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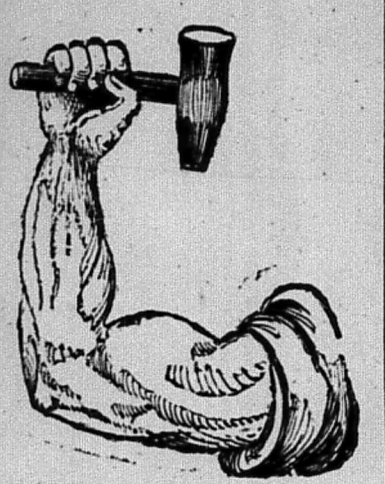
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VOL. VII.—NO. 49.

NEW YORK, MARCH 6, 1898.

PRICE 3 CENTS.



**DURYEA, Luzerne Co., Pa., Feb. 28.**—Section Duryea, S. L. P., went into the local elections, just held, and came out victorious. Two S. L. P. candidates were elected—one Inspector for the South District, and one for the West District. The poll of all the other S. L. P. candidates is by only very few votes below that of the successful Republicans and Democrats. There were polled 16 straight tickets in the North District, 52 in the West District, and 32 in the South District—in all 100 straight tickets, which is a very good showing.

I delayed this report in the hope of being able to enclose also the Republican and Democratic votes. But I can not. The Wilkesbarre "Report," a Republican paper that has hitherto every year promptly published the exact vote at each election, omitted doing so this year. How is this to be explained? Is it ashamed to record the sinking vote of its own party and of its allied party, the Democratic? Or is it afraid to hurt the case of the murderer Sheriff Martin, now on trial in Wilkesbarre, and does not want to convey to the jury the information that our vote and victories imply?

Below is the vote in detail polled by the S. L. P. candidates:

Jacob Dernoschek, Supervisor	126
Adam Christian, Supervisor	125
Pazkofski, School Director	112
Anton Hanz, School Director	105
John Pesolini, Assessor	104
John Kuschizka, Transcript Clerk	120
Keithofer, Auditor	126
<b>North District:</b>	
Wiegand, Judge of Election	15
John Kramer, Inspector	18
John Pesolini, Assessor	16
<b>South District:</b>	
John Schaefer, Inspector (elected)	51
Edward Prodel, Judge of Election	49
Wenzel Umbauer, Assessor	48
<b>West District:</b>	
George Sevankofski, Judge of Election	56
Stephen Schuks, Inspector (elected)	59
Paul Mubruski, Assessor	54
<b>MOUNT CARMEL, Pa., March 1.</b> —The first Socialist local ballot ever seen in Mount Carmel was seen here at our recent local election. <p>The Polish Branch of the S. L. P., composed of miners, and in existence since last April, put up a straight S. L. P. ticket for the municipal elections held last month and came out as follows:</p>	

I. Ward—For Councilman: Vincent Tasolessroz	14
II. Ward—Councilman: Hanislaus Gozdzinski	20
III. Ward—For Assessor: Paul Pilsarski	22
IV. Ward—For Councilman: Wm. Zednosziz	8
V. Ward—For Councilman: John Stozalkowski	32
VI. Ward—For Judge of Elections: Joseph Nowiski	22
For Officer of the Poor: Michael Sobkowiak	72
For Auditor: Razimir Tosolevzic	72

**RUTLAND, Vt., March 1.**—Election returns give S. L. P. candidate for Mayor Danahy 86 votes; in 1895 our candidate received 40. The work for the State campaign is to start immediately.

With the first issue of next April, the price of **THE PEOPLE** will be reduced from \$1 to 50 cents a year; six months 25 cents; 3 months 15 cents; single copies 2 cents.

**GOOD WORK IN LINCOLN.**

A Municipal Ticket—Comrade Martha Moore Every's Successful Course of Lectures.

LINCOLN, Neb., Feb. 21.—The course of twelve lectures delivered here during the past two weeks by Comrade Martha Moore Every on Scientific Socialism has been a success in every sense of the word. In order that the Comrades throughout the country may know something regarding the obstacles Section Lincoln has surmounted in carrying through this course of lectures to a successful conclusion it will be necessary to enter somewhat into details.

For over one year the Comrades at this point have been convinced that such a course of lectures was needed in order that we might successfully reach and impress those most liable to come to our organization. We were also convinced that such a course of lectures might, by a little effort on our part, be made self-sustaining. The final result has been more than we anticipated. We not only raised sufficient money to pay all expenses, but \$109 of the \$116 necessary to meet the expense came out of our friends (?) the enemy.

The plan we hit upon was to sell tickets for the full course of 12 lectures for \$1, and to charge 10 cents admission to single lectures. We sold 77 tickets at \$1 each before Comrade Avery arrived, and the balance, or \$39, came from the door receipts and collections at two free lectures not in the regular course.

Our lecture hall or club room, where the meetings were held—fourteen in succession, counting the two on Sundays—has a seating capacity of 150, and for the twelve nights the average attendance was at least 100, and at the two Sunday afternoon meetings nearly every seat was occupied.

Comrade Avery not only held the attention of the audience to the last, but on Saturday night at the close of the last of the regular course of twelve lectures, when she asked how many in the audience felt like joining the S. L. P., at least twenty raised their hands and eight came forward after the audience was dismissed and made application to join the Section. The following were the subjects discussed by her:

"Philosophy of Socialism," "History of Socialism," "Socialism a Science," "Evolution of the Class Struggle," "Three Stages of Production," "Evolution of Money," "Discovery of Surplus Value," "Capitalists, Capital and Capitalism," "Competition and Monopoly," "Trades Unions, Old and New," "Who Pays the Taxes?" "Woman's Relation to the State."

In addition, on Sunday afternoon, Feb. 13, she spoke on "The Mission of the Proletariat," and Sunday afternoon, Feb. 20, on the subject "For What Party Should a Man Vote?"

The first Sunday the collection amounted to \$3, and the second to \$5.50.

In all these fourteen lectures no attempt was made to arouse the emotions; but, on the contrary, the subjects were handled in purely scientific manner.

In addition to these fourteen lectures under the auspices of Section Lincoln, Mrs. Avery delivered two lectures before "The Woman's Club" on the subject, "Conscious and Unconscious Relations," and "Economic Freedom of Woman." Also one to the women of Lincoln at Mrs. Holmes' private residence, a lady who purchased a ticket and attended every one of the seventeen lectures. As a complement to our Comrade, the room in which this lecture was given was draped in RED and the RED FLAG also was placed in a conspicuous position, and in introducing Comrade Avery to the ladies assembled, Mrs. Holmes remarked "We are all Socialists to-day."

Many more workmen attended these meetings than we anticipated, and with one or two exceptions, all those who did attend seemed to agree with the lecturer in every particular. One year ago the revolutionary doctrine, pointed and promulgated by Comrade Avery in these lectures, would have met with a hot reception from the same audience; but, strange to say, in the home of Bryan none seemed to dissent to any serious degree when she showed the middle class up in its true light. This would seem to prove "the sun do move."

Our meeting was held each night from 8 to 9:30, an hour being given to the lecture and one-half hour to asking and answering questions. If this course of lectures prove anything they prove this, that the people of the West are not only ready and willing to hear Socialism expounded from a purely scientific standpoint for 14 continuous lectures, but they are also ready and willing to pay the teacher. When it is considered that our Section has only eight members, it would seem that the plan adopted by us, and carried through to a successful conclusion, would, if adopted generally, keep during the winter months at least eight or ten lecturers in the field without any tax on the National Executive Committee.

These lectures in our city have dealt the free silver middle class movement a blow from which it will never recover, and while the fruit for Socialism may not ripen instantly, these lectures have greatly accelerated the process.

While the Socialist Labor party is not given to hero worship, still we, the members of Section Lincoln, feel ourselves deeply indebted to Comrade Avery for the able and magnificent work she did at this point. All who listened to her from night to night, regardless of their economic interest or political affiliations, were captivated by her masterly presentation of the different subjects discussed.

Yesterday afternoon at the close of her last lecture one of the audience proposed a vote of thanks, and the expression was unanimous. In fact she left this city after a two weeks' stay with many, many friends not only among the proletariat but also the middle class.

She left for Denver last night, where she will deliver at least six lectures, and possibly more. From there she will doubtless go to Pueblo for three speeches; thence to Davenport, Ia., where she will be March 14th to 19th. This will give her three weeks in Colorado. Effort is being made for her to speak once or twice in Omaha on her way east to Davenport. She goes from the latter place direct to Chicago, where she speaks four times, March 20, 21, 22 and 23; thence to Milwaukee for one week. On her way east we are trying to make arrangements for her to speak at Laport and Fort Wayne, Indiana; Lansing and Detroit, Mich.; Toledo and Cleveland, Ohio; Pittsburg, Altoona, Harrisburg and Philadelphia, Pa. All Sections wishing her services on this tour should address the undersigned. The cost for these speeches will be \$3 per day, hotel bill, and \$3 for each lecture for railroad fare.

Section Lincoln has nominated and will have a ticket in the field for the coming municipal election if we can succeed in securing the requisite fifty signers to our petition.

During the lectures orders for several sets of the People's Library, copies of the Manifesto, and three months' trial subscription for **THE PEOPLE** were taken.

H. S. ALEY, M. D., Organizer.

## MIDDLEMEN AND MIDDLE CLASS.

Two Terms that Upset the Uninformed and Unguarded.

Collective Labor Necessitates Distributive Machinery—The "Middleman" is not a Class but a Functionary. Like the "Producer"—A Serious Bringer, Fraught With Danger, Punctured.

The following passages occur in a recent issue of the Girard, Kans., "Appeal to Reason":

"The farmer, unless he is a large employer of labor, is not of the middle class."

"The middle class is that one which, properly speaking, stands between the producer and the consumer, demanding toll, in the name of 'profit,' and for his living, extortionately above the cost of exchanging commodities."

The first passage indicates that for an employer to be of the "middle class" he must be a large employer of labor. The fact is just the reverse: A large employer of labor must necessarily be a holder of large capital; whether he be farmer or otherwise, he can not be a "large employer of labor" unless the capital he controls is considerable; such holdings are necessarily large enough to place him in the upper class or capitalist class proper.

The second passage, however, throws the matter into still greater confusion. According thereto the "middle class" is the class of the exchangers of commodities—the "middle men"—an absurdity; that absurdity is made still worse by putting into the middle class the farmer who is a large employer of labor when, in fact, such farmer is not a middle man at all, and surely not a "middle class" man.

A complete economic "pi" than that presented by the two passages above quoted can hardly be imagined. It jumbles up the "middle class" and the "middle man," it confounds the principle of economic classes with the several functions of "production" and "distribution," and it leaves its readers in such a hopeless state of confusion, with no principles and aims, that the average reader may, after reading them, doubt whether he stands on his head or on his tail.

The "middle class" is that subdivision of society that, like the upper class, holds in private ownership things necessary to produce and exchange with: the railroads, factories, mines, retail shops, etc., etc., in short, Capital. What marks the "middle class" and the upper is the size, and, consequently, the economic power of their respective holdings; the former's holdings are not large enough to enable it to compete with the latter, and hence it is gradually being bankrupted and thrown into the class of the proletariat that is wholly stripped of ownership in that requisite machinery. Consequently, the New Bedford manufacturers (who hold instruments of production) as well as Wamamaker (who holds instruments of exchange or distribution) are both capitalists; as both hold large holdings, rendering competition harder and harder to smaller manufacturers and smaller retailers, both are upper capitalists; and yet the one's holdings are in machinery of production, and he is called a "producer," while the other's holdings are in the machinery of exchange and distribution, and he is a "middle man."

