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THE CHICAGO SOCIALIST

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UNION LEAGUE CLUB CHARTER MAKER

Chicago's New Dress Being Made by Sleek Men, Fed on Thick Porter-house Steaks.

CONVENTION ALL FOR MONEY

Labor Handed a Lemon Every Few Minutes—Employers' Association and Bank Also On the Job.

BY MAY WOOD SIMONS

Remaining sessions of the Charter Convention may as well be turned over to the Union League Club, the Merchants' Club and the Real Estate Board.

The future Chicago charter is being framed by men like John G. Shedd and Alexander Revell, whose records have been one of continuous antagonism to the working man.

The few radical members of the convention are helpless. The power of the ruling class to frame laws and charters in its own interest was never better shown than in the present Charter Convention.

On all important questions there is a "gang" vote exactly like the vote that gave the school property over to business interests.

The charter that this "business men's" convention will put before the public for ratification vote is one that will place complete control of the city in the hands of corporate interests.

The Charter Convention has seventy-four members. Of these the following sixteen are members of the Union League Club, which, together with the Merchants' Club and the Commercial Club, represents the great business interests of Chicago.

Affiliations of "Prominent" Citizens. John G. Shedd, member of the Commercial and Merchants Clubs and the Chicago Employers' Association, and Co., and director of the Dolose & Shepard Co., that holds contracts to supply stone for city streets.

"LABOR PROBLEM" IN PALMER CASTLE

Gracious Society Leader Will Entertain Union Leaders and Union Busters

Mrs. Potter Palmer's plan to use the charity hall to make the "unwashed" satisfied with their lot and stop "social unrest" was a great success.

The object of these delays was to rush through the work of the convention in the city and send the result immediately to the meeting of the legislature January 1, where the people would have time to find out what had been done.

Solons Will Agree

The charter will be passed by the legislature, for there is no one in that body that represents the working class. It will then return for the endorsement of the people by their vote.

CITY'S NEW GOWN WILL BE A MISFIT

It Will Make Miss Labor Look Like a Fright and Not Fit to Go Anywhere

Capitalist interests have throttled the Charter Convention. The Merchants' Club and the Union League have proceeded to fix things so that business interests and "graft" may have complete control of Chicago.

To Train the Young

These men are not content with the control of the school property, they now propose to dictate the administration and methods of education in the schools.

To Make Quiet Workers

The children of the working class are to be taught the things that will make them good industrial slaves, and this at the least possible expense.

At the election of the Merchants' Club the Charter Convention provides for the appointment of a superintendent for a term of four years and makes his removal impossible except on a two-thirds vote of the school board.

"WE INDICT PERKINS; LORD FORGIVE US"

New York Grand Jury Trembles at Their Own Temerity

New York, Dec. 29.—Developments to-day show that the indictments returned yesterday against George W. Perkins, former vice-president of the New York Life Insurance Company, and Charles S. Fairchild were only agreed to by the grand jury after District Attorney Jerome had threatened to take the jurors before Recorder Goff and have them publicly given iron-clad orders.

The maximum penalty which can be given Perkins and Fairchild under the indictments is five years on each indictment, or thirty years on all six against each defendant.

WOMEN MUST GO INTO FACTORY WORK

"Commercial Progress" Depends on Forcing Women to Textile Mills

North Tonawanda, N. Y., Dec. 29.—(Special)—If you have a wife, or a daughter, or a sister, or a niece, send her to North Tonawanda.

Learned It in Europe

In Europe she learned how women get into "affairs." This getting into "affairs" is just the thing, ahead, Mrs. Palmer tried to get her son, Potter, Jr., into "affairs" and had him elected to the city council.

Miss Becks' Exploit

Miss Gertrude Becks, head of the welfare department of the federation will be present. She is an accomplished and energetic woman. One of her best exploits was the busting of the girls' union in the McCormick harvester plant.

Webster Enthusiastic

Mr. Webster talked enthusiastically on the subject last night. He declared that he had always favored joint-conferences between workmen and employers as the best method of arriving at a mutual understanding and avoiding the necessity of strikes and lockout.

WHO ARE THEY THAT BAT CHARITY TURKEY?

An interesting paragraph, lifted from an article in the Toledo News-Bee, describing Monday morning's scenes at the Lucas county infirmary offices, when the usual distribution, guaranteeing Christendom's justice and all the fruits of earth on Dec. 25, were in progress, is as follows: "It was a complex and an interesting crowd. Some had spent last Christmas in comparative prosperity, had never been forced to the infirmary offices for relief, ate their own turkey, and had no suspicion that the next Christmas would find them enrolled with the city's paupers."

