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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 US: In 1888 (Presidential) 2,068; In 1890 13,331; In 1892 (Presidential) 21,157; In 1894 33,133; In 1896 (Presidential) 36,564; In 1898 82,204

Oh, Pope, had I they satire's darts To gle the rascals their deserts, I'd rip their rotten, hollow hearts, and tell aloud Their jugglin' hocus-pocus arts to cheat the crowd. BURNS.

THE PEOPLE—the honored name of the Party's national organ—continues mailed to the mast-head, despite all Kangaroo and all the "Volkszeitung" Corporation Goose's efforts.

The Tammany judge's order, obtained by the "Volkszeitung" Corporation Goose, enjoining the Socialist Labor Party from using the name, is null and void; and is treated as such.

The "Volkszeitung" Corporation Goose now declares, through its various organs, that it will not cause the arrest of the Party Officers for contempt of court because "that would sanctify them with the halo of martyrdom," which, it declares, "is just what they are hankering after."

If, in order to "deprive the Party Officers of their hankered-after halo of martyrdom," it now waives its dearly-paid-for "legal rights," then the "Volkszeitung" Corporation Goose admits itself out-generated.

If, however, from the start, before seeking to equip itself with the Tammany order of injunction, it never meant to enforce the "rights," thus striven for and acquired, in the only way in which they could be enforced, then the "Volkszeitung" Corporation Goose admits that it merely tried a bluff.

Either hypothesis is perfectly in keeping with the calibre of the crew that are the make-up of the "Volkszeitung" Corporation Goose.

In the meantime, THE PEOPLE'S colors continue to flutter, defiant, in the breeze, and, fluttering, slap the "Volkszeitung" Corporation Goose alternately on both its bourgeois-vulgar cheeks.

THE PARTY'S VOICE. The Masters—be rank and file—have been heard; and in unmistakable notes too; and through the regular channels, besides.

The returns of the General Vote, called for by the National Executive Committee of the Socialist Labor Party last August 1, and tabulated on the fourth page of this issue, are of transcendent significance. They close an old, and open a new era to the Movement in America.

Upon the largest vote yet cast by the Party membership—2,861—and uttered through the unprecedented number of Party organizations—144 Sections—on an issue presented to them, the National Executive Committee is overwhelmingly upheld, and thereby, the straightforward, aggressive, relentless policy, solemnly adopted by the Party in National Convention of '96, and subsequently justified by maturing experience, receives the Party's emphatic verdict of approval.

And the demonstration was worthy the occasion.

Repeatedly has the warning been uttered in these columns: We may not be Socialists in one corner of our mouths, and sots in the other. Socialist science banks upon the Class Struggle, with all that "Class" implies, and all that "Struggle" implies. Back of both lies the recognition of the principle that material interests shape the views, and direct the actions of man in social evolution. Only those material Class interests, that make for progress, promote the moral sense; the material Class interests that are reactionary, create immorality. Accordingly, the Struggle of Classes, with its roots low down in matter, presents above the surface the spectacle of a conflict between Morality and Immorality, Parity and Impurity.

Such at all points was essentially the nature of the internal conflict that the S. L. P. just emerges from, victorious. The most groveling of reactionary class interests—the small traders—gathering around them the kindred and supplementary interests of the Labor Fakir, banded themselves in a foul conspiracy to smother the Party. Like attracts like. The foulness of the principles, of the aims, of the weapons and of the

conspirators drew to them the support of whatever foul element had lain low inside, and also the applause of all the foulness outside, the Party throughout the length and breadth of the land. The foul suburbs of capitalism strained to annihilate by capturing and ditching the Party of man's redemption in the land.

Critical seemed the situation for a moment. Surprised overnight, as it were, the Party reeled; the turmoil sought to be created by the conspirators, who, of all things, avoided a verdict from the Party, and thus sought to prolong disorder, as the only waters in which they could fish, threatened to spread. The National Executive Committee stepped in with firmness; it went straight to the point; the general vote it called for was tantamount to a call: "Shall the S. L. P. live; yes or no?"

