

FEDERAL AID IS ASKED AGAINST STEEL COMBINE

Labor Brands Giant Trust as Public Foe and Demands Drastic Action by Nation

Pittsburg, Pa., Dec. 16.—Declaring that the steel trust is using its great wealth and power in an effort to rob the toilers of their right of American manhood and of the opportunity to resist its further encroachments, forty-five of the most influential labor leaders in the United States have declared war on the United States Steel Corporation in behalf of the toilers whom they represent.

A congressional investigation was demanded and measures taken to ask that the United States government inquire not only into the tactics of the steel trust against labor, but investigate the legal right of the trust to exist.

The labor leaders drew up a graphic report setting forth their demands. The report reads in part as follows:

"It's God, the Almighty Dollar."

"The United States Steel Corporation has declared war on labor. In its secret councils this corporation has decreed that the only obstacle to its complete away-organized labor—shrink be crushed. This soulless corporation represents nothing but dollars, knowing neither body nor soul. Its god is the almighty dollar. Its profits amount to \$600 yearly from each employee, said employee making less than \$500 yearly in wages."

"We urge that an earnest, systematic effort be made thoroughly and completely to organize all employees in the iron, steel and tinplate industry and subsidiary correlated trades. Owing to immediate pressing necessity caused by the present strike and the indefensible hostile attitude of the United States Steel Corporation, we earnestly call upon all national and international unions of America to send at least one organizer to assist in this work; that the A. F. of L. place as many of its commissioned organizers as possible at work in a like manner and for the same purpose."

Systematic Action Needed

"We further urge and recommend that in all places where mills are located the central labor organization appoint special committees with instructions to co-operate in this work. For educational purposes we recommend that this committee be made a special order in all central labor organizations at the first meeting in January, 1910."

"We recommend that the executive council of the American Federation of Labor prepare and issue at stated periods a circular to all international, national, central and local unions of America, an appeal for financial contributions to aid the striking iron, steel and tin workers."

"We further recommend that the first circular calling for such financial contributions be issued January 1, 1910, and that the amount of each contribution should not be less than the 10 cents per member, and that an appeal be made to all sympathetic and liberty-loving Americans to give their moral and financial support in this great contest for justice, right and humanity."

Demand Congressional Investigation

"In view of the great wrongs perpetrated by the United States Steel Corporation not only against the workers but the whole public generally, we recommend that a committee be appointed by this conference to wait upon the president of the United States, the president of the United States senate and the speaker of the house of representatives, and such members of either house of congress as may be deemed advisable for the purpose of laying before them the grievances from which labor suffers at the hands of this corporation; and that the committee heretofore demanded a thorough investigation as to the legality of the actions and the existence under the law

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GRAFTERS OFF WAYMAN

Proof of \$45,000 Shale Steal Fails to Arouse the State's Attorney

The last test made by Engineer Benjamin Welton revealed no "shale rock" at the Lawrence avenue sewer. This proves beyond all shadow of a doubt that the \$45,000 "extras" received by the M. H. McGovern company was pure graft. The last diggings of the engineer were made at the 40-foot level where M. H. McGovern claimed the rock was the heaviest. All that could be found at that depth is the thick clay reached in other tests.

Arguments on the suit to enjoin the Merriam commission from receiving funds for its investigation have begun before Judge Windes. Attorney James A. Brady appeared in behalf of the "honest" taxpayer, Albert L. Schultz, the complainant. Walter L. Fisher, city traction counsel, assisted by Robert N. Holt, an assistant corporation counsel, represents the city.

Final investigation in the "spoil dump" by Mr. Welton also failed to disclose evidence of "shale rock." The engineer found that laborers employed by Joseph Hanreddy, silent partner of McGovern, converting the huge mound into brick. Welton will make an official report at once and Wayman may act.

Wayman is Hibernating

Whether State's Attorney Wayman will pursue the findings of the committee to bring conviction of the guilty parties is now the question. Rumors of his taking steps to present the graft scandal to the grand jury are stout, but the state's attorney neither denies nor affirms the reports, following his usual custom.

Mr. Wayman was found buried in work today, interrupted only by occasional conferences with his assistants. "Haven't got time to talk this matter over," is all he would say when asked about his plans in this matter. "I am working up to my neck and I can't say a word about what step I shall take."

Graft Shown in Detail

The steering committee of the Merriam commission is composed of Ald. Charles E. Merriam, Ald. Bernard W. Snow, Attorney Walter L. Fisher and George Tunnel.

The report, as now prepared, contains the vouchers, requisitions, council orders and correspondence bearing the signatures or approval of the "shale rock" claims of Ralph A. Bonnell, assistant engineer; William S. MacHarg, consulting engineer; John Ericson, city engineer; Paul Bedieske, deputy commissioner of public works; John J. Hanberg, commissioner of public works; L. E. Gosnell, deputy controller; and Fred A. Busse, mayor of Chicago.

TRAIN DITCHED; WORKER KILLED

Des Moines, Ia., Dec. 16.—Train No. 7 on the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul road, west bound, was wrecked near Engler, Iowa, at 3 a. m. Six cars are reported to be in the ditch and Engineer George Scoer is said to have been killed. All of the physicians at Perry have been rushed to the scene. The number of dead is reported to be large.

Train 7, which left Chicago at 5:15 p. m. yesterday, was bound for Omaha, Sioux City, Des Moines and South Dakota points. It is a limited train.

NINE HUNDRED ALDEBEMEN ELECTED IN BELGIUM ON THE SOCIALIST TICKET

Brussels, Dec. 16.—The annual meeting of the Belgium Socialist party was held at Brussels, at the Maison de Peuple. Louis Bertrand presided, while Emile Vinck acted as secretary.

One day of the week's session M. Vinck met members to discuss questions that could not be thrashed out in writing. In his report to the delegates, he stated that about 900 aldermen in the country were elected on Socialist tickets.

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YOU MUST HURRY NOW

There are but a few hours left after this reaches even the nearest states in which to order copies of this Special Trade Union Edition.

Remember that it will contain what we believe is the only article ever published in this country on the relation between the trade unions and the Socialist party by the man who is probably the best fitted by successful and far-reaching experience to speak on this question—Karl Legien. He is the head of the trade unionists of the world. He is the highest official in the German trade unions and he is a Socialist member of the German Reichstag.

It will also contain articles from the president of the Brewers' Union, from National Secretary Barnes (also a trade unionist of many years' standing), from Bernard Berlin, one of the oldest workers in both the union and Socialist movement in this country; from Dan White, who has just returned from some especially successful work among the unions.

John Collins, also engaged in this special work, has an article, as has Van Horne of the Mine Workers. This number will be PRACTICAL. It will be a publication that will do work. It will be something that will accomplish things for Socialism in America.

Orders are telegraphed in there will still be time to make it the largest issue ever put forth from the presses of the Daily Socialist, and that will be something of a record to break.

The Chicago branches have been ordering it in bundles of a thousand. Some branches have not yet been heard from, and these should place their orders today.

There has been an immense amount of work put upon this one issue. All this work will bring results only in proportion to the number of copies circulated. Will you see that it reaches every union man in your locality?

Seven dollars a thousand, 75 cents a hundred.

MILLIONS MADE IN NAVY GRAFT

U. S. Is Fleeced Unmercifully at Mare Island Yards, Is Charged

Cleveland, O., Dec. 16.—The Marine Review publishes an article dealing with the Mare Island navy yard, which is situated at San Francisco. The article relates in detail how money is wasted by poor management, and makes direct charges of graft in forcing ships on the western coast to use eastern coal.

Among other things, the Review says:

"Why the Mare Island location was ever selected for a navy yard can not possibly be explained now, but deals probably were no rarer forty years ago than now. The maintenance of a channel is a never-ending fight against the Sacramento river, which deposits silt about as fast as it can be dredged out. Three hundred and fifty thousand dollars was asked for this alone in the appropriation."

"The money thrown into this channel would buy a good location and move every fragment of the existing equipment from the present site."

Wholesale Waste

"The saw mill in this yard is housed in an expensive inclosed brick building which cost \$75,000, or \$6.40 per square foot of floor area. Any number of the best shop and factory buildings in this country, of steel and brick curtain wall construction, cost not over \$3.50 per square foot, many not over \$2."

"The first ship of the new navy cost about \$1,000,000. The latest authorized additions are estimated to cost between \$12,000,000 and \$15,000,000 each. The cost per ton of displacement has increased from about \$350 for an unarmored ship in 1885 to more than \$500 in the latest type of battleship, and \$1,000 or more in destroyers."

Enormous Expenses

"If we average the cost of the fleet at \$500 a ton, we have an expenditure of not less than \$500,000,000 for new construction only and entirely apart from operation maintenance and repairs."

"Politics demands \$55,000 locomotive cranes with 475,000 tracks and to be used once in a week in busy times; \$20,000 for a little dinky auxiliary hoist worth a few hundreds for an existing crane; \$10,000 for a \$500 shed for a yard locomotive."

"Politics builds a ship in a navy yard, where it can not be docked after it is built and it is frequently happens, it met with any injury in launching, it must be towed hundreds of miles for repairs."

"Politics spends millions for power plants, the interest on which will buy all the power required from outside sources."