"WOE! WOE!" IS CRY OF OLD JOHN D.

Roosevelt's Assaults on Wealth to Bring Ruin, He Says—All to Suffer.

New York, Dec. 31.—In an interview granted to M. E. Faw of the Newspaper Enterprise Association, John D. Rockefeller spoke as follows: "In making inventories for the year just ending a great many business men in this country will find that they have suffered a loss amounting to millions of dollars through shrinkage in the value of their shareholdings during the twelve months just passing."

The Poor Stockholder

"Why should stock values be lower to-day than they were a year ago? It can only account for it by the attacks that have been made upon corporate interests during the last year or two years—unwarranted attacks that go to tear down the structures that have been reared by our people through great effort, energy and patience."

The Poor Debtor Class

"When stock values are depreciated, as at present, capitalists naturally begin to take in their loans, dispose of their collateral and then the debtor classes feel the depression. When the debtor classes feel the depression they retrench, and then it is the workingman's turn to suffer. I believe that January inventories will be a surprise to many people higher than ever before in our history; 20 per cent higher, I believe the statistics say, than they were five or six years ago."

No Joy This Year

"It has always been pleasant to look forward to a new year, in which prosperity, success and blessings may be continued and increased. I sincerely hope that this country of ours will realize a full share in 1907 and in the years that are to come."

Playing Golf with Priest

It was just noon when the interviewer arrived at the magnificent Rockefeller estate at Pocantico, two miles from the Blue Hills, from Dreamy Tarrytown. The workers, most of them Italians, were at lunch in their lodges.

BUSINESS MEN FIND "BUSINESS OFFICIALS" BAD

Commercial Organization of Course Had "Business Administration." Again the boasted efficiency of business men is found to lead to destruction. The Illinois Commercial Men's Association, one of the strongest of its kind, is now clamoring for an accounting from Richard Cavanaugh, the secretary and treasurer of the society.

DOWAGER CZARINA CRAZY

Most Reactionary and Cruel Woman in Russia Loses Reason. Still Petersburg, Dec. 31.—The dowager empress of Russia, it is declared today, has been insane for the last three months. Dr. Tscherechoff, the superintendent of St. Petersburg's mental asylum for the demented, asserts the majority of the foremost Russians are mad from the Romanoff dynasty down—sovereigns, ministers, generals, aristocrats, men of affairs.

SOCIALIST NEWS

The Socialists of Rutte, Mont., are about to enter into an aggressive educational campaign. The City Central committee has arranged a series of lectures to be addressed by prominent Socialists. Results of great benefit to the movement in that section of the country are certain to result.

CIVIL WAR BEGINS IN RAIL WORLD

Big Capitalists, With Funds Equal to National Power, Will Try to Eat One Another.

Hill Faces Harriman—Standard Oil Dollar-Army—The Clash of Arms Heard in Coin Barracks Everywhere.

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"Who is going to stop E. H. Harriman? Somebody has got to or he will have every trunk line in the country." This is the remark of a very prominent railroad man the other day. He was discussing the facility with which Mr. Harriman skips around with his big war chest picking up properties or an interest in properties at will. Is the answer to the query contained in the great capital issues of the Hill roads planned during the last few days? Is the Hill financing merely the calling of the eagles for a dress parade or the marshaling of forces for war?

Harriman Oil Plans

No man knows better than J. J. Hill that the Harriman-Standard Oil combination, so-called, is pushing the St. Paul right into the heart of his own closed ground through the rich states of Montana and Washington, piercing the lines of the Great Northern and Northern Pacific.

Vast Sum to Play With

Mr. Hill was a silent witness of the fate of the Southern Pacific when Col. D. Harrington died. Very possibly he might have felt that he was getting old and at such a juncture did not relish the idea of powerful forces marching upon his lines from all directions.

Advice to Young Men

"Why, the office boys of the old days are now conducting departments of our business. They have grown up in it, and they are part of it. My advice to a young man at the opening of this year is to go straight ahead and do the best you can to make a success for yourself and keep happy and comfortable those who depend upon you. If you make mistakes, remember that it is human to err, but try again and try harder. Above all things be honest, honest with yourself and with those with whom you deal. If you fail at the end you will at least have a clear conscience."

TO FIGHT NEGRO MAIL CARRIER IN TENNESSEE

Rural Route Falls Into Hands of Negro and Whites Rise in Wrath. Springfield, Tenn., Dec. 31.—Geo. Banks, colored, recently appointed as a mail carrier on one of the rural routes out of Springfield, has decided to qualify and attempt to deliver mail on his route beginning to-day.

