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FRANCE.

Socialist Convention Held.

Socialist Deputies Force the Capitalist Parliament to Pass Laws in the Interests of the Working Class. Steps Taken to Bring About Socialist Unity.

On the 18th of August the 17th Annual Convention of the French Labor Party (otherwise known as the Marxist) opened in the city of Epervan. The convention was one of the most important ones held for years owing to the grave question of the disagreement as to parliamentary tactics between the various Socialist groups and the pending general convention of all Socialist factions for the purpose of forming one national organization. There were 174 delegates present including two Justices of Court of Arbitration, 27 Aldermen, 11 Mayors, and 8 Members of Parliament, besides a number of other officers. 603 organizations were represented.

The Report of the National Executive Committee submitted by the Secretary, Jules Guesde, gives an account of the progress of organization and of the growth of the Socialist press. Then came the Report of the Socialist members of Parliament, the most important part of which we reproduce from the official organ of the French Labor Party, "Le Socialiste":
"Our comrades will remember that at the opening of the present session of Parliament the deputies of the French Labor Party (Parti Ouvrier Francais) as well as those of the Communist Alliance, the Socialist Revolutionary Party, and the Independent Socialists have formed the 'United Parliamentary Socialist Group' (Groupe d'Union Socialiste de la Chambre). This group was the successor of the one that existed during the session of 1893-95; its tactics were a continuation of the tactics adopted by the former Socialist representatives in the Chamber and were ratified by the national and local conventions of the party.

At a special session of the National Executive Committee, held on June 25 on the occasion of the entrance of a member of the United Socialist group into the Waldeck-Rousseau-Gallifet ministry, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

- 1. That there can be nothing in common between our representatives in Chamber and a ministry of which General the Marquis de Gallifet, the butcher of May, 1871, is a member.
- 2. That the representatives of the Party (thirteen in number) withdraw from the group of the United Socialists of the Chamber, who are to be informed of this decision at to-morrow's meeting.
- 3. That they will organize themselves, at least provisionally, pending the final decision of the next National Convention into a "Parliamentary Group of the Party", and will consult in regard to immediate further action with the newly formed group of the "Revolutionary Socialists."

In accordance with that decision which the National Executive Committee communicated at once to the Sections and to the party press, the representatives of the Party in Parliament immediately organized themselves into a "Parliamentary Group of the French Labor Party." This group regards itself as the vanguard of the proletariat in its forward march to the conquest of the political power and stands on the ground of the struggle of the working class against all political factions of the capitalist class. (Decision of the 11th National Convention of the French Labor Party, Paris, Oct. 7-9, 1893.)

The following are some of the bills introduced in the Chamber by the representatives of the Party:
"A bill tending to modify the personnel of the Inspectors in mills, factories, docks, and of the manner of appointing them. (Nov. 4, 1898.)"

"A bill to give workmen the right of intervention in the regulation of workshops and abolishing fines and retention of wages. (Nov. 4, 1898.)"

"A bill abolishing courts-martial in time of peace and reorganizing them for time of war on a different basis."

"A bill abolishing franchises which have deprived the nation of its ownership of mines, and that the mines be exploited by the workmen employed there. (Jan. 12, 1899.)"

"A bill to modify the law of 1893 pertaining to the personnel in the elementary schools. (Jan. 30, 1899.)"

"A bill to divorce church from state and to nationalise all church property, real and personal. (May 5, 1898.)"

One of these propositions, pertaining to fines, the question of which had already been raised in the Chamber in November, 1892, by Citizen Ferroull, has met with partial success. In fact, at its session of December 6, 1898, the Chamber passed the following bill:

- 1. That the wages of workmen and clerks be paid in legal currency, agreements to the contrary being null and void.
- 2. That fines imposed as a measure of discipline and involving a decrease of wages be prohibited; this prohibition applies not only to manufacturers, but also to store-keepers, and all employers public or private.

Besides participating in the discussion of the budget the representatives of the Party have taken part on several occasions either in general discussions of different budgets, or in support of drafts of resolutions and amendments. February 8, Comrade Krauss took up

SOCIALISTIC DENTISTRY.

By PETER E. BURROWES.

If you are bowing before the jaws of our present civilization, if you are passionately addicted to hard work and believe that all mankind should be in their shirt sleeves doing it; why then the ladies and chemise sleeves must not be deprived of this salvation by the baptism of sweat, or their chances of putting cosmo into their own private pockets as well as any other fellow. As for me, I confess to being a "dividing up" Socialist on this matter of work whether it is a curse or a blessing. Hitherto it has only been divided down among the poor devils of proletaires of the male gender, but the divvy has hardly gone far enough among our sex yet to call in the ladies. While there is a lurking leading aristocrat in the land no woman should be harnessed. Etiquette should here cry: "Gentlemen first!"

We can gush as poetically as a nation of troubadours about the ladies; that is, our own ladies, while the proletarian's "lady" is assigned to the squimmin of the mills and factories. When Governor Roosevelt, who affects a fine gentlemanly scorn for sentiment, is next going to his Teddy tra la, let him have a rough rider's dash at the humanitarianism of Socialist gentlemen towards the womanhood of the world. Hitherto his incisors have only bitten into pity for laboring men. Will they bite into pity for laboring women? There is a tremendous weapon in the hand of the Socialist in this cruel unmanly exploitation of women and children by dividend seekers. Of course, we know it is an unavoidable phase of capitalistic growth; but our knowledge of a general law should not weaken our sense of the hideousness of the hideous. No matter what is behind it, here it is a shameful thing.

"Oh, touch not the sacred breath stone of sweet individualism," says the fake troubadour of the factory age. And alleged reverence for the sanctity of the home forms a large part of the wardrobe of hypocrisy with which this heartless system of the profit-monger hides and deceives itself.

In point of fact "the woman of the home" was never so flagrantly pushed towards the auction block as she is under capitalism. And the treatment of the world's womanhood by the capitalistic system will yet prove to be an urgent and irresistible provocation to the revolt of the people. Employment of women in open market means the professional slander, clubbing, and shooting of her in future economic struggles. The mask will not stay on the capitalist's face, and the devil will out.

The laboring women and children are the second of three downward stages of subjection. First, the man dependent, waiting for the right to live by labor at the highest price; second, then at a lower price; third, the army of unemployed at any price.

The Mayor and police of Salem, N. J., only went out to "reason" with the tomato peeling ladies on strike there at the canning factories. A Mayor and Policeman reasoning, just think of it! And with strikers. Wouldn't it be a luxury to listen to them reasoning? Can you imagine how they did it? "There's a dear pretty mob of girls; do go back to work now and let the good gentlemen starve you. Remember, the eyes of the world are upon us. Think of what the Philippines, women and men, will say if Salem's dirty linen gets into the papers. Besides, if you persist, we will import lots of other young women to take your places and, well, that will mean old maid for many of you—see! Do not damage the great cause of female emancipation by asking for butter on your bread. Remember what you owe to the Stars and Stripes, the right to labor has been magnanimously conceded to your sex here, and yet you are already like the men, demanding fair wages. If you insist upon being able to supply all your needs out of your own earnings, what is the use of having sweethearts and brothers and fathers?" But the age of reason as between capital and labor has passed away. The Deputy Marshal and his bloodhounds must soon assail the women—economic law demands it—and then.

False emancipation through our late civil war has left some terrible slave facts behind it, and seeds for much more. Our history, poisoned almost at the springs, will flow down through the public schools laden with germs of military fever and a species of pious pagan flag worship closely resembling Islamism in the fanaticism with which it drags its God into the battle field and turns places of worship into rallying houses for the frenzy of war, and of pangs for blood sheddings. There cannot be seen in countries outside of America arms stacked inside altar rails, and drummers and buglers there, and military men occupying the pulpits, worshippings the demon of war while affecting to honor the poor slain soldier. This we see, and more is coming.

To be able to give correct statement to our problems and to be able to give that statement currency wherever our difficulties exist is almost, if not quite, equivalent to the solution of them all. Through the stroke of fraud and frenzy now sweeping over France it would be difficult to make or to hear such a statement. Yet it can be given when we know that this, like all other

civil or uncivil wars, is but a war for property. The participants may disguise it from one another or from themselves, but it is a property war. The Romanarchy opposing the flow of property to the Jew arches Hebrew and Protestant; and the capitalist pure and simple playing all arches against each other, with the fool people, of course, doing the fighting.

However undesirable it may be, this, for many years to come, must be the true issue between the classes, as it has unhappily come to be between individuals in our competitive system—a struggle for the gradual nationalization of such property as cannot be privately owned without danger to the liberty of our persons and the integrity of our public functions.

A liberal education in the future will mean the broadening of the individual view to the whole public horizon and the acquiring of an ability for public statement in France it would appear that this ability is almost lost, or if it be uttered there outside of Socialist circles, we seldom hear of it. I pity the poor French Socialist in that land of hysterics.

