

TERRORIST ACTS USED TO FOUL DIAZ' ELECTION

Opponents of Bloody Mexican Are Being Imprisoned, Disgraced and Exiled

BALLOT TO BE IGNORED

Faltering Tyrant Will Choose an Aid Whose Brutality Matches His Own

"It seems to be evident from an examination of many Mexican newspapers and from private letters received that at this moment no important opponent of Diaz or his candidates is safe from annoyance or persecution. Some of them have been driven out of Mexico; some have been imprisoned; others have been stripped of power and influence by various devices. The movement toward free nominations and elections has aroused the government to severely suppressive measures."

This is the manner in which the American Magazine begins its arraignment of the political tactics of President Porfirio Diaz of Mexico, who again declares to be the chief executive of that unhappy land.

"And, moreover, the Mexican government is now trying to extend its terrorizing hand across the border into the United States."

"From one of the chief cities of Yucatan comes this letter, under date of October 14, 1909:

"If you want to verify every word that you published in regard to the political conditions of Mexico, send a representative to Yucatan and you will easily do so. Elections for state authorities are coming on the 7th of next month, and there is a great agitation in the country at present for that reason."

"There are about five hundred political prisoners in the penitentiary now simply because they oppose the election of the present administration. Papers have been suppressed and printing offices raided and a lot of other things worth seeing and commenting on."

Guns to Silence Voters

"Talk about free ballot, political freedom, free press, freedom of speech and such! Come and see hundreds of armed men trying to force the people into silence. Come and see the independent candidate for governor pursued like a wild beast for daring to buck against the official candidate. And a lot of other things worth seeing to let the world know how democracy is practiced in Mexico."

"This letter from Yucatan gives a glimpse of the extraordinary conditions of politics in that state. The people wanted to place in nomination a candidate in opposition to the present temporary occupant of the office, Aristegui. A delegation visited Diaz two months ago and asked to be allowed to nominate a man."

Nomination Prohibited

"After much urgency the president would give no direct answer, but said: 'I think Aristegui has done pretty well and I see no reason for change.' In spite of the sinister suggestion in these words, on returning home they made plans for nominating Dello Moreno Canton, a nephew of a former governor, General Canton, a great planter of independent means and temper."

"Then the trouble began. An order was issued for the arrest of Carlos Menendez, editor of La Revista de Merida, the oldest paper in the state and an advocate of the nomination of Moreno Canton, but he escaped and remained hidden during the campaign. Finally the prospective candidate was pursued and compelled to run away from the state. Political clubs favoring him were broken up."

"Some of his principal adherents were compelled to leave the state. And at the time of the election, November 7th, all opposition had been practically dispelled; for the strongest opposition workers were in jail or in temporary exile."

Diaz Tramples Republicanism

"Imagine the president of the United States—Taft or Roosevelt—interfering in this drastic manner with the freedom of election in Illinois or Oregon. Yet Mexico is called a republic and its constitution is modeled upon ours."

POLITICS TIES UP POSTOFFICE

Tons of Mail, Including 1,500,000 Postal Cards, Remain Undelivered

The post office is completely swamped on account of an insufficient force. Tons of mail in the office remain undelivered and there are over 1,500,000 picture postcards alone undistributed.

Political grudges among the men higher up, as pointed out by the Chicago Daily Socialist on Thursday, are responsible for the demoralization of the postoffice. Appropriations made by the government for the badly needed additional clerks are withheld to embarrass Postmaster Campbell.

The clerks are working day and night. It will take days before they will be able to clear away the overflow. At the central postoffice there still remain hundreds of tons of Christmas presents and mail intended for delivery on that day. Carriers in most stations worked eight hours yesterday. Although they made but one delivery on Christmas day, they worked the full day because of the lack of men to take care of the business.

No Extra Holiday Help

All big houses down town had extra help for the holidays. The postoffice department, one of the biggest activities in the city, had to carry on its work with the usual force of men. No appeal could be had to congress for extra men, as the rules of the department forbid it, and the men have been threatened with dismissal if they asked a raise in wages.

Carriers who were overburdened in their delivery yesterday, had to pay out of their own pockets for boys to assist them in delivering the heavy mail.

RAILWAY BOSSES FLEECE TOILERS

Men Who Worked All Summer Forced to Walk Back to City

Springfield, Ill., Dec. 28.—Through the criminal greed of boarding camp bosses, acting in seeming collusion with the Chicago & Alton Railroad company, 150 men just discharged from the grading and track elevation gangs had barely any money coming to them and those who were not given free transportation by the road, which yielded under pressure, were forced to walk through the snow to St. Louis or Chicago, whence the men came.

One hundred and fifty men were laid off when the snow made further work impossible, and they were kept several days waiting for their pay. When the road finally paid up it was found that the boarding "bosses," who ran the camps at which the men stayed, had charged such high rates for board that the men had scarcely any money coming to them.

Negroes Given Preference

A gang of colored men and Italians, who were the more easily exploited, were sent to another job and given transportation. Some native born Americans, who had protested against conditions, were left stranded. There were about seventy of them. A dozen or so slept in the depot and more sought refuge from the cold in the jail. A man named Cruger, an assistant superintendent of the railroad, had charge of the men while in camp. Finally pressure was brought to bear on the railroad and some of the stranded men were given transportation to Chicago and St. Louis, where they will arrive worn out from hard work and without funds after a summer of hard toil.

