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The Worker.

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WEEK'S RECORD IN REVOLUTIONARY RUSSIA.

Splendid Courage and Solidarity Shown by Workingmen and Peasants.

Watched Only by Government's Cruelty and Bad Faith—Reform Promises Again Broken—Tsarism Tries to Bring up Crisis Prematurely, but Revolutionists Say They Will Choose Their Own Time for Fighting—Pope Helps Tsar.

DEC. 4.—St. Petersburg is quiet, but the people are justly arming. All mail and telegraph service out of the city has been stopped. An official note has been issued explaining that while the Government is determined to carry out the reforms promised by the Manifesto of Oct. 17, it is impossible at one stroke to accustom the population to the administration of the new order. That the new legislation required by the reforms is effected the old laws must be enforced, except where they are replaced by temporary provisions.

It is reported that symptoms of mutiny have appeared in the Seventh Finnish Regiment at Viborg; also that outbreaks have occurred in various regiments in Poland. At the review of the Smonovky Regiment at Tsarskoe-Selo the commanding officer, the troops, commenting on their trial, quitted. At the regional banquet given by the officers he thanked the regiment for its exemplary services.

The Central Bureau of the Moscow Telegraph and Postal Employees has sent the following telegram to all cities in Russia: "All your demands will be granted. Continue the strike. Trust in victory. The prospects are good. Witte agrees to everything. Only Durnovo opposes. Remain firm." The result here (St. Petersburg) is that the strikers have appealed to the public not to help the authorities break the strike by assisting in the post and telegraph work.

Strikers' Power Shown. The wires are always at the disposal of the Workmen's Council for communication with other parts of Russia. The wife of the late Prof. Borikowski wished to inform relatives of the death of her husband, and applied to Premier Witte to send them telegrams, which he declined to do. She then asked Krustaleff, Chairman of the Workmen's Council, offering him several thousand rubles if he would send them. He refused the money, but forwarded the telegrams.

Warsaw.—Many of the smaller factories are going into bankruptcy in consequence of their inability to meet the additional expenditure occasioned by the increase of wages which the strikers forced the owners to grant. The postal and telegraph authorities estimate that the loss of the country during the government's loss from tickets during the recent railroad strike is estimated at \$18,000,000.

Eight hundred men employed at the government's central alcohol store have struck for additional pay. Olga Hepkin, who accompanied by a friend, went to Iranove to deliver revolutionary speeches, was waylaid by hooligans at the station and both she and her companion were killed.

Clamor for Repression. St. Petersburg.—The reactionary influence is now openly clamoring for repression, and a dictator. The distracted Premier continues his negotiations with the Zemstovists, whose aid he regards as vital. The so-called Landlord's Congress at Moscow, which was composed of representatives of a number of reactionary organizations, seemed to have the cue to attack Witte. The congress bitterly assailed the Premier, who, the speakers said, was leading Russia to perdition, and pronounced for the Emperor and the antiquated Zemsky Sobor.

The delegates sent by the Zemstvo Congress to consult with Count Witte to-day pointed out that they were not speaking for themselves, but for the mass of the people of the country when they demanded universal suffrage. They said this universal suffrage would be opposed to their interests, but that only they could the country be saved from slavery and ruin.

DEC. 7.—Count Witte was summoned to Tsarskoe-Selo to-day. It is believed that his visit was connected with the dismissal of Minister of the Interior Durnovo, which is apparently inevitable. The Moscow Zemstovists say they are ready to support Premier Witte on the conditions laid down in the resolutions of the Congress. M. Petrunkevitch believes that the idea of co-operation is now too late, and that the only salvation for the government is the retirement of the Witte Ministry and the appointment in its stead of "a ministry having the confidence of the people."

Cannot Trust the Army. In many regions the local authorities are practically unable to protect the estates, owing to the insubordination of the troops and the temper of the soldiers. The military commanders have secretly notified the landlords that it is doubtful whether the troops will fire upon peasants, and that it is likely that they will make common cause with the peasants and kill their officers. With an eye to the future the government is making great efforts to deliver the districts in a camp. \$100,000 has been placed in the military budget for the support of the soldiers' food and clothing.

DEC. 8.—The conditions in the government are such as to weather the storm in which the Premier Witte

Run on Government Banks.

The Council of Workmen's Delegates has distributed leaflets urging the workers to withdraw their deposits from the savings banks. The effect, if they comply, may be calculated from the fact that there are more than 5,000,000 depositors, while the cash deposits amount to 948,000,000 rubles, about \$460,000,000.

DEC. 9.—There is a heavy run to-day on the government savings banks. The depositors demand their money in gold. A battalion of military engineers has mutinied at Gorn Kalwary, near Warsaw. The military authorities have refrained from making arrests, fearing that it would provoke greater disturbances.

The military telegraphers at Kiev have refused to take the places of striking civilians. Extensive railway strikes have begun, as a consequence of the Government's breaking faith with the men. Some days ago the railway workers called on Witte to release an engineer named Sokoloff, who had been tried by court-martial for sedition and sentenced to death. The demand was backed by the threat of a railway strike and the Premier was given twelve hours in which to reply. He promised to free Sokoloff. It now appears that the promise was broken and Sokoloff languished.

The Moscow Railway Association has decided to support the post and telegraph strikers to the extent of refusing to transmit cipher messages for the government or private persons. The delegates of the Polish railway employees have decided to continue work until the Russian railways declare a general strike.

The German government has asked the government of Russia to protect the Warsaw gas works, which are the property of a German company. Peasant disorders have broken out in the vicinity of St. Petersburg. Prince Tseretkov's estate, near Elizaveta, has been plundered. A squadron of Life Guards has been sent to the neighborhood of Gatchina (the site of an Imperial palace, 30 miles from St. Petersburg) to suppress the peasants.

Toulon, France.—Serious disturbances have occurred between the crews and officers of two Russian torpedo-boat destroyers which are about to be launched here. The mutiny was quelled and fresh crews for the destroyers will be sent to Toulon.

Government's Challenges. DEC. 10.—The premises of the Printers' Union in St. Petersburg were surrounded by troops yesterday afternoon and all present were arrested, among them Krustaleff, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Workmen's Council, and Kiselevitch, President of the Printers' Union. The railway workers in Livonia have struck against the proclamation of martial law there.

While a large part of the postal employees have returned to work, the telegraph strike continues. The government is also resorting to repression in connection with this strike. A sanguinary affray occurred this morning. Postmen attempted to dissuade volunteers who are taking the places of strikers. One of the volunteers, drew a revolver, killed two postmen, and wounded a policeman and soldiers.

One policeman was shot. The news of the arrest of Krustaleff created an immense sensation among the workmen, and may bring on a general strike. Krustaleff, as he is called, the one that is not his right name, is regarded as the brains of the revolutionary movement. He has displayed genius in organizing the industrial and political strikes, which have terrorized the government.

In some quarters it is believed that the government, realizing that a great struggle with the workmen and the Socialist organizations was inevitable in January, arrested Krustaleff with the intention of deliberately precipitating matters by challenging the organization before they were prepared. Its show of strength also gives color to the report that the Duma election law, which will be promulgated next week, is to be followed by energetic measures to "restore order" by martial law.

At the same time it is understood that it is the intention of the government to go a step further in the direction of appeasing the peasants by providing for purchase by them on the installment plan of a portion of the crown and public lands. Such a program would undoubtedly receive the sympathy of the business interests, like the manufacturers of St. Petersburg, who yesterday passed a resolution in favor of proposing the starvation conditions compel them to submit to their political aims.

