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PITTSBURGH, PA.

Asks: "Where Does the Workingman Come In?"

A Municipal Declaration of Principles and Platform that Opens the Municipal Fight With Red-Hot Shot and Sound Language—No Compromise! No Reform! The Total Overthrow of Capitalism!

PITTSBURGH, Dec. 18.—The Socialist Labor party decided to enter city politics and last night a convention was held in the headquarters of the Pittsburgh Branch of the party, at 420 Grant street. To a man who did not know what was going on the assembly looked very little like a political gathering, and indeed was not conducted like a gathering of either of the old parties. No wire-pulling or any of the other distinguishing marks by which capitalist political conventions are generally distinguishable was to be seen and the delegates were apparently out to enjoy life as they saw best, while deeply in earnest in the matter which brought them together.

Comrade John R. Root was chosen chairman of the convention, and F. E. Blumck secretary. As a Credentials Committee Charles Rupp, William Eberle, Leon Gross, William Hunt and Otto Mahner were appointed. They made a report that 41 delegates were present and these were seated.

William Eberle, H. A. Goff and J. S. Bergman were appointed on the Resolution Committee and presented the following:

Section Pittsburg, of the Socialist Labor party, in convention assembled on this day, December 17, 1898, resolves as follows:

1. We denounce the nominating conventions of the two old capitalist parties as purely farcical; merely an automatic confirmation of the slaves, previously prepared by the "Bosses," whose methods and practices are utterly repugnant to the genius of popular government, and are in fact the very essence of treason.

2. We denounce the system of so-called "Voluntary Contributions" for campaign purposes, as a system of blackmail upon the city employes and an intolerable outrage; the pretext that the loss of an election means the loss of their positions will not hold good, because there must always be city employes. The Socialist Labor party believes in ability and merit as the principles upon which men ought to be employed in public service.

3. No city employe should be required to remain on duty more than eight hours for one day's service, and yet we recognize the fact that in the modern processes of production the hours of labor should be still further decreased.

4. We denounce the wholesale granting of enormously valuable public franchises to traction and other companies through servile acquiescence of the City Councils as an open theft of the people's property. These franchises should never have been granted at all, yet had they been disposed of at fair prices and under proper conditions, the cities of Pittsburg and Allegheny would to-day be free of debt; we also denounce the murderous practice of running open summer cars almost to the middle of winter, as such a practice must inevitably result in sickness and deaths and is inexcusable criminality, practised mainly upon lines directly under the control of "Boss" Magee. These facts, coupled with the facts that there are some hundreds of suits pending against these companies for maiming and killing men, women and children by the reckless and brutal manner of operating the roads, fully justify the demand of the Socialist Labor party that these charters, black with corruption, shall be repealed, the plants and rolling stock confiscated by the people and the roads controlled and operated by the municipality.

5. We demand to know by what right the Philadelphia Gas Co. was allowed to lay mains upon the Smithfield St. Bridge, said bridge being at the time the public property of the city of Pittsburg.

6. We denounce the purchase of the worthless Tenth St. Bridge as a conspiracy by the city officers to rob the people. A bridge that no private firm would purchase at \$25,000, yet it was unloaded upon the city for \$285,000; and that too in spite of the fact that the U. S. Government had condemned the bridge and had formally notified the city of Pittsburg that it would have to be rebuilt.

7. We denounce the practice in Pittsburg of building boulevards in those sections of the city inhabited by capitalist sharks and corrupt city "Bosses," while the working people's districts are invariably poorly paved, or not paved at all, and are frequently left unclean and in an unsanitary condition. These boulevards and some other expensive ornaments have been the main causes for almost doubling the fixed expenses of Pittsburg since the year 1890.

8. We denounce the system of tax robbery known as the "Rural Tax" as an outrageous piece of special class legislation. The "Rural Tax" permits the capitalist class to own immense private parks upon which they pay but a nominal tax. "Boss Flinn's" information to the Labor League of West-ern Pennsylvania was that this was the class that deserved to be encouraged. Meanwhile the workman, who is trying to own a 25 x 100 ft. lot

LOS ANGELES A-FIRE.

Comrade Harriman Completely Overwhelms a Capitalist Judge.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Dec. 7.—The close of the municipal campaign in Los Angeles was marked by one of the most successful and in many respects one of the most remarkable meetings ever held in that city. The Section engaged the Music Hall for Sunday afternoon, Dec. 4, and invited the well known corporation lawyer, Judge R. H. F. Variel, to debate the New Charter with Comrade Harriman. Much to the general surprise and in evidence of how former prejudices are rapidly dying out, Judge Variel accepted the invitation and a large audience made up of every class in the community gathered together to hear the two champions both able representatives of the opposing interests in the "class struggle."

To show how Socialism has grown in Los Angeles in the last two years it might be well to compare the meetings held during the past three months with those held during the campaign of 1896. Then a small hall holding perhaps 70 or 80 persons was all the Section could afford, the only advertising to be depended upon being the work of enthusiastic comrades in passing on notice of meetings to their friends and acquaintances by word of mouth. How different it all is now. Since September 1 three large meetings have been held in one of the largest halls in this city, a meeting has taken place in a hall in nearly every Ward besides. The regular Sunday evening meetings never attended by less than 300 persons. As to advertising take for instance the meeting of Dec. 4. In the first place, the announcement of that meeting appeared on each of the 20,000 circulars containing the municipal platform that were distributed throughout Los Angeles. Then, thanks to the kindly assistance of Mr. H. G. Wilshire, posters appeared on his bill-boards in every part of the city, and lastly, the Seventh Regiment Band paraded the business portion for two hours prior to the meeting. One need hardly be surprised then that the S. L. P. vote has increased several hundred per cent, and that the comrades are hopeful of immense increase in 1900.

