

# THE CHICAGO SOCIALIST

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VOL. VI

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NO. 371.

## "LABOR ENTERS POLITICS"

### Hodge-Podge Reformers Attempt to Form Political Party.

The convention called to organize a new political party in Chicago met in Brand's Hall last Sunday afternoon. When the credential committee made its report it was found that fifty-three labor organizations, two Turner societies, two single tax organizations and four municipal ownership organizations had responded by sending delegates.

The convention was easily captured by the organized labor element, their delegates constituting the vast majority in the convention.

The call for the convention was read and the following reasons for the necessity of forming a new party given:

#### REASONS FOR NEW PARTY.

Thirteen reasons were advanced and adopted why the new party should come into life. They were all based on "graft" and public "scandals" and had their foundation upon reports printed in the newspapers. They were: Gossip of the insurance companies, the beef trust, railroads, in which it was said that a member of President Roosevelt's cabinet was involved; trouble at Kankakee, the Chicago courthouse, boss rule in politics, judicial servility in the issuing of injunctions, the election of a governor in the State of Illinois "who as State's attorney had appropriated upward of a quarter of a million of dollars of public funds," the election of his successor, who had pledged himself to reforms in the State's attorney's office but who is now withholding interest on public funds; the false assessment of great estates, the letting of public contracts by manipulators and the stuffing of pay rolls. In conclusion this was said:

"All warn the people that they must rise in defense of home and government in order to end the reign of graft and crime."

The name of the "new party" is the Progressive Alliance.

Just what the "Progressive Alliance" stands for may be fairly understood from the following extracts from the platform adopted:

Liberty to the individual to pursue natural enjoyments which do not interfere with the equal rights or liberties of others and we denounce all interference with these rights and liberties of the people as unjust, tyrannical, and opposed to the genius of American institutions.

That the people may fully and rationally enjoy their suffrage we favor an enactment requiring the suspension of business on primary and election days.

The nomination of all candidates for elective offices by direct vote of the people as primaries to be held for that purpose.

Uncontrolled representative government being debauched and corrupted by those who buy privilege, we favor the adoption of the initiative and referendum whereby the people may initiate the legislation they desire which is refused them by their servants and may veto legislation which their servants attempt to thrust upon them.

We favor that most rational and necessary change in the method of dealing with the public servants, that of the power of recalling the faithless ones. No business house that was compelled to retain those employees who were faithless to it could long survive, nor can city, State or nation survive that is compelled to retain those servants that betray them.

There is considerable evidence that many of the delegates to the "Progressive Alliance" convention secured their credentials without the knowledge of their unions. One of the officers of the Shoemakers' Union informed a reporter of the Chicago Socialist that while the Shoemakers' Union were represented by seven delegates that they did not get them from their local unions, but that they were written and given to them by an officer of the union who is known as a notorious politician.

Just how such figure the new organization is destined to cut in the local political field it would be useless to attempt to predict at the present time. Much will depend whether Hearst and his newspapers and his "barrel" are behind it or not.

There is one thing that seems certain from the outset and that is that whatever other party may suffer, the Socialist party has nothing to fear from it. If it succeeds in breaking loose large numbers of the workers who have been voting the old party tickets, we know that in the end they are bound to land in the Socialist party sooner or later.

#### THE OFFICIAL COUNT.

The official count does not materially change the figures published last week for the election of Tuesday, April 3. The total gain last week was 27,150. The official count gives a total of 27,040. This is an increase of 4,015 over the vote of one year ago, or increase of 17.4 per cent. This means an evidence of splendid strength for the vote has grown evenly all over the city.

#### THOMAS J. MORGAN

It will keep the press going night and day to supply the demand for the Jungle for some time to come. We are becoming more and more convinced that the capitalists may be depended on to give us every assistance in pushing the Socialist propaganda in the future. The Jungle is the finest kind of propaganda, and just consider how much we are indebted to President Roosevelt and the Chicago Tribune for assisting us in circulating it.

**THOMAS J. MORGAN**  
PATENTS  
730 N. LA SALLE ST.  
CHICAGO, ILL.

## BOURGEOIS NEWS AND SOCIALIST VIEWS.

Speaking of traitors to their class, one Patrick Dolan, seems to have heard something drop.

After all the man with the muck rake is an anachronism. A wrecking crew and a steam shovel would be more to the purpose.

The Mann-Parker contest for the Congressional nomination is in its mud-slinging and personalities typical of about all the Republican party has to offer as a solution of present day ills. All politics means to them is to get the office, to enjoy the spoils.

"Speaker Cannon has given his consent to the consideration by the House" of this bill or that bill, is the stereotyped phrase in the news from Washington. What a large caliber cannon it is to be sure. Tremendous bore. Smooth bore at that. It is the people who are rifled. No, this is not Russia. This is democracy. This is individualism. Rather gone to seed, incidentally still, individualism. A drop-out, etching of the smug mask of hindering Joe should be hung by every good Republican as a likeness of his patron saint and a bright reminder of the job his individuality plays in making his country's laws.

An account of the eruption of Vesuvius says: "The statue of St. Ann which was taken to the mountainside to confront the lava" frequently moved backward as the tide advances." We are told that faith will move mountains. Perhaps it is so. Vesuvius continues to move; so does the statue. Whether or not "the world do move" is another question. One suspects not when contemplating the absolute lack of a sense of humor and the pitiful ignorance of these people, dragging out their idol and solemnly backing it up before the relentless advance of the lava tide. Yet why should we laugh? How much worse are these poor victims of Romanism than are the American people solemnly blinking at the fetishes of protection and rate regulation gravely trotted out to stop the foul and frightful eruptions of capitalism?

An official of the New York Central line says thousands of men will be laid off on account of the falling off in traffic which usually occurs in the spring months. Like reports come from other lines. Capital denies the existence of the great surplus labor army which we know is so essential to its being. Then what becomes of these men? What provision is made for their maintenance? What will they be doing when the roads are ready to take them on again? The acts of capitalism so clearly blazon its words as lies that he who runs may read. Yet the extent of economic illiteracy must be very great for all do not read. Large numbers of these same victims are too ignorant to construe such signs and continue to vote for the industrial anarchy which is the best system our boasted civilization has yet been able to produce.

The success which has heretofore attended Dr. Dowle's efforts to convert a trusting populace to his public creed while converting their shakels in his private greed, marks him as possessor of a capitalistic mind of the first order. His assumption of the title of Elijah because of the auricular affinity between prophet and profit, was a delicate stroke which should endear him to the trader heart. His promised appearance as Moses, who shall dictate the people's law and lead them into the desert, shows such a pretty appreciation of the duties of a leader and the use of the rabble that his conquest of the bourgeoisie ought to be complete. If he loses in the present squabble as to who shall be lord high grafter of Zion, the Republican party will lose a heaven-born opportunity if it does not pick him up. His substitution of the very human agency of an electric battery for divinely bestowed power is a piece of churlishness which commands him specifically, as his spectacular spell-binding ability does generally, to the favor of the dominant political factor. If any doubts have existed as to his proper place, they have been rolled away. He has proclaimed himself possessor of the public virtues of a Moses and his people have spontaneously conferred on him the domestic attributes of a Solomon. Now that his status as a progressive matrimonialist is fixed it becomes evident that the Senate is the place and he is the man. Let cease the mock heroics of the farcical combat. Have done with the buccinic buffoonery of small Buyem Galleen. Peace to the Jack-in-the-box antics of little Dicky Pakes. Acclaim the conquering hero. Prepare the garlands for his triumphal passage and attune the ear to the Jewellee rumbblings of his senatorial tones. He comes! John Alexander comes!