The response—from those agreeing, together with those disagreeing in manifold manner, with the National Executive Committee—has been emphatic; it and its effect are well reproduced pictorially by Comrade Sidney Armer, of San Francisco, in the magnificent cartoon that adorns this week's first page.

An old page may now be turned down in the book of the Movement in America, and a new page turned up.

POLITICAL and ECONOMIC.

Says the Philadelphia "Press" with much naivety:

The non-partisan sentiment in the election of Judges is making most substantial progress in Pennsylvania. Why, of course, is not the whole capitalist class engaged in economizing? They try to economize in the shop, hence improved and labor-displacing machinery; as shown elsewhere in this issue, they try to economize on the methods to "settle strikes" by force; why should they not try economies in their methods to elect the machinery of the government by means of which they keep themselves on top and the wage-earners down? The capitalists should stop the farce (together with the resultant heavy expenditures) of running a double set of candidates for President, Congress and all other offices.

These should all be "non-partisan," as non-partisan in appearance as they are in fact. The "Press" little dreams what an eye-opener to the workers it is printing by making the observation which it does.

How the money-making instinct is at all times on the alert to exploit the "patriotism," together with the innocents who are thereby enthused, may be gathered from the below poem of Frances Aymar Matthews, published recently in the New York "Sun":

HIS DAILY MAIL. On board U. S. S. P. S. Olympia; Bay of Naples; Lieut. Brumby log: "Mail's the usual thing, sir: 'I've looked it nearly through: There are thirteen hundred letters, An thousand papers, too. Shall I read the list aloud, sir? 'I've condensed the usual way: Ten towns in Oregon, sir. Nine hundred little boys; Five yachts, a kite, a sauce, sir. A cocktail and three toys; A pen, an ice cream freezer, A tonic, and a rose; A plough, and a potato, A pumpkin and a hoe. Six hundred Maltese kittens; An oil stove, and a hat; The newest curling-iron, A dairy, and a bat. A towel-rack, and scarf, sir. A baby elephant; Ninety-nine canaries, sir. Nine electric plants. Three machines for mowing, sir. A sieve, hotel, and mine; A patent-pump and mousetrap, A pair of patent wings; The newest baking powder, A theatre and a gun; Ten racers and one mobile, A perfume and a bouquet, A plough and a collar, sir. A boy's suit, and a song; Ten score of dogs and ponies, A monthly and a gown. There are the latest things, sir. That have been named for you; Besides, four seats of learning, And, sir, a swivel screw. "Then there are invitations For dinners by the score, And functions by the dozens, The instant you're ashore: The grand parade, and programme; In fact, each hour and day, For full a twelve-month hence, sir, Is planned to make you gay!" Great Henry rose, then waved, His lips were turning blue? He staggered to his cabin, 'Mid the silence of his crew.

Barring the Maltese cats, little children and the like, the bulk of the things now named after Dewey are merchandise, whose selling qualities and money-roping-in powers their owners "patriotically" try to improve. Landlords, who want to boom their towns; toy, sauce and cock-tail vendors; pumpkin and potato raisers; sizers, mousetrap and horse-baiters, etc., etc.,—the whole brigade of traffickers is in line.

It is to be hoped that Dewey sees through farce and fraud, and that, indeed, "his lips are turning blue" at the use to which he is being put.

The Dublin, Ireland, "Workers' Republic" says that:

At a Catholic conference at Liverpool, the Rev. John Barry read a paper on "Liverpool after fifty years." He said the beauty of God's worship was forgotten in the equal of the slums, decency in the crowded streets was difficult, morally endangered. He saluted as evidence of the rottenness of the social system. The human race lived for the benefit of a few of its members. Much of the property in Liverpool was so constructed as to be destructive to human health and was saturated with filth. Plants and flowers would not live in these slums, but men and women had to do so. The soul of these people was crushed out and had no thirst for the higher things of life, but only for bread and beer. First make a man human, and after that, Christian.