Thus we see that the "middle class" is one thing, the "middleman" is another. The "middle class" is a subdivision of society upon economic class interests; the "middleman" is a subdivision, not of the whole of society, but of both the two property-holding classes—capitalist and middle class; is a subdivision based, not upon economic class interests but upon their functions: one subdivision figures as the owner of the machinery of production, the other as the owner of the machinery of distribution or exchange; the one is "producer," the other "middleman." These distinctions are essential to guide one in keeping the right goal in mind, and they are all-essential in protecting one from false tactics.

Socialism aims at abolishing classes; consequently there can be no "middle class" under Socialism. On the other hand, the functions now filled by the "middle man," the function of "exchange" or "distribution" is a necessary one, indispensable to collective labor; consequently, the middleman's function is not to be abolished. All the present objections to the "middleman" are, the same as the objections to the capitalist, based on his private ownership and exploitation of the necessities to social life.

The profits on which the capitalist lives are not the "extortionate prices" he charges for his goods. His profits are that part of the value of his goods which his employes produce and he withholds from them. This scientific principle can not be overlooked without one's running the risk of being dumped at any moment into any of the numerous mischievously absurd movements to improve the condition of the working people. The manufacturing capitalist (producer) pays his employes less than the value of what they produce in the mills; the difference is his stealings or profits; and identically is the case with the farmer who employs farm hands. If the manufacturer and the farmer have a large enough capital to down their competitors, they are of the upper capitalists; if not, farmer, as well as manufacturer, is of the middle class.

A shopkeeper (middleman) pays his employes less than the value that their labor in distribution imparts to com-

## FOUND OUT AND EXPOSED FOR FAIR.

A. F. of L.'s Desperate but Futile Fight in San Francisco.

History of the Attempt to Keep the Pacific Slope Tailors Toeing the Per-capita Line—A Fakir Organizer Unmasked as a Scab—"Money no Consideration to Him"

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 20.—Our city is not without its labor fakirs, chiefly salaried gentlemen, the nether portions of whose pantaloons is first to show the worse of wear in the industrious effort of holding down office chairs—to the tune of several thousand dollars per year. But—as if these were not enough to hold the local rank and file of the unsuspecting in capitalist order and political readiness to boom the personal fortunes of "outside politicians," conveniently ready to "do something for the union," ending, invariably, in a sub-political position for the inside "fakir," who diligently cries "no politics in the union."—The fraternity of "salary drawers" considers it good policy to be sometimes reinforced by a fellow-fakir from the National Order of Labor Herders, anywhere "beyond the Rockies," so that it be sufficiently distant to "lend enchantment to the view." San Francisco has just gone through the experience of such a visitation, and the reception was such a "cold, dead frost" that all the petty half-world of fakirdom is agog; and the flight of unclean birds from their dust-covered perches in the effort to counteract the effect has been as noisy as it is ill-smelling.

Some two years or so ago the Journeymen Tailors' Protective and Benevolent Union, an active and intelligent local body, independent of all national per-capita-tax-eating concerns of the order of "pure and simpleton," was a constituent body of the then famed San Francisco Labor Council, now in "advanced senility." The Journeymen Tailors' Union of America, John B. Lennon, general secretary as well as treasurer of American Federation of Labor, decided to whip the San Francisco body into line, and thereby help pay the salaries of the fraternity of figureheads. Nothing seemed easier. The San Francisco Labor Council being a contributing member of the "A. F. of L." orders came from the High and Mighty to oblige the Tailors' Protective and Benevolent Union of San Francisco to join the Journeymen Tailors' Union of America (National), or quit the San Francisco Labor Council. Without further ceremony the local union withdrew. To the increased benefit of its treasury and addition to its membership.

The John B. Lennon A. F. of L. Brigade felt sore; and all the sorer as time passed. The example set by the San Francisco Union was followed elsewhere. From 22,000 members the Lennon national organization dwindled down to 2,500. The question thus became urgent to the A. F. of L. fakirs, Where will our salaries come from?

This condition of things could finally no longer be endured by fakirdom. It had to make a supreme effort to regain per-capita-contributors to their salaries, and an organization on which they might traffic on with the capitalist politicians. With this end in view organizers (?) were dispatched to make the journeymen tailors the country over toe the contributing mark. Boom correspondences, forecasts of advancing calamities, dire calamities marked the approach of the "Charge of the Light Brigade" of "Organizers." Each one was assigned his section of country. The Pacific Coast territory fell to the lot of "General Organizer" E. S. Christopherson. He arrived in San Francisco a few weeks ago, and with the assistance of local fakirs he proceeded to visit every shop employing members of the Journeymen Tailors' Protective and Benevolent Union, counseling each one individually to urge the other to have the union join the National Organization—and help pay salaries, the organizer himself, as per "The Tailor," of January, having received from the National treasury the trifling sum of \$3,473.04. The willingness of the union to see fair play caused a special meeting to be called for Wednesday evening, the 26th of last month, to consider the proposition of joining the National Union.

All the local labor fakirs and political heeleders—W. A. McArthur, Ed. Rosenberg, Secretary of the Coast Seamen's Union, which is annually bled \$4,000 in "salaries to officers," and others of this stripe—were present at the meeting to aid this Christopherson in the attempt to transfer the local union of tailors into the pockets of Lennon and of the other A. F. of L. per-capita-consumers. We gave the fakirs the right of way, and then we had our innings, beginning by pillorying "Organizer" Christopherson himself as a scab on the Leadville, Colo. Union, and throwing dismay into the ranks of the allied fakirs by demanding of the "Organizer" an answer to the questions: "Why did the National Union in the past eight years lose 17,000 members?" "Why did the Tailors' Unions of New York, St. Louis, St. Paul, New Haven, etc., withdraw?" No answer came from the terror-stricken organizer. The chairman called for a reply, and then, to the utter discomfiture of the local fakir brigade, Mr. Christopherson admitted that HE COULD NOT ANSWER. Many other embarrassing questions followed, and like failures to answer. The meeting then came to a vote, resulting in 28 votes for joining the national body out of 175 members in good standing. Upon this signal failure, the fakirs

## GOOD FOR CANADA!

The S. L. P. Flag Run up to the Mast-head in London, Ont.

The Section Steps in the Political Arena—Circumstances that Pushed it Forward—Interesting Scenes at Official Nomination in the City Hall—The Lay of the Land and Our Prospects.

LONDON, Ont., Feb. 27.—As the columns of **THE PEOPLE** a few weeks ago stated, our Section in London was reconstructed some three weeks since with a charter list of 37 members. We were barely on our feet when the appearance in the field for current election to Legislative Assembly of Ontario) of an "independent" candidate on a "semi-Socialist" platform, forced us to consider the advisability of protecting the future interests of the cause represented by our party by boldly taking the field ourselves immediately, and presenting to our constituency the undated article and announcing the beginning of the end."

The Comrades will be able to conceive the doubts and fears and trembling of a three weeks' infant in face of such an issue. We had not a copper in the treasury, absolutely no equipment for a contest in the hotbed of Canadian partisans (for such is London), only one week ahead was election day (March 1), and in a constituency of about 10,000 votes, which has been thoroughly canvassed and organized for months past by the dominant and well equipped Grit and Tory parties we could not count up 50 votes. However, we have "gone and done it," and London is to-day discussing the biggest political sensation in its history. Nomination day at the City Hall was advertised for Feb. 22d, and the two dominant parties were regarding their warrior standard bearers as "the only pebbles on the beach." A special convention of Section London, S. L. P., was advertised in three city dailies for Monday evening, Feb. 21st (day before nomination). After mature deliberation our Section came to the conclusion that our duty to the international cause was to hoist the flag in Canada at the earliest possible opportunity. The opportunity being present to us in the pending elections for Legislative Assembly of Ontario, we discovered that lack of moral courage was the only obstacle in our way. This we decided could not be permitted to block the interests of our principles, and the end of the section's deliberations was an instruction to Comrade A. B. Barter to nominate Comrade Henry B. Ashplant on the following morning as representative of the city of London to Legislative Assembly at Toronto on the platform of the Socialist Labor party. Comrade George Crofts bravely volunteered to second the nomination. We all went home in fear and trembling at the coming storm.

Nomination morning dawned, and our little group of defenders of the faith were on the scene of action as per arrangement. The storm cloud burst, the dark horse entered the ring, and we are on the home stretch, with the S. L. P. at the tail end of the handicap, gaining votes at every step of the final. We had no sight of more votes than our infant Section could give us at the start. Having a very close margin vote, and being notoriously the hottest partisan constituency in Canada, the dominant parties had their canvas about completed; but in three short days we have knocked the bottom out of their calculations and command a share of public attention such as we ourselves had not dared to expect.

Within 36 hours of the decision to nominate, 5,000 of S. L. P. electoral addresses were in the field; we engaged the hall, East London, also the City Hall, for public meetings Thursday and Friday nights; we had every electric street car in the city placarded outside; and had 3,000 dodgers, besides newspaper ads. in three city dailies. As may be seen from reports of papers, we have stuck solid to the undated S. L. P. With only one week's propaganda against heaviest kind of odds, we can safely consider that we are making a record for the international. We have no force of scrutineers adequate to our protection at the poll; the local T. & I. Council has come out with a resolution that it does not endorse us, the leaders of the Citizens' Union and Co-operative Commonwealth (Debs' form of organization), with the Prohibitionists, are allied on an "independent" candidate in the field; and we are opposed by all that well equipped dominant old line parties with "boodle" can put in the field against us.

Comrade A. B. Barter, with a backbone on him like a steel rod, nominated the first candidate of the S. L. P. in Canada, and Comrade George Crofts, like a hero, seconded it amidst a storm of hoots and yells; but on Thursday and Friday evenings in both halls you could hear a pin drop in the close attention to our speeches; we have caught the public ear, and a cold shiver is crawling up the backs of the Government and Tory party managers. They have seen enough in three days to "see their fish" within a decade in this city of London.

With both old parties in the field fighting desperately for the seat (only one to be elected), and with an independent candidate collecting all the Adullamite vote, we have the very best conditions for a clean-cut S. L. P. vote, and I think we may safely count on going over double the strength of our Section. We want to start Canada with three figures anyway. Tuesday, March 1, at 5 p. m., the poll closes; we may be counted out for want of scrutineers; but our standard is aloft and the colors will never be struck in the Dominion of Canada so long as Section London retains a quorum.

## GOOD WORK IN LINCOLN.

A Card from Comrade Burrows.

Attention, New York.

Branch 13 (Women), S. L. P., of Section New York, together with the "Women's Club for the Promotion of the Labor Press," has arranged a mass meeting in Grand Central Palace, Sunday, March 6, at 3 p. m., for the purpose of raising funds for the New Bedford strikers.

Come one, come all.

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

(Continued on Page 4.)

THE PEOPLE.

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As far as possible, rejected communications will be returned if so desired and stamps are enclosed.