FLAMES ROUT TWO FAMILIES

Two families were driven in scant attire to the street, narrowly escaping death, and property was damaged to the extent of \$500 when a two-story flat building at 1630 Rascher avenue was attacked by fire. The families driven out were those of John Trow and Henry Soegren. The fire is said to have been caused by the dropping of a lighted match in a clothes closet in the Trow flat.

WAGE CONFERENCES IN CITY AFFECT 42 WESTERN RAILS

Workers on forty-two western railroads are affected by the series of meetings between managers and representatives of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Engineers which opened today at the Railway Exchange building. The firemen have presented demands for a wage advance of from 15 to 40 per cent.

Local managers and officials of the Switchmen's union, whose fellow workers are still on strike in St. Paul, and other northwestern cities, met again today in their effort to arrange their wage dispute satisfactorily. Little fear is apprehended of a spread of the strike to the Chicago switchyards.

ALL CHICAGO SURFACE AND 'L' ROADSTO MERGE

Consolidation of the South Side Street Lines Is the First Step

WILL WATER ALL STOCK

Present Plans Provide for Taking Over Elevated Roads, Says Cobe

"The Chicago City and Connecting Railway Company has been so formed that it can take in all traction lines in Chicago, both surface and elevated. It is so made that the elevated roads can come in separately, and so we can overcome the trouble which we had when we tried to unite the elevated roads in the Central Terminal Company. The capitalization of the Chicago City and Connecting Railways Company will be announced in two or three days."—Ira M. Cobe.

The first successful step in forming the great \$400,000,000 public utilities trust in Chicago has been taken through the creation of the Chicago and Connecting Railways Company, a holding corporation, which now has control of the Chicago City Railway company, the Calumet and South Chicago Railway company, the Southern Street Railway company and the Hammond, East Chicago and Whiting Railway company, involving over \$70,000,000.

The men who engineered the move are Ira M. Cobe, financier and president of the Assets Realization company; Emil K. Bolser, an official of the First Trust and Savings Bank; James B. Forgan, president of the First National Bank; John J. Mitchell, president of the Illinois Trust and Savings Bank; Samuel Insull, president of the Commonwealth-Edison company; Edward Morris, president of Morris and company; packers; John A. Spoor, president of the Union Stockyard and Transit company; and Thomas E. Mitten, president of the Chicago City Railway company.

Traction and Light Trust

The stock and bonds of the companies named will be placed in the hands of those men and stock and bonds in the new company issued in their place. What the capitalization of the new company will be has not been announced. It is a step, however, in the direction of a traction and lighting trust to be operated in Chicago. The negotiations for merging the elevated railroads into a leasing company, called the Central Terminal company, which was to lease the lines of the South Side Elevated railroad, the Metropolitan Elevated railroad, the Northwestern Elevated railroad and the Chicago and Oak Park Elevated, negotiations which failed some time ago, will be resumed. Emil K. Bolser, Samuel Insull and Ira M. Cobe were the men who engineered the elevated deal.

After the L Roads

The form which the new Chicago City and Connecting Railways company has taken leads many to believe that it is the company which will reach out after the elevated railroads, in a short time, and have them vote in their stocks and bonds and become a branch of the traction trust. Before this step is taken, however, there will undoubtedly be a merger of the Chicago Railways company with the new Chicago City and Connecting Railways company. For a long time the Morgan interests are said to have relinquished control of the new company, but which did control the Chicago City Railway company tried to force a consolidation, without success. The form of the new company is such that there is little doubt of an ultimate consolidation of the entire surface action of Chicago into the Chicago City and Connecting Railways company and the absorption of the elevated railroads. The public utilities trust, in which the Commonwealth-Edison company will supply the power, will tackle the \$50,000,000 subway proposition, which has long agitated Chicago.

Morgan Said to Be Out

The Chicago City Railway was under the domination of J. Pierpont Morgan, head of the banking firm of Morgan and company, New York, and after the passage of the traction ordinance when the company raised additional money for rehabilitation, Morgan extended his control. The bonds for the improvement of the Chicago Railways company, the product of the old Yerkes properties, were handled through the National City Bank of New York, the Standard Oil institution. It is said that Morgan has relinquished his control of the Chicago Railways company in the new merger agreement. While such a statement is made in Cobe's official report of the transactions it seems hardly probable.

All the operating power used by the Chicago City Railway company is purchased from the Commonwealth-Edison company. The City Railway company's sole possession in the shape of a power plant is the one which operates the company machine shops at Seventy-seventh street and Vincennes road. The Commonwealth-Edison will furnish the power for the new traction trust. Of itself the Commonwealth-Edison is part of a lighting and power trust comprising the Economy Light and Power

MILLIONS FOR KILLING PENS

Steel Trust Will Expend \$100,000,000 for Plant at Gary, Ind.

New slaughter houses, \$100,000,000 worth of them, is the Christmas present which the loving United States Steel Corporation will give to Gary, Ind., and South Chicago, according to present plans. The undertaking business in the two towns will boom and enterprising business men are seizing the opportunity.

E. J. Buffington, president of the Illinois Steel company, last night confirmed the rumors.

To Increase South Chicago Plant

"Formal announcement of the estimates for the construction of new plants and of the enlarging of existing facilities will be made in due time from the main offices of the United States Steel corporation," said Mr. Buffington.

"I may say, however, that the Illinois Steel company has made preparations for greatly increasing the South Chicago plant. Just to what extent I am unable to say at this time. The extension

mean the employment of possibly 5,000 additional men during the coming year."

The Illinois Steel company looked the city of Chicago out of several thousand acres of land which were afterwards given to the corporation at a nominal price by the state legislature. This land will be added to and improved with a portion of the new plant.