At a recent meeting of the Illinois coal operators, held in the Auditorium, it was found there had been a defection in their ranks. John M. Herbert proved to be a traitor to his class. The Chicago and Carbondale Coal Company, of Desoto, of which he is president, had yielded to the miners' demands. Mr. Herbert's company was promptly and unanimously expelled from the operators' association. Has a new hero arisen? Has this man proved great enough to rise above the sordid greed of his class and proclaim himself an apostle of justice? Not quite. Mr. Herbert explained to the operators the reason for his act. "I am a candidate for Congress," said Mr. Herbert, "and my mine is a secondary consideration with me at this time." We may now imagine Mr. Herbert addressing a gathering of the miners of De Soto. "Fellow citizens," he says, "you owe to my personal ambition the granting of your preposterous demands. You are swine, of course, and \$400 a year is enough, and more than enough, for you and your families to live on. Under ordinary circumstances, you would find me in the ranks of those arrayed against you. You would find me declaring that I could not yield to your arrogant demands and continue to do business. But seeing that the entire standing of the founding of this republic is going to such odds as you the right-

## ROOSEVELT'S MUCK RAKE.

His royal Strenuousness in the White House has announced his intention of spanking those magazine writers and authors of books who have dared to tell something of the truth about the inner rottenness of capitalism. On the list of those to be disciplined Comrade Sinclair has the honor of leading all the rest. The reason for this is not hard to see. Steffens, Phillips, Russell, Lawson, etc., confined their writing to "roasts" of the big capitalists. This did not hurt those who were roasted, and it helped Roosevelt to become popular as the defender of the "square deal" by which the little exploiter could retain his position upon the backs of the workers.

But Sinclair did not stop with roasting. Neither did he simply hold some imaginary "remedy" in the background, like Lawson. Worst of all he did not appeal to "investor" or the "public," but called upon the working-class to clean out the whole mass of corruption, exploitation and wage-slavery.

This was a "muck-rake" with a vengeance. It was rasping the sore spots of the system to which Roosevelt is tied.

So Roosevelt sent out a commission to "investigate." This was a commission of the Agricultural Department coming out to see if officials of the Agricultural Department were grafting. Having "investigated" themselves and decided that there was nothing doing, the commission returned to Washington, and Roosevelt announced that he was going after Sinclair, having proved the entire book to be

false. But not one of the persons who claimed to know the facts of "The Jungle" and who were willing to tell them was visited. In fact, so far as can be discovered the entire "investigation" was carried on in the offices of the beef trust.

When Roosevelt found that he could not gloss things over in this manner because he was dealing with Socialists, who are very short on respect for his bullying highness, and when he was informed that any attempt to lie about the matter would be promptly exposed, it would seem that he decided to send out another committee. Just what this one will "investigate," whom it will see and just what brand of whitewash it will use, it is too early to tell.

All these investigations, however, have been concerned only with the question of whether the meat that went out from the yards was clean or not. The question of the hideous conditions of labor, the horrible moral conditions to which the women of the yards are subjected, the crushing of the lives of little children—all these things are of no interest to White House critics.

But there is a body of men out in the neighborhood of Packingtown that are concerned in these things, and that are not asking for any "investigating committee" to tell them that they do not like the conditions under which they are living. Neither do they call upon the White House for any advice about how to act. These are the SOCIALISTS, and their number grows greater with every election.

A. M. SIMONS.

## THE SOCIALIST MOVEMENT IN GREAT BRITAIN.

(By H. M. Hyndman from advance sheets of the Socialist Review.)

The following from the pen of our veteran English comrade, Hyndman, will make interesting reading in connection with the numerous dispatches relating to the work and achievements of the labor party in the present British parliament.

I do not wonder that foreigners, and even Colonials and Americans, are utterly puzzled with this funny old country. To all appearance, we ought to be the most advanced nation in Socialism on the planet. Our population is essentially a proletariat, the people being almost entirely divorced from the soil; our economic growth is certainly, as a whole, not behind that of any European community; our personal liberties and political rights have been secured to us long ago by the courage and sacrifices of our forefathers; living in no fear of serious invasion, we can dispense with the military preparations and organization that hamper continental peoples. Yet, here we are only just beginning to emerge from the social arrangements and political forms of a century, or two centuries, ago. It is really very remarkable, and I still adhere to the reasons I gave in the first number of this Review to account for our arrested development. When we do begin to make way, also, nobody is aware of it. The capitalist press of Great Britain, as a whole, is run for advertisements and advertisements only. Such editors as Barnes or Deane, of the Times; Walker, of the Daily News; Frederick Greenwood, of the Pall Mall Gazette—men who left their mark on their day and generation—belong to a past period. Here and there a belated exception in a minor way still remains; but for the most part an editor to-day edits and writes with one eye glued on the advertisement returns. When these dwindle, even temporarily, out he goes. And as Socialism and Laborism are not popular with the class that pays for advertisements, we heard, until lately, very little about them in the capitalist press.

The results of the elections, therefore, though nothing at all astonishing in themselves, have come upon our dilettante, bridge-playing, motoring, golfing, pleasure-loving aristocrats, and their smug paymasters, the bourgeoisie, quite as a shock. The newspaper boycott and conspiracy of silence had deceived them. They thought there was no socialist movement at all. For years past, for example, I have been addressing large audiences as any man in Great Britain, in London and in the provinces. I have carried on the social democratic propaganda steadily for a quarter of a century, and everybody is aware that I am an educated man. Yet, no matter how enthusiastic my hearers, or how crowded the halls, I am never reported. Much the same with others. Whatever happened, so it was assumed, the workers in this island could not be roused, and no journal would study what was going on for that axiomatic reason. We were fools and fanatics all.

And now, of course, with equal inaptitude, the significance of what has taken place is being absurdly exaggerated. As I said, when, with the hysterical excitement of present principal characteristics of Englishmen, everybody was shouting about the "Triumph of Labor," and talking of the newly elected members as if they were heaven-born geniuses of the people, suddenly developed from the mine, the mill, and the factory, this all merely connotes a tendency instead of recording a triumph. The workers are beginning to shake themselves loose from the trammis of middle-class faction, and the sense of class-consciousness and the recognition of the class war is influencing them seriously for the first time since the Chartist movement. There is even quite a marked trend toward Socialism to be observed among tens and even hundreds of thousands of our population. But outside the men and women who are in, or who have passed through, the Social Democratic Federation, even this is, for the most part, a sentimental Socialism. We are still a long way from the formation of a thoroughly disciplined, well organized Socialist party, and the new Labor group has a hard task before it in the House of Commons. What has taken place, I admit, is very important; but much more as giving hope for the future than as securing anything of great value in the present.

This was seen at once at the conference of the Labor party. Excellent resolutions were passed in the direction of Socialism. Socialism and Socialist speeches were cheered to the echo. But when a Socialist delegate proposed that the members of the party should formerly subscribe to a definite program; when, in fact, it was suggested that the party should declare that anyone who belonged to it must be bound by the recorded decisions of the great majority of delegates there assembled; then there was an obvious "scare," and the conference stoutly refused to decree anything so logical and so essential. The reason for this is clear. The object, quite a legitimate object as I hold, is to use the trade-union funds for political purposes, independently of either faction. But a large proportion of trade-unionists whose organizations are affiliated to the Labor party are not in favor of Socialism, except as a nebulous theory, and are not too fond of the name itself in any case. To commit the Labor party to a definite program, therefore, would risk losing the party funds. You see.

The difference between the two sections came out very strongly on the election of the parliamentary leader. We may not agree altogether with Keir Hardie, but he is the one man who alone has upheld the dignity of his class in parliament, has never bowed the knee to the bourgeoisie Baal, and has sternly held aloof from the politicians and wire-pullers of both factions. He was entitled therefore to a unanimous vote if ever man was. In a total vote of 29, however, he was elected by a majority of only one! Three of his own Independent Labor party men, I understand including Ramsay Macdonald, voted against him! He is an avowed Socialist and his leadership might be too dangerous! Under such circumstances, it is the bounden duty of every Socialist to back him, and it is quite certain that the capitalist Liberals do hate him. In the House of Commons the effect of his leadership instead of Hardie's, the trade-unionists, is already visible, and some of the party show signs of real vigor.