Coal Graft Unearthed

"Politics probably had nothing to do, however, with the deal whereby naval vessels are not allowed to use anything but eastern coal, a deal that needs investigation, no matter where it leads to. There is a scandal underlying this thing somewhere. Who gets the spoil? What the country needs and the navy needs is an investigation. Not an investigation by a board from the department at the bar, nor by senators nor congressmen, but by a board of practical shipbuilders and manufacturers of kindred lines."

CHICAGO SEEKS PAINTERS' MEET

Six Cities Strive to Land 1910 Convention of National Brotherhood

Cincinnati, O., Dec. 16.—Daniel Evans, of Chicago, Jacob Tazelaar, of Orange, N. J.; M. C. Kelly, of Covington, Ky., and E. F. Moorhouse, of Boston, Mass., have been chosen by the Brotherhood of Painters, Decorators and Paperhangers in convention here as the delegates to represent the organization at the 1910 convention of the American Federation of Labor.

There were sixteen candidates in the race which was a spirited one. Emil Arnold of Chicago was placed in nomination but received only thirty-eight votes, the lowest candidate elected being Evans of Chicago who received 98 votes.

There are five delegates to the A. F. of L. section of the building trades convention of 1910 to be elected. The ballots have all been cast but the results will not be known for some time.

Balhorn Honored

Retiring President Balhorn has been presented with a beautiful mahogany leather back easy chair, and an especially selected umbrella, and walking cane, by a large number of the delegates, as a token of their appreciation of the valuable services he has rendered the brotherhood during the last eight years.

After the selection of delegates to the several national conventions, the selection of a city for the next convention will be next in order. Several cities are striving for the convention with Indianapolis and Kansas City the favorites. Others are Rochester, N. Y., Hot Springs, Ark., Springfield, Ill., and Chicago.

\$1,000 for Robinson Crusoe

New York, Dec. 16.—A shrewd, well-thumbed copy of Robinson Crusoe brought \$1,000 at an auction. The purchaser, an out of town collector, said he wanted the book "as a Christmas present for his little girl." The book was a first edition, the only one of its kind in this country.

Seeks to Fix Wreck Blame

Erie, Pa., Dec. 16.—Witnesses arrived here today to testify at the coroner's inquest into the wreck of the second section of train No. 26 on the Lake Shore railroad at Northeast, Pa., in which three persons were killed and fifteen others injured Monday night.

FLAYS BICKNELL FOR SLUR ON MORALITY OF MOTHERS

PUZZLE PICTURE



"PROSPERITY BILL" ADDRESSED THE "DOWN AND OUTS" OF THE BOWERY "BREAD LINE" THIS WEEK; CAN YOU GUESS WHAT HE SAID: A HANDSOME BLANKET INFUNTION WILL BE AWARDED TO EACH READER WHO CAN FILL IN THE MISSING LETTERS OF BILL'S SPEECH.

SLAVERY CAUSES RACE SUICIDE

Many Women Toilers of Texas Are Incapacitated for Motherhood

BY J. L. FITTS

Cottonwood, Tex., Dec. 16.—While school houses are closed against Socialist meetings here and while at Abilene the authorities threaten to pass an ordinance against street speaking so as to injure the Socialists, all the women and members of the families, wives and daughters of well-to-do farmers, work like men. The women and girls work in the cotton fields about four months in the year and boast of their ability to pick cotton as other girls boast of their piano playing, or their ability to tend a loom in a factory.

Some of the girls can pick as much as 20 pounds of cotton in a day, for which they receive 75 cents per hundred pounds. To get as much done as possible they often drag, by straps suspended from their shoulders, bags of cotton weighing 75 pounds or more. Through the constant stooping to pick the cotton and the constant weight lifting, many girls are incapacitated for motherhood.

School Teachers as Pickers

Practically all the women, including school teachers, in the rural communities engage in cotton picking to earn money for themselves or to get things needed for the homes of their families. Girls no more than six years old, mothers with babes at the breast, women of fifty-five and sixty toil in the fields under the blistering August sun, their bodies bent so that their heads are below their waists.

The only advantage such labor has over that of the cotton factory is that it is done in the open air. The conditions here show that capitalism makes sweatshops everywhere. Most of the Socialists in Texas rent their homes, but some are land owners. The rents paid on land here are about just enough to pay the taxes and repairs to the buildings.

Settlement Looked For

Commissioner Nell also met F. B. Harriman, general manager of the Illinois Central, relative to the dispute. It is likely that a settlement may be made without a resort to actual arbitration.

A. F. OF L. TO TAKE ACTION

Railroad Department to Meet in St. Paul Saturday Regarding Strikes

St. Paul, Minn., Dec. 16.—The meeting of the railroad department of the American Federation of Labor called by President Gompers will be held in St. Paul Saturday. The announcement came by telegraph from Chicago and was confirmed by Vice President D. A. Harnberger.

The railroad officials claim that between twenty and thirty switchmen and trainmen, who have been out on strike with the switchmen, have returned to work, also claiming that the strike has been broken as a result

TIMES HARD SAY, RAILROAD HEADS

Switchmen's Demands Opposed on Ground of Lack of Prosperity

After all the big business interests of the country have been stuffing the toilers of the United States with figures to show that prosperity is again rampant in the land, here comes the railroad general managers and tell the switchmen that it's all a lie and that they can't raise wages because of a lack of prosperity. They also claim that freight rates are very low.

It is all coming out at the joint wage conference between the railroad general managers' conference committee and the representatives of the switchmen's union, now meeting in the Railway Exchange building. The switchmen put forward their claim for higher wages on the basis of an increase in the cost of living.

Session's End Not Near

The probabilities are that the meeting will continue a week or ten days. F. O. Melcher, second vice president of the Rock Island railroad, is chairman of the managers' committee, and First Vice President S. E. Heberling heads the committee of the switchmen's union.

The committee of telegraphers on the Illinois Central railroad met at the Congress hotel and discussed the questions involved in their dispute with the road. President Henry B. Perham of the Order of Railroad Telegraphers and Vice President John A. Newman consulted with Labor Commissioner Neil, who is mediator under the Erdman law, which was invoked by both sides.

ROBBER SUSPECT CAUGHT ON CAR

James Jackson, who was paroled October 5 from the Joliet penitentiary while serving a term for robbery, was arrested after a struggle on a North street car by Patrolman Meyer of the Summerdale station.

Jackson answered the description, the police say, of the thief who robbed Rev. J. P. Dore at the priest's home, 4650 North Ashland avenue, of \$4 church collection money.

Jackson, when searched, was found to be carrying a "jimmy." The police suspect him of being implicated in several more robberies.

ASK \$100,000 TO EQUIP CHICAGO NAVAL STATION

Washington, Dec. 16.—A supplementary estimate of \$100,000 for the purchase of 1,000 small arms and equipment of the latest type and a battery of eight landing guns with complete equipment for the instruction of the apprentice seamen at the Great Lakes Naval Training station at Chicago has been submitted to the house by the navy department. The station is to be opened for the admission of recruits on October 1 next.

762 MINERS ARE TORN TO PIECES

Explosion in Japan Takes Greater Toll of Life Than Cherry

Victoria, B. C., Dec. 16.—Initiative Japanese capitalists refuse to be outdone by anything that the industrial tyrants of the United States may seek to accomplish. On the heels of the Cherry mine disaster details have been brought by the steamer Montague from Japan of the mine horror at Onoura colliery, Fukui prefecture, November 24, causing the loss of 762 lives.

This is one of the greatest mine slaughters the world has ever seen, far eclipsing the effort of the St. Paul Coal company, when it violated the child labor law and sent a mere boy into the caverns of the earth to go its bidding.

Only 45 of the Japanese escaped the grave that had been prepared for them by the progressive business interests of that country. The mine is one of the largest in southern Japan, employing 4,755 men. Its output is 44,000 tons monthly.

CHERRY, ILL., DEC. 15, 1909.

Ernest P. Bicknell, of the Red Cross, has arrived here from Washington, D. C., and is patching up the numerous weak spots that have been shown to exist in the Red Cross methods of relieving the Cherry mine sufferers. He says that the numerous difficulties will be remedied in a few days.

A formal meeting of the Cherry Relief committee is to be held immediately to consider the subject of disbursing the permanent relief fund. Duncan McDonald, state president of the United Mine Workers of Illinois and a member of the relief committee, is expected to arrive in Cherry to participate in the conference. The scheme of relief generally favored looks to the merging of all the separate relief funds and the administration of the merged funds as a pension fund under a joint trusteeship.

Would Not Remain to Starve

The local miners' union has named a committee to call on Mr. Bicknell and notify him concerning the families of miners who have left Cherry in search of work because they could secure no aid from the relief committee and could not remain in Cherry to starve. The matter was discussed at a meeting of the union, and the opinion was expressed that relief should be extended to the families of the unemployed miners pending the resumption of steady employment. The members of the miners' committee are Martin Powers, John Novario and August Perrin.

LAWYERS TO PROTECT ILLINOIS MINERS ASKED AT CAPITOL

Means to Fight Fires and Save Life Provided in Bill

Springfield, Ill., Dec. 16.—Numerous attempts are now being made with the opening of the state legislature to remedy some of the murderous conditions in the mines of the state, because of the killing of the breadwinners in the homes of Cherry miners. The bill is also being introduced providing appropriations for the relief of the suffering families.

