

The Worker.

NEW YORK, FEBRUARY 23, 1902.

AGENTS, ATTENTION!

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VOL. XI.—NO. 47.

PRICE 2 CENTS.

NO FAITH IN PEACE PLAN.

Protest Meeting of New Unionists in Cooper Union.

Resolutions Adopted Question Good Faith of Harmonizers—Harriman, Dooley, and McQueen Speak—Leaders Will Bear Watching," Says Dooley.

President Gompers found this, a couple of weeks ago, to come to New York to dine with the Board of Trade magnates at the Waldorf-Astoria and discuss "harmony between Capital and Labor." But when a conference representing sixty local unions invited him to be present at the Cooper Union mass meeting of Feb. 13, where the "Peace Conference" was to be discussed, he did not consider it worth while to comply.

The following were the resolutions passed unanimously and with acclamation by the workmen assembled:

No Faith in Bosses.

"Whereas Organized Labor has been waging a constant battle against the encroachments made by the representatives of organized capital upon the liberties of the American people in general, and the wage workers in particular; and

"Whereas, it has been reported in the public press without contradiction that certain leaders of labor attending a conference of the National Civic Federation, a body composed of tax-dodging millionaires, stock gamblers, and middle-class reverends, expressed themselves as intending to pacify organized labor and bring about a state of harmony between the worker and the capitalist; and

"Whereas, the history of the past teaches us that, while the material classes always desire harmony, in order that they may enjoy their plunder undisturbed, they have never hesitated to employ force in the shape of militia, police, and Pinkertons whenever labor refused to submit to their terms; and

"Whereas, the milestones of progress on the road to economic freedom are red with the blood of our martyred brothers, shed at the behest of the very same class of men who predominated at the so-called Peace Conference; therefore be it

"Resolved, That we have no confidence in the sudden spasms of overwhelming love on the part of foes who have proven themselves past masters in treachery, and we strongly suspect that it is their intention eventually to settle all insubordinations and expensive capers of the giant labor, by compulsory arbitration, before courts composed of their own representatives, aided by their faithful and the clergy, with a slight mingling of such labor leaders to whose material interest, it may be to preserve peace between Capital and Labor; and be it further,

"Resolved, That while individuals may have their heads turned by the petty squire of linking in the sunshine of the moneyed aristocracy, we the rank and file of Organized Labor are now as ever ready to continue our struggle, not for the crumbs that fall from our masters' table in the shape of an extra penny now and then, but for the complete emancipation of Labor."

William Buddelman of Bricklayers' No. 9, Brooklyn, acted as chairman of the meeting, and Jos. Wm. Dooley of the Franklin Association of Pressmen's Assistants was the first speaker. He said in part:

"We would rather give our life and our interests into the hands of a band of highway robbers than into the hands of this 'Peace Conference.' Highwaymen would rob us and both we and the world would know that we had been robbed; but these capitalists will rob us and their subsidized press will spread the news that they have bestowed great favors upon us."

"It will do our leaders good to know that they are being watched—and they need to be watched! If this meeting does nothing more it will be well worth while for this reason alone."

McQueen of the English Gas Workers appealed to workmen to study their economic and social position, and closed by saying: "Industrial peace will come when the workers get the full product of their toil, and not before. The capitalist has no right to exist and we cannot have peace and do not want to have peace on terms of submission to him."

At this point the resolutions were read and adopted, and a resolution, from the Journeymen Barbers' and Confectioners' Union of Philadelphia, endorsing the purpose of the meeting was also read and greeted with applause.

No Holy Communion.

John Harriman of the Labor Secretariat was the last speaker. He claimed any desire to condemn men personally, but thought that it was the duty of the rank and file to watch their leaders. The leaders should be the servants of the masses, not their masters. Some of the clergy, he said, were trying to establish a holy communion between Labor and Capital. We would remind his hearers how many times orderly strikers had been clubbed and shot at the behest of capitalists and ask them if they thought any such holy communion was possible. He brought out clearly the position of the capitalist class as a parasite upon the producers and showed that, no matter how influential were the persons who tried it, the attempt to har-

TICKET IN PEEKSKILL.

Social Democrats Open the Campaign for City Election on Uncompromising Lines and With Good Prospects of Success.

The Social Democrats of Peekskill, N. Y., have made their nominations for the coming "bludge" election at a convention held in Labor Hall on Feb. 12. A. P. Simmonds acted as chairman of the meeting and Henry Kaste as secretary. The ticket is as follows:

For Trustees: First District—Seth Taber; Second—John R. Worthington; For Treasurer—Henry Kaste; For Assessor—George West.

For Water Commissioners—John Battery, Everett L. Holmes, and Nathaniel Bradley.

Andrew G. Holmes and T. W. Haynes were chosen as a committee to fill vacancies, as prescribed by law; but there are not likely to be any vacancies to fill.

The Campaign Committee will meet every night and the comrades will do everything in their power to win success at the polls. It may not be generally known to the readers of The Worker that there is already one Socialist on the Board of Trustees of Peekskill—a place which, although incorporated as a village, is in reality an industrial city with a population of about 11,000. Seth Taber was elected to office in 1899 upon a Republican ticket, but actually as a representative of the trade unions of the place. More than a year later he became acquainted with the principles of Socialism, and joined the Social Democratic Party. He was willing at that time to resign his office if called upon to do so on account of the change in his political affiliation; that was not, however, considered necessary, so long as he acted in office in accordance with Socialist principles, especially in view of the fact that he was generally recognized as a representative of the working class, for which he stands.

Taber's record in the board has been highly creditable to him, both as an individual and as a Socialist. The fact that since last year's election there have been three Republican and three Democrats on the Board, giving him the "balance of power," has, of course, increased his usefulness. He was appointed a member of the Committee on Highways, and through his influence the platform adopted contains the following demands:

1. That no more franchises for public utilities shall be sold, leased or given away. The city shall take charge as soon as possible of all public utilities now in private hands. The city shall abolish the contract system as far as possible in all public work. Wherever contract work is unavoidable, the contractors shall be required to employ only organized labor.

2. That the common council shall take the necessary steps to make the big corporations pay their rightful share of municipal taxes.

3. That an earnest effort shall be made to provide work for unemployed citizens. Besides the improvement of the streets the city shall maintain a public coal and wood yard and a public icehouse. The coal, wood and ice to be sold to the citizens at cost.

4. That the city shall employ a number of attorneys to conduct just cases for the poor. That the city shall reorganize the system of administering justice in its police court, so that the poor man may be guaranteed the same chance before the law as is enjoyed by the rich.

5. The extension of the free medical service, so as to provide two salaried physicians in each ward, who shall treat those applying free of charge. The city also to arrange with druggists a certain average compensation which shall be fixed by the board of health and paid for by the city. The city also to provide and maintain a public creche, which shall be free to those employing.