To return to the debate, Judge Variel is a man well versed in the law and accustomed to the lengthy arguments and dry methods of his profession, but he is entirely ignorant of all economic questions that do not directly bear on the interests of the class he represents. As some one in the audience remarked: "The Judge is behind the times," and said another: "Yes, and the 'Times' is behind him," and it was amusing to note how little he seemed aware that a large proportion—probably four-fifths—of the electorate of Los Angeles favor the municipal ownership of public utilities. His main contention was that while the new charter was by no means perfect, still, taken as a whole, it was a great improvement on the old. He threshed all over again the well worn defence of the necessity of increasing the powers of the Mayor, carefully refraining from any mention as to how completely this policy had failed in New York. He also defended the provision taking the power of appointment in certain cases from the people and placing it in the hands of the Mayor. Taken as a whole, his arguments were of the weakest nature and only served to show the foolishness of permitting a lot of fogies to draw up a charter that ought to be abreast of the times. In fact only two points of any real interest to the people were brought out in a somewhat tedious exposition of a dry subject. The first was that under the new charter provision would be made for ALL the people to enjoy the privileges of four-inch water mains and (2) that its framers had honestly attempted to find some means of putting a stop to the blackmailing and seducing of school teachers by a corrupt and dishonest School Board.

The effect of Comrade Harriman's appearance before the audience was similar to that experienced by the sight of the hills covered with green after the long and dry California summer. His splendid reception must have amply repaid him for the many sacrifices and the hard labors of the past six months. Hardly had he begun before the audience was completely captivated and this despite the fact that fully one-half was there to hear Judge Variel. As the Los Angeles "Times" truthfully says, his points "were cheered to the echo." He argued that to increase the powers of the Mayor simply meant to increase the power of corruption. Here Judge Variel, unfortunately, interrupted by stating that the Mayor or his appointees failing to do their duty could be impeached. To which came the reply: "Yes, and they tried to impeach Webb, that rascally School director, who debauched teachers, and though no one for a moment doubted his guilt, they completely failed." To which rally, coming home as it did to every man and woman in the audience there was quite 30 seconds of applause. From this point on the entire audience saw that Judge Variel was overwhelmed and applause and counter applause and applause again marked the arguments of our distinguished comrade. In fact, when the Judge rose to reply in rebuttal the audience received him with applause almost out of sympathy.

As was anticipated by its promoters, no meeting held by the party has done more good than this one and Comrade Harriman's success has given him a prominence which nothing can shake. In fact, Harriman's brilliant rallies and caustic replies have created considerable talk and amusement among

the audience. The power of the tool to conjure forth wealth from Nature depends upon whether or not it promotes co-operative labor. Let the tool be ever so artfully contrived, if the individual alone can operate it, its productive powers will be limited; they will never reach the

point required by Civilization. Co-operative effort, on the other hand, multiplies infinitely the fruits of the labor of the individual; achievements otherwise impracticable become facts, and the abundance that is otherwise impossible is easily attained. Co-operation frees man from the trammels of his individuality and develops the capabilities of his species. "Long was the lane that the race travelled with tools, which, though becoming ever more perfect, yet retained that simplicity that enabled the individual alone to operate them. So long as that epoch lasted, the individual worker was divorced from all others, and individual production continued with all its shortcomings. When our country became free it was at this, the individual stage of industry. Barely was the century turned, however, when the machine that began to appear in the field of production began to bear the features that led toward co-operative labor; this feature developed rapidly; to-day, the machinery of production not only compels co-operative labor, but renders all efforts at individual production more and more abortive. Not only has the tool grown to such gigantic mechanisms that the co-operation of large numbers of workers is requisite to operate it, but it has furthermore led to such a division and subdivision of labor as has infinitely prompted co-operation, and thereby has immensely stimulated the fruitfulness of labor. The United States, to-day, stands fully within the co-operative stage of industry or social development. To-day the capabilities of the tool of production are such that abundance is possible beyond the dreams of dreamers of the past, and with that it is possible that popular well being that could free man from arduous toil for existence, that could disengage his mind from the carking care of the fear of want, and that, emancipating him wholly from the instincts of the beast, could afford him ample leisure and means to give full reins to his intellectual and moral development. In short, to-day Civilization is possible. But is it a fact? No.

No. 3. WHY IS THE ENDEAVOR TO UPHOLD THE CAPITALIST SYSTEM OF PROPERTY TANTAMOUNT TO RENDERING IMPOSSIBLE ALL FURTHER DEVELOPMENT, ETC.?

THE SOCIAL QUESTION.

The Development of Man From Barbarism to Civilization.

A Washington, D. C., correspondent asks several questions suggested to him by the following passages which he quotes from one of our pamphlets, "The Co-operative Commonwealth": "The productive forces that have developed in the lap of capitalist society have become irreconcilable with the very system of property upon which it is based.

"The endeavor to uphold this system of property is tantamount to rendering impossible all further social development; to condemn society to a standstill and to stagnation—a stagnation, however, that is accompanied with the most painful convulsions.

"Every further perfection of production increases the contradiction that exists between these and the present system of property."

These are the questions:

1. What is meant by "civilization"?
2. What is meant by "social development"?
3. Why is the endeavor to uphold the capitalist system of property tantamount to rendering impossible all further development, etc.?
4. In what way have the productive forces become irreconcilable with the capitalist system of property; what is the contradiction that exists between the two; and how is the contradiction increased?
5. What is meant by "painful convulsions"?

No. 1. WHAT IS CIVILIZATION? Civilization is the reverse of barbarism. Man develops from Barbarism. The knowledge of what Barbarism means aids in understanding what is meant by Civilization. The leading feature of Barbarism is that, at that social stage, man resembles the brute in an important particular; the brute, with few exceptions, lives "from hand to mouth"; its whole existence is limited to the supply of its necessities of life; so with the barbarian. The physical wants of man are the groundwork of his existence; these must be first attended to; if attended to, life is preserved and the intellect may develop; if unattended to, life is extinguished and intellectual development has no chance. With the barbarian, the acquisition of the things necessary to satisfy man's physical wants, i. e., to maintain life, bespeaks the whole time of the human being. He is unable to produce even as much as he needs; he is, consequently, in perpetual want and the apprehension of want. As a result of this "industrial condition" of things, the barbarian has all the brutal and savage instincts of the beasts of the forests. His intellectual powers have no opportunity to develop.

Civilization is that social stage, or that industrial condition, where the physical wants of man can be supplied so easily and abundantly that the burden of toil for existence merely, together with the fear of want, is lifted from his shoulders and his mind; where, as a result thereof, the brutal and savage instincts of the beast drop off; and where the intellectual forces, absorbed and stunted under barbarism in the necessary effort to sustain life, are free to grapple with more elevated subjects, and develop in the peaceful pursuits of ethics, the arts, and the sciences.