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SOCIALIST VOTE IN THE UNITED STATES.

Table showing Socialist vote in the United States from 1888 to 1897. 1888 (Presidential) 2,069; 1890 19,231; 1892 (Presidential) 21,157; 1894 22,133; 1896 (Presidential) 36,664; 1897 65,673.

We begin to think it's nater to take sarse an' not be riled; Who'd expect to see a tater All on end at bein' riled? Lowell.

THE PEOPLE FOR FIFTY CENTS.

With No. 1 of our Vol. VIII, the issue of next April 3, THE PEOPLE'S price will be reduced to one half.

It is expected that if a paper of this nature—uncompromisingly and soundly revolutionary, neither asking nor giving quarter, and disdaining all factitious means of support—could, for seven consecutive years, maintain, and, despite its comparative dearth, finally place itself upon a self-supporting basis, the reduction of its price will now throw no new burden upon the shoulders of the Socialist Labor party.

On the contrary, the expectation is justified that so great will be the increase of circulation due to the reduced price of the paper, coupled with a strong, steadily increasing demand for the clear notes of Scientific Socialism, that the recurrence of a deficit, if any does occur, will be transitory and trifling.

Necessary at one time to make the existence of the paper at all possible, the old price, it is believed, may now be safely abandoned. Gauging the breadth and depth of the healthy Socialist sentiment that the paper has built up; gauging the breadth and depth of the militant spirit of sound and aggressive propaganda in the land, the Committee of the party, in charge of the matter looks to a prompt and voluminous response to this its new departure.

Between now and the day when the new price scale will go into force a month intervenes. Let it be used well by the organized and the unorganized Comrades, our friends and sympathizers. Let the subscriptions gathered during these four weeks be so numerous that we may cross the bar on April 3 without a thought needing to be expended upon the matter of "deficit," and inspired to renewed efforts by the knowledge that the audience addressed by the national organ of the party is swelling apace.

THE NATIONAL HONOR.

No man, do he what he may, can lay upon another that dishonor that a man can lay upon himself; a man's honor is in the keeping of himself, not others. As with individuals so with nations. A nation's honor is not in the keeping of others. It is not the conduct of other nations that honors or dishonors another; a nation stands honored or dishonored by its own acts at home. The application of these irrefutable principles are just now timely.

In the harbor of Havana several hundred United States marines have recently met their death. Let the worst imaginable be imagined: Let it be imagined that the Spanish government itself was guilty of the stupidity of encompassing the death of these men; that it conceived, planned and executed the dastardly deed. Such action as far as the United States is concerned, is an insult to us, no doubt. But who and what is that Government that is to redress the wrong done to our honor? Upon its own character depends its fitness to demand and execute redress. Is it fit?

The Government of the United States represents, not our people, but a small minority thereof; it represents not the honor, the industry, the sinews of the nation; it represents the nation's dishonor; it represents the capitalist class exclusively, i. e., a felon class. As the representative of that class, the present Government is from head to foot red with the blood, not of a few hundred, but of thousands upon thousands of the nation's veterans of labor—male, female and infant—whom in mines, railroad yards, mills and shops it daily blows up, kills, mutilates and starves by slow degrees. The class that Government represents is even now in the prisoner's dock at Wilkesbarre, Pa., for the wholesale murder of workmen, and by its stumped press it is doctoring the evidence in such manner as to make the criminals innocent and the innocent criminals, thereby adding insult to injury. Can so disreputable a Government, with no honor of itself to guard, truly avenge the insult done to our flag?

No!

Whatever insult comes to us from abroad can, in the very nature of things, be avenged only when that class, together with all its war-crying heeblers of all degrees has been overthrown, and its working class, its only honorable part, and that part the overwhelming majority, has attained power by capturing the Government.

The redress of whatever insult falls upon us from abroad must, in the very nature of things, be postponed to that day when we can settle scores with the Nation's domestic insulters, the now ruling capitalist class, for all the insults it is daily and brazenly heaping upon the people.

By all means, let us resent the insults to our Nation, and labor to avenge her.

THE CASE OF RUDOLF MODEST.

Careful readers of THE PEOPLE will have read the documents recently published in the matter of Section New York and the Socialist Publishing Association. From them it appeared that one Rudolf Modest, once a member of the party but subsequently an Anarchist and Labor Fakir friend, was elected by the Association into its Board of Directors; the Section promptly passed a vote of lack of confidence upon the Association, holding that the latter was nothing but a Publishing Committee of the party, required by the exigencies of the law of the land; the Association, in answer, adopted resolutions recognizing the justice of the position taken by Section New York, and promptly calling a special session of the Association, under the law, to consider Modest's withdrawal; this special session was held, and after full debate Modest was withdrawn by a vote of 38 against 11; the Section was notified of this action at its last meeting, and amidst applause caused the notification to be spread upon its minutes.

It is evident that the election of Modest was an accident; otherwise the issue would have taken other turn. Nevertheless, the issue and its wind-up marks an epoch in the character of the party organization.

Not a few are the men whose viciousness, crookedness or injured self-conceit cause them to fall out with and withdraw from the party. All such can do no greater service to the S. L. P. than not to stand upon the order of their going. But such there are few, while leaving, and, thereby, withdrawing themselves from the party discipline, like to remain where they may do mischief. Of these Modest is a type. While the Publishing Association will consider no application for membership that comes not from a party member, it is an open question whether, after a member has been admitted and then leaves the party, he can be put out of the Association. This advantage Modest and others took. They withdrew from the party and yet keep their membership in the Publishing Association, from which point of vantage they watch their opportunity to stab the party in the back, and, as in Modest's case, managed to get into office one of their gang, who, clad in such office, has the opportunity of doing what this identical Modest did before, go around traducing the party and its press, giving weight to his false statements in the ears of the unguarded by the office he held.

It is in view of all these facts that the Modest incident derives significance. The attitude taken by Section New York is a notice to all concerned (whether crook or otherwise), that the party will not allow itself to be trifled with; that it will not allow any organization connected with it to be turned into a place of shelter for foes from whence it is to be assailed; that it will extend its jurisdiction to the full logical extent and pursue its foes wherever they may hide;—until these are forced to drop the mask; be honorable, despite themselves; and openly join the capitalist enemy.

The Modest incident reveals the fact that the party has entered upon its manhood.

There is some good in the noise recently made by the "municipal" nationalization" coalition of politicians, dreamers and "Socialists." Had they made less noise, they would have been less of a nuisance, it is true, but neither would it have been as easy to flatten them out. The very noise they made, and the very volume of their preposterous claims in favor of the "Glasgow Plan" aroused, however, such widespread curiosity that many people, who had they known the economic laws of capital, would never have taken stock in such claims though they were possible, and wrote to Glasgow for official confirmation. Thereupon came this official crusher:

"The Lord Provost of Glasgow has received communications from all parts of America desiring confirmation of a statement to the effect that the citizens of Glasgow would be free from all taxes or rates in consequence of the profits derivable from their gas, water, electric lighting and other undertakings of the government. I have accordingly been requested by the Lord Provost to inform you that this statement has no foundation in fact. There is no probability of this city being exempt from taxation."

"JOHN S. SAMUEL, City Chambers." The following notice is conspicuously printed this week in the elite papers: "The Charity Organization Society appeals for \$150 in support of a couple seventy-five years old, and entirely dependent, who are awaiting admission into a home. They are old residents of

this city and of excellent character. Any money sent for this case to the Charity Organization Society, No. 105 East"

For one such case that has "pull" enough to interest the powers that be, there are hundreds upon hundreds of others less pull-potential. That modern social system that can produce ONE such case is damned by itself. If people of excellent character, and old residents at that, can reach old age and find themselves wholly dependent, how is the phenomenon to be explained but by the theory that some one else has profited by the chances offered to-day to despoil others.

This, and many more such instances that are forcing their way into notice, cave in the head of that libel upon the working class, once quite often heard, that their poverty was the result of their "bad character."

Quite curious, considering the source whence it comes, is a proposition, made at some of the "prosperity colloquies" recently held by manufacturers, to so amend the Federal Constitution as to empower Congress to regulate wages all over the land, to the end that competing manufacturers may not cut one another's throats.

There is a very different amendment to the Constitution looming above the horizon. It is carried in the folds of the S. L. P.—with the "manufacturers" not in it.

POLITICAL and ECONOMIC.

The New York "Evening Post" (gold bug, free trade and rifle-diet-to-the-workingmen); whines about the war lies published by the yellow journals, and philosophises or moralizes thus:

"That familiarity with lying, and even amusement over lying, must in some degree, especially among the rising generation, cause loss of respect for truth and disbelief in its value for the purposes of national progress, we think can hardly be denied. This makes it surprising that capitalists and philanthropists do not try more to supply popular reading that will be entertaining without being demoralizing. Every now and then we hear of some rich man rushing into cheap journalism, but he, as a rule, seems to have no more conscience about the kind of journalism he produces than the Devil himself would have, if he undertook to establish a 'lively newspaper.'"

And yet, if the "Evening Post" were to account for its own systematic lies upon the lines peculiar to itself it would soon enough understand the phenomenon that causes it to indignate. Not morality but pennies is the object of the capitalist. When he sets up a paper or invests in a paper, he does so for the same reason that may cause him to set up or invest in a spittoon factory—profits. This being thus, the capitalist will publish such papers as will sell. One set of capitalists would make money by war and want sensational war articles, whereupon they publish yellow war news; another set of capitalists don't see any profits in war and want anti-war goods; whereupon such papers as the "Evening Post" lie on the other side of the line and furnish anti-war peanuts. That's all.

The San Francisco, Cal., "New Charter" calls attention to the following facts:

"Mr. F. O. Pickand, the chief authority on schools in London, England, says that 60,000 children go to school every day in London, foodless, and that the number of starving children in London increase at the rate of 1,000 per year. All that in a single city of a country that calls itself Christian, and that devotes vast sums annually to convert the 'heathen' to a belief in Him who said, 'Suffer little children to come unto Me.'"

Horrible as is this picture, our own great cities have nothing to twit London with: our "Christianity" is of the London pattern.

That a revolutionary movement brings along its own code of morals, the morals of the class interests that underlie it, is well known; but that the new standard of morals of such a movement is always superior to that of the existing class which it is about to overthrow is less generally appreciated, and least of all is it generally appreciated that, such is the force of the standard of morals of a revolutionary movement, that even, at times, the upholders of the old are constrained to render it homage. Of all this, last Sunday's New York "Sun" (ex-organ of Tammany, now organ of Platt, and ready organ of any capitalist combination that pays for its support) gave a striking illustration by reproducing, with evident dislike, quite extensively the eloquent denunciation of the French capitalists' law breaking brigade by the Socialist Deputy, Jean Jaures, in the late Zola trial, closing with these thrilling words:

"The citizens rose up in their pride, in their liberty, in their independence, to protest against the violation of the law, and it is the greatest service that they could have rendered to their country. Ah! I well know that M. Zola is likely to be pursued by passionate hatreds and attacks in consequence of this noble service rendered to the country; and I know also why certain men hate him and persecute him. They pursue in him the man who has maintained the rational and scientific interpretation of the miracle; they pursue in him the man who announced in 'Germinal' the bursting forth of a new humanity, the rising of the miserable proletariat from the depths of suffering into the sunlight; they are pursuing in him the man who has just wrested from the general staff that haughty and dangerous irresponsibility under cover of which are being unwittingly prepared all manner of disasters for the Fatherland. Thus he may be pursued and tracked down, but I think I am expressing the feeling of free citizens in saying that before him we bow respectfully."