6. That the city shall erect at least three public baths for the benefit of the residents of the working districts, one to be built in Bay View, one on the north side and one on the northwest side. The city also to provide a system of street closets, such as found in modern European cities. Plumbing and sewerage in all dwellings to be done by the city at cost, the same to be paid for in yearly installments.

7. That the city shall condemn all unsanitary dwellings, dangerous to the health of the occupants and cause their removal in the interests of public morality. The maintenance by the city of public playgrounds, open-air gymnasiums, or parks in their places, where possible.

8. That free school books and adequate school facilities shall be provided. Principals shall be required to devote one-half of their school time to instruction. The large hall in each school building shall be available to residents of the district for public meetings of whatever nature, at such a charge only as shall pay the cost of lighting.

9. That the city shall arrange at least one symphony concert each month during the winter in the largest and most suitable hall to be secured. The admittance fee to such concerts shall be moderate, and should a deficit occur, it shall be paid by the city. In similar concerts to be given in the parks.

10. That the city shall declare a half holiday on all election days, which shall be compulsory and a penalty shall be exacted from all employers of wage labor who shall ignore the order.

SPARGO TO SPEAK.

John Spargo will speak Sunday evening, Feb. 23, at Colonial Hall, One Hundred and First Street and Columbus Avenue, on "The Tragedies and Comedies of the Present Social Conditions." Last Sunday's meeting was very well attended, many coming in expectation of a repetition of the Harriman-Crosby debate. Mr. Crosby not being able to come, Comrade Harriman spoke and a good discussion followed.

NEW HAVEN, ATTENTION.

New Haven comrades are hereby reminded of the American Branch meeting, Saturday evening, Feb. 22.

HE SAYS THEY "DO THE POOR."

Carey's Version of Capitalists' Philanthropy.

Boston "Advertiser" Attacks "Imported Labor Agitators" and Socialist Legislator Replies—Why Some Capitalists Are Studying Labor Question

The Boston "Advertiser," one day last week, had an editorial headed "President Gompers' Slur," in which Gompers was taken to task for his statement that "every effort made by the people of Massachusetts to protect the lives of the children in the mills and factories of the state has been opposed by the 400."

The editorial makes a defense of the Massachusetts 400, and a malicious attack upon labor organizations and the Socialist representatives in the Legislature. The "Advertiser" says in part: "The enforcement of labor laws in Massachusetts is under charge of the district police. R. H. Wade, the chief of the state police, said last night when he heard of President Gompers' charge that it must have been made in ignorance of the facts. So far from attributing all the credit for Massachusetts labor laws to President Gompers, Chief Wade says that it has been his experience that many of the wealthy people in this state are among the foremost in studying the condition of factory operatives, and especially women and minors, and that the enactment of statutes against child labor in Massachusetts has been due largely to the support of the 400. The plans put forward by these people show study and close observation. This cannot be said of all the measures introduced by the Socialist and labor representatives."

"President Gompers' mistake is due to his lack of knowledge of Massachusetts and his native prejudices. He brought with him from England, the land of his birth, the idea that an employer is necessarily a brute. And he has never been able to get rid of that idea. He does not know that in this state it is almost a fashionable fad, even among those who do not feel deeply on the matter, to do for the poor. Men and women high in society, are glad to get places on the unpaid boards that run hospitals, almshouses, public charities of all kinds. The list of such state or city boards is almost as good as a directory of the 400 of Massachusetts, of which he talks so much, but of which he seems to know so little."

Ben Tillet, fraternal delegate of the British trade unions, to the recent American Federation of Labor convention, also came in for his share of the attack.

A HISTORICAL PARALLEL.

Our irrepressible comrade, Representative Carey, being interviewed by the Boston "Traveler" on the matter, replied: "The editor of the 'Advertiser' in his attack upon the labor organizations and his reference to the fact that certain of the members came from England, one of whom, Ben Tillet, he styles an 'imported labor agitator,' has detected by a visit to the old State House, where there is upon exhibition a document issued during the anti-slavery agitation, and posted at that time about Boston, which reads: "'100 Edward.—That infamous foreign scoundrel Thompson will speak to-night upon abolition. The above scoundrel has been contacted by certain patriotic citizens to be given to the first man who lays violent hands upon him and drags him to the red kettle. Friends of the Union, be vigilant!'"

"The editor of the 'Advertiser' might do well to copy the above method. Thompson was an Englishman, so is Tillet. Thompson was an Abolitionist; Tillet is a Socialist. Thompson sought the end of chattel slavery; Tillet the end of wage slavery. Both being Englishmen, both desiring the ending of certain forms of slavery, surely the editor might appreciate his thunderous march into oblivion by following the example of his predecessors, perhaps some of his ancestors."

THEY DO THE POOR.

"Of course, I am very glad to learn that society is so concerned over us. How simple it all is, after all. 'Society' wants to give us better conditions; we want them. Why, it's all settled! How sad we did not know this before. The editor says: 'It is almost a fashionable fad to do for the poor.' There is only one mistake—just a word; of course it slipped in. It's the word 'for.' It was meant, no doubt, to have read, instead of 'do for the poor,' 'do the poor.' Yes, the rich will do much for labor—except as Tolstoy says, 'to get off its back.'"

"That some of them are studying industrial problems, I have no doubt; but that a few are honest in their desire to improve conditions, I quite agree; but the most of them are moved to study because the giant Labor shows signs of waking from his sleep of centuries. He is about to ask, why should 'The toll of my bruised hands be tender white? The hands that never labor, day nor night? He will learn why; he will learn that the instruments of labor belong to a class other than those who operate them; he will see that this class ownership transforms these instruments into tools of exploitation; he will 'see' the best into God, and build upon his awakening intelligence economic and political organization, which shall defend and accomplish the ending of

WHAT THE ROYAL VISIT MEANS.

Edward Loewenthal will speak Sunday, Feb. 23, at 9 p. m., at the Club House of the W. E. A., 206 E. Eighty-third Street. His topic will be: "The Significance of Prince Henry's Visit to America." All readers of The Worker are invited to come and bring their friends.

LABOR LAW IS KILLED.

Judge Says Eight-Hour Law Is Unconstitutional.

Causes Great Excitement in Central Federated Union—Conservatives Make Admissions—Unions Will Appeal, but with Small Chance of Success.

"A vote of thanks to Judge Beattie, of Newburg, may be in order for declaring the Eight-Hour Law unconstitutional and reminding the organized wage-workers of their neglect to use their great voting power."

"He has opened the eyes of every workman."

"All labor laws made for twenty years past have been discarded in the interest of the money power."

"This is a lesson for Labor to take to heart. No matter which party is in power they always cheat labor."

"The chances are that the decision will be sustained."

"I am not yet in favor of independent political action, but one million votes for organized Labor will bring respect for the workers' rights. This decision is an eye-opener."

This was the trend of remarks by Delegate Kelly.