Rep. B. M. Chipfield of Canton has come to the front with what he calls the "most drastic and far reaching draft of an act touching the coal mining industry that has ever gone into the Illinois legislature." The bill is not an administration measure, and is

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Stedman Brands Head of Red Cross Society as Contemptible

GIVES LIE TO CHARGES

Attack Laid to Desire to Cover Neglect of Starving Families

Ernest P. Bicknell's brutal slur on the morals of the widows of the Cherry miners is being bitterly resented. "It is simply outrageous for any man to come out with a statement reflecting on the morality of the miners of Cherry and their families," declared Attorney Seymour Stedman, counsel for the United Mine Workers of Illinois in their fight for justice, when told of the statement of Ernest P. Bicknell, national director of the Red Cross, who said immorality is rampant among the people at Cherry.

"Any man seeking to reflect on the morality of the miners is contemptible; that is all I can say," said Mr. Stedman. "Mr. Bicknell was sent to Cherry to relieve the suffering there and not to act as a reformer. The miners and their families do not need reforming; they need assistance."

"Mr. Bicknell had better take some matters into consideration before he goes on a moral campaign. The spectacle of 400 homes built up on the open prairie surrounded by no trees nor gardens is not an inspiring sight to anyone."

Mr. Bicknell is quoted as saying that a dangerous reaction appears to have begun and that evidences of moral delinquency among the people of Cherry is increasing daily.

Bicknell in Disgraceful Tirade

"I deeply regret that this moral phase of the trouble has become so ugly as my information would seem to indicate," he is quoted as saying, indicating that he has no first hand knowledge in the matter. "The conditions must be faced and checked," he continues, "and I do not know who could better handle the matter than the trained missionaries of the churches," seemingly forgetting to state that these same missionaries have been very negligent up to date.

In the meantime the local union of the miners is passing resolutions calling on Bicknell to do his duty in providing relief for the toilers, many of whom are compelled to leave Cherry in order to find a place to earn a livelihood.

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U. S. LOOTED OF \$20,000,000 BY ITS OFFICIALS

President Now Has Evidence That Politicians Were Behind Big Sugar Trust Steals

Washington, Dec. 16.—That the government has been defrauded of more than \$20,000,000 by false weighing at the New York custom house is evident from the facts in the possession of officials working on the case.

Their investigation also shows that the graft extended not only to the sugar trust, but to other organizations, which have to pay duties in accordance with weight.

All evidence points to men in the treasury department itself as guilty of the frauds. Reports of the graft made to that department have been pigeon-holed.

The most flagrantly ignored reports were those of James S. Clarkson. Mr. Clarkson has been surveyor of the port of New York for eight years. He had not been in his office many months before he discovered that the government was being robbed through the weighing of sugar.

He made report after report to the treasury department and his reports were pigeon-holed or ignored. Time after time he urged an investigation with a view to exposing the frauds, but was never able to secure any action.

Blocked Officials

In written reports now on file in the treasury department and in the office of the collector of the port of New York is the record of Mr. Clarkson's endeavors to protect the government, all of which came to naught. In every instance it appeared there was some one "higher-up" who had the power to nullify his efforts. This appalling record has been placed before President Taft, and it was upon this showing of the surveyor's diligence and devotion to duty that the decision was reached, not only to retain Mr. Clarkson, but to make a public official statement in his honor.

Up to MacVeagh

President Taft and Secretary MacVeagh now know that Surveyor Clarkson was hampered and virtually throttled by politics in the custom house at New York and by strange and inexplicable conduct in the treasury department at Washington. He could not clean out the stables at his end because of the power of politics and the influence of powerful politicians. He could get nothing done at Washington because of the grip of the sugar trust was too strong upon the customs decision of the treasury department.

NEW LECTURE COURSE PLANNED

Lewis to Begin Series on Sociology at the Garrick Sunday

Next Sunday morning the Garrick meeting will enter upon the most ambitious project of its career. This is nothing less than the construction of a working class system of sociology. The first division of this work will consist of ten lectures, the first of which will be given Sunday morning. The subject of this first lecture will be, "The Origin of Life; the Story of Prehistory and the Relation of Biology to Sociology."

A Monument to Labor

The whole system will require twenty-five to forty lectures and it will be ready, when finally published in book form, as a monument of the labor of the members of "The Workers' University Society."

Last Sunday afternoon, at the meeting of the Cook County Delegate Committee of the Socialist party a two-hour discussion took place as to the future management of the Garrick lectures.

Change in Management

The conclusion reached by an overwhelming vote was that it would be best for all concerned that the audience should, through a committee of its own, manage the meeting. This was the unanimous wish of the Twenty-first Ward branch, which has conducted these meetings for the last three years, and it was the desire of the audience expressed by unanimous vote at a previous meeting. Thus, that the new department in management has the endorsement of the delegate body of the Socialist party of Cook county and in accordance with its action, next Sunday morning before the lecture, the audience will elect its managing committee and the title "Workers' University Society" will be proposed as the name. All who desire to be among the founders of the society should come early next Sunday. Doors open at 10:15 a. m.

Considering the exceedingly bad weather last Sunday the Kennedy-Lewis debate was a great success. The debate will be published in the next number of "The Evolutionist."

Clash at Theater: Arrest

J. G. Greer, who says he is an advertising agent for the Auditorium theater, has been arrested on complaint of James Kelly, a doorman at the Great Northern theater.

Kelly says Greer appeared at the door Tuesday night and asked for admission without a ticket. It was refused and a quarrel followed. Then Kelly called in two detectives and had Greer arrested.

UNION MEN WILL NOT JOIN THE MILITIA, SINCE STATE TROOPS ALWAYS AIM ROBBERIES

Philadelphia, Dec. 16.—That organized labor in the western district of the state is attempting to influence laboring men against joining the militia was the charge made today before the closing session of the National Guard Association of Pennsylvania by Captain Crookston, of Company A, Fourteenth Regiment.

Captain Crookston said that members of various unions who joined his company and other companies in the same regiment among them three officers of the Carpenters' union in Pittsburgh, had been threatened by their union that they either must quit the guard or give up their membership cards.

A resolution was unanimously adopted before adjournment requesting the state board of public instruction to cause the children in the public schools to rise and stand during the playing of "The Star Spangled Banner."

DIAZ MAY LOSE TAFT'S SUPPORT

Mexico Told U. S. Wants to Play Lone Hand in Nicaragua

Washington, D. C., Dec. 16.—Porfirio Diaz, president of Mexico, is reported to be mediator between the United States and Nicaragua. The high government officials of Washington nearly fell over when Special Mexican Ambassador Enrique Creel hinted at the proposition, and Diaz was nearly snubbed as a result.

The administration wants its understood that it is playing its own little capitalist game in Nicaragua and has no intention of permitting any interference by Mexico or any other nation. Ambassador Creel will be told so.

For Peace and Profit

The United States has been entirely willing to co-operate with Mexico for the maintenance of peace and profit in Central America. It has consulted the Mexican authorities upon every development and even has gone so far as to advise them of the action it contemplated. But in case of such a situation as has developed in Nicaragua that is regarded here as a matter of concern solely to the United States.

The main interest of Mexico lies in Guatemala, where she has 30,000 citizens. She apparently is afraid if the United States deposes Zelaya and intervenes to the extent of providing Nicaragua with a good government it will pursue the same policy with respect to President Cabrera and Guatemala.

Battleship Is Ready

Newport News, Va., Dec. 16.—Just before the Atlantic fleet sailed from Old Point Comfort to the southern drill grounds it was stated that the battleship Missouri had been ordered held in readiness to proceed to Central America at a moment's notice. It is said that the ship has been coalled and provisioned in preparation for a voyage south under hurry-orders.

WILL ASK COURT TO ANNUL COUNSELMAN DIVORCE DECREE

Definite and decided action looking toward the vacation of the decree of divorce by which Willis Counselman, wealthy broker, clubman and society favorite, secured his freedom from Lulu M. Counselman, his insane wife, is expected in the Superior court before Judge Chetlain.

This action will follow close upon the heels of a searching report made to Judge Chetlain by a special committee of the Chicago Bar association, appointed to make a thorough investigation into all the facts surrounding the Counselman divorce case and also into the broker's subsequent marriage to Miss Clara French, an Englewood society leader.

WAR ON STEEL WEAKENS STOCKS

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of the United States Steel Corporation.

To Enlist State Aid

"We therefore recommend that committees be appointed by this conference to wait upon the governors of states and such other official representatives of counties and municipalities as are in control where the United States Steel Corporation has plants," stated, for the purpose of presenting to these officials the great wrongs inflicted upon the people of these communities, and that the committees demand an investigation of the complaints made and, where charges are substantiated by evidence, the officers responsible therefor be removed and the wrongs righted. Respectfully,

"JAMES O'CONNELL,
"T. L. LEWIS,
"W. D. MAHON,
"GEORGE W. PERKINS,
"J. W. HAYS,
"FRANK M. RYAN,
"T. HEALY,
"SAMUEL GOMPERS,
"F. J. MARDLE,
"CHARLES E. LAWYER,
"Committee."

The conference which called the labor leaders together at Pittsburgh was made possible through a resolution adopted at the Toronto-Canadian labor conference, held in November, when the convention decided by resolution to meet in Pittsburgh and reach a determined stand against the labor attitude of the United States Steel Corporation.