DEBATERS FINED TO AID DAILY

One of the enjoyable events of the holidays was the social gathering of the Bakers' Socialist club on Christmas night at the home of F. W. Wicker, 2915 North Mozart street. The members belong to Bakers' Union, Local No. 2, including the membership of the Bakers' Socialist Sangerbund.

Part of the evening was given up to a spirited, three-sided debate among members representing the Socialist, Democratic, and Republican parties. Among those taking part in the debate were Charles Gray, F. W. Wicker, A. Hildebrand and D. Bruno. Any interruptions during the debate were punished with a five cent fine. No one seemed to mind losing the five cents and as a result the speakers suffered frequent interruptions. By common consent the fines were contributed to the Daily Socialist.

Search for Murderer of a Boy

Pittsburg, Pa., Dec. 28.—Nearly the entire detective force of Pittsburg is seeking a solution today of the death of James Lawrence Friel, a 14-year-old boy, whose body was found yesterday in an abandoned house on the north side frozen and with the throat lacerated with a knife.

Business Colleges in Convent

Louisville, Ky., Dec. 28.—Five hundred delegates from business colleges and commercial departments of universities met here today to standardize entrance and graduation requirements.

ZELAYA'S FLIGHT SHOWS TRUSTS' VAST SCHEMES

Dictator of Nicaragua, Who Killed Americans, Escapes in Mexican Gunboat

U. S. WARSHIPS INACTIVE

Agent of Mine and Timber Combine Visits Washington to Aid Madrid

Washington, Dec. 28.—Capitalism is just now making all the moves in the political life of the official puppets of the United States, Mexico and Nicaragua, with the first of these being the

champion "Punch and Judy" combination of the lot.

The moneyed interests did not want Jose Santos Zelaya as president of Nicaragua, hence his downfall was brought about through the efforts of the United States. They wanted to get him out of the country entirely and Mexico became immediately subservient.

Mexico Aids Zelaya

With the aid of Mexico and with absolutely no opposition from the United States, former President Zelaya has been transplanted from his native country, with the aid of the Mexican gunboat Guerrero, to Salina Cruz, in the dominions of Cesar Diaz, servant of money and political tyrant. It is said that Zelaya is on his way to Europe or Asia to enjoy the money he has wrested from the suffering people of the Central American republic.

The question now arises as to whether the United States or Mexico has gained the greatest political prestige in the handling of the Nicaraguan affair. In the eyes of Latin America the United States has been compelled to back down, while Mexico has gained the doubtful advantage of leadership for the dictators of governments of Central America. It is now shown that the threats which the United States made against Zelaya were fakes.

The Trusts Well Served

But the trusts are international, and if Mexico can serve their purpose better than the United States can, there is no reason to believe that any patriotism will rise as an obstacle to their purposes. An agent of one of the biggest concessions made by President Zelaya to an American syndicate is now in Washington watching the attitude of this government toward the new Madrid government. The concessions referred to live in Pittsburg, and the commission is known as the Deltrich concession, which embraces nearly all of northeast Nicaragua for timber and mineral lands.

The efforts of American interests in Nicaragua will now be directed toward assuaging any ill feeling among the legislators at Washington regarding the killing of the two Americans by Zelaya, and getting the United States authorities accustomed to the Madrid rule.

BOSSES PROFIT; TOILERS FREEZE

Teamsters Receive No Portion of Bonus Paid to Employers

Team owners of Chicago are reaping a harvest as a result of the heavy snowfall. At the same time, however, the teamsters are still struggling along without any increase in wages, earning the extra bonus for those who hire them.

The heavy streets rob a team of two-thirds of its efficiency. The loads must be smaller and the progress is slower. Furthermore, the number of teams available has been reduced by the heavy drafts made by the street cleaning department. Among others the coal companies have found themselves deprived of a material portion of the equipment they need.

As an inducement to team owners the City Fuel company has been advertising for horses and wagons to help it out during the period of stress. For a man and a single wagon the company offers \$5 a day; for a man and double team, \$7; and for a man

and three horse team, \$10. These figures are considerably above former prices paid for such work.

Team Owners Reap Harvest

The increase, however, goes to the horse and wagon, which means to the man who owns them, while the teamster goes on earning his \$2.25, \$2.75 and \$3.25 a day just as if nothing had happened to increase the bulge on his employer's pocketbook.

Woman Gets Jail Sentence

Judge Mann ruled this a disorderly act and sentenced her to thirty days, a \$100 fine and costs. Similar in action, but far less praiseworthy in intent, are the demonstrations of the football teams of competing schools in Spokane just preceding and following a big game. We have yet to hear of their arrest and conviction for disorderly conduct.

Six police officers testified against her, stating that she acted as if she were drunk, that she had been disorderly on the streets ever since this trouble started, and one stated "she acted like a lewd woman," this because she has been consistently, along with her fellow workers, defending free speech.

The ordinance now in vogue prohibits free speech, not only for the I. W. W. but all bodies, including religious organizations, yet none of the Salvation army ladies have as yet dared to carry "the battle of the Lord" into the streets of Spokane against the local authorities. About one hundred I. W.

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SOCIALIST HALL IN SPOKANE IS SHUT BY POLICE

All Meeting Places Are Barred Against Friends of Free Speech

JUDGE INSULTS A WIFE

Declares That "No Good Woman Would Frequent" the I. W. W. Quarters

(SPECIAL TO THE DAILY SOCIALIST.) Spokane, Wash., Dec. 28.—Every hall and public meeting place in Spokane has been closed to the Industrial Workers of the World by the police and city officials. This is the latest extreme adopted in the fight against free speech, a free press and the right of free assembly now being made by the money powers of the Pacific northwest, with Republican officials at their tools and the toilers as their victims.

