

RAIL OFFICIALS WRECK TRAINS IN GRAFT PLOT

Thousands of Lives Lost Yearly Through Greed of Trusted Men

BRIBERY SHOWN RAMPANT

Labor Agents, With Consent of Railroads, Lay Defective Tracks.

That railroad accidents are attributable to the labor agency graft will be one of the scandals revealed in the trial of Paul Carbon of Chicago and St. Paul, a labor agent for the Great Northern road, who is charged with feeding laborers and railroads of \$200,000.

The expose will show that cheap laborers and foremen are placed on the work of building or rebuilding roads, and that their incompetency is the cause of faulty construction of curves and switches where trains meet with disasters.

Section managers and higher officials connive at the impositions, railroad men interested in the case declare, because they share the graft with agencies resulting from the employment of cheap labor. Some railroad officials receive a per capita bribe on every laborer furnished by the labor agencies and get \$5 a month for every man who serves as foreman.

Foremen Are Ignorant

"These foremen know nothing about the work," said a railroad man who has been connected with several roads for the last 30 years, and who is a stockholder in three different railroad companies. "Many of them," he continued, "don't know how a spike should be driven. They get their jobs by paying \$50 to the section boss and \$5 a month additional to a gang of officials, who divide up the spoil."

"The laborers they employ are bad enough, but these foremen are even worse. Laborers working under good foremen can do work to some degree of satisfaction, but laboring under incompetent foremen they are helpless. The binders they make are appalling. Nearly all the so-called, unexplainable railroad accidents are the result of the employment of such men."

What Is Needed for Safety

"Down in Kansas I was superintending a piece of work several years ago. It was just west of Ogallah. They were fixing up a curve. It was one of the sharpest curves on the road. The important feature of a curve is the elevation of the outer track. Anybody who knows anything about railroad engineering knows that one-half inch elevation is allowed for the outer rail for every degree of curvature of the track. And if the curve is very sharp the elevation is increased proportionately. The curve I have in mind was 4 1/2 degrees. Good road builders allow, for such a curve, an elevation of 2 1/2 inches. This makes it safe for a train to pass over it even at a very high rate of speed. When our curve was finished I went out to examine it, and found that the foremen had it constructed level—there wasn't even a quarter of an inch elevation to the outer rail. I reported the matter to the section boss, and he almost died when I told him of the blunder. 'Go quick,' he ordered, 'and flag the train. There is a train to pass soon. Flag it for God's sake, flag it!' If we hadn't flagged the train she would have been in the ditch. That's what cheap foremen can do. This man held the job because he paid \$50 for getting it and \$5 a month as the agreed rakeoff."

3,000 MECHANICS STRIKE FOR PAY

New York, Jan. 5.—Three thousand steamfitters and helpers went on strike today in Brooklyn and Manhattan for an increase of wages from \$5 to \$5.50 a day. The strike will stop work on several buildings now nearing completion.

The men are organized as the Steamfitters' union, and under the arbitration agreement of the Building Trades Employers' association the strike is said to be a violation of contract.

FREE SPEECHERS FIND A HAVEN

Seattle, Wash., Jan. 5.—While the authorities in Spokane are using every brutality to crush free speech, Seattle, the most active city on the Pacific coast, is welcoming the free speech fighters from Spokane. The newspaper men are giving space to the talks of the members of the Industrial Workers of the World who are denouncing the granting employment agencies and the Spokane authorities.

MURDER CAUSES BELLEVUE PROBE

Sick Child Dies After Being Cast Out of New York Hospital

New York, Jan. 5.—Bellevue Hospital is to be put under an official probe as a result of facts that have come to light showing that the rich are well taken care of at the big institution while the poor are turned dying into the streets.

One of the startling cases that have just become known is that of Gregory Kelly, a waiter out of work, who tried to kill himself so that the \$225 insurance on his life might save his little daughter from burial in the potter's field. Kelly failed in his attempt at suicide, and a pathetic letter found in his pocket told the story of how his daughter had been turned out of the hospital. It was written in a good hand and is as follows:

"To the Press and Public: I am writing this in justification of what I am about to do, and to avenge the murder and give proper burial to my baby girl lying dead at Bellevue hospital in the morgue. I also hope the city officials will inspect the conditions as they now are at the said hospital that will allow a dying infant of four months to be put out in the streets.

Throw Out Dying Child

"A strong, healthy child was stricken with pneumonia on Nov. 20. On Nov. 23, with blood running from her ears from hemorrhage, fits and convulsions coming, my wife was ordered to take her out. She protested, saying the child was not cured. They said they needed the bed and she must go.

"Finding her pleadings of no avail my wife brought the baby to the cold, damp basement where we live. She lay there three weeks. Believing her to be dying, on Dec. 23 my wife, through the help of the relief society, got her admitted again to the same ward, B, that they had put her out of three weeks before. She made a hard fight for life, but was not given half a chance.

"The men who kept me out of work and left me in this condition, without money to call in doctors or live in decent rooms, are her murderers, and them I will settle with. I am not lazy or shiftless, but save my money when given a chance to work.

"All a Woman Could Do"

"As they refuse to let me work and live, they shall not live. My wife has done all any woman could do. Her devotion to Toodle, our baby, was pathetic. The sacrifices she made, the hard work she did, and the lack of proper food ruined her health, until now she is afflicted with tuberculosis. It would kill her to see Toodle go to the potter's field. I believe it my duty to die and save her that disgrace. My life is insured for \$325. I want to be buried in the same casket with my baby. I trust the undertaker that buries us will be reasonable and leave my wife a little to live on.

"GREGORY KELLY."

Kelly had planned that before shooting himself he would take the life of Frederick Blacotte, manager of the restaurant, and thus, as he believed, avenge the death of his four month old child.

The bullet, from Kelly's revolver missed the manager's head by a fraction of an inch, and he was overpowered before he could turn the weapon upon himself.

Now at Bellevue

He now is in Bellevue hospital pending an examination. Into his sanity, while not far from him, in the morgue, lies the body of the daughter, whose threatened burial in a pauper's lot had driven him to desperation.

The preliminary report was already handed to Mayor McClellan showing the loose methods of administration, the favoritism and the unreasonable secrecy in vogue at the Bellevue hospital. The report gives the testimony of Commissioner of Charities Robert W. Hebbard, who told of several Yale students receiving \$200 worth of free treatment in the hospital and then being sent back to college.

The first part of the report deals with the former general superintendent, Dr. S. T. Armstrong. Of him it said:

How Physician Grafted

"Dr. Armstrong, taking advantage of his official position, had purchased for the hospital a set of medical books (index Medicus), which he himself owned. By the testimony of witnesses it was shown that it was to discharge a pre-arranged debt that the then superintendent conceived of the plan." Dr. Armstrong was forced to resign from the hospital.

"With the Soakems"

The commissioners cite the case of a patient named E. A. Potter, who was in the hospital during different periods in 1904 and 1905. He testified that he had done private work for M. J. Rickard, the assistant superintendent, and that among the things he had written for Rickard was a book entitled "Across the Continent with the Soakems." He also testified that he was being held in the hospital to serve Rickard's convenience and to do his private work.

