

# THE WORKERS' CALL.

"Workingmen of all countries unite! You have nothing to lose but your chains; you have a world to gain."

VOL. 1.—NO. 29.

CHICAGO, ILL., SEPTEMBER 23, 1899.

PRICE ONE CENT.

## TRUST CONFERENCE

A Drama With Farical and Tragic Parts.

### HOW IT STRUCK A SOCIALIST.

Middle Class Dupes and Loaded Labor Fakirs Directed by the Ruling Capitalist Minds.

There has recently been enacted upon the stage of Central Music Hall in the City of Chicago one of the most magnificent dramas that capitalism has staged in many a day. Perhaps it is not right to call it a drama alone, as at times it partook more of the nature of farce comedy, and at the close had many of the elements of a tragedy. Occasionally the broadness of the farical parts shown through so as to be seen by even the blindest members of the audience, but as a general thing they meekly played their part and applauded, hissed or interrupted as they chanced to be pleased or angered by the manner in which some star actor presented his part.

The purpose of this account is to take the public a little behind the scenes and let the laborers of America look upon the play from the point of view of one who saw the inside workings of the plot—who served upon all the committees of the conference and was present at all its meetings and who viewed its proceedings from the position of a class-conscious socialist. Let not the account which is given be misunderstood. It is not claimed that this whole conference was planned and developed as a gigantic conspiracy, or even carefully thought out to a finish by any individual or set of individuals. It is a well-known fact of socialist philosophy that when a ruling class has become as compact and as uniform in its interests as has the present capitalist class, its individual members are like the fingers of a trained pianist—they move unconsciously in the most perfect accord to produce the result most acceptable to the musician. So here, there was an end to be achieved, upon which every clear-cut capitalist was agreed. It was not necessary to plan the details. It was only necessary to select the proper actors and give the general control to some trusted tool. How this was done, and how beautifully the end was achieved, is the story now about to be told.

To begin with, the object before the conference was to take the trust question out of politics. The trust is the logical climax of capitalism. To make that climax the subject of discussion during an entire political campaign was to endanger the whole structure of capitalism. No matter how foolish the remedies proposed, or how silly the arguments offered, or the character of the discussions which would arise in such campaign, it would still serve to focus the attention of the people upon the crucial spot in American capitalism and could not help but aid in arousing the laborers to the necessity of abolishing the entire system.

Keeping this end in view, watch the development of the plot. The first step was to see that the program was under the control of the proper authorities. The convention was called by the Civic Federation of Chicago. If there is an organization in America that is a keen tool of the most contemptible forms of capitalism, that organization is the one that called this convention. Clothed in the hypocritical garb of philanthropy and reform and cloaked by the names of deluded professional good people, it has long been known to be the instrument with which the most filthy work of Chicago plutocracy is done. Of late it has been rewarded for this faithful local service by being occasionally used in matters of national importance. Whenever it was desired to cloak any particularly nefarious action under the cover of education, philanthropy and reform, the Civic Federation called a conference.

At this conference academic men and "radicals" were invited to speak in order to give an appearance of "fairness" and then the entire "conference" was dominated by some particular feature in which men of national notoriety "debated" the supposed questions at issue, and then, when this was properly reported" by the press, the desired effect was secured upon that great nineties of the community who allow their thinking to be done for them by the newspapers and the platform.

As was said above, the whole plan would fall through unless the program was properly planned so as to bring in the proper actors and secure the documents at the correct time. How this was done in the present instance is interesting reading. At the first meeting of the conference a committee was appointed consisting of some forty members, one being taken from each state and national organization represented. A "representative, democratic" committee having now been selected the Conference rested easily assured that all would be given a "fair show." But

behind the result. A "sub-committee" was then selected, to consist of five members, who were to prepare the program. This committee of five then met, prepared the program from then on and NEVER EVEN REPORTED TO THE LARGER COMMITTEE, which was in consequence murdered by its own offspring. This committee of five was dominated, controlled and directed by the secretary of the Civic Federation. Now in the course of the operations of any organization which is required to do dirty work there must be one man who can be depended upon to perform those acts too contemptible to be entrusted to the body as a whole. In the case of the Civic Federation this man is its secretary, R. M. Easley. Although he has been again and again shown up as a notorious liar, as in his connection with the infamous "Sleepy Burke" case, and has never been able to satisfactorily explain how during the most thorough "crusades" against gambling certain well-known resorts were never touched, yet he still is used as a stool pigeon to call together the "good" people of Chicago whenever it is desired to impose any particularly infamous deception upon the general public. An old newspaper reporter he is still able to properly "manage" the press, and in general is well worth all he is paid to his owners. All this concerns the laborers little, as a general thing, because his deceptions are ordinarily directed toward the middle class reform element, but these facts are simply given to show that the management of the Conference was in good hands. He being the one through which all investigations and acceptances had passed and generally being the only one with a general fund of information was easily able to constitute himself the entire committee on program without the other members scarce realizing how smoothly they were being managed.