No. 2. WHAT IS SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT? Social development is the march of mankind, society, from the stage of Barbarism to that of Civilization. The more abundant the things needed to maintain life, the greater also is the distance between the race and Barbarism, the nearer it is to Civilization, the more the material necessities of man depends upon the tool of production. Without any tool whatever, the race is at the lowest depths of Barbarism. The tool adds inches to man over nature. The moment he attacks Nature armed with the tool, he steps above the plane of the brute. Nature yields more abundant stores of the wherewithals of existence, the struggle for life becomes less arduous, the fear of want less oppressive. The more powerful the tool, the larger are the fruits of man's labor. The appearance of that tool or machinery of production, whose perfection would enable man to wring from Nature such ample stores of the material things to support life that arduous toil would be unnecessary and the spectre of want would need no longer dog his heels, is the necessary foundation and the condition precedent for Civilization. The landmarks of social development are the tools of production.

The term "civilized nation" is frequently applied to modern nations. It is an inaccurate use of the word "civilized." A civilized man is he in whom the brute instincts of the beast of prey, the instincts of preying upon others for a living, have been wiped out by the ease with which he can obtain an abundance of the necessities of life. A civilized nation must be a nation made up of such men. No such nation exists to-day, or has ever been recorded in history. The nations termed "civilized" are, more accurately speaking, semi-civilized; they are on the high road to civilization, but have not yet reached that goal.

The power of the tool to conjure forth wealth from Nature depends upon whether or not it promotes co-operative labor. Let the tool be ever so artfully contrived, if the individual alone can operate it, its productive powers will be limited; they will never reach the

SAN ANTONIO AT IT.

Follows Up the State Election With a Municipal Fight.

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., Dec. 13.—Section San Antonio, Socialist Labor party, held its city convention in its hall, 114 Losoya street, on December 4, 1898, with Comrade E. T. Ayer in the chair and Comrade B. T. Harris secretary. The convention decided to have but one candidate in the field, that of Alderman at Large; and Comrade Frank Lettner was unanimously nominated his candidate.

The convention then proceeded to formulate and adopt the following municipal platform:

We affirm the principles declared in our State and National platforms, and assert our determination to achieve by political and constitutional means the abolition of the present system of wage-slavery and of private ownership of the means of production and distribution, and to substitute therefor the Co-operative Commonwealth.

The welfare and prosperity of a city depends upon the steady employment of its citizens, in the various fields of production at remunerative returns. Realizing that only by carrying out our radical programme, can labor be permanently benefited, yet for temporary relief we hereby pledge our nominee, if elected, to use his best efforts to enforce the following demands:

1. Eight hours shall be the maximum day's labor, and two dollars the minimum day's pay for city employes.
2. Increase of the compensation of subordinate employes and reduction of the present exorbitant salaries of the higher city officials, and the abolition of all fees and perquisites, including the Mayor's Contingent Fund.
3. No new franchise or extension of existing franchise to be granted, and revocation of all franchises the conditions of which have not been complied with.
4. Municipal ownership of lighting plants, water works and car lines, the same to be operated, not for profit, to reduce the taxes of the property owners, but for the benefit of all citizens. The employes to manage the same co-operatively under the control of the city administration, and to elect their own superior officers. No employe shall be discharged for political reasons. Surplus revenue over the cost of operating public utilities to be used to increase wages of employes and establishment of a sick and disabled benefit fund, for employes and other citizens.
5. An immediate change in the management of the city hospital, to a more humane and modern system.
6. Abolition of the contract system on public works; direct employment of labor by the city.
7. Free employment bureau.
8. The illiteracy and ignorance prevalent among the voters of this city, owing to the inadequate educational facilities, is one of the causes of political corruption. We therefore demand immediate increase of school facilities so as to accommodate all children of school age. Free school books for all, and free noon day meals, and free clothing upon application for all school children unable to buy some.
9. Well regulated system of food and dairy inspection, prevention of the manufacture and sale of adulterated or poisoned food commodities.
10. Abolition of occupation tax in every industry, business, and occupation.
11. Immediate organization of a permanent and scientific system of street improvement.
12. Necessary funds for these purposes to be raised, first by the savings realized by the curtailment of administration expenses; second, by direct taxation and a rigid enforcement by the assessor of the present laws requiring all property to be assessed at its full value.
13. All railroad companies shall be required to erect, maintain, and operate gates, at their expense, both day and night at every place their road crosses a street, within the two mile limit, short spur tracks and street railroads not included.

The press has been teeming with accounts of the peace jubilee in Atlanta, Ga., giving details that are more or less flat. One incident, however, of the occasion, and that certainly a significant one it has remained perfectly silent upon.

The peace jubilee parade was forming when about 300 labor union men, who had been invited to participate, appeared on the street with the banner of the Central Labor Union. In the labor element were a number of negroes, who are members of the Quarrymen's Union. The committee of capitalists, who was managing the parade, declined to allow the negroes to march with the whites. Thereupon all the labor union men immediately withdrew. They returned to their hall and from there issued a resolution to all organized labor denouncing the conduct of the capitalist whites.

Thus, while "Major" McKinley of the North and Confederate Brigadiers of the South—capitalists both—are celebrating a peace that negro and white labor won, and are seeking to divide the ranks of the workers on the color line, the workmen of Atlanta rose to the height of the occasion and stood together.

Let them repeat the noble scene at the ballot box.

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THE VOTE.

Magnificent Figures from the State of California.

Additional Returns from the Municipal Contests in Massachusetts—Increases in Springfield, Fitchburg and Boston in Particular—Comments of a Capitalist Paper—The S. L. P. has Come to Stay.

Rhode Island Official Returns.

The vote in Rhode Island was for Congress only. The two candidates for the two Congress Districts in the State polled in the aggregate 2,570 votes. At the previous election, 1896, Matchett polled 538 votes. At the spring election, this year, Reid, for Governor, polled 2,877. The vote by counties is:

Bristol	.....	38	Providence	.....	2,262
Cent	.....	107	Washington	.....	50
Newport	.....	22	Totals	.....	2,570

CALIFORNIA.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 14.—The State vote is as follows:

Harriman, Governor	.....	5,143
Andrew, Lieutenant-Governor	.....	8,784
Leess, Secretary of State	.....	8,386
Robertson, Controller	.....	7,585
Lewis, Treasurer	.....	9,856
Hamilton, Attorney-General	.....	7,144
Smith, Surveyor-General	.....	8,753
Biddle, Clerk Supreme Court	.....	9,357
Rouletten, Sup't of Pub. Inst.	.....	6,637

CONGRESSMEN:

Burns, 3rd District	.....	1,306
Martin, 4th District	.....	1,006
Kingsley, 5th District	.....	1,332
Van Rensselaer, 6th District	.....	1,132

We have, judging from the official reports, gained the requisite 3 per cent. to be recognized as a political party with a possible exception of one Congressional District. In California the status of a party is determined by the average of the poll. Thus, as a party in the State, the S. L. P. is credited with 7,780 votes as its average.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Corrected Returns.—Whitehead, S. L. P., for Governor, 407 votes with 30 towns and 7 Wards to hear from. This is more than previously reported.

