

A CLIMAX IS COMING.

Breckon Writes of Conditions and Sentiment Toward Socialism in Illinois Towns Where He Has Been Speaking and Organizing During the Past Week.

If ever there was a time when the Socialist speaker was heartily greeted in the fair State of Illinois, that time is now.

There shall be a divided and conquered working class, but a united and glorified body of producers who shall live in the full measure of their days in peace and plenty.

This is what Samuel Gompers has started and what he isn't stopping. Industrial evolution goes on and on.

When the Vice President of the United States must devote half of his address at the laying of a five million-dollar cornerstone to a denunciation of Socialism there must be something in this "dream of the ages" that has become intensely practical in this industrial age.

When the two great political parties of the Empire State must give space in their State platforms to a telling of what Socialism is, how dreadfully bad, it must have become a political factor of no mean dimensions.

When the Governor of the Commonwealth of Illinois delivers an eulogistic address before our greatest financial magnates, he must interject a warning note that rings throughout the Mississippi Valley, telling of the menace of Socialism and insanity of its defenders.

When a Lieutenant Governor of the State of Illinois, a politician, a man of keen political insight, finds there are millions of books and leaflets telling of the benefits of Socialism and not a page telling of its darker side, Socialism must have "proven" that it is a militant spirit, a religious spirit, a spirit of devotion and self-sacrifice.

When an Adams confessor in Colorado tells us he has browbeaten and compelled into the confession of a lie that might have moved and Haywood; with an Orchard gone crazy on whom the prosecutors leaned so heavily in the hopes of disrupting and denouncing unionism, and in the sure conviction of a Moyer and Haywood; and lastly with the I. W. W. bringing his president because he turned in a bill for \$100 for hotel expenses for a whole year's travel, surely the time of the end is near at hand.

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COMRADE: A PEN PICTURE OF THE GREAT STRIKE.

By Maxim Gorky.

Everything in that city was strange, everything was perplexing. A multitude of churches roared their many colored and shining heads to the heavens, but the walls and smokestacks of factories were taller than the belltowers, and the temples, overwhelmed amid the facades of commercial buildings, were lost in the lifeless network of stone walls like quaking flowers in the dust and rubbish of crumbling rains.

The houses were large and frequently beautiful; the men were ugly and always trivial; from morning until night, like gray mice, they busily scurried over the narrow and tortuous streets of the city, ever seeking with greedy eyes, some after bread and others after amusement, while others, again, stood at the crossings and keenly and malignantly saw to it that the weak obeyed the strong without murmur.

It was the rich men who were called strong, and all believed that money alone gives man power and liberty. All sought after power, for all were slaves; the luxury of the rich created envy and hatred in the poor; no one knew of sweeter music than the sound of gold, and for that reason each man was his fellow's foe, and the master spirit of all was cruelty.

At times the sun shone over the city, but life was always sadder and men were like shadows. At night they lighted many merry lights and then hungry women went forth to sell their carcases for money; the greedy odor of many kinds of food struck the nostrils on all sides, and everywhere, silently and avidly, flashed the resentful eyes of the hungry; while over the city softly floated the suppressed groans of misery; it had not the strength to shout its woes out into the world.

All lived a life of discontent and unrest; all were enemies and conscious of guilt; only a few believed themselves to be in the right, but they were uncouth like beasts, and they were the most cruel of all.

darkly, little by little they raised their heads, breaking the meshes of cunning falsehood with which their masterful and insatiable oppressors had surrounded them.

Into their lives, filled with dull depressed malice, into their hearts entwined with many wrongs, into their minds clogged with the motley lies of the wisdom of the strong, into their sad and difficult existence, saturated with the bitterness of humiliation—there was dropped one simple and cheering word:

"Comrade!" It was not a new word to them; they had heard it before and they had used it themselves, but hitherto it had sounded as empty and dull as all familiar and worn-out expressions, which one can force and not be the loser.

But now, bright and strong, it had a different sound; another spirit was in the word; there was in it something rigid, sparkling, and many faced, like a diamond. They received it, and they brought it over their lips cautiously, sparingly, gently, cradling it in their hearts, like a mother hushing her new-born child and fondling it.

And the more deeply they looked into the luminous spirit of that word, the brighter, the more significant, and the more radiant it appeared to them.