But all this proves how serious are the difficulties which lie immediately ahead of any thorough-going working class party in Great Britain. Anywhere else the purchase of John Burns for £2,000 a year and a seat in the cabinet, partly as a reward for his having defended and applauded Asquith for shooting down the miners at Featherstone, when the Liberals were last in office, would have deceived no one. Here a large section of the workers were completely gulled and flattered at one of their own men having been able to dispose of himself for such a high price, to their worst enemies. It is a remarkable fulfillment of what a very active political lady said to me nearly a quarter of a century ago, when we were at the beginning of the Socialist movement in Great Britain: "You can't win on those lines, Mr. Hyndman. You will educate these men"—as a matter of fact I did educate John Burns—"and then we shall buy them, or, if we don't, the Liberals will, and that will be just the same to you." The truth is that, as Clemenceau, the brilliant French statesman and journalist said, when Lady Warwick and Jaures and he were lurching with me in Paris about a twelve month since: "La classe ouvriere en Angleterre est une classe bourgeoise!"—The working class in England is a bourgeois class. That is still the case. Taken as a whole, the clothes, the talk, the manners, the ideas, the aspirations of the English working man on the way up, are those of the bourgeoisie. They aim at being successful shopkeepers, and their economies are those of the profit-mongers. Burns has

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(Continued on page 2.)

## CALL FOR MASS MEETING

On Sunday, April 15, at 2 p. m., every Socialist in Cook County is hereby called to assemble at Uhllich's Hall, 27 North Clark Street, for the purpose of placing in nomination candidates on the Judicial Ticket for the Circuit Court of Cook County.

At this meeting there will be discussed and explained the effect of the Supreme Court decision on the primary matters. Every member urged to be present at all hazards. By order

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE,**

By CHAS. L. BRECKON, Secy.

## THE "GOOD MAN" FALLACY.

By John M. Work.

The election is over. It is now in order for you to consider why you voted as you did.

Did you vote for a principle or for a good man?

The following article, by Comrade John M. Work, should be placed in the hands of every voter who knows who is seriously attempting to remedy existing evils by voting for good men regardless of party affiliations:

There are some men who have broken away from the old party ties, but who have fallen into the equally great fallacy of picking out the good men from all tickets and voting for them.

It is altogether unreasonable and unwise. It will not bear the test of logical examination.

Every ticket stands for something. The Republican and Democratic tickets, for example, stand for the dominance of the capitalist class. Every man on those tickets is pledged to principles which result in the dominance of the capitalist class.

No matter how good a candidate may be, he is bound by the principles of his party. He is bound, if elected, to do all in his power to carry out those principles. It therefore becomes of supreme importance to ask, not whether a candidate is a good man, but whether he stands for right principles.

No matter if he is as good as an angel, if he stands for wrong principles it is foolish to vote for him.

If you are against the principles of the Republican party, it is suicidal for you to vote for a Republican just because he happens to be a good man. If you are against the principles of the Democratic party, it is suicidal for you to vote for a Democrat just because he happens to be a good man. It is suicidal in a city election to vote for a Democrat just because he happens to be a good man. It is suicidal in a city election, for every city official elected is a material aid to his party in gaining and maintaining control of State and national affairs.

The thing to do is to decide what party represents your views, and then vote that party's ticket straight. If it is the Republican party, vote the Republican ticket straight, without minutely examining the moral character of the candidates. If it is the Socialist party, vote the Socialist ticket straight, without minutely examining the moral character of the candidates. If it is the Democratic party, vote the Democratic ticket straight, without minutely examining the moral character of the candidates.

In any case, in any party, you may be sure that the character of the candidates will fit well with the principles they stand for, and that, if elected, most of them will be true to the essential principles of their party.

Even if a candidate is dishonest, you can in nearly every case trust him to be true to the essential principles of his party. To be false to those principles usually means political death to him. It is to his interest to be true to them.

For example, no matter how honest or dishonest a Republican candidate may be, you can usually trust him to uphold the essential Republican principles; that is, to vote for the interest of the capitalist class.

And, no matter how honest or dishonest a Democratic candidate may be, you can usually trust him to be true to the essential Democratic principles; that is, to vote for the interest of the capitalist class.

The great question, therefore, is not whether a candidate is honest or dishonest, but whether he is the candidate of a party that stands for right principles. The Socialist party always nominates good men.

But it does not ask anybody to vote for its candidates because they are good men. It does ask every voter to vote for them because the Socialist party stands for right principles.

an independent voter, and takes great credit to himself on that account. But, as a matter of fact, he deserves censure, instead of praise for being a so-called independent voter at this stage of human progress when political parties are altogether necessary in order to gain the adoption of principles.

When he fails to line up with any party, he is throwing himself open to the suspicion that he hasn't any principles. If he has any principles, why doesn't he ally himself with the party which most nearly stands for them?

As long as he is a so-called independent voter, pottering around voting for candidates of all parties because they are good men, he is a political nonentity. He votes for one principle in one column of the ballot, and then goes over in another column and nullifies his vote.

He throws away his vote. He also throws away his vote if he votes a citizens' ticket, or an independent ticket, or a union labor ticket. Such tickets are mere flashes. They have no permanency. There is no stability to them. Even when they stand for good principles, it is throwing away one's vote to vote for them. They may win one election, or even two elections. But, having no national organizations, they are doomed sooner or later to be annihilated by some party that has an organization. They are temporary. They are flashes in the pan. They are bog lights. They are will o' the wisps.

The thing to do is to tie to a party that stands for something in national affairs. Then, when you win, even in a minor election, you have made a step towards the realization of your principles.

And if you do not win, you have also made a step towards the realization of your principles, because you have strengthened and built up the party that stands for them and proposes to carry them out.

#### IN MEMORIAM.

The Socialist party of Chicago suffered the loss of one of its most faithful and effective workers this week by the death of Comrade Mrs. Stokes. Comrade Stokes has been sick for some time, and her death was not altogether unexpected by her friends when it came. Comrade Stokes was a member of the Twenty-first Ward Branch and up to the time that she took sick always took an active part in the work of the party. She was one of the first women to join in all of the party activities. She was a regular attendant at meetings and has served the party in almost all capacities. Since the Chicago Socialist first started only a few weeks ago, as regular as the weeks came around, Comrade Stokes bought a small bundle and distributed them. There are many active Socialists in Chicago, and some that we know now in other States, who date their first interest in the movement to the time that Mrs. Stokes placed a Socialist paper in their hands.

Comrade Stokes' friends and comrades gathered in the Bush Temple chapel last Wednesday to take a last farewell before they placed her in her last resting place. Comrade Simons delivered a short address to those present before proceeding to the cemetery.

Comrade Stokes leaves a husband and one son about 15 years old, to mourn her absence in her home.

The great question, therefore, is not whether a candidate is honest or dishonest, but whether he is the candidate of a party that stands for right principles. The Socialist party always nominates good men.

But it does not ask anybody to vote for its candidates because they are good men. It does ask every voter to vote for them because the Socialist party stands for right principles.

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THE SOCIALIST MOVEMENT IN GREAT BRITAIN.

Continued from Page One.

Some what many of them would like to do. "£2,000 a year and possibilities is good gifts." They do not understand that such an acceptance of office in a capitalist government is a betrayal of their class...

Meanwhile, there is this huge Liberal majority, eager to carry pettifogging measures so as to "dish the Socialist" and keep back real progress for years...

Yet the situation they have to face calls for statesmanship, and statesmen of the highest order. The old methods of the incompetent and lackadaisical House of Commons of the past twenty years cannot hope to cope with present day problems...