CHARACTER SKETCHES.

A Broad Socialist's Speech on Socialism and Endorsing a Candidate for Office.

LIMESTONE CENTER, Pa., Feb. 27. —At a meeting of the Colonel Griffin Republican Club, held here last evening, among the speakers of the evening Mr. Wash. Gushington said as follows:

"Although I am prominently identified with the Socialists of this neighborhood in their glorious movement, and am deeply interested in any and all movements designed to relieve the sufferings of down-trodden humanity, I am happy to state that I am not of that narrow and vicious type that vilifies and attacks any and every movement that it does not control, no matter how broad-minded or generous. I am happy to stand here and assure my Republican brethren that I must hold out a helping hand to all honest efforts to secure and maintain good government, humane feelings and the public weal."

I am happy to state that in my breast there ripples no "class struggle" nor "class-consciousness" to embitter me against the worthy Mr. Griffin, whose practical friendship I am able to bear cheerful testimony to. Although you all know of my active efforts in pushing the circulation of the 'New Economy' and 'Thought Provoker,' and of my energetic work (of which I am not ashamed) in circulating tracts, pamphlets, etc., not only from the Socialist point of view but of the Labor Exchange, Co-operative Enterprises, Free Silver, Greenback, Christian Scientist, Spiritualist, Theosophist and Seventh Day Adventist, as well, at the same time maintaining harmonious and active membership in a little church nestled on yon hillside in the midst of our churchyard, where the rude forefathers of the hamlet sleep, none can say that I have done so through any other motive than the purely unselfish motive of reaching the minds of different men in their different positions, in order to lead them to come together in one harmonious whole, and in the might of their quickened intelligence and human sympathy, strike down the common foe—error and wrong. (Profound silence.)

"The Socialist movement does not, as some of its bigoted adherents, happily few in number, claim, represent only heavy laborers and wage workers; there are many, and these are growing like a prairie fire sweeping the country from center to circumference, who call on all men of honest convictions, with hearts loving their fellow-men, with feelings lacerated by the miseries inflicted on the masses by the hellish system of greed and avarice. Whether such men be Christian, Jew, Agnostic or Heathen; whether such men be employers, employees, bankers or farmers; the Socialist movement calls them to us in the battle."

"Having in mind the sorrowful condition of many of those amongst our midst whose lot on earth here has been cast with the hewers of wood and drawers of water, as well as coke, my mind returns with heartfelt emotion to the actions of the Hon. Col. Griffin during that desolate time following Cleveland's ascendancy to the chair. (Prolonged and terrific applause.)

"That the great heart of this friend of labor was wrung by such conditions I know full well by the expressions made by him at the time to the committee of miners in his employ, whom he had furnished with steady work for many years previous, and whose gratitude and respect, therefore, was both sincere and deep. I was one of that committee. He deeply regretted the conditions that caused him to lay off one-half of his men and reduce the wages of the balance; as it was, he said, he was doing more than he really could afford. With a few proper exceptions, he retained the married men; not, as some slanderous ingrates, whom a good lashing would properly benefit, intimidated, because married men worked harder and better for their families' sakes, bought more goods from Mr. Griffin's store and occupied more room in Mr. Griffin's houses; but solely from his great love for humanity, which has been well exhibited elsewhere if this action was doubted."

"He deplored the fact that he could have done better by his employees than he did had the public been less anxious to draw their small savings from the First National Bank of Limestone Center, where he was main stockholder; such action causing him to use all of his money that he could possibly procure to keep that institution and his credit from swamping."

"I and the Miners' Committee, as well as the church trustees and the Burgess, Justice of the Peace, and Messrs. Black, White and Green, of the County Commissioners, aided by Mr. Knowitz, the school teacher, and Captain Browbeat, of the National Guard, worked like ones possessed the whole days of Friday, Saturday and Sunday, as well as late each night, to stop by every means in our power all attempts to withdraw any money from the bank. And that the works were not shut down right, the whole town and its industries hopelessly blasted, we may well be thankful to the good sense of its citizens and the work of this committee."

"During this panic and afterwards, Mr. Griffin never refused credit at his store to any unfortunate or destitute family that could furnish the security: widows and orphans especially. The Colonel told me personally that he sincerely wished that he was able to retain all of his men, even if at a reduction; and although hampered by the bank, while he wished to do better, he had hoped that the men would consent to be reduced enough to enable him to employ them all, giving them a chance to earn an honest dollar, even if wages were temporarily small, adding, as he put his handkerchief to his eyes, that a half loaf was better than none."

"Who headed the list of subscribers to maintain the local soup house? The Honorable Colonel Waddingham Griffin. Who set the example for good-doing by donating old clothing, periodicals, books, etc? Why, our noble candidate. Whose guest was the Reverend Stuffinghorst Wittless while he conducted the great revival here during that period, and so clearly illustrated the dependence of the poor on the rich, and the mutual duties thus enjoined? None other than Mr. Griffin."

"It is needless to repeat, instance on instance, to show our candidate's fitness to represent the poor, the well to do, the rich; the low, the ordinary and

the great, and all their varied interests in our national halls.

"As a Socialist I deem that I do my duty to my conscience and the cause by endorsing the return of the Honorable Colonel Waddingham Griffin. (Cheers.)

"Although this is not the time nor place to introduce that grand topic, Socialism, I feel constrained to say that if Mr. Griffin only knew it, he is at heart as good a Socialist as many of us. His heart goes out to his fellow man. That's Socialism. He has the welfare, the wages, rent and expenses of the working class constantly in his mind; that socialism. He would like to see the common people's burden of dear gas, freight, taxes, etc., lightened, going so far as to say during a dispute with the railroad company about rates to the lake that if competition and common sense could not prevail and a just rate of freight be charged, he should advocate the government ownership of the railroads; and my friends, what is that but Socialism? Why, a few years ago you all thought (and a few do yet) that a Socialist was a bad man, with murder, malice, envy and arson in his heart; with alcoholic beverages, dynamite and vermin about his person. How far from true, I stand here and solemnly emphasize that we love peace and harmony; else how could we sanction this nomination? We know no rich or poor, noticing only the noble unselfish as against the selfish ignoble; calling on all who love their neighbors as themselves, and who would bear each others' burdens, to come. Who could go farther or be broader?"

"But to return to the subject, I respectfully announce that the Limestone Center Socialist Educational Society hereby announce that since the Socialist vote in this district will not be large enough at present to affect the burning issues of the day, we hereby extend our support to the Hon. Col. Griffin, Esq., as a noble friend of humanity and labor, and the person calculated to represent with distinction the interests of the various classes of this district (uproarious applause.)

"To promote internal harmony, we add that the minority, seven members, decline to support the Colonel because of their previous party affiliations, and that the Educational Society considered it a proper thing for them to so express their convictions, and that the Democratic candidate will receive the support of three, the Prohibition candidate two, the Populist Fusion candidate one, and that the balance of the minority is on the fence."

"In conclusion, I will say that members of the Educational Society are present, and at the close of the meeting will offer for sale books, pamphlets and subscriptions for the 'New Economist' and 'Thought Provoker,' which will enable all to come in touch with this grand movement of reform at a trifling expense."

"We will follow our glorious leader to victory! Good night."

Another case of the blind leading the blind, both falling into the ditch.

O. N. E. LACKALL.

With the first issue of next April, April 3, the price of THE PEOPLE will be reduced from \$1 to 50 cents a year; six months 25 cents; 3 months 15 cents; single copies 2 cents.

LETTER BOX.

Offhand Answers to Inquirers. A Guardsman, Brooklyn.—Yes, indeed, provided it is not too long, and is furnished gratis.

J. H. M., Auburn, N. Y.—Bellamy's second work is inferior to his first, relatively as well as absolutely. When the first appeared the country was much less ripe for Socialism, hence it spread wide and made a deep impression, despite its many imperfections that opened the door for serious tactical errors; when the second appeared, the country was much riper, while the work was not much, if any, ahead of the first. Hence also its comparative failure.

H. U. (Detroit?).—You omit to head your letter with an address of even your town; this is not unusual with many; this is very bad; we have no idea where you fall from.

First—Senator Daniel of Virginia was the temporary chairman of the Democratic National Convention that nominated Bryan for President; he was the one who applied to Cleveland direct for troops to Chicago, and he did so at the instance of California railroad magnates; in the Senate he subsequently applauded Cleveland's action.

The permanent chairman of the Convention was Senator White, of California, who also applauded Cleveland.

Second—We don't know "the name of the individual who owns the Leadville mines where miners were shot down. They are owned by a syndicate, in which the Moffetts predominate."

Third—At the Senate investigation of the Sugar Trust it came out that the Trust directors made campaign contributions to both old parties.

A. K., Washington, D. C.—Send the matter on by all means.

A Gutter Snipe Reporter Nailed.

I noticed in the "Daily News" an article headed "Socialists failed in trying to organize the Broad Silk Weavers." I do not know where the reporter received his information, but the statement is entirely untrue. The fact is that on Thursday evening, Feb. 24, a local of Broad Silk Weavers was organized with 16 charter members, and the local has elected delegates to D. A. 49. They will hold an agitation meeting at 437 West 53d street on Wednesday evening, March 9th. All silk weavers and others who wish to learn something about new trades unionism are invited to attend.

SECRETARY, D. A. 49.

To Irish Comrades.

All the copies of the pamphlet "The Rights of Ireland and the Faith of a Felon," received from Dublin from the Irish Socialist Republican Party, have been sold out; and there only remain on hand samples of the handsome green due card of the Irish Socialist Republican Party, which can be had at 5 cents each from

LABOR NEWS CO., 64 E. 4th street, New York City.

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



UNCLE SAM & BROTHER JONATHAN.

Brother Jonathan—Are you a Socialist?

Uncle Sam—Yes.

B. J.—I'm glad of it! I have been putting a couple of questions to every Socialist I have met, and I have stumped every one of them; I expect to stump you, too.

U. S.—What are your wonderful questions?

B. J.—Socialists say Socialism will give equal opportunities to all. Now, how can that be when we are not in the start equal? That is my first question.

U. S.—Who tells you that we won't be in the start equal?

B. J.—Will we?

U. S.—If you know what is meant by equal opportunities you will see that we would start equal. What is understood by "opportunities"? What opportunities has the workingman to-day, or the middle class man? None, or very little. The former cannot work and thereby earn a living without he hires himself out to men who own machinery of production; his only opportunity to earn a living depends upon the will of him who holds the necessities for work, the machinery or capital; to enjoy that opportunity, he must supply the bulk of his products to that capitalist.

The latter's, the middle-class man's opportunities, are slight. To live he must sell his goods. In trying to sell them he must compete with others. Those of his competitors who have large capital can produce cheaper, and thereby undersell and ruin him.

The opportunities to live enjoyed by these two are, as between them, unequal; and these opportunities, when compared with the opportunities of the capitalist, are again inferior.

The capitalist has the best opportunities, the middle class less, the working class still less.