Potter testified that he believed that he had been at least six months unnecessarily in Bellevue. The chart on which the record of Potter's case was kept had written on it in red ink "notify Mr. Rickard before discharging or transferring."

Decoy Call Fatal to Hunter

Newport, Ark., Jan. 5.—Firing into a clump of bushes after mistaking the decoy call of his companion for a wild turkey, Robert Coffman shot and killed James Mullins, a prominent planter, near Mullins, yesterday. This is the tenth fatality of this kind in Arkansas in the recent hunting season.

IRELAND LAUDS MURDERER WHO SHOCKED WORLD

Archbishop Rushes to Defense of the Late King of Belgium

DENIES CONGO OUTRAGES

Says Stories of Slaughter for Profit Were Brewed in England

St. Paul, Minn., Jan. 5.—Archbishop John Ireland, recipient of the patronage of James J. Hill, railroad monarch, bitter enemy of organized labor as proved on many a rostrum, and incidentally a leader of his people, has come to the defense of the late king, "Butcher" Leopold, and the murder policy of the Belgian government in the Congo.

He pits the bloody monarch as the sorry object of undeserved hatred from a civilized world, blaming non-Catholic England for the stories of inhumanity laid at Leopold's door, declaring there were no "atrocities" committed.

"It is becoming plainer every day that the agitation against Leopold's administration had its origin in England among fanatical preachers and unscrupulous merchants," raged the archbishop. "The preachers were irritated that a Catholic ruler should hold sway over such an immense territory, even if freedom of religious action was the guarantee to Protestant as well as Catholic missionaries.

Whitewashes Murderers

"As a matter of fact, there were no 'atrocities' in the Congo," declares the Catholic church official, whitewashing the entire crowd of man-killers sent by King Leopold into Africa, in an attempt to make a good job of it.

"For our own account we put full reliance in the statement made privately and publicly by Catholic missionaries who have lived in the Congo for many years," concludes the church prelate, with all due ecclesiastical ecstacy. "They again and again have stigmatized the charges against Leopold as most unfair and most untrue."

RICH WEARY OF WAISTMAKERS

Daughter of Money King Resents Socialism and Withdraws Support

New York, Jan. 5.—Wealth and poverty won't mix after all in the now famous waistmakers' strike, in which blue dragon automobiles on Fifth avenue and afternoon teas with hand painted porcelain have been figuring very prominently of late. Wealth has become class conscious.

Miss Anne Morgan, daughter of J. Pierpont Morgan, lover of watered stock and high dividends, one of the "stanchest" supporters of the striking shirtwaist girls, from a drawing room standpoint, has at last thrown up the sponge by declaring that the strike has taken on the "taint" of Socialism.

"She singles out the meeting in Carnegie, Sunday night, especially, and gives it the benefit of her 'blood money' wrath. This meeting was called especially to protest against the tactics pursued by the police in protecting scabs and persecuting the strikers.

Magistrates Hissed

When Miles M. Dawson, an attorney for the waistmakers' union, recited the wrongs he said strikers had suffered at the hands of Magistrates Cornell and Barlow, these officials' names were greeted with hisses and groans. When Morris Hillquit, national executive committee man of the Socialist party of the United States, concluded an address with, "Your cause is good and your victory will be glorious," the applause was deafening.

"It was unjust to the strikers," said Miss Morgan, in complaining of the Socialist views expressed at the meeting, claiming that the working class friends of the tollers were taking an advantage of their brother and sister workers.

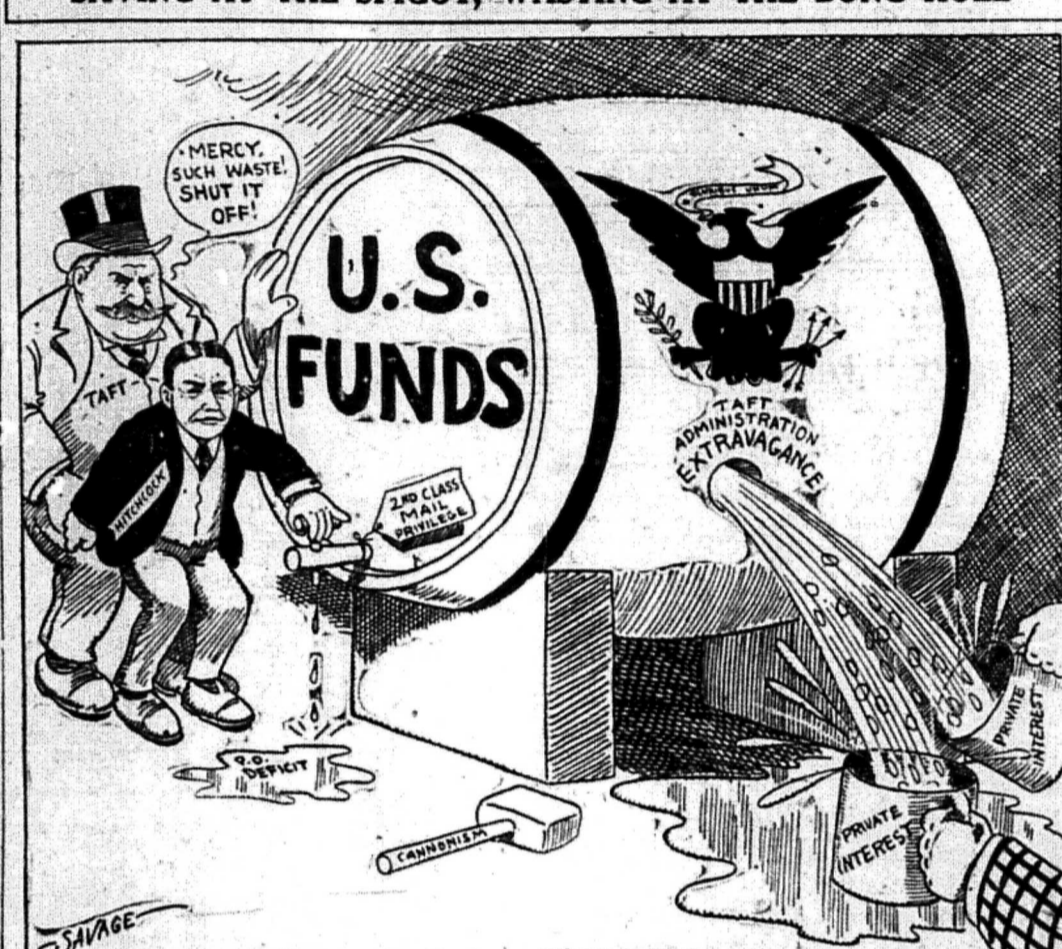
"She claimed that the main object of the meeting was to elicit 'sympathy for the unfortunates so long out of work.'"

Urges Unions to Aid

At the meeting of the Central Federated union in Bohemian hall, Miss Clara Lemlich, speaking for the striking shirtwaist makers, said in part: "The shirtwaist girls are fighting with more determination than ever. Our principal trouble is that the union men do not show sufficient interest in our strike. This is a fight for union principles, and as union men I think the members of the body should do all in their power to help us win, both morally and financially."