Steel common dropped 1 point at the opening today on sales of 5,000 shares, prompted by the report that a labor war had been declared against the corporation. The stock, however, rallied in response to supporting orders.

UNIONS YIELD PARTY RECRUITS

National Committee Hears of Success in Propaganda Work From Organizers

The National Executive committee of the Socialist party held a session of three days beginning on Saturday, Dec. 11. The larger portion of the session was taken up with the mass of routine matters in the various states that had arisen since the last meeting.

The report of Dan A. White and John Collins of their work as special organizers among the trade unionists, and the discussion and action on that report was by far the most important work. White had been working among the molders, of which he is a member, and Collins had devoted his time to the machinists, the trade at which he has worked for many years. Both organizers reported a most enthusiastic reception by the union men and a large number of letters were read from non-Socialist members of the unions expressing their interest in the meetings and asking for return engagements.

The method under which they had conducted their work was to ask for time at the regular union meetings in the various cities, instead of holding the gatherings directly under Socialist auspices.

Union Men as Organizers

The executive committee was unanimous in the opinion that this work should be extended and that in the future organizers should, as far as possible, be selected from the ranks of the union men, and should devote a portion of their time in direct work among the members of their craft. Since the union meetings are held on stated evenings it is impossible to route a speaker among the unions alone.

Neither, it was thought, would such a plan be desirable. There is as much need as ever of other methods of propaganda, and therefore, it was decided that while these organizers will be chosen with reference to their special fitness to reach organized workers, they will devote a portion of each week to the sort of work heretofore done by national organizers.

Sale of Literature

In all this work especial attention is to be paid to the systematic sale and distribution of literature. The names of those interested are to be gathered and they are then to be communicated with by mail and the names furnished to the local Socialist organization for further work.

Various internal disputes in different states were appealed to the committee but it was decided that the national organization had no jurisdiction in any of these cases.

PLAN TO LYNCH 6 IN ARKANSAS

Oseola, Ark., Dec. 16.—The county jail at this place has been converted into a fort, with the sheriff and an extra force of deputies on guard, in an effort to repulse an attack by a mob coming from Shawnee to lynch the six negroes held on a charge of robbing and torturing Mrs. Cummings and other white women of that community.

The lynching party was organized by Seth Cummings, a relative of the tortured woman, who left Memphis at night after purchasing 100 feet of hemp rope and was joined across the Mississippi river at a point opposite Memphis by his followers. They are expected to reach here some time today. Oseola is 100 miles north of Memphis.

PASTOR JOINS CHRISTIAN SOCIALIST FELLOWSHIP

Socialism in the book of Genesis was pointed out by Rev. Edward Ellis Carr at the last meeting of the Christian Socialist Fellowship in the Masonic Temple. A large audience attended the lecture.

At the business meeting of the organization two members were voted in. One of them is a pastor in this city. The Rev. William A. Ward, the general secretary of the Christian Socialist Fellowship, will be in Chicago January 9 and 10, when he will make a series of addresses.

LAW IS TO CURB BOSSES' GREED

Victoria, B. C., Dec. 16.—Factory owners of Japan, who employ 642,000 hands of whom 322,000 are women and a big percentage children, are excited over factory laws to be advocated at this session of the diet, according to news brought here by steamer. The law will provide against employment of children under 12 years, but those above 12, now employed, will be permitted to continue. Workers under 16 and females may not be worked more than 12 hours a day and must be given two days' rest each month. In days of ten hours an hour's rest must be given.

5,000 BUILDERS ARE ON STRIKE

Philadelphia, Dec. 16.—The latest development of a strike which began on the Wanamaker building more than a month ago came when nearly 5,000 men quit work recently.

Several hundred granite workers struck at that time when it was found that material furnished by the scab team: Furniture company was being used on the new building.

WOMAN ROUTS BURGLAR, BUT HE GETS \$200 IN GEMS

Mrs. Augusta Hunter, wife of Dr. Edwin L. Hunter, 1128 East Sixty-third street, broke down the door of her home, 6900 Monroe avenue, and, arming herself with a footstool, drove away a burglar, who fled through the rear door of her apartments with jewelry valued at \$200. Several hundred dollars in money and additional jewelry were left behind by the thief in his haste to escape. Mrs. Hunter had gone across the hall to visit a friend and left the door of her apartments unlocked.

REV. WARD TO LECTURE ON "RICH MAN AND THE BEGGAR"

St. Louis, Dec. 16.—The Rev. William A. Ward, national secretary of the Christian Socialist Fellowship, will lecture on "The Rich Man and the Beggar" Thursday night. The address will be under the auspices of the St. Louis branch of the organization, and will be delivered at the First Christian church, 5126 Locust street.

NEW BALLINGER GRAFT CHARGES

Collier's Asks Taft if He Dare Continue Supporting His Minister

New York, Dec. 16.—In advance proofs from Collier's Weekly, Glavis, the special agent of the department of the interior, discharged for exposing western land and timber frauds, comes back at Secretary Ballinger of the department of the interior, giving names and dates, to show improper activity on Ballinger's part in aiding land grabbers, and asks if Taft will still support Ballinger. Far more detailed than the first attack is the second article by Glavis, United States Senator Heyburn of Idaho, whose colleague, Senator Borah, was indicted for land fraud, is dragged into the Ballinger scandal.

Hand in Hand They Proft

Of Heyburn and Ballinger, Glavis writes: "In Washington Heyburn and Ballinger appear to have acted in concert. It is unlawful for a United States senator to act as attorney for persons interested in urging claims before the departments at Washington. It was for this offense that Senator Burton of Kansas and Senator Mitchell of Oregon were tried and convicted."

"Heyburn was elected senator January 12, 1903. In Cunningham's books, under date of September, 1903, nine months after Heyburn's election as senator, there is an entry, which reads as follows: "Have agreed with W. H. Heyburn, in consideration for his services as attorney, to carry him for one claim of 150 acres in the coal, free of cost to him, and he agrees to do all our legal work in procuring titles, etc., free of expense to us."

Backed Cunningham Interests

In reply to statements made recently by President Taft regarding Mr. Ballinger's alleged connection with the coal matter, the Collier article states: "When Ballinger represented Cunningham, he represented all the Cunningham claims."

Despondency over marital unhappiness is believed by the police to have led Henry Behrens, 60 years old, 4013 West Van Buren street, a carpenter, to commit suicide in the basement of his home with carbolic acid. He was found dead today.

Man Ends Life With Acid

Barns for the mules underground must be of fireproof construction. The bill says that hay, straw and like substances, when taken below the surface, must be kept in concrete buildings. Not more than a two days' supply can be in the shed at any one time, and it cannot be lowered into the mine until all the miners have come to the top.



CHAR. E. CESSNA, President.

\$5,000 TO \$7,000 PER YEAR

Easily Earned on 10-Acre FLORIDA FARMS.

Small Cash Payment Down—Balance in Easy Monthly Installments

OPPORTUNITY OF A LIFETIME

Crops of one year will many times pay for the land—Ten acres will make you independent for life—Town lot in Santa Rosa, 50x125 ft., free with every 10-acre farm.

CONSIDER THESE FACTS CAREFULLY.

This land is located on Choctawhatchee Peninsula in Washington County, Florida, one of the very best sections of the South—only a short distance from the large city of Pensacola. The soil is a deep, black, sandy loam, which will raise enormous crops of all kinds of fruits and vegetables, corn and other field crops. You can always raise two and three crops each year on the same land. Crops never fail. There is more rainfall than we have in Illinois. You never have to irrigate.

You can raise Oranges, Grape-Fruit, Peaches, Pears, Pecans, all kinds of Berries, Irish Potatoes, Sweet Potatoes, Cabbage, Beets, Beans, Celery, Melons, Tobacco, etc., etc. These crops pay from \$200 to \$1,000 per acre each year. Good markets and high prices for all crops. An orange grove is worth from \$1,000 to \$2,500 per acre. Can you beat this opportunity?

There is plenty of work down there. Three big sawmills. Can get your lumber at wholesale prices. Enough for a good home for from \$25 to \$50. There is a great abundance of all kinds of fish, also oysters, crabs and wild game. Your living costs you practically nothing.

Florida is the healthiest state in the United States. No fevers, mosquitoes, flies, bugs, snakes or alligators. Grass on this land is now almost knee high. The finest climate known. Frost-bites and sunstrokes are unknown.

If you are interested in any land proposition, by all means get our literature at once and investigate this land; then draw your own conclusions. You will regret it if you don't. Land is selling rapidly. Write us today or mail the coupon. Remember, every acre of this land is guaranteed, every promise will be fulfilled to the letter and every statement made is absolutely true.

OUR IRON-CLAD, MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE

I, CHAS. E. CESSNA, President of the Santa Rosa Plantation Co., promise and agree to return to any purchaser all money paid in to our Company for land purchased by him, if said purchaser finds within ninety days after purchasing same that said land is not exactly as represented by me or the Santa Rosa Plantation Co.

I now have on deposit with the Metropolitan Trust & Savings Bank of Chicago money to cover all refunds on this land.