GOOD PROFITS SHOWN IN GOVERNMENT OWNERSHIP

During the last fiscal year the army transports cost the government \$2,221,719 and did a business which, if it had been done by private companies at the lowest obtainable rate, which is considerably lower than the regular commercial rate, would have cost the government \$3,276,864.

CARROTS MAKE NERVE

She—They say carrots are great for the nerves. He—I guess that's right. We fed our cow on carrots for a week, and then she had the nerve to out on my golf vest and a pair of bicycle stockings.

Some of the Figures

Here it could hitch up with Mr. Gould's Western Pacific for San Francisco and then the Union Pacific would have a merry war on its hands to hold the Omaha-Ogden-San Francisco traffic. The assets of these roads engaged in the northwestern railroad situation make an imposing array. In a general way they are tabulated below:

Table with 3 columns: Name, Capital, Assets. Includes Union Pac. S. Pac., N. Pac., etc.

TO DISMISS A BILL THIS CALLS ATTENTION TO THE FACT THAT THE RAILROADS IN GENERAL ARE IN A STATE OF DEPRESSION

To dismiss a bill this calls attention to the fact that the railroads in general are in a state of depression. The Pennsylvania tracks are with some of the above. The Pennsylvania sold about \$50,000,000 Baltimore & Ohio stock about \$15,000,000 Norfolk & Western stock and about \$8,000,000 Chesapeake stock within a few months yielding in all nearly \$75,000,000 and must have the greater part of this on hand to-day and a great deal more.

MORE LEGAL CHAINS FOR WORKING CLASS

Supreme Court of Illinois Denies Right to Jury Trial to Strikers

The Supreme Court of Illinois, by affirming Judge Holdom's decision concerning the officials of Franklin Union of Pressmen, has added another chapter to the book of infamy that tells the story of the relation of American courts to the working class.

In 1902 this union was engaged in a struggle with the Typothetae. Judge Holdom issued a "blanket" injunction forbidding the men from speaking to the scabs, visiting their homes, asking them to be men, or in any way interfering with the employers' property rights in the labor power of the non-unionist.

There is no charge that Charles Werner, president of the union, nor John M. Shea, secretary, nor Harry Brown or Michael Flannery, who have just been sentenced to various terms of prison, ever violated even this outrageous injunction. But Franklin union was incorporated. It had followed the advice of many of the "good friends" of labor in this regard.

Incorporation for the capitalist has always meant the escaping of responsibility. That is the main reason for the formation of business corporations. But incorporation for the trade union meant extension of responsibility to every member.

So when it was alleged that some members of the union had broken this injunction the officers were faulted before Judge Holdom. This judge, having made the law, was now prosecutor and jury as well.

Naturally the men were convicted, Magna Charta, the Declaration of Independence, and such like reasonable documents that were supposed to guarantee the right of trial by jury, to the contrary notwithstanding. The case was appealed, and for four years has been fought in the courts.

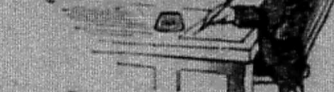
The present decision affirms the legality of the previous decisions, and the men must now serve out their sentences. The Supreme court says men may be denied a jury trial.

John M. Shea must remain six months in jail and pay a fine of \$100. Charles Werner's sentence is three months and \$250 fine. Harry Brown must serve forty days and Michael Flannery thirty in order to expiate the crime of belonging to a labor union and living in a free country.

The decision is the most sweeping. It not only denies right for trial by jury, but says charges of contempt do not have to be proved.

The court held that it is not necessary to prove a violation of an injunction "beyond a reasonable doubt," as contended by the union, but that only a "preponderance of evidence" must be submitted.

OUR STATISTICIAN



Harpers Weekly produces the following information on this subject:

The United States pays the railroads for carrying mail, about \$41,000,000 per annum. This sum is further increased to \$46,000,000 when rental of mail cars is included. In France, the railroads, in return for their grants of right of way, carry the mail free.

It was cruel on the part of Philip Legan, to die without waiting long enough to sign one of the Illinois Steel company's release blanks, or the management is negligent in sending a man to such a place without previously providing itself with signed releases, to prevent damage suits.

Now comes the submarine submarine destroyer. Having invented a war vessel that can sail below the surface something to beat it had to be made.