The proper stage manager having been secured, it now remained to select the actors and drill them (when necessary) in their parts. These may be divided into three classes—the academic students, the labor fakirs and the politicians. Some others were let on to give an appearance of "fairness," but although some of these made greater hits and more significant suggestions than the "stars," they were unheard of outside the room and hence could easily be tolerated. The academic representatives were in general so affected with scholasticism and an overwhelming desire to appear "impartial" that they buried what were often valuable facts and propositions in an unintelligible mass of words and generalities. So they had practically no effect upon the actual voting population of the country. The only persons there who really needed managing were the fakirs and the politicians. Here the master hand of the Conference management showed itself. The two star events of the Conference were the sessions occupied by the "representatives of labor" and by the two great politicians. Upon these two sessions then let us focus our attention, secure that if these are watched the point of the play will not be lost no matter what contortions the supernumeraries may cut.

**THE LABOR FAKIR.**  
First as to the "misrepresentatives" of labor. These were Henry White of the Garment Workers, M. M. Garland of the Steel Workers, "Jack" Hayes of the K. of L. and the only "Sammy" Gompers. It was absolutely essential to the business of the Conference that the impression be left that there was nothing politically to be gained among the laboring class by anti-trust howling. Now White was of small importance politically but still was worth taking care of. Garland was also large enough to need "seeing." But "Sammy" was the "main guy." Besides this he was thorough reliable. Through a long career he had never failed to stay bought even if he came high. So these three were taken to the Union League Club, the leading aristocratic club of the plutocracy of Chicago and were entertained, fêted, and flattered there until they clearly saw the "brotherhood of capital and labor." But even this was not enough and so "Sammy's" speech was evidently written for him. This was so painfully apparent that it looked as if it had been handed to him as he went upon the stage without giving him time to read it over, as there were times when he seemed to have difficulty in discovering what the next word would be. His whole speech was a most clever defence of the trust from the capitalist point of view and yet with enough of the jargon of the "labor leader" in it to give it the appearance of representing the workers.

He showed how the trust had reduced prices and raised wages and then declared that this rise was due to the presence of labor unions. He assured the public that the laborers had no fear of trusts and generally left the impression that the trust was a sort of benevolent combination between employer and employee. In short he served notice on the Democratic party that in case of their raising any "anti-trust" howl, he had already been bought and paid for on the other side and would deliver all goods in his

(Continued on page 2.)

## MORE INTIMIDATION

Continued Attempts by Officers to Throttle Free Speech.

### SOME NEW SCHEMES TRIED.

Speakers Arrested on Trumped Up Charges, and Dismissed—Crowds Driven Away by Police.

Still the Chicago police are striving to find new ways to annoy socialists and check their propaganda. Notwithstanding the chief had granted permits, the contemptible series of nagging attacks still goes on. A week ago, while Comrade Klenkie was holding a meeting at Oakley avenue and 24th street, a gang of police appeared on the scene. The crowd was all on the streets and the sidewalks perfectly clear. There was no disturbance whatever. But the police commanded the speaker to stop. Comrade Klenkie naturally refused to pay any attention to these orders, and displayed the permit with the chief's name signed. But he was told that this was no good and the officers were ordered to charge the crowd.

This was done and the audience scattered. Comrade Klenkie advised compliance with the law and cautioned the crowd against any disturbance, advising them to quietly disperse. They were driven for a block or so and then scattered. By the way, there is nothing like a whack from a policeman's club to emphasize the points in a socialist speech.

Comrade Figolah, whose arrest was noticed in a previous issue, and whose trial was postponed, came up for trial on the 14th. It was then discovered that there was an error in the charges and the case was dismissed. The judge then issued warrants and these were served later in the week. When the case came up for trial the alleged detective who was to do the prosecuting was gone, but another one (who knew nothing about the case) kindly volunteered to take his place, but objection being made, was again postponed.

There is no doubt now that there is a general scheme on foot to stop the outdoor agitation of the S. L. P. Every possible scheme has been tried now, and so far the socialists have always come out ahead. But just what the next step will be it is hard to tell. It is very significant that none of the other street speakers were ever troubled. The Single Taxers, the Salvation Army, and all kinds of freaks and fakirs may talk to their heart's content and there is no trouble. But the socialist means business. His agitation is now rousing wide-spread attention, and its clear, class-conscious attitude differentiates it from all others and they propose to stop it. But they forget that this same fight is a world-wide one and that the socialist goes into it fully aware of his position and his rights, and knows that he will win out in the end. It has been fought out or is being fought to-day in every nation on earth. The fight will grow harder each year until capitalism is at last overthrown.