This sounds queer when we realize that every meeting of the C. F. U. has brought up many lessons in the necessity for independent political action on the part of the working class. Let us hope that, if not Mr. Kelly, yet many others have at last had their eyes opened.

Brown Blames Leaders.

Morris Brown next took the floor. "Such words as these sound nice a few weeks after New Year's," he said, "but they sound better before election. It is the fault of labor leaders, that workmen are kept in such misery—wonders who disse and banquet with politicians and exploiters."

"At present we are getting nothing. The legislatures know these laws will be declared unconstitutional. You can petition and beg them all to no purpose. The only time to remedy these evils is once a year at the ballot box."

"The politicians know that they can find labor men who for a small position or a paltry few dollars will take the stamp and work around election time for them. So long as the workmen permit this, no remedy will be found for the rank and file."

TOLEDO WIDE AWAKE.

City Ticket is Nominated—Chase Speaks to Good Audience, and Strickland, Vail, and Dobs Are Coming.

The Socialist Party of Toledo, Ohio, met in convention on the evening of Tuesday, Feb. 11, at Harmonia Hall, Toledo, Ohio, to nominate the following ticket, to be voted for at the April election:

For Street Commissioner—Frank Kostack.

For Water Works Trustee—Thomas A. Bragg.

For Cemetery Trustee—William Nivet.

For Constables—Ferdinand Klitzke and John C. Bradley.

Many men have come to work in the shop from other cities, carrying "blue cards," which shows that they have just joined the union. These men are under the control of Ferguson and at the regular meeting of the union on Feb. 4 he brought charges against the officers of the organization, unseated them by the power of the majority which the new men constituted and gave the organization full control.

It is reported that several unions in different parts of the country have protested against the action of the International officers, and have demanded that this matter be placed before the entire membership for a referendum vote.

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WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY.

Saturday, the twenty-second of February, is Washington's Birthday. Patriotic Americans are supposed to have some sentimental regard for that day, as commemorating the birth of the Revolutionary general, the first President of the Republic, a historic figure who represents the ideal of free institutions and popular government.

We used to celebrate Washington's Birthday with songs and readings and orations designed to remind us of a revolutionary tradition, to inspire us anew with the ideal of resistance to tyranny and of devotion to liberty and equality.

We have changed all that. This year we celebrate Washington's Birthday in true Twentieth Century fashion. We receive a price—a real, live price—on that day, and we do him all the honor we can. We put Washington and Revolution and Liberty and equality in the background. Our public officials go out to welcome the representative of royalty and reaction and militarism and inequality. They escort him around to the public schools, even, and present him as an object-lesson in true greatness before the children.

And why do we do it?

What did Prince Henry ever do to deserve such honor, here or elsewhere? Nothing, absolutely nothing. He may not be a bad sort of fellow, personally; but you could find plenty of more useful men in five minutes' walk on any street frequented by workmen.

What does he represent, since he has done nothing, that we should honor him? Does he represent the German people? Not a bit of it. They never authorized him to speak or act for them. He represents "Meinself und Gott"—"Meinself" with a big "M" and "gott" with a little "g."

And that is just why we are making such a fuss over him.

For observe the "we" that is welcoming the Prince is the same "we" that is benevolently assimilating the Filipinos and enforcing the blessings of American institutions upon the "Puerto Ricans—the same "we" that has a surplus of \$2,000,000,000 a year on its hands—the same "we" that is so overwhelmingly prosperous that it has no time to think of eight-hour laws or the protection of tollers from fatal accidents at their work. That "we" is the

effective labor legislation than all the begging resolutions passed by all the unions in the last fifteen years have done—and that is putting it mildly.

The C. F. U. is endorsing labor measures at a rapid rate—among them a bill to abolish imprisonment of debtors, one to authorize the Aqueduct Commissioners to alter the contract for the Jerome Park Reservoir so that the Eight-Hour Law shall apply to all employees on that public work, and one to secure overtime pay, for Sunday and all work over eight hours for the employees of the Street Cleaning Department. Thus the C. F. U. starts the ball from the pitcher's box, but if the legislator at the bat at Albany does not send it back it will be caught by the Governor's veto or stop with a sudden jolt as it bumps against the backstop of the capitalist court.

The "Arrangement Committee has spared no pains to make the affair a great success. Five hundred singers, representing all the progressive singing societies in the city, will participate in the concert, which begins at 4 o'clock p. m. Besides this an unusually fine vaudeville program has been arranged. Among the special "talent" engaged are the Mameluke troupe, the best ac

PARTY NOTES.

Kings County Committee has changed its regular meetings from the second and fourth Sunday afternoons of the month to the second and fourth Saturday evenings.

The 6th A. D. Brooklyn will hold a smoker and entertainment on Saturday evening, Mar. 8, at Kugel's Excelsior Hall, 30 Summer avenue. Tickets, 30 cents.

On Feb. 14 the Ladies' Auxiliary, Local Rochester, gave a very enjoyable dancing and card party.

Branch of Essex County, N. J., with headquarters at 124 Market Street, Newark, has elected as secretary, N. Zwart, to whom all correspondence should be forwarded.

Maine gained three locals during January. Comrades at Brockton, Mass., ordered 10,000 platforms from National Headquarters.

Socialists of Quincy, Mass., are holding public meetings every Sunday afternoon at their hall on Hancock street.

Representative James F. Carey will speak in Cambridge, Mass., in Temple of Honor Hall, 301 Massachusetts avenue, on Friday, Feb. 28, at 8 p. m.

A meeting of Ward 9 club, Boston, will be held next Sunday evening at 8 o'clock at 724 Washington street.

Some New Haven comrades visited the Mothers' Union in Branford last Thursday. Thirty members were present.

The New Haven city convention of the Socialist Party will meet Saturday evening, March 1, and nominate a ticket for the April election.

The Socialist League of Philadelphia is a new organization having for its purpose the study and propaganda of Socialism.

The employees of the Terre Haute (Ind.) Street Railway Company are engaged in a monetary strike.

"I have entered this fight and every atom of my energy is at the service of the men engaged in it."

The price of admission is 15 cents in advance, or 35 cents at the door.

Montana Socialists have completed state organization and located state headquarters at Helena.

The "Chairman" of San Diego, having suspended, the local is talking of starting a paper of its own.

Los Angeles now has another Socialist paper, a monthly, published by Comrade J. Scott Wilson and colleagues.

When the municipal election took place in Northport, Wash., last November the new councilmen elected were equally divided between the Socialists and the other political parties.

John C. Chase will lecture in Indiana, Feb. 13 to 25. He will also lecture in Missouri during February.

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Local chapters have been issued to Rigby, Idaho; Kingston and Ogden, and Elsinore, St. Hilare, Hendrum, Ada, and Eldred, Minn.

A national referendum of the Socialist Party will be taken before April 1 in forty-five states and territories.

August Maubach is agent of the Worker in Detroit, Mich. His address is 361 Hendrick street.