SANTA ROSA PLANTATION COMPANY

MAIL THIS FREE COUPON TODAY

SANTA ROSA PLANTATION CO., P. O. 1-1, 411 Northwestern Bldg., Cor. Lake St. and Fifth Ave., Chicago.

Gentlemen—Kindly mail me, free of all cost, your literature about your Florida Land and a Liberal Sample of the Soil.

Name _____

Street No. or R. F. D. No. _____

City _____ State _____

OIL TRUST SPY HAS GONE MAD

Intriguer for Rockefeller, Whose Work Killed Competition, Held Hopeless

New York, Dec. 16.—While John D. Rockefeller is teaching his bible class and telling the world "how blessed a thing it is to struggle," H. G. Westcott, formerly a brilliant lieutenant of the great financial pirate, raves in an asylum. Westcott was president of the Standard Oil company of Kentucky and formed a wonderful bureau of spies so that he could destroy the competitors of the Standard Oil company.

He formed dummy companies and engaged in a maze of intrigue to the profit of John D. and others.

Secrets Forced by Kellogg

When the Standard Oil company investigation was being held in this city and dates, to show improper activity on Westcott's part in aiding land grabbers, and asks if Taft will still support Ballinger. Far more detailed than the first attack is the second article by Glavis, United States Senator Heyburn of Idaho, whose colleague, Senator Borah, was indicted for land fraud, is dragged into the Ballinger scandal.

Declared Insane

Some weeks ago Westcott's sister, Mrs. Caroline S. Neergard, who lives with another sister, Mrs. Susan C. Hope, at Bordeaux, France, petitioned to have Westcott declared insane. His estate is not large, but the influence of John D. Rockefeller, it is said, has convinced Westcott's salary regardless of his incapacity for service.

Today the story was told in brief outline before Frederick E. Weeks, as commissioner in lunacy, at White Plains. Robert H. McNall, a friend and a Standard Oil employee, sketched the man's career, and Mrs. William H. Hubbard and Samuel B. Lyon testified how Westcott's outlook for a return of sanity. The order for Westcott's permanent commitment will be made in a day or two.

Laws to Save MINERS' LIVES

(Continued From Page One)

admitted by Mr. Chipfield to be a "disturber."

The bill provides that there shall be two fire plugs within 200 yards of the main hoisting shaft of every coal mine in the state, to which shall be connected 200 yards of two and one-half inch hose. The fire fighting system must be hooked up with the engine at the top and the engine at the bottom and also with a reservoir always filled with water.

To Make Mule Barns Fireproof

Barns for the mules underground must be of fireproof construction. The bill says that hay, straw and like substances, when taken below the surface, must be kept in concrete buildings. Not more than a two days' supply can be in the shed at any one time, and it cannot be lowered into the mine until all the miners have come to the top.

Finger Print Trap Man

New York, Dec. 16.—The imprint of a burglar's hand on a greasy cloth in the kitchen of a downtown apartment led to the arrest of a man whom the police charge with the robbery.

Worcester, Mass., Dec. 16.—Worcester, the largest "no-license" city in the world, has lost her title as such and joined the wet, or license, column by a majority of 2,740, against the no-license majority last year of 206.

It is evident that spellbinders for and against license had nothing to do with the majority, and it seems that the people of Worcester have thought the problem out for themselves and regarded the dive as something that was worse than the open saloon.

Mayor James Logan, in a statement issued, says he regretted to see Worcester turn back to the saloons, but he promises that the license law will be enforced to the very letter and a wholesaler will be a wholesaler and a retailer a retailer.

Biggest "DRY" CITY GOES "WET"

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DECLARES TRUST BUSTING FUTILE

Judge Grosscup Says Law Could as Easily Destroy Solar System

Pursuing the doctrine set forth in his magazine article of recent issue, Federal Judge Peter S. Grosscup at the annual dinner of the Illinois Manufacturers' association at the Congress Hotel, ridiculed attempts to "bust the trust," and predicted federal ownership of railroads.

Concentration of industry, the jurist declared, is a natural economic development. Endeavors to prevent combinations he finds as absurd as efforts to legislate against the movements of the solar system.

The jurist declared that great combinations must be curbed by some government limitations, but he sharply criticized the present laws to that end.

To Guarantee Railroads
Discussing railroads he unfolded a scheme by which the railroads would be guaranteed a fixed dividend, but outlined a plan to turn over into the government treasury excesses of profits.

His system of reform also includes a pension fund and a profit sharing plan for employees.

The Socialist doctrine unfolded in Judge Grosscup's address brought forth hearty applause from the 500 auditors, which included high railroad officials and influential men from other corporations.

Laughs at Anti-Trust Laws
"A combination shorn of its evils," said Grosscup, "is simply the gathering together of that strength of men in union that they may do more effectively by united strength what they cannot do so well separately and apart."

"It cuts out waste, it cuts down expenses, it is the law of economics, and we might as well pass statutes against it, hoping that no way would be found to evade those statutes, as we might pass statutes against the solar system, for after all men are the creatures of nature. Nature makes law, and the first law, the fundamental law, is the law of nature."

"We build up government as the association of mankind only to re-enforce the laws of nature, and not from the days of Adam to this night has any law that man has ever made repealed a law of nature or a law of fate."

TEN ARE KILLED
IN TRAIN WRECK
Heldville, N. C., Dec. 16.—Ten men were killed when four rear cars of train No. 11 of the Southern Railway were dashed down a fifty-foot embankment from Reedy Fort trestle, ten miles north of Greensboro, today. Thirty-five other passengers were injured.

The cars that left the track landed in the small creek that flowed beneath the trestle. The wreckage of the train was scattered all over the scene of death.

The names of those reported killed are John A. Broadax of Greensboro, N. C.; V. E. Halcomb, a lawyer of Mount Airy, N. C.; Edward Sexton of Denton, N. C.; Frank W. Kilby, formerly of Portsmouth, Va., whose present address is not known; A. P. Conner, superintendent of the Richmond division of the Southern Railway; and a flagman whose name has not been ascertained. The names of the other two reported killed are unknown.

George Gould, the New York millionaire, and his son, were passengers in one of the sleeping cars, bound from Norfolk to Thomasville, Ga. Neither Mr. Gould nor his son was injured.

The wrecked train was operated locally between Richmond and Atlanta, Ga., and carried passengers from Richmond to Charlotte and from Norfolk to Charlotte.

Omaha, Neb., Dec. 16.—Thirteen persons were injured when train No. 7, from Chicago, on the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railway, was derailed two miles east of Bayard, Ia., early today. The engine, tender and all coaches, including baggage and mail cars, two day coaches and two sleepers, left the track.

GIRL HELD AS
WHITE SLAVE
Katherine M. Haight, school girl who has been missing from home since Dec. 1, has been sent to St. Louis by the organization of panders, according to the latest belief of Detective Sergeant Thomas Stapleton, in charge of the search for her. Nevertheless, to meet every possibility, other detectives are completing an investigation of all the nickel theaters and theatrical booking offices in the city in the belief that she may have sought to earn a living through her musical ability.

Detective Sergeant Charles O'Donnell is investigating the theaters and Sergeants Trautman and Sharpe are at work on the booking offices.

Employment agencies are also under observation, for it is thought that the girl may have sought a situation as a servant.

Rumors of the recent appearance of the missing girl in different parts of the downtown district are said to be due to mistakes. The girl seen is said to be Lillie Monroe, 1549 Michigan avenue.

Miss Haight is 15 years old and the daughter of W. B. Haight, 315 North avenue, tender at the Jackson hotel, near bridge. When she disappeared it was thought that she had run away because of trouble at the Robert Walker high school, which she attended.

The Hustlers' Column

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17.

THAT TRADE UNION AND SOCIALIST SPECIAL OF Friday, Dec. 17, is going to be something unparalleled in the history of the Socialist press. It is being looked forward to by Trade Unionists and Socialists as one of the choicest weapons of propaganda and education among organized workers, and for that matter among Socialists and the working class in general.

THE ORDERS ARE ON THE GO! They are coming in from all sides. CHICAGO IS WAKING UP. In this city the 21st ward and the 12th ward have promptly each ordered 1,000 for distribution. The 2d and 4th wards have ordered 500. From outside of the city the first one to come across the line was the Finnish organization of Minneapolis, Minn., which ordered 500. Then E. James, Herrin, Ill., called for 1,000. This does not in any way represent the order coming in, but is merely an example as to how the edition was taken up immediately upon being announced.

You are familiar with what this special edition will contain. It has been stated in this column and throughout this paper before. It will consist of articles which are of paramount importance to the Socialists and trade unionists of America. There is no necessity for us to go into details. Understand that this is important. You know it and we know it. The only thing before you now is to get your order in on time. There are only a few more days left and we must get the orders at once so that we can make arrangements for filling them.

DON'T WAIT. We are not going to print any more than is necessary to fill all the orders we get in advance, so it is necessary that you let us know beforehand.

WRITE, CALL, PHONE, OR WIRE!

ORDER BLANK

Special Trade Union and Socialist Edition

PRICE 75 CENTS PER HUNDRED, \$7 PER THOUSAND

Chicago Daily Socialist, 180 Washington Street, Chicago, Ill.

Inclosed find for copies of the Special Trades Union and Socialist Edition of Dec. 17.

Name.....

Street.....

Town.....

State.....

If in Chicago give number of Ward.....

