

The Worker

AN ORGAN OF THE SOCIALIST PARTY (Known in New York State as the Social Democratic Party)

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THE PARTY'S EMBLEM.

FOR MAYOR OF NEW YORK—DR. CHARLES L. FURMAN. FOR CONTROLLER—MORRIS BROWN.

FOR PRESIDENT OF BOARD OF ALDERMEN—PETER J. FLANAGAN.

THE SOCIALIST PARTY (The Socialist Democratic Party of New York) is the only party in this State that has a growing membership...

A QUESTION OF METHODS. We are sincerely sorry to be compelled once more to differ absolutely and diametrically, with our comrades of the "Appeal to Reason."

"Ours is such an immense country, and our industrial conditions so diversified that a campaign suitable to one section will seldom serve in another. At this stage of our development, to send a man out of New York City to campaign in Georgia would be the height of folly..."

It is against this that we protest. We wish to see a coherent and unified movement, not "in time," but right away, absolutely "at this stage in our movement."

True, the "Appeal"—or this editor of the "Appeal"—emphasizes the distinction between the organized party and

the mass of Socialist voters. He is willing, perhaps, that the party itself should be coherent—that it should be at least American (if not international) on a large scale; but he thinks it "the height of folly" for us to take such an ideal into consideration in our political propaganda.

Against this more general proposition we must protest still more strongly. Doubtless it is true that in the future, as now, many Socialist voters will remain outside the party.

The organized party must not think of itself as a "governing body," a select set of leaders, in distinction from the governed and led body of unorganized voters.

We need not expect to bring in the Socialist Commonwealth by house-poop, by "practical politics," by merely "getting votes" regardless of the voters' understanding, or by any other means that of making real Socialists.

This editor of the "Appeal" arguing for the adoption of what he calls "American methods," tells us that "the conservatism of the old-world movement and its military form of organization will not be accepted by the American."

To the colored people: It is not only, it is not chiefly because your skins are dark that you are oppressed. It is because you are wage-workers, and the capitalist can make profit by oppressing you.

To the white workers: If you fail to stand by your more unfortunate colored brothers, if you allow your minds to be poisoned by race hatred, you will be playing directly into the hands of the men who exploit and oppress both black workers and white.

The editor of the Boston "Pilot" is moved to offer "A Solution of the Negro Problem." It is clearly pointed out that the blind adherence of the colored voters to the Republican party has resulted in that party treating them with the utmost contempt—now and then giving a piteous office to some "leader" and never lifting a finger to protect the masses of negro

men must make satisfactory profits, adds the smug "public-spirited citizen."

NEGRO PEONAGE IS CLASS SLAVERY.

In a recent number of the "Independent" appears a remarkable article upon "Peonage in the South." The name of the author is not given, the following editorial note being prefixed:

The writer of the following article is a resident of the South, thoroughly familiar with what is known as peonage, and to some extent personally interested in the peonage prosecutions. For reasons in no way discredit-able to himself, he prefers that his name shall not be published.

The well established reputation of the magazine justifies us in taking the assurance at face value and giving full credit to the unnamed writer.

Our purpose in referring to the article is not to recite the facts in regard to negro peonage as it exists in the South today, for they have been very fully presented in the daily press, nor even to express the horror and indignation which every right-minded man must feel at such revelations.

The point we wish to emphasize by citing this statement, is that the system of peonage—or let us call it by its right name, disguised chattel slavery—is not applied exclusively to negroes, that it does not rest solely on race prejudice, terribly strong as that prejudice is, that, instead of being simply a race question, it is actually a class question.

The recognition of this fact enforces two weighty lessons—one to the blacks one to the white workers. To the colored people: It is not only, it is not chiefly because your skins are dark that you are oppressed.

To the white workers: If you fail to stand by your more unfortunate colored brothers, if you allow your minds to be poisoned by race hatred, you will be playing directly into the hands of the men who exploit and oppress both black workers and white.

This nation cannot endure half slaves and half free," said Lincoln. That is as true now as it was in 1860. So long as any section of the working class is enslaved, no workingman is sure of his freedom.

But the "Pilot" editor lamely concludes: "Northern workmen should welcome an affiliation of negroes with any political party that is not dominated by Capital; for the contest between money and muscle is inevitable, sooner or later; and Labor must not allow Capital to employ muscle of any color against it."

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ARBITRATION vs. SOCIALISM.

By H. A. Gibbs.

[The following article was addressed as a letter to Mr. Alfred Love, President of the Universal Peace Union at Philadelphia. This union, which is made up largely of Quakers, has a platform concerning the relations of capital and labor, which offers no remedy for existing conditions except arbitration and conciliation.]

I trust that you will receive the following communication regarding the methods and principles of the Peace Union in the same spirit that it has been written. I have studied the peace movement with deep interest.