A new naval terror in the shape of a submarine destroyer has just been invented by Lewis Nixon, a graduate of Annapolis, and former naval officer.

The destroyer is scarcely larger than a first-class submarine. It is much lighter, for the reason that it must be capable of being hoisted on shipboard by davits. It will be propelled by a modern gasoline motor, capable of creating great speed for short distances.

It is admitted that the submarine has to keep within twelve or fourteen feet of the surface to be of any damage to the enemy, and it will be an easy mark for the destroyer shooting in its wake directly overhead.

At greater depths than that it is said the pressure of the water is so great as to force the water through the seams and bolt-holes.

MILITARY EVOLUTIONS TO RIVAL THOSE IN EUROPE. United States Will Buy Land Near Indianapolis for Soldiers' Camp.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 28.—It is the intention of the war department, with the permission of congress, to establish a great training reservation at Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indianapolis, for the troops of the northern division of the army and for the national guardmen of sixteen states.

Matthews were held at Indianapolis last summer, but upon a necessarily limited scale. If the recommendation of General William H. Carter, now stationed in Chicago—a recommendation which the secretary of war has approved—is accepted by congress the government reservation near the Indiana city will be the scene in coming years of reviews and evolutions rivaling those held yearly by the countries of Europe.

STEEL DEATH TRAP RUN BY T. W. ROBINSON

Great School Reformer Responsible for Slaughter of Workers—Two Die

Joliet, Ill., Dec. 30.—While repairing a blast furnace at the Illinois Steel company's plant here, one man was killed and another probably fatally injured.

Philip Legan and Joseph Zuber were sent to the top of a certain blast furnace that emits a terrible amount of gas at times and many are known to have lost their lives in attempting to do what these men were ordered to do.

Legan was found on the top of the furnace dead and Zuber in an unconscious state, by the foreman of the department.

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END OF THE ENGLISH EDUCATION BILL. The fate of the education bill is now practically decided. The government's demand for the house of commons to reject the lords' amendments en bloc will, without a doubt, be accepted, and then it will be for the lords to accept this humiliation or to reject the bill.

GROWTH IN CALIFORNIA. California Socialists gained more than seventy-five per cent in four years. The annual reports for state officers show the following:

1902, 9,292; Republican, 1906, 125,887; 1902, 146,332; Democratic, 1906, 117,645; 1902, 143,783; Prohibition, 1906, 7,355; 1902, 4,326; Independence League, 1906, 45,908.

PENSION SYSTEM TO HELP PROFITS

Santa Fe Magnates Design "Charity" That Will Tie Hands of Workers

The Santa Fe road has had a bad attack of generosity. After having attained the distinction of being the only "scab" railroad in the United States, and being sought by organized labor more viciously than any road in the country, it has now decided that after Jan. 1 all of its employees who live for fifteen years (the average life of its employees is about eight years) and reaches 65 years of age will receive a pension.

Saves on Non-Unionists. That the road has saved enough out of the difference in the wages it has paid and those paid by railroads employing organized labor to support the pension system for the next fifty years is the opinion of most railroad men.

The whole pension system is carefully designed to tie up the employee so that he dare not sue for damages, take a vacation, look for a better position, or scarcely ask for a leave of absence.

No pensions will be paid where the employee has been in the service of any other firm or corporation in the fifteen years of service necessary to eligibility and employees who have made or enforced any claim against the company for damages by reason of injuries or accidents occurring within three years prior to the date of the employee's retirement are barred from the benefits of the system.

If the employee sees a defective switch, a dangerous coupling, he dare not complain about it lest he lose his pension. If he is crippled by it, he must take what the pension provides or buy a lifetime of litigation, with a probable paper's grave at the end of it.

For fear that some workmen might slip through all these bars and get to the pension trough there is another provision which can be used to hold back any whom the company might not desire to reward. The plan, as published, provides that immorality on the part of employees will be considered a sufficient excuse for the rescission of their pensions.

ALL NATIONS IN NEXT SOCIALIST CONGRESS. Morris Hillquit Prepares to Represent United States Working Class at World Meeting.

The delegate of the Socialist party to the International Socialist Bureau at Brussels, Morris Hillquit, has just made a report concerning the next International Socialist Congress which will be held at Stuttgart, Germany, next August.

He reports that steps are now being taken to gather reports from all the countries represented, concerning the movement since the last congress.

At the next International Congress the developments of the socialist and laboring strength of the various parties in each country will be in proportion to their respective importance. Hitherto each party has had equal representation with every other, no matter what the difference in size.