It is reported that the Ladoga Regiment at Lomza, Poland, recently mutinied, and that after a struggle with a loyal regiment the mutineers were dispersed. Harbin, Manchuria.—Many officers are being killed by rebellious troops. Reserve officers are not permitted to return home.

Warsaw.—The Fifteenth Company of the Keshubm Infantry Regiment of the Guard has mutinied and demanding the dismissal of its officers for brutal treatment. The Colonel has promised compliance. The railroad men at Riga and Orsk have taken a new grip of the situation, and the tie-up continues practically complete.

St. Petersburg.—The striking tele-

SOCIALISM IN SPAIN.

Report of July Strike Shows Growing Strength.

Contrary to Associated Press Reports, It Appears that the Demonstration Was Very Impressive—Spanish Proletariat Taking Its Place in the World-Army of Labor.

"La Revue Socialiste" gives an interesting account of the one-day general strike which took place in Spain on July 20 as a protest against the complexity of the government in the schemes by which a ring of monopolists raised the prices of food-much after the fashion of our own Meat Trust. In all the news dispatches at the time this strike was reported to have been a complete failure. It now appears, however, that it was quite the reverse.

The Spanish workingmen, says "La Revue Socialiste," have two distinct words for two species of strikes: "The word 'huelga' designates an ordinary strike, almost always for an economic object—increased wages, reduction of hours, improvement of conditions in the shop, etc.—and whose duration cannot be foreseen; the other word, 'paro,' means a concerted cessation of work, for a predetermined period, generally short, whose object is forcibly to manifest the proletarian feeling in favor, usually, of some political demand.

The movement which we speak of was of the latter sort. It was decided on and conducted by the joint action of the Socialist Party and the General Union of Workingmen, the trade-union federation which is in sympathy with our party.

Navarre and Aragon were the only provinces in which the movement did not show strength. It was strongest in the Asturias, the Basque provinces, and Santander; in these regions, where industry is most developed and where Socialism and trade unionism have their strongholds, 60,000 miners and metal workers walked out—34,700 of them in the city of Bilbao and its environs and 11,500 in and about Santander. In the province of Gallaecia there were 11,000 strikers; in Leon and Estremadura, 10,000; in the two cities, 25,000—nearly all in the cities of Madrid and Valladolid. In Catalonia our party is weak, the working-class population being pretty evenly divided into Anarchists, simple Republicans and advocates of Catalan independence; in this province 12,500 joined in the strike, nearly all of them in the city of Matara. As for the other provinces, the strikers numbered 24,000 in Valencia and Murcia, where the bourgeois Republicans are strong; and 18,000 in Andalusia, the chief Anarchist stronghold; in this latter region it was notable that a large proportion of the strikers were agricultural laborers.

It is about 155,000 workmen who joined the demonstration. To give a just idea of its proportions, it may be said that this is as if, in the United States, six or seven hundred thousand workmen had participated in such a movement. Considering the industrial backwardness of Spain and the great lack of education and of opportunities for organization, the showing is a very good one and indicates that the population is rapidly awaking.

SPAIN'S MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS. The official figures are published of the results of the Spanish municipal elections, which took place early in November. At the previous election, two years ago, the Conservative party there in office obtained an usual large majority in most councils. This year the Liberals, being in power, secured 2,496 seats, the Conservatives 1,244, the Bonaero Robledo Conservatives 104, the Carlists 114, the Regionalist, chiefly Catalan home rulers, 51, the Socialists, for the first time, 21, the Republicans 908, while 285 municipal councillors were returned as Independents, and 38 as undefined. The Republicans, therefore, have increased the already strong representation they possessed, and have achieved this increase, not in the rural parishes, but in the towns. Both the general and the municipal elections indicate that they, the still only a minority, have extended their organization, since they united under the leadership of Bonaero Salmeron and his lieutenants. The coalition was weakened by the dissent of Radical Republicans in Barcelona, Madrid, and Valencia, and by the Federal Intransigents in Catalonia. One of the features of the recent municipal elections was the bitter strife between the Republicans and the Socialists. Three of the latter and their chief, Pablo Iglesias, secured seats in the Madrid Town Council, and some in Bilbao. Evening Post correspondence.

A BULWARK AGAINST PROGRESS. The United States Senate is now prepared at all times to offer a solid front against any initiative on the part of the common people. It is an almost impenetrable fortress of capitalists, without a single proletarian sympathy. It will nullify every effort of any value that the House Representatives might make toward relieving the miseries of the producing classes. Will it vote to loan a dollar to the farmer, while its Wall Street masters are in the business of usury? Will it vote for people's railroads and express services, while it represents the very derivatives of these monopolies? Will it make any move toward the abolition of the wage system, when it is the very bulwark which infests itself on the system? Its ears are turned to the "big" stock-brokers that clicks outside the doors of the chamber, and the money-lender sets in Wall Street, and the voice of the people—Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Preparation for an armed rising is highly advanced, but it cannot hope to succeed. St. Petersburg.—The striking tele-

FRENCH CONGRESS

Socialists Prepare for the General Elections.

Decide to Nominate Independently in All Districts—Question of Attitude at Second Ballot Left Open—Bill for Disestablishment of Church Passed at Last—Old Age Pension Bill Discussed—Growth of Unions.

The annual congress of the Socialist Party of France, held at Châlons-sur-Saone, Oct. 29 to Nov. 1, occupied itself chiefly with the duty of making provision for the general elections which will be held next May, to choose a Chamber of Deputies for another five years. It had to consider especially the attitude to be assumed by the party on the electoral field at first and at second ballot, toward the various bourgeois republican and radical elements.

As was to be expected, two general tendencies showed themselves—that of the former adherents of the "obscure" who considered it of great importance to give active support to the republican elements of the bourgeoisie in the cases where a Socialist could not be elected, and that of the old "irreconcilable opposition," who regard bourgeois republicanism as a delusion and a snare.

Cachin moved that candidates be nominated by the party in all districts, with instruction to the National Council to take immediate steps for a vigorous campaign. Lafargue moved a further declaration that the Socialist Party, having constantly proved by deeds its loyalty to the republic, could afford to leave verbal protestations of such loyalty to the bourgeois politicians who, in an election, were always ready to betray the republic for their own personal or class interests; that our party would no longer consent to be used by the bourgeois republicans; that in the coming elections, in cases where we do not win first or second place at the first ballot, our party should remain entirely neutral at the second; that party organizations in the various departments be allowed, however, a certain discretion in applying this rule. This motion expressed the views of the opponents of the "bi-part" policy.

Valliant offered a motion which would have left both points entirely to the option of the departmental federations. Willm presented a motion on the same lines as Cachin's, but fuller in detail. Finally, there was the motion of Lafargue, providing that our party, in the event of its not being successful at the first ballot in any district, should support the most advanced bourgeois candidate at the second ballot, on condition of the latter formally pledging himself against all reactionary policies—violence against the labor organizations, war, and colonial aggression; and declaring that this attitude was to be taken solely as in the interest of the working class, taking advantage of the conflicts within the possessing classes and preserving for the proletariat the existing rights and liberties to be used as a means to the establishment of the Co-operative Commonwealth.