MUNICIPAL ELECTION IN MASSACHUSETTS.

SPRINGFIELD, Mass., Dec. 9.—At our municipal elections, just held, we have trebled our strength. Comrade Mielze, for Mayor, received 418 votes.

FITCHBURG, Mass., Dec. 12.—It is with pleasure I report our success in our municipal campaign here. We have made a gain of fully 32 per cent. Andrew Davidson, the party's candidate for Mayor, received 433 votes.

The vote for Aldermen is a better test of the real strength of our party in the city. Last year, Herman Kaiser, of Ward 2, the only Aldermanic candidate nominated by us, received 288 votes. As Kaiser was an employe of one of the cotton mills, had never appeared before the public in business life and was not very well known, while the vote he received was well divided through all the Wards of the city, it is a reasonable inference that the vote he received was given substantially to the principles of the party, rather than on personal or complimentary grounds.

This year candidates for Aldermen were presented for three Wards, and they received votes as follows: Ward 2, Gustave H. Wuth, 346; Ward 4, John Russell, 317; Ward 5, Hubert C. Bartlett, 470. The average vote for these three candidates is 380—a gain of 32 per cent. over the vote for Kaiser last year.

This year for the first time our party put up a candidate for the Common Council, Robert F. Wilson, in Ward 2, who received 217 votes; also one for School Committee, Edson S. Demmon, in Ward 5, who received 63 votes.

Commenting upon these results a local paper says: "The steadily increasing vote given to the candidates of the Socialist Labor party, in city, State and nation, indicate that the party has come to stay, and that it is a factor which must be taken into account in political reckonings hereafter. It is believed that the plan on which the party is organized and managed will keep it free from entangling alliances, which preclude immediate temporary success, but which are pretty sure to lead to ultimate defeat."

BOSTON, Dec. 17.—For School Committee: Martha Moore Avery, 8,836; last year the comrade received 6,680 votes. For Street Commissioner: Stephen Shaughnessy, 2,500; last year 1,500. Aldermanic vote not yet announced.

THE PEOPLE.

Published at 184 William Street, New York.

TERMS TO SUBSCRIBERS.

one year \$1.00, six months .60, single copies .05.

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

Entered as second-class matter at the New York, N. Y. Post office on April 6, 1891.



SOCIALIST VOTE IN THE UNITED STATES.

Table showing Socialist vote in the US from 1855 to 1897.

Bourgeois revolutions, like those of the eighteenth century, rush onward rapidly from success to success...

Comrade William Watkins, of Dayton, O., passed away on the morning of the 19th instant.

Comrade Watkins' demise is a severe loss to the party, not in his own State only, where his high character and great attainments added dignity to the Socialist movement...

Not his estimable and extensive family only, but all his comrades in arms mourn their loss.

EPOCH-MARKING.

There is a certain news item that started somewhere in the neighborhood of the Rockies, and then, moving eastward over Cincinnati, finally reached New York...

It has for years been the contention of the S. L. P. that it can not be ranked among political parties strictly; that it is, by the very law of its existence and of the circumstances that gave it birth, essentially a Labor Organization...

The plan that proceeds from the Rockies is a straw that indicates that the superstition is, at least, wearing out. Notwithstanding the plan is hair-brained in that it imagines help can come forthwith, as if by magic, from above...

NOT A CLASS GOVERNMENT?

Congress has met. Whose Congress? The Congress of the American people, we imagine to hear the answer. Socialism maintains that there is no such thing as "the Congress of the American people," unless by "the American people" is meant, not what the term means in common parlance...

The time for theorizing on this subject is gone by. A man, ignorant of farming, may take a bramble-bush for an apple tree; he may even contemptuously look upon him who would warn him of his error...

The governmental tree that is the whole people's must produce fruit for the whole people. Has Congress done that? Its latest performance answers the question.

that? Its latest performance answers the question.

No sooner had it convened, when, despite the widespread want of the people, its first thought was given to an anti-scalper's bill. In other words, to a bill exclusively in the interest of the large Railroad Corporations whose business was interfered with by the scalpers...

The Government is a social organism indispensable to the working class; unless it is class-consciously owned by the proletariat, it is a bramble-bush that sets out only prickles to them and flowers and blossoms for their oppressors.

SNUBBED IN THE HOUSE OF ITS FRIENDS.

Socialists are not of those who allow themselves to be stuffed with noise. As such, we consider the recent gathering in Kansas City, Mo., of "delegates to the A. F. of L. convention" to deserve but little notice.

Indeed, would like to be taken seriously and made much of; that is in line with its purposes, to wit, to advertise its shining lights to the capitalist politicians as "leaders of labor."

Upon all other points I shall follow the simple rules of common sense with the view always in mind of benefitting the people whom I have the honor to represent. My election means a new era in the political life of Holyoke, not because I am a great statesman, or some reform freak, but because I represent a new revolutionary spirit...

The "New Yorker Volkszeitung" of the 14th instant, commenting upon the honest and the dishonest elements at the so-called convention of the so-called American Federation of Labor, proceeds to say:

The comfort of these two elements was formerly a quite so well provided for at the time when there were more Socialists in that part of the time, namely, when a part of these had not yet chosen to lead, outside of England, a separate existence of doubtful success...

The theory here advanced, together with the implied facts that are needed to support it, is a pure figment of the brain—the abortion of a convenient ignorance on the history of the Movement in America, coupled with that queer "tautfulness" that consists in flinging about phrase-clad pretenses to justify indolence.

Indeed, the United States, broad though its area be, is too narrow a confine to contain more than one bona fide Socialist party. That party is the S. L. P., it has earned its place as such, is known to be such, and no other party, to whatever extent it may appropriate our name or platform, will ever be looked upon as anything but humbug.