All very true, but how would the Rev. John Barry proceed to bring about his desideratum? Of all amusements of the mind, says the poet, from logic down to fishing, there is not one that you can find as awful cheap as WISHING. We would commission our esteemed colleague of Dublin, he being sundry thousand miles nearer, to put the question to the Rev. Father, and ascertain his answer, and let us know.

THE RECENT TROLLEY STRIKE

The Capitalist Interests of all Natures That Brought it on.

With regard to the recent Brooklyn trolley strike the following opinion of the Brooklyn "Eagle" is significant, considering the fact that the Brooklyn Rapid Transit Company is represented by one of its directors, Seth L. Keene, on the Board of Directors of the great "independent" newspaper in question. We quote from an article published on July 23rd, 1899:

"There is more than a suspicion that the officials of the Brooklyn Rapid Transit Company are glad the strike was ordered. Many men employed on the Nassau lines formerly wore Rapid Transit uniforms. When their names were stricken from the Rapid Transit pay rolls, they were received with open arms by the opposition corporation. The consolidation of the two systems had the effect of carrying back into the service of the company men who figure in its records as having been discharged. The order to strike did not discriminate between the two systems, but it was understood to be directed against the Nassau lines. One of its results was that nearly all of the men who had been compelled to discard Rapid Transit uniforms for cause refrained from reporting for duty. That is to say, the very men who were unacceptable to the company to all intents and purposes placed themselves completely at its mercy—they left its service. There must necessarily be disturbers among nine thousand men. They may be the best of servants in times of peace, but what they will do when complications come is fully understood. It very much simplifies the situation of a company to have these men eliminate themselves. In the case of the present strike that is exactly what happened. In other words the Nassau men played into the company's hands. Which explains why a prominent Rapid Transit official, after estimating the cost of the tie-up, remarked, 'IT WAS WORTH THE MONEY.'"

"Another boon for which the company is probably profoundly grateful is the fact that it is guaranteed several years' immunity from anything in the nature of such a demonstration. The moral effect of this fizzle will persist. IT WILL CAUSE THE MEN TO ENDURE RATHER THAN ATTEMPT TO CURE."

It appears from this utterance of the Rapid Transit mouthpiece that the Brooklyn trolley magnates were in July, 1899, in a similar situation as at the time of the last strike. They found it necessary to reduce their labor force to a state of meekness which would cause it, for several years to come, to "endure rather than attempt to cure."

Some idea of this situation is given by President Rossiter in his annual report, just published, for the year 1898-'99. Speaking of the acquisition of the Nassau Electric Company, the elevated and other railroads by the Rapid Transit Company, Rossiter points out that "the control of practically all the street railroads of Brooklyn presents 'an opportunity for great economy and increased earnings,' and that from the opportunities so presented, 'it would seem as if the system should be operated, including the payment of taxes, at not over 55 per cent. of the gross earnings, and this percentage should be reduced as economics are fully established. The Union Traction Company of Philadelphia operated during the year ending June 30, 1899, for 49 per cent.'"

In 1892, when the electric traction was introduced, the railroad companies of Brooklyn had to devote 78 per cent. of their gross earnings to the expenses of operating and maintaining the roads. During the next two years the expenses were reduced to 68 per cent. of the gross earnings. The desire for further "economies" brought on the strike of January, 1895. The labor force having then been made willing to "endure rather than attempt to cure," the process of reducing the percentage going to expenses and increasing that available as profits went on smoothly. During the business year ending on June 30, 1899, the expenses had come down to 62 per cent. An uninterrupted progress in this happy course is even more important now than it was in 1895, because the Rapid Transit Company's gross earnings have risen to over 11 million dollars, and are expected to reach 12 millions this year, while the companies involved in the strike of 1895 were doing a gross business of only 5 1/2 millions. Yet, this very course of progressive reduction in expenses was bound to produce complications and interruptions, unless something was done to pound "endurance" into the labor force. Economics such as are intimated by Rossiter, the squeezing down of expenses to 55 per cent. of gross earnings, and, if possible, to 49 per cent., as that ideal Philadelphia company has shown to be feasible, cannot be expected to go through without some objection, some attempt at opposition from the victims.