THE COAL STRIKE.

A Review of the Complicated Situation by Comrade Maley.

It is hard for one who is not familiar with the mining situation and the workings of the Miners' Union to form any intelligent outline of the present coal strike and negotiations between the miners and the operators.

We therefore print the following article by Comrade Maley from last week's Socialist. Comrade Maley is an ex-miner worker and is well informed on the mining situation and better able to arrive at an intelligent understanding of the whole situation than most Socialist writers who must depend largely on newspaper reports for their information.

"Just how far the coal miners' strike will finally extend remains to be seen. Negotiations between the anthracite operators and miners are not yet completed, although the latter have suspended work pending an agreement being reached.

"It is rarely that a strike spreading over such a large area and affecting the industrial situation so acutely has begun under such quiet conditions. That a general suspension of work should occur so unanimously speaks well for the miners' organization. There was a time when from the moment a strike began the strikers would have to begin agitating with other miners to join them.

"The one question arises as to whether it was wise for the miners' national convention to decide that work could be resumed at all mines where the scale of 1905 was offered. In every large strike the miners have ever engaged in this question has been a bone of contention, and in some cases it has threatened the life of the organization itself.

"The policy of a general settlement was adopted to prevent the mine owners from 'playing' the miners of one district against another. During a strike it would be to the interest of one operator or the operators of one district or State to grant the scale demanded by the miners that he or they could get the market away from their competitors, or the operators by agreement would allow one or some of their number to sign with the miners so that some coal could be produced and thus help keep the market supplied and weaken the strike, or perhaps break it altogether.

"It was the lesson learned from bitter experience more than anything else which taught the miners the necessity of interstate agreements between competitive districts and which led up to the interstate conferences of the operators and miners of the bituminous field. These conferences have not, however, included Western Pennsylvania, Ohio, Illinois and Indiana, but the wage scale in all the other bituminous coal States were dependent almost

entirely upon the agreements reached by the interstate conference, it being recognized that the States above named came more directly into competition with each other.

"The Ryan resolution, adopted at the first national convention this year, and which was opposed by Pat Dolan and led to his merited downfall, called for a general settlement, that is, no district signed the scale until all districts signed, and was action justified by the experience of the past, and undoubtedly expressed them and probably expresses now, the opinion of the miners as a whole.

"The Perry resolution adopted last Friday nullifies this, however, and admits of district settlements similar to that made in the Pittsburgh district. The wisdom of this policy is questionable. It is always better to keep the interests of the miners as a class before them and as of supreme importance rather than invite the danger of division and competition. It is worth noting in this respect that when Dolan rebelled against the decision of the miners' national convention, his chief defender was Mr. Robbins, who shortly after Dolan's defeat, changed his tactics and favored the miners' demands after having opposed them. Robbins, by this, has secured a settlement for the mines he represents, but in the meanwhile the striking miners in other districts are compelled to see coal going into the market to keep it supplied while they are fighting the other operators for the old scale.

"It does not seem that this is a very good policy for the miners' officials to pursue. Whether President Mitchell and those who supported the Perry resolution were more concerned with the attitude of the public than with the ultimate effects of the change in policy upon the strike situation and the organization we do not know, but it does appear as if this did inspire their action. The public knows little and cares less about the points at issue between the operators and miners. All the public cares about is the strike itself, not the conditions which caused it or even the method of conducting it. To the public the proposition of Robbins to pay the scale looks 'fair,' and it would appear wise for the miners to accept that proposition rather than strike against Mr. Robbins, who is the only person who benefits directly from the whole transaction.

"It is also possible that the operators may have fixed it up with Mr. Robbins to have him take his present course, so that the miners could be divided and coal supplied to the market. This has occurred in the past and is not an unlikely hypothesis at this time.

A SOCIAL TRAGEDY. CALL FOR STATE CONVENTIONS.

"Mrs. Warren's Profession," Not as a Fiction but as an Episode in Real Life, Revealed in a Pittsburg Court.

The following news item, which appeared in all the capitalist papers last week is an excellent commentary upon the action of the hypocritical bourgeoisie authorities who suppressed the production on the American stage of "Mrs. Warren's Profession."

Socialism alone will abolish the conditions which breeds such social tragedies as the one related and enacted in the Pittsburg court.

Pittsburg, Pa., April 6.—(Special.)—In court this afternoon Mrs. Lizzie Lambert Walters declared that for the love of her daughter, now 14 years old, she had lived a life of shame.

While this tragedy was being enacted the husband of the woman and father of the child sat with bowed head. The confession was made at a hearing of the habeas corpus proceedings of William J. Walters of Portland, Ore., against Lizzie Lambert Walters of this city.

The couple were married at Johnstown, Pa., Dec. 19, 1890, and came to this city, where two children, a boy and a girl, were born. Then they separated, Walters going to Chicago and afterward to Portland. He is a mining engineer and prospered there until to-day, according to his testimony, he is worth at least \$150,000, and is general manager of the Western Smelting and Mining Company. He declares his son died of neglect, but he admitted he never had contributed to the support of either of the children.

Walters some time ago obtained a divorce from his wife, and then, learning the life she was leading, brought suit for the custody of his daughter.

It was expected the mother would attempt to deny leading a dual life—one that of a fond mother; the other that of a woman of the town. But she only said: "What I am, I am for my daughter's sake. That she might be educated and be properly clothed I have sold my body and my very soul. I could die happy with the thought of doing so, for oh, I love her so. But I want to tell you, judge, that if you take her from me and give her to her father I will kill both of us and him, for I cannot live without my little girl."

She had continued her narrative to this point despite the efforts of attorneys to interrupt her. Then came the piercing cry of the child, who a moment later fell unconscious.

Ruth Walters is a student at the fashionable Ursuline academy of this city and has had everything she wished for. She is one of the best dressed students. Her mother, who lives on Craft avenue, was supposed to receive money from wealthy relatives.

According to the story of Mrs. Walters, her supply of money became exhausted a year ago last November. In order to continue her daughter's education she started on her life of shame.

Illinois State Locals Please Take Notice.

To the Locals, Branches and Members of the Socialist Party of the State of Illinois—Greetings! Pursuant to Article II, Sec. 3, of the State Constitution, delegating to the State Committee the power of calling the various conventions for the purpose of placing in nomination candidates for public offices to be voted for by the electors in November of this year, and in keeping with the exigencies arising out of the decision of the Supreme Court in declaring the 1905 primary law null and void and restoring the law of 1901, your State Committee herewith fraternally calls upon all members of the Socialist party of the State of Illinois to assemble in their respective counties, either in mass or delegate convention, on Saturday, May 19, 1906, to transact the following business:

(a) To select delegates to the State convention. (b) To select delegates to the congressional convention. (c) To select delegates to senatorial conventions. (d) To select candidates for public officers of the county (except in the county of Cook).

It shall be optional with the members to determine for themselves in all such counties where two or more organizations exist, whether their respective county convention shall be mass or delegate, and if delegate, it shall also be optional with them to determine the basis of representation.

Representation in the State convention shall be by counties, each county shall be entitled to one delegate and one additional delegate for every two hundred (200) votes or major fraction thereof, cast for the Socialist candidate for President in 1904.

In the counties of LaSalle, Peoria and St. Clair, the legislative candidates shall likewise be nominated on the date, and along with the county candidates.

All delegates to the senatorial conventions—or members where delegate convention is not advisable—shall assemble in their respective districts on Wednesday, May 23, 1906, and proceed to elect the following candidates: (a) one member of the State Legislature; (b) one member of the State Senate in all odd numbered districts.

All delegates to the congressional conventions—or members where a delegate convention is not advisable—shall assemble on Sunday, May 27, 1906, for the transaction of the following business: (a) elect one candidate for Representative in Congress; (b) elect one candidate for member of the State Board of Equalization; (c) elect two delegates to the State Central Committee; (d) elect a Congressional Committee consisting of a chairman and a secretary and seven additional members.