Why? Because the necessities to produce wealth with the capital are unequal in the hands of the three; the capitalist has the best, the middle class has less, the workingman none of it.

Now Socialism, by rendering the land and the machinery with which to work the joint property of all, destroys the cause of inequality in opportunities. It is of the essence of the Social Revolution that it STARTS ALL EQUAL, in that it starts all with joint and equal ownership of that, the private and exclusive ownership of which is the cause of unequal opportunities.

B. J. pucks up his brows.

U. S.—Thus you see your premises are false, being false, your conclusion must be false. As Socialism DOES make us equal in the start, and preserves the condition for equality (the joint and common ownership of the necessities for production), it will afford equal opportunities to all.

B. J.—That's all very fine provided the capital that the capitalists now hold were first confiscated from them; but if they keep that capital they start ahead of us and we start unequal.

U. S.—Oh, I see! What you need is a little reading of our own American history. You will be able to answer your own objection if you put yourself back some hundred and odd years, when the question of freedom from England was up. Imagine some one in those days talking to a patriot and raising the objection: "It is very well for you to say that if we throw England overboard we will be free; but we won't; we would be, provided the land of these colonies that England now holds were first confiscated from it; but if England is to keep that land it starts ahead of us, and we won't be free." What would you have thought of such an objector and such an objection?

B. J. preserves a worried silence.

U. S.—Would such a question have stumped you?

B. J.—No.

U. S.—Why not?

B. J.—Because that fellow—well—

U. S.—Because he would be proceeding upon a theory that denied the foundation of the Revolution against England. That foundation was that the land of these colonies belonged not to England but to the colonists, and was to be grabbed first thing, however loudly the British yelled "Confiscation!"

B. J.—That's so.

U. S.—And just so with the present Social Revolution. Its foundation is that the land on which to work and the capital with which to work, now held by the capitalist class, is stolen goods; that they belong to the people, and, consequently, is to be taken—however loudly the successors of the British, our capitalist class, may yell "Confiscation!"—Catch on?

B. J.—Well, on that I was stumped. But here is another: Suppose two men are very fond of a single house and each one's happiness depends on the possession of that house; how will Socialism satisfy both?

U. S.—If two men are in love with one woman, and the happiness of each depends on possessing her, guess under Socialism and any other system they will have to settle the matter among themselves with "coffee and pistols for two" or any other way. As to your instance, it is too puerile. Socialism does not claim to be a system that will satisfy whims and settle disputes among idiots. The man whose "happiness depends" upon living in one of thousands and hundreds of thousands of houses is not sane. Such cases belong to the domain of medicine, not to that of sociology.

Boston, Mass.

THE PEOPLE is for sale at the following stores: Brigham's Restaurant, Washington St. Cohen's Book Store, Washington St. on the Bridge. Crosswell's Store, Harrison Avenue, near Bennett St.

# GERMANY.

(Continued.)

The new Reichstag was by no means so subservient a body as Bismarck had desired and expected. It was largely representative of the capitalist spirit, which the modern conditions of production had been developing in Germany with tenfold energy since the accomplishment of her political unity. At the bunco game of "patriotism," a game at which the wily Chancellor was wont to play in all seasons—the poor populace might still have readily been duped; but the money interests did not allow themselves to be duped by financial schemes gaudily dressed in national colors. Despite the efforts of France to reorganize her military forces on a gigantic scale, the mercantile classes of Germany felt that the nation was safe. At any rate they could not perceive any danger ahead, so immediately threatening as to justify the constant increase of war expenditure. They held, quite rightly for once, that this was merely a war of franks against marks, in which the German tactics should be to save the marks and let the franks go to waste. Bismarck, however, had to be content for such groveling bourgeois diplomacy. In fact, he wanted money. The financial situation of the empire was anything but satisfactory. Not only the French milliards paid to Germany in 1871 were gone without leaving any trace of wealth behind them, but the value of agricultural land was rapidly decreasing under the pressure of foreign competition in food stuffs, and therefore the fiscal system of the Empire, and of every State it comprised, was sapped at its very foundation. The landed aristocracy was grumbling; so was the peasant. Poor peasant, whose interest, as every one could now see, was "identical" with that of the lord! Bismarck, who had patriotically become a great landowner, loved the peasant. He would, he must, patriotically pay his taxes, and more taxes by and by.

So Bismarck came to the Reichstag with a protective tariff; a tariff that would, of course, protect equally all the industries of the country by making everything dearer, especially the necessities of life. If a foreigner invaded the German market with his cheap products, he would at least have to pay duty at the gates of the Empire. To the extent of the contribution thus fairly levied upon him for the privilege of making profits in Germany, he would swell the receipts of the imperial treasury.

But in the previous twenty years Germany had vastly progressed in manufactures and foreign commerce. Thanks to the cheap labor at the command of her capitalists, she could already undersell her foreign rivals in many markets. The large emigration from her shores, driven to America and other parts of the world by intolerable misery on the native soil, although a serious loss in some respects, was in others a great gain by the resulting extension of her foreign relations. Her exports, like those of England, consisted mainly in finished products, and likewise her imports were chiefly raw materials and food-stuffs. To increase the cost of the raw materials was to increase the cost of the finished products; it would place the German manufacturers at a disadvantage, unless they could reduce to the same extent the wages of German labor; and this last contingency, as good Christians, as patriotic Germans, they could not contemplate without horror, although they did reduce wages, tariff or no tariff, whenever they could find a pretense or a way. Again, to increase the price of food-stuffs was to decrease the purchasing power of wages, unless wages were increased accordingly. In the first case the workmen would be the losers and the manufacturers would gain nothing; in the second case the workmen would gain nothing but the manufacturers would lose; in both cases the loss of the manufacturers or of the laborers would be the gain of the landed aristocracy to a large extent, and of the peasantry to an insignificant amount.

It was a waste of time to review at greater length the usual tariff and anti-tariff sophistry (sufficiently familiar to Americans) that was displayed on that occasion. We may simply state that the Socialists in the Reichstag improved the opportunity thus afforded of showing in its true light the conflict of interests necessarily resulting from the capitalist system, the dishonesty of both sides, and the impudence of each in claiming that the welfare of the laboring class was its foremost consideration, the real dispute being as to which should get the larger share of the fleece of labor. Both winced under the Socialist lash; after which the Liberal capitalist majority proceeded to spit itself by rejecting the Bismarckian tariff.

The mighty Chancellor was wroth. Had he dared to go to the people upon an issue which made him appear like favoring an increase in the price of bread, this Reichstag would not have lived another day. Unable to use a real cause for a dissolution, he waited for a pretext.

Soon, however, an unexpected event cast the tariff question into the shade. On May 11, 1878, while driving through the Unter den Linden in Berlin with his daughter, the Grand Duchess of Baden, the Emperor William was shot at twice without effect by an ignorant, half-witted, erratic young man of 21 years, named Hödel, and known by his few acquaintances as a physical, mental and moral wreck. When Bismarck, who then was at Friedrichsruhe, received a brief dispatch informing him of this "attempt on the life of the Emperor," he, without waiting for further particulars, laconically but suggestively wired back: "Exceptional law against the Socialists." The hint, of course, was immediately taken by the officials, and an effort made to work public opinion accordingly. Within nine days a coercive bill, entitled, "A law for the checking of Social-Democratic excesses," was laid before the Reichstag with an urgent demand for its immediate passage. At the same time, in order to create among the people, by a superposition of facts without any real connection, the impression that the act of Hödel was only a part of some violent policy supposed to have been entered upon by the Socialists, Herr Most, whose anarchistic tendencies were beginning to strongly manifest themselves in opposition to the wise tactics of Bebel and Liebknecht, was being prosecuted in Berlin for "libelling the clergy." But the Reichstag had not entirely lost its senses. It could not thus be carried by storm. The Anti-Socialist bill was rejected by the overwhelming vote of 251 to 67.

A few days later, while Bismarck, brooding over his defeat, was still deliberating upon the advisability of dissolving the recalcitrant Reichstag, a second attack was made upon the life of the Emperor. From the upper window of a house fronting on the Linden a Dr. Karl Nobiling fired at the old Kaiser and wounded him severely, though not fatally. This was on June 2, or just three weeks after the mad attempt of Hödel to immortalize himself as a regicide. Not only was there an entire absence of facts or appearances which might induce the suspicion that Socialism or the Socialists had in the remotest way anything to do with the act of Nobiling, but from the very beginning the information obtained by the government concerning his antecedents and affiliations was absolutely conclusive as to the groundlessness of any such suspicion. He had been until lately an employee of the Bureau of Statistics of Saxony at Dresden. He had, like many other people, attended Socialist meetings, but in the free debates held there it was as an anti-Socialist that he had taken the floor. In politics he was a National Liberal and acknowledged himself a member of that party. By suppressing these facts until he had accomplished his purpose, and by feeding the press with false reports, Bismarck provoked a violent outburst of rage and hatred against the Socialists throughout the country. "They were insulted in public places, hounded by police and employers, refused admittance to theaters, saloons and restaurants. Thousands of them were placed under arrest on the flimsiest charges. Nothing appeared more meritorious than to detect and denounce a Socialist. The words and meaning of casual remarks in private conversation were tortured into seditious language, which zealous judges punished with outrageous sentences. How far things had gone is shown by a report of Bayard Taylor, then United States Minister to Germany, warning German-American citizens traveling or sojourning in the fatherland to refrain from all political conversations as liable to involve them in difficulties."

Under this pressure of public sentiment the Reichstag would now have been perfectly willing to pass any anti-Socialist bill which Bismarck might have submitted. But he wanted to get rid of that parliament; he wanted a new election at that very moment, for he did not doubt that the result of it would show a complete annihilation of Socialism. Nine days after Nobiling's performance he dissolved the Reichstag under the false pretense that the first anti-Socialist bill having been rejected by it, a new one would now fare no better.

The day appointed for the election was the 30th of July, 1878. The Socialists had only eighteen days to prepare for it. Never was a party forced into a campaign under more adverse conditions. And it held its own magnificently. Its vote was 437,158, or about 55,000 less than at the normal election of 1877. The loss was sustained in the small towns and rural districts, where terrorism and the lack of time operated adversely with greatest force. On the other hand, the city vote showed a decided increase. In Berlin, for instance, it rose from 31,522 to 56,147. The war cry of all the other parties had been: "Drive them out of the Reichstag." Accordingly, wherever a Socialist candidate had a chance of election in a divided field, all the parties combined against him. Nevertheless, nine Socialist deputies were returned, and these included Bebel and Liebknecht.

Bismarck, at last, had the sort of parliament he wanted. He lost no time in introducing his bill, which he prefaced, in part, with the following considerations:

"It has become a necessity, for the preservation of the State and society, to adopt an attitude of determined opposition to the Social-Democratic movement. It is true that thought cannot be repressed by external compulsion, and an intellectual movement can only be effectually combated by intellectual means. But such a movement, when it enters on false courses and threatens to become pernicious, may be deprived of its means of extension by legitimate methods."

"Yet the State alone will never succeed, even with the means proposed in this bill, in destroying the Social-Democratic agitation. There are only the preliminary requisites of the cure, not the cure itself. Rather will it need the active co-operation of all the conservative forces of civilized society, in order, by the revival of religious sentiment, by enlightenment and instruction, by strengthening the sense of right and morality among the people, and by future economic reforms, to effect a radical cure."