Comrade Spargo has just received a beautiful illuminated address from the Executive Council of the Ontario Socialist League in recognition of his services to the Socialist movement during his Canadian tour last fall.

Comrades and friends who will have subscription lists in their possession are requested to send the lists in at once.

To the Holders of Subscription Lists for the Campaign Fund of the Social Democratic Party of the City of New York:

Comrades and friends who will have subscription lists in their possession are requested to send the lists in at once.

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PARTY WORK IN MASSACHUSETTS.

State Organizer Mally Writes of Renewed Activity Throughout the State - Vail's Lectures in Boston Very Successful.

The series of lectures given by Comrade Charles H. Vail in Boston last week was thoroughly successful in every respect.

The real matter for congratulation lies in the good effect the lectures have already produced upon the Boston movement.

August Maubach is agent of the Worker in Detroit, Mich. His address is 361 Hendrick street.

Comrade Spargo has just received a beautiful illuminated address from the Executive Council of the Ontario Socialist League in recognition of his services to the Socialist movement during his Canadian tour last fall.

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to help along the party, we can expect the German comrades to soon revivify themselves.

Comrade Charles H. Vail speaks at Warren on Feb. 24 and at Clinton on the 25th. There are vigorous clubs at both places.

At Reading there is a small band of workers who set an example for larger clubs for regularity and activity.

Things are waking up in and around Boston. The City Committee is getting into shape.

At least the hope and wish for a Socialist Party in this city is not dead.

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THE PARIS COMMUNE.

LISSAGARAY—"History of the Commune of Paris of 1871," 500 pages; cloth, 70 cents; Library Edition, \$3.00.

BENHAM—"The Proletarian Revolt. A History of the Paris Commune of 1871," 232 pages. Price, 25 cents; cloth, 75 cents.

Sent on receipt of price, postpaid.

SOCIALIST LITERATURE CO.,

184 William Street, New York.

time expecting to get an accurate report of membership on which to base the dues for the next year.

We have received a request from August Klonek of Chicago to arrange a tour for him in this state in March.

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NO TRUSTS | NO PRISONS | NO SWEAT SHOPS!

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I have been a sufferer from dyspepsia and sick headaches. I was many times compelled to leave work and go home.

At drugists. The Five-Cent Package is enough for an ordinary case.

When ordering mention THE WORKER.

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The Scientific American Cyclopaedia of Receipts, Notes and Queries; 15,000 receipts, 900 New Formulas, 734 pages.

Progress of Invention in the Nineteenth Century; by Edward W. Hays.

Standard Practical Plumbing, by P. J. Davies.

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Workers' Magazine, TORONTO, CANADA.

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PARTY BUTTONS, We manufacture three different sizes in 1/2, 3/4, and 1 1/2 in. diameter.

POPULAR PUBLICATIONS, Karl Marx' Capital, 280 pages, paper, 75 cents; cloth, \$1.50.

EMILE ZOLA'S POWERFUL REALISTIC NOVELS, Paper covered, neatly printed, 25 cents each; postage, 5 cents extra each volume.

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HAVERHILL NOTES.

Representative Carey addressed the newly organized Shoe Packers' Union of Haverhill on organization and union work, at a recent meeting.

The lectures by Charles H. Vail were not so largely attended as they should have been.

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GENERAL COMMITTEE.

Comrades Lee and Maves presided at the last meeting of the General Committee.

The following new delegates were sent: 24th A. D., R. I. Emil Dietz; 2d B. Ed. Loewenthal; 20th I. Phillips; 15th and 17th. Finkas and Edwards; 30th. Ramm and Schultz.

Comrade Hallman of Plymouth is working hard to organize a club there.

Comrade Cummings of Leominster writes that the comrades will try to organize in a few small towns in that district.

Comrade Lane resigned from the Auditing Committee for the State Committee and Comrade Bartholomew was chosen in his place.

Appeal from the N. C. for funds for propaganda purposes was referred to the subdivisions, with instructions to do their best.

The Gettysburg meeting is now held by the East Boston Club and are very successful.

This evening Somerville Club begins a series of weekly meetings.

Owing to the fact that the C. L. U. is going to conduct a series of lectures on Sundays, the Socialist Debating Club has discontinued its Sunday evening debates.

W. G. R. Gordon of New Hampshire has formally announced his withdrawal from membership in the Socialist Party.

Comrade Harry Pember of Walpole is arranging for a public meeting to be held there soon.

The Quincy comrades have headquarters where meetings and discussions are held every Sunday afternoon.

Comrades Turner, Packard, Magin, Coit, Bruall, and Gray are guaranteed to make things lively for anyone that disagrees with them.

In Worcester, Comrades Abbott, Macey, Gibbs, Hardy, Fessner, and other veterans are still doing business at the old stand.

One of the student clubs in Massachusetts is situated at Northampton, where the vote is steadily increasing.

Comrade John is a good judge. We take the liberty of quoting from a private letter of Eugene V. Debs.

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Letter Box

J. POY, Quincy, Mass. - We are very glad to get news. Please continue.

W. A. COFFEY, Los Angeles, Cal. - The manuscript of your article on the strike in the United States is being read.

R. FRANK, City. - Certainly, fair terms for the work we do for you.

JOHN CONWAY. - You should have been at the meeting and voted against it.

J. M. B. and many others. - If you want either of the comrades who happen to be in the editorial office to make a visit at dinner on a special day.

MIDDLE CLASS FAILURES. "Bradstreet" reports 25% failures in the United States during the week ending Feb. 14.

Week after week, from 35 to 50 per cent of the failures are of concerns having less than \$20,000 capital.

READY AGAIN. "Why Workingmen Should Be Socialists," by H. Gaylord Wilshire.

JUST OUT. "Ballrooming in the United States," by Raymond Hanford.

READY AGAIN. "Why Workingmen Should Be Socialists," by H. Gaylord Wilshire.

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THE COMMON INTEREST OF WORKER AND CAPITALIST.

Even "Continuity of Employment" Will Not Serve as a Basis of Reconciliation.

We hold that the interests of the capitalist and the wage-workers are diametrically opposed; that they are as necessarily and fundamentally opposed as those of master and slave or of highwayman and victim; that so long as society is divided into capitalists and wage workers, the inherent opposition of their interests must give rise to an irrepressible conflict, in which it is the duty of every workman to use all his powers on the side of his class and against the capitalist class; that this conflict can be ended only by the working class establishing public ownership of the means of production, thus putting an end to the class division; and that, therefore, it is the duty of every lover of peace and social order to lend his aid to the working-class movement toward this end—that is, to the Socialist movement for the Co-operative Commonwealth.

Our critics, the defenders of capitalism, can oppose this argument only by denying the first point to it. They claim that the interests of capitalists and laborers are identical.