All delegates elected to the State convention shall assemble in the city of Chicago at Brand's Hall, corner Erie and Clark streets, at 10:30 a. m., Saturday, June 2, 1906, for the purpose of placing in nomination State officers to be voted for at the election on Nov. 6, 1906, and to transact such other business as may properly come before it.

The following is the apportionment of delegates to the State convention from the organized counties, based upon the vote of 1904:

Table with 2 columns: County Name and Vote. Includes Cook (47,743), DeKalb (191), DuPage (126), Edgar (42), Elkhart (30), Fulton (496), Grundy (384), Henry (574), Jackson (246), Kane (677), Kankakee (168), Kendall (12), Knox (411), Lake (132), LaSalle (940), Logan (156), Mason (346), Macoupin (427), Madison (967), Marion (281), Mason (90), McDonough (64), McLean (846), Montgomery (194), Morgan (156), Peoria (1,075), Pike (185), Rock Island (67), Rock Island (2,422), Sangamon (637), St. Clair (788), Stephenson (59), Stephenson (193), Vermillion (761), Warren (136), Washington (116), Will (1,189), Winnebago (695).

Table with 2 columns: County Name and Vote. Includes Adams (296), Alexander (366), Bond (79), Bureau (632), Christian (288), Coles (169).

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SIGNING CAPITALIST PLEDGES.

The following is the report by the city campaign committee made to the County Central Committee, and by the latter ordered printed in the Chicago Socialist for the benefit of its readers and to make the Socialists of Illinois acquainted with the policy of the Socialist party in all such matters.

To the Cook County Central Committee, Socialist Party—Greeting: Pursuant to the call issued by your body to the ward branches of the city of Chicago to elect two delegates from each to constitute the campaign committee for the conducting and managing of the address campaign of the city, we, the delegates so elected and constituting the city campaign committee, fraternally desire to call your attention to the following facts and recommendations herein stated:

At a session of the campaign committee held on Sunday, March 11, a delegate read a letter from the legislative committee of the Chicago Federation of Labor received by the aldermanic candidate of his ward, enclosing a pledge and requesting that the candidate sign same.

In the discussion that ensued concerning this matter, it developed that each of the Socialist party aldermanic candidates has received from this committee a like letter and pledge, and realizing the confusion which would result should the individual candidate be allowed to handle the communication separately and according to their individual conceptions of the merits or demerits of the nature of the pledge, the campaign committee decided to make a collective reply embodying the party's position upon the three questions and upon the position of the Federation itself, attempting to represent the interests of organized labor of Chicago involved in the subject matter.

Chicago, Ill., March 13, 1906. Wm. Russell, Secretary, Legislative Committee, 277 La Salle Street, City.

Dear Sir—We, a committee of the Socialist party, were authorized to make a collective answer to your communication to aldermanic candidates, regarding their attitude on certain municipal questions.

As a matter of information we wish you to understand that as candidates for the Socialist party ticket our nominees are but the mouthpieces of the rank and file of the party, and as such have no right to either pledge themselves or to take any position not distinctly so declared in the mandate given them by the membership.

We submit that so long as the working class in general and organized labor in particular is so ignorant of its class interests that it is possible for the two capitalist parties to split the vote of the working class, and thus utterly wipe out all spirit of solidarity of labor on election day, and deliver to the Republican and Democratic parties the power to legislate, to imprison, fine, maltreat, club, lynch and shoot organized labor into submission to the will and desires of the capitalist class; so long as the working class and organized labor particularly can be led to do this, just so long can the vote on the little ticket be directed with impunity to the capitalist class, to the detriment of the working class.

The members of the Chicago Federation of Labor belong to a class organization and ought to know that we are living under class rule and as the Socialists stand committed to the cause of labor and against class rule, it is the plain duty of all union men to join the Socialist party and work for the same.

The Socialist party nominees stand pledged to serve the cause of labor and to work and vote with all their might for any and all measures that will benefit the working class. Fraternally yours, THOS. HALLS, ROBERT SALPETER, M. E. ELDRIDGE, CHAS. H. SAND, CHAS. L. BRECKON, Committee.

At the session of the campaign committee held on Sunday, April 1, a communication from the Federation was submitted, reporting the names of the aldermanic candidates who have signed the pledge. In this list appear the following names of Socialist party candidates: Sixth Ward, M. J. DeMuth; Eighth Ward, T. J. Vind; Sixteenth Ward, Chas. A. Halbeck; Twenty-fourth Ward, Felix Marsh; Thirtieth Ward, J. Wunderlich.

As a result of this, a sub-committee was elected to investigate the correctness of the statement of the Federation by ascertaining the facts from those Socialist party candidates whose names appear upon the document, and to submit the findings of this investigation to the campaign committee at the next session.

At the following session of the campaign committee held Sunday, April 8, this sub-committee rendered the following report: To the Campaign Committee of the Socialist Party of Cook County: Comrades—Your committee on investigating the correctness of the statement issued by the legislative committee of the Chicago Federation of Labor that five aldermanic candidates of the Socialist party have signed the pledge of the Federation, begs to report as follows:

Immediately upon the adjournment of the campaign committee on Sunday, April 7, the sub-committee assembled and elected Comrades M. E. Eldredge as chairman and Jas. S. Smith secretary, with instructions that the secretary write to each of the five candidates whose names appear upon the statement of the Federation, requesting them to meet the committee at the party headquarters on Friday evening, April 6, and help the committee to ascertain the facts in the matter.

On Friday evening, April 6, the committee assembled as per previous agreement, and at 8:40 went into session. Those present of the committee were M. E. Eldredge, chairman; Jas. S. Smith, secretary; E. E. Palmer, Otto Beselack, Thos. Halls and A. Erlando.

Meeting opened by the chairman stating the purpose of the committee which was created and called upon the candidates to inform the committee why their names appear upon the document issued by the Federation's political committee. The secretary asked permission to read a letter received from Comrade John Wunderlich, aldermanic candidate of the Thirtieth Ward, which letter reads as follows: Mr. Jas. S. Smith, Room 15, 163 Randolph St., City. Dear Comrade—I received yours of the 3d inst., and to tell you the truth I was not very much surprised as to the contents of your letter, as I had anticipated something to that effect for some time.

principles of the movement will always be kept as clear as they are today. Now, Comrade Smith, I am writing this letter because I cannot be present Friday evening, April 6th, and I tell you again, if the charge is enough to warrant my expulsion I do not hesitate, and neither do I.

With respect to the party and the principles involved, I remain, sincerely yours, JOHN WUNDERLICH, 624 Krinstein Av., City.

The secretary also stated having a personal talk with Comrade T. J. Vind of the Eighth Ward, who informed him of his inability to be present at this meeting, but acknowledged the signing of the pledge and expressing a desire for some definite action on the part of the membership as regards conduct of candidates on matters of this kind, because neither the national nor the county constitutions fully cover the ground, as both have to come simply to the prohibition of the signing of pledges coming from capitalistic sources.

Of the five candidates whose names appeared published by the Federation, only Comrades DeMuth of the Sixth Ward and Halbeck of the Sixteenth Ward appeared personally. The fifth candidate, Comrade F. Marsh of the Twenty-fourth Ward, was not heard from at all.

On being asked by the chairman whether he has signed any pledge, Comrade DeMuth acknowledged signing the pledge of the Chicago Federation of Labor, but said that he did so before the campaign committee has taken charge of the matter in deciding to make a collective answer to communications sent to all Socialist candidates.

On being asked the same question, Comrade Chas. Halbeck stated that he signed the pledge and that he did so with the full knowledge of the action taken by the campaign committee. He further stated that he waited until the publication in the Chicago Socialist of the collective answer drafted by the campaign committee, and finding it satisfactory to himself, had signed the pledge and sent it, together with a letter of explanation. He further stated, denying the right of the committee to answer any communications for him, because it would take away his individual rights as a party member.