"The ordinary penal code is inadequate to stem the agitation in question, because of its predominantly repressive character, in virtue of which it can indeed take cognizance of particular violations of law, but not of a continuous agitation directed against the State and society. A revision in this department is, therefore, not advisable, especially as, in order to be operative, it would have to exceed the requirements of the present and would necessitate permanent curtailment of rights. What is wanted is rather a special enactment which shall subject the right of association and of public meeting, the freedom of the press, and the following of particular trades, as well as the liberty of removal from one place to another, to such limitations as shall exclusively operate against the dangerous aims of Social-Democracy: inasmuch as, confessedly, all morbid and extraordinary conditions in the life of the State call for remedy by means of special legislation, directed exclusively to the removal of the immediate danger, and ceasing to operate as soon as its object is attained."

"By the law itself, 'all Social-Democratic, Socialistic or Communistic Societies,' and all combinations having tendencies of a similar character, were forbidden. All mutual benefit societies were subject to the control of the police, who could be present at their sittings, call and conduct their general meetings,

forbid resolutions likely to further Socialistic aims or propaganda, supervise the officers and even take charge of the funds. If a society was prohibited its funds were confiscated. Literature of a Socialistic tendency was forbidden. A newspaper could be seized and prohibited by the police, and be suppressed forever when one of its numbers had been thus prohibited. Its property could also be destroyed or confiscated. Suspected persons could be expelled from the town or district in which they resided. Socialistic meetings were declared unlawful, and anyone offering accommodation to a prohibited society was liable to imprisonment. Could also be punished by imprisonment, or fine, anyone who distributed forbidden publications or collected subscriptions for Social-Democratic purposes. In bitter mockery of the forms of justice, a special commission of five members, including a president and a vice-president appointed by the Emperor, was instituted to hear the appeals of societies prohibited and of editors of newspapers suspended by the police; but no such appeal could stay police execution, which was immediate. Lastly, in districts where all these measures of repression might not suffice to extinguish Socialism, the government was empowered to proclaim a "minor state of siege." This famous "law of exception," signed on Oct. 21, 1878, by the Crown Prince Friedrich Wilhelm and countersigned by Bismarck, was to remain in force until March 31, 1881; but the time of its operation, through successive extensions, did not finally come to an end until the Fall of 1890.

Within a few days of the promulgation of the law most of the newspapers of the party were prohibited. These papers were generally published by co-operative associations, which employed several hundreds of persons and in which thousands of wage workers had put their small savings. The extent of the loss thus brutally inflicted upon these people may be inferred from the fact that the Leipzig Vorwärts, the Berlin Freie Press and the Hamburg-Altona Volksblatt aggregated a circulation of 45,000. Still more considerable were the losses caused by the dissolution of trade-unions, which was also immediately proceeded with. After a number of these societies had been broken up by the police and their property confiscated, many others, largely composed of Socialists, saved their funds, however, by disbanded voluntarily. Within a few months all the economic organizations of labor—with the exception of the composers' union, which placed itself under police control—were wiped out of existence.

At the same time the government was availing itself with the utmost relentlessness of all its powers of persecution against the Socialist leaders and agitators. The minor state of siege was first proclaimed in Berlin on November 28, 1878. Sixty-seven Socialists were on one day served with orders to leave that city within twenty-four or forty-eight hours; and all of them, with one exception, were heads of families. So cruel was the police in its application of the law that numbers of people in all ranks of society and in all parts of the country, who had previously joined in the crusade against Socialism, immediately responded with money contributions to a call for relief issued by the Socialist members of the Reichstag.

There seemed to be no loophole through which the Social-Democracy could crawl. The situation, at any rate, obviously called for the most cautious, deliberate action that cool-headed, long-sighted, well-informed and unflinching men could decide upon. In the meantime, nothing better could be done than to "sham dead," in accordance with the advice discreetly sent out by the Socialist deputies to the committee, and likewise transmitted by these to all members of the party, as soon as it was ascertained that a majority of the Reichstag would vote for the law of exception. For, if on the one hand it had become more apparent than ever that the ruling classes were determined to maintain their economic and political power at all costs and all hazards, so that in the end a violent revolution seemed inevitable, yet, on the other hand, it was evident that nothing would please them better than a premature uprising of the Socialists, which they could repress at their pleasure and at their own bloodily than the Versailles had done in the case of the Paris Commune. In such event they would probably be safe from Socialistic agitation for many years to come, even if they had to say, like Louis XV., "After me the deluge." Manifestly, the policy of Bismarck and the manner in which he carried it out had no other object in view. It was, above all, a policy of provocation, and the Anarchist leaders—the Mosts and the Hasselmanns—who not only then openly advocated armed resistance but fomented disruption in the ranks of the party by villainously casting suspicion upon its ablest and most severely tried veterans, were obviously, stupidly, playing into the hands of Bismarck.

Fortunately, those hare-brained "propagandists of the deed," who never themselves killed a gad-fly but sent their dupes to the scaffold, did not prevail. At a secret conference held in a village near Leipzig and attended by a number of delegates from all parts of Germany, the whole ground was carefully surveyed and the resolution was taken to continue "shamming dead."

There remained, however, an open field of agitation, and this was the Reichstag itself; a last place of refuge, where the Socialist deputies, facing all the powers of oppression, could freely speak, and did speak—as they gleefully said to their enraged opponents—not to a few pillars of despotism in the Chamber, but to the down-trodden masses on the outside. As the reports of parliamentary proceedings were privileged, the speeches of those deputies were published in extenso by the party papers and read with avidity throughout Germany. This was more than Bismarck could endure. He determined to gag the Socialist representatives, and even, if possible, to get rid of them entirely. On the 18th of February, 1879, a letter from the police authorities was submitted to the Reichstag, asking its consent to the arrest and prosecution of two Socialist members for an alleged violation of those provisions of the new law which related to the minor state of siege. This demand roused a storm of opposition. In the course of the debate that followed, one of Bismarck's satellites proposed an amendment to the law, subjecting the deputies to its operation, so that they could be arrested and prosecuted at any time without the consent of the Reichstag; but some one immediately cried out "The Constitution!" and the government did not dare to publicly make its own proposition of its legislative scout. Finally, by a great majority, the Reichstag refused to grant the powers demanded by the police. Then, on March 4, Bismarck himself came out with a bill empowering the Reichstag to punish any of its members "who abused his parliamentary privileges" and to forbid the publication of its proceedings whenever in its judgment such a proposition was desirable. But the rude Chancellor, who never knew where to stop, had exhausted the capacity of his conservative parliament for blind submission, and amid a general outcry from the outside for "freedom of debate," his "Muzzle Bill" was defeated.

But although the right of free speech in the Reichstag had been finally preserved—a right which under the circumstances and on account of what went with it could not be too highly valued—the need of an outspoken Socialist paper was sorely felt throughout the country. Most was in London editing the "Freiheit," which had made its first appearance on January 1st, 1879. His utterances at first had been simply bold and such as every Socialist in Germany, unable to speak out his thoughts, was naturally glad to see in print; so that his paper had for a brief time been considered as fairly representing the collective indignation of the party. For this reason it had been circulated by devoted Socialists at no small risk to themselves. But Most had soon developed into a full-fledged Anarchist, violent, insolent, dictatorial, responsible to no one but himself. From his safe retreat he was bitterly denouncing the "cautious policy of the party," to the intense disgust of the very men who had jeopardized their own freedom and means of life in distributing a paper which they thought was intended to keep up the spirit of their comrades and to preserve the integrity of their organization. At last steps were taken with a view to the publication of an aggressive but truly Socialist organ, which finally appeared at Zurich, in Switzerland, on September 28, 1879, under the name of "Sozial-Demokrat." Smuggled into Germany by the wholesale and widely scattered throughout the country despite all police vigilance, this paper revived the drooping spirits of disheartened comrades, filled them with unbounded confidence in the ability of Socialism to face any storm and saved the party from the disintegrating influences of Anarchism.

Underground, as it were, the agitation, driven from the surface, went on. In view of the parliamentary elections to be held in 1881, extensive preparations had to be made under conditions of extreme difficulty. A secret congress, attended by about fifty delegates, was held in the old castle of Wyden, near Ossingen, in Switzerland, and sat from the 20th to the 23d of August, 1879. The policy pursued since the promulgation of the Socialist law by the members of parliament and the party officers generally was fully endorsed. A resolution was passed, declaring that Most and Hasselmann had placed themselves outside of the party. The word "legal" was expunged from the declaration in the Gotha platform, that the Social-Democracy "uses all legal means to attain a free and Socialistic state of society." The comrades were advised to put up candidates in their respective electoral districts regardless of the number of adherents, and to get as many votes for them as possible at the first ballot, but to abstain from participating in the second one if the contest was between candidates of the other parties. Arrangements were made to collect money, to establish close connections between the German Socialists abroad and the home organization; also to extend the intercourse with the Socialist parties of other countries, and, for this purpose, to send two delegates to the international congress that the Belgians proposed to hold in 1881.

As election time drew near, police persecution increased to an extent that would not have previously seemed possible, considering the point it had already reached. Many agitators had been driven out of the country, and those who remained not only were under close surveillance but could not readily go from one place to another, because of the restrictions placed by the law upon their freedom of motion. For these and many other reasons, the supply of candidates was also very scanty, and the same men had to run in several districts. Again, while the Anarchists preached abstention and thereby afforded the timorous an opportunity of shirking their conscientious duty without losing caste with their bolder fellows, not only the authorities but the employers of labor exerted upon the workers at their mercy the utmost espionage, pressure and intimidation.

Nevertheless, when the great day came, 311,961 Socialists—according to the official figures—marched to the polls and elected twelve of their candidates. As compared with the result of 1878 (namely, 437,000 votes and 9 deputies) this showed a loss of about 125,000 votes but a gain of three deputies in the Reichstag. The loss was chiefly in districts where no immediate hope of success had ever been entertained, and where no effective organization could be maintained under present conditions. But in the great cities, upon which the Social Democrats, for a still long period of years, were to depend for their progress, they had, as a rule, either lost little or made sensible gains. Hence their increased representation in Parliament.

\* In the debate upon these confiscation clauses of the bill, Bebel twitted Bismarck by comparing his professions of respect for private property with his intended destruction and absorption of the property of working people. He said: "We wish to abolish the present form of private property in the instruments of production as well as in land. But Social-Democracy has never yet forcibly taken or destroyed private property to the value of a cent (farther), nor does it attack private property with the intention of ruining the individual."

The following declaration, made in the Volksstaat in 1874, states exactly the position, not of the German Social-Democracy alone, but of the Socialist parties in all countries and at all times: "Our party is a revolutionary party. If it allowed itself to be deceived upon parliamentary ground it would cease to be a revolutionary party—would, in fact, cease to exist. We take part in the elections and send representatives to the Reichstag solely for purposes of agitation. The strength of our party lies in the people, in the people lies our sphere of operations. Only in order that we may address the people do we ascend the tribune of the Reichstag."

On this occasion the Socialist deputy Fritzsche was sent to the United States and after a brief tour of agitation returned to Germany with more than 15,000 marks.