THE FISH HOOK CACTUS. The fishhook cactus is literally a compass in the desert. No matter how glancing the rays may be that are reflected from the soil in which it grows, it tilts its head to the southward under the still more potent influence of the sun's direct rays.

PROPOSED INCREASE IN PAY FOR ARMY AND NAVY. The pay of the army has not been changed in thirty years, while the cost of living has almost doubled in that time.

Labor Union News

Twenty-five employees of the Automatic Machine & Tool company, all union machinists operating a co-operative machine shop at Toledo, O., walked into the office of Timothy J. Sullivan, president and manager of the company and demanded a Christmas gift for each employee.

Organized labor was victorious in the House last week in the first test of strength which Speaker Cannon and his leaders have been courting. The Littlefield bill abolishing compulsory pilotage upon sailing vessels engaged in the coastwise trade was taken up in the House, and when the smoke of battle cleared away it was found that the speaker had his favor and been routed by a vote of 164 to 110.

N. McDole, 71 North Wood street, one of the pioneer members of Sheet Metal Workers' Local No. 115, was buried at Elmwood cemetery this morning. A large delegation from the union, including several of the officers, attended the funeral. McDole was one of the most active as well as one of the oldest members of the organization.

The Colorado State Federation of Labor is agitating for a direct vote system for public questions. There is scarcely a customs port in Canada that is not agitating for general salary or wage increase.

News was received at the office of Bakers' and Confectioners' International Union that all the striking bakers of San Jose, Cal., are either employed in union shops in that city or in other cities. This frees the organization from paying strike benefits to the men.

Reports that the rival teamsters union is negotiating for amalgamation are ahead, although those in a position to know profess to know nothing. Chas. Sangerstrom, of the Ice Wagon Drivers' union, one of the strongest organizations of the United Teamsters of America, said that the teamsters' union, which seceded from the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, has not changed its position toward that organization.

AN ATTEMPT to organize the cloak makers of Chicago is being made by B. Schlessinger, general organizer of the Cloak Makers' International union. Mr. Schlessinger will stay in Chicago about a week.

LIPTON NEVER WORKED IN AMERICA. The head of one of the largest and most unscrupulous capitalist combinations—Sir Thomas Lipton—has written an article in the "Weekly Dispatch" on the glorious conditions America offers to the workman.

LINE FROM THE CAPE TO CAIRO. Considerable progress has lately been made on the Bequaqua railway, which commences at Lobito Bay in Portuguese West Africa and runs almost due east across the continent to Katanga—900 miles away—near Lake Tanganyika in the Congo territory, a district supposed to be fabulously rich in copper.

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The Old Year and the New

RING OUT THE OLD, RING IN THE NEW.

Twelve more months have been added to the years of an already decrepit civilization. These twelve months have been packed with crimes and exposures, with defalcations and consolidations, with the formation of ever larger trusts, with the crushing at ever accelerating speed of smaller capitalists, with a growing sense of solidarity among the workers, with greater weakness in the defenders of capitalism, with an increasing output of radical literature, with an increasing education of the workers, with a clearer defining of the class struggle, with growing certainty of the triumph of the proletariat.

LET IT DIE: THE HEIR IS ALREADY HERE.

As we stand around the deathbed of capitalism in the closing hours of 1906 we need shed no tears over the approaching demise.

As we welcome in 1907, our greatest cause of rejoicing is that it brings us one year nearer to the date when "man to man shall brothers be."

EVERY YEAR THAT PASSES MEANS THAT WE ARE JUST TWELVE MONTHS NEARER TO THE CO-OPERATIVE COMMONWEALTH.

We may hasten or retard its coming somewhat but we cannot prevent its ultimate attainment.

We can decide whether it will come peacefully, calmly, intelligently, consciously through the efforts of an educated working class electorate, or whether it shall come violently, ignorantly, as a result of a blind outbreak of an outraged mob of exploited toilers.

THE NEXT YEAR WILL GO FAR TOWARD DECIDING THAT QUESTION.

We are now so close upon the final days of transition that the time for preparation is short.

The responsibility for that education rests upon the shoulders of those who know the road—the militant, educated, thinking Socialists of the world.

If you are one of these, register a New Year's vow that in the days of the coming year you will bend every atom of your energy to the preparation of yourself and your fellow workers for the task that lies before them.

You think we speak with too great confidence.

Look to the East—to Europe—where the red glow of the rising sun of revolution already brightens the sky to the zenith;

Look upon Russia, flung headlong into the battle and answer if we do not speak truly when we say that the fruit of revolution entered upon without ample preparation is disorder and blood and suffering. That there is not more of these is due to the tireless work of the Socialist agitators of Russia in years gone by and in the days that are passing.