HORRORS AT MONTGOMERY WARD'S LAID TO "SYSTEM"

"SAVING AT THE SPIGOT; WASTING AT THE BUNG HOLE"



Firm Admits Truth of Exposures Made Through Daily Socialist

MUST GRIND EMPLOYEES

Vice President Thorne Says Competition Forces Starvation Wages

"That men—men who have families to support and children to bring up—should be forced to work for \$12 a week is deplorable. It is impossible to do justice to one's children, to one's wife or to oneself when one's income is only that much. It is hardly possible to live decently on \$12 a week when one has no one but oneself to take care of. But \$12 a week is a wage that thousands upon thousands work for. Hundreds of houses in this city don't pay even that much. It is a universal condition and Montgomery Ward and company are no more free from it than are other business establishments. The condition holds us in its grip and we must yield to it. It would be suicide with the keen competition prevailing for any business firm to undertake, singly, to pay its employees more than other firms in the field do."—WILLIAM C. THORNE, Vice President of Montgomery Ward and company.

WHIPS MAN TO DEATH IN JAIL

Probe of Brutality in Atlanta Stockade Reveals Shocking Abuses

Atlanta, Ga., Jan. 4.—The investigation of charges against the management of the city prison continues and each day adds fresh horror to the stories of inhuman brutality.

Herschel Ivy, former guard at the stockade, who resigned because of conditions and who kept a diary of things that happened while he was there, was a witness. He swore that Mose Johnson, a negro, told Superintendent Vining that he was too ill to work. Vining ordered him whipped, he added. After the whipping the negro collapsed, was sent to a hospital, where he died a week later.

Ivy said he saw a young white girl, Ruby Gaitler, chained to a wall by her hands until she fainted. Ruby swore that she did not know how long she was left hanging after she fainted. Ivy supplied the information. He said she was left there unconscious thirty minutes. He held up her limp body while Vining removed the shackles. Then, he said, she went into convulsions.

The white women he declared, were fed scraps picked up on the floor of the men's mess hall. The floor is of dirt and witnesses swore that there was fish a foot thick on it, the odor from which was unbearable.

Ivy said that 100 men were kept at the prison and that the eggs were gathered each day by Commissioner of Public Works Collier, who took them away.

Men Enslaved

The story which the survivors tell, through the Vorwaerts, is terrible in the extreme. Men were brutally treated in the camps, where a species of slavery existed, and the contractors broke every safeguard which the contracts signed by the men had guaranteed. The camps were built in the depths of swamps and fever was rampant. The same agents who procured the men who died are trying to recruit 5,000 more to be taken to places which the survivors describe as veritable swamps of death.

The favor which the German government extends to all German enterprises in all parts of the world leads the Socialists to believe that an attack should be made through the reichstag.

JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER, JR., COYLY LEADS GRAND JURY

New York, Jan. 5.—Much against his will, John D. Rockefeller, Jr., assumed the duties of juror for the investigation into the white slave traffic, a subject which agitated the politicians in the recent municipal campaign and more lately formed the basis of a report to congress.

Mr. Rockefeller will be the foreman of the jury.

300 PERISH IN CONTRACT CAMP

Socialists to Demand Probe of Treatment Accorded Workmen in Brazil

Berlin, Jan. 5.—There is no doubt but that the Socialist deputies in the reichstag will demand a government investigation of the reported death of 300 German workmen who were lured to the swamps of Brazil under false promises, only to die like flies. The investigation will be demanded, it is declared on the highest authority, because of the disclosures made through Vorwaerts, the great Socialist daily newspaper. In that publication a complete story of the suffering and death of the 300 workmen was told by survivors of the party of 600 which sailed from Hamburg in July bound for Rio de Janeiro, whence they were taken to the construction camps of the Madeira & Mamore railroad, which is being built by German capital.

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Root on the Job

On the other hand one finds Senator Elihu Root of New York, appendix of power and pillage, that no operation could remove. Then there is Senator Frank P. Flint of railroad owned California, who has just recommended United States District Attorney Oscar Lawler, who owes his place in politics to Southern Pacific machine influence, for appointment as assistant attorney general for the interior department. Lawler was used as a tool of the Southern Pacific to protect its interests in Mexico and, incidentally, prosecute Mexican refugees in the United States. He did both well. Senator Flint does likewise for the Southern Pacific in Washington, D. C.

The remaining members of the committee have records equallyavoring of trust: servility. They are as follows:

Other Political Tools

Republicans—Senator George Sutherland of Utah; Rep. John Daiseil, of Pennsylvania; Rep. Samuel W. McCall, of Massachusetts, and Rep. Eben W. Martin, of South Dakota.

Democrats—Sen. Thomas H. Paynter, of Kentucky; Sen. James P. Clarke, of Arkansas; or Charles J. Hughes, of Colorado; Rep. Swager Shirley, of Kentucky; or John A. Moon, of Tennessee, and Rep. William M. Howard, of Georgia.

Every member of the committee is a lawyer. They'll all need good corporation jobs after losing their positions at Washington. In fact, it is admitted that they have already been in the service of corporations. The death of conservatism is in sight.

No Race Suicide in This Locality

Washington, N. J., Jan. 5.—Little chance that race suicide will obtain a foothold here exists, if the statistical report of the county clerk for the ten years from 1900 to 1910 is to be believed. The report shows that during the decade two persons were born for every one who died.

NOW BALLINGER WILL GET HIS!

Taft, Cannon & Co. Organize to Protect the Dear People's Rights

Washington, D. C., Jan. 5.—Just watch the rights of the people being protected! President Taft, Senator Aldrich and Speaker Cannon have put their heads together and chosen a joint committee of the senate and the house to investigate the Ballinger-Pinchot forestry controversy.

The water power trust, the lumber trust, the General Electric company and all the rest of the robbers of the nation's natural resources are doomed, according to reports. But the personnel of the committee would indicate otherwise.

There are only two insurgents in the crowd, and these very conservative insurgents at that—Senator Knute Nelson of Minnesota and Representative Frederick C. Stevens, also of Minnesota, coming from a state already despoiled by the lumber trust and plundered by the power combine.

Refer to the Attack on the Fish Department

Referring to the attack on the fish department, where the salt water and the cold air make it difficult for a man to work more than six hours a day, and where the employees are forced to work not less than eight hours and in busy seasons as long as fourteen hours, Mr. Thorne stated that conditions in other fish houses are even more serious. He admitted that the men work with chapped hands and are wet through and through, as described in this paper, but declared that Montgomery Ward's fish house is the best in the city.

"Fish House a Model"

"Fish houses on South Water street are hell compared to our fish house," Thorne said. "The men there are apparently suffering not only for their own sins, but for the sins committed by their parents and grandparents. Those fish shops are in basements. The brine is never drained from the floors. They are not as light as our fish department. We have daylight, while they use artificial light. The men working in these hell pits would be only too glad to come to our store."