We call upon them to prove this identity of interest by concrete illustration. They are forced to admit that the two classes are opposed on the question of wages, on the question of hours of labor, on the question of protection of the workers' lives and limbs at their work. Pressed to name one point on which the interests of the two classes, as such, are identical, the best they can do is to reply, as does the Haverhill "Gazette," as quoted last week: "It exists in business prosperity, in continuity of employment, in assurance of freedom from strike or lock-out or other interference with the regular course of production."

We reply: That is a certain common interest only within certain limits and only under certain conditions, which are never permanent, and, under the capitalist system, never can be permanent. Within certain limits and under certain conditions, we say, let us examine the matter more closely.

First, as to the limits within which "continuity of employment, freedom from strike or lock-out or other interference with the regular course of production" is a benefit to the working class.

If it means anything to the workingman, it means that the workman should be willing to put continuity of employment above questions of hours, wages, or conditions of employment; that they should refrain from striking for shorter hours or better wages, in order to enjoy steady employment.

Unfortunately, the whole working class never has an opportunity for employment. There is always an "army of the unemployed"—men and women willing to work, eager to work, hunting for work, but denied the chance to work. This army of the unemployed does not consist solely or chiefly of the lazy or incompetent. It is not an exceptional phenomenon. It is not an "evil of the times," but an "evil of prosperity," but it exists even in this most prosperous year. Just how great it now is we have no means of knowing. The last report of the New York State Labor Commissioner, covering only organized workers, shows that from 5 to 12 per cent. are always in involuntary idleness; for the unorganized majority the proportion would be much higher; and New York may be taken as fairly representative of the country.

The very employment of the working class is thus an uncertain, an "impossible" condition. The workers would mean unemployment for the other classes, and the other classes would mean unemployment for the workers. Now, when we speak of the "continuity of employment," we mean the whole working class, not one-tenth of it, nor nine-tenths.

The prime object of the shorter working day is to distribute the work, to give a chance to the unemployed, while standing idly in the unemployment line. The capitalist class systematically opposes—as in last summer's machinists' strike and the present dispute in the coal industry. Thus the capitalists show by their acts that they do not desire continuity of employment for the whole working class, but that they would use it as an inducement to those who happen to be employed to keep the unemployed while standing idly in the unemployment line. The capitalist class, systematically, opposes—as in last summer's machinists' strike and the present dispute in the coal industry. Thus the capitalists show by their acts that they do not desire continuity of employment for the whole working class, but that they would use it as an inducement to those who happen to be employed to keep the unemployed while standing idly in the unemployment line.

Again, leaving the unemployed out of the question, continuity of employment is not an unqualified blessing, even for those who have it. It is a well known fact that the wage-workers toil harder in the United States than in any other country and that their toil grows more intense year by year. It is not an exaggeration to say that the wage-workers spend more energy in eight hours than the old hand could do in ten. In the textile industry the machinery is being "speeded up" more and more, and the operative has to tend more spindles or other machines. In the steel industry, Philanthropic Carnegie always insisted on the twelve-hour day for men doing the most exhausting work, and the same rule still prevails under a "wage" of "Peace Committee." A result of that practice is that the men are superannuated at forty years of age.

For these men, continuity of employment simply means a speedier passage through this vale of tears, a never prospect of eternal rest. An eight-hour day would add ten years to their lives. The capitalists, for very good business reasons, will not consent to the change, however, by strike or other means, the men have a chance to wring the concession from their masters, no scruples about continuity of employment ought to deter them.

These are two of the limits within which "continuity of employment, freedom from interference with the regular course of production," is good for the working class. It is good for that portion of the working class which happens to be employed, and is good for the whole working class, only by interrupting the course of production with a strike, the workers can secure reduction of hours, increase of wages, lightening of their toll, or greater safety at their work.

Which is to say, simply, that strikes cost the workers much and should not be rashly resorted to. And this everybody knew, without being told by Senator Hanna or the "Gazette."

Second, as to the conditions under which continuity of production is good for the capitalist class.

In a period of prosperity, when the market is expanding, when everything is "booming," when the whole product can readily be sold at a good profit, then the capitalists want no interference with the regular course of production. Each of them wants to have his employees produce as much as possible, so that he can fill orders ahead of his competitors and make bigger and quicker profits. He wants his men to work overtime; he has the machinery run at higher speed; he will not even shut down his mill for necessary repairs. In our issue of Jan. 19 we showed that, through the neglecting of repairs in order to "rush" production, a thousand workmen were killed in the iron and steel works in and around Pittsburgh alone in the year 1901. This sort of continuity, though good for the Social Trust, was very bad for the steel workers.

So far, so good. But the nature of the capitalist system is such that a period of prosperity leads to a period of depression, just as certainly as the right-hand swing of a pendulum leads to its left-hand swing.

The workers get but a part of the value of their product. As industry develops they get a smaller and smaller share—as we showed from the Census statistics two weeks ago—and their purchasing power is reduced. They form the majority of the population and the growing luxury of the few capitalists cannot make up for this reduction of purchasing power. Thus the home market shrinks, relatively to the growth of production. Foreign markets in new countries serve for a time, but all capitalist countries are competing there, and soon they are filled.

"PRESERVING THE SABBATH."

Capitalist Law-Breakers Hold It Very Sacred.

Lively Debate in Massachusetts Legislature on MacCartney's Bill to Allow Sunday Fishing—Aristocrats Would Monopolize Recreation as Well as Production—No Developments in Teamsters' Strike.

Among other legacies left to us by the founders of the Republic are a number of traditions which have been found of incalculable value to those who set their faces against progress and who attempt to perpetuate hoary prejudices and time-worn customs. Whenever the opponents of progress become impoverished for arguments, they draw these traditions out of their closets, and the creaking joints, bristling off the dust, and clothe them in fulsome verbiage to do service for the hour. Afterwards to be returned to their hiding places for use on other occasions. Just what our modern statesmen would do without a set of traditions to fall back upon is hard to say; they should reverse our forefathers, if for nothing else than having bequeathed such a necessary adjunct in the game of fooling the people.

Some of the traditions sacred to the founders of the Republic, the Massachusetts Legislature got a pretty severe handling in the House on Tuesday last, and they emerged in a badly battered condition. Many more experiences like that, and the said traditions will have to be laid away forever. It all came about in the debate on Representative MacCartney's bill to repeal the Sunday fishing law, which would permit fishing on that day. The Committee on Fisheries and Game reported favorably on MacCartney's bill, and he moved to substitute his bill for the committee's report. The debate that followed occupied two hours, and was full of amusing and interesting features.

MacCartney's argument.

MacCartney opened the debate by referring to the Massachusetts Bill of Rights, showing that Sunday was to be maintained as a day of rest and recreation, that it was a civil holiday, and that the state had no right to legislate upon it as a religious day. He cited the attempts of the Pilgrim Fathers to regulate religion by law, and showed that the intention of the framers of the state and national constitutions was to divorce the state from the church. He defined in a clear and concise manner the attitude of the state toward religion, and denounced the attempt to dictate in what manner the people should spend the seventh day of the week. He said that the present law was class legislation, and had been resuscitated in 1899 by the wealthy sportsmen of Massachusetts, who sought monopoly in recreation as in everything else. He said that all through the state, workmen were protesting against the law which prohibited them from seeking congenial recreation after the arduous labors of the week.