Will be delivered by wagon in Chicago if not too far out.

Reub. Turner, Chicago, pops in with another.

"This is the first three dollars I have had above living expenses for some time," writes Edgar Hallah, Danville, Ill., and he promptly sends it for sub cards.

Two complete ones are shipped over by Joe A. Gray, Montrose, Colo. S-a-h! Keep it quiet!

With colors flying, N. Gersud, Sisseton, S. D., sends in the salute and is fired as they fall into line.

Three more from Joseph Hunter, Ortonville, Minn. He also takes \$1.50 worth of sub cards. Looks as though somebody is preparing for a revolution.

Sub cards to the tune of three dollars are demanded by E. N. Moineau, Standish, Mich. We are always willing to oblige.

More must! Andrew Pearson, Lansing, Ill., takes three dollars' worth of sub cards, too.

"Chicago Daily Socialist, Chicago, Ill.: 'Dear Sirs—Inclosed please find postoffice order for one dollar for the Daily for four months. I regret that I can't get it for the twelve months, but I still live in hopes of doing better. The glass factory closed here last March, and we don't know when it will start but when it does I think they will put machines in there so you know what that means. All the fellows that were employed here last November say they will never be employed again. You know an empty stomach is a great thing to convince the mind. If the factory was running I know I could get some sub for the Daily. I will have to get along with time for awhile, anyway. 'Hoping I will get it by Thursday, and hoping you will live to see the fight over and won, I am, yours sincerely,

ARTHUR FLEMING."

Three subs, dressed up to kill, come strutting in from Panama, Pa. They are furnished by W. H. Tingle.

Four dollars and fifty cents for subscription cards is rolled in by E. Svenson, Minneapolis, Minn. Good! Try again!

"Send the Daily one year. Am lost without it—Alfred White, Gilbert, Ia."

Three dollars' worth of assorted Christmas cards are sent to J. M. Ziegler, Kewanna, Pa., on request.

Four stubborn ones are beaten into submission by M. Helenthal, Chicago, takes a look at the subscribers' fund, is well satisfied, and then proceeds to say a fond farewell to a five-dollar bill.

"Please send me one dollar's worth of that turkey, even if it is cold," writes J. T. Cannon, Sioux City, Ia. By the way, he is no fool, as far as we are able to learn.

E. M. Clover, Altoona, Minn., renews for a year. He says that he was a Republican once, but that was enough. He is not guilty any more.

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Lessons of the Swedish Strike

The great Swedish general strike is over. Technically, it was a victory for the workers. The employers were compelled to abandon the lockout against union men with which the strike started. Practically, also victory rests with the workers. While the immediate results are little more than suffering and misery and death, yet the very willingness of the workers of a whole nation to die together rather than be slaves is an asset upon which future generations of Swedish workers can draw. The employers of labor will consider for long before they precipitate another such conflict. This one great struggle will make unnecessary many minor conflicts otherwise unavoidable. A multitude of concessions can be wrung during the coming years with less sacrifice because of the terrible sacrifice of the last four months.

The right of the unions to exist, which was the cause of this strike, will never again be challenged. That right has been fought for and won. It has been taken and will be retained.

These things which have been gained by the Swedish strikers have been gained by the laborers of many other lands by slower and more laborious methods. It is doubtful if the trade unionists of Sweden occupy any peculiarly favorable position among their fellow unionists of Europe as a result of this struggle. Yet that is the question to be discussed in considering the general strike as a weapon in the class struggle—does it produce better results than other weapons?

On this point there is at least a very strong doubt. The Swedish strikers were well organized at the beginning of the conflict. Their treasuries were reasonably full. Their members were in the ordinary poverty of the workers—living from day to day.

Today their trade union treasuries are empty. They have been maintained only by the combined exertions of the organized workers of the world. Had the capitalists of Denmark and Germany precipitated a conflict while the Swedish strikers were out there would have been no hope of maintaining the original strike. The victory, which has been gained only through this universal effort, finds the workers exhausted, industry demoralized and the victorious strikers still compelled to call upon their fellow comrades throughout the world to maintain them through the winter. That appeal should be met. This strike was not from the choice of labor. It was forced by the capitalists and has been magnificently fought.

Yet the result is not one to encourage the general strike utopians. It shows that it is a dear way to purchase progress.

If the general strike fails more than half the time in such compact, well-organized countries as Belgium, Holland, Denmark and Sweden, we have a long road to travel before it is worth more than the merest academic discussion in this country.

Hands Across the Chasm

President Taft spoke in a Bowery mission the other day. He announced that one of his objects in speaking to the poor derelicts of the slums was to convince his hearers "that the so-called chasm between you and those who seem for the time being to be more fortunate is not so much of a chasm after all."

It has been a principle of the Socialist philosophy from the beginning that the slum proletariat is the tool of reaction. It is too weak, physically and mentally, too exhausted and crushed, to struggle against oppression. In every period of unrest it has been used by the ruling class as a tool with which to fight any real militant movement of labor. Taft would use it in the same way today. With Joe Cannon, he would give aid and comfort to the supporters of Tammany hall in New York, just as with Lorimer he lends aid to Roger Sullivan and the Brennans, Hinky Dinks and Bathhouse Johns of this city.

He is nearer right than might be thought when he declares that the chasm between the slum and boulevard is "not so much of a chasm after all." The criminal outcasts of the slum are always close to the predatory criminals of the boulevard. They are allies in the war against those who would throw off the exploiting class.

Folded Hands
I tell no more—my day is done:
How much I wrought I may not know:
I watch the low descending sun,
And see the night approaching, slow.
My day's work is as it must stand,
For labor's joy no more is mine;
The tools drop from my nerveless hand,
My dim eyes see no mark or line.

I little thought to leave it so—
Unfinished, to the plan untrue;
Another day I thought to know,
When I might change or start anew,
With weary hands I now must see
Another's skill my task complete:
The gift of use is gone from me—
The gift that makes all life seem sweet.

The pleasant labor of the day,
The following hours of welcome rest,
These from my life have passed away,
No longer has it aim or quest;
I sit and wait—and all the hours,
The happy past before me stands;
With dimming eyes and falling powers,
I live the life of folded hands.

—British Weekly.

Per Convenience
The depot of Meridia, Tex., is about a mile from the business part of the town. One night a sleepy, weary traveling man said to the darky who was driving him to the hotel:
"Old man, why is the name of heaven did they put this depot so far from town?"
The darky scratched his head in thought and replied:
"Waal, boss, I's forced to admit dat I hasn't give de matter s'ficient cogitation, but I s'pose dey done dat so as to have de depot as near as possible to de railroad."

How Could He Do It?
"Dear me," gasped Mrs. Hollonutt, here's a terrible item in the paper. My word, how the poor man must have suffered!"
"Well, what is it?" asked the husband.
"Why, one of those unfortunate Marathons runners over in New York swallowed a sponge!"
"What? Let me see." After carefully reading the paragraph, Mr. Hollonutt flung the paper down. "There never was a woman yet who could grasp a simple fact in print. This doesn't say the fellow swallowed a sponge."
"I know it, doesn't in those exact words," assented his wife, "but, then, how on earth could the poor man throw up the sponge if he didn't swallow it?"
—Tit-Bits.

The Similarity
"A play," remarked the theatrical manager, "is like a cigar."
"What's the answer?" inquired the innocent reporter.
"If it's good," explained the manager, "every one wants a box; and if it's bad, no amount of puffing will make it draw."—Bystander.

No Mistake About It
"Didn't some idiot propose to you before our marriage?"
"Certainly."
"Then you ought to have married him."
"That's just what I did."—Bon Vivant.

Matrimonial Fishing
"I have a small salaried clerk on the string," remarked the first girl.
"Well?"
"Shall I throw him overboard?"
"By no means," advised the second girl. "Use him for bait."

BETRAYING THEMSELVES

BY JOSEPH E. COHEN

The car men's union of Philadelphia has about finished cooking a kettle of very unsavory fish. Charged with having taken the traction company's money for trying to subvert the union into its enemy's hands, the old board of officers have been expelled and expelled from the union. Coming at the very beginning of the career of the new organization, it would seem to be particularly distressing.

But the members do not feel that way about it. They are not at all disheartened. Their attitude is of a nature to make it appear that officers may be expected to sell themselves once in a while as a matter of course.

This philosophical way of taking such incidents is quite satisfactory in view of the issues at stake.

In so far as the disloyal officers are concerned, the less attention paid them the better. It requires a man with an inordinately developed self conceit to imagine that he can improve his own chances by striking at his fellow men, his brother workers, and to treat spies and faithless members with utter contempt is to deliver a blow at the weakest part of their makeup—their vanity.

And, as a matter of fact, a spy or deserter is of practically no importance in the modern labor movement. The secrecy of trades unions is being more and more thrown to the winds. The time is not far ahead when labor organizations will say with the Socialist party: "We disdain to conceal our purposes."

There being nothing to conceal, no jury will pay the slightest heed to the trumped-up stories of Pinkertons. If indeed Pinkertons will be permitted to give evidence.

So that, aside from discrediting themselves and diminishing their chances to dispose of their labor power on even as favorable terms as their fellow workers, spies and deserters accomplish nothing.