A Slight Discomfort

"Yes, I suppose it is hard on the men to have their hands in salt water the whole day. But they don't need to work with bare hands. They can wear rubber gloves, but the men don't wear them, simply because, I suppose, they can work more rapidly without them. The place must be kept cold to preserve the fish. The men work 14 hours a day only when we are busy, but they have to do that in other houses, too."

Touching the subject of sick and death benefits, he said: "I would say that a perfect system of protection for the employes has not yet been devised. We are experimenting with various schemes, and hope to evolve something that will be satisfactory at least to our employes. Governments in all civilized lands are grappling with the problem, and it is hoped that they will develop some system that will be useful to the wage workers. There is certainly a

(Continued on Page Two)

MORGAN, UNION HATER, CROWNED AS MONEY KING

America's Greatest Banker Now Controls Over \$2,752,000,000

OWNS THE STEEL TRUST

While Labor Scrambles for Pennies, Financiers Cut \$240,000,000 Melon

New York, Jan. 5.—While labor is preparing for its terrible and heroic struggle against the United States Steel Corporation...

"Among the Melon Outters Are" The leading companies participating in the great cutting of the stock and bond melon are the American Sugar Refining company...

The January dividends of this year are larger than they ever were in the history of Wall street.

Hungry and Submissive It will be remembered that at the beginning of the panic he sailed for Europe and that a noted French journalist procured an interview with him...

Table with financial data including Equitable Life Assurance, Society, First National Bank, Guarantee Trust Company, etc.

Total \$2,752,000,000 That is the force against which labor is to hurt itself...

THORNE ADMITS EXPOSE'S TRUTH

Need for a good arrangement by which the men who are forced to work for \$12 a week should have something to depend on in their old age...

They Pity the Poor The managers feel the pains of humanity, at least in their more relaxed moments...

WANTS CITY TO RUN SWEATSHOP

Civil Service Head Urges Industrial Tactics to Boost Officials' Income

Elton Lower, head of the city civil service commission, has presented to the city council a plan by which the advanced sweating schemes of great industrial establishments...

PLAN TO PUNISH THE MAGAZINES

Hitchcock Urges Raise in Mail Rates to Cripple Outspoken Periodicals

Washington, D. C., Jan. 5.—The long delayed report of Postmaster General Hitchcock on the mail service for the year of 1908 is out and in it is shown an attempt to attack the magazines in favor of the newspapers...

Would Tax Advertising Hitchcock makes the proposal that the second class mailing rate, which is now one cent a pound, be altered to affect the magazines in such a way that the advertising portion of the periodicals will be charged for at a higher rate than will the reading matter...

Silent on Transportation The cost of transportation by rail and by other means forms slightly more than a third of the total expense of handling the second class mail.

President Taft at Charity Ball Washington, D. C., Jan. 5.—President Taft attended the charity ball of the Children's hospital last night, and held an informal reception in the box reserved for him.

Socialist Rap Ferri L'Avanti, the Socialist daily of this city, prints an article by its editor-in-chief, Bissolati, deploring the "incoherence and inconsistency" of Ferri

Socialist News

Since last report the proposed national party referendums have been seconded by local action:

Texas Election By recent referendum E. H. Metzger of Halliwellville has been elected state secretary of Texas, and L. E. Day of Columbus, and M. H. Graham of Lewis have been elected members of the national committee.

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MERRIAM SLAPS GRAFTERS' WRIST

'Searching' Probe of 'Thefts' Ends in Gentle Admonition, 'Be Good'

The Busse "business like" administration is to allow contractors to make prices to suit themselves, and to draw up specifications on antiquated plans so that reputable firms refuse to bid.

Little Men Sacrificed The city bridge engineer, Thomas G. Pihlstedt, testified there was no check on the foreman, and if he were willing to accept an inferior grade of lumber he could do so.

ENRICO FERRI IS UNDER FIRE

Socialists Criticise Noted Criminologist for Aiding Italian Liberals

Rome, Jan. 5.—Practically all the leading political journals of Italy are filled with long editorials regarding the action of Enrico Ferri, the noted criminologist and deputy, in declaring that he was not responsible to the Socialist party...

Politics Color Feeling Naturally, the comments are colored by the politics of the newspapers in which they appear.

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BUSSE OPPOSED TO UNION LABOR

Mayor Is Deaf to the Bill Posters' Plea; Police Aid Scabs

Mayor Fred Busse had the question of the police protection of scabs put squarely up to him by the striking bill posters in a conference held at 275 La Salle avenue...

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GENERAL RAIL STRIKE CERTAIN

Minnesota, Minn., Jan. 5.—There will be a general strike of the organizations in the railway division of the American Federation of Labor in the northwest this week...

They Are Watching Us!

Yes, the Socialists are watching us—and they are welcome to keep their eyes on us. Suits us fine. We have nothing to hide.

MARKETS

WINTER WHEAT—Higher. Sales, 125,000 bu. No. 2 red in store, \$1.40@1.42; No. 2 hard, \$1.35@1.37.

MARKETS

NEW YORK, Jan. 4.—Standard copper—Spot and January, 82 1/2@83 1/2; February, March and April, 82 1/2@83 1/2.

United Woollen Mills Co. WOOLEN MERCHANTS - TAILORS. Special big values in pure wool Suits and Overcoats on these days...

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Old Underroof Whiskey. The quality of merit won't fame and favor containing only the best stimulating elements.

"Miss Handsome" a regular \$5.00 Boot for \$3.85. Lace Also.

A Pleasing and Serviceable Boot for Women. The high top is a wonderful protection for the ankles against wet skirt bottoms in slushy weather.

Rubbert. McVicker's Theater Building (Special floor for women exclusively) OPEN EVENINGS UNTIL 9. Catalogue on Request.

Your Tired Feet. Anti-Tender-Foot-Shoes and such of our other specialties as they may need. Give us a call soon, personally or by mail.

ALOIS SPACHMAN Best Equipped RESTAURANT, SALOON AND PICNIC GROUNDS. 5061 N. 40th Ave., Chicago. PHONE IRVING PARK 3064.

NOTE TO NEW SOCIALISTS. READ SOCIALIST BOOKS. Nearly 1,000 described in our new catalogue "The Question of the Hour".

GRAHAM & SONS BANKERS. STEAMBOAT AND INSURANCE AGENTS. Interest Allowed on Savings Deposits. 661 W. MADISON ST.

Safety Razor Blades 21c Made Sharper Than New 22c. Resharpener, 50c.

Boys' All-Wool Suits \$3.95. This is an unusually good value—plain and knickerbocker suits.

CLASSIFIED. HELP WANTED. MEN WANTED who can invest from \$1 to \$10 a month in an enterprise that should become a big business.

LAKE SEAMEN'S UNION. SAILORS, marine firemen, marine cooks, are requested to attend the FERRY MEETING to be held Wednesday evening, Jan. 5th, 8 p. m.

THE INSPIRATOR CURES. Catarrh, Asthma, Hay Fever, Deafness, Colds and all diseases of the Throat, Nose, Lungs and Chest.