On an informal roll-call vote, 158 delegates supported the Cachin motion and 115 that of Valliant, the large majority thus declaring in favor of requiring the party organization in all districts to nominate independently for the first ballot at least. As to the second point, 131 favored leaving it entirely to the departmental federations; 73 declared for general co-operation with the republican elements on second ballot; 31 were opposed to all such co-operation.

The final result was the unanimous adoption of resolutions providing that party nominations must be made in all districts and leaving the departmental federations free to use their judgment as to the best policy "in the interest of the proletariat and the Socialist Republic" in so far as concerns their action at second ballot.

A further resolution, moved by Cambier and Loris, was adopted by a narrow majority, providing that the party should in no case, on first or second ballot, give its support to any "independent" Socialist candidate, but should actively oppose such dissidents and declare them not to be true Socialists. This has reference to "certain cases where men hitherto prominent in the party and put by it in positions of trust, have come to think themselves more important than the party itself and, without necessarily renouncing or betraying its principles, have defied its discipline and depend on their personal following to elect them, even the party should prefer other candidates.

Gustave Hervé was re-elected to the National Council, along with all the other old members. This might not have been the case, as many of the comrades disagree with his extreme anti-militarist position (explained in earlier numbers of The Worker), but for the fact that he is being prosecuted by the government for his "socialist" addresses to the soldiers; the party would not, of course, disavow him at such a moment, even tho' it might be far from sharing all his views.

At last the bill for the separation of state and church has gone into effect. The Senate passed it on Dec. 6 by a vote of 181 to 102. The result was announced amid cries of "Vive la liberte" and "Vive la republique!" This terminates a union of church and state, quite anomalous in a republic, which has lasted for one hundred and four years. Under the old law all church buildings were government property and the clergy was paid by the state, the entire church administration being under direction of a mem-

ber of the Cabinet. By the provisions of the new law this connection will be gradually dissolved. In 1906 the "public worship budget" will be only \$6,800,000, as against \$8,400,000 this year, and it will soon disappear altogether. The terms of the bill are very favorable to the churches—especially to the Catholic, which is the leading religious organization in that country. When its provisions have gone into full effect, the religious bodies will stand on about the same footing as in America—will be free from state interference in their own affairs and will have to depend upon the good will of their advocates for financial support.

The Chamber of Deputies is discussing the Old-Age Pensions Bill. The plan is that each workman shall be required to contribute 10 centimes (2 cents) daily, each employer must contribute a like amount, and the state will make an equal contribution—in all 108 francs (\$21.60) per year per workman employed. Out of the fund so created, every workman on reaching the age of sixty is to be entitled to a pension for the rest of his life, amounting to 300 francs (\$72) a year in the cities and 240 francs (\$48) in the rural districts. Taking into account the lower cost of living in France, this would perhaps be as good as \$100 or \$95 respectively in city and country, in the United States. The amount is too small for the thousands from pauperism or suicide in old age.

The bill is being pushed by the Socialists and the Radicals. Altho the present ministry, which inherited its program from the Coubes ministry, is pledged to its support, the outcome cannot be foreseen. Very possibly the present parliament, which has less than five months to continue, will expire without passing it. In that case a better proposal and a more vigorous fight for it in the next parliament is to be hoped for.

The annual report of the trade unions of France shows that organized labor in that country is making steady progress. Last year there were 4,025 organizations with 781,344 members in France, an increase of 350 unions and 65,708 members over the previous year. Close to 70,000 women are organized. The transport workers are the strongest organized numerically; next follow the metal workers, textile workers, miners, and building trades in order.

IN ARGENTINA. Proceedings of Trade Union Congress—For Reapprochement of Socialists and Anarchists—General Strike Considered—Against Alcoholism.

The General Union of Workingmen of the Argentine Republic recently held its third annual congress at Buenos Ayres. Seventy local unions, with about 8,000 members, were represented. One of the principal points considered was the relation between this organization, in which Socialist thought prevails, and the Argentine Labor Federation, which is anarchistic. By a large majority the following resolution was adopted:

Whereas, the reasons which separate the Socialist workingmen and the Anarchist workingmen are rooted in two schools of sociology and two conceptions as to the determining forces in economic history; and Whereas, the ending of the rivalry between Socialism and Anarchism can be expected only as a result of continued industrial development and the economic and political education of the working class; the Congress

Declares, That solidarity is nevertheless necessary as one of the indispensable and most effective means for the common and useful digestion, and that the General Union of Workingmen is therefore ready to negotiate with the Labor Federation and come to an agreement, in which each of the two bodies shall preserve its autonomy in so far as concerns methods.

It is only by a close union of the workmen of all countries that the proletariat progressively wrests from the capitalist class the reforms which are necessary to prepare its political, economic, and social emancipation. The Congress therefore further decrees the disorders which show themselves between workingmen of different political tendencies and decides that an energetic propaganda ought to be undertaken by the labor press and in the local unions, to put an end to these polemics or controversies, which, far from being kept within the bounds of courteous and useful discussion, tend only to embitter the relations between Socialist and Anarchist workingmen.

The general strike was the subject of a long and lively discussion. The outcome was the adoption, by an overwhelming majority, of the following resolution: The general strike—that is, the conscious and spontaneous abandonment of work by all the workmen of a given locality, for the purpose of paralyzing the industries necessary to the economic life of that locality—can be, in certain circumstances of time and place, an effective means for expressing the protest of the working class against the coercive measures taken by the government to check the development of the proletarian movement.

It was decided that no strikes of this nature should be supported except when ordered by a three-fifths vote of the union members in the locality concerned and sanctioned, further, by the Executive Committee. Among the other actions of the congress which are of general interest was the adoption of the following resolution: Alcoholism is undoubtedly one of the great causes contributing to the mental inferiority of the workers. The Congress is of the opinion that the only practical method of reducing this evil is constant propaganda, individual and collective, to demonstrate to the workmen the harm which it does them from every point of view. All affiliated organizations are advised to help in such a propaganda.

Look for the blue label of the C. M. L. U. on the cigar box.

HIGH TENSION IN GERMANY.

Spirit of Jena Congress Voiced in the Reichstag.

August Bebel Says the Proletariat, Not Cabinet Ministers, Will Now Decide Questions of Peace and War—Warns Government Against Helping Tsarism—Universal Suffrage Question in Saxony Grows Acute.

BERLIN, Dec. 7.—August Bebel created a sensation in the Reichstag to-day by his attack on the Government's foreign policy. Referring to the Kaiser's speech at the unveiling of the Moltke monument, when he alleged that the English people were hostile to the Germans and that Germany must therefore have a bigger army and navy, the Socialist veteran challenged the statement, declaring that the German and British peoples did not hate each other and had no reason to, but that the ruling class alone had an interest in militarism and fomented hostility. He also censured the Kaiser in severe terms for his conduct in the Morocco affair, which came so near plunging France and Germany into war for the benefit of financiers and politicians.

He declared that now, since Russian absolutism is approaching its end, Germany enjoys the distinction of being the most reactionary state in the world, and created much merriment by referring to Emperor William's telegram to Emperor Nicholas, "The Admiral of the Pacific" greeting the Admiral of the Pacific, adding that the "Admiral of the Pacific" meanwhile had grown very pacific. He also mentioned the cartoon published in a comic paper representing "the Admiral of the Pacific" in a tub swimming desperately for the shore with remnants of his wardrobe, and added: "I hope the Admiral of the Atlantic will never have the same experience."