If you are deaf to the thunder of the oncoming revolution, listen to the sound of tumult in Germany and France and Italy where workers are grappling with exploiters in a battle that is shaking the corner stones of the social and political structure.

IT IS THE SAME FIGHT EVERYWHERE.

In far off Japan, in the island empire of Australia, and their Mother England—all around the globe—a rising working class is girding the earth with the red band of a human brotherhood united in determined antagonism to oppression and greed and exploitation.

AGAINST THIS FORCE THE DECAYING RANKS OF THE DEFENDERS OF CAPITALISM CANNOT LONG PREVAIL.

RING OUT THE OLD, RING IN THE NEW.

What Do Socialists Want?

This is a question which is asked frequently. Sometimes it is asked as if it were a poser to which there was no reply. Sometimes it is asked seriously by the searcher for information.

It is a question which can be and has been answered. It was answered so well by William Morris, the great poet, artist, craftsman, and socialist of England that an improvement would be difficult.

He called his answer to this question "The Claim of Socialism," and it is so complete and striking that it would be well worth the time of any reader to commit it to memory. Morris said:

"I have looked at this claim by the light of history and my own conscience, and it seems to me so looked at to be a most just claim, and that resistance to it means nothing short of a denial of the hope of civilization.

"This then is the claim:

"IT IS RIGHT AND NECESSARY THAT ALL MEN SHOULD HAVE WORK TO DO WHICH SHALL BE WORTH DOING, AND BE OF ITSELF PLEASANT TO DO, AND WHICH SHOULD BE DONE UNDER SUCH CONDITIONS AS WOULD MAKE IT NEITHER OVER WEARISOME NOR OVER ANXIOUS.

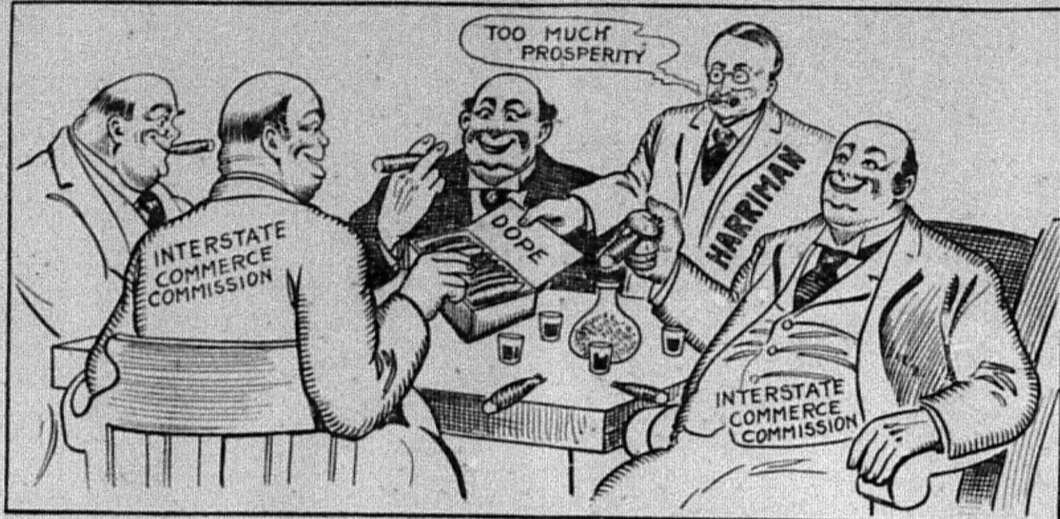
"Turn that claim about as I may, think of it as long as I can, I cannot find that it is an exorbitant claim, yet if Society would or could admit it, the face of the world would be changed; discontent and strife and dishonesty would be ended. To feel that we were doing work useful to others and pleasant to ourselves, and that such work and its due reward COULD not fail us! What serious harm could happen to us then? And the price to be paid for so making the world happy is revolution."

Are we willing to pay that price? We must pay it. The outward urge of social evolution will not permit us to stand still, and this is the goal that lies before us.

Try to think what it means. Try to imagine the possibility of finding your enjoyment in your work. Try to conceive of a society in which



CITY FOLKS ARE HUNGRY



THE WISE ONES CONFER



FOOD ROTS IN THE COUNTRY

we would not work in order that we might find time to enjoy ourselves, but where we worked because we enjoyed the WORK ITSELF.