The instinct of the assembled fakirs in Kansas City was unerring, so unerring that, notwithstanding their full sympathy with the real objects of the Tobin-Carey party, they, its friends, snubbed it roundly.

POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC.

Holyoke local politicians seem to be worrying a great deal about what the new Socialist Labor party Alderman will do and not do, and, consequently, a great deal of nonsense is being written and talked on the subject.

The following clipping from the leading paper of Holyoke, the "Transcript," is a fair sample:

IF MR. RUTHER DON'T VOTE

Will be all Kinds of Trouble.

Aldermen Will be at Loggerheads all the Year—Democrat for Marshal—Promotion for German—City Physician Fight.

It is given out that Mr. Ruther, having been seen by various candidates for office who desired the Socialist's vote in the Board of Aldermen, has made the statement that it was contrary to the rules of his party to vote upon certain questions...

His silence would mean no end of trouble for the incoming city government. It would keep the members at loggerheads all the year. Each party having ten representatives it would be a case of a tie vote on most every question of importance unless Mr. Ruther came in as a happy medium.

It is understood that the Republicans will secure Mr. Ruther's support by offering him the position of City Engineer. There is not a stronger Socialist in Holyoke than Patrolman Geran. Perhaps if the administration gave Mr. Geran an office in the police department, he would be willing to help along the Republican cause.

To which Comrade Ruther replied as follows:

Editor "Transcript":—In reply to your special article in Saturday's issue of the "Transcript" containing a report on a new Board of Aldermen, of which I will be a member, permit me to say Socialists are not clamors upon the half-shell, waiting for hungry stomachs. We know what we want and how we want it and are getting what we want.

In all my actions as an Alderman, I shall mainly be guided by the principles shown in the following: I am not elected and which reads as follows:

The Socialist Labor party of Holyoke, conforming to the demands of the national organization and harmonizing with the general movement of the world, whereby finally, through political and legal means the present state of planless production, industrial warfare and social disorder to be overcome by the Co-operative Commonwealth and all means of production and distribution shall be owned collectively and operated scientifically by the people.

It will also be interesting to record the following interview with Comrade Ruther that appeared in all the Holyoke papers the day after his election:

My election to the Board of Aldermen is not an accident in political life, caused by what we have the power to crystallize into laws the new era of humanity, when the last and worst form of slavery will be wiped out, and man will at least stand face to face with his brother, the fellow-man in the full glory of economic as well as political freedom.

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Indeed, the United States, broad though its area be, is too narrow a confine to contain more than one bona fide Socialist party. That party is the S. L. P., it has earned its place as such, is known to be such, and no other party, to whatever extent it may appropriate our name or platform, will ever be looked upon as anything but humbug.

The instinct of the assembled fakirs in Kansas City was unerring, so unerring that, notwithstanding their full sympathy with the real objects of the Tobin-Carey party, they, its friends, snubbed it roundly.

The high-water mark of Socialist "boring" forward in the A. F. of L. was reached at the Detroit convention of the A. F. of L. in 1890; from that year on the "boring" was less and less, till it finally had ceased altogether in '95. It was less at the Birmingham convention, '91; it was still less at the Philadelphia convention in '92; it was but puny at the Chicago convention in '93; at the Denver convention in '94 it had sunk so low that the "Socialist" so-called "plank 10," after having been carried by the rank and file, could be

coolly and without effort laid aside by the convention, one of the doers of the deed calmly declaring that "the rank and file did not know what it had voted for"; and finally, at the New York convention, '95, the "boring" had so completely disappeared that the convention openly adopted plans for fighting the Socialists everywhere. It was only then, end of December, 1895, to the orchestration of a challenge to war to the knife, desperately issued by the A. F. of L. convention in this very city, that the S. T. & L. A. was founded and the "separate existence" began.

But it is not only against facts that the passage in question sins; it sins also against an important principle that the philosophy of the Movement in English speaking countries has established, and that it is culpable neglect to overlook, let alone blur or suppress, to wit, that the evolution of the Labor-Fakir-run "pure and simple" Union is from conservatism to reaction, from reaction to corruption, and that the growth of the class-conscious Labor Vote hastens the development.

It was no accident that the turning point in the Socialist "boring forward" coincided with the year 1890, and that it had wholly vanished in 1895 at the New York convention. There is deep meaning in the fact. In 1890 for the first time the Socialist Labor party took the field in the State of New York under its own name and in a manner that denoted the closing of an old, the opening of a new era.

The Lion and the Unicorn, in whispered and other notes, he had been assuring the Socialists of his devotion to Socialism—but; "but the rank and file are not yet ready," "leave us alone, and we will indoctrinate them," etc., etc. The S. L. P. of those olden days believed, kept quiet, and the Labor Fakir had a free field. With the uncompromising stepping on the political field of the State of New York by the S. L. P., this humbugging of old could not continue.

This process did not start in '90; as late as April, '91, Mr. Gompers, in a conversation with a comrade at the St. James Hotel in Minneapolis, expressed his belief that the party in New York would not that year follow up the campaign of '90. It was, he thought, only one of the many futile attempts the party had made before; the "small vote," he referred contemptuously to the 13,700 votes of '90, "must surely discourage the party"; etc., etc. Fakirism watched; its expectations were disappointed. Not only did the party not give up, but it spread from State to State: in '91, when the Birmingham convention met, 3 States were in line; in '92 there were 6 in line; in '93 the total vote had risen to over 25,000; in '94 the "plague" had spread over 9 States; and, finally in '95 not only had the "plague" spread over 11 States, but, in the very city of New York, where the A. F. of L. convention of that year was held, the S. L. P. vote had more than doubled since '90, it rose to 10,903!

The rise of the party's vote is the barometer of the Labor Fakirs' opposition. He pulled himself together; his methods of corruption, backed by capitalist politicians, both in the A. F. of L. and the K. of L., gave him the advantage of numbers in his conventions. His safety demanded the strongest front against the "plague"; and corruption vines bound his class together in an impassable barrier. To imagine that any further "boring forward" was then any longer possible was silly, none but the chicken-livered could hold the view. As the political movement had clarified the situation, there was nothing left but the separate economic existence, started in '95, which, together with the political movement, has been leading the Labor Fakir the wildest dance he ever had. So far from his "uneasiness having now wholly vanished" he never was in hotter water. The best way the cattle thief knows to conceal stolen cattle is to mix it up with cattle that he owns. In the same manner the Labor Fakir delighted in mixing himself up among Socialists: So long as Socialists were conspicuous in the annual Fakirs' advertising medium, yept the "Convention of the A. F. of L., the Labor Fakirs' treason to the Working Class could be veiled, and, under the veil, was carried on with a success that is impossible now. How gladly would not the Labor Fakir see the Socialists continuing to pursue the Will-o'-the-wisp of old by keeping "tactfully" right on, "boring their way forward from within!"