The trolley magnates knew that their "economies," as they were being perfected and extended, would breed more and more discontent, and that sooner or later there would be an outbreak. The "Eagle" reports one of the Rapid Transit directors, Major John D. Kieley, as saying, that it was all nonsense to imagine that the strike could have been averted.

If, however, the magnates considered a strike as an unavoidable incident of their "economies," they had every reason to wish it to come now rather than later, and to have it come just in the way it did come.

The Brooklyn Rapid Transit Co. is so organized that its stockholders have had to take out all the benefits of its accomplishments in waiting. While the actual profits resulting from the operation of the roads controlled by the Rapid Transit Co. have been considerable every year, rising from \$2,093,000 for the first year (1895-'96) to \$2,740,000 for the year just ended, there has never been a cent of dividend distributed among its stockholders. In spite of this fact the stock of the company advanced from its modest initial price of 18 dollars for a 100 dollar share to the extraordinary figure of 137 dollars per share, which was reached towards the end of March, 1899, when the acquisition of the Nassau lines and of the Elevated systems was announced as having been perfected. This was an unnatural boom for capital stock that never yielded

consisted wholly in the prospect of future dividends. The boom could not last. The men who had worked it up knew it must suffer somewhat of a collapse, as soon as others would understand, as the "insiders" did, that the great consolidation movement did not mean immediate dividends. The situation was peculiarly favorable for a speculation of the men in control in their own stock. And such an operation apparently did take place. While the Rapid Transit boomers seemed to be buying, they were really selling their stock as fast as they could without breaking the price. And after selling for over \$130 the shares that had not been worth half as much a few months before, they reversed their operation, so that they might buy back at low prices what they sold at boom figures.

Of course, the men identified with the management could not openly assist in breaking down their own stock. They had to engage other people to make the attack in the guise of antagonists. This disguised campaign began about May 7, when the papers announced that James R. Keene had started in to "pound" down the Flower stock, particularly Brooklyn Rapid Transit shares.

It is evident that such a stock operation would be materially aided by a strike, and it is clear why a broker who was trying to get holders of Rapid Transit stock to sell it at low prices, why he should interest himself in bringing the strike about. It has been reported that James R. Keene contributed \$1,000 to the labor leaders who were organizing the strike.

In his campaign, which seemed to be directed against the leading trolley interests, but was really carried on in their behalf, Keene had the important co-operation of Albert L. Johnson, Albert L. Johnson made the last Brooklyn trolley strike.

Johnson caused the following tale to be spread among those trolley men who had until recently been his employees on the Nassau lines: That he and Keene were about to get possession of a controlling portion of the Brooklyn Rapid Transit stock, that they were acting on behalf of the Belmont and Vanderbilt interests, that they were sure to secure all the stock they wanted if the strike would last but 48 hours. Johnson wanted his old employees to understand that those who would "act as union men" and strike, would be taken care of after he was in control of the road again, while the scabs would be "dumped," as one of Johnson's agents expressed it.

Many of the men on the old Nassau lines allowed themselves to be misled or bullied by Johnson's strike talk, although it was palpably fakish. What nonsense, to think of the Vanderbilts going to so much trouble for the purpose of overthrowing Rossiter! The Vanderbilts put Rossiter in his present place. He is the brother of the treasurer of the New York Central, and was the Assistant Superintendent of the Western Division of that road at the time he was called to the presidency of the Brooklyn Rapid Transit Company. He was called there as the representative of the Vanderbilt interests, just as T. S. Williams, Flower's former private secretary, was made secretary and treasurer of the company to represent the Flower interests.