The De Lirium La Kuba group of Beekman street Socialists have their fellows on show, throughout all this decay of the French public mind, in the militants of Paris who have been frantically pulling snakes off themselves (traitors) so long that to keep the business moving they manufacture them in private gossiers or any other old things that will foster the public credulity in snakes.

Looking at each succeeding issue of the Beekman street Dossier it must appear strange to any outsider that Socialism should have produced so many traitors and all-round dead beats as the laocoon group are writhing with all the time. Let us have done with this hysterical and malicious nonsense; Socialism has no need to be laconic. This is a level-headed, manly agitation.

PROSPERITY'S SURE SIGNS.

Capitalist Horrors in the Metropolis of the Republic. Starved Emaciated Children that Beat the Reconcentrado Pictures.

The following article from the New York "World" tells a tale that should make every workman think of the future of his children, if death perchance should deprive them of his aid:

"The truly philanthropic who sent sealskin coats to the young Africans and pajamas to the youthful Esquimaux may be interested to know that seven children of one family were found starving in this city yesterday.
"The eldest of these children, the little mother of the rest—for they have no mother—is twelve years of age; the youngest is ten months.
"The little mother has been trying to provide bread for her brothers and sisters by stealing pennies from her father's pockets as he lay drunk. He would not give her any money; it all went to the dramshop. It seems to be doubtful if the Recording Angel entered these thefts against Loretta McGrath.
"The seven and their father existed—it cannot be said that they "lived"—on the top floor of the tenement house No. 338 East 48th street. Their mother, Margaret, was a consumptive, who, sociologists will tell you, should never have married. Having brought children into the world with great regularity, she died six weeks ago. Their father, John McGrath, a consumptive, too, was employed in the Street Cleaning Department. After his wife's death he took to drink. Then fell upon Loretta's poor, thin, bent shoulders the task of keeping her brothers and sisters alive.
"The neighbors, who are poor, helped her, else the seven would have starved to death a month ago. But the neighbors, at last, told the police of the children's sufferings and the police informed the Gerry Society. Agent Thomas Agnew was sent to them yesterday.
"There they were, almost naked, dirty, unkempt, with legs and arms like pipe-stems and wan, white faces. When the pictures were published of the children of the reconcentrados whom the Spanish starved in Cuba, the whole world was shocked. These seven children were starving in New York.
"And on a mattress lay their father, snoring in drunken stupor.
"The police obligingly lent a patrol wagon to Agnew, who lifted the children into it tenderly lest they should break, their limbs did look so much like pipe-stems. Loretta and the four next oldest Agnew took to the society's rooms. For they needed most wholesome food, a bath and clean clothes.
"But the younger, the weaker, whom hunger had found easier prey—Margaret, two years old, and Sam, ten months—Agnew took to Bellevue Hospital, for they need medical attendance and good nursing. Sympathetic nurses surrounded Margaret and the baby in the hospital's reception room and cooed to the baby and called it "Poor itty slag."
"The baby looked straight ahead out of eyes that seemed unnaturally big by contrast with his tiny thin face. He did not laugh or wriggle or try to punch his own face, as healthy, happy, well-fed babies do when women coo to them."

Do you think your children stand a better chance whether you vote for Republicans or Democrats? There is only one sure way for the poor workman to insure his children and those that are dear to him, and that is to help bring about the days of the Co-operative

Commonwealth, where every human being will be insured against starvation and want as a member of the great human family.

Do you think you would prefer that to the present system of "Independence" in the capitalist state, where you risk to be thrown out like a dog when no more profits can be squeezed out of you? Then cast your vote for the Socialist Labor Party and see to it that your fellow workers do the same!

Class-Conscious Capitalists.

The Philadelphia "North American," one of the most conservative journals of that conservative city, recently interviewed a large number of the "substantial" citizens of that place, including bankers, railroad magnates and large manufacturers, on the question "What has the Twentieth Century in store for Philadelphia?" The general conclusion was as follows:

Substantial business men, whose names are almost household words, solemnly affirm that with the coming of the new century will come revolution and bloodshed. Leading lawyers say the tendency will be towards Socialism. Bankers join with the labor leaders in forecasting the triumph of the Single Tax theory and the consequent overthrow of the existing social conditions. That such a tremendous undercurrent of dissatisfaction and unrest exists in this city will undoubtedly come as a shock to thousands of conservative citizens. The optimistic views are not shared upon the street in time of riot and excitement, but were given deliberately while the speakers sat in their well furnished offices, surrounded by comforts and evidences of prosperity.

Discounting the confusion of mind which is manifested in confounding Single Tax with Socialism and ascribing to the former a revolutionary character which it does not possess, the above is decidedly interesting as showing in marked contrast the class-consciousness of the capitalist class with the utter lack of it among the workingmen.

The leading capitalists who press the buttons which make the newspaper scribblers at their command shout "Prosperity" and "Contentment" where there is only slaving away for a meagre wage,—these capitalists know how to discount these shouts and understand fully well that this sort of fooling can not last all the time.

The ever swelling note of Socialist protest as it expresses itself in the growing class-conscious vote of the Socialist Labor Party, in the half-consciousings of labor as they manifest themselves in the numerous strikes, boycotts, and independent labor parties, in the general popularity of demagogues à la Sam Jones who parade as Socialists,—all these unmistakable signs of popular unrest coupled with the knowledge of the inevitable failure on the part of the capitalist system to satisfy the wants of the people, makes the capitalists tremble "as they think the well furnished offices" as they think of the coming triumph of the Social Revolution.

CAPITALISM AND LUNACY.

The report of the Commissioners in Lunacy is always a melancholy commentary on modern progress and civilization, and is in itself a condemnation of the competitive capitalist system. The report recently issued shows an increase in the number of lunatics in England and Wales of 3,114, and this is the largest increase yet recorded. For the last forty years, however, there appears to have been a steady increase in the number of the insane; and not only an increase in their actual number but an increase in proportion to the population. There are to-day, therefore, not only more lunatics in England and Wales than ever before, since a record has been kept, but there are also more insane people per every thousand of our population. With the much vaunted progress of medical and sanitary science it is sad to reflect upon so terrible an increase of the frightful malady of insanity. Within thirty years the rate of insanity per ten thousand has steadily risen from 4.71 to 6.15. It has been said that this terrible penalty is the price we have to pay for civilization. It is true that this is only one of the many penalties we have to pay for the present system of civilization. The questions, therefore, at once present themselves: Is this form of civilization worth the price we have to pay for it; and is this terrible Lunacy, like so many other evils, the result of the terrible rush and drive incidental only to a mad system of competition and its utter disregard of the conditions of healthy human life. Lunacy is a result of capitalism; when capitalism with its frightful contrasts of wealth and poverty, riotous luxury and degraded squalor, is replaced by co-operation for life instead of competition for death and insanity, when capitalism is replaced by Socialism, then and not till then will lunacy cease to increase in our midst.—London "Justice."

The attention of comrades in New York and vicinity is called to the picnic arranged by the Section at Ridgewood Grove. The proceeds will go to swell the campaign fund and no comrade should fail to appear there with his friends. For details see advertisement on page 4.

Keep an eye on your wrapper. See when your subscription expires. Renew in time, to avoid general interruption in the mailing of the paper and hindrance work at the office.

FOOLISH POLICE!

Trying to Stem the Socialist Tide by Arresting Socialist Speakers.

Since the famous Chicago Haymarket outrage of 1886, when four innocent men were put to death as a "lesson" to the working people which was to drive terror into their hearts, not a single open air meeting could be held in that city for ten years. Republican guardians of capitalist interests and Democratic politicians alike did their best to suppress any and every attempt at free speech which, as a rule, came from the Socialists.

In 1890, at the time of the Bryan campaign, when both the Republicans and Democrats became red hot agitators were going to bring about the "sovereign voters" in their ardent desire to save them from the coming catastrophe which each claimed his opponents were going to bring about, the spell was broken, and open air meetings were for the first time allowed. It goes without saying that our Chicago comrades were not a bit slow in making use of the opportunity to the full extent possible, and the police have been sorry ever since for the change. They look with wistful eyes to the past when no Socialist agitator could open his mouth on the street without being clapped into jail and hope that they may bulldoze the Socialists into silence. But they are counting without their host. The following news, taken from "The Workers' Call," is but a sample of what has been occurring there quite frequently of late. No doubt that the effect of the good work done by the police will be clear and certain after election day.