### THE PROTEST.

Said the great machine of iron and wood:  
"Lo, I am a creature of iron and wood.  
But the criminal clutch of Godless greed  
Has made me a monster that scatters  
And wanders and hunger wherever I go.  
I would lift men's burdens and lighten  
their woe,  
I would give them leisure to laugh in  
the sun,  
If owned by the Many—instead of the  
One.

"If owned by the people, the whole  
world earth,  
Should learn my purpose and know my  
worth,  
I would close the chasm that yawns in  
our soil  
'Twixt unearned riches and ill-paid toil.  
No man should hunger and no man  
labor  
To fill the purse of an idle neighbor.  
And each man should know when his  
work was done  
Were I shared by the many—not owned  
by One.  
"I am forced by the few with their  
greed for gain  
To forge for the many new fetters of  
pain.  
Yet this is my purpose, and ever will  
be.  
To set the slaves of the workshop free,  
God hasten the day, when overjoyed,  
That desperate host of the unemployed,  
Shall hear my message and understand  
And hail me friend in an opulent land."  
—Ella Wheeler Wilcox.

### The Farmer Next.

"Gas" Addicks, the Delaware millionaire, has purchased 4,000,000 acres of agricultural lands in the west—an area greater than the State in which he lives—and will cut it up into bonanza farms and proceed to run the small farmers out of business, just as the trusts and department stores crush their little competitors.—(Freedom)

Do not fear to take this paper from the office. Some one has paid for it if you have not and no bill will be sent. Watch the wrapper to see when the subscription expires, and if it pleases you be ready to renew.

## THE TRAMP PROBLEM

How the Tramp Is Gradually Evolved From the Laborer.

### THE JESTER OF CAPITALISM.

The Story of the Degradation of Workers Into Homeless Wanderers by the Competitive System.

What have we here? An unkempt and uncouth figure, arrayed in tattered garments, a broken hat, through which an uncombed shock of hair protrudes, a pair of ancient boots which leave the naked feet partly exposed, and a face ornamented with a straggling ill-kept beard of three or four weeks' growth. This extraordinary figure invariably carries a stick and an empty tomato can. Who and what is this? It is the conventional figure of what is called the "tramp" or "hobo," and from the frequency with which this unfortunate individual appears in our comic papers it might perhaps be inferred that his most important function is to figure as a standing joke for the amusement of "society."

His natural disposition to avoid bulldogs, brakemen and police officers has always furnished a certain amount of amusement for the public, although his most prominent characteristics according to the comic journalists, consists in an invincible repugnance to the use of soap and water, and a deep-seated dislike for manual labor of any kind.

His ingenious evasions and excuses when confronted with a buck-saw and wood-pile, the skillful and endless schemes which he puts in action to circumvent the house-dog and the transportation companies, and his philosophical and satirical observations on society in general, from his standpoint, go far to constitute him the jester of the nineteenth century.

History tells us that in the middle ages the members of the wealthy classes often charged themselves with the support of an individual whose function consisted in keeping them amused. This curious retainer dressed in fantastic stripes of red, blue, green and yellow cloth, with a cap and bells as the insignia of his office was known as a jester, and many witty sayings and humorous actions of these hired fools are still preserved.

But with the progress of "civilization" the privately owned jester of the middle ages disappears, and his place is taken by the "Weary Willies" and "Dusty Rhodes" of today, and in this case at least, individual, has given place to collective ownership.

All "society" can now enjoy the fund of wit and humor which it is the function of these unfortunates to produce, and the very wealthy classes, unlike their predecessors of the middle ages, can no longer monopolize for their own individual gratification the comical sayings and doings of the modern tramp. This brings to light one of the injustices of our modern social system. It is in accord with the principles of "eternal justice" that the product should belong to the producer, then it is clear that the tramp and whatever wit he may be possessed of should be the peculiar property of our great capitalists, as he is their chief and most remarkable product.

As we are forced to admit, however, that they show no inclination to enforce their undeniable property rights in the tramp, we are led to conclude that no surplus value can be extracted from the latter, and a personal observation will at once justify this conclusion.

When his function as public humorist is left out of consideration, it is generally recognized that his conditions of life are by no means enviable, and therefore many good and sympathetic people have tried to "reform" him, and in fact so many learned essays and practical schemes have been written and projected regarding him that he has in a manner become a fad, and is often referred to by the aforesaid good people as a "problem," which like many other "problems" of like nature, they think that they alone can solve.

Their efforts in this direction though often conducted with much energy and self-denial, have so far produced little or no effect. "Wandering Willie" shows no tendency to reform, but on the contrary, his numbers are on the increase.