Passages, such as the one here submitted to the scalpel, can not find their way into the party's German organ, the "Vorwärts"; it is in charge of too clear-headed and conscientious a man

for that. But the "Vorwärts" is read mainly outside of this city; and there, indeed, we find the German element moving with steady pace; in this city, however, the "Vorwärts" is little read; the "Volkszeitung" is considered its daily edition. In view of the appearance of such and similar wrong-headed and misleading articles in a German Socialist daily paper in this city, is it at all surprising that progress from the quarter of the German element is not here what it might be?

The Woonsocket R. L. "Evening Call" continues to voice the trepidation that has seized upon the class of its stockholders in sight of the S. L. P. vote and the effectiveness of S. L. P. propaganda. It says:

SOCIALISM IS HAVING A HEARING. The growth of Socialism in this section goes on. Woonsocket's Socialist vote has attracted attention within a year, and now our neighbor, North Smithfield, develops Socialistic mania. Tuesday North Smithfield voted on the new constitution and for candidates for Congress. The new constitution was opposed by Socialistic orators throughout this State and to their campaign is due the election of the proposed candidates for they influenced many against it who are not Socialists. Well, North Smithfield voted to reject the constitution by a vote of 188 to 50. The vote in that town on Congressional candidates was: Republican 58, Democrat 90, Socialist 55. These facts, added to those that have gone before must make the older parties look to themselves.

Does this mean that Socialism must be prevented from having a hearing, and that the next thing on the tapis is a "legal" crusade against free speech? Out with it, stockholders of the "Evening Call."

"BOAR-ZHWA!"

The Pig that Talks like a Man.

[Written for THE PEOPLE by Stanislas Cullian, Spokane, Wash.]

Come gather in counsel ye Proletaires, we must plan for a strong class-conscious pig—it is the only gun that will slay the beast that we stalk, for he is big and strong—yes, our game is the ruling class, The capitalist pig, the Pig, Boar-zhwa, the Pig that talks like a man.

The "Bear that walks like a man" up North may tear at the Lion's mane; The two-beaked bizzard of the frog, the freak of the Seltz, he puts kings under the ban; He'll take all the fruit, for he can. This capitalist pig, this Pig, Boar-zhwa, this Pig that talks like a man.

Our Uncle's Eeagle may mix the mess, and make the menagerie quake; The Lion and he may partition the "Chink" and all "decaying" carcasses take. They but work for the Pig—he uses them all—Popes, President, Kaisers and Khan. The capitalist pig, the Pig, Boar-zhwa, the Pig that talks like a man.

And this is his story: two hundreds years he was a pig in a humble choont; That bowed and cringed when a noble passed, while his heart jumped into his throat. He has grown since then, now he rules the land and he puts kings under the ban. This capitalist pig, this Pig, Boar-zhwa, this Pig that talks like a man.

In France he brought on the "Terror's" reign and he shortened a king and a queen; He gave us the weapons to overthrow the system that stood between His class and the throne, and we did his work—not thinking OUB hides he'd tan. The capitalist pig, the Pig, Boar-zhwa; the Pig that talks like a man.

In England he humbled the lords for him; he warbled "Gloria" so well; Then he worked our children and wives to death; he made England a factory hell. The "Freedom of Contract," "Laissez-faire," "Let the fittest survive" was the plan. Of the capitalist pig, the Pig, Boar-zhwa; the Pig that talks like a man.

In Yankee-land he didn't grow fast; in fact he behaved quite good; Until war broke out; then he jumped into power; he fattened on courage and blood. Now he rules OUR country from White House but, and "Injunctions," "Lead Diet" is the plan. Of the capitalist pig, the Pig, Boar-zhwa; the Pig that talks like a man.

He sings while we cut our brother's throat; Oh, his "La Patria" in France; "Das Vaterland," "God save the Queen," and he laughs at the world's death dance. His God? He worships his stomach; his country means power for the clan. Of the capitalist pig, the Pig, Boar-zhwa; the Pig that talks like a man.

So we're hunting the Pig all over the world; he has made the wide world a sty. The Proletaire will be in at the death—we have sworn that the Pig must die. We will give him a choice—by ballot or lead—its death by whichever plan. For the capitalist pig, the Pig, Boar-zhwa; the Pig that talks like a man.

But we'll give him no choice in Yankee-land; we Yanks are a voting lot. We'll vote him to death through the S. L. P.; all in line, for the chase grows hot. Then Socialists lead the class-conscious gun; pass the word to the Proletaire clan. That we're camped on the trail of the Pig, Boar-zhwa, the Pig that talks like a man.

(L'envoi.) So that the "Bear that walks like a man" may rest; the Lion may cease to roar; The two-beaked Buzzard may moult in peace and the Frog get a chance to snore. Our Eeagle may fly o'er a happy land, come brothers, pull down the clan. Of the capitalist pig, the Pig, Boar-zhwa; the Pig that talks like a man.

*Poetic licence for "Bourgeois."

Labor Songs.

The attention of the readers of THE PEOPLE is called to the following labor songs:

- 1.—"The Workmen's Marseilles," arranged by H. Mohr. 2.—"Down with Slavery," words selected from Shelley; music by Platon Brunooff. 3.—"The Hand with the Hammer," by Peter E. Burrows; music by Platon Brunooff. 4.—"On the 1st of May," by Elizabeth Serber; music by Platon Brunooff. Price, 10 cents per copy. Send your orders to: NEW YORK LABOR NEWS CO., 64 East 5th street, New York City.

The English translation of Karl Marx' Eighteenth Brumaire, that recently ran through THE PEOPLE, is now to be had bound in an elegant volume of 78 pages, with Marx' picture as frontispiece. This work is of great value. No Socialist, even though he be no student, and no student, even though he be no Socialist, can afford to be without it. Apply Labor News Co., 64 E. 4th street, N. Y. City. Price 25 cents.