Johnson's statement was absolutely fraudulent in making the claim that, by acquiring the majority of the Rapid Transit stock he or his backers could immediately change the management of the company. The fact is that all the Rapid Transit stock is subject to a voting trust established in 1895, by which Flower, Brady and Gleot were given the right to vote the whole stock for five years. No sale of stock can, therefore, affect the control of the company until 1900.

But the trolley men on the Nassau lines were taken in by Johnson's "bluff," and they organized and struck under the same old incompetent and corrupt K. of L. leadership. That was the leadership which Johnson wanted, and that was the leadership which Rossiter wanted, into whose hands Johnson was playing.

A few weeks before the recent strike took place, a conference of trolley men was held in South Brooklyn, which was attended by representatives of the Socialist Trades & Labor Alliance, and also by Daniel McAvoy, one of the K. of L. organizers. The Socialists on that occasion warned strenuously against a strike of the trolley men at that time and on the old trade union or K. of L. lines. They showed that a strike, as proposed by the K. of L., would be even more of a failure than in 1895, because firstly, the company would more easily find scabs; secondly, because the trolley magnates controlled even more thoroughly all the government powers, and would use them more recklessly against the trolley men; thirdly, because the time of the year, being four months removed from Election Day, was favorable to such abuse of political power; and fourthly, because the trolley men were not properly educated and organized for such a contest. The Socialists recommended, instead of an immediate strike, that the trolley men organize and educate themselves on the lines of the Socialist Trades & Labor Alliance, and being thus prepared to fight the political tactics of the trolley magnates with Socialist labor politics, choose the campaign time as the best time for going into a struggle.

McAvoy offered the well-known, stale objections to this policy. He opposed particularly the introduction of politics into the organization. The Socialists then showed that no labor organization could steer clear of politics; where Socialist politics were excluded the organization was sure to be used in the interest of capitalist politics, office-seeking and political trading by the leaders were inevitable. The S. T. & L. A. had eliminated that sort of thing by disqualifying for office any one affiliated with any of the capitalist parties. Unless this was done, the organization would be always subject to capitalist influences, and any honest activity become impossible. The conduct of D. A. 75 with regard to the ten-hour law was pointed out as an example. A committee of the D. A. called on the District Attorney, and then allowed the false impression to be spread through the press that the railroads had been compelled to obey the law, and a great victory had been won. The trouble was that that committee contained such men as Patrick Collins, an office-seeker, and James Pines, an enrolled member of the Democratic party, both of whom were thinking more of their political careers than of the interests of the trolley men.

at all to the taste of the K. of L. leaders. McAvoy, Pines, Parsons (a notorious trader in labor votes for the Republican party) preferred to do the capitalists' bidding. They took \$1,000 from Capitalist Keene and \$500 from Capitalist Johnson, and brought on the strike just as Keene and Johnson and Rossiter wanted it.

The outcome is known. It has confirmed in every respect the warning of the Socialists. Many hundreds of trolley workers are paying dearly for not heeding the lessons of experience. Let them now take care and by a sound organization guard against being led again into the capitalists' shambles. The Rapid Transit official whom the "Eagle" quotes said: "It was worth the money." If the trolley men profit from this latest lesson, they may too say: "It was worth the cost."

A Politician Worried.

WARASH, Ind., Sept. 9.—Our "legal" Labor Day has come and gone, and but for one little incident was a complete success at this place, from the viewpoint of our masters and their willing tools, their fakirs.

The laborers of this town were recently organized in the A. F. of L., and of course took advantage of "Labor Day" to show to the world what an abundance of good things they could produce, and the fraction of these good things which they were satisfied to receive as wages.