The adoption of a campaign of complete censorship of speech was made apparent several days ago, when an I. W. W. meeting was broken up by the police and all the furniture in the hall smashed. This came on top of the seizure of the latest edition of the "Industrial Worker," now being published in Seattle.

Socialist Meeting Stopped

When it became evident that the I. W. W. would not be permitted to hold meetings, the officials of the Socialist party began an attempt to secure halls for gatherings. That the city officials are planning to go to any length in their persecution is shown by the fact that the hall secured by the Socialists for their meeting last night was taken away from them. Elizabeth Gurley Flynn had been secured as the principal speaker. She was to talk on "Industrial Unionism."

In the fight that is now being waged in Spokane it is particularly encouraging to note the gauntlets spirit and activity of the women Socialists and members of the Industrial Workers of the World. One case in particular is that of Mrs. Edith Frenette, who took her stand on the street corner, made a short talk for free speech and was arrested. She was later released by Judge Mann, only to be subsequently rearrested for standing with others along the street through which a patrol wagon of I. W. W. prisoners passed and throwing sandwiches and fruit to those starving fellow workers, as well as singing to brighten their spirits.

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UNCLE SAM SHOULD TURN HIS ATTENTION TO THE BULLIES NEARER AT HAND.

OH, THE MERRY XMAS FOR "HELP" AT ANNEX

Employees Laugh at Tribune Account of "Cheer"; Disturbs Kitchen Rats

It was Christmas in the "helps" dining room" of the Auditorium Annex, the spare ribs and cabbage had just been brought in and the rats were scurrying merrily over the feet of the "guests." There were Christmas trees in the lobby with little tin horns on them for prominent visitors who might prove bashful in making themselves known. The four registers of the hotel were running full blast. Even the two which are seldom seen, and are reserved for those who do not want their presence in the hotel known, were being used. It was merry Christmas. Men in fur lined overcoats and ladies in fashionable creations of fashion filled the lobbies and entered the gorgeous dining rooms.

Fine Dinner in Newspapers

But in the helps' quarters, the work was harder and it was just at the moment when the Christmas dinner of spare ribs and cabbage was being served that copies of the Sunday Trib-

une and the Sunday Record Herald made their appearance with lurid accounts of the sumptuous fare which was the lot of the "help" at the Auditorium Annex.

"Aw, h—!" was the exclamation as the help read the story of their feasting on turkey and cranberry sauce. The story told also of Christmas trees which were rigged up in the lobby for the benefit of the "help." The rats scurried faster, as the employees shuffled their feet while laughing bitterly at the stories of their joyous holiday. The shuffling of feet disturbed the rats which were knowing the fragments dropped from the tables.

In the kitchen of the Auditorium the rats ran about merrily and hunted the festive cockroach which furnished a delicacy to the rats' Christmas dinner. Still the help at the Annex fared better than they did on Friday when fish was served at the Annex and the friendly chef sent out word: "You better not eat that."

Cook's Tip Prevents Illness

He had cooked what he had been ordered to cook, but he did not want to run the risk of making some one sick with ptomaine poisoning.

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Found What He Sought

In describing the visit of Samuel Gompers to Brussels the secretary of the International Socialist bureau remarks: "He did not come, as he had announced, in order to study. He came in order to search out arguments against us. He was not interested in the good things we had accomplished. He was occupied with obtaining proofs with which to prepare anti-Socialist speeches."

It really did not need this testimony to show the purpose of Gompers' visit to Europe. His published letters bore evidence to the same effect. His connection with the Civic Federation, whose main purpose is to deceive the workingmen with regard to Socialism, would have foreshadowed such action.

Here is a strange phenomena. The highest official of the trade unions of America goes to Europe. The labor movement of which he is the head is being crushed for lack of political power. Concentrated industrial power controlling governmental machinery has defeated the organization of which he is the head when they went on strike, has refused them the legislation common in other lands, has developed the judicial branch of government until the very shadow of labor's political power is being destroyed. The highest officials of his organization, including himself, are threatened with imprisonment for what no other country claiming to be civilized stigmatizes as a crime.

All these things are behind him when Gompers starts for Europe. Put yourself in his place and ask what you would seek if you were an earnest, honest official of such a labor organization. What would be the first question you would ask? What would you ask to be shown? What would be the message you would send back?

Would you not inquire if the workers of Europe had found some way of meeting the obstacles that were hemming in the progress of your organization? Would you not eagerly inquire how the labor organizations of the countries you were visiting had dealt with the question of labor's political power?

Would not you be especially eager to seek out these things if you found that, whatever other weaknesses European unions might have, they were especially strong at just the points where the American Federation of Labor was meeting with the greatest repulses?

If you were an earnest, eager union leader, seeking for facts that taught valuable lessons for your own union, would you not quickly make note of the fact that in every European country labor was a power in legislative bodies, and that by this means it had secured labor legislation superior to that of America?

But Gompers did none of these things. He shut his eyes to all the things that would have taught him how to improve his own organization. He looked eagerly for every defect that could be used as an excuse for justifying the weaknesses of the American organizations. He snatched at every flaw in the European labor movement. He rejoiced when he found some point that showed even a fancied inferiority to the movement in the United States.

In fact he wrote as if he had been sent, not by the laborers of America to seek for information that would help to build up the organized labor movement, but by the Civic Federation, to seek how he could cast discredit upon the European movement and help to keep the bandages on the eyes of American workingmen.