But this can only come when the means and methods of work are controlled by the workers. So long as one class rides another to the task of creating the wealth by which mankind satisfies its wants there can be little pleasure for either class, and least of all for the workers.

So long as production is for profit neither goods produced, nor the process of production can give pleasure. Only when things are produced for the use of a race of producers will they be made so as to give happiness in the making and happiness in the consuming.

Under our present system happiness must be sought outside the main currents of life—it is only a by-product, as it were.

Under a co-operative commonwealth happiness would be the principal product—the main-spring of production, the reason for work.

Products and By-Products

In the days of its youth capitalism dreamt great and glorious dreams of the literary, artistic and intellectual era that was to follow the destruction of the old feudal restrictions.

When education should be free and all should know how to use the printed page there would be no more "mute, inglorious Miltons."

The public school is here. Education has been made well-nigh universal. Carnegie strews the world with libraries. A host of minor millionaires toss out largesses to education.

YET NO MILTONS ARISE.

The reason is not far to seek.

The rewards, the honors, the glory, the power that present society has to confer falls not upon the scholar, the artist or the author, nor upon the craftsmen and architect, but upon the EXPLOITER OF LABOR, THE MANIPULATOR OF PAPER VALUES, THE PROMOTER OF SCHEMES FOR GATHERING AND MONOPOLIZING A NATION'S RESOURCES.

The social product of capitalism is CAPITALISTS. The whole social system may be looked upon as a gigantic manufacturing plant for the purpose of turning out millionaires.

All other products are by-products. Artists, architects, authors, etc., are turned out incidentally when the material is not available for the principal product.

Capitalism can produce Rockefellers, and Morgans and Carnegies and John R. Walshs, but it is short of Platos and Murilles and Raphaels. Naturally its by-products are tainted by the influence of the principal industry.

In education capitalism has produced a Harper, a Nicholas Murray Butler or a Dougherty, but few, if any, Froebels and Pestalozzis. We doubt if either of these men would be able to pull a millionaire's leg, make a satisfactory speech for a Merchants' Club, or lose a school treasury.

This same thought was expressed in another form the other day when Professor Laughlin of the University of Chicago, himself an excellent example of one class of capitalist by-products, declared the socialists were failures.

To him there was but one idea of success—the taking of money. All who did not succeed in accumulating millions were "failures." So it will continue to be in spite of public schools and free libraries and endowed colleges and all the other subsidiary plants of capitalism.

Socialism would make the main product MEN not Millions. It would multiply the opportunities for all to secure access to the sources of education and culture.

IT WOULD ALSO OFFER ITS PRINCIPAL INCENTIVES FOR THE PRODUCTION OF OTHER THINGS THAN EXPLOITERS OF THEIR FELLOW MEN

By the Innocent Bystander

Flattery

"Why is it I briefly have such a stand-in with Miss Richley's mother?"
"One day he kissed her, pretending that he mistook her for the daughter."

Have you broken that New Year's resolution yet?

If you break one resolution, however, you can make another to replace it in a second.

The talk about automobiles becoming so cheap that everyone can have one must sound very ridiculous to the man who is not able to keep even a horse.

Courtesy Withheld

"Poor Penstock! I understand his manuscripts are always returned by the editors 'with thanks!'"
"Not always."

Scotland had a wreck in which sixteen were killed. Then America has a wreck killing twice that number. Who says the days of competition are past?

He Didn't Finish

"You are a fool, Henry Peck; you are a fool," cried the shrewish wife.
"I know it," meekly responded Henry, smiling.
But he didn't add the thought that was on his mind.

The Contrary

"Did you say that Bionas lost his health trying to get money?"
"I did not. I said that he lost all his money trying to get health."

If congress gets tired of so many messages from Roosevelt, it should blame it on Mrs. Bellamy Storee. She says she made him.

I MOURN

(Kiuchi Kaneko.)

Celebrate the new year, if you will, I must mourn for my brothers, poor. Joy at the new hope, if you can. I must think of my sisters, unfortunate. For I know the life of the thousands—The life with no hope for the future, Burdened and worn and deserted. Happy for what? Joy for what?—I cannot deceive myself so well.

The Socialist goes forth to war Against poverty and wrong. His blood-red banner gleams afar: Who follows in his throng?—Adapted from the "Sun of God Goes Forth to War."

Whistling to Keep Up Courage

In his recent "sour grapes" speech, after having been ousted from the presidency of the Illinois Central railroad, Mr. Stuyvesant Fish remarked as follows:

The contest is no longer between those who have and those who have not, but between those on the one hand who have moderately, sufficiently and even abundantly, and on the other those who through the use of trust funds and the power incident thereto seek by questionable practices to have excessively.