"At the meeting at 51st and State last Sunday night while Comrade Knight was speaking a man by the name of Garrity, a little property owner in the neighborhood, and who claimed to belong to the Central detective detail, joined in with a number of other toughs to break up the meeting. Garrity announced that he had no objection if they were talking religion but that he was not going to have any more politics talked. When Comrade Figolah showed the permit from Chief Kiple he was unceremoniously arrested, and after a lot of insulting talk about anarchists, etc., from Garrity, Comrade Figolah was taken to the station with instructions not to let him out until morning. The comrades, however, succeeded in securing bail and released him in a short time.

"In the meanwhile Garrity and his gang of toughs in their search for more worlds to conquer had arrested Comrade Felph who was present at the meeting and who was also hauled out. In court the next morning a continuance was taken until the 14th when the case will be fought out. There seems to be a concerted effort to annoy and break up the S. L. P. meetings by the 'guards of peace and honor.' But the comrades are not so easily discouraged and it may be depended upon that the agitation will be kept up and the matter of liberty of speech fought at every point.

"And right here it might be well to point to the extremely active outdoor agitation that the comrades of Chicago have carried on during the past summer. It is safe to say that more meetings have been held, more literature distributed each week during the past summer than in any previous six months. Chicago is waking up to the truths of Socialism as never before and will make herself heard when the next election day comes around."

YOU CAN NOT FOOL THE PEOPLE ALL THE TIME.

PITTSBURGH, Sept. 8.—Lieut. T. O. Murphy of the regular army returned from Meadville, Pa., to-day, where the anti-imperialists caused his attempted recruiting to be a total failure. As soon as his advertisements were put out anti-imperialists gathered about his place and talked many young men out of the notion of visiting the recruiting office. Five were secured and passed, however, and were notified to return next morning to be sworn in. Only two came, and these refused to join the army, saying their neighbors had told them they would be ostracized and considered criminals if they joined the army to fight the Philippines.

Lieut. Murphy was inter visited by a delegation of citizens, who told him he had no business in the town trying to inveigle their boys into the army, and he had better leave. Lieut. Murphy and Major Chance, who is in charge of the recruiting office here, are very indignant, and say it is the first time they have experienced any opposition in their recruiting work.
Capt. Bruce Gamble of the Fifteenth Pennsylvania Volunteers and the local papers aided Lieut. Murphy as far as possible, but their efforts were power less against those of Aguilardo's friends.

Next, workmen should refuse to join the militia which is kept for the single purpose of shooting down working people who seek to better their condition. Let the capitalists do their own fighting!

Are you doing all you can for The People? Don't forget that the best way to reach those who are strangers to our cause is to supply them with literature in which our ideas are presented in a form attractive and accessible to the average worker. The easiest and cheapest way to do it is to pass your copy of The People to your neighbor after you are through with it.

STATEMENT

Of the New York Sections.

The Action of Suspension of Six Members of the National Executive Committee and the National Secretary Submitted to a Referendum Vote of the Party.
To the Members of the Socialist Labor Party.

Comrades:—The tabulated result of the referendum vote of the membership of the Sections of Greater New York has been published in the last issue of The People and shows that the action of the General Committee of Section New York in deposing the former National Secretary and six members of the National Executive Committee has been ratified by an average vote of 700 against 12. The number of votes thus cast represents an overwhelming majority of the membership of the Sections of Greater New York not only as at present constituted, but at any time prior to July 10, 1899.

All elements of doubt as to the constitutionality of the action of the General Committee, having thus been removed, the Sections of the City of New York, represented by their respective committees in joint meeting assembled, do hereby submit their said action to a general vote of the Party in accordance with the provisions of the constitution, Sect. 1, Art. IV.

At the same time the said Sections hereby submit to the Party membership their reasons for the suspension of the national officers.

- 1. It is the duty of the National Executive Committee to control the contents of our Party organs. (Party Constitution, Sect. 1, Art. VIII.) The deposed national officers have wilfully neglected to perform that duty. a) They have tolerated our chief Party organ, The People, to be dragged down to the level of a private instrument used by its editor for the purpose of abuse of all who in any way dissented from his views,—be it even a Party member, a Party organization, or a Party organ. b) They have approved of the actions of the editors of The People and the "Vorwarts" in suppressing the replies of the Party members and organizations that were bitterly attacked by the editor of The People. c) They have inserted over their names in the May Day issue of The People of 1899, intended for purely educational and propaganda purposes and, therefore, published in 115,000 copies, a long pronouncement, so-called "Statement on the Situation in New York," dwelling upon and fomenting factional strife, advocating the views and promoting the ends of one faction. (The People, May 1.) 2. The N. E. C. should endeavor to ensure the harmonious co-operation of all Party members in the common work of agitation and propaganda. Instead, the deposed officers have in every way fostered the spirit of dissension among Party members. a) By endeavoring to raise a local struggle of factions into a National Party issue. b) By appealing to non-members to take part in the factional strife within the Party, thus invoking the aid of outsiders against Party members and a Party organ. c) By defaming and vilifying a number of Party members and a Party organization that has for years published The People, with great labor and sacrifice. d) By attempting to raise the purely theoretical and minor question of taxation into a vital Party issue and a test of Party loyalty. e) By endorsing the disgraceful conduct of Hugo Vogt, in divulging confidential communications contained in private letters, for factional purposes. f) By addressing, in an official document, a member of the Party as a "hired logomachist." (The People, May 1.) 3. The N. E. C., as the highest executive authority of the Party, has the duty of enforcing in the management of Party affairs, proper discipline, and order according to the provisions of the Constitution of the Party. Instead, the deposed officers have mocked all discipline and even endeavored to introduce a state of anarchy and despotism in the administration of their duties: a) By disregarding decisions of the National Board of Appeals and declaring the same of no binding force upon the Parties concerned. b) By entertaining and sustaining an appeal, in the form of a "protest," made by a subordinate committee of Section Greater New York, from a decision of the National Board of Appeals in the case of Branch II against Section New York. c) By taking the initiative in referring propositions to a general vote, thus arrogating unto themselves powers not conferred on them by the constitution. d) By declaring that its decisions are not amenable to the mandates of the Board of Appeals. The suspended National Secretary never failed to aid the deposed members of the N. E. C. in all their malfeasances. He never failed to counter-sign and approve any of their statements intended to foment discord in the Party. Hence he is as much guilty of any and all acts of omission and commission as any of the suspended members of the N. E. C. But in addition, he, instead of performing his

(Continued on page 3.)

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SOCIALIST VOTE IN THE UNITED STATES.

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

The vote upon the question of holding a National Convention submitted by the N. E. C. must reach the National Secretary not later than October 1 to be counted.

SHOULD A SOCIALIST BELONG TO A PURE AND SIMPLE TRADE-UNION?

A Comrade in a letter published in last week's People expresses his indignation at the stand taken by Comrade Lee in his splendid series of articles on "Socialism and Unionism" concluded in last week's issue.

The remarks quoted show to what an extent the "anti-fakir" cry raised by our late leaders has gone to poison the minds of our comrades.

Let us take up now the arguments presented. In the first place our friend is very wrong, hopelessly wrong when he attempts to put upon one level the pure and simple trade union and the old capitalistic parties.

On the other hand, how does the matter stand with the trade unions? What is a trade union? And when we say a "trade union" we mean a pure and simple trade union, no better and no worse than the average American trade union.

The first number of the new Jewish Socialist paper, the "Daily Volkstimung," appeared Saturday, Sept. 9, and found an eager crowd of Socialists ready to welcome it.

In a four column editorial the attitude of the new paper is clearly and unequivocally brought out. We will quote a few lines indicating its attitude on the most important points.

fakir to call into existence or to maintain for any length of time a movement of such stupendous proportions as is the trade union movement of this country. The trade union movement, like the Socialist movement, has its roots deep in the soil of Capitalism and, like Socialism, will not disappear until capitalism disappears.

It is true that the trade union movement has not kept pace with the march of society and with the ever growing aggressiveness of its deadly foe, the capitalist class.

Sticking then to our fundamental position of viewing both the capitalist political parties and the trade unions first, as phenomena of social evolution and second, as manifestations of the class struggle we come to the following conclusions:

1. The two old parties are representatives of and controlled by capitalist interests. For a workman or a Socialist to join them in order to convert or to capture either of those parties for the laborer would be just as sensible as for a soldier or citizen of one nation at war with another to try to enter the army of the enemy to convert or capture it for the cause of his nation.

2. The trade union is an organization of workmen, and workmen only. It is the purest type of a class organization—as far as mere membership is concerned—as ever could be found.

3. While the interests of the two old parties are unalterably opposed to Socialism, the interests of the working class which is represented by and controls the trade unions, demand Socialism.

4. The capitalist parties are opposed to Socialism because they are fully AWARE of what it means and of the consequences it would bring upon them.

5. Hence to hope to convert the former to Socialism is the height of folly; but to try and work for the conversion of the latter to our cause is eminently sensible and, in fact, lies in line with and is part of our plan of work—agitation and organization of the working class for the grand aim of establishing the Co-operative Commonwealth.