But the union accomplishes something if it regards their actions as of no consequence. The cardinal principle upon which labor unites is that those who toil must

have faith in themselves as a class. The spirit that animates them is the knowledge that, whatever imperfections the organization may have, the rights and welfare of the masses is conserved only through organization.

Possibility for organizing the workers grows in proportion as the feeling grows that the interests of the individual are, in the long run, bound up in the interest of the mass of one's fellows. Whatever a craftsman may be capable of, however extensive his learning and genius, he has "nothing to lose and everything to gain" by devoting his learning and genius to the cause of his class.

The car men of Philadelphia are to be congratulated for having learned the lesson so soon. After suffering abuses of all kinds for years at the hands of the company, they finally banded together, and, after winning some concessions through a week's strike, prevailed upon nearly all the employees of the company to join the union. They do well now to stand firmly together.

It is to be hoped that the lesson the car men have learned will be carried home to the other workers of the great industrial city. None so well as motormen and conductors view the great panorama of the city's activities. None so well as they know at what expense of worst men, crushed women and stunted children the prosperity of the few millionaires is bought. And none have such opportunities for spreading sentiment among toilers in all parts of the city and among all crafts as do the men in charge of our transportation.

It is a hopeful sign that the car men's union can expel disloyal members without in the least taking the matter to heart. For the supreme need of the day is to instill into the ranks of labor the consciousness, not only of the power of the men and women who toil, but the consciousness also that the cause of the workers is sure to prevail and that every temporary hardship, setback and period of trial will more than be compensated for by the ultimate triumph.

THE POSITIVE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE GERMAN MOVEMENT

BY J. B. ARKEW.

What has the German Social-Democratic movement to show in positive achievements? has long been the favorite question of the average liberal minded Englishman on hearing the account of the rapid development of the Social-Democratic movement in Germany. And the practical-minded Englishman has two answers to this question ready in his mind.

One was that those poor beggars of Germans were all Social-Democrats because they had such a devil of a bad time of it—our English workers, with their political freedom, and their splendid trade unions, do not need anything of the sort.

That was a firm belief in his mind. On the other hand, there was firmly fixed in his head the idea that if only the German workers had been as sensible as their English brothers, and if instead of letting them be misled by wild theorists they had been content to co-operate with the liberal in politics—in other words, with the capitalists—they would have won quite a number of concessions, perhaps have, some years ago, had the pleasure of seeing some of their number sitting in the Prussian house of deputies, to which they have recently at last won their way.

Of late, the belief in the great superiority of English conditions has been somewhat disturbed by the Tariff Reformers, who, to serve their own ends, have been driven to belaud German conditions as almost ideal—not, indeed, thanks to the German Social-Democrats and their efforts, but thanks to the protective tariffs, which are represented as the greatest blessing to the workers, whereas the fact is carefully concealed that the German Social-Democrats representing the workers are the most bitter opponents of these tariffs and have shown conclusively how inimical they are to the interests of the workers.

I do not intend to enter into the tariff controversy here, but, undoubtedly, the tariff reformers have achieved one thing—they have destroyed the illusion in the minds of the English working man of the poor devil of a German forced to live on black bread and sausage.

That there could be people who, like the present writer, rarely eat white bread if they can get rye bread, and that they have perhaps not yet dawned in their minds, but for one thing, it is now clear to them that German labor conditions are now in many respects far better than those in England.

Take the insurance laws of Germany.

What English worker would not be pleased to have the opportunity of being sent for two or three months to one of those beautiful homes in the Black Forest or all over Germany, where I have so often had the opportunity of visiting friends?

It is true that the rule of the doctors is often enough harsh and autocratic but it is extraordinary sometimes how much even then the workers can do—in South Germany, no doubt, more than in the northern states; but, still, there is everywhere a sort of half-expressed wish on the part of the authorities in these establishments to avoid all collisions with the Social-Democrats, and that grows more and more, so that in some ways the conditions do get better even in that respect.

Not only in these homes, but it is the fact that when the worker is certified sick by the doctor he can stay at home and get an allowance from the Krankenkasse (sick fund).

That this is half paid by the workers themselves is true, but the fact that the other half is paid by the employers is itself an enormous relief to the trade union funds; quite apart from the fact that even now only a small proportion of the workers are organized in trade unions.

And that this insurance is wholly due to the Social-Democrats has been admitted by no less a person than Bismarck himself. Had there been no Social-Democrats to dish, no one would have tried to dish them.

That German wages and labor conditions have enormously improved in the last few years is a fact. And that has been largely the work of the Social-Democratic labor movement.

The Socialist movement has revolutionized the workers; it has taught them that they must win their emancipation by hard fighting, and, above all, by class solidarity. It has taught the worker not to hate his employer as a man, but to hate the system which oppresses him.

It has taught him to look on himself as a man with the rights of man—rights which, however, he must win for himself. The German worker takes a pride in being as well dressed when not at work as his employer, and if you go into a Berlin Social-Democratic meeting you will hardly think that you are among workers.

The Berlin worker, in most cases, would not dream of going to a political meeting in his work-a-day clothes. The French worker, from a feeling which is

somewhat akin, goes to a meeting in his blouse. He is proud to demonstrate the fact that he is a worker.

The Berlin worker is not ashamed to be a worker. Not only he likes to show that the proletariat has as much pride in his person as the capitalist. In themselves, bad clothes are, of course, nothing to be proud of, and other things being equal to be tidily, and above all cleanly, dressed is better than to be dressed dirtily and slovenly.

For the workers, anyway, it often marks a great stage in the growth of class consciousness when they see the necessity of claiming for themselves and their families the right to be as well dressed as any other class in the community, so that, at least, the distinction between the classes shall not at once jump to the eye.

In saying that I do not mean to say that the method of the French workers may not be the better one. I only wish to point out that there are two ways of regarding the matter, and both methods may, in fact, lead to the same end; they may both lead to an increase of class consciousness. That is, of course, the main point.

For the bourgeois who comes to Socialism there is often enough a certain pride in showing that he does not care for clothes. From his point of view, and in his conditions, the feeling is right enough, only he must not be surprised to find himself, as the present writer has often enough, the subject of some amusement—to say nothing of contempt—to his working class friends. For the worker the position is entirely reversed.

I seem, however, to have got somewhat away from my point, which was the positive achievements of the German Social-Democratic movement. Let me can sum up perhaps in one sentence what is, to my mind, the moral of what I have said.

The chief positive result of the German Social-Democratic movement is that of the German working class, plagued and bullied by all sorts of authorities, police, educational, military and ecclesiastical from the cradle to the grave, and inspired almost by nature with the greatest respect for authority, it has made a class conscious proletariat, men and women who own no respect to authority but only to themselves and their own class, and know that only their own class can and will help them. That is, perhaps, the greatest achievement of the German movement.

MUNICIPAL IMPROVEMENTS

BY F. N. MAHONY.

In Chicago we have long been accustomed to being told what a fine business administration of the postoffice the present "fine business man in the mayor's chair" gave us when he was postmaster.

Try to write a letter or card to the new postoffice in the federal building. You will find a desk about ten feet long with scratchy pens, overused blotting paper and somebody at your elbow ready to grab the pen the moment you let go. A ten foot desk to accommodate the people of the second city of the nation!

Would it be rank Socialism to provide a room with seats and desks and a few usable pens for the benefit of the public?

The "business administrator" was too busy pulling his political wires to provide any thing better than a high desk in the corridor ten feet long. A few days ago I saw a diminutive woman trying to address an envelope while she held a child in one arm. Such small details as these, Oh great Business Administrator, were not worthy of thy notice!

There is but one country where Permanent Municipal Polling Places are maintained, and those places are places of art and beauty, not like here where the barbershop is rented for a day.

There is but one country where the girls and boys are told to look forward to the greatest day of their lives, when they shall attain their majority and on the day of election go to their respective permanent municipal polling places of art and beauty to exercise the privilege given them at the price of the blood and tears of all humanity which preceded them.

But one country where the ballot box is an altar in a polling place of art and beauty and the voters devoutly and reverently remember the price in the blood and tears of all humanity which preceded them and the aspirations of the people who shall follow them.

There is but one country where the industrial forces of society are so organized that the problems of food, clothing, shelter, and other material wants have ceased and where the struggle for material wealth and place has given place to the struggle of the people to realize its spiritual ideals.

And the present location of that country is the soul of the people and its name is Utopia.

FROM "MY TRIUMPH"

BY J. G. WHITTIER.

Let the thick curtain fall:
I better know than all
How little I have gained,
How vast the unattained.

Not by the page word-painted
Let life be banded or sainted:
Deeper than written scroll
The colors of the soul.

Sweeter than any song
My songs that found no tongue:
Nobler than any fact
My wish that failed of act.

Others shall sing the song,
Others shall right the wrong—
Finish what I begin,
And all I fall of, win.

What matter, I or they?
Mine or another's day?
So the right word be said
And life the sweeter made?

Hail to the coming singers!
Hail to the brave light-bringers!
Forward I reach and share,
All that they sing and dare.

The airs of heaven blow o'er me;
A glory shines before me
Of what mankind shall be—
Pure, generous, brave, and free.

Ring, bells in unrequited steeples,
For the joy of unborn peoples!
Sound, trumpets far off blown,
Your triumph is my own!

Parcel and part of all,
I keep the festival
Face-creach the good to be,
And share the victory.