Uncle Sam & Brother Jonathan.

Uncle Sam (much astonished)—What is that red button you got there? Is it the S. L. P. button? The last I heard of you, you were declaiming against the S. L. P., and trying to get "one thing at a time," that first thing being free beer through the Tammany Hall Van Wyck.

Brother Jonathan—So I was; and no I'm yet. This button is no S. L. P. button.

U. S.—Oh, I see now; it isn't.

B. J.—Indeed it isn't. You Socialists are not people to get along with. You are a lot of Popes, Bosses and Dictators. That's what you are.

U. S.—We are, are we? Let me see. We have an opinion; have you none?

B. J.—Course I have.

U. S.—We believe our opinion is right; do you think yours is wrong?

B. J.—Course I don't!

U. S.—We agitate for our opinion; don't you for yours?

B. J.—Course I do!

U. S.—We believe and say that all others are mistaken; do you claim others are right?

B. J.—Course I don't.

U. S.—We try to bring others to our way of thinking; do you try to keep them away from yours?

B. J.—Course I don't.

U. S.—To sum up. We do in all these things just what you do. If to do that is to be a "Popo," a "Boss," a "Dictator," then you must be all these things yourself, and as you say you are not, it follows that neither are we Socialists "Popes," "Bosses" or "Dictators." But you insist we are different—

B. J.—So I do.

U. S.—Then it must be that there are other things that we both do not do, eh?

B. J. (with a where-is-this-man-going-to-land-me look)—Ye-es— U. S.—And so there are. Now let me tell you. The principal thing that we do not both do is say just what we mean. When we Socialists speak we DO say just what we mean; when you and "anti-Popes," "anti-Bosses," "anti-Dictators" like you speak, you DON'T say what you mean. We have nothing to hide because all that we are after we demand over and above board; you and such as you have everything to hide, because what you really are after you don't want others to know—

B. J.—What am I after?

U. S.—That "one thing at a time." When you people say that "labor must get one thing at a time" and you stand, as you did at the last election, on the Tammany platform and demand "free beer," you are not stupid enough to imagine that "free beer" is really a step. You say so; but what you really mean is that if the party you are spouting for wins then YOU will get something, to wit, a job.

B. J.—H— U. S.—Don't get excited, that's all there is of it. You want a job as a "first thing," that is your "one thing at a time"; and so it is with all of you. We are not looking for jobs, and consequently, we openly attack the capitalist parties. This is the distinction between us two, and your whole cry of "Popes," "Bosses," "Dictators" means nothing else than that we see through you and know you people to be corrupt at heart. Your outcry against us is but a confession of your corruption; and your trying to give us names is but an additional evidence of your dishonesty.

When the New York Primary Bill was before the Legislature of this State, the Socialist Labor party, in protesting against it, pointed out, among its numerous defects, all of which worked wrong to the workingman voter, that the time for holding the enrollment was not "workingman hours" but "capitalist hours." It was shown that gentlemen of elegant leisure could without injury to themselves attend the enrollment, but that workmen could not during working hours do the same. The bill passed; the Legislature thereby giving one more evidence of its being a conspiracy against the workers.

Now, however, the Primary law is to be amended at the request of the capitalists in whose interest it was enacted, and what is the complaint they now raise against it? What is the "improvement" they propose? The complaint is that June, the month for enrollment, is not convenient because during that month "many of the best people" are absent from the city; the "improvement" is that the enrollment month be made earlier!

Workingmen, men who can not without loss of bread, attend enrollment during working hours, are not to be considered, they, presumably, are not of the "best people"; but idlers, who sponge an existence upon the workingmen and who, without danger to their bread, can easily enroll now, they are to be considered, and if their convenience, or their season for debauchery, requires it, the law is to be correspondingly altered.

How do you like it, workmen?

BOSTON, MASS.

THE PEOPLE is for sale at the following places: Geo. G. Leavitt, 158 Harrison avenue. John Braithwaite, 84 West Canton street. Cobenz, 935 Washington Street.

PITTSBURGH, PA.

(Continued from page 1.)

and a little house upon it. It is taxed to the utmost limit... 9. We denounce the contract system on public work as an unmitigated fraud...

10. We denounce the conspiracy entered into by the Secretary of War that resulted in the stealing of a part of the Duquesne wharf... 11. We demand an annual auditing of the city accounts...

12. We desire to remind the people of Pittsburgh that the expenditures of the city in 1890 were less than \$4,000,000...

13. We desire it to be distinctly understood that the Socialist Labor party is not a "reform party." We recognize the fact, that under the present capitalist system...

be compulsory. The benefits of the public school system to be made accessible to all by supplying, where necessary, free clothing and meals to pupils... 7. The establishment of a public employment bureau...

14. The free use of halls and public buildings for the free public discussion without discrimination... 15. Liberty of individual speech and action as citizens without interference of employers...

For Mayor of Allegheny, William Eberle was unanimously chosen, the comrades absolutely refusing to allow him to decline the honor...

The result of the election gives Geo. Martin, candidate for Mayor, 420 votes, the balance of the ticket averaging 573... 1. We declare our unflinching allegiance to the principles as set forth in the National Platform of the party...

2. Abolition of contract labor; all city work to be given directly by the municipality without the intervention of contractor or middlemen...

3. All public franchises now in force to be revoked and that all such services be operated by the municipality... 4. All property, without any exceptions to be classed and assessed alike for taxable purposes...

5. We demand the full and absolute equality of the sexes. Equal pay for equal services rendered... 6. We demand a law to be strictly enforced prohibiting the employment of children under fifteen years of age to be compulsory...

that the collective system of production alone is possible, the private or individual system of property of the tool cannot choose but to place it in the hands of a few, thus stripping the masses of all proprietary right in it...

No. 5. WHAT IS MEANT BY PAINFUL CONVULSIONS? Among these evils, the most disastrous are the crises—those painful financial and commercial convulsions to which capitalist society is periodically doomed...

There are two ways of removing the contradiction that exists in the collective operation of privately owned tools... 1. Reduce production from its present co-operative back to its former individual stage...

2. Transform the system of property from the individual into the collective and thus make it tally with the co-operative system of production... The first was the method adopted by the Farmers' Alliance...

all control over the fruits of their toil. The economic power thus conferred upon the capitalist class by the capitalist system of property...