Hence the resolution embodied in our constitution, which can not be quoted too often:

"Whereas, We recognize the necessity of carrying on the war against capitalism simultaneously on the political and economic fields; therefore be it Resolved, That we recommend to all Socialists to join the organizations of the trades to which they respectively belong."

used by the dependant nations without the collateral loss the following to say:

"The result of these tactics was, that the Socialist Labor Party was almost completely turned into a sect with the holy trinity of De Leon, Kuhn & Vogt as Gods. The narrow spirit which took us away from the trade union movement drove us on more and more to separations, expulsions, dissensions, and splits within our party.

On the subject of trade unions, the following extract shows the position taken:

"We shall first of all strive to create a strong trade union movement among the Jewish workers, and in this work we are ready to join hands with all those who are in earnest about the Cause of Labor, no matter what their political views and connections are."

We wish our sister organ long life and success in the great work it has before it of spreading Socialism among the Jewish workers of America, and serving to them as a torch-light in the long weary march through capitalist darkness to the Socialist goal.

BEATEN AGAIN.

Comrades in the country must have been surprised last week to see the Beekman street sheet appear again under the name of The People, after it had itself announced the defeat of the Boss in the court.

As we pointed out two weeks ago, the first to apply for an injunction to the courts restraining the Party from issuing The People were our Beekman street friends.

Historically the merchant's capital precedes the usurer's; there must be at least a partial circulation of wealth, rather than of products; products must assume, to some extent, the role of commodities, and money its different functions—as a measure of value, medium of circulation, and means of payment.

On being defeated before Justice Fitzgerald the Boss, through his lawyer, applied to Justice Bookstaver for a stay of proceedings and succeeded in getting the order by misrepresentations.

The next move was to issue the bogus edition of The People in defiance of the court and in the meantime to apply to Judge Gildersleeve on two motions: 1. To vacate the injunction order of Justice Fitzgerald, on the ground that it was issued after the twenty day period from the date of submitting the facts; 2. Asking for a stay of proceedings, pending the appeal to the Appellate Division.

Both motions were denied, because the grounds advanced, as all through the proceedings, were untenable in law or equity.

The injunction against the Boss, therefore, holds good and he will be compelled to stop publishing his bogus paper.

We have indicated from giving these things surface as it is our duty to take up an little space of The People with their authors as possible, but the numerous requests from comrades for information caused by the independent lying of the other side compelled us now to give this account of the legal aspect of the struggle.

The verdict of the court-martial which declared Dreyfus guilty will not set France at peace. On the contrary, it will give the French Socialists a new impetus to start a more vigorous agitation against military rule.

News reaches us from St. Francisco too late to be published that the Central Committee of the Section of that city has declared for the National Executive Committee and referred its decision to a referendum vote. Next!

Seventy-five new members were admitted by Section Greater New York of the Socialist Labor party at the last two meetings of the General Committee. And more are coming!

The attention of comrades in New York and vicinity is called to the picnic arranged by the Section at Ridgewood Grove. The proceeds will go to swell the campaign fund and no comrade should fail to appear there with his friends. For details see advertisement on page 4.

USURY.

The Part It Plays in the Development of Capitalist Production.

By A. HIRSCHFIELD, M.D.

With the development of capitalist production industrial capital assumes a preponderance over the other forms of capital—the merchant's and the usurer's. The owner and possessor of industrial capital is the one who exploits the productive laborer and receives the "surplus value," one part of which, owing to the complex social organization of the capitalist system, he is compelled to deliver to the merchant in the form of "profit," another to the banker in the form of interest, and a third to the holder of annuities, advertisements, storage keepers, etc., necessary appendages of the production-for-sale system, in the form of "incidental expenses."

Chapter XXXVI of the third volume of "Capital" is a brief historic sketch of the history and role of usury and the usurer, and it will repay those who are able to read German to carefully peruse that chapter.

The merchant's and usurer's capital had ere long preceded industrial capital and are met with in different forms of ancient and medieval society.

The merchant of ancient and medieval times borrowed money in order to use it as capital, i. e., to buy commodities with it and make profit, the same is done now-a-days. Many of the universities of Europe in the 15th century and especially those of Cologne and Lyons recognized these new relations which had sprung from commerce and advocated the right of the lender to interest for the money used by the merchant, as well as by the land-owner who borrowed money to buy slaves with in order to enrich himself by the exploitation of their labor.

The foregoing is another proof (if proof be necessary) of the truthfulness of Marx's and Engel's conception of history, to wit: "The economic structure of society, at any time prevalent, constitutes the real basis, and explains, in the last instance, the whole superstructure of juridic and political institutions, as well the religious, philosophic, and all other ideas of each historic period."

Especially characteristic and especially interesting to us is that the usurer derived more than ever in medieval society by supplying the prodigal aristocracy and the small nobles with money at fabulous rates of interest.

The decline of the landed aristocracy and the exploitation of the small artisans and farmers by the usurers had greatly contributed to the concentration of money capital and the latter had in many instances hastened the in-

introduction of capitalist production under certain circumstances. The usurer's capital is characterized of small proportions—individual articles and means of production. The usurer has infrequently accumulated the lion's share of the product of the producer who was the medieval worker. That share of "surplus value" which under capitalism goes to the land-owner is "because for the risk of undertaking" went wholly to the usurer.

The feudal lord or his vassal wherever happened to be the victim of the usurer was frequently compelled to still more exploit his overburdened lands in order to meet the demands of the usurer. The price of his goods in order to be able to live.

Usury has to a great extent assisted in undermining the feudal system and its form of ownership or its property relations. It has also undermined and destroyed the small property owner—the class of independent peasants.

Where the capitalist form of production is already developed the producer, the wage laborer, is divorced from the land and the means of production. There the machine has displaced the tool, and the stock company the individual employer. In such a society usury does not divorce the producers from the means of production, but where small production is predominant it does it most of all.

Money capital of the usurer becomes concentrated where the means of production are scattered. Usury does not change the form of production, but like a parasite it saps its vitality and makes the condition of its victims pitiful and helpless. The condition of these small producers becomes more and more degrading, their lot more miserable and less independent, and as the basis of political relations in such a society is the independence of its citizens, the popular hatred of the usurer during the middle ages can be easily understood.

Usury in the period which preceded the capitalist form of production was revolutionary in its effects in so far as it destroyed the then existing property rights. Many an estate of a feudal proprietor became the property of a usurer, but the lot of the serfs or slaves who worked on it as well as the form of production were left unchanged by its new owner—the usurer. Where other conditions for the development of capitalist production are in existence, there usury is a valuable adjunct, for by the concentration of money capital on one hand and the destruction of the small owners on the other, it has created the future capitalists and proletarians.

"The capital of the usurer," says Marx, "possesses the means and ways of exploitation but lacks the ways of production that industrial capital has." The less production is developed, the less product assume the forms of commodities, the more money becomes real wealth, actual wealth, hence hoarding becomes a mania. With the function of money as a means of payment of debts as well as taxes instead of in kind the power of the usurer is more extended, the number of his victims increased, and the condition of the latter becomes more helpless, more miserable.

The usurer charges all he can get, hence the class struggle of ancient and medieval society between debtor and creditor.

The development of credit and modern banking appears as a reaction against usury but is in reality only the subjugation of money capital by its industrial brother.

In capitalist society money capital or the banking capital takes an insignificant part of the "surplus value" which comes first to the industrial capitalist. As under capitalism the rate of profit has a tendency to decrease, so must necessarily the rate of interest.

The capital of the modern banker is the same as of the ancient and medieval usurer, but the conditions under which the latter had operated are different from those under which the former operates to-day. Instead of antagonism which were pronounced against the usurers by the church our bankers are "the best citizens" of to-day.

In the 17th and 18th centuries the struggle between the credit system—banks, and the cash system—usury was most severe. Everywhere the capitalists, i. e., the industrial capitalists, hailed the arrival of the credit system as a blessing from heaven. The banking and credit system not only does away with the personality of the usurer, but it "sweats money from every pore"; it gathers all the available money and even the potential capital; it forms, so to speak, the reservoir as well as the lever of capitalist production. "There is not the least doubt," says Marx, "that the credit system will serve as a powerful lever during the transition period from capitalist to co-operative production, but only as one of the elements in conjunction with the other great changes in production itself." But as soon as the means of production (including land) cease to be capital, credit as such will have neither place nor value.

To recapitulate: The most ancient forms of capital are the merchant's capital. The merchant's capital in order to yield an increase must first be converted from money into products and then again reconverted into money or to use the general formula of Marx: M—C—M + m (where M stands for M for commodity, and m for the profit resulting from the transaction). But the usurer's capital is M—M + m, or as some economists have called it capital per excellence.

