Sold, 65
Loaned to Section Chicago, 100

Total 165

Feb. 17-On hand, 262

Total 427

Sold, 165

Mar. 17-On hand, 197

RECEIPTS.

April 13-Section Chicago, \$10.00
April 13-Belleville, 20 stamps, 2.00
April 13-Berlin, 50 stamps, 5.00
April 27-Chicago, 10.00
Cash from March 17, 20.17

Total \$47.17

EXPENSES.

April 13-Postage stamps to organizer, \$1.00
April 13-Postage stamps to treasurer, 50
April 13-500 due stamps, 15.00

Total \$16.50

April 28-Cash on hand, 30.67

STAMP ACCOUNT.

March 17-On hand, 197
April 27-Received, 200

Total 497

April 13-Sold, 79

April 13-Loaned to Chicago, 100

April 27-Loaned to Chicago, 100

Total sold, 279

April 28-Stamps on hand, 218

L. KANSELBAUM,
Financial Secy., Chicago, Ill.

Massachusetts, Attention!

To the Members of the Party in Massachusetts:
Comrades-By order of the State Convention held in Lawrence May 16th, the members of the party by general vote are to decide whether Boston or Holyoke is to be the seat of the State Committee for the coming year.

Since the formation of the party the committee has been located in Boston, and before it is placed elsewhere some reasons should be given by those urging the change why it should be taken away, and some evidence adduced to show that Holyoke is a better place to locate it.

Boston is the natural headquarters of an organization doing business with the whole State or wishing to establish relations with the various cities and towns.

It is the commercial metropolis, the capital of the State, one-third of the population of the State live within 20 miles of it; nearly half the membership of the party reside there, and two-thirds of the vote cast for it is located nearby.

Holyoke is situated more than one hundred miles from Boston on a branch road in the southern part of the State; from a geographical point of view it is about as undesirable a place to locate the headquarters as could be found in the State. As it has from a geographical point nothing to recommend it, it will not be inappropriate to make an inquiry as to the talent displayed there in organization and examine its record in gaining and holding adherents to our cause.

In 1895 Holyoke polled 255 votes for the candidate for Governor. In 1896 it cast 116 for the Socialist candidate for President—a falling off of 138.

With a total increase in the State for Governor in 1896, Holyoke lost 66; its vote for that candidate being 189, ngr was the falling off on the Governor alone; the vote for Lieutenant-Governor in 1895 was 288, being reduced to 207 for Morris E. Ruther for that office in 1896. In 1895 Boston polled 534 for Governor; in 1896 it cast 635 for Matchett and Maguire, and 1,059 for Governor, being a gain of 416.

New Bedford, Lawrence, Springfield, Northampton, Chicopee, Somerville, Malden, Salem, Worcester, Lowell and Fall River showed material gains; the latter city making a gain of 111 over 1895, and Lowell, which had no Section, making a gain of 53.

With the exception of Haverhill, whose vote fell from 226 in 1895 to 25 for President and 141 for Governor, for other city or town showed such disastrous losses as that made by Holyoke.

With the committee located in Boston it is easy and inexpensive for the sixteen Sections located near Boston to personally communicate with the State Committee, and the Sections can, with little expense, be reached by the committee.

If the headquarters are located in Holyoke the great bulk of the Sections would be cut off from consulting with the committee except at great expense. There is much business the committee must do at the State House, and that

could not be done were the committee one hundred or more miles away unless it had an agent in Boston. There is much printing done, documents, etc., which could not be had so reasonably, and the distribution of the same would be more difficult and expensive from that point.

Much matter relating to a campaign is printed in the Boston papers which would not go in were the committee located far away from Boston.

We think the Comrades of Holyoke themselves will see that it is not the place for the headquarters of the party.

If the committee is to be taken away from Boston it ought to go to some place more favorably situated than Holyoke, and to a Section that had shown its capacity to make and increase in its vote, or at least hold, in its own home, what it had already gained before intrusting it with the management of the affairs of the party in the State.

Organizers are requested to have this communication read at Section meetings.

ALBERT STEIG,
Organizer, South Boston German Section.

HENRY STAMMERJOHN,
Organizer, Boston German Section;
CHAS. N. WENTWORTH,
Organizer, Lynn Section.

BOSTON, Mass., May 23.—The Sunday meetings on the 22nd will begin Sunday, May 29, from 3 to 5 o'clock. A large number of Socialists in Boston did not register at the last election because of a lack of knowledge of the election laws. A person cannot vote unless they are assessed. Anyone can find out at the office of the Board of Election Commissioners. If his name was not taken by the assessors he can go personally before the 5th of June; after that time two witnesses are necessary.

Financial report of Mass. S. C. C. for months of March and April, 1897.