He told how workmen formerly had bathing camps scattered along the river banks throughout the state, to which they resorted on Saturday evening, and where they spent the Sabbath in getting close to nature. These men could not do this now without danger of being arrested as common criminals and fined or sent to jail. He made an eloquent plea for the workmen, and said that, while members of the House might consider it a small and unimportant thing, yet it meant a great deal to the men concerned. He said for six days and with but one day to refresh themselves. The law was not enforced in a great many instances, and its constant violation was a source of evil inasmuch as it conducted to a contempt for all law. He cited the case of one Judge who went fishing on Sunday, and on Monday tried two workmen who were arrested for doing what he himself had done the day before. He created a little sensation by reporting that one of the leading members of the Committee had said he feared to advocate the repeal of the law because he was afraid it might lead to agitation for enforcement of the law. That was the quintessence of statesmanship! What could be expected of men who were afraid to express their opinions in committee report for fear of running contrary to the prejudice existing among the aristocrats?

MacCartney was followed by Callender of Boston, who made a remarkable speech in its way. He favored MacCartney's bill, and expressed surprise at the opposition coming from men whose religion was founded by fishermen. In the distress following the crucifixion of the Lord, the disciples sought relief in fishing. He traced the history of the Puritan Sunday, and inquired if it was not a great deal better to do the simplest thing on that day. He condemned the present fishing laws as prejudicial to the enjoyment of the workmen of the state, and in a beautifully worded peroration appealed to the members to throw aside their prejudices and wipe the obnoxious law off the statute books.

A PIOUS HYPOCRITE OBJECTS.

Mr. Kinney of Boston opposed the bill, and said that the preservation of the Sabbath was necessary to the maintenance of the state. Mr. Kinney achieved notoriety last year through being confronted in his opposition to the same bill by the fact that he had attended a baseball game on Sunday.

Mr. Story of Somerville, a revered gentleman with a narrow forehead and retreating chin, hailed out the state traditions and besought the members not to sully the memory of their forefathers. Massachusetts had always been known as the state which revered the day of worship, and he warned the members if fishing were permitted we would soon have buying and selling on that day also. He regretted to see a gentleman of the cloth (meaning MacCartney) trying to have such a worthy law repealed. It was upon the maintenance of the Sabbath observance that we depended for the inhibition of progress, and he opposed to the rising generation. He knew the workmen didn't want to fish on that day; they wanted to go to church and rest, and not to indulge in unseemly sport.

Mr. Mills of Fall River made a speech which left the listeners in doubt as to whether he favored or opposed the bill. After some confusion of rhetoric and a shocking display of bad grammar it was discovered that he favored MacCartney's bill. He concluded by asking: "How many of the members have not been guilty of fishing and hunting on Sunday in the past, present, and future?" When the laughter had subsided, Mr. Mills went away and sat down.

Beck, the chairman of the Committee, asked that the Committee's report be adopted; and Mr. Brandes of Webster said he knew workmen who didn't want to fish on Sunday; he thought the Sabbath ought to be respected and observed by all people. He also made use of traditions to illustrate his argument.

SOUTH BOSTON PURITANISM.

The most ludicrous speech, because the most hypocritical, was made by Mr. Quinn of South Boston. Mr. Quinn is a typical Democratic ward politician, and he maintains his position in politics through methods common to that class. Just at this particular time, however, Mr. Quinn was inspired to make a speech in behalf of the Puritan Sunday law, which is the most old-fashioned tradition in his fashion. He said the people of his district loved the Sabbath; they wanted to go to church on Sunday morning, wanted their children to go to Sunday school, wanted to observe the Lord's day. Let us maintain the traditions of the Puritan Sunday as handed down by the forefathers, and he knew his constituents revered the associations connected with the holy day. Mr. Quinn's constituents, by the way, probably have less regard for the Puritan Sunday than those of any other district in the city.

The debate was closed by Carey, who, in a fifteen minute speech, made an argument for the bill that commanded the close attention of the members, and was greeted by applause at its close. He created laughter by his sarcastic reply to Mr. Quinn, and said with respect to the other members who had opposed the bill on the ground that workmen did not favor it: He called attention to the fact that MacCartney's bill did not seek to prevent men from going to church on Sunday if they wanted to do so; there was no intention to regulate church attendance; that was a feature that had been introduced with no bearing on the question at issue.

WORKINGMEN AND THE CHURCH.

To those who were fearful of the workmen being deprived of church attendance he wanted to say there was an increasing number of workmen who didn't care whether they went to church or not. He considered it presumptuous on the part of those who defended the Lord's day to attempt to take the regulation of that day out of the Lord's hands; he thought the Lord was able to take care of his own day himself. He warned the members against allowing violated laws to remain upon the statute books, and said that such a law as this, being generally disregarded, would give a philosophical basis for the feet of a Colossus to rest upon. As a Socialist who believed in law and order, he asked the members to consider the fact that the law which was being violated should be struck from the books. He sympathized with Mr. Quinn in his earnest plea to preserve the dignity of the Sabbath. He assumed that Mr. Quinn, like the other members, of course, was a regular church attendant; and they all wished to observe peace and quietude on that day. "On Sunday morning they go to church, and as they are leaving with sad and dejected faces, they wonder as he utters the truths he has gathered from the treasury of his faith, an elevated car dabbles by the church-sizes—boom—rattety lang—as if the gates of hell had opened—and drowns the minister's voice in its clatter and uproar; and yet Mr. Quinn would be the first man to vote to give the Elevated Railway Company the right to run more cars on Sunday."

On the previous question, Mr. Beck, the chairman of the Committee, again created a little sensation by reporting that one of the leading members of the Committee had said he feared to advocate the repeal of the law because he was afraid it might lead to agitation for enforcement of the law. That was the quintessence of statesmanship! What could be expected of men who were afraid to express their opinions in committee report for fear of running contrary to the prejudice existing among the aristocrats?

TRADE UNION NOTES

Boycott the "Sun" and its Advertisers and Supporters. Buy your paper from a stand that does not sell the "Sun."

The capitalist papers were severely criticized at the last session of the New York C. F. U. for their misrepresentations of the proceedings. It was declared that the "Volkszeitung" is the only daily in the city giving fair reports. All the more need for a Socialist daily in the English language.

Brotherhood of Painters No. 400 condemn the Peace Conference.

The City Gardeners have endorsed the "Peace Conference," and Bakers' No. 164 passed strong resolutions against it.

The Pilots protest against the appointments made by the Commissioner of Street Cleaning as a violation of the Civil Service Law. He has appointed two politicians without any examination beyond a few informal questions.