One young man, the son of a New York millionaire, actually became a "tramp" himself for some time, and recorded his "impressions" regarding the fraternity in a book.

Once or twice during his self-imposed task he discarded the uniform of his temporary profession, slipped into a dress suit and ran down to New York to attend a wedding or funeral or some similar function among his class, becoming a "tramp" again when the ceremony was over.

society from the stand point of the real tramp, and that his "impressions" can not produce anything of much value—at least to the tramp.

There seems to be a general impression amongst those who would reform these vagrants, that the latter become wanderers by choice, and that their disinclination to work is due to an inherent inborn laziness. They never seem to consider that social conditions have any particular connection with this question, although many people still living remember a time when the tramp did not exist and consequently there was no "problem."

As all "reforms" and "plans" for the elimination of this evil have so far been ineffective it is reasonable to conclude that the theory of the reformer is at fault.

The great majority of tramps have at one period been workers, however much they may now dislike labor, and it is the working class, speaking broadly, that supply the human material that constitutes the modern army of tramps. Many thousands of these are present in the process of transition to full-fledged trampdom, as they will yet do odd jobs during their wanderings, but nevertheless they are all on the road to the last stage, the vagrant who does no work and never intends to.

Take an ordinary workingman who through "hard times" or a period of "commercial depression" is unable to secure employment in his native town. He hears that there is a possible chance of work in a city a few hundred miles away. He has not sufficient railroad fare for the whole journey, so he rides part of the way and walks the rest. Arrived at his destination he may perhaps secure temporary employment, and then again he may not. At any rate the time arrives when his work is finished (jobs that have to be traveled after as a rule don't last long) and he must leave to go to some other town. He may not have enough to ride back, or if enough he would be left penniless on his arrival, so having heard that rides can be stolen on freight trains, he secretes himself in a box car and begins his journey. The brakeman discovers him when fifty miles or so on the way and ejects him forcibly from the train. He waits a day or two for another chance and succeeds in getting another fifty miles on his way, when he is discovered and "fired" as before. His small stock of money is gone, his self-respect is somewhat lowered by the kicks and abuse of the railroad officials who have ejected him several times already, so he finds himself compelled to ask food at different places. Meanwhile his personal appearance suffers to some extent, his face is unshaven and unclean, and his clothes look shabby through having been slept in. He gets to his destination only to find that there is nothing there for him, so he resolves to take the road again, where he goes through similar experiences as before, getting more hardened as he proceeds. The village marshal at the last place where he was fired drives him out of the town and warns him not to appear there again. His applications at back doors for food (which are now becoming less difficult) are received in various ways according to the temper of the inhabitants and the number of tramps who have already passed that way, but on the whole he has managed to beg enough to keep him alive, and his experience brings him more success. His shirt has not been washed for some time, a discomfort that he quickly gets used to. On the road he meets one or two unfortunates like himself, and as misery loves company, they agree to travel together, and his companions who have had more experience on the road, put him "onto" new tricks of the trade. He begins to have a contempt for work as he sees that he can get along somehow without it, and his resolve to do so becomes strengthened every day. A few months of this life sees him rapidly approaching the counterpart of the conventional tramp with which this sketch began. In the winter time he beats his way into some large city, where with hundreds of human beings in different stages of trampdom, he seeks the shelter of the police stations to avoid the icy blasts which pierce his ill-clad and ill-nourished body, and there amidst indistinguishable vermin, silt and wretchedness he completes the last stages of his apprenticeship. Everywhere he goes he is regarded and made to feel that he is an outcast and a nuisance, his last shred of self-respect is torn from him, and society seems determined that he shall develop into the orthodox tramp of the comic papers—which he duly does.

This is no fancy sketch. The writer who has watched closely, has himself seen this process in its various stages, and it is a matter of common knowledge (reformers and idiots always excepted) that such is the genesis of the tramp.

Can it be believed that any human being would deliberately choose such a life if not compelled by circumstances? The only rational answer to this question must be in the negative. What then are the compelling circumstances? Lack of employment in the first place may be put forward. True, but what causes lack of employment? The only answer to this is that the cause lies in

(Continued on page 3.)

## ON WOMAN'S CLUBS

Their Uselessness or Perniciousness to the Working Class.

### REFORM AND PHILANTHROPY.

They Always Proceed From the Purely Capitalist Point of View and Obey Class Interest.

In Bulletin No. 23 of the Department of Labor Mrs. Ellen M. Henrotin has contributed an article on "The Attitude of Women's Clubs and Associations toward Social Economics," followed by statistics gathered by the Department of Labor about the purpose of organization of the separate clubs.