March 1-New Bedford, German Sec., 100 due stamps, \$10.00

March 1-Westfield, Amer. Sec., 20 due stamps, 2.00

March 2-Springfield, Ger. Sec., 50 due stamps, 5.00

March 2-Fitchburg Sec., 50 due stamps, 5.00

March 2-Fitchburg Sec., special tax, 1.60

March 2-Fitchburg Sec., donation, 6.40

March 6-Lawrence, Amer. Sec., 30 due stamps, 3.00

March 10-Northampton, Polish Sec., 20 due stamps, 2.00

March 10-Fall River, No. 1 Sec., 50 due stamps, 5.00

March 11-Fittsfield Sec., 50 due stamps, 5.00

March 16-Adams, Ger. Sec., 25 due stamps, 2.50

March 17-Holyoke, Ger. Sec., 50 due stamps, 5.00

March 22-Lowell Sec., 15 due stamps, 1.50

March 22-Worcester, Amer. Sec., 40 due stamps, 4.00

March 21-Adams, Ger. Sec., 25 due stamps, 2.50

March 20-Holyoke, Amer. Sec., 50 due stamps, 5.00

March 20-Lynn, Amer. Sec., 50 due stamps, 5.00

Total receipts, \$70.50

Balance on hand March 1, 10.87

Total \$81.37

March 19-Libbie Show Print, \$3.00

March 19-500 due stamps, 30.00

March 19-Postage and money order, 1.70

March 19-Nat. Exec. Com., Matchett's campaign expense, 6.00

March 19-Gordie for printing; balance due, 15.00

Total \$55.70

Balance on hand, \$25.67

RECEIPTS.

April 5-Fall River, Pol. Sec., 20 due stamps, 2.00

April 6-Somerville, Amer. Sec., 14 due stamps, 1.40

April 7-Boston City Committee, 150 due stamps, 15.00

April 14-Adams, Ger. Sec., special tax, 2.25

April 14-Fall River, No. 3, 15 due stamps, 1.50

April 15-Lawrence, Ger. Sec., 100 due stamps, 10.00

April 15-Holyoke, Ger. Sec., special tax, 3.00

April 15-Holyoke, Amer. Sec., special tax, 2.75

April 21-Boston City Committee, 150 due stamps, 15.00

April 21-New Bedford, Ger. Sec., special tax, 10.00

April 23-Lawrence, Ger. Sec., special tax, 9.45

April 27-Holyoke, Amer. Sec., 50 due stamps, 5.00

April 27-Westfield, Amer. Sec., 40 due stamps, 4.00

April 27-Clinton, Ger. Sec., special tax, 5.30

April 27-Somerville, Amer. Sec., 15 due stamps, 1.50

April 20-Boston Danish and Norwegian Sec., 15 due stamps 1.50

Total receipts, \$87.65

Balance on hand April 1, \$25.67

Total \$113.32

EXPENDITURES.

April 5-500 due stamps, Nat. Ex. Com., \$30.00

April 5-Postage and money order, 70

April 5-Hectograph, 3.75

April 5-Nat. Exec. Com., literature, 7.50

April 5-Literature to Comrade Taylor, 2.00

April 5-Part of bill to THE PEOPLE, 5.00

Total \$48.95

Balance on hand, \$64.37

S. E. PUTNEY, Secretary.

J. FRIEDLAND, Treasurer.

The receipt of a sample copy of this paper is an invitation to subscribe.

GRAND PIC-NIC
—OF THE—
Westside Assembly Districts, S. L. P.,
on Pffingst Sunday, June 6th, at
HUGO KROEBEL'S BOULEVARD PARK (formerly Floral Park).

Boulevard and Angelique Street, West Hoboken, N. J.
DANCING.—Also various Games for Prizes for Ladies and Children.—Strict Union arrangements.
FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE ELECTION FUND.

TICKETS.—10 Cents a person. Previously acknowledged. Boulevard Park can be reached from 151 St. Christopher and Barclay St. Ferries with Electric Cars. Also with Rutherford Electric Cars. Cars stop within 5 minutes walk from the park.

THE DAILY PEOPLE
\$50,000 FUND.

Amount Plodged down to May 26th, 1897.

\$4,515.

The following amounts have been paid down to May 26th, incl.:
Previously acknowledged, \$109.40
Joe Ditzler, Brooklyn, N. Y., \$2; Ed Schwok, Utica, N. Y., on advt. List No. 11, \$4; J. H. Bate, \$10; Labor Union, City, \$2; W. J. M., City, \$2; Max C. Levine, City, \$2; Morris Steinberg, City, \$2; Jas. Ballard, Eureka, Cal., \$1.00; S. Rosenzweig, City, \$2; O. J. Hughes, Lynn, Mass., \$10

Total \$1072.90

Pledgers will please keep in mind the dates on which their payments fall due, as per printed list, and remit promptly. If any error appears on the list, correct with equal promptness.

THE DAILY PEOPLE COMMITTEE,
184 William St., N. Y.

Missouri.

I herewith submit monthly report of the Missouri State Committee, S. L. P., for the month of April, 1897.

RECEIPTS.

April 1-Cash on hand, \$0.62

April 2-Section St. Louis, 12 due cards, 05

April 9-Section St. Louis, 19 due stamps, 1.90

April 30-Section St. Louis, 10 due stamps, 1.00

Total 3.57

EXPENDED.