The climax came, however, when he referred to the situation in Russia as proof that the time is coming when the proletariat and not the cabinet ministers would decide questions of war or peace. "What the Russian people are now showing their role can be done, also can be done by other European peoples," he said. "If you do not take care to make the Fatherland what it should be, so that the workmen will gladly defend it, they will raise the question whether they will defend it at all."

The Socialist Deputies shouted their assent to this remark, which caused great commotion on the Government benches. DRESDEN, Germany, Dec. 3.—The Social Democrats held several largely attended meetings here this morning to protest against the electoral law of Saxony. After the meeting the protesters paraded, but the parade was interfered with by the police, who finally used their clubs, wounding a number of the demonstrators and making several arrests.

Later there was an attempt to make a demonstration in front of the Schloss, but the crowds were dispersed at the point of the sabre. Reports from Chemnitz say that several meetings were held there to protest against the law and that the parades following the meetings were dispersed by the police, several arrests being made.

GOOD GAINS IN BERLIN. The recent municipal election in Berlin resulted in a net gain of three seats in the City Council by the Socialists and a chance at the second ballot to capture four more. In sixteen wards in which the total vote is 41,254 the Socialists polled 30,081.

In Freiburg, Germany, our comrades have elected the member of the Baden Landtag, defeating the Clerical candidate. While thru the combined efforts of all the old parties in Switzerland the Socialists were prevented from increasing their numbers in Parliament, altho they cast a larger general vote than ever, our comrades are nevertheless winning in local elections. Victories have been achieved recently in Bern, Winterthur, Biel, Loss, and other places.

MUNICIPAL VICTORY IN ENGLAND. The Socialists of St. Helens, England, have elected their whole municipal body. The victory was more unexpected than their friends or foes suspected. What makes it more remarkable is the fact that the population of St. Helens is largely Catholic, and the clergy of that church are in general very active in opposition to Socialism.

UNEMPLOYMENT IN JAPAN. The number of unemployed in Japan, following the return of troops from the field, estimated at 700,000 men, is causing uneasiness in view of the industrial depression now prevailing and the unlikelihood of a revival in business in the near future.

THE "SAFE AND SOUND" LEADERS. When I pick up a capitalist paper and read a glowing eulogy of some labor leader, I know that that labor leader has at least two distinct afflictions—the one is moral weakness and the other is moral cowardice; and they go together. Put it down that when the capitalist who is exploiting you credits your leader with being wise and conservative and safe, that leader is not "bring you—Eugene V. Debs."

THE TRUSTS STILL GROW.

Not Scared by Roosevelt's Threats of "Curbing."

The Trusts Capture Rocky Mountain Region—Consolidation of Lead Companies at Hand—The New York Central Completes Its Trolley Chain.

DENVER, Dec. 10.—The Beef Trust of Chicago has purchased a controlling interest in the Denver Union Stockyards, and will take control Jan. 1. The stockyards will be run in connection with the two local plants bought by the Trust early in September. The Trust is now in control of the live-stock situation in the West—New York Times special.

The foregoing news item shows how little effect the Administration's speedily executed prosecutions under the Anti-Trust Law will have or can have. After many months of effort and enormous legal expense the Government succeeded in jerking fines of a few thousand dollars—just in time to use the "victory" as campaign capital. The amount of the fines is but a drop in the bucket compared to the annual profits of the Trust which has the power to recoup such losses in a single day by raising meat prices a half-cent.

Tristification, in this and other industries, goes right on. A few days ago the "Times," which is very well informed on financial affairs, said: "The National Lead interests, which heretofore have stood in the way of a merger of that company with the United Lead Company, have changed their attitude and now the consolidation of the two companies is said to be a matter of certainty." The decision of the United Lead Company to proceed at once with the construction of a plant near St. Louis was instrumental in bringing about a change in the attitude of the National Lead interests, which had objected to the proposed merger.

The decision of these interests to recognize the position taken by the United Lead Company was further hastened by the knowledge which became common property yesterday that the American Smelting interests had purchased a large block of National Lead common in the open market. This along with the other stockholders who favored the consolidation is said to place the United Lead interest in control of the National Company. A man closely in touch with the affairs of the United Company said yesterday: "This time the deal will go thru. The National Lead Company, I believe, is short of cash and the American Smelting supply being controlled by the American Smelting interests, and this fact, with the knowledge that the United Company was ready to go ahead with the building of its factories, has changed the situation materially."

Another very recent step in consolidation is the acquisition by the Delaware & Hudson Company of the Quebec Southern and the South Shore railways in Canada. New York Central interests, which comprise the Vanderbilt-Andrews traction syndicate, have purchased control of the Rochester Railway and Light Company, thus practically completing a chain of trolley lines from Albany to Buffalo. The New York Central interests last spring acquired the Rochester & East Rapids Railway, running southeast as far as Geneva, a distance of forty-eight miles. The system of the Rochester Railway and Light Company covers 108 miles of track in Monroe and Wayne counties.

POWERS OF FRANCHISE COMPANIES. UTAH, N. Y.—Supreme Court Justice Maurice L. Wright has rendered a decision upholding the constitutionality of the law which gives to electric light and power companies the right to condemn lands which may be required in the attempts to furnish municipalities with light and power.

SCARES GERMAN CAPITALISTS. BERLIN, Germany—Memorials have been presented to the Prussian government advising opposition to the efforts of the American Tobacco Company in Germany. The government has ordered thorough inquiries regarding the matter, and Prussian boards of trade are now employed in conducting them.

W. F. OF M. PLANS FOR CO-OPERATIVE MINING. DENVER, Colo.—The Executive Board of the Western Federation of Miners last night decided to submit a proposition to the unions to raise a fund of \$1,000,000, with which to embark in the mining business on a co-operative basis. It is planned to have each member of the federation contribute \$10. One of the benefits will be plan, the committee believed, of the "glorious employment to members of the union who are deprived of work by reason of the employers' care system now in use in Colorado and other states.

MAN AND BEAST. The president of the trust, in an able after-dinner speech, whipped to converse with old George, a stockman. "Well, George, how goes it?" he said, taking a dollar coin from his mouth. "Fair to middlin', sir," George answered, "Fair to middlin'."

And he continued to currcumb a bay horse with the president smothered and looked on in a good-humored silence. "So and this here boss," George said, suddenly, "has worked for your firm sixteen years."

"Well, well," said the president, thinking a little quality of George's seven-decade and thirty, so together. Put it down that when the capitalist who is exploiting you credits your leader with being wise and conservative and safe, that leader is not "bring you—Eugene V. Debs."

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All communications should be written with ink and on one side of the paper. The name of the writer should be given, and the address should be given in full.

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the only competent judge as to what use of the policyholders' money would be best for the policyholders. But it was the chancy steelsman himself, model of propriety that he is, who justified his vast wealth and his business conduct, some fifteen years ago, by proclaiming the theory that "the rich are the trustees of other men's fortunes"—frankly admitting that the rich have not produced the wealth they hold, but alleging that they ought to control it because they can use it better than the producers and rightful owners could.