Both these ancient forms of capital exploit the existing form of production, but they do not change it. Usury tries to uphold the system while it undermines its foundation and saps its vitality. Its very existence is only possible where capitalist production on a large scale is in vogue. Usury is conservative. It strives to uphold the status quo. The less the circulation of commodities is in a given country the more usury flourishes. It concentrates the money wealth, the guarantee to capitalist production, and it destroys the small property owners, bringing them to the very threshold of proletarian destitution, the indispensable prerequisite of capitalist production.

If you have any difficulty in securing the paper please notify this office.

IN THE TRADE UNION WORLD.

The Socialist Trade Unions in Germany.

The General Board (All-Generalsrat) of the Trade Unions of Germany has just published its annual report on the trade union movement in the German Empire which shows that the growth of the unions in that country has suffered no check and reflects a healthy state of affairs.

It appears from the report that notwithstanding the comparatively recent development of the trade union movement in Germany there were no less than 12 national unions during last year with a membership exceeding 10,000 each, as follows:

Metalworkers, 75,481; bricklayers, 60,175; woodworkers, 45,588; shoemakers, 29,007; mill workers, 27,500; bookbinders, 24,020; carpenters, 22,104; tobacco workers, 18,532; factory workers, 18,172; shoemakers, 14,528; dock workers, 10,007; stencilmakers, 10,000.

The total membership of the national unions amounted to 498,376, including 18,481 women; adding to this the 17,000 members of local unions not belonging to any national organization we get a total of 515,376 trade unionists who recognize Socialism as the basis of the modern trade union movement, above the other trade unions as the so-called "Christian" unions and the "Black-Drinkers" unions (pure and shapless) are not included in the report.

The increase in membership during the year was equal to 85,000 in 43 unions. The lion's share in this increase fell to the bricklayers who got in 17,500 new members; next come the metal workers with an increase of 15,500; the miners with 9,200; wood workers, 8,000; textile workers, 6,200; carpenters, 4,500; building trades, 3,500; factory workers, 2,500; trade and transportation, 2,200. The increase in the other unions was below these figures.

These figures show that the unions which fared best are those which represent trades where large capital is more and more forcing the small producers out of the field. In other words that the forward march of capitalism coincides with that of trade unionism and Socialism.

Only fourteen unions suffered a loss of membership amounting to a total of 5,350 members. This leaves the total increase in membership in the German trade unions for the year 1898, 79,578.

The state of their treasury makes a still more favorable showing. The income during the year exceeded five and a half million marks (about 1 1/2 million dollars), and the expenditure was over 4 million, leaving in the treasury with the sums previously on hand a total of nearly 4 1/2 million marks, or one million dollars as a reserve fund. Can Mr. Gompers boast of one million dollars in the treasury of the American Federation of Labor? And yet he will go on making fun of the Socialist delegates at the conventions of the Federation, and telling them that the German Socialists can only talk of the future, but don't know how to wage battles in the present. Add to this the courage, the solidarity, and the devotion to the cause of which the German trade unionists have given such splendid examples on many an occasion and which they have developed to such an extent because they have known how to combine Socialism with trade unionism, and you get some idea of the strength and fighting capacity of the Socialist trade unions of Germany which may well serve as an example to our American unions.

The following items of expenditure of the Socialist unions in Germany (in round numbers) will be quite instructive for American trade unionists:

Table with 2 columns: Item and Marks. Items include Strike benefits (1,073,000), Sick benefits (491,000), Traveling benefits (282,000), Out-of-work benefits (275,000), Support of invalids (80,000), Death benefits (78,000), Legal expenses (42,000), Support of black-listed members (40,000), Trade union press (510,000), Stationery, etc. (106,000), Agitation among non-union men (136,000), Salaries to officers (in 97 national unions) (140,423), Conferences and general meetings (60,000), General Board (42,000), Paid to affiliated unions for local officers, local support, etc. (723,000).

Adding the expenditures for support of strikers, legal expenses (which are involved largely in securing legal defense for members prosecuted by the government and by employers), support of black-listed members, trade union press and agitation among non-union men, we get an expenditure of about 1,500,000 marks; in other words over 40 per cent. of all the expenditures are spent directly for fighting the battles of labor, another two million marks, or about 50 per cent. of all the expenditures, are spent in supporting the unemployed, assisting the sick, and for other purposes which are of direct benefit to the individual members of the trade unions, though they do not necessarily affect the union as such, except the support of unemployed which is the best way of keeping down the competition of the workers among themselves and thus preventing the wages from sinking still lower than they are. Finally less than a tenth of all the expenditures goes to cover not only the salaries of the trade union officers but also the expenses of conventions, special assemblies, etc.

All of which means that the German comrades have not only pure democracy, but they also know how to combine intelligence, revolutionary spirit, and enthusiasm with practical ability in waging the class struggle of the German proletariat.

If you think of a novel present for your friend why not subscribe for him The People? 50 cents will keep him supplied with it for one year, 25 cents for 6 months, 15 cents for 3 months. Let the Socialist gaze get at his class struggle.

THE SOCIALIST PRESS ON THE SITUATION IN THE PARTY.

That class-conscious, intelligent Socialists can not be "whipped" into line or bulldozed and frightened into submission will be admitted by every one who knows something of the spirit of our movement, except our late would-be bosses, who in their blind arrogance thought that they were masters of all they surveyed as far as the S. L. P. was concerned.

Another point: Several comrades throughout the country, who up to recent date, have been proclaimed in the party papers as "earnest, faithful, zealous, devoted champions of Socialism"—who have been praised again and again in those papers, and whose articles have appeared therein under favorable headlines, or with favorable comments, are suddenly discovered to be "bad men," a discovery which dates from the time said comrades proposed methods of settling the party trouble, out of harmony with the views of their detractors.

We perfectly agree with "The Class Struggle" that "only by throwing aside our prejudices and getting together in kindly deliberation can we reach a satisfactory conclusion of the present troubles," and can assure it that the only place where the comrades will find such an opportunity will be at the convention called by the Acting National Executive Committee.

We publish the above letter because it epitomizes several letters received during the past few weeks. We trust that those who read it and our comments thereon, have already read in a former issue our editorials "The Reason Why" and "A Proposed Plan."

Remember, comrades, that "The Class Struggle" has done nothing to precipitate the present party trouble. It has steadily refused to do anything to promote strife. It has presented a constructive policy. It has asked for calm deliberation, careful investigation, a fair trial of the case upon its merits, a speedy, safe, and permanent settlement of the trouble in harmony with the welfare of the movement.

This paper has steadfastly advocated, straight-forward, uncompromising, class-conscious Socialism. It has plinned its faith to the S. L. P. It believes in its policy toward capitalism. We desire to close all doors against any possible division of the party's forces. We trust that the present trouble will be settled so as to leave nothing by which any other political force may profit.

equal voice in settling party affairs. We have steadfastly advocated thought and free discussion. We have strenuously battled against any curtailing of free speech and free press, many of us having gone to jail rather than submit to it.

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STATEMENT Of the National Board of Appeals.

To the Members of the Socialist Labor Party of the United States: Comrades: True to its desire to rule or ruin the deposed National Executive Committee has added another link to its long chain of iniquity by arrogating to itself the right to make laws in its favor where no constitutional provision existed to prevent the villainy it had hatched.

Embodied in the outlawing of Section Cleveland is the deposit of the National Board of Appeals, created by the Constitution, and the highest tribunal of the party outside the national convention or the supreme will of the membership itself.

Let us review: On July 8th, in conformity with the law of Section Greater New York a meeting of the General Committee was held, in which a number of new delegates appeared with credentials accredited by their respective organizations.

Subsequent to this for a report of the Committee on Credentials after quiet had been somewhat restored, created renewed trouble, and it was impossible to proceed with the business of the organization.

It appears that a number of delegates met and united in a call for a special meeting on Monday, July 10, 1890, in which to proceed with the work of organizing the General Committee of Section New York, the executive body of the organization, constituted by delegates from the various Branches and Assembly Districts of that city.

From that moment on, however, the affairs of the Socialist Labor party assumed a different aspect. The members of the organizations, or more properly the delegates of bodies siding with the old Executive and who were responsible for the turmoil that occurred on July 8, and refused to participate in the meeting of July 10, although it was known to them that a call for a meeting has been issued, also met and constituted themselves as a General Committee of Section Greater New York.

The members of the National Board of Appeals deem it their duty to present to the members of the Socialist Labor Party of America this statement of facts and place them in the position of judging for themselves whether or not the attitude of the Board is correct and in harmony with the constitution of the Socialist Labor Party.

rect and in harmony with the constitution of the Socialist Labor Party. The members of the Board of Appeals are charged with treasonable conduct. We suppose this to be implied because the Board did not become a willing tool of the deposed N. E. C., which declared in its meeting of June 23, 1890, that NO COMMITTEE OF THE PARTY CAN BE ALLOWED TO STAND BETWEEN THE PARTY AND ITS NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The Chamber, while recognizing the necessity of a ministry ready to defend republican institutions and to put an end to the monarchical and military conspiracy, but unable to entrust such a mission to a ministry of which M. de Gallifet is a member, passes to the order of the day.