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INCREASED COST OF LIVING DUE TO PROTECTION

Food Stuffs Have Jumped 34.3 Per Cent, Wages but 3.8 Per Cent

(SPECIAL TO THE DAILY SOCIALIST.) Washington, Jan. 5.—Why is the cost of living increasing so fast in the United States?

In answer to this most popular question of the day, protectionists and protectionist newspapers are citing every possible explanation save high tariff rates. President Taft declares the increase in the cost of living is due to the "proportionate increase in the output of gold," and Secretary of Agriculture Wilson, at the command of Senators Aldrich, Smoot and others of the high priests of protection, is now making an "investigation" for the purpose of whitewashing protection and fastening the blame on the corner grocer.

The only place where there is any doubt as to what is the principal cause of the increase in the cost of living in the United States is in this country. The leading economists of the world are united on the subject. Almost without a dissenting voice, the great thinkers of the day attribute the fact that the cost of living is increasing twice as fast in the United States as in other countries, to our protective system.

The protectionists of the United States are the only protectionists who refuse to concede that the import duty is paid by the consumer. The leading protectionists of Europe, including Joseph Chamberlain of England, admit that as a general rule the price of an article is enhanced by about the amount of the import duty, or "tax," as Europeans designate a tariff.

Protection Raises Prices

The writer attended a political meeting at Manchester, England, last summer, during which a workman interrupted a protectionist speaker to ask a question. "If we should change our policy of free trade for one of protection," asked the workman, "would not the cost of living be increased?" "There is no doubt about that," replied the speaker, frankly. "But you must take into consideration that if the home manufacturer can charge more for his product, he can pay more wages, and you will be better able to meet increased prices."

When the German government introduced its tariff law of 1902, it published with it, as is the custom in Germany, a printed explanation of the reasons for its introduction. This official document read in part as follows: "A means whereby the agricultural interests are enabled to cover their cost of production is to be found, under the given circumstances, by creating a factor which will determine the inland selling price through relative protective duties. Inland prices are raised, so far as a consideration of the circumstances of the last ten years will allow as to judge, in proportion to the duties. This is seen from the following tables."

The tables showed that the Berlin price of wheat and other protected products was higher than the London (free trade) price by about the amount of the import duties. In France, Italy and some other European countries, a part of the municipal revenue is raised by duties on goods entering the town. At the gates of such towns there is an official who collects this tax, and it is found that the difference in price on articles purchased outside the town and within the town, is in nearly every instance exactly the amount of the duty. The same happens in trade between nations.

High Duty in Germany

In Holland there are no import duties on food or raw materials, the sole protective element being a tax of 5 per cent on imported manufactured goods. In Germany there is a high duty on food, and an excessive tariff on all the necessities of life.

A household of six persons can buy for \$5.14 in Gelderland (one of the eastern provinces of Holland), the necessities of life which, in Germany, just across the frontier, would cost \$7.73. As a result a village of 4,000 inhabitants has grown up at Glanerburg, in Holland, near the German frontier. There German manufacturers have built houses for a colony of their workmen, because they can live more cheaply and better across the frontier in the foreign country where food is not taxed.

Recently published statistics of the British Board of Trade show that while the cost of living has increased 34.3 per cent under protection in the United States, the cost of living in England, under free trade, increased but 7.7 per cent during a like period. Another official table shows that while wages increased 18 per cent in England during a period of six years, wages increased in Germany during the same time but 10 per cent, and in the United States but 3.8 per cent.

Where a Briton earns \$2.20 in wages, a German earns 90 cents. Where a Briton works 100 hours, a German works 111 hours. Where a Briton pays \$1.20 in rent, a German pays \$1.47. Where a Briton spends \$1.20 on food and fuel, a German spends \$1.41.

TAFT ASKS \$30,000,000 FOR THE CONSERVATION OF LANDS

Washington, Jan. 6.—In the special message on conservation which President Taft will send to congress Monday, a loan of \$30,000,000 to complete existing reclamation projects will be suggested.

Western senators who have visited the president have been given to understand that such a loan will be asked. The loan probably would be floated as short term bonds or certificates of indebtedness.

Senator Carter and some of the other western senators are inclined to favor the issue of certificates, but Senator Borah, who is the author of a bill for a \$30,000,000 bond issue, is opposed to certificates. He believes bonds would be taken up more readily.

Roosevelt Party on the Move

Holm, Uganda Protectorate, Jan. 5.—The American hunting and scientific expedition of Theodore Roosevelt left today for Entebbe, which it is expected will be reached tomorrow. All are well.

Ex-Alderman Carey in addition to the task of looking out for the business of the brick trust on the improvement board will be able to regain his hold on the pool room interests while a member of the "restored" Harrison regime. His activities with Jim O'Leary in the "good old days" are not difficult to recollect.

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Santo Domingo, Jan. 5.—The United States dispatch boat Mayflower, having on board Secretary Dickinson and Gen. Clarence B. Edwards and party, who have been visiting Porto Rico, arrived here today. The political situation here is quiet.

Howarth to Lecture on Modern Social Problems

The University Lecture association announces a course of six lectures on "Modern Social Problems" by Prof. Ira W. Howarth in the Abraham Lincoln Center, Oakwood boulevard and Langley avenue, on consecutive Tuesday evenings, beginning Jan. 4, and repeated in the Lewis Institute, Robey and Madison streets, on consecutive Thursday evenings, beginning Jan. 5.

The subjects of the lectures are as follows: Jan. 4, "The Industrial Problem"; Jan. 11, "Living to Work and Working to Live"; Jan. 18, "Getting a Living and Making It"; Jan. 25, "The Labor Question from a Social Standpoint"; Feb. 1, "The Labor Question from a Social Standpoint"; Feb. 8, "The Industrial Ideal."

The Hustlers' Column

NINETY-FOUR NEW SUBS YESTERDAY

It could be worse, but it also could be a whole lot better. This doesn't quite come up to our New Year's Resolutions. We'll get started though and boost that circulation with a whirl!

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CARTER IS HOPE OF COUGHLINITES

First Ward Ball Will Be Restored if Harrison Is Made Mayor

"Give us the good old days of the First Ward Ball and Carter H. Harrison," is the plaintive wail these days of Alderman John Coughlin, sometimes poet, oftentimes "banker," one time "Bath House." John has struck such a melancholy chord that it is not unlikely that one of these days he will see solace in song to the tune of that classic dirge "The Death March from Saul."

The First ward statesman has taken it for granted that the conditions that prevented the Coliseum annual will repeat next winter with the result that another "concert" or something even tamer will of necessity be substituted. "The fourflushers" are continuing to put it over," said John in voicing his protests, "but it won't last much longer. We'll soon have the good old days of Harrison when the 'knockers' were all labeled and you could see 'em a block away."

Dimmed but Not Vanished "In the good old days of Carter, the ball was boosted by all the live ones, and the others didn't dare use their hammers. Why your so-called 'best people' looked forward three months for the ball, and things weren't running at full blast until Carter himself would turn up and honor the place with his presence. And the mayor came in on a ticket bought and paid for by himself though fellows may laugh and say 'not so,' but I know where Carter got his make board. The First Ward ball will be restored; just put that down in black and white and don't you forget it."