"Comrade!" they said. And they felt that that word had come to unite the whole world, to raise all men to the pinnacle of liberty, to bind them together with new ties, with the strong ties of mutual esteem, of respect to human liberty, for the sake of liberty.

When that word had taken root in the soul of the slaves, they ceased to be slaves, and one fine day they presented to the city and to all its forces one great declaration of the will of man:

"Then life was arrested, for they were the force which allowed its progress, they, and none else. The flow of water was stopped, the fires went out, the city was steeped in gloom, and the powerful became as little children.

Terror seized the hearts of the oppressors, and suffocating in the odor of their corruption, they suppressed the resentment with the rebels in their perplexity and dread before their strength.

The houses and the temples, enveloped in darkness, merged into one soulless chaos of stones and iron; ominous silence overpowered the streets, with its lifeless outpourings; the wheels of life were arrested, for the power that had borne it had learned to know self, and man, the slave, found a magic, irresistible word for the expression of his will; he freed himself from the yoke and beheld face to face his domain, the domain of the Creator.

Those days were the days of fear for the mighty, for those who thought themselves lords of life; the nights—each was as a myriad of nights, so dense was the gloom, so beggarly, miserly, and timid were the lights that sparkled in the dead city; then that monstrous city, the work of centuries, fattened on the blood of its people, appeared before them in all the deformity of its nothingness, a pitiful heap of stone and wood, coldly and gloomily the darkened windows looked into the streets, but the true masters of life, walked boldly abroad. They, too, were hungry, and more so than others, but that was nothing new to them, and the privations of their bodies did not compare with the acute sufferings of their world-hungry souls; privations could not extinguish the flame of their spirit. Their hearts were aglow with the consciousness of their might, while the presentation of victory shone in their eyes.

They walked through the streets of the city of close and gloomy prison, where they had been crushed with utter contempt, where their souls had been filled with insults, and they realize the majestic significance of their labor. This led them up to the height of comprehending their holy right to be masters of life, its legislators and creators. And then with renewed vigor, with dazzling effulgence there rose before them the creative and unifying word:

"Comrade!" It sounded among the false words of the present like a joyous message of the future, of the new life, with equal opportunities for all, which shall open itself somewhere ahead of them—near or far. They felt that to decide that was in their power; they could hasten the coming of liberty, and it is they alone who can ward off its approach.

And she, too, only a day ago a half-starved creature of the street, with heavy heart awaiting the coming of any who would purchase her forced carcases, she, too, heard the word, but smiling in confusion, did not dare to repeat it. To her came a man, such as she had never seen before, and laying his hand on her shoulder he spoke to her in the language of a friend:

"Comrade!" And she smiled softly and shyly, as if to keep back the tears of joy, such as never before had entered into her soiled heart. In her eyes, which only the day before had looked boldly and eagerly into the world with the glance of an animal, now gleamed the tears of first pure joy. This joy of oneness of the outcast with the great family of laborers throughout the world shone all over the streets of the city, and the dim eyes of the city's houses observed it coldly and ominously.

The beggar, at whom but the day before the passerby cast a pitiful copper coin (the price of a full stomach's sympathy), to be rid of his importunity—he, too, heard the word and it was to him a new kind of aim, which evoked a grateful tremor in the wretched heart that was eaten up with indigence.

The drowsy driver, a funny chap, upon whose back the passengers were wont to shower blows which he passed on to his hungry and weary horse, that fellow used to many beatings, grown stupid with the clatter of his wheels over the street-pavements, he, too, broadly smiling, addressed the pedestrian:

"A drowsy . . . comrade!" And when he had said it he was frightened at his boldness. He picked up his reins, ready to drive swiftly away, and looked at the pedestrian, unable to repress the joyful grin from his rosy, broad face.

"Thank you, comrade, but I have not far to go." "Bless your soul!" exclaimed the drowsy driver with animation, and turning in his seat, he joyfully winked his eyes, and drove off somewhere.