We reproduce the principal part of the resolution which was unanimously adopted by the convention with regard to the coming general convention: It is apparent that the Marxists are not very anxious for unity at any price, for they seek not of a United Party but of a common organization in which the French Labor Party is to be represented "according to its strength."

For this purpose it vests the permanent Committee of the N. E. C. with full power to act in conjunction with other organizations in arranging the Convention, the order of business and time of meeting expecting that the various organizations will be represented there according to their respective membership. The Convention further decides:

1. That the French Labor Party has always been and is now disposed to accept the formation of a central organization on the condition that it be represented in proportion to its strength. 2. That the delegates of the Party to the General Convention are to call for a suspension of the session for half a day after the close of the debates, and to hold a conference of their own so as to cast a unanimous vote when the general vote is called for.

It remains now to be seen what the General Convention, which is to be held shortly, will succeed in accomplishing. [Correspondents who prefer to appear in print under an assumed name, will attach such name to their communication, besides their own signature and address. None other will be recognized. All communications should be written on one side of the paper only. The appearance of an article in these columns does not commit the editor to its views.]

Praised be the Boss! If ever the popular saying, "Give him rope enough and he will hang himself," was true, it is especially applicable to the Boss and his willing tools. Hundreds of comrades have abandoned his sinking craft disgusted with the manner of his dealing with comrades and bona fide Socialist organizations.

teachers employed in elementary schools. But for a very few votes an amendment seconded by the Deputy from Marcellus would have been passed (the vote stood 225 against 233). On the occasion of the Interpellation of the Government by Dejeante in France the participation of the French Republic in the conference held in Rome against anarchists, Comrade Zévaès took the floor and pointed out that it was Socialism that was meant much more than anarchism by the Rome conference, and that "capitalist society is the veritable midwife of anarchy." (Session of Nov. 24, 1888.)

This resolution, which received 71 votes, was followed by a declaration made from the tribune by Comrade Zévaès in the name of the Parliamentary Group of the Party.

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depend upon the economic look, and society must conform to it sooner or later. It seems to me if we can show a person, and especially a wage worker, the necessity of his having the means of subsistence, and showing what he wishes to live upon just as he has use of the public road, the air he breathes, the sunlight, the water, and that all others are equally entitled to the same use as himself, that he, once seeing this, would stop to question how we will run it after we have collected the toll by the means of a class-conscious ballot of the working class hurried against the capitalist who stands out at all times for the private ownership of the means of production for public use.

Cleveland a Bulwark of Socialism and the Party. Editor The People.—It would be a waste of valuable space to attempt to show up the inability of the present Executive Committee that appear in the Beekman street organ, the palladium of choice English, as "the worst," in relation to the content of the articles that it desires to say in defense of individuals who have been singled out for attack by the vitriolic character assassins who conduct that organ, and who are the contributors, who have for the most part degenerated into a set, a fraudulent coterie, that the former Executive Committee should leave those who know them best, the local Socialists, to judge their acts. In fact, the recent elements of Ohio and the country at large know them pretty well and credit them with having better sense than stooping to the level of Baberwoms.

Threatening to resign, many comrades in the smaller towns imagined that all manner of things would happen, and that the campaign would be knocked into a cockle shell, if they did not vote as the Committee demanded. The result was that in a few of them did. Outside of Cleveland there was no representative vote, only seven Sections and thirteen comrades at large voting, giving a total of 84 in favor of the old Committee and 78 for the new.

Next, a fellow about six months in this country (but wise enough to know all about everything, like that) has been elected to the Hungarian Section to meet. It had not met for several months previous, and even the State Committee there had not met for a long time. But it was just the same, although a prominent member informed the writer that not more than four or five possibly were members who were present. However, our old country friend managed to see the "Hebe Genossen" and counted exactly 24 for De Leonism, and 17 for the People, were initiated, but were not allowed to vote. They were "Kangaroo."

Following Sunday, when the German Branch met with the usual routine, law and contemplated brothers-in-law, etc., were initiated, lined up and voted for the old Committee, save the Party with their superior wisdom.

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The attention of comrades in New York and vicinity is called to the picnic arranged by the Section at Ridgewood Grove. The proceeds will go to swell the campaign fund and no comrade should fail to appear there with his friends. For details see advertisement on page 4.

On the 27th and 28th of February, Comrade Carraud entered into a general discussion of the budget of public instruction, defending the principle of popular schools and the interests of the

Editor The People.—I wish to ask of the readers of The People and especially Socialists if they do not think that one of the greatest mistakes young Socialists make is to have an old one, as well as in defending some scheme of "HOW things will be run under Socialism, instead of explaining the basic principle, which is the public ownership of ALL means of production and distribution, leaving the details of HOW THINGS SHALL BE OPERATED to the people, who are to settle themselves. As Socialists, I do not see how we can spend a moment in explaining any scheme of HOW things shall be managed, so long as we do the constant change continually taking place in the tools of production, bringing forth by one scheme the other immediately for us to invent out any plan, except that the evolution in the tools thus far shows most conclusively SOME system of co-operative production. Other than that, we can not say. But what we can say, is the absolute necessity for the public ownership of ALL means of production and distribution.

Comrade Lucien Sanial, a Socialist of 44 years experience in the movement, will speak on the situation of the Party in New York and other reactionary points. He appeared at this monster mass meeting of 23 persons, 23 of those loyal members of Section Philadelphia.

OFFICIAL

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE - Secretary, Henry Slobodin, 154 William street, New York. NATIONAL BOARD OF APPEALS - Secretary, Robert Bandlow, 193 Champaign street, Cleveland, Ohio. SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY OF CANADA - National Executive Committee, Secretary, Henry B. Campbell, London, Ont. NEW YORK LABOR NEWS COMPANY - 64 East Fourth street, New York City. (The Party's literary agency.) NEW YORK STATE COMMITTEE - Secretary, Charles E. Cop, 64 E. 4th street, New York. Meets every Sunday, 10 a. m., at above place. CITY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, Section Greater New York - Organizer, Rudolph Grossman, 64 E. 4th street. Meets every Thursday evening at above place. GENERAL COMMITTEE, Section Greater New York - Organizer, Rudolph Grossman. Meets every 2d and 4th Saturday of the month at 64 E. 4th street. NOTICE - For technical reasons, no Party announcements can go in that are not in this office by Tuesday, 10 p. m.

Donations to the Jewish "Daily Volkzeitung" Fund.

Table listing National Executive Committee, Hebrew American Typographical Union, Sect. Greater New York, S. L. P., etc. with corresponding dollar amounts.

INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS:

Table listing individual names and amounts: Dr. Halpern, Goldstein, Weinstein, Pollak, etc.

Connecticut.

ANOTHER TIDAL WAVE SECTION! To The People - In the Beekman street "People", Sept. 10, correspondence, is the following: "A False Report Corrected - A statement made in the 'Class Struggle' that Section New Haven has endorsed the San Francisco proposition to hold an early convention, is not true. We have not, and do not favor such a proposition. What we do favor is to keep out the troublesome element - P. Serrero."

No such statement was made in the "Class Struggle." What was stated is that Section New Haven, Conn., endorses the Philadelphia resolution for the Branch which is under the direction of the Cleveland Board of Appeals. This Mr. Serrero could not truthfully deny.

Mr. Serrero and his friends proceeded in much the same way. The following letter was received by Joe Marek, secretary of the American Branch, just previous to the July meeting of that Branch: "Comrade Marek - Do not forget to notify the members of the American Branch (old ones) of the meeting next Saturday evening, at Sullivan's, 102 George street, 8 p. m., July 22. Fraternally, Otto Ruckner, Sec."

the publication of the "Marwood matter" was it not because you know that Hickry, in a spirit of drunken bravado, had sent a copy of the same scurrilous and entirely untrue article to the Workers' Call and to The Class Struggle, thus preventing you from editing it, and that you dare not attempt to publish it because you do not want to see an exposure of your whole gang as would forever disgust every decent Socialist in America?

How did you doctor up the minutes of your so-called N. E. C. so as to incite to the suspension of Section Chicago between the hours of midnight and morning? Before you answer this question you had better consult with your followers in Chicago so that you will both tell the same story.

Fifth. Will you now admit that you lied in your statement in your "People" when you denied that you and your followers had boycotted the Class Struggle? You have endeavored to force your personality upon the workers of America and to force the workers of the Hudson County to force you. You have in so doing made this fight purely a question of personality and your personality alone. Therefore we, the delegates of the Central Committee of the Socialist Labor Party of America, desire the above information concerning your activities and those whom you have gathered around you.