If the membership of all the 2,705 clubs were confined to the capitalist or middle class bourgeois women, and the purpose of all the clubs were "mutual improvement, mental improvement, and the study of history, literature, music and art," the work of the clubs would have little or no interest for proletarian women—that is, for women wage slaves and women dependent on wage slaves or women of the double yoke. But in Mrs. Henrotin's own words, "a few clubs have found a way to secure the presence of working women," and the resolution adopted at the last meeting of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, by the committee on economic phases of club work reads, "The General Federation of Women's Clubs shall encourage and promote clubs among women of the business world on the principle of co-operation, self-government and self-support." The statistics say further that 425 clubs reported practical work in the branches of sociology, political economy or philanthropy; 338 clubs reported that the working women in their locality "evinced a tendency to study these subjects"; 356 clubs declared that working women belonged to their organizations, and 29 that "working girls' clubs had been formed as auxiliary societies."

Since the true interests of women wage slaves and women dependents of wage slaves are irreconcilably opposed to the interests of the bourgeoisie, since proletarian women, like proletarian men, can hope for emancipation from economic slavery only through an intense class struggle in which no quarter is given or received, we must look with suspicion upon every effort of bourgeois women to reach down into the proletarian class and to work among proletarian women. And if, upon inquiry, bourgeois women's clubs are found to act in accordance with the never failing law of class effort, if they work only in the interests of their own class, it is high time that clear-headed proletarian socialist women showed the energy befitting rebellious slaves in working for their own interests identical with the interests of the proletarian class by putting before the women of their class the truths of scientific socialism. Learning these truths, the women slaves may understand the economic forces that chain them, and may prepare for action by first dispelling the hypnotism that the bourgeoisie would spread through charity, philanthropy, and the teaching of false economics.

All political, economic and educational effort that acquiesces in the present capitalistic system of society, that aims only to reform and ameliorate existing institutions and social and economic conditions, and that does not advocate the uprooting of the present system of wage slavery, all such effort is not revolutionary and therefore is not conducted in the interest of the wage slave class. When, therefore, the clubs are said to "increase the efficiency of the schools" and to be "successful in teaching civic duties to the public school children" as in Northfield, Minn., and to be forming Leagues of Good Citizenship among hundreds of proletarian boys and girls, as in Philadelphia, you have only to read the further statement that "The League has met with the cordial indorsement of all citizens" to know that the false presentation of history, the teaching of fanatical worship of a flag and of servile obedience to the constitution that protect the property-owning, exploiting class, are inseparably bound up with this bourgeois "betterment and extension of the public school system."

But what does this grandiose talk amount to, when thousands of children in the poorest quarters of our cities can find no public schools to go to? Is it better privileges for some children or is it equal opportunities for all that will help the enslaved proletariat to lift its yoke? Will the miner or stock yards employ, who gets so small a wage for his prodigious toil that he cannot clothe his children decently or warmly in winter, be better able to send his children to the school? Not a bit of it. Would the club women brand the proletarian child as a burden on charity and set him off as a scorned thing apart by encouraging the establishment of a fund to provide stamped books for the child

(Continued on page 3.)

THE WORKERS' CALL.

Published every Saturday at 98 N. Clark St., Chicago, Ill., as mail matter of the second class.

Subscription Rates: One Year, \$2.00; Six Months, \$1.25; Three Months, \$0.75.

Advertisements: A limited number of acceptable advertisements will be inserted.

Editorial Announcements: To secure the return of unused manuscripts postage should be enclosed.

A. M. SIMONS, EDITOR.



Table with 2 columns: Year, Copies Sold. Shows sales figures for 1898 and 1899.

Copies sold last week 13,700.

REACTIONS.

In every age and under all conditions there are always those who look back to a "Golden Age" in the far past.

The members of society may therefore be divided according to their attitude toward social change into three classes—the progressive, the conservative and the reactionary.

The reactionary class are always trying to make it appear that they belong with the progressives and generally attempt to prove it by claiming that both are attacking the same evils.

This is the class which in Adam Smith's time opposed corporations, a little later on were smashing the great inventions, and today are going around seeking to secure the enactment of "anti-trust" laws.

'Tis as easy to be heroes as to sit the idle slaves. A legendary virtue carved upon our father's graves.

New times demand new measures and new men.

The laws that in our fathers' day were bent; And doubtless after us some purer scheme.

In the time of which Lowell wrote the reactionaries were preaching kindness to the slave and quoting scripture to show that while slavery was a "Divine Institution," gentleness towards servants must be observed.

In our time we have all three divisions mentioned above and they arise from the same reasons as in all ages.

We find the conservative class represented by the capitalist class who see in the maintenance of private ownership of land, mines, machines, etc., and the continuance of wage-slavery with which to enable them to operate their property, the only means by which their class can be maintained in idleness.