Other questions were put to the comrade, all of which he answered with a view to justify himself in the action taken and firmly denying jurisdiction whatsoever over himself as a candidate by any committee of the party as being contrary to the laws of the land.

Your committee is reasonably satisfied that no willful wrong was intended by four of the comrades, and that they have signed the pledge before any action was taken by the campaign committee, but no such extenuating circumstances seem to enter into the case of Comrade Halbeck, whose conduct as a candidate of the Socialist party and the position taken by him in denouncing such conduct as an utter repudiation of the well-established policy of the Socialist parties of all countries.

Fraternally submitted, M. E. ELDRIDGE, Chairman. F. E. PALMER, OTTO BESELACK, THOS. HALLS, A. ERLANDO, JAS. S. SMITH, Secretary.

Sub-committee on Investigation. The campaign committee having been charged by the membership electing them with the duty of conducting and managing the campaign of the Socialist party, fully embodies in itself the party's ideas and wishes as regards the points forming the controversy. Unless this is fully conceded, there cannot be any order and system maintained in our organization, nor can we realize collectiveness in the Socialist party.

The position taken by the campaign committee in deciding for a party action as against any action by the individual candidates is based on the belief that for the time being a candidate of the Socialist party for any public office acts as the official agent of the party; and, as regards questions of party policy, such officer or agent becomes the mouthpiece of the party through which the party's will finds expression. Modern methods of conducting the affairs of the society demand that the will of the many be embodied in the few and by that few made expressive in the legislative halls of the land. These few, constituting the officers or agents of the many, embody in themselves during the period that they act as such officers or agents, the collective ideas and wishes of the many.

We cannot all be Aldermen or legislators, nor can we all stand as candidates for those offices, and therefore we are compelled to designate some one of us to step forward out of the ranks and become our representative. The plea set up by Comrade Halbeck that the campaign committee has deprived him of his individuality by deciding to take charge of the matter cannot be seriously considered, because his individuality has but made up the sum total of the individuality of the many which were embodied within him, when he was designated to so step forward out of the ranks. As regards his contention that the membership loses all control of him immediately after designating him as their agent is too ridiculous for any consideration whatsoever, and in our opinion, the attempt to use any capitalistic laws as a shield to hide behind for a Socialist is pitiable, to say the least.

It is not the desire of the campaign committee that any drastic action should be taken against these five comrades, though Comrade Halbeck's conduct is far from that that the party would expect from one who has been in the party the length of time that he has been a member. That no violation was committed of the provisions of either the national or county constitutions is apparent, because that section of the county constitution which deals directly with the question of signing pledges reads very plain and distinctly states that such prohibition is only against a pledge coming from a capitalistic body. The actual wording of this section is as follows:

Article VI, Section 4.—"No candidate of the Socialist party for a public office shall sign, endorse or approve any pledge, platform or program of any CAPITALISTIC political body."

The only reference that the national constitution makes that could be stretched to cover the case under consideration is found buried beneath eight lines of other production of the makers of the constitution, and reads as follows: "Article XVII, Section 3.—"nor shall any candidate of the Socialist party accept any nomination or endorsement from any other party or political organization."

That a serious blunder was committed by the comrades no one will deny, nor can it be denied that the party would be justified in calling Comrade Halbeck before the bar of the membership to answer for his unwarranted conduct and position, however, the mistake has been made and no action on the part of the membership can now undo it.

After full and mature consideration of the whole subject matter, we are of the opinion that the interests of the party could be best conserved by looking rather to the future than to the past; with this in view, we fraternally recommend that the prohibition of signing of pledges will include all bodies, whether capitalistic or otherwise, and that the candidates shall at all times act solely as the agents or representatives of the Socialist party and no other body whatsoever.

We also recommend that full publicity be given to this statement, that the membership may come into possession of all the facts in the case and take such steps as in their judgment those facts may warrant. Fraternally submitted: THE CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE, OTTO BESELACK, Chairman. CHAS. L. BRECKON, Secretary.

Chicago, Ill., April 8, 1906. Accepted by County Central Committee and recommendation concurred in. CHAS. L. BRECKON, Secy.

THE CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE. At its session on last Sunday the campaign committee adjourned sine die. It closed up its work in the spring campaign in good shape, practically out of debt. The responses on the campaign lists for the past week were very good, and if the comrades will but make an extra effort to crowd in the campaign lists now out, there will be no question about the results. Our organization is moving forward splendidly now. The big campaign for the fall is fairly before us. Our primary lawsuit has been completely won, and the State Legislature has been called in extra session. Everywhere one turns it is to be found evidences of increased Socialist activity. The following is a list of the receipts to the campaign fund for the past week, showing a total of \$125.08:

Table with 2 columns: Name and Amount. Total \$125.08.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

Receipts—Due stamps, \$28; delegate dues, \$7; campaign fund, \$125.08; miscellaneous sales, \$2.75; balance last week, \$57.99; total, \$229.92. Expenses—Due stamps, \$10; postage, \$4; hall rent, etc., \$41.80; literature, \$1.75; secretary's salary, \$20; office expenses and rent, \$15; balance on hand this week, \$107.32; total, \$229.92. Stamp Account—On hand last week, 70; purchased, 400; total, 470. Sold, 256; balance on hand, 214.

ORGANIZATION MEETING.

Don't forget that on next Sunday each division organization will meet. On the following Thursday, April 12, the general organization committee will meet. No one proposition is of more importance at this time than the question of how to perfect our organization. All the problems that we before us find their answer in organization. A man in every precinct—an organization in every primary district.

PROCEEDINGS OF COUNTY COMMITTEE.

55 N. Clark St., April 8, 1906. Meeting called to order by Thos. J. Morgan. New delegate seated from Thirtieth Ward. Roll call showed delegates from all wards but 6, 10, 23, 25, 30, 34. Minutes of last meeting were read and approved.

Applications for membership to the number of 175 were read and approved. Executive committee minutes were read and action approved. Report of business manager showed \$65.88 surplus for month of March, the first time in the history of the paper. It was urged that the matter of stock subscriptions for incorporation of plant be closed up, as this would surely enable much larger surplus to be available for organization and propaganda work. Report approved.

The campaign committee submitted full report on matter of candidates in Sixth, Eighth, Sixteenth, Twenty-fourth and Thirtieth wards, having signed Chicago F. of L. pledge.

It was moved and carried, after a long debate, that report be accepted, recommendation approved, and that substance of whole matter be published in the Chicago Socialist.

Motion made that a vote of censure be passed upon these candidates. Carried unanimously. A communication from campaign committee was read regarding violation of constitution in the nomination of candidates less than one year in the party.

A motion for a vote of censure on Twenty-seventh Ward was lost. Motion prevailed that county secretary be instructed to inform all branches of the fact of one year's membership being absolutely necessary before nomination for any political office can be accepted.

The report submitted by secretary regarding the holding of primaries April 21 was referred back to executive committee with instructions to use all efforts possible to hold primaries and given full power to act in the matter. The question of date for the holding of fall primaries was fixed for Saturday, May 19.

Thos. J. Morgan read report prepared by him on instructions from executive committee on matter of I. W. W. circular issued and charges against the executive committee. It was then moved and carried that the whole matter and all documents be referred to the grievance committee. The question of a boycott on a certain Polish paper was referred to the grievance committee. Delegate from Thirty-first Ward brought up matter of expulsion of Chas. J. Giest for swabbing and asked a reconsideration. No motion. On motion adjourned. CHAS. L. BRECKON, Secretary.

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THE CHICAGO SOCIALIST

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EDITOR: A. W. Mace; Business Manager: Louis Dolgaard; State Sec.: J. S. Smith; C. L. Brecken, County Secretary.