The Chicago Daily News hails this statement with glee. It heads its editorial "The Middle Class Militant," and proceeds to comment in the following manner:

This is a notable statement of the way the forces in this country are lined up today. Mr. Fish declares further that so far "no efficient thing has been done to right the wrongs which are known to exist." Then in the role of the average American he says: "It roots with us, the great middle class, to meet this issue as our fathers met those which confronted them."

Advancement has been made toward the end thus sought. The middle class has become militant. "Bourgeoisie" is the derisive title which the ultra rich at home, the nobility abroad and the Socialists in all lands apply to the moderately well to do. When shop-keeping prosperity means merely smug contentment the derision is not without cause. But America's great middle class has awakened. The popularity of magazine exposures shows it. People who "have moderately, sufficiently and even abundantly" are those for whom the magazines are manufactured. The magazine exposures merely reflect their sentiment.

It is to laugh. Never in its history was the bourgeoisie militant. Even in the days when it was fighting its way to victory over the feudal nobility, and was wallowing in seas of blood, it was not its own blood that was shed.

Since that time it has constantly deteriorated in militancy, courage, daring, initiative.

A race of traders, it bargains, schemes, intrigues, compromises, but never dares to do anything.

Its only place of battle is the market-place, and there it has been whipped to perfection by the great capitalist at whom it is now fiercely hurling "magazine exposures."

When this middle class "awakes" it is only to seek to make some sort of a bargain with the giant kings of industry. It seeks to "regulate," to control, to hamper, always with the covert hope that in some way it too may become capable of exploiting on an international scale.

In this bargaining it is always whipped. For a generation it has been enacting anti-trust laws, interstate commerce laws, inspection laws, and a host of other legislation destined to compel the great capitalist to share his gains with his little competitor.

Not one of these has succeeded in accomplishing anything.

Not one of them ever will. AND THE CLASS THAT DOES THIS IS CALLED MILITANT. BAH!

Business Administrations

The capitalist press of this city are agreeing that the one thing needed to make the municipal government of Chicago altogether lovely is a "business administration."

If only the government was conducted by "business men" every problem would be solved.

We might suggest that there are other interests that need attention beside business interests. We might raise the question of whether the principles which rule in business are really the best ones to be applied in the administration of a great city.

We shall discuss some of these things later.

Just now let us see if a "business administration" has made good in the one field in which it claims to excel.

The one thing a "business man" is supposed to know about is bargaining. For him the world is one gigantic market. He lives and breathes and moves only to make bargains. If he cannot make bargains he is a failure.

Yet it was a business administration that permitted the merchants of Chicago to steal the very ground from beneath the feet of the citizens, until every State street store is occupying thousands of dollars' worth of sidewalk space with never a cent for rent. The only time anything was ever secured from these quarters on city property was when a Socialist "failure" held office for a short time.

It was a "business administration" that gave away millions of dollars' worth of franchises, lost whole streets, permitted the Illinois Steel Company to build a good sized city on land it stole from these good "business men," leased school land on terms that would justify a court in appointing a guardian for any private individual that should make a similar bargain, let the beef trust steal water from the municipality, and—but what's the use?

If a superintendent, general manager, purchasing agent, or office boy of one of the men who had charge of the city's interests in these cases should make a bargain as ridiculous as any one of these he would be fired so quick that he would never know what hit him.

The Blight of Commerce

Commerce has set the mark of selfishness. The signet of its all-enervating power. Upon a shining ore and called it gold; Before whose image bow the vulgar great. The vainly rich, the miserable proud, The mob of peasants, nobles, priests and kings, And with blind feelings reverence the power— That grinds them to the dust of misery. But in the temple of their hireling hearts Gold is a living God, and rules in scorn All earthly things but virtue. Since tyrants by the sale of human life, Heap luxuries to their sensualism, and fame To their wide-wasting and insatiate pride, Success has sanctioned to a credulous world The ruin, the disgrace, the woe of war. His hosts of blind and unresisting dupes The despot numbers; from his cabinet These puppets of his schemes he moves at will (Even as the slaves by force or famine driven Beneath a vulgar master) to perform A task of cold and brutal drudgery:— Hardened to hope, insensible to fear. Scarce living pulleys of a dead machine, Mere wheels of work and articles of trade, That grace the proud and noisy pomp of wealth!

PERCY B. SHELLEY.