At the present time they are, as in all other ages, most insistent upon preserving the actual basis upon which the evils rest, while seeking to remove the evils.

The socialist also uses historical allusion and illustration, but he uses them simply to get a longer "sight," so to speak, of present phenomena.

At the risk of seeming to follow in the paths of the reactionaries and with the distinct intention of illustrating the only way in which it is safe to use the authority of past thinkers, the following quotation from another of Lowell's poems is offered for consideration:

They were men of present valor, stalwart old iconoclasts. Unconvinced by the ax or gibbet that 'all virtue was the Past';

They have rights who dare maintain them; we are traitors to our sires, smothering in their holy ashes Freedom's new-lit altar-fires.

Shall we make their creed our jailer? Shall we in our haste to slay.

New occasions teach new duties; time makes ancient good uncouth.

ROBBERY OF MAIL.

The Workers' Call Letters Being Rifled by Thieves. It has recently been brought to light that the mail of The Workers' Call has been robbed to some extent during the past few weeks.

We would again emphasize the necessity of our friends notifying us of the non-recognition of any funds claimed to be sent us, because some of the followers of De Leon have been using this misfortune to allege dishonesty, even going so far in one case as to denounce the management of The Call in an open section meeting as financially dishonest because 46 cents, which was never received, had not been accounted for.

Special Offer.

There are to be elections in a number of states this fall and the comrades are calling for extra copies of the Call for campaign use.

We believe in making The Workers' Call the instrument for fighting the battles of the S. L. P. and will always try to help out at any time where it can be made of special use.

The investigation by the committee of the Bridge and Structural Iron Workers' union into the Coliseum disaster of a few weeks ago, in which 11 workmen lost their lives and a number of others were crippled for life or otherwise injured, report that the accident was due to criminal negligence on the part of the contractors—the Pittsburg Bridge Company.

South Water street butter, egg and poultry dealers are interested in reports from New York to the effect that Armour & Co. and Swift & Co. of Chicago are squeezing the eastern commission men by competing with the latter in their own markets.

Martyrdom attracts attention and shows earnestness, but gives no explanation of that earnestness. It has secured comparative freedom for thought and speech from physical repression, and more martyrdom may be needed before we win these things entirely, but in other matters its effects has probably been much exaggerated.

Ashtabula, Ohio, Sept. 11.—The first test has been made at Conneaut of the only one-unloading machine in the world.

They were men of present valor, stalwart old iconoclasts. Unconvinced by the ax or gibbet that 'all virtue was the Past';

Have you always a card in your pocket on which to take three months subscriptions to The Workers' Call? If not drop a postal for a supply as soon as you read this.

SNAP SHOTS BY THE WAYSIDE.

We see that the "Boston Store" is about to construct a ten-story fire-proof building which will enable it to handle four times the amount of business.

Chicago Tribune.

CALLS ITS SALESMEN HOME.

National Glass Company to Establish a Central Agency—Prices to Be Raised.

Pittsburg, Pa., Sept. 11.—(Special.) The table glass concerns recently consolidated under the name of the National Glass company, have issued orders to their salesmen directing them to return home at once.

The salesman home is a good thing. The salesman can now take a rest—without pay, and when he gets tired he can go to work—if he can find any.

Why is a trust organized? To lessen expenses and secure better control of the market. How can the market be best secured? By selling cheaper than others.

The surplus value extracted from the working class is an ever increasing quantum, and "capital" is always seeking "profitable" opportunities for investment.

Trust Conference

(Continued from page 1.)

possession into the Republican ranks. While speaking of these precious individuals mention should be made of "Jack" Hayes of the defunct Knights of Labor.

When in their old vocation these latest victims of capitalist development never had much sympathy for the workers. Their boiled shirts and stiff collars held their heads up.

THE POLITICIANS.

Everything was now ready for the last act. It was necessary to have two politicians appear who should finish the work begun. As there was nothing to be feared from the Republican party, that could easily afford to stand in the background and let the Democrats occupy the stage.

This is success indeed. 9,556 have applied for work and 3,992 have been supplied with work. That leaves 5,564 on the waiting list in these times of prosperity.

The proposed boycott on the Paris Exposition which was so loudly proclaimed after the announcement of the Dreyfus verdict reflected the "sentiment" of the capitalist class.

Workingmen! learn from this that sentimental bosh and high sounding phrases about eternal justice are simply soap bubbles when emitted from the capitalist press or speakers.

The Trust Conference on the whole has had one good effect. It gives irrefutable evidence to the class-conscious workingmen and all others who think that our "great" men and leaders of thought have demonstrated what they do not know of social and political economy and historical development.