Awaiting your reply, we are, yours for Socialism, CITY CENTRAL COMMITTEE, Section Chicago, S. L. P. per JAS. SMITH, Secretary. Massachusetts. SECTION FITCHBURG WITH THE PARTY. WHEREAS, A rupture in the ranks of the Socialist Labor Party in Greater New York, the seat of the National Executive Committee, has resulted in two separate and antagonistic bodies each claiming to be that Committee; and WHEREAS, The duly constituted authority of the Party to settle differences, the National Board of Appeals, has decided that the so-called "New Committee" shall be recognized as the legally constituted Committee;

RESOLVED, That Section Fitchburg, S. L. P., in the decision of the Board of Appeals, and recognizes the said "New National Executive Committee, temporarily, and that another Committee shall be substituted by the legal action of the Party. New Jersey. Comrade Weisel, our secretary of the Section Committee, together with Comrade Kraft, organizer of Hudson County, and Branch Weehawken on Saturday night, Comrade Kraft had hastily requested several of the members of the Section Committee and it was highly gratifying to find that even in this young Branch some comrades had already developed into perfect Socialists. Comrade Kraft was invited to be present at the Branch meeting next Tuesday, and will be granted a hearing.

Secretaries of Hudson County Branches are earnestly requested to send a full list of membership and financial report to the Organizer, F. Kraft, 258 Pallisade avenue, Jersey City, as the National Executive Committee is keenly interested in the tidal wave with facts in lieu of lies. New York. GENERAL COMMITTEE, SECTION NEW YORK. Regular meeting Sept. 9, 1899. Comrades Lisauer and Schaefer presided. The following additional delegates were seated: E. Egan, Secretary; Ed. Egan, Sec. Rot; Ed. Egan, Sec. Rot; Ed. Egan, Sec. Rot. Twenty-four new members were admitted. A committee, consisting of Messrs. McVey, Baskin and K. K. K., representing the Independent Labor party, requested the permission to address the delegates. Same having been granted, the speaker, who was not entirely satisfied with rumors but willing to investigate.

Report of Organizer. Issued campaign subscription lists for the National and City Committees, forwarded same to all subdivisions and various trade unions; ordered 50,000 leaflets of the pamphlet "Why American Workers Should Be Socialists." Report of City Executive Committee: Recommends that Brooklyn be recognized as a separate campaign committee. Referred to Brooklyn subdivisions. Reports that all comrades acting as chairmen or secretaries at the regular meeting of the Branch which convenes at 64 E. 4th street, on Sept. 22, to be sworn in.

Recommends a meeting of speakers; motion that be carried. Assembly Districts are requested to send names of street corners desired by each for open air meetings. Organizers are requested to procure copies of election laws, for sale to subdivisions. The Districts are requested to send in all names of nominees to the motion that the General Committee call upon the N. E. C. and the Socialist Co-operative Publishing Association to exercise legal power in compelling the Beekman street authorities to cease using the name of "The People," was carried. Motion that a special committee be elected to draft a reply to the Independent Labor party and state reasons why it is impossible for the N. E. C. to do so. Comrades Clayton, Gerber, and Berlin were elected delegates to act jointly with delegates of other Sections comprising Section Greater New York. In the afternoon, the Secretary of the Independent Labor party, requested the permission to address the delegates. Same having been granted, the speaker, who was not entirely satisfied with rumors but willing to investigate.

Ohio. OF COURSE, CLEVELAND IS "RE-ORGANIZED." You are undoubtedly aware that the department N. E. C. has "reorganized" Section Cleveland. The "reorganization" took place Wednesday evening, Aug. 30, at which time the following officers were elected: Leo Schmidt, recording secretary; Herman F. Bloede, financial secretary; Herman F. Bloede, delegates to Central Committee. There were between 60 and 70 present at Leo Schmidt's meeting and everything went along smoothly even though the latter was not present. N. F. GEIGER, Organizer Section Cleveland.

Correspondence

With the "Kangaroo" In this we a middle class movement? And the Board of Directors of Labor Lyceum... they too belong to the middle class... think it is the workers' taxes... the deposed officials, wanted the "Vorwarts" and The People, but when they were asked to do so they refused... strange and therefore refused it. He told me he had heard about the meeting of July 9 (he not being present), there was no attempt to hit anybody with a revolver or arms at work. Small accepted position on N. E. C. for two reasons: first, he wanted powder and always liked a gun; second, he intended to smooth the troubled waters (D). Taking higher ground, he showed how important it was the proper conception of Socialism to him; that there lives in New York a certain man (lawyer) who thinks his name is Billings, but the result is to hit the workers... the full significance of this important truth dawned upon the chairman, late Comrade Fish, he at once realized and so declined all questions and the meeting was closed by the chair, and the gavel sounded the advent of this memorable meeting into history. Philadelphia, Pa., Sept. 3, 1899.

Pray for his Soul

Editor The People - Every comrade who participated in the meeting of the Workingmen's Co-operative Publishing Association on the occasion of the first issue of the Jewish "Daily Volkzeitung" was deeply impressed with a sentiment yearning for reconciliation with elements as well as individuals estranged from the S. L. P. through the influence of a certain man, known by De Leon's fratricidal policy, elements whose place is and can be nowhere else but in the ranks of the S. L. P. Comrade Kraft in his speech delivered on that evening has, in his usual figurative language, illustrated the misdeeds of the so-called "New Committee" by telling the story of a madman who, having climbed up a high structure, began to tear down the building brick by brick. The madman was not content with erecting the structure could no longer remain passive lookers on and put up a ladder and implored the audience to get up and help. But, instead of complying with this request, the madman pulled up the ladder onto himself, thus barring the access of the audience to the top of the structure from further destruction. On the evening of Sept. 10, the Jewish comrades were celebrating the putting up of a new ladder to the "Daily Volkzeitung" for the purpose of first, frustrating the vandalic efforts of the madman and second, of bringing the structure to its proper end.

Everyone who attentively reads the editorials of the Beekman street "People" can not fail to see signs of a madman in the words and psychopathic language of its editor. At this time, when the comrades all over the country are busy with the saving ladders - the "Workers' Call," the "Class Struggle," the "Cleveland Citizen," the "Proletarian," etc., we hear the madman's voice. "Why should we have to give up our own paper?" and instead of availing himself of the proffered opportunity he, in and should, prefer himself to rather than to the unfathomable abyss. Pray for his soul, comrades. N. BENDIN.

Light from San Francisco

Editor The People - Enclosed find money order for two subscribers to The People. This is the first voice of mine since a couple of years, as I was utterly disgusted with the affairs in the Party especially De Leon's language in The People. The refreshing news of the comrades of New York in dealing with the De Leon gang has been a new life to the comrades here. Many of the old comrades that had left the Party some years ago, have now joined the S. L. P. and are busy with the saving ladders. Still some comrades have remained in opposition to De Leon. We had no speakers to present our views as they had not yet received the money order. We do wish to discuss the trouble among ourselves as it came up. De Leon's paper and the old "People" are the only ones that have been left. We have now but very few comrades who would stand up for De Leon and the old N. E. C. Of course, we have a stand that is to throw of the old N. E. C. Comrade Job Hartman is in the city to inquire into the matter for the recognition of the Board of Appeals. Comrade Hartman and most of the comrades are now on to the underground work of De Leon. Some facts will be brought up at the convention, which I believe will settle the matter. De Leon gang - even after they have refused to recognize the convention - amongst themselves the convention.

Most of the comrades here think that this crisis had to come, still it took a long time. It will serve to clear the way for a great Socialist movement in this country. I believe this fight is caused by individualism, some principles had to be sacrificed. The underlying factors for the following reason. De Leon had been sole interpreter of Modern Socialism for some years. Elements newly converted to Socialism have with enthusiasm admired De Leon as though he had been a Karl Marx. They do not know anything about Socialism, especially the mainstay of International Socialism. De Leon's interpretations of principle as well as tactics, and therefore proved a stumbling block in the way of De Leon's progress. The only way to get rid of this obstacle was to have a special committee elected to draft a reply to the Independent Labor party and state reasons why it is impossible for the N. E. C. to do so. Comrades Clayton, Gerber, and Berlin were elected delegates to act jointly with delegates of other Sections comprising Section Greater New York. In the afternoon, the Secretary of the Independent Labor party, requested the permission to address the delegates. Same having been granted, the speaker, who was not entirely satisfied with rumors but willing to investigate.