It seems to me that the first and foremost weakness of your position is that of superficiality. I have studied your platform, also your "cardinal principles," but nowhere in them do I find any recognition of the fact that we are in a fundamental contest for war as well for the struggle between Capital and Labor.

It seems to me also that there are several grave fallacies in your premises which invalidate your conclusions. Recognizing the fact that two classes, the employers and employees, exist, you assume that they can deal with each other on equal terms; that they have the same rights and privileges before the law.

The owners of coal mines and railroads by means of similar "divine" rights obtained in a similar devilish way have taken advantage of the people's necessities to advance the price of coal, while old men, women and children perished upon their mothers' breasts.

It is equally fallacious to assume that they can deal with each other on equal terms. The employing class owns the means upon which the workers live. The working class has nothing but its labor to sell.

Another fundamental fallacy lies in the assumption that they are both actuated by mere selfishness as representative in law the other—that they are both therefore entitled to the same moral consideration.

Comrade Leonard of Hayden Hill, Cal., writes: "I feel that I need The Worker very much, not only to keep track of the Eastern movement, but also on account of its high literary value. The officials are crisp and to the point, tolerant and yet thoroughly class-conscious and without just and true. After being without it for a year, I believe I can see the improvement better than those who have read it constantly."

THE MARGIN OF WASTE IN MEN.

By Horace Traubel.

Our civilization does a good deal. But it is more remarkable for what it fails to do than for what it does. I am willing to concede all its marvels. But then I prophesy a marvel which outdoes all the rest.

You boast about what we conserve, I remind you of what we waste. When you see a boy or girl prematurely involved in the industrial struggle do you not know what we have wasted? We have wasted their youth.

What can ever compensate for the waste of youth? When you see a man or woman on whom fate has pressed a malign snare do you not know what has been wasted? We waste our workmen in slavery.

With the genius of the world misplaced. With the labor of the world overtaxed. With the children worked too early and the parents worked too late.

Our civilization is not order. It is chaos. Therefore, it is not civilization. For civilization is first of all and forever order. Not a superficial order honeycombed with injustice.

when the Peace Union must cease its attempt to reconcile irreconcilable forces, drop its temporary palliatives and take its stand squarely on the side of the higher social order, co-operation as against competition, which is the industrial, political and ethical ideal of the coming civilization.

The "Socialist Army" is the title of the latest number of the Socialist Library. It comprises three articles from The Worker—"The Power of Organization," "To the Young Recruit," and "Soldiers to Veterans."

Damage suits against unions. Damage suits against unions for engaging in strikes, picketing, boycotting, etc., are coming thick and fast. Following the successful suit in Rutland, Vt., where the machinists were assessed \$25,000, and the cases in Dayton, O., and Waterbury, Conn., the bookbinders of Chicago are sued for \$300,000, the metal polishes, brassworkers and electrical workers in the same city for \$200,000, the garment workers in Racine, Wis., for \$100,000, and union girls that struck against the Kellogg Switchboard & Supply Company in Chicago for a total of \$42,000.

Under the title, "Economic Interpretation of History," in the July "International Socialist Review," Max Wood Simons very effectively replies to the criticisms of Rev. Alexander Kent, advanced in the May number.

TO THE MAN IN THE STREET.

Are you a Socialist? Not... Are you a capitalist? Not... Are you a workingman? A workingman...

THE WORK IN ILLINOIS.

The report of State Secretary Smith of Illinois for the month of June shows income during the month, \$197,449; expenditures, \$194,885; balance on hand July 1, \$27.64.

IN PENNSYLVANIA.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., July 20.—At the regular meeting of the State Committee to-day communications were received from Locals New Castle, Hazlet, Irwin, Stranston, Erie, Duquesne, Pittsburg, Brownsville, Carbondale, Bradford, Nicholson, Lehigh, Middleport, Pottsville, and York, showing healthy activity all over.

FIGURES, FIGURES, FIGURES.

By Henry L. Slobodin.

"Die Zukunft" ("The Future") is a Jewish Socialist monthly published in New York and edited by Comrade B. Feigenbaum. Its April issue contains an interesting article. The author is evidently a master of Hebrew-Yiddish and signs himself Itzhok (Issac in Hebrew) Isaac (Itzhok in English: Jewish), the son of — etc. The author of the article and name will not take amiss my referring to him as merely Isaac.

Issue to prove either that the Populist party was a proletarian party or that the Socialist Party is an agrarian party and that Socialism is either propagated among farmers than among workmen—or if he proves that his statistics are superfluous. If he fails to prove that, his statistics have no sense.

Jersey City is requested to send at least two (2) delegates to the City Committee. Tuesday evening, July 28th at 9 P. M. sharp at 875 Central Ave.

STATE SECRETARY WHITE'S APPRECIATION. Here is what Dan A. White, State Secretary of the Socialist Party of Massachusetts, says of the usefulness of this paper: To the Editor of The Worker...