It is also just a little significant that the only trade unions that stood with Gompers while he was in Europe, and the only ones for which he has had any praise since he returned were the anarchistic, general strike, "direct action" organizations of Paris.

What It Will Own

A gigantic trust of what are called with grim irony "public service" corporations has just been started in Chicago. It includes only the south side street railways at present. But it is closely affiliated with the stock yards, the Commonwealth-Edison Electric company, powerful banks and other industries that already dominate Chicago.

It is claimed, and with good reason, that this corporation is but the base upon which will be consolidated a large number of industries with a total capitalization of close to a half billion dollars. These corporations already have a close "community of interest," so that the proposed step will only give legal form and sanction to what already exists in practice.

Such a corporation would control the street cars upon the surface, the subways under the earth, the telephone wires above the ground, the power plants that supply light, heat and power to the industrial life of the city. It would own the docks and the harbor barges for transportation and would be powerful in its control over the great railroads that form the veins through which the life blood of the city's heart must throb.

Such a combination would own more than these things. It would own the jobs whereby a mighty army of men and women and children are permitted to live at the pleasure of the owners. It would control the Democratic and Republican parties and every other party save the Socialist party. It could not control the Socialist party, because it is the only party that is financed, controlled and administered by and through the working class.

Sooner or later it will come to a finish fight between these two powers. Either the workers must own this gigantic combination or it will own them.

GIFTS

BY GEORGE E. BOWEN

What shall I send you for your joy, dear comrade gone afar?
No jewel that I know compares with friendship's constant star.
How comfort much with art or style, in wintry days and drear,
The heart of you that listens long a song of love to hear.

But I have given, all unknown, in lonely toil for you
The sunny ease of Southern seas where skies are softly blue.
And still I bend beneath my task nor ask a lesser strain
If some time it shall teach your heart my sorrow and my pain.

In that dear day not wrought of tears your diadem shall be,
Nor rubies drenched with human blood the gift of proud degree.
But some must grind as others grasp while life is emptied quite,
Till human hearts thro' hunger learn its fellowship aright.

FARM ECONOMICS FAVORABLE TO CO-OPERATION

BY FRED FREEMAN

In co-operative farming location in regard to markets must be considered. As at present, opportunity to produce must be purchased, the selling price of land must be considered. But selling price of land adds nothing, in no manner affects price or value of farm products.

We maintain that without help or hindrance from combinations "all descriptions of commodities sold at their respective values" or natural prices and the value of the product equals the amount necessary for the maintenance of the producers.

By ownership of land and tools labor has for its share the entire product.

By co-operative use and ownership better tools can be used, extensive tracts of land can be cultivated intensively, conservation of soil fertility can be maintained and much greater product will be created by each worker than is possible on farms owned and operated for profits from labor. Men who know their special work can utilize their best efforts in co-operation with others, but such men will not sell their labor power for less than its full value.

Every elevation of the standard of living for any considerable number of workers in an industry will advance the market price of the products of that industry. The deserts from farms by able workers for occupations which bid higher for their labor power must raise the price of farm products until wages reach equilibrium. This is to the benefit of farmers who use and own land and tools and receive their full labor product. That value the working owner now receives.

The common opinion opposes this belief, but the damage to the farmer is in distribution and exchange. Not until all land and agencies of exchange are socialized can the farmer get the benefit in full for his exertions.

As farm laborers decrease or become less efficient or as wages advance, the share to the owner of the land for profits from hired labor decreases. Un-economic methods of producing or inability to use extensive machinery also decrease profits of the employer. As profits on investments also seek equilibrium the price of land must become less or profits on other investments must decrease.

The organized laborer in other industries who succeeds in increasing his wages also in a degree better the wages of the unorganized farm laborer. This is also harmful to the profit taker, for as the share to labor increases the share to profits decreases. The farm commune has no need to fear the competition of the farm on which labor is hired to create profits.

With the working farmer it is different. His small investment is really for a home and opportunity to produce. All he desires is his labor product.

His family assists him, but the families of workers who are hired must be supported by the owner at the expense of his profits.

Many industries that economically go together are impossible of operation on individually owned farms. This favors co-operation. To illustrate: Bees are essential to the fertilization of fruits, melons, etc.

Poultry, especially the common hen and guinea fowl, mentally benefit by their destruction of harmful insects. But poultry raising and bee keeping are now industries which, while connected with other farm operations, must be handled by practical specialists.

Hogs must be in the inclosure where cattle are fattened. The necessary rotation of crops requires great variety of products and many combinations.

Whether or not they admit it, every farmer is a specialist, able to do some thing well and worthless at others. From incompetence or neglect many farm ventures are a failure. The neglect is not always to be laid to ignorance or idleness.

The necessity of a variety of crops and some of these of great importance calls, perhaps, for undivided attention to one, while another is suffering.

To illustrate: This season, owing to continued rains, many of my crops required attention at the same time. Gophers rooted out 1,000 hills of melons, but by continuous effort I overcame them and secured on that land a full crop.

But as I could not at the same time spray fruit trees, I lost perhaps 100 bushels of plums and peaches by "brown rot." In seven years of tree growing I have done better, not losing two per cent. Yet the secretary of agriculture stated "nine out of every ten trees planted by farmers die from neglect."

No newspaper article can at length enumerate and explain the wastes of individual farming.

If these wastes are harmful to the producer they are much more so to society. The productive work of farmers utilizes less than one-half the days of the year. But the domestic drudgery of women and the "chores" of the men confine them to the farm for 365 days.