It was, indeed, a triumph. The Social Democracy had passed through the fire of inferno and proved its indestructibility. Henceforth the fight went on ceaselessly, almost openly, regardless of fine and imprisonment. The timid, the disaffected flocked back to the standard of emancipation and tried to make up by self-sacrifice for their previous displays of faint-heartedness or distrust. Organizations sprang up, with innocent-sounding names, which as soon as dissolved by the police reappeared under names still more inoffensive. No concert, no entertainment but was a secret means of collecting money for the dear cause. Poor people sang and danced every Sunday, that Bismarck might roar and fume on election day. Never had they taken their fate so philosophically; never had they been so jolly. Their fun sometimes overstepped the bounds of propriety; as, for instance when they winked to the soldiers and dropped Socialist literature into the barracks; literature, by the way, which the soldiers dared to read and found more to their taste than the curses and kicks of their officers. This was rather a serious matter.

Bismarck, of course, was "anxious to better the condition" of those poor people; to make them as happy and contented in reality as they were trying to be in appearance. Had he not said, in his preface to the law of exception, that this law was "a preliminary requisite of the cure, not the cure itself?" To show that he was in earnest when he vaguely spoke of "future economic reforms," he came to the Reichstag from time to time, at long intervals, with schemes of insurance against accident, against sickness, against old age; spoke even of the "right to work"; boldly said it was "the duty of the State to give work to any healthy man who could not find employment," and to "provide for the support and care of those who were unable to sustain themselves." He would, in fact, give them Socialism of his own make. Yet they would not have it. They claimed it was bogus; a contemptible imitation of the genuine article, which the Social-Democracy alone could produce. Bismarck, indeed, could not help letting the cat out of the bag: "If the State," he said, "will show a little more Christian solicitude for the workman, I believe the gentlemen of the Wyden programme will sound their bird-call in vain, and that the thronging to them will greatly decrease."

The mistake of Bismarck was twofold; firstly, he "showed" and never gave; secondly, what he showed was so little that it was not worth looking at. Liebknecht replied in substance: "He who takes up the question of social reform honestly must place the lever at the wrong relationship between production and consumption, and abolish the exploitation of the working classes by capital—abolish, therefore, the wages system. That is social reform, and, carried out thoroughly, social revolution. What the Imperial Chancellor is offering is anything but social reform. What is his Accident law, or his Sick Fund law, or his Infirmary and Old Age law? In each case a mere police law for the regulation of the poor system. Is this solving the social problem? Why, it is not even breaking the way for social reform. Your aim, in truth, is not reform at all. Your aim is solely to destroy our organization. You have not succeeded so far, and you will never succeed. It would be the greatest misfortune for you if you did succeed. The Anarchists, who are now carrying on their work in Austria, have no footing in Germany. Why? Because in Germany the mad plans of those men are wrecked on the compact organization of the Social-Democracy. Because the German proletariat, seeing the futility of your anti-Socialist law, has not yet abandoned the hope of attaining its ends peacefully. But suppose we should declare our inability to resist destruction and should decline to be any longer responsible. Well, do you really believe—you who have so often praised the bravery of the Germans up to heaven when it has been your interest to do so—do you really believe that the hundreds of thousands of German Social-Democrats are cowards?"

And thus the fight went on. The municipal contests of 1883 and the election, in that year, of four Socialists to the Saxon Landtag showed that the good ship was steadily forging ahead against tide and wind, and when at last the year 1881 brought on the second great parliamentary battle under the Bismarckian "laws of exception," the vote registered to the credit of Socialism in the German Empire was 599,990.

Twenty-four Socialist deputies were elected, or double the number of 1881.

In the city of Berlin two of the six seats fell to the Socialists, whose vote had increased to 69,000.

Well may the Bismarckian Minister, von Puttkamer, have sadly said in December, 1882: "It is unquestionable that we have not yet succeeded in wiping Social-Democracy from the face of the earth, or even in shaking it to its center."

(To be Continued.)

With the first issue of next April, April 3, the price of THE PEOPLE will be reduced from \$1 to 50 cents a year; six months 25 cents; 3 months 15 cents; single copies 2 cents.

## PARTY NEWS.

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

**SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY.**  
NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE—Secretary Henry Kuhn, 184 William Street, N. Y.  
NATIONAL BOARD OF APPEALS—Secretary Robert Handlow, 195 Champlain St., Cleveland, O.  
National Executive Committee.

February 22nd being a holiday, the session was held on the 23rd, which accounts for the non-appearance of that session's minutes in last week's PEOPLE.

Comrade Furman in the chair. The financial report for the week ending February 19th, showed receipts to the amount of \$54.65; expenditures, \$159.69; deficit for the week, \$96.04. The Tailors' Prog. Alliance, No. 114, Buffalo, S. T. & L. A., sent \$50 for the Daily People Fund, said sum having been realized at a ball. Careless reported as to his agitation in New England and Keimard from Alabama, the former having organized a section at Dedham, Mass., the latter one at Birmingham, Ala.

A letter from the organizer of Section Haverhill, Mass., was read stating that the section had decided to withdraw from the party. The secretary was instructed to reply to this and at the same time ascertain whether James F. Carey, the Councilman elected on the Socialist ticket, is with the seceders.

Charters were granted to sections in Butler, Ohio; Birmingham, Ala.; Dedham, Mass.

Session of March 1st, 1898. Comrade Teche in the chair. Furman and Bennett absent, the former excused. Financial report showed receipts to have been during week ending February 26th, \$75.34; expenditures, \$114.58; deficit for the week, \$39.24. Section New York reported the expulsion by general vote of J. Gillis, for treasonable conduct. A member of Section Evergreen complained about an action of that Section in relation to a grievance. Resolved to inform said member that he must appeal to the National Board of Appeals. A letter was read from Michael T. Berry, Haverhill, Mass., setting forth that the meeting at which it was decided to withdraw from the party, was a snap affair, only one-third of the membership being informed about it. That said meeting was attended by 25 members out of over 70, and that the motion to withdraw was carried by a vote of 13 to 3. The letter states that James F. Carey had for a long time been working against the party and had succeeded in imbuing a large part of the membership with a feeling of hostility toward the party, its tactics and its press. Berry stated that he wanted to reorganize the Section, and that about 30 men stood ready to do so. The secretary reported that he had ordered Comrade Hickey to proceed from New Bedford to Haverhill, as soon as the work at New Bedford permits and remain there until the Section is in good shape. Approved.

A postal card was received from James F. Carey in reply to the letter sent him, wherein he admitted being with the seceders. Resolved to instruct the secretary to call upon Carey to resign the office of Councilman, conferred upon him by the S. L. P., in accordance with the provisions of Section 10 of the Miscellaneous Regulations, and in case of refusal to take further steps in this direction in conjunction with the Massachusetts State Committee.

Comrade Keimard reported of his agitation in Alabama and Georgia, and

that he succeeded in organizing two more sections in the former State.

John Schenk, of Knoxville, Tenn., was upon application admitted as a member at large.

Resolved to publish the speech of Comrade De Leon at New Bedford in pamphlet form. The estimate submitted for a 20-page pamphlet with good paper was approved.

Charters were granted for new sections in Pratt City and Cardiff, Ala., and Kansas City, Kans.  
L. A. MALKIEL,  
Recording Secretary.

## A Call

To the Sections and Members of the Socialist Labor Party.

Comrades—A most important step is about to be taken, one that will be of the most far-reaching consequences for the future development of our party and our movement. With the first issue of the new volume, that is to say the first issue in the month of April, 1898, the subscription price of our national official organ, THE PEOPLE, will be reduced from \$1 a year to 50c a year, or 25c for six months.

It is needless to point out to the Comrades the increased opportunities for gathering subscribers and swelling the circulation that this decrease of the price affords to all who are engaged in the work of carrying the light of Socialism to the workers of the land; nor should it be necessary to demonstrate that lasting results in propaganda can be obtained only by bringing home to the masses of the working class the pure and unadulterated teachings of the S. L. P. as found in our organ, THE PEOPLE.

But in view of the change made it becomes necessary to go to work in a systematized manner, to work with greater zeal than ever, and to leave no stone unturned to gain new readers and new subscribers.

The Sections of the party are therefore called upon to consider this matter at their next regular meeting, to appoint canvassing committees, and to take in fact all steps that are needed to insure a prompt and energetic agitation. Every member of the party who sees this call should make it his business to see to it that the matter is brought up at the meeting of his Section or branch, and proper action taken.

Organizers are requested to report without delay to headquarters as to the action taken and state in their reports the prospects of an increase of the circulation in their respective localities.

It may be added that Section New Haven, Conn., has already pledged itself to secure 200 new subscribers and to pay in cash, for one year, whatever they may fall short of that number.

In the hope that this welcome news may be the means of spurring our Comrades all over the country to renewed efforts on behalf of THE PEOPLE, and in expectation of prompt reports on the part of the organizers, we remain, yours fraternally,

The National Executive Committee,  
S. L. P.,  
HENRY KUHN, Secy.

## Connecticut.

BRIDGEPORT, Conn., Feb. 28.—Comrade Thomas A. Hickey spoke here Sunday, 27th, after noon and evening, and at both meetings the halls were filled. In a clear and lucid manner he outlined the position of the wage-slave in the afternoon, and at night he tore to shreds the sophistry of the "pure and simple" mode of warfare on Capitalism. One poor misguided youth wanted to know why the Socialists did not put a plank restricting immigration into their platform, and after Comrade Hickey had illustrated the futility of it he asked the questioner if he did not recognize that people were beginning to migrate from this country to Europe, showing that the tide of emigration had reached its highest point, and that the advocating of a measure to restrict

THE DAILY PEOPLE \$50,000 FUND.

Amount Pledged down to February 9th, 1898.

\$4,575.

The following amounts have been paid down to March 24, 1898, incl.: Previously acknowledged \$2,117.76 Patrick Murphy, Brooklyn, N. Y., \$10; Thos. O'Shaughnessy, Brooklyn, N. Y., \$6.

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

From April 1, 1898,

the Subscription price of THE PEOPLE will be reduced to

50 Cents a Year,

6 months, 25 Cents. 3 months, 15 Cents

Subscribers, who have paid in advance, will get their terms prolonged or can have two copies sent till subscription expires. In case the latter is wanted, INFORM US.

Subscribers, who on April 1st are in arrears, will be stricken.

Comrades! Here is your chance to enlarge the circulation of THE PEOPLE. Use the opportunity!

Immigration was a means used by the capitalist to pull the wool over the eyes of the worker because it could no longer affect his (the capitalist's) interest? The youth admitted it was so amidst the laughter of the audience.

INDIANAPOLIS, Feb. 27.—We can announce to the Comrades the pleasant news that our wives have organized a Socialist Section in the full meaning of the word and with the purpose of aiding us with all their power in our agitation.

To our lukewarm Comrades this ought to be a spur, and we can only cheer them with a deep felt "Onward!" The German Section held its monthly meeting on the 13th instant and the English Section theirs on 14th; both passed resolutions to hold a State convention and to enter the State elections this fall with a full ticket.

On the 13th inst. the German Section held an agitation meeting. Comrade E. Viewegh addressed the assemblage about "Our Party and Its Programme." His remarks were very pointed, and found an attentive audience.

The Committee on Agitation has the arrangement of a celebration of the 18th of March, to be given the 20th inst. The programme will be a well selected and appropriate one to the occasion, with addresses in German and English.