After a hard march, they proceeded to the City Park—for what? To be taught PATRIOTISM, FLAGISM, "AMERICANISM," and everything else except the one thing they ought to know; their class interests, in short, SOCIALISM.

The principal speaker, a sleek Democratic politician, was flanked by a capitalistic Republican preacher (and social success), their leaders and a few "prominent" citizens. At first he went into raptures over "our" great country, the "land of the free and the home of the brave, and the asylum for the oppressed of every land." Then he proceeded to contradict himself by saying that there were too many laborers in this country, and we must stop immigration. He declared there WAS a labor question, that there always had been, and that it MUST be settled; that labor had as good a right as capital. In less than two minutes, he said there never was a labor question, and it never would be settled, that the people were not satisfied to-day with what they had yesterday, that they continually wanted better and that was the cause of their unrest. In another minute he said there were THREE ways to settle the labor question.

1st. By co-operation, laborers could buy factories and operate them.

2nd. By profit-sharing, where profits would be shared by capitalists and laborers.

3rd. By arbitration.

He did not expect much from the first two methods, in the immediate future, but thought FAIR conditions could be established by the latter. He regarded it as only necessary to ascertain what per cent. should go to the land-owner for "his" land, the capitalist for "his" capital, and the laborer for his labor, and they could all live in peace.

Every party, he declared, was against the trusts; that they should be abolished at once, as they raised the prices to the consumer, and were throwing travelling men out of work. We must make anti-trust laws, said he; but he said not a WORD about those already in existence, and wholly violated by his class.

The remainder of his speech made me think of a favorite Mexican dish, the ingredients of which are salt, pepper, mustard, and salt well seasoned with mustard and salt.

Such cheap flattery and bungling, juggling could come from no other source was served for another half hour. Honor, patriotism, Americanism, Christianity, "lawlordner," red school houses, brotherhood, fraternity, humanity, Old Glory, etc., etc., were mixed, molded, kneaded, intertwined and interlaced in such a manner as to defy description.

Finally when he sank from sheer exhaustion, a Comrade asked him if questions were in order. He at first ignored the Comrade, but after repeating the question, one of the managers asked in a low tone what the question was. The Comrade remarked that he wished to ask it, in public. The manager, whispered to the politician, and likely told him the questioner was a Socialist. The politician declared he wanted to hear the question in private.

The Comrade mounts the grand stand and whispered the question to him. The politician whispers that it is an easy question.

The Comrade assured him that he would ask it in public, and does so twice in a loud voice, but RECEIVES NO ANSWER WHATSOEVER.

The question was: "Why are there too many laborers in this country?" It had the desired effect upon the crowd, the politician thereupon started to leave the grounds, but the Comrade called out to him why he did not answer the question. The politician said he never entered into a debate at such times. The Comrade remarked that this was not strange considering that he had not a peg to stand on in the position he had taken. The politician asked what position the Comrade took, and was answered thus: The only right position—that of a Socialist. The politician declared he was glad he belonged to the majority, as their vote was 5,000 to 1 of the Socialist. The Comrade answered he had noticed that these few Socialist votes were making quite a stir in the other camp, and that he was willing to wait till the majority were with him.

If I mistake not, this conversation was a good blow from the S. L. P. hammer upon ignorance and fakirism. Comrades, beard the fakir in his den! There is no other place you can show him up half as well.

C. SEAVEY.

A fifth 5,000 edition of the pamphlet "What Means This Strike?" is now out. Its large sale is a gratifying sign of the times, and it is an evidence of the class of literature that is most useful and, consequently, best called for.

A second 5,000 edition of the pamphlet "Reform or Revolution" has also recently left the press.

The receipt of a sample copy of THE PEOPLE is an invitation to subscribe.



Uncle Sam and Brother Jonathan.

Brother Jonathan—If I were you I would give up my activity in the Labor and Socialist movement.

Uncle Sam—Why so?