That "Aus-in" Letter. Editor The People - That article which appeared in the "Independence" of August 26, 1899, entitled "Henry Austin and the Beekman street 'Skunk,'" is a peach, and in the line of the chief "Bespender" is full of juice. It has only one or two features, and that is that it gives the old man away very badly. None but a fool of course would fail to recognize in that article that splendid literary art which has been at least acquainted with De Leon's phraseology that one wonders why that gentleman did not print the thing in his "People." In the first place, the way of the political trickster are deep and mysterious and it is not for the average mortal to understand them. In my opinion, the stand of De Leon is allowed to continue to be the chief performer and expounder of "uncompromising agreement" and "standards" in danger of being kidnapped by Richard O'Connell or Sammy Gampers. It is also very remarkable that Mr. Bear should have translated that document into English. It is perhaps knowing full well from whose pen this bit of Pinkertonian slander emanated, and only goes to show how much this man has been under the influence of his own associates. Fraternally, A. E. WORKMAN.

NEW YORK, SEPT. 11, 1899. LETTER BOX. [No questions will be considered that come in anonymous letters. All letters must carry a bona fide signature and address.] C. E. WILLY, WORCESTER - There is no such a concern as the "Volkzeitung" Publishing Company. The Association publishing the "Daily Volkzeitung" and the Party's official organ is called "The Socialist Co-operative Publishing Association." The name of the book which mentions which name is connected is "An Essay on the Principle of Population as It Affects the Future Improvement of Society." He wrote it J. W. F. UNCARVILLE, CONN. It would be useless to reply to this letter. It is your own self-contradicting letters. But if more pressing matter data not come in the future, it will be answered. In the next issue of The People in reply to your "voluntary" talk which you associate with Gynasella.

SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

PLATFORM.

The Socialist Labor party of the United States, in Convention assembled, re-affirms the inalienable right of all men to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. With the founders of the American republic we hold that the purpose of government is to secure every citizen in the enjoyment of this right; but in the light of our social conditions we hold, furthermore, that no such right can be exercised under a system of economic inequality, essentially destructive of life, liberty and of happiness. With the founders of this republic we hold that the true theory of politics is that the machinery of government must be owned and controlled by the whole people; but in the light of our industrial development we hold, furthermore, that the true theory of economics is that the machinery of production must likewise belong to the people in common. To the obvious fact that our despotic system of economics is the direct opposite of our democratic system of politics, can plainly be traced the existence of a privileged class, the corruption of government by that class, the alienation of public property, public franchises and public functions to that class, and the abject dependence of the mightiest of nations upon that class. Again, through the perversion of democracy to the ends of plutocracy, labor is robbed of its wealth which it alone produces, is denied the means of self-employment, and by compulsory idleness in wage slavery, is even deprived of the necessities of life.

Human power and natural forces are thus wasted, that the plutocracy may rule. Ignorance and misery, with all their concomitant evils, are perpetuated, that the people may be kept in bondage. Science and invention are diverted from their humane purpose to the enslavement of women and children. Against such a system the Socialist Labor party once more enters its protest. Once more it reiterates its fundamental declaration that private property in the natural sources of production, and in the instruments of labor is the obvious cause of all economic servitude and political dependence. The time is fast coming, however, when in the natural course of social evolution, this system, through the destructive action of its failures and crises on the one hand, and the constructive tendencies of its trusts and other capitalistic combinations on the other hand, shall have worked out its own downfall. We, therefore, call upon the wage workers of the United States, and upon all other honest citizens, to organize under the banner of the Socialist Labor party into a class-conscious body, aware of its rights and determined to conquer them by taking possession of the public powers; so that, held together by an indomitable spirit of solidarity under the most trying conditions of the present class struggle, we may put a summary end to that barbarous struggle by the abolition of classes, the restoration of the land and of all the means of production, transportation and distribution to the people as a collective body, and the substitution of the Co-operative Commonwealth for the present state of planless production, industrial war and social disorder; a commonwealth in which every worker shall have the free exercise and full benefit of his faculties, multiplied by all the modern factors of civilization.

RESOLUTIONS.

- With a view to immediate improvement in the condition of labor we present the following demands: 1. Reduction in the hours of labor in proportion to the progress of production. 2. The United States to obtain possession of the mines, railroads, canals, telegraphs, telephones and all other means of public transportation and communication; the employees to operate the same co-operatively under control of the Federal Government and to elect their own superior officers, but no employee shall be discharged for political reasons. 3. The municipalities to obtain possession of the local railroads, ferries, water works, gas works, electric plants and all industries requiring municipal franchises; the employees to operate the same co-operatively under control of the municipal administration and to elect their own superior officers, but no employee shall be discharged for political reasons. 4. The public lands to be declared inalienable, revocation of all land grants to corporations or individuals, the conditions of which have not been complied with. 5. The United States to have the exclusive right to issue money. 6. Congressional legislation providing for the scientific management of forests and waterways, and prohibiting the waste of the natural resources of the country. 7. Inventions to be free to all; the inventors to be remunerated by the nation. 8. Progressive income tax and tax on inheritances; the smaller incomes to be exempt. 9. School education of all children under fourteen years of age to be compulsory, gratuitous and accessible to all by public assistance in meals, clothing, books, etc., where necessary. 10. Repeal of all pauper, tramp, conspiracy and sumptuary laws. Unbridled right of combination. 11. Prohibition of the employment of children of school age and the employment of female labor in occupations detrimental to health or morality. Abolition of the convict labor contract system. 12. Employment of the unemployed by the public authorities (county, city, state and nation). 13. All wages to be paid in lawful money of the United States. Equalization of woman's wages with those of men where equal service is performed. 14. Laws for the protection of life and limb in all occupations, and an efficient employers' liability law. 15. The people to have the right to propose laws and to vote upon all measures of importance, according to the referendum principle. 16. Abolition of the veto power of the Executive (national, state and municipal), wherever it exists. 17. Abolition of the United States Senate and all upper legislative chambers. 18. Municipal self-government. 19. Direct vote and secret ballots in all elections. Universal and equal right of suffrage without regard to color, creed or sex. Election days to be legal holidays. The principle of proportional representation to be introduced. 20. All public officers to be subject to recall by their respective constituencies. 21. Uniform civil and criminal law throughout the United States. Administration of justice to be free of charge. Abolition of capital punishment.

GRAND PARTY FESTIVAL OF THE Socialist Labor Party OF GREATER NEW YORK & QUEENS COUNTY

On Sunday, Sept. 17, '99. Gerken's Bidgewood Grove, FORMERLY BENNER'S, Cypress Avenue, Evergreen, L. I. Tickets in advance 10 Cents, at the Gate 15 Cents a Person

To Commence at 1 P. M. Sharp. Children under 14 years of age free. Strict Union Arrangements. Tickets can be had at the New York & Brooklyn Labor Lyceums, Workingmen's Club House, East 9th St., N. Y. and all known Workingmen's Societies. How to reach the Park: From Bridge and Ferriss take Trolley or Elevated to Bidgewood. Fare only 5 Cents.

Keep an eye on your wrapper. See when your subscription expires. Renew in time. It will prevent interruption in the mailing of the paper and facilitate work at the office. If you have any difficulty in securing the paper please notify this office. New Jersey Socialists Socialist Organisations are requested to correspond with the only regular and legally elected State Committee. DR. C. L. FUERNAN, DENTIST, 122 Schermerhorn St., Brooklyn, N. Y. John P. Weigot, Trenton, N. J. Write at once and send address of sympathizers.

Times and Social Calendar

Standing advertisements of Trades Union and other organizations... CARL SAHM CLUB (MUSICIANS UNION) Meetings every Tuesday at 8 p. m. COBURN'S PROGRESSIVE INTER-NATIONAL UNION... MUSICAL PROTECTIVE ALLIANCE... SOCIALIST SCIENCE CLUB... SECTION PHILADELPHIA... PROGRESSIVE CLOTHING CUTTERS & TRIMMERS... THE SOCIALIST EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY OF YORKVILLE... Workingmen's Co-operative Publishing Association... Arbeiter - Kranken- und Sterbe-Kasse fuer die Ver. Arbeiter von Amerika... WORKMEN'S Sick and Death Benefit Fund of the United States of America... WORKMEN'S Furniture Fire Insurance Organized 1872. Membership 15,000. Principal Organization, New York and Vicinity. OFFICE: 64 East Fourth street, Office hours, daily, except Sundays and holidays, from 1 to 9 o'clock p. m. BRANCHES: Yonkers, Troy, Binghamton, Gouverneur, Elmira, Albany, Oneida, N. Y. Paterson, Newark, Elizabeth, South River, Passaic and Trenton, N. J. Manchester, Boston, Holyoke, Springfield, Mass. New Haven, Waterbury, Meriden, Hartford and Bridgeport, Conn. Philadelphia, Pittsburg, Allegheny, Lehigh, Altoona, Scranton, Pa. Cleveland, Ohio. San Francisco, Cal. For full names of the Branch-keepers see "Vorwarts."