Section Stoneham wishes a few good speakers during March and April. Any Socialist who is willing to speak Sunday night for his expenses will be welcomed. The Comrades of the neighboring cities and towns are invited to attend these lectures.

Missouri. ST. LOUIS, Feb. 24.—On Saturday evening, March 19th, the Missouri State Committee of the Socialist Labor Party will give a Commune Celebration Entertainment and Hop for the benefit of the Press Fund, at Bundescher Hall, southwest corner of 14th and Howard streets.

Minnesota. ST. PAUL.—March 13th the Section will hold a Commune Celebration in Assembly Hall, at 3 p. m. The programme consists of addresses, music and recitations, closing with a ball. It is the duty of all to be present.

New York. The following tabulated list shows the result of the general vote taken in the various subdivisions of Section Greater New York, S. L. P., on the following proposition: "Shall the delegates representing Section Greater New York, S. L. P., in the Central Labor Federation, District Alliance No. 1, S. T. & L. A. be withdrawn?"

Table with 4 columns: Ward Br., In favor of withdrawal, Against withdrawal, Total.

For the General Committee of Section Greater New York, S. L. P. L. ABELSON, Organizer.

To the Assembly Districts, Wards and Branches of Section Greater New York, S. L. P. Comrades:—At the last meeting of the General Committee voting blanks, with the names of the candidates for National Secretary and Members to the National Executive Committee, S. L. P., were given to your delegates to be brought to your organization.

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Wurzler's Hall, 315 Washington street, Brooklyn Borough, N. Y. March Programme: Sunday, March 6—"Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance." A. Hickey.

Sunday, March 13—"Law and Order." L. A. Malkiel. Sunday, March 20—"The Morals of Our Age." S. Berlin.

Sunday, March 27—"Karl Marx." Jas. Allmann. Musical programme preceding and following each lecture.

All lectures begin at 8 p. m., and occupy about 45 minutes. We invite discussion after each lecture, limiting debaters to six minutes. At 9:45 the discussion is ended by the closing remarks of the speaker.

Socialist Labor Party, 18th Assembly District of Greater New York. Sunday evening lectures, free to everybody, at Stuyvesant Hall, 351 East 17th street, near 1st avenue, New York City.

Business meeting every Thursday, 8 p. m., at 246 1st avenue, between 14th and 15th streets. Come and join. Programme of lectures for March: March 6—"The Last Division of Man." P. Burrows.

March 13—"Origin of the Capitalist System." N. T. Stone. March 20—"The Proletariat." A. S. Brown.

March 27—"The Morals of Our Age." S. Berlin. Lectures commence promptly at 8 p. m. Questions will be answered after the lecture, but must be confined to the subject.

Brooklyn.—Lectures and discussions on political, social and economic questions every Sunday evening, 8 p. m., at Club-House, 887 Myrtle avenue: March 6—"The Two Societies." Wm. Edlin.

March 13—"Trades Unions." B. Hughes. March 20—"Foot Pounds." Ch. Teche. March 27—"The Proletariat." A. S. Brown.

Questions will be answered after the lecture, but must be confined to the subject. Section Yonkers has organized a chorus to take part in the lectures, etc.

"The Hand and Hammer" and "Down with Slavery" will receive special attention. The Section will forward several copies of the song "Down with Slavery" to the New Bedford strikers.

It is hoped the inspiration derived from the song may have a lasting effect. Section Yonkers also donated \$5 to the New Bedford strikers to aid them in their present necessity.

Buffalo.—The American Branch, S. L. P., holds henceforth the discussion meetings every Sunday evening, with the exception of the fourth Sunday of every month, which is reserved for business meetings.

at 2:30 p. m. All cordially invited to attend and take part in the discussion. H. D. McTIER, Organizer.

POCAHONTAS, Va., Feb. 27.—The Section is now in readiness to enter the field here for action. We are at present 33 members. Though our position is a difficult one we will prove successful shortly, especially so when we can share a good knowledge of the precepts of Socialism we shall work continually.

PARLIAMENTS OF LABOR.

D. A. No. 1. (CENTRAL LABOR FEDERATION OF N. Y.) Delegate Paul Reichenbecker, of the Bartenders' Union No. 1 was chairman at last Sunday's meeting of the N. Y. Central Labor Federation, D. A. No. 1, S. T. & L. A., and delegate Robert Glaser, of the Section Greater New York, S. L. P., was vice-chairman.

Credentials were received from the Maccaroni Workers' Int. Union, sending J. C. Wackaw, C. Cianfarra and J. Stefano, and from the Prog. Typo. Union No. 83 for H. Schumbwitz. They were admitted.

A letter from Jeremiah Murphy was read and stated that on the 16th of Feb. he was going to speak at the corner of Broad and Wall streets, when policeman 983 arrested him. He desires to notify Mayor Van Wyck that as Judge Simms discharged him he will sue the city for damages.

The special committee which investigated the complaint against the "Abendblatt" for alleged neglect of publishing a letter from the Prog. Rolled Cigarette Makers' Union reported that the letter was not published because it contained no signature or seal.

Mr. L. Miller forced his workmen to sign a document, acknowledged by a notary, in which they allege that they are satisfied with the conditions existing in his shop. The "Abendblatt" published an editorial stigmatizing the eleven men who signed the document as cowards.

The Arbitration Committee reported having called upon L. Miller & Son again at the request of the Prog. Rolled Cigarette Makers' Union. They requested that L. Miller & Son make their factory thoroughly union.

Mr. L. Miller tried to talk the committee out of their mission, but seeing that he could not succeed, he declared, that first, he did not know how long business would continue as it was very dull, and again he would not be dictated to by any union.

He claimed that the union had organized an opposition cigarette factory, and that 300 members of this union had applied for work certifying their willingness to destroy the union books.

He would employ people that suited him, union or non-union. It was blackmail to publish reports in the "Abendblatt" and "New York Volks-Zeitung" which state that Siberian-like conditions exist in his factory.

He would appeal to public opinion and request the Associated Press to denounce the lies circulated about him. If need be, he would fight the whole East Side. His son chimed in and said, "Oh, nobody can hurt us."

It was resolved to declare the factory of L. Miller & Son's as being non-union, and to refer to the Gen. Ex. Board for endorsement. The Arrangement Committee for the ninth anniversary reported that the festival will be held on March 13 at 64 East 4th street.

Music will be furnished by the Carl Salm Club. The session on that day will adjourn at 5 p. m. Ind. Bakers' Union, Branch 1, reported that its delegate, E. Leske, had said at the last meeting relative to the Workmen's Educational Society.

The direct cause of my discharge by boss Schumann was the resolution adopted by said association. The union further reported that boss Schumann had engaged workmen independent of the office, thus violating his union contract.

Prog. Typo. Union No. 83 reported donating \$2 to the New Bedford strikers. Pressmen & Feeders' Union reported having expelled an Anarchist from the roster.

The Krieger Printing Co., 232 Canal street, was declared to be a non-union concern. The union requested the "Abendblatt Publishing Association" to use the S. T. & L. A. label as its members are employed, together with those of the International Union, whose label is used.

German Coppersmiths' Union reported having held a well attended meeting last Saturday. They initiated three new members and donated \$5 to the New Bedford strikers.

Progressive Rolled Cigarette Makers' Union reported that a committee from the International Cigarmakers' Union called at their last meeting relative to the strike at Siedenbergs & Co., and requested that the member do not make cigars.

The union also stated that this firm had yet a separate floor in the same building apart for the manufacture, but claimed that a new firm called Harris, Kelly & Co. had rented this loft. This was simply a bluff.

The union resolved not to permit its members to make cigars. Violators will be expelled. A committee from the Central Agitation Bureau also called upon them and requested financial aid for a paper "Neue Zeit," to be issued. Five dollars were donated.

Progress Club reported that an important meeting will be held this Friday at 385 Bowery, and all members must attend. Ale and Porter Union No. 1 elected a committee to call upon the Progress Club for the purpose of arranging a joint blowout this summer.

Maccaroni Workers' Int. Union reported having resolved to arrange agitation meetings in various parts of the city for the purpose of strengthening the union. The Secretary was instructed to compile a list of unions and their action on the Workmen's Educational Assn. matter for next Sunday.

MIDDLEMEN AND MIDDLE CLASS.

(Continued from Page 1) modities; the difference is his stealings or profits. If his capital, like a Wana-maker's, is large enough to down competitors, he is of the upper capitalist, "middleman though he is"; if his capital is not large enough to protect him against competition, then he is a "middle class middleman."

The levity with which uninformed people will set themselves up as educators and "eye-openers," and thereby throw greater confusion into already sufficiently confused minds, as done by the writer of the passages herein criticized, is one of the distressing features of our times and country.

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THE PEOPLE and Socialist literature can always be had at Comrade C. O. Bruckner's store, 84 West Canton street.

Trades and Societies Calendar

Standing advertisements of Trades Unions and other Societies (not exceeding five lines) will be inserted under this heading hereafter at the rate of \$5.00 per annum.

Carl Salm Club (Musicians' Union, East 4th street, New York Labor Lyceum, Business Secretary: Fred. ...)

Central Labor Federation of New York (S. T. & L. A., D. A. No. 1, ...)

Cigarmakers' Progressive International Union No. 90, Office and International Bureau: 64 East 4th street—District I (German), 324 East 71st street, every Saturday at 8 p. m.

Empire City Lodge (Machinists), meets every 2d and 4th Wednesday evening at the Labor Lyceum, 64 East 4th street.

German Waiters' Union of New York, Office: 385 Bowery, Union Hall, 1st floor, meets every Friday at 4 p. m.

Musical Protective Alliance No. 1068, D. A. 49, S. T. & L. A., Headquarters: 79 E. 4th street. Meetings every Friday at 8 o'clock noon.

Section Essex County, S. L. P., meets the first Sunday in each month at 3 p. m. in the hall of "Essex County Socialist Club," 70 Springfield Ave., Newark, N. J.

Skandinavian Section, S. L. P. Meets 2nd and 4th Sunday of every month at 8 o'clock a. m., at Schuler's Hall, 231-233 East St., New York City.

Socialist Science Club, S. L. P., 34th St., 35th A. D. S. E. Cor. of 3d Ave. and 16th St., open every evening. Regular business meeting every Friday.

Progressive Clothing Cutters & Trimmers Union, L. A. 68 of S. T. & L. A.—Headquarters, 64 East 4th street, Labor Lyceum.—Regular meeting every Thursday evening, at 8 P. M.

WORKMEN'S Furniture Fire Insurance.

Organized 1872. Membership 10,000. Principal Organization, New York and Vicinity. OFFICE: 64 E. 4th St. OFFICE HOURS, daily except Sundays and holidays, from 10 a. m. to 6 o'clock.

WORKMEN'S Sick and Death Benefit Fund of the United States of America.

The above society was founded in the year 1863 by workmen imbued with the spirit of solidarity and socialist thought. Its numerical strength (as presently composed of 139 local branches with more than 15,000 male members) is rapidly increasing among workmen.

H. B. SALISBURY, Attorney-at-Law.

BROOKLYN LABOR LYCEUM, 949-955 Willoughby Av.

DR. C. L. FURMAN, DENTIST, 121 SCHERMERHORN ST., BROOKLYN, N. Y.