The Journeymen Tailors are on strike against a Fifth avenue establishment. "Frank a boycott won't help much there. Queer, but workmen do not seem to like Fifth avenue as a place of residence. Yet good men like Carnegie and Rockefeller have homes there."

Boycott James Butler's grocery stores and help the Grocery Clerks' Union. Don't forget that our brother wage slaves behind the counters work fifteen hours a day and often half of Sunday, taking stock, etc. Their greatest enemy in the fight for a shorter workday is James Butler. Help the clerks and ask your friends to refrain from patronizing Butler's stores.

Members of "Big Six" might see \$100,000 if that the union bar card is secured by many places well patronized by printers in the vicinity of Newspaper Row and the union rooms. The printers should help other workmen in their efforts to improve conditions, just as they expect those others to help them.

Members of the Ties Layers' Union and Machinists' Lodge No. 40 might see \$100,000 if that the union bar card is placed behind the bar 109 E. Eighty-sixth street, and that none but union beer and union label cigars are sold there.

Members of the Heaters' and Drivers' Union might attend to the place at 229 E. Forty-seventh street as suggested above, also others may take the hint.

The Blacksmiths' Helpers' Union hold a smoker at Manhattan Lyceum, Friday evening, Feb. 21. The Empire City Fife and Drum Band will furnish music.

The Paperhangers are to be admitted as an independent branch of the Brotherhood of Painters and Decorators.

Carpenters' Union 375, which is composed principally of Socialists, has passed a resolution directing its members to keep away from the North Georgia Lloyed pier when the Kronprinz Wilhelm, bearing Prince Henry to this country, reaches port. Other Socialist unions have passed similar resolutions.

Comrade W. H. Green has been chosen by Beer Drivers' Union No. 23 as correspondent to The Worker.

The machinists' strike is still on in San Francisco, and all advertisements for machinists there should be disregarded.

The switchmen's strike on the Northern Pacific has been settled by the acceptance of every condition named by the strikers. The men discharged were reinstated and full pay for lost time is allowed.

The recently organized National Association of Shipyard Joiners, and Calkers has elected the following officers: President, Hugo Kirk, of Elizabeth; Vice-President, John McDonald, of Buffalo; Second, John James McGee, of Jersey City; Third, J. C. Summers, Portsmouth, Va.; Secretary, Thomas Durett, Elizabeth; Treasurer, James Donahy, of Elizabeth; Organizers, John McDonald, Great Lakes District; J. C. Summers, Southern States; President Kirk, Vice-President McDonald, Secretary Durett and Treasurer Donahy, Eastern States.

The Trades and Labor Council of London, Ont., has decided to form a labor party "to study economic subjects affecting the welfare of labor and to promulgate information regarding the same; to secure for the useful product the results resulting from the application of labor to natural resources, and as a chief means to that end to elect representatives from our own ranks on the governing bodies of the country." The membership pledge declares that the applicant forewears allegiance to the existing political parties, and will, as long as he remains a member, support any nominee selected by the party for elective office.

MACHINE WOOD WORKERS.

The Machine Wood Workers' and Turners' Union, Local 476 of the Brotherhood of Carpenters, at last meeting, instructed their treasurer to pay assessment to the District Council on account of the fight with the Amalgamated Society. F. Blenz was given an extension of time for initiation. Chas. Laid's proposition was returned. On sick list are McNamara, McNally, Bush, and Schlegelmilch; reported sick, G. Miller and Chas. Nelson; reported well, N. Huff. Assessment of \$1 levied by D. C. must be paid by May 1.

WOOD CARVERS' ASSOCIATION.

The Wood Carvers' employed by Klebaner & Katz, Twenty-seventh street, between Sixth and Seventh avenues, have been called out on strike to assist the cabinet makers in their effort to reduce the working hours and get an increase in wages. The Wood Carvers' Association is a body of about 100 wood carvers to stay away from this shop until a settlement has been reached. One of the members, Chris. Haug,

BEER DRIVERS' UNION NO. 23.

At the last regular meeting of the union, presided over by John Mueller, an invitation from Sangreiner Harmonie was accepted; also an invitation to the sixteenth annual ball of Brewers' Union No. 1, to be held on March 1, and the proceeds to go to the unemployed, was received and it was voted to attend in a body. A committee from Butcher's Union No. 6, West Side, being granted the floor, asked moral assistance in fighting shops on the unfair list; granted and members instructed not to patronize such shops and to persuade others to withhold patronage. It was decided to attend pro-tem meeting at Cooper Union, Feb. 13, in a body. Delegate to Labor Secretary reported that Comrade Turner's case had been satisfactorily settled. Various routine reports and communications were acted upon.

BROOKLYN SOCIALISTS MAKE MERRY.

The Socialist Club's Mask Ball an Event to Be Remembered.

Those who failed to visit the mask ball of the Socialist Club of Brooklyn on Wednesday night of last week missed what was perhaps the finest and best attended event in Socialist circles ever held in that borough.

The crowd, being crying before 9 o'clock, and before 10:30 there was standing room only. The music was furnished by Comrade Prof. Wm. F. Albers, and was of the best. The order of dancing contained twenty-two numbers, but any member of the hand will say that thirty numbers would be nearer correct. However it was after 5 o'clock when the weariness depicted on the faces of the orchestra moved the heart of the floor manager to order a cessation of the festivities.

Many wore the characters assumed by the comedies, and they ranged from the capitalist down to the poorest victim of capitalism—the tramp. "Uncle Sam," the "Sissors Grinder," the "Hebrew Shylock," the "Umbrella Man," the "Average Voter," the "Flute Player," the "Himerant Piddler," the "Gown," of which there were several; the "American Indian," the "Uncle Tom," the "Indian Medicine Man," the "Chauney M. De Pol," of New York Central ill-fate, "Old Father Time," etc.

Among the costumes worn by the members of the ladies' branch of the club were the "Evening Star," the "Morning Star," the "Domino," the "Cook," the "Nurse," the "Old Maid," the "Flower Girl," the "School Girl," the "Irish Peasant Girl," the "Society Girl," the "Vassar Girl," the "Newport Belle," the "Goddess of Real Liberty," the "Old Granny," etc. The hit of the affair was the organ grinder with his carelessly arrayed wife, who held by a cord a dog dressed to represent a monkey and to whose neck was fastened a tin cup to receive contributions for Socialism. Between the dances the hand organ crank was turned and from it came the grinding notes of "St. Patrick's Day in the Morning," "Die Wacht am Rhein," the "Mars-Mars," and the "Glorious Evening" played around. The "Piddler" started his optimistic music in another part of the hall, and the audience had a mixture of the "Marsellaise" with "Labor Day and Shall Be Free," together with the demands of "Shylock" for his pound of flesh, the crying of the "Class-Put-in Man," the "Umbrella-to-Mend Man," and the others until one was almost reminded of "Dante's Dream of the Inferno."