I feel the earth move onward,
I join the great march onward
And take, by faith, while living,
My freehold of thanksgiving.

Too Expensive
(To editor of local paper)—
I want to put a notice in your newspaper of the death of my brother. What's yer price?

Editor—Ten shillings and sturgeon and huch, sir.

Farmer—Oh, I can't afford that; my brother was six feet two.—M. A. P.

Hard Rasp for Poor Man
A Missouri woman who thought the sex was slandered by Kipling's description of "A rag, a bone and a hank of hair," has declared that man is a brag, a drone and a tank of air.

THE ROYAL BEGGARS

BY ROBERT HUNTER

The Chamber of Commerce of New York recently gathered itself together at a dinner.

Elihu Root, J. Pierpont Morgan, Nicholas Murray Butler, Senator Depew and many other distinguished guests sat at the feast. German and English Ambassadors were there, together with many other gentlemen of high office.

Now, most of my simple readers will be surprised when I tell them that at that dinner there was assembled the biggest collection of beggars that ever sat down together. Yet the police did not disturb the gathering and even the agents of the Charity Organization Society made no attempt to run them in.

They were met once again to beg, this time to beg for a ship subsidy. Senator Root made a most pathetic appeal.

He said the great commercial communities of history, the Phoenicians and Athenians, Venice and Genoa, Holland, England and Germany, have sent their ships to every port. Commerce has carried their flags to every shore and has made their merchant princes known to the people of every land. And then he asked tearfully, "Is it so with us?"

He then pointed out that our merchant marine is on its uppers, that it is in a tragic state of helpless destitution. Competition has crushed it. The survival of the fittest, that inexorable law, has put it on the bum.

Morgan and all his crowd are helpless. And the Senator, with tears in his voice, pleaded for a little charity. At which his soup-house comrades applauded violently. Morgan wept with joy and even the aged Depew wiped a tear from his eye.

The fact is, Germany and England have ships of their own, doing most of the ocean carrying for the entire world. America has nothing and all the power of our merchant princes cannot create a merchant marine.

So Senator Root, standing at the head of the Chamber of Commerce, puts out his little sign to the people, "Please help the poor!"

He wants the American government to give him and his friends alms, to buy them a few ships and to set them up in business. He wants the government to do again for these same gentlemen what it has many times done before.

The government helped them to build their railroads. The government has given them immensely valuable rights and privileges. It has turned over to them the richest mines, forests and lands. It has given them grants to help them start to work and it today gives them millions to keep them from bankruptcy.

It placed a tax upon every man, woman and child in America to protect these gentlemen when they were infant industries. It brought them up on the bottle, supplied them with every attention and care and now at a time when they ought to be self-supporting they still stand begging for alms.

And it is the same old cry of all beggars. Just give us a little more and we will soon get on our feet. Give us another start, a little ship subsidy now and then we will be all right. We will stop begging and lead an honest life.

You have all heard the story, you have all seen the type, but somehow they never seem to get on.

And besides such men are always extravagant and when they have money never think of the morrow. For instance, six hundred of these royal beggars actually went to the Waldorf to eat their dinner when they might have eaten very much more reasonably on the Bowery. Indeed, they might almost have saved enough by that one economy to build a fair sized freighter.

Now, in my opinion, we ought to deal severely with these habitual rascals. They are really becoming a menace to the country, and this continual begging is most annoying.

We ought to say to these gentlemen that we do not intend to have a paternal government. We are opposed to all this Socialistic talk of dividing up our wealth. We are opposed to having the government support the people instead of the people supporting the government.

It is ruinous to the character of the people for them whenever they want anything to run to the government and ask for it.

They must learn to depend upon themselves, on their own energy. If they do not we shall be encouraging the development of the unit. Indeed our alms are pauperizing these gentlemen.

And now we say let them get out and earn their bread instead of advocating government aid whenever they fail to support themselves. Alms from the government destroy their incentive. They are becoming idle and shiftless, living riotously when they get a little ahead and begging of the government when they are in need.

I do not exactly suggest a labor colony where these men could be put to work, but something should be done by good citizens.

Ship builders? Did you ever hear of such impertinence? Why, the next thing, these men will be asking for old age pensions—the idea!



The Price We Pay

All fair minded human beings who have been watching the affair at Cherry must have trembled by this time regarding the "bunk" that has been handed out regarding this tragedy.

That the members of the St. Paul Coal Company, proprietors of the "safer mine in the state," are viewing the situation from their own economic interest, must be patent to every one, from the time the fan was reversed to the spiriting away of the chief witnesses. Here we have seen a little, simple thing (in the beginning) develop into one of the most appalling disasters in the history of mining, a situation that would have been handled fifty years ago in Britain or Germany without a man being lost. They are playing the capitalistic game in Cherry according to the rules of the game.

I happened to be among the crowd that swarmed into the unhappy camp the week following the fire, and between watching the misery of the victims (the widows and children), the actions of the experts and the inability or lack of opportunity to do anything, it was the kind of a week I fervently hope I will never experience again.

Possibly the loss of hundreds of our brothers in the ill fated St. Paul mine will result in a few mining laws for the Illinois miners. Indeed, in looking back over the annals of mining, we find that it has generally been necessary for a catastrophe or loss of life such as this for the workers to get some small degree of protection from the dangers that continually surround them.

We held a "legislative convention" in Springfield last spring during the forty-sixth general assembly, and there we saw the capitalistic game played to a finish. The only thing plainly apparent about this assembly was their determination to do nothing, and the only creditable thing they did do was when they adjourned.

We presented different bills to the senate and legislature and were granted the privilege of appearing before the committee on mines and mining. The arguments put forth by Walker and others in opposition to the arguments of the operators were having such an effect on the committee that the chairman, under the rankest kind of gavel rule, unceremoniously adjourned the meeting in obedience to the wishes of his masters, the mine owners.

Whenever the workers of Illinois become alive to their own interests they will take the creation and direction of the labor bureau, mining board and mine and factory inspectors out of politics and there will not be a mine owner acting as president of the mining board.

We know too well the position of those gentlemen (generally speaking) regarding laws that would safeguard the lives of the subterranean workers. We know what their position was during the last session of the legislature and what their position always has been, with a few, a very few, exceptions.

The mine owners and their henchmen have generally fought in obedience to the wishes of their masters, the mine owners, for economic reasons.

In 1870 the cremation and smothering of 105 of our comrades in Avondale, Pa., was the direct cause of the first laws being placed in the statute books for the protection of miners. A sacrifice of life has been responsible for nearly every protective law for miners in existence.

And now the public has an opportunity to see what the miners have known—that the St. Paul mine was not a "safe" mine and the St. Paul Coal Company was not a "good" company. I know men who will make an affidavit that they were driven out of Cherry on account of their activity in

attempting to get existing laws enforced. Is anybody interested enough to want the proof of this? We have known that prior to the disaster the St. Paul mine had a very unsavory record for killing and injuring men. We have seen that after the fire was discovered men were sent back to their places and coal was hoisted, while the wives of the miners stood at the top of the mine watching the smoke roll out. And we know that as early as Wednesday of the next week a corps of shyster lawyers were making attempts to settle with the widows. Who do you suppose was responsible for them being there?

These things only emphasize the fact that human life is the cheapest thing on the market today, that the class struggle is being shifted more and more from the industrial to the political field.

How much of this kind of compulsory education is going to be necessary to organize the workers politically?

And I wonder if the operators of the other mines in Illinois will take heed and remove the danger of the Cherry disaster being duplicated in their mines?

I sincerely hope so. That this condition exists in most coal mines is a well known fact. In most mines the mine shafts are built on a "safe" side of the main entry; in addition to this there is hardly any fire protection and the way to the escape shaft often leads directly through the mine shafts. Any operator who knows of a condition of affairs like this existing in his mine, after the terrible consequence being brought so near home, ought, in the name of justice and common decency, to eliminate them as quickly as possible, not because of laws or inspectors, but because it is a crime not to do so.

JAMES LORD.
Local Union 1213, U. M. W. of A.
Farmington, Ill.

The Harp in Ireland
We are informed that the Harp, the Journal edited by Comrade James Connolly, has been transferred to Dublin, Ireland, and will be published from there commencing January, 1910. It is hoped and believed that this change of location will be beneficial to the movement in both countries.

American comrades will learn at first hand of the revolutionary movement in Europe, and Irish comrades will be kept in touch with Socialist development in America. The subscription price will remain at 50 cents per year. The January issue, among other things, will contain a statement of the position of the great Irish agitator, Daniel O'Connell, toward the labor movement in Ireland—a statement of facts suppressed for 30 years by the middle class historians of Ireland. Every one should read it.

Comrade James Connolly has undertaken the entire responsibility for the production of the Harp and he asks us to appeal to all friends and comrades for help in bearing the financial end of the burden. Letters should be addressed and money orders made payable to Nora Connolly, 436 East One Hundred and Fifty-fifth street, New York.

All Socialist papers please copy.

Footnote to History
Marc Antony turned impatiently to the energetic young man who had touched his elbow.

"Mr. Antony," said the young man, "can you tell me how much money Caesar left his family?"

"I cannot," said Marc abruptly. "I came to bury Caesar, not to appraise him!"

And the reporter, who was not very accurate, went away and misquoted Paul Dispatch.