April 1-Postage stamps, \$4.50

April 10-Postage stamps, 50

April 31-Postage stamps, 50

Total \$1.50

On hand May 1-Cash, \$2.07

LEWIS C. FRY, Secy.

New York.

NEW YORK CITY.—On the 22d inst. the reorganized Section New York (Greater New York) held its first General Committee meeting.

There were 92 delegates present. Daniel De Leon was chosen chairman and Ramm vice-chairman of the meeting. The General Committee then proceeded to organize with permanent officers and standing committees. The elections of these resulted as follows:
Organizer, Lazarus Ableson, of Borough of Manhattan.
Recording secretary, Emil Kirchner, of borough of Manhattan.
Financial secretary, John E. Keenaley, of borough of Bronx.
Treasurer, Peter Fiebigler, of borough of Kings.
Additional members of the Executive Committee:
E. Fransecky, of borough of Richmond.
Henry Kuhn, Hugo Vogt and H. A. Hickey, of borough of Kings.
Wm. N. Reed, Chas. Franz and Geo. Sieburg, of borough of Manhattan.

The above eleven members constitute the Executive Committee. The Grievance Committee was elected as follows:
Lunjon Sanial, Lisauer, Solomon Schwartz, Berlyn, Grube, Isidor Phillips and Pine.
At a late hour a motion was carried to hold an adjourned meeting on the 29th instant.

To the Assembly Districts, Wards and Branches of Section Greater New York, S. L. P.:

Comrade J. J. Kinneally, the financial secretary of Section Greater New York, S. L. P., will be ready to sell due stamps to the above organizations any Tuesday evening, between 7:30 and 9 p. m., at the Labor Lyceum, 64 E. 4th street, New York. The same can also be had from the organizer any time during the day, at his office at the same address.

L. ABELSON,
Organizer, Sec. Greater New York.

NEW YORK CITY.—The last regular meeting of the Young American Socialists was held on Friday, May 21, with Comrade Glick in the chair. Previously it was decided that the propoganda of Socialism be carried on in our own premises, whereupon Comrade James Allan was invited to act as steady lecturer. This Comrade has already delivered two lectures with great success. Lectures take place every second and fourth Friday evenings of the month at 118 Columbia street, at 5 p. m. sharp. All Comrades and sympathizers are invited to attend. Admission free.

SECRETARY.

NEW YORK CITY.—The regular meeting of the New York Socialist Literary Society was held on Saturday, May 22d, with Comrade M. J. Levitt in the chair. Reports of the committee accepted. It was decided to appoint a committee to look for club rooms, and we have now removed from 161 Monroe street to 145 Clinton street, where we have a nice parlor floor and basement.

We appeal to all young men of good moral character and willing to elevate their ideas on Socialism to visit our club rooms, where we have a large reading room, with all radical, social, political and economic magazines, pamphlets and newspapers. On Wednesday nights we have literary exercises. All are welcome.

PHILIP L. HOCH, Cor. Secy.

PARLIAMENTS OF LABOR.

D. A. No. 1.

(CENTRAL LABOR FEDERATION OF N. Y.)

Delegate C. Amadi, of the Furriers' Union, was chairman at the largely attended meeting of the N. Y. Central Labor Federation (D. A. No. 1, S. T. & L. A.) last Sunday, and delegate H. Zine, of the Empire City Lodge Machinists' was vice-chairman.

The Boston Scandinavian Social Democratic Club
3rd GRAND PICNIC
In Amory Grove, Roxbury,
Decoration Day, Monday, May 31,
From 10 A. M. to 9 P. M.
Speeches in English and Swedish. Singing, Dancing, Gymnastic Exhibition, Sports, Games, Prizes.
Tickets for Gentlemen 50 Cts. For Ladies 25 Cts. Children under 12 years free.
Take Old Heath St. or Jamaica Plain Cars to Amory Street.

Trades and Societies Calendar.

Standing advertisements of Trades Unions and other Societies (not exceeding five lines) will be inserted under this heading at the rate of \$5.00 per annum.
Organizations should not lose such an opportunity of advertising their places of meetings.

Branch 1 (American) S. L. P. Discussion meeting every first Friday. Business meeting every 3rd Friday at 64 East 4th St. Lectures every Sunday 8 P. M. at Stuyvesant Hall, 37th St., and Hudson Building, 37th St. and 8th Ave. 323

Carl Sahn Club (Musicians Union). Meetings every Tuesday at 10 a. m., at 64 East 4th street, New York Labor Lyceum. Business Secretary, Fred.

Central Labor Federation of New York (S. T. & L. A., D. A. No. 1). Meets at 2:30 every Sunday afternoon at 64 East 4th street, New York City. All bona fide trade and labor Unions should be represented. Communications are to be sent to the corresponding Secretary, Ernest Bohm, 64 East 4th street, New York City. 320

Cigar-makers' Progressive International Union, No. 90. Office and Headquarters, 64 East 4th street, District 1 (Bohemian), 384 East