1. In order to accommodate comrades who wish to subscribe to two or more of the party's organs, we have made arrangements for reduced rates...

WORKMEN'S Furniture Fire Insurance. Organized 1873. Membership 1,500. Principal Organization, New York and Vicinity.

OFFICIAL.

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE—Henry Kuhn, 184 William Street, N. Y.

NATIONAL BOARD OF APPEALS—Secretary Robert Bandlow, 103 Champlain street, Cleveland, O.

SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY OF CANADA—National Executive Committee—Secretary George Moore, 61 Hyde street, Montreal.

NOTICE.—For technical reasons, no party announcements can go in that are not in this office by Tuesdays, 10 p. m.

National Executive Committee.

Session held Dec. 13, with A. S. Brown in the chair. The financial report for the year ending Dec. 10 showed receipts, \$181,200; expenditures, \$120,664.

The Committee on the Detroit troubles reported and were instructed to present a report to the next meeting in consonance with their recommendation.

A communication from the G. E. R. S. T. & L. A. was laid over to be made the first order of business at the next meeting.

Session of Dec. 20, with J. H. Sauter in the chair. Present: Kinnely and Stahl, the latter excused.

Canada. LONDON, Ont.—The following ticket will go to the polls: Mayor—Fred. J. Darch.

Michigan. SAGINAW, Saturday, Dec. 31. Section Saginaw, S. L. P. will give a Social Dance in C. L. U. Hall, on Jefferson street.

New York. NEW YORK CITY.—First lecture of the Young Men's Socialist Educational Club will be held Sunday evening, Dec. 25, 1898.

Philadelphia. PHILADELPHIA.—The County Convention of Section Philadelphia, S. L. P., was held last Sunday afternoon in the Labor Lyceum.

Pittsburgh. PITTSBURGH.—A Grand Ball for the benefit of the campaign fund and for literature will be held on Tuesday, Dec. 27, 1898.

Pennsylvania. PHILADELPHIA.—At the Section meeting held on Sunday, Dec. 10, it was ordered that the sincere thanks of the Section be expressed to the members...

Rhode Island. PROVIDENCE.—A meeting for the purpose of completing the organization of the Karl Marx Class, which is to take up the study of "Capital" this winter...

ing Wednesday, Dec. 21: Hamburg, Thursday, Dec. 22; Scranton, Friday, Dec. 23; Duryea, Saturday, Dec. 24; Malthe, Monday, Dec. 26; Wilkesbarre, Tuesday, Dec. 27; Hazleton, Wednesday, Dec. 28; Shamokin, Thursday, Dec. 29; Gilberton, Friday, Dec. 30; Shamokin, Saturday, Dec. 31.

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General Executive Board, S. T. & L. A.

The regular meeting of the G. E. R. was held on Thursday evening, Dec. 15, at the headquarters, 23 Duane street.

Charter granted to the Providence Progressive Socialist Union of Providence, R. I. Communications: One from Pittsburgh, Pa., stating steps were being taken to organize a District Alliance...

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To Socialist Lithographers. The Socialist Lithographers of Greater New York organized a Local Alliance of the S. T. & L. A. of the S. T. & L. A. a few months ago...

BROOKLYN LABOR LYCEUM, 949-955 Willoughby Av. (Formerly 61-65 Myrtle Street.)

DR. C. L. FURMAN, DENTIST, 121 Schermerhorn Str., Brooklyn, N.Y.

Jacob Herrlich & Bro., Undertakers & Embalmers, 506 6th St., near Avenue A.

JOHN OEHLER'S Steam Printing, 87 Frankfort Street 87

MORRIS HILLQUIST, Attorney at Law, 890 Broadway, Telephone: 171

An Appropriate Holiday Gift KARL MARX, A Highly Artistic Etching of THE CHAMPION OF SOCIALISM

Kihn & Hall, 111 LIBERTY STREET NEW YORK.

For sale also by "The People", 184 William St., New York.

Trades' and Societies' Calendar.

Standing advertisements of Trades Unions and other Societies (not exceeding 20 lines) will be inserted under this heading hereafter at the rate of \$5.00 per annum.

GENERAL OFFICE, SOCIALIST TRADE AND LABOR ALLIANCE, 23 Duane Street, Room 96, New York City.

CENTRAL LABOR FEDERATION OF NEW YORK. Meets at 2:30 every day afternoon at 64 E. 4th street.

SECTION ESSEX COUNTY, S. L. P. County committee representing the Counties meets every Sunday, 10 a. m.

21st WARD, BRANCH 2, S. L. P. Brooklyn. Lectures on political, economic and social questions at the Club House.

CARL SAHM CLUB (MUSICIANS' UNION). Meetings every Tuesday at 10 a. m., 64 East 4th street.

CIGARMAKERS' PROGRESSIVE INTERNATIONAL UNION NO. 99. Office Employment Bureau: 64 East 4th street.

EMPIRE CITY LODGE (MACHINISTS) meets every 2d and 4th Wednesday evening at the Locomotive Locomotive 64 East 4th street.

GERMAN WAITERS' UNION of NEW YORK. Office: 385 Bowery, Union Building, 1st floor.

MUSICAL PROTECTIVE ALLIANCE, 1028, D. A. 49, S. T. & L. A. Headquarters: 79 East 4th street.

METAL SPINNERS' UNION OF NEW YORK AND VICINITY meets every Monday and last Friday in the month at 10 o'clock at 231 23rd E. 35rd street.

SOCIALIST SCIENCE CLUB, S. L. P., 34th 45th A. D. S. E. Cor. of 3d and 4th Sts., 4th floor.

SKANDINAVIAN SECTION, S. L. P. Meets second and fourth Sunday of every month at 12 o'clock.

PROGRESSIVE CLOTHING CUTTERS & TRIMMERS' UNION, L. A. 68 E. 4th street.

THE SOCIALIST EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY OF YIRKVILLE meets every Monday evening at 8 o'clock.

Arbeiter-Kranken- und Sterbe-Kasse fuer die Ver. Staaten von Amerika WORKMEN'S

Sick and Death Benefit Fund of the United States of America.

Workmen's Children Death Benefit Fund of the United States of America.

Reinhard Lachner, 13 Bible House, Room 42, Astor Place, N. Y. City, N. Y.

I. Goldmann's Printing Office, cor. New Chambers and William Streets, with Type Setting Machine.