England is steadily progressing with her preparations to enforce "civilization" on the Transvaal Republic. It is said there will be no formal declaration of war.

this: England has the power, while the "others" are impotent.

If Brother Sullivan did ask for \$5,000 for his union we can see no great harm in that proposition. The trades union is a business concern, and what is the Fall Festival? We are to celebrate peace and the victories obtained in war and glorify the "prosperity" era.

In mediaeval times when any celebration of that kind was on hand it was always accompanied by an absolute suspension of "business." General fraternization took place.

But the Fall Festival has an entirely different object. The "business" men who have contributed to the fund have been told that it would be a profitable investment and that large dividends would accrue.

But the "Fall Festival" will maintain its "business" character and therefore does not interest the proletariat. The worker in South Chicago, Pullman, the Stock Yards and the Black Road districts whose average wages for the year do not exceed a dollar per day, can find little interest in the joys of Peace or the glory of Victory.

Trust Conference

(Continued from page 1.)

While speaking of these precious individuals mention should be made of "Jack" Hayes of the defunct Knights of Labor.

Thus this act was played through. With Hayes as a foil and Sammy as a climax the impression was left upon all the delegates and was impressed upon the politicians and spread abroad through the press that all the "labor leaders" of intelligence (?) were with the trust forces.

THE POLITICIANS.

Everything was now ready for the last act. It was necessary to have two politicians appear who should finish the work begun.

This is success indeed. 9,556 have applied for work and 3,992 have been supplied with work. That leaves 5,564 on the waiting list in these times of prosperity.

The proposed boycott on the Paris Exposition which was so loudly proclaimed after the announcement of the Dreyfus verdict reflected the "sentiment" of the capitalist class.

Workingmen! learn from this that sentimental bosh and high sounding phrases about eternal justice are simply soap bubbles when emitted from the capitalist press or speakers.

The Trust Conference on the whole has had one good effect. It gives irrefutable evidence to the class-conscious workingmen and all others who think that our "great" men and leaders of thought have demonstrated what they do not know of social and political economy and historical development.

England is steadily progressing with her preparations to enforce "civilization" on the Transvaal Republic. It is said there will be no formal declaration of war.

and declared success to be the badge of excellence. He employed all his arts of eloquence and the most bare-faced sophistry to demonstrate that under competition the best came to the top and that there could be no progress without competition.

But this Bryan could not, dare not do. He was the representative of the small producers who were being squeezed, but who never dared suggest the removal of the means whereby they were being crushed.

SUMMARY.

In fact, taking the Conference as a whole, the dominant impression upon one who looked at it from the standpoint of a class-conscious laborer was the utter intellectual bankruptcy of the middle class in America.

Notwithstanding this numerical predominance of the little producers, the whole Conference, as has been shown, was but the tool of capitalism and was guided, controlled and directed solely in the interests of the great trust magnates.

It should prove a lesson to the laborers of America that there is nothing to hope from any class except themselves. Not only the laboring class itself but all of society has its only hope in the working class. They alone are unfettered by interests within the present society.

France has rather had the last word with England over the Dreyfus matter when she retorts by pointing to the trouble in the Transvaal.

You ought to have a half dozen numbers of the "Pocket Library of Socialism" with you all the time to hand out when you get into an argument.

Remember you get a copy with every twenty-five-cent subscriber you send in to The Workers' Call.



ON THE SIDE.

A Socialist's Observations on Various Sides of the Trust Conference.

It was at least significant that Guntton, Gompers and Cockran took the same stand. Some of "Sammy's" phrases were couched in exactly the same words as those of Guntton.

The only time that Bryan made anything of a political hit was when he tried to show that the agrarian and the laboring interests are the same.

Every man that talked among either the anti-trust or trust forces urged the enactment of some more legislation, but they were almighty quiet about what existing legislation had done in the matter.

Another point upon which all were agreed was that publicity would be a great advantage. The wide-spread and universal prevalence of this view arouses suspicion of a negro concealed in the wood pile.

It never seemed to occur to those who were advocating the most idiotic forms of radical state legislation that the effect of such legislation would be to simply locate the trusts in other states and give the states with favorable legislation just that much advantage.

Just as a finisher, how does the following strike you as the statement of the socialist view of the question: "We recognize in the trust the last and most perfect development of the instruments of production and distribution."

The managers of the new Illinois free employment agencies are now spreading the story that those who apply for work there do not really want to work at all.

RUSSIAN DEVELOPMENT.

The Growth of Capitalism in Recent Years.

While Russia began the development of its industrial resources much later than other nations, it is pursuing the policy of equipping its raw factories with the latest modern machinery.

Russia is the first country in Europe to use the continuous air brake for its freight and military trains. This order involves the equipment of 300,000 cars, as well as a large number of locomotives.