The people walked on the sidewalks in groups and like sparks ever more frequently there flashed in the crowds the word which is destined to unite the world:

"Comrade!" The policeman, bewhiskered, important, and sullen, advanced to the crowd which had surrounded an old orator at the street corner, listened for awhile to the harangue, and slowly remarked:

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SOCIALIST ACTIVITIES STATE NATIONAL INTERNATIONAL Secretary's Report. Receipts—Two stamps, \$07.55; delegate stamps 25 cents; campaign fund, \$23.96; literature sales, \$3.00; on hand Sept. 27, \$10.12; deficit at close of September, \$124.54; total, \$283.22.

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IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS. Twenty-third Ward, Attention. Monday night, Oct. 8, there will be a special joint district meeting of the ward at Pasche's Hall, Willow and Dayton streets. Important business. All members should attend without fail.

REFLECTS. From Goldberg, for literature, \$ 3.25; From Smith, for literature, 2.25; For literature, 4.25; Contributions, 17.55; Socialist buttons, 3.05; Chicago Socialist, 3.45; Zeitgeist (weekly paper), 1.10; Total, \$35.95.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY AND TREASURER. Notice 12th Ward. The regular monthly ward meeting will be held in Baber's Hall, 1409 West 22d street, Sunday, Oct. 7, at 8:30 a. m.

SOCIALISM IN OTHER LANDS. Edited by Robert Salditi. Germany. The annual Congress of the Socialist party of Germany at Mannheim has adjourned Saturday, Sept. 30, without furthering the enemy with as much as a quarrel among the many delegates.

would also exploit all means to prevent bloodshed. Bebel and Singer suggested the creation of a special committee which should be charged with the duty of communicating with a similar committee of the International Congress at Stuttgart. This was accepted and Bebel and Singer among others were selected for the National Committee of the party.

A SOCIALIST AGITATOR'S DIARY. Some of the Pleasures and Troubles of a Socialist Agitator Experiences. The following letter from Comrade Eldridge will give the readers of the Chicago Socialist a fair idea of what a Socialist agitator has to go up against.

At East St. Louis the comrades told me that I would be arrested if I spoke on the street. So I attended the C. C. C. meeting at Belleville and told the comrades that I would hold the meeting and go to jail if they directed to do so.

German Agitator. The National Committee of the Socialist Party has engaged Comrade Anton Sturm of Pullman, Ill., for an agitation tour in Colorado, there being many German workmen in that State, who ought to be reached by Socialist agitation.

REPORTER'S BLANK. Name of worker. Residence. Residence rented or owned. Rent paid. Married. Number children. Member of what union. Wages. Employer. Residence of employer. Number of employes. The incident was as follows.

Hours are particularly long, or where— Unions have been broken up, or where— Men have been blacklisted, or where— Children are employed in violation of law, or under injurious conditions, or where— Humiliating contracts must be signed by employes—send us in copies of such contracts—or where— You are forced to adulterate goods, or shoddy work, or where— You are compelled to violate any law or ordinances. Just tell us the facts. Your names of course will never be revealed.

CORRESPONDENCE. A GENTLE PROTEST. I have noticed that some of our lectures in referring to Socialism and the statements in the Bible which we assign to Moses as the writer show the truthfulness of the Bible account.

HOPKINS' CHOICE, OR FLIM FLAM IN A JUNGLE. Mr. Sinclair, Mr. Sinclair, we will have to call you down. With your flim-flam book, "The Jungle," criticizing Packington.

That their signs on lamp and telegraph poles scattered over the land. Proclaim as true as preaching of the P. E. Hopkins brand. That their deviled ham and sausage, which subjected to the test.

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THE SEAWOLF. By Jack London. Regular \$1.50 Library Edition, now only 75c, by Mail 80c. CHICAGO SOCIALIST. 163 Randolph St., Chicago, Illinois.

SI Propaganda Outfit SI. 100 National Platforms, \$50; 100 Injunction Leaflets, \$20; 100 Mission of the Working Class, \$20; 200 Cartoon Leaflets, \$20; 2 Male Trainers and History, \$20; 5 Socialist Views of Rockefeller, \$25; 5 How to Work for Socialism, \$25. Total \$205.

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The Struggle for Existence. By Walter Thomas Mills, A. M. It contains 48 chapters, 640 pages, handsomely bound in English linen. Price, single copies, \$2.50 each, postpaid. Ten copies shipped to one address, \$15 and the purchasers pay the freight.