"We'll probably hold the next First Ward ball two weeks after the inauguration of mayor. We'll delay the grand march until the council adjourns and then we'll try to get Carter to lead the grand march. And just watch them get into the band wagon. But we'll put up the bars on the 'knockers' and they won't get a look in. The First Ward ball and Carter Harrison must be restored to this long suffering town."

Here's the New Cabinet Mr. Coughlin and his friends are so confident of the "restoration" that they are agitating a cabinet. Here is their selection: Corporation counsel, Colin C. Fyfe. Comptroller, Edgar Allen Frost. Commissioner of Public Works, "Larry" McGann. Chief of Police, Frank O'Neill. Chief of the Fire Department, James McDonagh. Commissioner of Buildings, Ex-Congressman "Jim" McAndrews. President of the Civil Service Commission, George E. Cole. City Electrician, Edward B. Elliott. President Board of Local Improvements, Ex-Alderman "Tom" Carey. President Board of Education, Graham Harrier. "Jimmy" Quinn. City Sealer, "Bob" Burke. Oil Inspector, "John" Tansey. City Collector, John Tansey. City Purchasing Agent, "Tom" Fitzgerald. Health Commissioner, Dr. Reynolds. Traction Inspector, Ex-Alderman Herrman. City Statistician, George Sikes.

Old Glory for Carey Ex-Alderman Carey in addition to the task of looking out for the business of the brick trust on the improvement board will be able to regain his hold on the pool room interests while a member of the "restored" Harrison regime. His activities with Jim O'Leary in the "good old days" are not difficult to recollect.

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Maurice Hewlett Denounces Protection and Lines Up With Laboring Class London, Jan. 5.—With a lengthy manifesto addressed to the "workingmen of England," Maurice Henry Hewlett, the novelist, has entered the British election fight.

In the document he describes himself as "one of yourselves, gaining my livelihood by the work of my head and hand." He reminds the workers that they form the overwhelming majority of the electorate, and can gain everything they want by two strokes of the pencil in the polling booth. Mr. Hewlett declared he belongs to no party, but intends to vote for a liberal or a laborite, because: "First—The house of lords is a preposterous assembly, which has become dangerous to the state and must be abolished in favor of an elected body. "Second—Because tariff reform is the hopeless policy of reaction, that advocacy of which by the conservatives is due to washy sentimentalism and vile self interest in equal parts. "In this connection the novelist denounces protection as the capitalists' policy, because, he says, it enables the creation of rings, corners and trusts, "as," he adds, "they have them to their ruin in the United States. God keep us from such mischief as that." The third and fourth reasons for his attitude are that "only the liberals are serious about land reforms," and "the budget was a step in the direction of taxing the overrich for their own benefit and the benefit of the community."

Wealthy Cause War Mr. Hewlett declares that the monstrous expenditure for armaments has been maintained solely in the interest of the wealthy classes, "but for whom," he adds, "war would cease," and strongly denounces the attempt to stir up strife with Germany. "In demanding the removal of the 'church monopoly' from the schools, he says: "I have spoken strongly because I feel strongly. The thing is too serious for mince-meat remedies."

WOMEN'S LEAGUE TO HEAR OF STRIKE OF WAISTMAKERS Miss Mary McDowell will speak on "The Strike of the Forty Thousand," telling the story of the fight of the waist makers of New York for better living conditions, at the annual meeting of the Women's Trade Union League, Sunday afternoon, Jan. 9, at 3 o'clock, in Federation hall, 275 La Salle street. The election of officers and members of the executive board for the coming year will also be held at this time, the polls being open from one to four o'clock.

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AIDS OFFICIALS; STRIKERS STARVE

Taft Hears Railroad Magnates and Grants "a Few Concessions"

Washington, D. C., Jan. 5.—Pursuing their usual soft pedal tactics, the six railroad chiefs who came to Washington to see Taft on the proposed amendments to the interstate commerce law, report that they only secured a few concessions from their president. In the meantime Taft is making the changes secured by a mere two and a half hours' discussion while the switchmen out in the northwest are fighting poverty, and starvation day after day in the hope of securing an added pittance to their wages.

It will be Thursday before congress will hear from Taft on the proposed railroad legislation. On that day the anti-trust message will also be forwarded, recommending the voluntary federal incorporation law. This the president will follow on Friday with his message on interstate commerce matters, which will recommend the establishment of an interstate commerce court; the regulation by the interstate commerce commission of all future issues of stocks and bonds by interstate carriers; the right of the shipper to select his own route; the right of the commission to initiate investigation, and the prohibition of railroads from purchasing stock in competing lines. Finally, on Monday, the president will send to congress his message on conservation. The anti-trust message will be about 4,000 words long. That on interstate commerce will use up about 3,500 words. The conservation message has not yet been completed.

Taft Firm as a Rock This is the program upon which the president has decided, and it can be asserted upon the highest authority that it will not be deviated from. The president has now heard all sides on anti-trust and interstate commerce legislation, including J. P. Morgan, whose mysterious mission to Washington last Friday morning, when he saw the president at the White house at 3:30 a. m., was to urge caution and conservatism in the administration's plans.

Toy Pistols Fatal to Boys Sikeston, Mo., Jan. 5.—The 12 year old son of L. A. Rector and Robert Thomas died yesterday of tetanus, following injuries received while playing with toy pistols, which were Christmas presents. The 13 year old son of Noah Randolph is dying from the same cause.

WARREN

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WEST SIDE Jewish Labor World, Twelfth and Halsted sts. Spravednost, Bohemian Socialist daily, 1825 Loomis st. B. Hlav, saloon, 3145 West 22d st. Henry Winnin, electric vapor baths, 1402 Blue Island av.

NORTH SIDE August P. Kelting, dry goods store, Belmont av. and Paulina st. E. Tamminga, paint store, 2711 Lincoln av. Sam Fossberg, tea and coffee store, Aldine and North Clark sts.

SOUTH SIDE Barney Berlyn, cigars, 865 East 63d st. Turnquist's restaurant, 3021 Cottage Grove av. R. A. Schoenfeld, dry goods, 6222 South Halsted st. See P. C. Lorenz.

THE SOCIALIZATION OF HUMANITY

An Analysis and Synthesis of the Phenomena of Nature, Life, Mind and Society Through the Law of Repetition A SYSTEM OF MONISTIC PHILOSOPHY By Charles Kendall Franklin

"I would rather write a refutation than an endorsement of this book, yet it is commended to students of Sociology and Theology because it is a very scholarly voicing of all that more or less widely spread latent and militant dissatisfaction with and opposition to the present social order, with its established and generally accepted rights of property and orthodox standards of religion. Every paragraph is a challenge to prejudices and provocative of thought."—The Christian Philanthropist.

"In one respect Mr. Franklin has the advantage over writers like M. Tardé or Prof. Lester F. Ward, who have treated of the same questions with far greater scientific precision, in that he is committed to a definite program of social reform, the basis of which is to be found in this book."—The Independent.