The following is a partial list of men who paid from \$1,500 to \$20,000 each to the publishers of "Fads and Fancies" for having their biographies written nicely, with all the creditable episodes left out: John Jacob Astor, Charles T. Yerkes, William K. Vanderbilt, Henry M. Flagler, Perry Belmont, Senator John F. Dryden, Charles M. Schwab, Senator Chauncey M. Depew, Col. Potter Huntington, Timothy L. Woodruff, William Astor Chanler, James J. Hill, Lewis Nixon, Louis Parsons Morton, William C. Whitney, Anthony N. Brady, Grover Cleveland, Theodore Roosevelt, Alfred G. Vanderbilt, Senator Stephen B. Elkins, Luke Ziglar, Leiter, Benjamin N. Duke, Reginald C. Vanderbilt, Senator Nelson W. Aldrich, J. Pierpont Morgan, Thomas W. Ryan, Thomas W. Lawson, Peter Lorillard, James R. Keene, Forthall P. Keen, Bishop Henry C. Potter, and H. B. Hyde.

It is an interesting list. The character of "Fads and Fancies" has been pretty fully discussed. The publisher says it is not a blackmailing scheme; you can take his word for it, or you can ask his definition of the word "blackmail". Anyhow, that question is now in the courts. What interests us is just the truly representative character of the gentlemen named—"pillars of society", all of them. Alas, that their true biographies will not be published. We don't mean the story of their private lives—for Mr. Comstock probably wouldn't let us read that part of it, if it were to be printed. We mean the secret record of their careers in business and in politics. It would be the most wonderful history ever written of the spoliation of a people and the destruction of a republic.

What a shame that the reputation of a fine "captain of industry" like Corey should be dragged into the newspapers! Really, it is so great a man as the President of the Steel Trust not to be allowed to change wives when he likes without being subjected to the vulgar criticism of common mortals? Evidently Whitelaw Reid was not so far wrong in saying that the United States is "no fit country for a gentleman to live in." As for Corey, we are reminded of the response of a fine lady of the court of Louis XV when someone expressed a doubt whether the soul of a lately deceased nobleman had gone up or down—"Depend upon it, monsieur, the good Lord will think twice before he damns a man of such birth and breeding."

Chauncey M. Depew, chief lackey for the Vanderbilt family and Senator from the New York Central, emphatically denies the report that he is to resign his membership in the Millionaires' Club at Washington. He has resigned from the Board of Directors of the New York Life—resigned under pressure, too—and he thinks that ought to satisfy the insolent public. "There is no reason, either logical or visionary," he says, "why I should resign from the Senate." We agree that it would not be logical for so faithful a servant of a great corporation to quit such a "good thing". As for visionary reasons, we don't just know what he means by the phrase. We can conceive a moral reason why he should resign—Mr. Hughes might explain it to him—but it would be ridiculous to expect Depew to regard moral reasons as anything but visionary. Wherefore, he will stay as long as the voters will stand for it.

The Mutual Life has reformed. Mr. McCurdy has resigned the presidency and a very estimable capitalist named Frederic Cromwell has been chosen as his successor. On Wednesday of last week he gave out an interview. On Thursday he spoke to the reporters as follows: "I don't feel exactly right about what I said to you yesterday, and I am going to make a clean breast of it. When I talked to you then, I had been instructed to withhold the fact that Mr. Peabody's name had been brought up and tabled and that a committee had been appointed to consider the question of the company's presidency. So I made you a little speech in which I said that the meeting had been entirely harmonious. This morning I read in the newspapers that you had found out everything that happened. I realize that while the trustee got me to lie for them yesterday, some of them lied to me in saying that they would give out nothing about the meeting. So hereafter I am going to tell everything that happens when we have news for publication."

First the Trustees instruct the President to lie. Then they break faith with him and tell another story—whether true or not, who knows? And "trustees," they are, mind you! Max Nordau wasted paper and ink when he wrote a whole book on the question "Who Lies?" He might have answered his query in two words—"Capitalists lie."

office, he is a successful banker. He has just given us an example of the sort of morality acquired in that occupation. He coolly suggests that, in order to "relieve the money market" and "make the currency flexible," the national banks be allowed to issue, in addition to their ordinary secured banknotes, a lot more without security. He says that if the notes were made to look just like the ordinary ones in all respects save for the omission of the few significant words about security, the public would take the note and never know the difference—until the bank went to smash, of course. Fine scheme—especially from an associate of Square-Deal Publicity Roosevelt.

The free distribution of seeds by the United States government to farmers and others who may ask for them has long been a butt for the alleged jokes of the capitalist editors, who, in their righteous crusade against "paternalism" in all forms, are not profitable to the possessing class, have lost no occasion to assure us that the whole matter was a humbug, that the seeds were no good, that the farmers and gardeners did not want them and could not use them, and that, in every respect, this free distribution of seeds was a striking example of the impracticability of anything that might in the slightest degree smack of Socialism. And now here comes thirty of the biggest seed dealers in the country, with a formal protest to President Roosevelt, alleging that this free distribution of seeds is a grievous wrong to them, an unlawful and pernicious restraint of trade, and an abuse of governmental functions, because the farmers and gardeners who otherwise would have to buy seeds of them and pay a good profit thereon prefer to use the seeds of the government stations, those very seeds which, we are assured, never germinate except by the merest chance. Really, the seed seller and the editors ought to get together and prepare a consistent story.

MITCHELL AND PARKS.

Amid the death of United States Senator Mitchell, convicted land-office hoodler of Oregon, the Washington dispatches say: "Sympathy was expressed everywhere around the Capitol to-day as the news of Senator Mitchell's death was spread. Although convicted of a crime against the law of the land and condemned to a felon's cell, the late Senator had many friends in public life, and in his long career had done many generous and helpful things that endeared him to those who knew him best."

There is nothing surprising in this. That Depew, Platt, Penrose, Clark and others of that stripe should mark the departure of so congenial an associate as Mitchell is quite natural. (N. B.—When we wrote the word "stripe" we did not have the Sing Sing fashions in mind—honest.) Those who know him best" were in the same line of business, and of course they were helpful to each other. "Of such is the kingdom of"—Capital.

But while our great capitalists and statesmen sully and sully Mitchell's omnibus and summon up all their Christian charity to forgive him (for getting "caught with the goods"), let us call to mind a somewhat parallel case. It is not so long since one Sam Parks, a trade-union officer convicted (and no doubt justly, so far as his single case goes) of bribery and extortion, died in prison in this state. His body was attended to the grave by a great crowd of workmen. And the capitalist press, with squalid glee, seized the occasion to proclaim the whole labor movement to be corrupt, because so many of its members honored Parks in death. But we have not seen a single spokesman of "respectability" and advocate of "law and order" blaming the Senators for their kindly words about Mitchell. What is the difference? Just this: Parks was a man engaged in a good cause and habitually associating with honest men, who nevertheless became corrupted by our rotten economic system and joined criminal practices against capitalists, with his real service to the workmen of his trade. Hence his name is anathema among the property classes. Mitchell was a man contentedly and deliberately committed to the dishonest system, who plundered the poor in order to enrich himself and others of his class and who was also chummy enough to be found out. Among the capitalists his offense is, therefore, a venial one.

THE SORCERER VOTE.