If it be asked, "Why do they not employ themselves at other beneficial productions?" I refer them to the fact stated above that they have already more duties than they can attend to without waste. The poverty of fruit and vegetable gardens on most of farms and the economic failure to so many of fruit, bees, poultry, milkcows, garden is explainable to the Socialist who understands the necessity of division of labor, without more argument.

All of these things, harmful to the

farmer who lives and works alone, or who hires labor when it can be found, promise to the farm commune double reward for exertion.

Co-operative buying, selling, shipping are so common, so uniformly successful that beyond saying "the farm commune will have the further benefit of exchange with federated town co-operations," no description is needed.

I am aware of the existence of a great number of co-operative industries and know that most farmers believe in and practice to some extent their social beliefs.

But if there is a newspaper or journal devoted to these interests I have never heard of it. This will no doubt be remedied. In any formation, even the Socialist state, units must join with units, and these when formed into small bodies will be attracted by adjoining bodies before the final consolidation occurs. When federation starts a daily or weekly journal will be printed. For the central body alone can secure and distribute full news.

I believe the ethos of Socialism are workable now. I believe the formative Socialism to be productive to its members of wealth, security and happiness to all of its builders beyond anything that individualism ever gave to any one.

That the more perfected and ever developing, Socialism will be better, we may all believe. But it will never come to men fully developed. The dreamer of utopias who artistically narrates them is not a bad fellow, but he is of no benefit to social developments.

The co-operative state will be built by workers whose acts alone will redeem the race.

There are many industries now that are prey for co-operative workers if they intelligently (which is but another term for economically) attempt to control them. I mention one only, the bakeries of the towns.

Let us start the fight whenever we encounter it. Fight the combinations of parasites with their own weapons. Production, at first limited to things requiring but little investment and much labor, can proceed to capture industry after industry.

In time we can own the machinery for the exchange of products and ever weaken the combinations. Their strength lies in our apathy. Put workers who want to work at the head of our movement.

City comrades, working farmers, in your present condition so very satisfactory? Is the promise of the future so good that you will make no effort to better your condition? All economic law is in your favor if you care to advance. And advance you must or sink to hopeless degradation.

Kankakee.

PRESIDENT OF A CLASS ONLY

BY THOS. J. THOMPSON.

President Taft's letter to the Congress is a fine exhibition of class consciousness, a thing the mere mention of which almost caused his strenuous predecessor to regurgitate. Clearly, not one who understands what class consciousness is can fall to see that Mr. Taft is the president of only one class—the Capitalist class.

He speaks for no other. He has no recommendation for any other. He is not aware that there is any other class that has any rights that are worthy of consideration.

Now all this need not surprise any thoughtful student of politics. Mr. Taft is a corporation lawyer. A convention of the corporations together with their retainers and political dupes nominated him for the presidency upon the recommendation of their most efficient tool—Theodore Roosevelt.

Not only is Mr. Taft a corporation lawyer, but he has been a federal judge, and his supreme ambition was to serve the corporations in the very citadel of the corporations and the trusts—the Supreme court of the United States. From this ambition he was deflected only by the specious plea of his chief that, if elected president, he would be the chosen instrument of mammoth to destroy the last enemy of capitalism—Socialism. And why should not Mr. Taft feel absolutely secure in his present position? Why should he think of any other class than the capitalist class? He has trained with that class all his life.

To that class he owes all that he is or has. They made him. It is said that the devil will defend his own. Mr. Taft is a great deal better than the devil and, besides, he knows his own. He is, as I have said, thoroughly class conscious.

When Mr. Taft made his recent trip across the continent in a special train, paid for by the laboring people, with whom did he associate at every stopping place? Who received him? With what class did he associate? Who dined and wined him? To whom did he give audience? Invariably it was with representatives of the capitalist class.

Members of boards of trade, of chambers of commerce, kings of high finance, representatives of big business, bankers, brokers, bond holders, usurers and their political creatures were those among whom he mingled. There were no toilers among them. History does not record that Mr. Taft on his western trip, or at any other time, ever consulted with representatives of the laboring class—the millions who produce all the wealth and have it not as to their needs and their desires. But it does record the fact that his advisors in his cabinet and out are of that class who will not nor spin and yet are arrayed like Solomon in all his glory.

On this western trip Mr. Taft met in secret conference with Porfirio Diaz, military dictator and capitalist representative of Mexico. The purpose, if

not the result of this secret conference, may be summed up in this naive passage from Mr. Taft's own pen:

"My meeting with President Diaz and the greeting exchanged on both American and Mexican soil served, I hope, to signalize the close and cordial relations which so well bind together this republic and the great republic immediately to the south, between which there is so vast a network of material interests."

Could his anxiety to please his masters, the capitalists, be more evident than he makes it appear himself? He says plainly to the Congress, those two great committees of the corporations and the trusts: "I hope you are satisfied that my humiliating conduct in shaking hands with the bloody and contemptible Diaz is sufficient to prove to you that I am yours body and soul, and that I stand with you, not only for the exploitation of the natural resources of the United States and Mexico but to help you to rob the laboring man of both countries of the none too abundant products of his toil. If I haven't proved this, how can I prove it? Yes, I am willing to write it in a public document and send it to the entire world."

Such is Mr. Taft, the class conscious, capitalist, minded chief executive of the United States of America, in this year of our Lord, 1909, as he writes himself in his message to the Congress. And such is Mr. Taft's view of "the state of the union" which he is required by the constitution to give to Congress—Carthage Democrat.

OF INTEREST TO WOMEN

WOMAN'S DAY

BY THERESA MALKIEL.