Another impression that made a hit was that of the man with the word "Empty" inscribed on the huge forehead of his mask, carrying in his hand a slip marked "Capitalist ballot" and occasionally showing a dollar bill for which he had sold his liberties.

Several selections by the Franz Gergin Maennerchor were heartily applauded. Those comrades who were unmasked spent their time in explaining Socialism and in lining for new members.

There were over 800 people present, and chairs were at a premium. Nothing occurred to mar the pleasure of those who attended and all thoroughly enjoyed the affair.

TRUST NOTES.

The Steel Trust is reported to have got control of the Monongahela River Consolidated Coke Company. The Monongahela Company is a \$20,000,000 concern, formed by the consolidation of a number of formerly independent companies, and owning most of the coal mines along the Monongahela River, more than three-fourths of the tow-boats, and coal carrying craft, and nearly all the coal elevators in New Orleans, Louisville, Cincinnati, and other Ohio River.

The Central Coal and Coke Company of Kansas City has acquired all the properties and franchises of the Kansas and Texas Coal Company of St. Louis. The deal involves more than \$2,000,000 and makes the Central Coal and Coke Company the largest concern of its kind west of Pennsylvania. The company now will own 45 coal mines in operation, employing 10,000 men; 23 company mines, doing a mercantile business of \$2,000,000 a year; 2,500 company houses used as homes for the miners and lumber workers; 50,000 acres of coal lands in Missouri, Kansas, Indian Territory, Arkansas, Louisiana, Texas, and Wyoming; lumber mills that produce 180,000,000 feet of lumber yearly, and other assets and fees in every large city in the United States.

An effort is being made to get the control of the San Francisco Gas and Electric Company into the hands of a preliminary syndicate of combination of electric supply light and power in the

National Platform of the Socialist Party.

The Socialist Party of America in national convention assembled, reaffirms its adherence to the principles of international Socialism, and declares its aim to be the organization of the working class, and those in sympathy with it, into a political party, with the object of conquering the powers of government and using them for the purpose of transforming the present system of private ownership of the means of production and distribution into collective ownership by the entire people.

Formerly the tools of production were simple and owned by the individual worker. To-day the machine, which is but an improved and more developed tool of production, is owned by the capitalists and not by the workers. This ownership enables the capitalists to control the product and keep the workers dependent upon them.

Private ownership of the means of production and distribution is responsible for the ever increasing uncertainty of livelihood and the poverty and misery of the working class, and it divides society into two hostile classes—the capitalists and wage-workers. The only powerful middle class is rapidly disappearing in the mill of competition. The struggle is now between the capitalist class and the working class. The possession of the means of livelihood gives to the capitalists the control of the government, the press, the pulpit, and the schools, and enables them to reduce the workingmen to a state of intellectual, physical and social inferiority, political subservience and virtual slavery.

The economic interests of the capitalist class dominate our entire social system; the lives of the working class are recklessly sacrificed for profit; wars are fomented between nations, indiscriminate slaughter is encouraged and the destruction of whole races is sanctioned in order that the capitalists may extend their commercial dominion abroad and enhance their supremacy at home.

But the same economic causes which developed capitalism are leading to Socialism, which will abolish both the capitalist class and the class of wage workers. And the active force in bringing about this new and higher order of society is the working class. All other classes, despite their apparent or actual conflicts, are alike interested in the upholding of the system of private ownership of the instruments of wealth production. The Democratic, Republican, the bourgeois public ownership parties, and all other parties which do not stand for the complete overthrow of the capitalist system of production, are alike political representatives of the capitalist class.

The workers can most effectively act as a class in their struggle against the collective powers of capitalism, by constituting themselves into a political party, distinct from and opposed to all parties formed by the projected classes.

While we declare that the development of economic conditions tends to the overthrow of the capitalist system, we recognize that the time and manner of the transition to Socialism also depend upon the stage of development reached by the proletariat. We, therefore, consider it of the utmost importance for the Socialist Party to support all active efforts of the working class to better its condition and to elect Socialists to political offices, in order to facilitate the attainment of this end.

As such means we advocate: 1. The public ownership of all means of transportation and communication and all other public utilities, as well as of all industries controlled by monopolies, trusts, and combines. No part of the revenue of a system of public industries should be applied to the reduction of taxes or property of the capitalist class, but to be applied wholly to the increase of wages and shortening of the hours of labor of the employees, to the improvement of the service and diminishing the rates to the consumers.

2. The progressive reduction of the hours of labor and the increase of wages in order to decrease the share of the capitalist and increase the share of the worker in the product of labor.

3. State or national insurance of working people in case of accidents, lack of employment, sickness and want in old age; the funds for this purpose to be collected from the revenue of the capitalist class, and to be administered under the control of the working class.

4. The inauguration of a system of public industries, public credit to be used for that purpose in order that the workers be secured the full product of their labor.

5. The education of all children up to the age of eighteen years, and state and municipal aid for books, clothing, and food.

6. Equal civil and political rights for men and women.

7. The initiative and referendum, proportional representation and the right of recall of representatives by their constituents.

But in advocating these measures as steps in the overthrow of capitalism and the establishment of the Co-operative Commonwealth, we warn the working class against the so-called public ownership movements as an attempt of the capitalist class to secure governmental control of public utilities for the purpose of obtaining greater security in the exploitation of other industries and not for the amelioration of the conditions of the working class.

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LABOR FESTIVAL SATURDAY, FEB. 22, 1902.

GRAND CENTRAL PALACE, Forty-third Street and Lexington Avenue.

Social Democratic Party and its Press A WONDERFUL PROGRAM. SPANISH BALLET, TURKISH DANCERS, PERFORMING MAMELUKES, MOORISH BULL FIGHT, SUGIMOTO'S JAPANESE.

GRAND PAGEANT: "THE TRIUMPH OF LABOR." MASQUERADE AND CIVIC BALL.

TICKETS (including Hat Check), 25cents; at the Gate, 35 cents. Tickets for sale at the office of The Worker, 184 William Street, Labor Lyceum, 64 E. Fourth Street, Workmen's Educational Association, 206 East Eighty-sixth Street, and at all Union and Socialist Headquarters in New York City and Brooklyn.

city. It is supposed one of the Spruckels family is the chief spirit in the plan. Consolidation of all the street railway lines of Cleveland is a probability of the near future. The Elkins-Widener syndicate has added thirty miles of electric railway lines to its already large holdings in Connecticut. A combination of marble dealers and quarry owners is being formed, which is expected to embrace every firm of any importance engaged in the marble industry over the whole country.

LABOR LYCEUM ASSOCIATION. 107 Street, near Richmond Road, STAPLETON, S. I. SUNDAY, FEB. 23, 7 P. M. Free Lecture. "Is This Country a Republic?" BY FREDERICK KRAFFT. All are welcome.

ABBOTT BROS., Bakery, Cakes & Lunch Room. 110 Ricker Str., N. Y. 50 Kangaroo are welcome. No line drawn on smaller animals. The