In a recent issue of "Charities", Graham Taylor writes as follows: "The baneful results of the class-conscious industrial struggle were painfully apparent in San Francisco. The re-election of Mayor Schmitt for the third time, or worse still, the re-entrainment of his boss, Abe Ruef, is due not only or even chiefly to the fight of 4,000 saloons for their existence, which it has been attributed. Far more largely was it the union-labor vote which swept these men into power for the third time. It, too, was cast as a vote of protest by many good men and true, who did not prefer the candidate, or stand for other his weak policy or his affiliation with corruption. Their protest was so strong against what they claimed to be the introduction of the 'Citizens' Alliance' into the politics of San Francisco, that almost regardless of the city's interests, the entire Schmitt ticket was secured by 15,000 majority over the

fusion candidates of the two great parties. "We don't like to use unpleasant terms, but pleasant ones would hardly be adequate to characterize the first sentence of this paragraph. We fully agree with Mr. Taylor in considering Mayor Schmitt as a fair of the first water; we well understand that he is a striking-horse for Ruef, as McClellan is for Murphy. But Mr. Graham is not content with announcing and deploring this truth. He goes on to say that the re-election of Schmitt is a demonstration of "the class-conscious industrial struggle". We would wager dollars to doughnuts, to the limited extent of our pile (if there were any way of deciding such a question) that Mr. Graham knows better—that he knows that the thoro class-conscious workmen of San Francisco were actively arrayed against Schmitt and against any and all capitalist candidates. The vote that elected Schmitt in San Francisco was even farther from being a class-conscious proletarian vote than was the vote that elected or nearly elected Hearst in New York. So far as it was a working-class vote (which it was in large part, we grant), it was a "sentimental" vote, representing, at the best, only the most rudimentary form of class consciousness—purchased instinct, as contrasted with self-controlled reason.

But even so—putting the straight Socialist vote (which Mr. Taylor does not condescend to notice) out of the question—Mr. Taylor prepared to call it a "baneful" symptom when masses of feeling, if not thinking, workmen prefer even a Schmitt to the chosen and pledged candidate of the Citizens' Alliance. Would he, good "reformer" that he is, have preferred to see the workmen of San Francisco humbly obeying their bosses and voting for the representative of what is falsely called the "open shop", the deputy of the organization which has defied the courts and trampled on the constitution in Colorado and which is working for the utter destruction of the labor movement?

For us, we regard the Schmitt vote, like the Hearst vote in New York and the Dunne vote in Chicago, as a hopeful symptom—not for what it is, but for what it forebodes—that it was wise for we think it was foolish, but that it has not believed itself to be a labor vote. It will learn.

THE GREAT ABOLITIONIST.

Last Monday was the hundredth birthday of William Lloyd Garrison, the Abolitionist. It is in a double sense timely to make some quotations from a memorial article published in the "Evening Post", of which Garrison's son and grandsons are editors. Timely in a double sense—first, because of the century observance; second, because what is said of the Abolitionist of those old days would so well apply (did it's bourgeois admirers but know it) to the Socialists of to-day.

Here is one quotation—Garrison's reply when, in 1851, the twentieth anniversary of the "Liberator", some friends presented him with a gold watch: "Mr. President, if this were a rotten egg or a brickbat, I should know how to receive it. If these cheers were the yells of a frantic mob seeking my life, I should know precisely how to behave. But the presentation of this valuable gift is as unexpected by me as would be the falling of stars from the heavens, and I feel indescribably small before you in accepting it. Why I have been compensated in this cause a million times over. In the darkest hour, in the greatest peril, I have felt just at that moment that it was everything to be in such a cause."

That is the spirit that does great things—not that of the self-conscious martyr, but of the man who rejoices in the battle, fare he personally as he may. Another time he said that he had always found that a shower of brickbats had a remarkably tonic effect, materially strengthening to the backbone. Here is another bit: "Garrison never lifted a finger to defend himself, no matter whether assailed by a Tammany mob in New York or a mob of gentlemen in Boston. Neither would he let his friends arm to defend him. What mattered it to him whether his life were lost? He was merely advocating a righteous cause bound to win; and having planted the seed of the abolition of slavery, he knew that the plant must grow, whether he were there to water it or not."

With that in mind, read this: "Yet it was his doctrine to use just as harsh language as was made possible by his familiarity with the Bible and his knowledge of the English language. I will not say as harsh as truth and as uncompromising as justice," was his watchword. "On this subject (slavery) I do not wish to think or speak or write with moderation. The more he saw of the cowardice of the church, the silence of the press, and the indifference of public men, the more he sought to make his words clear and bold. Never did he for a moment regret in after years his severity and harshness, and it may be set down now that in no other way could the country have been rescued from a sense of its shame and wickedness in tolerating the crime of human slavery."

"Slavery" to "capitalism," and this passage from Garrison's writings might be an extract from a Socialist speech or editorial of to-day: "I pray you to remember that the slaveholders are just as merciful and forbearing as they can be in their situation—not a whit more brutal, bloody, atrocious, than they are obliged to be in the terrible exigencies in which, as slaveholders, they are placed. They are men of like passions with ourselves; they are of our common country; and if we had been brought up in the midst of slavery, as they have been—if we had our property in slaves, as they have—if we had had the same training and education that they have received, of course we should have been just as much disposed to do all in our power to support slavery, and to put down freedom by the same atrocious acts as themselves. The tree bears its natural fruit—like causes will produce like effects. But let us return good for evil, by seizing this opportunity to deliver them from their deadliest curse."

Space forbids us to go further, but we shall recur to the subject. Let us close by saying that the Socialist movement, international as it truly is and "foreign" as its opponents falsely pretend, has its roots deep in American history and can claim as its proper heritage all that is noblest in the past of this nation.

CAPITAL AND THE LAW.

About a fortnight ago the Court of Appeals of the state of New York rendered a remarkable decision—remarkable, because we expect only decisions against the labor movement—in which it held that an agreement between an employer and a trade union by which the former pledges himself to employ only union men is a valid and binding contract—not, as the employers contended, illegal and void as being "in restraint of competition" and "contrary to public policy."

Hardly a week elapsed before the employers' associations of the structural iron trades in New York made clear their intention to break their agreement with the unions and try to establish what they call the "open shop". By that phrase they mean really a closed shop—closed against all workmen not acceptable to the bosses' organization. They notified the courts that henceforth no man could be hired by any employer belonging to the association unless he carried a card from the "employment bureau" (actually a strike-breaking bureau) of the employers' association.

The coincidence is significant. No doubt the bosses expected that the court would decide in their favor, as usual, and release them from the agreement into which they had freely entered when it suited their interests to do so. For a wonder, the court disappointed them. Then, without hesitation, they resolved to defy the law and to repudiate the agreement which the court had declared valid.

This much do capitalists care for the law. On behalf of our readers, we must urge our correspondents to be more brief and concise—especially in the discussion of party matters which directly interest only the local comrades.

A reader of The Worker asks: "Why do you not pay more attention to the Industrial Workers of the World?" We answer: Because we conceive that it is the duty of The Worker to serve the cause of Socialism, not to mix up in trade-union fights. For our part, we are not willing to see the Socialist Party made a tail to the kite of either of the two warring labor organizations on the economic field. If such a thing is to happen, let others be responsible.

MATERIAL INTERESTS DOMINATE.

Rev. John Kendall, a prominent Eastern churchman, hits the bull's-eye in this fashion: "A United States senator was bold enough to say on the floor of the senate chamber: 'The thought that the ten commandments have anything to do with America, politics was only an iridescent dream.' His highness have included American industries. The law of God, Christian ethics, but no stippling in the high courts of politics and government, is reduced from \$400 to \$25. The law of God, Christian ethics, but no stippling in the high courts of politics and government, is reduced from \$400 to \$25. The law of God, Christian ethics, but no stippling in the high courts of politics and government, is reduced from \$400 to \$25."