Registered at the Postoffice, Chicago, Ill., as second-class matter, March 18, 1902.

WORKERS, BE NOT DECEIVED.

With all the experience of the past as a guide it would seem almost superfluous to warn the workers against the fallacy of attempting a resort to physical force to solve the labor problem in any of its phases.

But a certain combination of circumstances growing out of the just and righteous indignation of all thinking members of the working class over the Moyer and Haywood outrages has aroused the working people of this country that for the moment even some Socialists seem to have lost their balance.

Experience has proved in thousands of struggles that have handed and with the instruments of war and powers of government in the hands of the enemy that any attempt to incite the workers to resort to physical force is a suicidal policy.

That the great majority of the workers and practically all Socialists realize that those who would advise the workers in the present stage of the development of their organizations to resort to violence, no matter how noble and well meaning their intentions may be, are the workers' most deadly enemy, we have no doubt.

Nevertheless, there is a certain anarchist element in Chicago that by some means, best known to them, are able to publish a small daily paper in the German language that persistently opposes working class political action and covertly advocates resort to physical force as the only effective method of waging war on the capitalist class.

The paper mentioned above, the Arbeiter Zeitung, has lately published some bitter denunciations of the Socialist party, together with a "call to arms" and a declaration that the time for political action has passed. In these articles it declares that the past fifty years of propaganda for Socialism has been in vain, and that now the anarchists take the center of the stage.

LABOR AND POLITICS.

The Socialist party is the expression of the aspirations of the class-conscious workers, who see the necessity of working class political action to capture the public powers. Most of the members of the Socialist party also realize the necessity of working class economic organizations to do battle with the capitalists with such economic weapons as are within their reach, such as the strike, the boycott and the appeal to public sentiment to secure immediate results "by action" with all feasible and legitimate means.

The necessity and benefits of economic organization has long been recognized by large elements of the working class, but it is only lately that it has been brought home to both the leaders and the rank and file that the economic organization of the workers is not sufficient. Just at present there is a considerable effort being made to get the workers to go into "independent politics" and cast their ballots as workers for candidates who are pledged to be "friendly to labor," whether they are independent, Democrat or Republican.

The one thing that those who are advocating that labor should go into politics appear to have overlooked is the necessity of a broad and comprehensive working class political party with a definite program and aims to work for.

We apprehend that when Messrs. Gompers and Hearst have finally convinced the union men of the country that they should use their ballots in their own interests and that they will see that the only effective method of doing that is for them to get into the Socialist party and vote and work for the election of that party's candidates, who stand squarely on a working class platform.

Now that Mr. Gompers has decided that political action on the part of the workers is necessary it is up to him to state how that action can be made effective, if he can, without a working class political party. We believe that experience will surely teach him and the rank and file who follow him that a working class political party is as necessary as the working class economic organization is.

When the mass of the workers who are organized economically, whether they are in the A. F. of L. or in the I. W. O., eventually learn this truth, they will find the party that expresses their aspirations and represents their interests already in the field with an organization national in its scope and with everything that the workers can hope for, either immediately or ultimately, in their platform and program.

The Socialist party stands for and represents the interests of the whole producing class. Any party that aims at less can at best have only a local and ephemeral existence.

Circulate the Chicago Socialist. It is the cheapest and surest way of placing our message and plan of organization before the workers.

the "general strike and direct action."

Fortunately for the workers of Chicago, the influence of the pernicious teaching of this sheet does not reach any considerable portion of the working class, and the only reason we call particular attention to it at this time is because it has assumed to speak for the Moyer and Haywood defense league of this city.

This league consists of four organizations, the I. W. O., the Jewish Bund, the most of whose members are also members of the Socialist party, and also the S. L. P., and the "Arbeiter Zeitung Conference," the nearest thing that the anarchists have to an organization.

It is the duty of all Socialists and all working people and lovers of justice to do all within their power to frustrate the designs of the capitalists to hang our brothers and break up our economic and political class organizations. For this very reason we must not for a moment countenance any compromise or affiliation with the advocates of physical force and anarchy.

The only effective weapon that the working class in this country have is the ballot and the capitalists know this if the anarchists do not.

When the workers learn to use the ballot intelligently they can place themselves at the right end of the rifles and machine guns in every industrial State in this union in a very short time.

The capitalists know this, and it is strange that the workers remain so stupid that they can't see it.

Can you imagine that the capitalists would not be pleased if the workers would accept the advice given by the Arbeiter Zeitung to fight the battle off of the political field where the workers are all powerful?

Be not deceived; those who advise physical force on the part of unarmed workers are working against the best interests of not only Moyer and Haywood, but the whole working class.

The class conscious ballot of the workers is the only thing that strikes terror to the capitalist class. Through it the workers can possess themselves of the means to use "physical force" if it is necessary. By an intelligent use of the ballot the workers may place themselves at the right end of the guns.

AS TO CONFISCATION. In one of his speeches during the late campaign, Comrade Patterson said the way to take over the railroads and other means of employment was to take them over, confiscate them. Since then there has hardly a day passed but what the capitalist press has referred in one way or another to that speech. Most of them prove to their own satisfaction that the thing can't be done because the Supreme Court blocks the way at every turn.

If we have read history right the holders of chattel slaves only a half a century ago thought that their "rights" to own and traffic in human flesh were unassailable because the Supreme Court stood in the way of negro emancipation. They rendered the infamous Dred Scott decision, but chattel slavery passed away just the same.

It is not the sleepy old Supreme Court that stands in the path of progress at the present time. It is the stupidity of the workers themselves.

It is not the power of the Supreme Court that the capitalists bank on to perpetuate their exploitation of the working class, but the hope that the workers can be kept ignorant of their class power and interests, and kept divided on the political field.

Once the workers see the necessity of political action along class lines it will not take long for the Supreme Court to change its mind, or if it will not do that, we will change the personnel of the court from corporation lawyers to class-conscious workers; then the court's mind will not need to change.

It is well that the capitalist press is familiarizing the public mind with the term "confiscation." There is scarcely a doubt but that term will have to work overtime in the near future.

SOCIALIST PRIMARY SITUATION.

The one question that Socialists are asking just now is: Will the Socialists have primaries on the 21st of April in accordance with the decision rendered by the Supreme Court last week? In answer to this question we can only say that the executive and legal committees of the party are making every effort to secure all the advantages that are coming to us because of the decision declaring the new primary law unconstitutional and granting the writ of mandamus on the election commissioners ordering them to issue the call for Socialist primaries. However, there are a number of legal complications which make the outcome very uncertain.

The only thing that is certain at the present writing is that we have succeeded in having the iniquitous and unjust primary law of 1905 declared unconstitutional in its entirety. In the meantime the executive committee has taken every precaution to make certain that we have a ticket in the field in the June election, either by petition or primaries.

The newspapers are filled with speculation as to just what kind of a primary law will be enacted by the Special

session of the Legislature that has been called by Gov. Deneen, but time alone will reveal that.

There is one thing that we may be morally certain of, and that is that whenever the capitalists go into reforming the laws that their reforms in one way or another will result in curtailing the rights and franchises of the whole or part of the working class, and Gov. Deneen's "reforms" in the election law are not likely to prove any exception. We have only two working class representatives at Springfield, but our success in the court will at least secure them a respectful hearing. At present all we can do is wait and see what we will see.

In East Africa the British, and in West Africa the Germans are shooting up the black men. As the world becomes enlightened fewer and fewer nations shirk their share of the white man's burden.—Estimian.

That champion lightning change artist, President Roosevelt, who for some time has been acting the role of "trust regulator" and prosecutor of the criminal packers, will now entertain the American public in the capacity of champion white-washer. In the meantime watch "The Jungle" go.