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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 \$1.00. CHICAGO SOCIALIST, 163 E. RANDOLPH ST.

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Editor, A. W. Mance, Business Manager, Louis Daigard; State Secretary, J. S. Smith; County Secretary, C. L. Brockton

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

THE SUPPRESSED ARTICLE.

Some months ago the Cosmopolitan Magazine passed into the control of Mr. Hearst. Since that time it has gained quite a reputation of being "progressive" and "radical." When the October number appeared those who bought the magazine the first day found a very interesting article in it, entitled "Our Millionaire Socialists," by Gustavus Myers.

to secure control of that government. This done, he proposes to operate that government in the interests of the working class, and inasmuch as 1 per cent of the people own more than the other 99, and as the country is absolutely controlled in every way by less than 100 men, the working class is synonymous with the people. With this explanation, Mr. Lloyd continued with an exposition of his view of the capitalist system.

didate and work for the election of the candidate of the Socialist party, who was a workman, and stood squarely on a working class platform. We do not believe they got any of their funds with which they paid for their literature from the Republicans. Socialists do not do business that way.

CARPENTERS DENOUNCE COLORADO-IDAHO OUTRAGE. International Carpenters' Convention at Niagara Falls Passes Resolutions Demanding Speedy and Fair Trial for Meyer, Haywood and Pettibone.

men in Germany alone do not think so, and their number is increasing by leaps and bounds in this country. Honestly, now, do you truly think it is an indication of a superior intellectual acumen to play the role of an apologist for such a stupid system? R. L. G.

ENTERTAINMENT AND BALL GIVEN BY THE SCANDINAVIAN SOCIALIST SINGING SOCIETY at Wicker Park Hall—501 W. North Ave. Saturday Eve., Oct. 6, 1906 8 O'CLOCK

ZIRA. Each historical epoch is ruled by two revolutionary forces. The one revolutionary spirit is that which moves everyone to activity and gives a new life to everything at the birth of the historical epoch.

Resolved, That the secretary of this convention send this protest to the Governors of Colorado and Idaho against such attacks on the representatives of the working people; and be it further Resolved, That the secretary of this convention communicate with the above Governors and also Judge Frank Smith of Idaho, asking that these men be given a speedy and impartial trial.

minutes of campaign committee. Comrade Bevan in chair. Secretary Comrade Becken was absent. Comrade B. Scott was elected secretary pro tem. Roll call showed twelve members present.

F. W. ROEPSTORFF & CO SWEEPING REDUCTIONS Men's Clothing THE lowest prices this season are prevailing now on summer suits for men and boys. The season is still young for light weight clothing, but it is getting late for the wholesaler, and his best garments are being sacrificed now at cost.

ORCHARD A MANIAC. Steve Adams' Statement that His Confession Was Obtained Under Threats and Were Untrue Upsets His Mind—Capitalist Conspiracy Breaking Down.

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As the economic environment, scientific discoveries, inventions and social relations of the day differ from those of the past, so the philosophy of the day, based upon them, differs from the philosophy of the past. The one is antagonistic to the other. The old tries to harmonize the incompatible, the other shows the way how to produce compatibility.

THE WASTE OF COMPETITION. Some Reasons Why Hours Could Be Shortened Under a Co-operative System Without Reducing Production.

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SOCIALIST CO-OPERATIVE PUBLISHING ASSOCIATION Publishers of "THE WORKER" and "VORWAERTS," the foremost English and German Socialist Weeklies in the East.

Said Mr. Lloyd: "My class is running the world. If their will continues to be done to the end it means social death." With this declaration a young Chicago capitalist abjured the class to which he belonged and announced his adherence to Socialism.

GOMPERS MISREPRESENTS SOCIALISTS. In the October number of the American Federationist, the official organ of the American Federation of Labor, Mr. Gompers writes an account of "Labor's First Skirmish in Politics."

Some Reasons Why Hours Could Be Shortened Under a Co-operative System Without Reducing Production. There comes to my notice daily this: Between South Bond and Niles, a distance of twelve miles, there runs side by side a street car and a trolley road.

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A BARGAIN IN THE BEST Socialist Literature The International Socialist Review is the one periodical that every Socialist needs to read. It is not intended for children, it does not give much of its space to sizzling rages for voting the Socialist ticket.

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