"It is surely becoming comical to observe the manner in which the great bulk of preachers are attempting to carry water on both shoulders. It is only now and then that some one among them grows wiser than the rest, and is reduced from \$400 to \$25. The law of God, Christian ethics, but no stippling in the high courts of politics and government, is reduced from \$400 to \$25."

THE GLASS-CONSCIOUS SENATE.

The capitalist class, exclusively, elects the Senate and its members are safe, each one for six years after the seat is purchased; paid publicly by the people thirty thousand dollars during this period, and paid privately by the exploiters of the people sums which make the people wage a battle; all its sympathies against the producing classes. What legislation for the relief of the working class can get by it, will it consent to act against its own interest and that of the class it represents? Will it consent to pass a law for the protection of a slave race, the people? Here is an illustration, class-conscious to the core, that will stand against the working class, and balk its every effort at emancipation until the working class uses its ballot to abolish it.—Franklin H. Westcott.

WHAT MACHINES DO.

In ruling paper, the Worker, using 4,000 and roller, seventy years ago took 4,000 hours to do work now done by a machine in two and three-quarter hours. "Machinery is now extensively used in bootmaking, making 100 pairs of men's cheap-grade boots in 24 hours, against 1,400 hours by hand, while the laborer is reduced from \$400 to \$25. In women's boots, the one is equally marked, for instead of one man being employed to do everything, there are 140 employed, each on a different machine operation; but not only is the time taken to 100 boots reduced to less than a tenth what it was, but the cost is also reduced."

BUSINESS DEPARTMENT.

Quarterly Statement of Expenses and Receipts of The Worker on Unassisted Basis—The Comrades Asked to Help Set Things Right. In the accompanying table we present the financial statement of The Worker for the July-September quarter, as compared with the previous one. Readers will observe that the showing is far from satisfactory. Weekly expenses are \$22 lower, but weekly receipts are less by \$54, so that the deficit per week rises from less than \$15 to more than \$16.

Now \$16 is not much. But \$16 every week is a good deal—or a bad deal, to vary the phrase—when a few comrades have to bear it. We pointed out, in presenting the corresponding statements in January and in June, that, while our showing then was good on its surface, it was not so good as it might appear to a careless reader. For successive months we were gaining subscriptions week by week. A paper can always make a good showing while it is gaining, even though its total circulation be far too low to support it for the simple reason that every subscription (being paid in

AVERAGE WEEKLY EXPENSES. Editorial salaries and expenses \$28.23, Business office salaries and expenses 26.95, Composition 24.50, Advertisement, electric light and power, gas, agitation, sundries 6.83, Paper 43.29, Expedition, postage, and mail list 38.64, Discount to subscribers and dealers 1.73. Average total weekly expense \$178.11. Decrease \$22.29.

AVERAGE WEEKLY INCOME.

Subscriptions and sales \$158.90, Advertising and sundries 14.47. Average total weekly income \$173.37. Decrease \$5.00.

DEFICIT.

Average weekly deficit \$4.65. Increase of average weekly deficit \$11.70.

advance) is in effect a loan to the paper, to be paid in fifty-two weekly instalments. But the test comes when the circulation, for the time, becomes stationary. The subscriptions already on the books must still be filled; but if the circulation level is not high enough, the receipts will not balance the current expenditures.

As we have stated before, The Worker, numbering with less than 25,000 subscriptions, it has only about half that number—for the bundle circulation pays less proportionately (and does less good to the movement, too) than the individual subscriptions.

Will our present readers help us to get the 25,000? The following statement shows in detail the circulation of The Worker for the last three weeks:

Week ending Dec. 2, Dec. 9, Dec. 16. Printed 14,000, 14,000, 14,000. Single subscriptions 11,178, 10,706, 10,706. Outside bundles 7, 79, 79. Samples 449, 350, 350. Exchanges 581, 551, 551. Sold at office in bundles 1,034, 1,531, 1,531. Loss in single subs. 42, 42, 42. Loss in single subs. 42, 42, 42.

Comrade Anderson of Springfield, Mass., sends in \$10 for paid-sub cards. He says that he has got 38 new subscriptions since he began, which was quite recently. Others take note and try to do the same.

THE SOCIALIST COURTESY.

The movements of the Countess of Warwick in favor of Socialism are again attracting attention because of their uniqueness. Whenever there is nothing else to talk about in fashionable London, the sayings of this clever woman are quoted far and wide. Her address in connection with a welcome tendered the Social Democratic Federation mass meeting, held for the purpose of welcoming delegates to the Socialist conference just held there, is a sample of her activity. She commenced her address by saying: "Comrades—I think I can say that, can't I? The audience responded with an enthusiastic 'Yes,' and the best of feeling prevailed from that time on. She said that people might say that her personal position disqualified her from speaking on the subject, but with all of her heart she was convinced that Socialism meant the true salvation of the workers, she wished that the worker could realize what a united Labor and Socialist Party could do for them. She said that the capitalist press had been poking fun at her, but that she was convinced that the supporters themselves were all good Socialists, smiling sympathetically at the reporters, the countess said that the London newspaper had been paying a great deal of attention to her dress and she was glad that she had met her friends there. She said that she had met her friends there, she said that she had met her friends there, she said that she had met her friends there."

THE CLASS-CONSCIOUS SENATE.

The capitalist class, exclusively, elects the Senate and its members are safe, each one for six years after the seat is purchased; paid publicly by the people thirty thousand dollars during this period, and paid privately by the exploiters of the people sums which make the people wage a battle; all its sympathies against the producing classes. What legislation for the relief of the working class can get by it, will it consent to act against its own interest and that of the class it represents? Will it consent to pass a law for the protection of a slave race, the people? Here is an illustration, class-conscious to the core, that will stand against the working class, and balk its every effort at emancipation until the working class uses its ballot to abolish it.—Franklin H. Westcott.

AN AUSTRALIAN VIEW OF US.

President Roosevelt doesn't believe in the state ownership of the railroads, America has consequently to put up with the railway ownership of the state. Legislation in that great country are not a few inches from the railroad track, and judges are the greatest of their workmen.—Bryan Wicks.

POINTED PARAGRAPHS.

There is a law against carrying concealed weapons, of course, but you can't be arraigned for having Worker sub cards on your person. Kaiser Wilhelm seems to have about given up the idea that he can keep a better grip on his job by disfranchising his working class subjects.

As convicted senators can't be put in jail, the Senate has decided that they can't be put on committees either. Verily the way of the transgressor is hard in these virtuous days.

Talk and type are cheap and plentiful, but there isn't enough of either in the country to alter the fact that the people who own the railroads will fix the rates.

Just to add to the gaiety of the merry Christmas tide, Attorney-General Moody is arranging a nice little prosecution of the Standard Oil Company. We haven't got so far as a National Theater yet, but the government

A Pittsburg doctor says that after-dinner speaking tends to bring on heart disease. How fortunate it is for society that Depew has given up this practice!

Tom Lawson is evidently a man of infinite variety. While saving the country from the condition bow-wows he found him to smelt twenty little ones of his own raising to the dog-show last week.

JAPANESE GOVERNMENT SUPPRESSES SOCIALIST PAPER.