Victor Hugo predicted once that if the nineteenth century will go down in the annals of history as the great century the twentieth will surely be the happy one.

His prediction regarding the nineteenth century has been fulfilled since. But

vestige of happiness. The masses as a whole are sinking lower and lower in their physical make up, in their material possessions and in their mental development.

And, naturally enough, woman being the weaker, suffers the most. Though compelled to go out into the world and help create its wealth she, nevertheless, has still her former duties to perform. Though doing a man's work in the shop and the woman's in the home, her compensation amounts but to half of the man's wage. Though being the bearer, educator and often supporter of the future generation, she remains still powerless to have a say regarding its welfare. The only consolation left to her is the hope in the truth of the saying that every dog has his day.

This was one of the rise and fall of the different classes of society and is equally true of the sex.

Capitalism has reached the summit of its climb; its days are counted. The workingman's day is coming. Coming ever faster and perhaps the prediction of that great mind of a great century may after all prove to be true.

But in his weary march towards the day of glory the workingman does not march alone; close, side by side with him, marches the working woman. She, too, is lifting her head and baring her breast to the sun of freedom and in her timid gaze glitters a bright hope for the future to come.

The weary marcher does no longer imagine that her slow step hinders his own progress, on the contrary, he has come to realize that in her emancipation lies his future strength and, in-

stead of hindering and hampering her as in the days of yore, he reaches out his hand and steadies her gait.

That it is the working class and its mouthpiece the Socialist party are the greatest champions of woman's emancipation. Long before woman suffrage became a fact, long before the woman herself had come to realize the justice of her position, the Socialist party demanded the equality of sex.

That happened about the middle of the great century and was indeed worthy of its greatness. And now entering upon the tenth year of the happy century the Socialist party still remains the oracle, proclaiming the happiness of the days to come by designating one day in the coming year as Woman's Day, to be celebrated and observed throughout the width and breadth of our country as a day of woman's coming greatness, as a token of her just demands, as a protest against her present disqualification.

The twenty-third day of February, the last Sunday of the month, has been appointed by the National Woman's Committee and endorsed by the National Executive Committee as Woman's Day, this year.

Here then is an opportunity for our comrades to "equalize" the situation. Let them raise their voice in protest against woman's oppression under the present system; let them glorify her position in the future. It is a good means of propaganda for Socialism, an excellent opportunity to prove to the working woman that the other sex of her class recognizes its close alliance to her, as well as her equality with it, and, in view of the common mission, the liberation of the entire class demands her enfranchisement. That she, too, may cast her vote for the change to come; that she, too, may have an opportunity to stretch her wings before taking flight into the land of freedom.

GOOD BYE! GOD KNOWS!

BY ROBERT HUNTER

Winter comes and with winter, bread lines. To the large cities the weary and the hungry repair.

The lodging houses are becoming crowded. Thousands upon thousands of workmen are sleeping on the floors of saloons, police stations and "dop" houses. Half-clad, they beg the streets and half-clad they stand long hours in snow and slush besieging the bread wagon.

Big Tim will soon pass along the line handing out warm woolen socks and stout shoes. The charities will begin to distribute their doles. The Clergy will begin to preach God and convert souls.

The Missions will be crowded, the air will be thick and vile, and strong men for coffee and bread will fall on their knees to be saved once more.

Great God! think of these nights in the big towns, of the shuffling feet, the weary souls, the hunger and the drink.

On Clark street in Chicago and on the Bowery in New York, the old faces of last year's wrecks again appear. And with them new ones, the anxious faces of young lads starting on the road to ruin and the pauper's grave.

The other night the President visited the Bowery. He had never been there before. It was all new to the big man of stocks and bonds, injunctions and politics.

And Taft said to the bread line: "Some of you are down on your luck, but notwithstanding this there is the same sentiment of loyalty, patriotism and love of country, ideals and aspirations for betterment that I hope every citizen has."

"I am glad to be here if by being here and by saying so I can convince you that the so-called chasm between you and people who seem for the time to be more fortunate than you, is not a chasm, and that there is between them and you a deep feeling of sympathy."

And then Taft, after watching one thousand of them in line, each with a roll and a cup of hot coffee, stepped into his automobile and said, "Good-by, boys."

Good-by! God knows! Two words so easily spoken that solve nothing. I don't know what Taft thinks, I don't know what Cannon thinks, or any of the other big men think, but I know they are powerful and might think of something besides money and dividends and banks and Wall Street.

They might think of these poor devils that they have made and are making day after day by an economic system of robbery and oppression.

They might think of hungry bodies, thin rags, wet feet, broken hearts, and broken homes—and they might talk something else than this infernal rot of "deep feelings of sympathy."



Party Needs More Women

What is the matter with the Socialist party? Is the question most liberally discussed at present.

I will tell what I think is the matter. There is not anything the matter with the principles of the party.

The trouble is with the Socialists and the party press.

We have not enough of the right kind of papers. We need more papers that give the general news like the Chicago Daily Socialist. The Socialists do not support the press as they should do not the organization.

The Socialist papers do not work enough for the organization. No Socialist paper should be printed without an article teaching or urging organization.

If one-half the space the papers give in urging comrades to rustle subs, was given to well written articles on organization, we would have an organization that would get subs. The kind of a local that has life must have amusement in the local.

Because the Socialists' wives are not members of the party. Why are not more of the Socialist women in the party? Because most of the working men cannot spare the extra money for dues. Therefore, if the worker cannot spare the money to pay dues for two the man becomes a member of the party and his wife, who helps to pay the dues, cannot take any part in party affairs; therefore, she is a spectator, loses interest and quits attending meetings.