Some time ago the City Council passed an 85-cent gas ordinance and a lot of unsophisticated people thought their gas bills would be reduced, but they seem to have rather increased. They did not calculate on the fact that the gas company owns and attends to the meters.

The only way to beat the capitalists' game is to abolish the profit system. As long as the capitalists own the means of life and the finished product they will continue some method to fix the standard of measure to work in their own interests whether it be gas meters or dollars.

THE DYING RATE BILL.

A rate bill lay expiring in a dusty pigeon hole.

It faintly murmured "Present!" when gaunt Feinbark called the roll. And then it turned appealingly to the junk man who stood by, and gazed on its amendments with a harsh, expectant eye.

"I know that I'm all in," it said; "but, oh, kind sir, I pray That I may lie where I was born, in dear old Oyster Bay!"

"I know not why they murdered me, or why they took away When I came over from the House—I never meant them harm; I never meant to cut down rates; I never meant to bring The railroads any ill—in fact, I never meant a thing.

So when you've written '23' above my form, oh, say That you will send me home to sleep near dear old Oyster Bay!"

"Twas there that first I saw the light, 'twas there that Knox and Root Beheld my unamused face, and said I was a beast; 'Twas there my father fondled me, and made me rather vain.

By telling how I'd get the votes all through the next campaign. But now I'm patched and edited, and soon must pass away. So lay all that is left of me at dear old Oyster Bay."

"Tell father that I did my best to bring his name and fame, And all the while do ne'er a thing to trim the railroads' game. Tell Mellin, Hill and Harriman that I was still their friend, Tell Foster-Father's pitchfork brought 'about my tragic end."

Its pallid lips were closed for keeps; ah, lay its corpse away Beneath that grave that gave it birth, in dear old Oyster Bay!"

POINT OF VIEW.

Shots from Durango Democrat.

The Moyer-Haywood case will tend to cement labor the country over. So far the Western Federation has escaped indictment as to Charles Ross.

Supposing Rockefeller had been taken to Missouri or Taylor to Kentucky in as violent and unlawful a way as were Moyer and Haywood out of Colorado. What a yell would have been raised by the corporate press.

As the trust magnate who plots and schemes to rob and oppress labor a murderer or a benefactor in Idaho? What prevented the extradition of "Governor" Taylor from Indiana. It was not the Western Federation.

The demand in the Moyer-Haywood case is for a probe and not for a sweeper, corporate law library or the militia. If Taylor of Indiana could not secure a fair trial in Kentucky, how about that fair trial in Idaho? It looks bad for the Taylor gang.

How much do Idaho officials, Mine Owners' Association and the militia want in way of a ransom for the kidnaped Western Federation officials?

If St. John is to be a military prisoner, retain him in Denver and try him by court martial. If a civil case Judge Stevens is the proper person to prescribe.

Would McDonald have allowed any member of a corporation or the Mine Owners' Association to have been taken from Colorado as were Moyer and Haywood?

Standard Oil magnates accused of criminal visit the White House—the Western Federation boys the pen. It is really no disgrace to be poor, but it must be—awful unhandly.

McDonald, who was selected as receiver for Alva Adams' salary by methods that would balk some burglars, has manifested a desire to obey any dictate or decree of the Mine Owners' Association.

McDonald's personally conducted system of kidnaping makes him strong with the Mine Owners' Association. Hon. Bill "Timmy" Silverton says: "McDonald is a statesman." Bill is what the apostles termed an ass.

Gov. Taylor of Kentucky is immune as to extradition—but he is not a labor leader, nor a libeling man. He was in the capital building at Frankfort, Ky., when Gov. (Gebel) was murdered. He is in Indiana now by and with the consent of the A. O. P.

Gompers and the executive council have now threatened to go into politics. The question now arises as to what political party Gompers will ally himself with in anticipation of having the wrongs of labor redressed.

The Democratic and Republican parties are but the two wings of the capitalist bird of prey, and no relief can be expected from those political combinations that are mortgaged to plutocracy. It appears to us that Gompers will be forced through the pressure of conditions to look upon the philosophy of Socialism as the remedy to emancipate the working class from the thrall of corporate slavery.

Continental Clothing House advertisement for Nobby Clothing for Easter. Includes store location (Milwaukee and Ashland Aves.), a list of clothing items with prices (e.g., Nobby suits \$15.00, Youths' suits \$8.50, Boys' clothes \$3.00), and a photograph of a man in a suit.

Let our watchword be: Agitate, educate, organize. \$15.00 buys a \$35.00 sewing machine at Conklin's.

Nineteenth Ward, Notice. There will be a lecture by Jay Fox at Horan's Hall, corner Halsted and Harrison streets, at 8 p. m., on Sunday, April 15.

Twenty-Fifth Ward. The regular meeting of the Twenty-fifth Ward branch will be held Sunday, April 15, at 2:30 p. m., in Lincoln Turner Hall, Diversey near Sheffield avenue.

Organization Meeting. Don't forget that next Sunday is the date for the meeting of your organization division. Every delegate is hereby urged to be present.

Twenty-Fourth Ward, Attention! All members are herewith requested to be present at our meeting, Monday, April 23, at 620 Diversey boulevard, at 8 p. m., to consider and act on the resignation of the secretary.

Entertainment. The fifth primary district of the Twenty-eighth Ward will give an entertainment at Scharr's Hall, corner of Campbell and Armitage avenue, on Saturday, April 14, at 8 p. m.

Meetings for Propaganda. Saturday, April 14—Harvey, Ill., 8 p. m. Two big halls, Speakers, J. M. Patterson, Wm. B. Lloyd, A. M. Simons and Chas. L. Brecken.

Everything I Wear Was Made on the Wheeler & Wilson Sewing Machine. I have a sample sewing machine that I will sell at a price that will make you ashamed to take it. Never been run, simply shopworn.

Wheeler & Wilson Manufacturing Co. 72-74 Wabash Avenue. Chas. Case-Mir 817 Grand Ave. Boots and Shoes.

Let our watchword be: Agitate, educate, organize. \$15.00 buys a \$35.00 sewing machine at Conklin's. Nashville, Ill., April 4, 1906. Jas. S. Smith, State Secretary, Chicago, Illinois.

Jewish Comrades, Attention. Comrade Abe Kahn, editor of a daily and weekly Socialist paper in New York City, will be in Chicago the first and second of May, and will speak twice while he is here.

My Mamma Told Me. Advertisement for a sewing machine.

Books You Ought to Read. The Bitter Cry of the Children, The Call of the Wild, The Ancient Lowly.

Wanted. A comrade wants a housekeeper, young widow and German preferred. Address MANAGRE, Chicago Socialist, 163 East Randolph Street.

The New Rhubarb. Prof's Rheomal is a hybrid bred from Linnaeus, the f-mous wine plant, Myatt's Victoria and Cabott's Mammoth, and is a result of "selection" through successive seedings, begun in 1890.

The Bitter Cry of the Children. By JOHN SPARGO. Library Edition \$1.50. By mail \$1.65. The Call of the Wild. By JACK LONDON. Library Edition .75c. By mail .85c. CHICAGO SOCIALIST, 163 E. RANDOLPH ST.

STAG PARTY. GIVEN BY THE THIRD WARD BRANCH. For the Benefit of Socialist Headquarters. SUNDAY, APRIL 22nd, at 3 p. m. At 3517 State Street. You are cordially invited to attend all afternoon and evening. Admission Free. Refreshments Served.

MASQUERADE BALL. AT SOCIALIST HEADQUARTERS, 3517 State St. SATURDAY, APRIL 15th, 1906. Tickets 15c a Person. Good Music. Ladies' and Gents' Prizes.

To the Parents. If you want strong, healthy children, with well shaped feet, buy the NATURE SHOES. They will study, play and eat better if their feet are not cramped in poor shaped shoes. For further particulars ask J. BUSK, 114 N. Center Av.

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