The Japanese government having vanquished that of Russia in war, it seems to have resolved now to show the world that it can equal Tsarism in social tyranny. The latest act of the sort to draw attention is the suppression of the "Chokugen", the sole organ of the Socialists in Japan. This is the second or third time that our Japanese comrades have been thus treated by their government, but each time, with only a short delay, they have rallied their forces and started a new publication. So they have done in the present case. "Chokugen" was suppressed on Sept. 10, and under date Nov. 10, appears the first number of "Shinkigen" ("The New Era"), their new organ. Editorially it declares that "under the present government there is no freedom of speech—not a bit!"

The Socialist organization "Helminth" was dissolved under martial law at the same time and its meeting-place closed. Comrades Abe, Kinoshita, and Ishikawa, members of the suppressed organization, are editing the new paper. How long they will be allowed to continue the enterprise remains to be seen.

THE STRIKERS.

Out on the roads they have gathered, a hundred thousand men. To ask for a hold on life as sure as the wolf's hold in his den. They need the quick of life as the cat's paw close to the stone; it is as near to the slender rib, as narrow to the bone.

They ask but the leave to labor, to toil in the endless night. For a little salt to savor their bread, for houses with light. They ask but the right to labor and to live by the strength of their hands. They who have had their knotted necks, and patience 'til the end.

And the right of a man to labor and his right to labor in joy. Not all your laws can give that right, nor the gates of Hell deny. For it came with the making of man and was knotted into his bones. And it will stand at the last of things on the dust of crumpled thrones.—Edwin Markham.

A BALLAD OF PAVING LITERATURE.

One of the Insurance witnesses testified that he has been receiving a regular income from the big insurance offices on condition that he refrain from publishing a book which he had written, and which exposed their crookedness.—Daily Paper.

I would not write sparkling romances. With here "the best work in France" Who shall in a combat entrance. The maiden of languishing glance; Fannie's case is a mangled romance. By a book that my children would bless And my slender income would enhance—A book that some graffer'd suppress.

It would not be among the "best selling" in fact, it would not sell at all. Yet my book grows it would be swelling. If I were bought by McCurdy-McCall "I would require considerable cash. But 'twould stare off much public distress. And think of the author's rich haul From a book that some graffer'd suppress.

So why snarl your teeth, O my brothers A-writing of books that don't pay? Why starve yourself, like unto others, Seeking fame in the usual way? Take your tip from insurance to-day. And break from your seedy dross By writing "his way, they say"—A book that some graffer'd suppress.

DIRECTIONS CARRIED OUT.

The Managing Editor received his chair around and pushed W. Buffin in the wall. The Editor wanted entered. "Here," said the Editor, "are a number of directions from outsiders as to the best way to run a newspaper. See that they are all carried out." And the Editor, gathering them all into a large waste-basket, did so.—Washington Star.

—What is a fair day's pay for a fair day's work? Ask the capitalist and he will give you his idea about it. Ask the worker, and, if he is intelligent, he will tell you that a fair day's pay for a fair day's work is all the workman produces. If the worker is not entitled to all he produces, then what share is anybody else entitled to?—Eugene V. Debs.

THOUGHTS FOR THE MAJORITY.

By Peter E. Burrows.

If any majority in any nation is oppressed... it is a thoughtless majority...

One thoughtless class is as dangerous as another if both are in subjection...

I have always been class-conscious; but not as a laborer. I have been class-conscious as a dominated man...

Economically there can be no middle class. The vast population of active but non-producing people...

The middle class can do without anything but the proletarian customer. He has no interest in the destruction of the slaves' power to buy...

You cannot abolish a very great social evil by itself. Society so hangs together in spite of the ages of violent reaction...

As long as there is anything genuine to be outside of it, the abolition is the best practice to strike at drunkenness...

Listen to the cant and chatter of public reformatory life, and mark the antics of our abolishing monkeys...

Should the unions enter politics? The labor union is distinctively a business institution. It is organized for the advancement of the economic interests of its members...

SHOULD THE UNIONS ENTER POLITICS?

The labor union is distinctively a business institution. It is organized for the advancement of the economic interests of its members...

If our foe is fully organized, and uses such potent power as lies in government and law for his extension of power over us...

We should be careful about endorsing mere candidates. The individual official is not so much the thing that concerns us...

Let those who oppose unions enter into the arena of politics look back over a bill. Let them witness the regulations of honest child labor laws...

PARTY NEWS.

National.

Nominations are now being made in the National Committee for National Secretary and National Executive Committee for 1906...

The Socialist Party of Essex County, are planning a grand Christmas festival at Kurtz's Coliseum, Springfield avenue, Newark, on Tuesday evening, Dec. 23...

Pennsylvania. PHILADELPHIA. The International Typographical Union, and the labor movement generally have lost a loyal and able fighter...

NATIONAL ORGANIZERS. Dates for National Lecturers and Organizers are: George E. Higelow: Dec. 17 and 18, Madison, S. D.; Dec. 19, Sioux Falls; Dec. 20, Canton...

Massachusetts. The new State Committee for 1906 will meet for organization Saturday, Jan. 6, 3 p. m., at 609 Washington street, Boston...

The tendency of despotism is to provoke the mind to revolt and so to call forth its own nemesis by giving occasion for blood sprinkled, radical, desperate thought...

It is a fact after all that the state powers come to the state thinkers; to those who put most thought, good or bad, into state matters...

Much as we may be angered by the hopeless attitude of the anarchists, we should remember the pit from whence they were dug. The trenchery, wickedness and deceit of rulers is surely the blackest exhibit of human depravity...

THE HUNTER CASE.

To the Editor of The Worker:—I had no idea of provoking the anger of Comrades Ghent and Solomon in writing my note on the above subject...

Comrade Hall, our candidate for Mayor of Boston, was caught with a camera by the Boston "Post" man working at his profession as engineer, but neither interview nor picture has been published up to this date...

State Secretary Cutting suggests that clubs endeavor to promote social good fellowship, and also add to their treasury, by holding ice cream parties, oyster suppers, dramatic plays, winter parties, and propaganda meetings during the winter months...

State Secretary Killgusbeck has received a communication from the Secretary of the S. L. P. stating that the result of their referendum on the question of unity, they have elected a committee of twelve, two from Essex, Hudson, Passaic, and Union counties...

NEW CREDIT PLAN.

What We Do: We sell clothing for Ladies, Men and Boys. Also Furs and Fur Coats on credit.

What We Don't Do: We don't ask for any reference or security from you (landlord or employer). We make no inquiries from your neighbors or friends.

LENOX CLOTHING CO., 2274 THIRD AVENUE, 123d - 124th Streets. 884 COLUMBUS AVENUE, 103d - 104th Streets. OPEN EVENINGS

What We Don't Do: We don't ask for any reference or security from you (landlord or employer). We make no inquiries from your neighbors or friends.

JAMES G. KANE, Member of Executive Committee, Dec. 11, 1905.

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"POVERTY" BY ROBERT HUNTER. Price: Cloth, \$1.50; paper, 25 cents by mail, 30 cents.

"MASS AND CLASS" BY W. J. GHENT. The decidedly favorable reception of this book has resulted in the issuance of a paper bound edition at such a price as to enable the comrades to sell it at public meetings...

BOOKS WORTH READING. "Mass and Class" by W. J. Ghent, \$1.25. "Poverty" by Robert Hunter, \$1.50. "The History of Socialism in the United States" by J. M. Swann, \$1.50.

"CHANTS COMMUNAL" BY HORACE TRAUBEL. An artistically printed and well bound volume, containing forty of the author's contributions to The Worker, and some other matter.

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