B. J.—You see, it takes so long to change human nature—

U. S.—How was that again?

B. J.—It is the toughest job this job of changing human nature.

U. S.—And do you imagine that is the job I have undertaken?

B. J.—Why, of course; can you make a Socialist out of a man without first changing his nature?

U. S. takes out a field glass and looks Brother Jonathan over from head to foot; walks around him, takes an observation of his rear, his starboard and port side, lands back in front of him, puts away his field glass and remains contemplative, as if engaged in some deep astronomic calculation.

B. J.—What are you up to now?

U. S.—I had taken you for my old friend Jonathan. But after what you said about Socialists being engaged in changing human nature I concluded I must have been in error about whom I had before me, and that you must be some curiosity dropped from some wild wandering planet.

B. J.—"Curiosity"? — "Dropped"? — "Wandering"?

U. S.—Tell me, did our Revolutionary Fathers go about "changing human nature" when they sought to cut loose from George III?

B. J.—I don't know that they did.

U. S.—Have you any recollection of what they did do?

B. J.—They tried to show up George.

U. S.—They went about, didn't they, showing that George was fleeing them, that he was seeking to interfere with their opportunities to acquire and keep wealth, and that they could do better without carrying George and his Parliament on their backs than with the load. Was not that the way they went about it?

B. J.—Guess so. 'Twas so.

U. S.—And as they proved the facts and their conclusions they got a sufficient number on their side to rid themselves of the British burden, eh?

B. J.—They did, sure enough.

U. S.—Would you call that "changing human nature"?

B. J.—No! I call that very practical work, sure to be successful.

U. S.—Now, then, similarly, at all points, is the work of the modern, militant Socialist. He leaves human nature alone. Nay, he uses it. So far from trying to change it, he turns it to advantage.

B. J.—Why, that is new to me.

U. S.—I am speaking of the same Socialists, not of the fantastics, who call themselves Socialists. The S. L. P. knows that it is human nature to hate being swindled; that it is human nature to try and get rid of animals that feed on the human body. Accordingly, the agitators for Socialism try to prove to the working class that wealth must be the product of labor—

B. J.—Of course, it is—

U. S.—And that it can't proceed from idleness; that the capitalist class is a class of idlers; that it produces nothing; that, seeing it has all the wealth in its hands, it must have sponged, and must be sponging it from the workers—

B. J.—There's no flies on that reasoning—

U. S.—That the workers can do better without carrying the capitalist barnacles on their backs, than with that load; and that to throw off the useless and mischievous capitalist parasites the workers must organize a political party, and, seeing that they are 100 to every 1 capitalist, vote the capitalists down and out, take possession of the government and establish the Co-operative Commonwealth.

B. J.—That is quite sensible.

U. S.—Do you call that trying to change human nature?

B. J.—No; not that.

U. S.—Do you think it requires a change of human nature to discover that a bed bug is living upon you and to smash him?

B. J.—Can't say I do.

U. S.—This being thus, you were off—as completely off as if you had burnt a hole in your shirt to imagine that Socialists are seeking to change human nature, and that that being a difficult task, Socialist propaganda is difficult. Socialist propaganda is the easiest thing whenever you get the ear of the workers. Hence it comes that the fantastics and reformers, who are always criticizing Socialist methods, fail.

On the Rogues' Zeitung and Its Bogus People.

[Written for THE PEOPLE by William Doran, Jersey City, N. J.]

First the sneaking innuendo, "For criticism's sake," Then dishonesty, suppression, The leaning toward fake.

Aye, plain language is "abusive," 'T fits the case two well; Conceit and spite explode in wrath, The hammer's smash will tell.

We scorn your humbug harmony, You compromise with wrong; Your boring bores from boredom, they Have bored us much too long.

All your taxing tazy taxation, Your trimming, petty tricks; Ye swelled-headed, tireless pedants, Ye wanted? No, nit nit.