LIQUID AIR.

Some of the Possible Uses of the New Refrigerant.

Liquid air is now being used as a refrigerant, and three gallons, which cost only 15 cents and which will not cost 3 cents next year, equal a ton of the coldest ice.

FOOLING THE WORKERS.

How Syracuse Laborers Were Kept From Hearing Socialism.

The Labor Day committee of the Trades Assembly contained three members of the Section and one or two sympathizers. They invited the Rev. Chas. Vall, of Jersey City, N. J., to deliver the address.

Below is given a list of the out-door meetings to be held this week. Every socialist should make it a point to attend as many of these meetings as possible to assist in making them a success.

Remember that we send The Call in clubs of ten for three months at ten cents each.

Socialist Labor Party of the United States.

PLATFORM.

The Socialist Labor Party of the United States, in convention assembled, re-asserts the inalienable rights of men to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

With the founders of this republic we hold that the true theory of politics is that the machinery of government must be owned and controlled by the whole people.

Human power and natural forces are thus wasted, that the plutocracy may rule. Ignorance and misery, with all their concomitant evils, are perpetuated, that the people may be kept in bondage.

Against such a system the Socialist Labor Party once more enters its protest. Once more it reiterates its fundamental declaration that private property in the natural sources of production and in the instruments of labor is the obvious cause of all economic servitude and political dependence.

Immediate Demands.

- 1. Reduction of the hours of labor in proportion to the progress of production.
2. The United States shall obtain possession of the railroads, canals, telegraphs, telephones and all other means of public transportation and communication.

ENTERTAINMENT AND BALL

For the Benefit of "Arbejderen," the Danish-Norwegian Party Paper.

Walhalla Hall, Cor. 37th St. and Wentworth Ave.

Saturday Eve., Sept. 30, 1899.

A. M. SIMONS will speak. . . SINGING, DECLAMATION AND DANCING ALL NIGHT.

TICKETS 25 CENTS.

Workingmen Support Your Own Press!

Public Meetings.

Below is given a list of the out-door meetings to be held this week.

- Sunday—California and North Ave. at 3:45 p. m.
Sunday—Peoria and Madison St. at 7:45 p. m.
Sunday—63rd and Halstead St. at 4 p. m.

Bundle Orders.

We would call especial attention to the rates for The Workers' Call in bundles, which are as follows: (Note change of rate.)

There is another race war in the coal fields of Illinois. Seven negroes were killed at Cartersville during the past week, and the militia has been called out to "preserve order."

It is someone being the only socialist at your shop or in your block. If you want company spend a dollar for ten three month's subscriptions to The Workers' Call and you will soon find that everybody is talking socialism.

SOCIALIST BOOKS

The publishing house of Charles H. Kerr & Company has long been known as the place to buy books of social reform. The course of events has convinced us that half-way measures are useless.

POCKET LIBRARY OF SOCIALISM.

This new series will be issued on extra paper, in size convenient for the pocket, and just right for mailing in an ordinary business envelope.

- 1. WOMAN AND THE SOCIAL PROBLEM. By May Wood Simons.
2. THE EVOLUTION OF THE CLASS STRUGGLE. By William H. Noyes.

OTHER FIVE CENT BOOKS.

- Kautsky—The Proletariat.
Kautsky—The Capitalist Class.
Kautsky—The Class Struggle.
Kautsky—The Co-operative Commonwealth.

TEN CENT BOOKS.

- Merrie England—Blatchford.
Communist Manifesto—Marx and Engels.
Outlook for the Artisan—Putnam.

TWENTY-FIVE CENT BOOKS.

- Woman in the Past, Present and Future—Bebel.
The Juggernaut of the Moderns—Rosa Luxemburg.

FIFTY-CENT BOOKS.

- The Rights of Woman and the Sexual Relation—Heinzen.
Socialist Almanac—Sanial.

SOCIALIST AND ECONOMIC WORKS.

- Bax—Religion of Socialism..... 1.00
Bax—Ethics of Socialism..... 1.00
Bernstein—Ferdinand Lassalle as a Social Reformer..... 1.00

SCIENTIFIC BOOKS.

- Liquid Air—Wilshire ..... 10
How to Hypnotize—Flower ..... 10

PROGRESSIVE FICTION.

- The Legal Revolution of 1902..... \$1.00
Looking Backward—Bellamy..... 1.00

Directory of Section Chicago.

- CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF SECTION CHICAGO, 85 N. Clark St., 1st and 3rd Tuesday; Sec. Jas. Smith, 367 W. Madison St.
BRANCHES.
FOURTH WARD, 3638 Armour Ave., 1st Thursday each month; Sec. N. Krogh, 3550 La Salle St.