"The investigation is conducted with such broad-minded liberality that the deductions some times seem almost shocking, as is the case in the treatment of teleology. A system of monistic philosophy, such as this is, is rounded upon a naturalistic conception of things; that is, all things are due to natural causes, and we ascribe certain things to supernatural agencies only because of our ignorance, and our inability to comprehend their real origin. The argument of the book may be summed up in a few words. Under the individualistic system, men work at cross-purposes, and much energy is wasted. This is caused by lack of understanding and of an intelligent foresight. Energy will seek the line of least resistance, and in time, when men become more social, it will be seen that there is least resistance when men work in harmony for the good of all. Thus will come about the socialization of humanity."—Boston Transcript.

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Unions and the Trusts

The Daily Socialist has been telling its readers something of the conditions existing in the great department stores and mail order houses. It does not tell of these things because it hopes to show how "wicked" are the men who are conducting these great industries.

There is another reason why the study of conditions in these industries is of especial interest to working men and women. The department stores represent the NEXT STEP in local retail trading. The mail order house represents the NEXT STEP in national retail trading.

These stores have risen upon the bodies of a multitude of competitors. This is the logical law of competition. The Socialists were the first to point out this law, and for many years it was denied by all the wise men of the schools.

Facts have proven that the Socialists are right. The trust is the advance guard of modern industry. It is the industrial prototype. The trust cannot be destroyed. The department store cannot be dissolved into corner groceries and long rows of little shops.

He sees that the trust, the department store and the mail order house are the fittest to survive amid industrial cannibalism, in part, at least, because they are the most effective devourers of human beings and human labor power.

These gigantic establishments are all anti-union. It was in Montgomery Ward's that the great teamsters' strike started. It was the department stores that constituted the backbone of the Employers' Association that broke that strike.

The beef trust, the harvester trust, the sugar trust and the oil trust all pursue the same policy, while the relentless exterminatory war of the steel trust upon organized labor is one of the bloodiest chapters in the class war.

It is not from pure love of power, and still less from innate depravity that the policy of union crushing has been adopted by the great trusts. IT IS BECAUSE IT MAKES EXPLOITATION EASIER.

Only unorganized labor would endure the treatment given to the employees of the department stores and the mail order houses. It is only when the unions are destroyed that the horrors of the "Jungle" of the stock yards are possible. Only when the shops are closed to union men can the inferno of the steel works reach its fiendish perfection.

If these trustified industries are forerunners of what shall be universal in industry, then it is time that labor is bestirring itself.

A world of State street stores, of Montgomery Wards, of packing houses, Argos, Pittsburgs, Garys and South Chicagos would need no additional touches to meet all the specifications of a most orthodox hell. Unorganized workers, with all power of resistance crushed, women and children driven to desperation and death and shame, tantalized with "welfare work," spied upon, catechised, bullied and squeezed out of the last drop of productive power—are these to be the workers of the future?

They will be unless labor awakes. It must awake to the necessity of using every weapon at its disposal. No stone must be left unturned in the effort to organize the laborers in trustified industries. If present forms of organization are inadequate to the task, the substance of united resistance must be cast into new forms of united action.

While the trusts forecast the NEXT step, it is not the LAST step in industrial evolution. When concentration has proceeded to the point where unified management, operation and exploitation has been perfected, it is time to take the next step to collective ownership. The hydra of capitalism, having reduced the number of its heads, is easier to decapitate. When the workers are confronted with the alternative of the malevolent feudalism of trustified industry and fraternal enjoyment of socialized industry it is not hard to tell which they will choose.

THE FURTHER CONCENTRATION HAS PROGRESSED, THE FEWER THERE WILL BE TO OPPOSE THE CHANGE TO SOCIALISM.

Same Old Crime Wave

For several weeks the temperature in Chicago has been continuously below the freezing point. It has been many years since there has been so long a cold spell.

At the same time Chicago is being swept by a "crime wave." The number of assaults, holdups, burglaries, murders and suicides has far exceeded the number of similar phenomena during the summer months.

It should not require a professor of ethics to discover the reason. The pinch of poverty is closer when it is emphasized by frost bites. When men see their families cold as well as hungry, when their ragged arge drives them to actions, in the satisfaction of the more keenly felt wants, that they would not take under other conditions.

All this is so simply true that it would be hard to find anyone who would deny it. Yet our whole civilization, our entire system of ethics, of criminology, of administration of the law and of praise or blame is placed on a denial of this plain, undeniable fact.

If we grant that it is poverty and cold that causes crime, then it is poverty and cold that should be attacked and not the individual criminal. If we attack poverty, then we must attack the capitalism that causes poverty. We must admit that just as men do not murder and assault their fellows because they are wicked so much as because they have been robbed of the chance to satisfy their wants by the production of wealth through the exercise of their strength and skill, just so we must admit that exploitation is not because of "wicked" capitalists, but because of an unjust system.

When we begin to admit the apparently simple truth that a cold wave causes crime we have opened up the line of logic that ends in the demand that all human beings should have access to the means by which wealth is produced. We are started on the road that ends in Socialism.

A Little Song for 'the System'

BY CHARLES EDWARD RUSSELL

(The following is taken from the recently published volume of poems "Songs of Democracy.") Still have your flag, my masters Press on your pleasant way, Heed not if huge disasters May skirt some other day; You are of the appointed And we but things appointed To serve your sovereign will— To serve and offer from our need The largess due from need to greed. Dear lords, be blithesome still.

Wanton and waste and wallow, Stretch out your careful span, Remock with pretense hollow The laboring soul of man, That patient, uncomplaining, Through waxing strength and waning, Your joys and gains caress. Yours is the fifth of thirty times, Of golden ways an sunny climes, So long as he endures.

Rewrite in your greasy letters The old taboos of the law, Blind up with gilded fetters And clutch with gilded claw. On us work all your pleasure Who toll to make your treasure, A patient ass and strong; Be confident and light of heart, In stately hall and money mart, We thank you for our wrong.

Rot out the heart of the nation, Control its courts and camps, Thrust into the highest station, Your snug smooth thieves and scamp. We know we hope, our duty, We sodden things and sooty, Take all and do not spare. What fault, O lords, have we to find We serts that bear the banner mind? Thieve on! We do not care.

But the time will come, O lords in fine array, When we shall fool the fools, And the pleasant play; When Fortune and Fraud will avail not And the awakened man will ask not But smite his bond in twain. What shall you say if he but ask The reckoning for his long sore task, And his stolen hours again?

THE FUNNY MEN

BY ROBERT HUNTER

If there is any animal on this earth as amusing as the ordinary reformer, I would like to buy him. If there is any animal as inconsistent as the ordinary reformer, I would like to behold him. As soon as the reformer reforms anything he begins immediately to reform the reformer. As soon as a reformer gets what he wants he despises the thing he got. The other day the City Club of New York gave a luncheon. It invited ex-President Eliot of Harvard and Ambassador Bryce to speak on the ballot.