It is not right for the women to talk about a woman's organization; their place is in the party and every red card should have a place for the wife's name with a voice and vote in all party affairs; that would not be giving the woman a free membership in the party, which most women rightly object to, but only giving her that which is hers.

Who raises the money to build the churches and feed the preachers? Who gives the entertainments and life to the churches? The preachers get the credit, but they usurp it; it is the woman.

If the Socialist party had as many women members as men we could own our halls, have reading rooms, entertainments, picnics and a live movement. We could support ten rallies in this country which would fight the battles for the worker when on a strike and the capitalist papers turn them down; then they would learn where their support is loyal.

It seems there is a great deal of talk about co-operative business.

We are getting off the track when we think it possible to crowd the trusts out by competition.

The only way we will ever get Socialism is with a political party, backed by a great Socialist industrial organization.

Comrades, let's stop talking about what's the matter with the party! Get the women to work, get to work all of us and build up our organization and press.

Washington State Organizer, Mt. Vernon, Wash.

On the Tyler Proposition

The good comrades of Local Tyler, Texas, inspired by the "bugaboo" of N. E. C. "interference" in "state affairs," have submitted for national referendum, a constitution, which, like "Man," is "fearfully and wonderfully made."

In order to get "state autonomy" in matters relating to party activities and the various affairs of the nation (which autonomy we already have) they are willing to disrupt our magnificent National Organization. I don't believe that the great body of American Socialists, who have given freely of their lives and money, to build up this really effective organization of the working class, are going to vote to abandon it.

This proposition of Local Tyler, seems to me, to combine some of the worst features of both "Opportunism" and "Impossibilism."

It is "opportunistic," because, instead of our "perpetual campaign" for the purposes of organization and education, as well as for "votes," they propose a "National Campaign Committee," to "grand stand," every four years, in an appeal for "votes."

It is "impossibilistic," because they propose to practically do away with our National Organization. To be logical, they should go on down the line and include in their proposition, the abolition of our state, county and local organizations, and advocate individual action "pure and simple."

Their proposition is simply a regu-

vention of the old doctrine of State's Rights. Most of us are under the impression that this "doctrine" was shot to pieces forty-four years ago.

In order to do away with "autocracy" in the party, our Tyler comrades propose to abolish the National Committee and the N. E. C., and to confer on one man (the national secretary) the powers of the N. E. C. (see Section 2, Article 4, of the Tyler constitution). What a "snap" this job would be for some one like Prof. DeLeon, for instance.

In order, however, not to make this job too attractive, they propose to cut the wages of the national secretary. Maybe this is a wise proviso, as in case the national secretary got more than \$75.00 a month, he might, in some mysterious manner, evolve into an "Intellectual."

O. R. OYLER, National Committeeman for Nebraska, Lincoln, Nebraska.

"Cheer Up"

What's the matter with the Socialist party? Nothing whatever! Never was finer, as far as the membership is concerned. They are working, talking and agitating for Socialism in every little country district of this whole big United States of America and the converts to Socialism are increasing with every day that passes. Some of the leaders are having a bad spell of faint heart, on account of the fact that the capitalist judges of election, for the purpose of discouraging the party, failed to report all the votes cast and partly because the dues paying membership has not increased as expected, owing largely to the increasing difficulty in producing a living.

It is to be regretted that we cannot judge the strength of the party by the dues paying membership, but such is the case, and it proves the need of more organization work. If three-fourths of the funds expended for the speakers was expended in organization work I believe the party would benefit by the change.

The most talented speaker is capable of little more than outlining the Socialist program in an evening's speech. He speaks to audiences composed largely of Socialists. If the speaker is not absolutely clear in his expression of Socialist ideas he may do more harm than good. The Socialist philosophy cannot be intelligently presented by viewing the present system from one standpoint. It must be studied from many points of view and bearing, and this can be accomplished practically only through the medium of the Socialist periodical.

It is well that we take stock of our weapons and there is none greater than our press. A correct understanding of the Socialist policy must precede any real strength which the party will acquire from mass numbers. Organization—our most important work. The party press—our most effective weapon.

Combined they are capable of not only capturing the labor unions, but the world also. A correct understanding of Socialism by two-thirds of the people would result in the taking over of the powers of government by the Socialist party. Must I mention the co-operatives. They are almost as auxiliary financial and eductive force conducted wisely, but don't expect to take away any very large part of the capitalist's business by co-operative enterprise so long as we have capitalist courts and government.

We will have Socialism when a majority of the people know exactly what it is and demand it. Not sooner. Our work is cut out. Organize—teach Socialism; the people will do the rest.

C. E. BAKER.

Parsons, Kans.

Wants a Co-operative

I believe Gustav Schulz is right. The labor movement has its political wing and its industrial wing; now let it have a commercial and manufacturing body to support and give force to those wings. I am a Socialist but am not a dues paying member, because I can not afford it.

If there were some financial benefit attached to it, and thousands like me, would come into the fold. As to how it should be done—there are many ways. I suggest a holding company, every local to hold as many shares as it has members. From subsidiary companies, as occasion requires, with the holding company keeping the majority of stock. Furnish a good market for the products of our rural members and there will be no trouble in catching the farmers. Now is the time to call up the reserves. R. E. GLOVER, Chicago, Ill.



THERESA MALKIEL

nearing the close of the first decade of the twentieth, we did not as yet have a glimpse of the happiness predicted. The greatness of the previous age has brought with it a regime that tends more and more to part us from every