These distinguished reformers have been trying for years to get good men in office. They don't like bosses, and they hope to destroy bosses by monkeying with the ballot. And in Massachusetts they played a trick on the bosses. They took away the party column and put all the names of all the candidates for office in one long column arranged in the order of the alphabet.

That was a grand reform, and it very much tickled the reformers. They chuckled mightily at the trick they had played on the wicked bosses. Well, they tried the thing, but somehow it did not touch the bosses and it did confuse the college professors. President Eliot says that recently he had to vote for candidates for sixteen offices. He tried to pick out the nominee whom he thought were good men, but he could only recognize five names on the entire list.

In other words, he was up a tree and so he picked out all the names that had Republican behind them and voted the straight ticket. Ambassador Bryce confessed that in a recent election in London he only recognized one name on the long list of candidates. He knew that that name belonged to a Greek scholar and a man of high character. He decided to vote for him, and I suppose he then shut his eyes and put the necessary additional crosses on the ballot.

Now you see, poor, ignorant workmen that you are, how intelligently the reformer reforms. He has a new idea every few minutes, fights the bosses to carry out his new idea, and then has to fight the bosses again to destroy that new idea. And the boss wins all the time. He is on the job. He is a professional. He knows an ace in a ace whether it is dealt from the bottom of the pack or from the top of the pack. I was talking to a reformer the other day and he was discouraged about "the good man idea" in politics. He said he had rather keep an old corrupt boss in power because he knew just how bad he was.

A PUBLIC NUISANCE

BY JOSEPH E. COHEN

The theory upon which private individuals and groups of them are permitted to operate public utilities is a very simple one. It is that the incentive of the private party for pecuniary gain is so overwhelming that the utilities are sure to be capably managed.

There is some measure of justification for this view. The industrial development of America within the last few decades has been marvelous, and it is quite easy to attribute it to unrestrained "individualism." Of course this "individualism" is only a myth, palmed off on the unsophisticated as current history. However much it may have the ring of the precious metal, it is a gilded alloy. The public has ever been on the alert to keep that "individualism" from going stark mad and stifling the individualism of the masses.

Furthermore, the public reserves to itself the right to take over its utilities at any time, rewarding or punishing the custodians, as occasion may warrant. Under the circumstances, it is high time that the city of Philadelphia took possession of its streets, revoked the franchises granted to the corporation doing business under the title of "Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company," and proceeded to run the cars for the benefit of the public.

For the opinion is unanimous in Philadelphia that the traction magnates are utterly incompetent to handle the city's transportation facilities. They are not even competent to get dividends for the stockholders. And certainly that is the height of incompetency. Christmas day Philadelphia was visited by a blizzard. The company made no effort to keep the tracks clear, with the result that thousands of people never reached home that night, nor until next afternoon, passing hours in the frigid cars or car barns.

To show how entirely uncalculated for this was, one line was kept open and had little or no trouble throughout the storm. It is one of the crookedest routes in the city, and there is every reason to suppose that it might have been obstructed worse than some others. But the man in charge of that car barn is not of the ilk of the men at headquarters. He is one of the few entrusted with the company's interests who has a glimmering of social responsibility. He will probably be dismissed.

WHY A MACHINIST SHOULD BE A SOCIALIST

BY A WORKING MACHINIST.

Fellow machinist, as a brother craftsman I write this to invite you to consider with me certain conditions existing in our trade, and certain features of the political situation, which cannot fail to be of interest to you, and which you must admit to be both disagreeable and serious. First let us consider our trade as it is today, and compare it with the trade as it was fifteen or twenty years ago. You know from experience that methods have entirely changed.

To realize how important those changes have been, you need only to look at some of the tools used today. We have, as you know, ingenious tools with automatic attachments, which make it possible for a handy man or boy to operate several machines at once, and turn out a tremendous amount of work for low pay. You can see the result in the fact that less and less machinists are needed, and more so-called "specialists," who do not get the pay of a machinist.

We also have, in most shops, what we know as a "speed boss," who sets the pace, as well as time limit cards. These together make of the man who operates a machine an automaton. The results you can easily see: We are made to produce the greatest possible quantity of work, and when a man leaves a job his successor is compelled to maintain the record made, and at a lower pay.

It is plain, therefore, that the employer wants the largest possible output at the smallest possible cost, and this makes it impossible for the machinist to live comfortably, in such wages, especially as the necessities of life are getting dearer every day. Of course, we all want to change these conditions, to improve our position. Personally, I believe that there can never be any great change so long as we have what is termed capitalist ownership of the great means of wealth production. The capitalists control our work and our lives for their own advantage and benefit. We workmen must look after our own interests, and that is why I appeal to you to study Socialism. No matter whether you will agree with our program or not, it seems to me that you owe it to yourself and to all your fellow workers to study the subject.

I say this because the Socialists are the only people who, up to date, have offered any program for changing the things from which we suffer. Of course, we have the union, but that is not sufficient, as we have proved. Of course, the union has done much. I know that, and what I say here is not said as a criticism of the union. As union men let us look matters over a bit. The dues are high and assessments are frequent and our membership has decreased. Worse than that, when we make any effort to better our conditions we are "injunctioned," as we say, and brought face to face with the fact that we are defeated by our own power.

Of course, I mean by this that the injunction rests upon the ballots of the working class. It comes from a power which we have not thought of, ourselves, we have been playing with one and the other of the old parties, who promise much and give nothing. Right here our main fault lies. It is a common thing to hear a workman complain after election of the rottenness of the politicians. He forgets that he had the same thoughts after the previous election, and that he had then vowed to do differently; to vote for his own care.

I feel sure that you have, at one time or another, been disgusted by conditions. Perhaps you have felt that nothing could be done. But we must not give up the fight. Something must be done. Very likely what keeps you from Socialism is some misunderstanding. I know that many of our fellow machinists are in that position. So I make this appeal to you to study Socialism. We do not claim to "know it all," we make mistakes, we know that. But we are willing to learn. We want to understand each other—you to understand us and we to understand you. Won't you, then, give Socialism your serious consideration?



SOCIALIST PARTY GAINING IN STRENGTH

Somebody is very sure there is something the matter with it and they are discussing the problem pro and con. The impossibilists and Opportunists blame each other, and of late the Intellectuals have come in for their share regardless of whether they be I. or O. or have no nationality attached to them. Now the question came about soon after the election of 1908, and it is not going to down till after that of 1912 unless someone can get up on his perpendiculars and explain the wherefor and the why about that troublesome November in the year of grace 1908, from whence the trouble first got its inception; 1912 will cure all the ills, but it is too far off and meanwhile there is mischief brewing. Take a squint at the following and see what you get for result:

Table with columns: Socialist and Democratic votes in certain counties compared. Rows include City or County, Debs, Bryan, Parker, Bryan, San Francisco, Chicago (Cook), Rook Island (Ill.), Will (Ill.), Vanderburg (Ind.), Polk (Des Moines), Campbell (Ky.), Minneapolis, St. Louis, Omaha, Portland (Ore.), and States.

In the cities are included the most conspicuous examples of the point I wish to prove, and in the group of states are included all the points in which the Socialist vote fell below 1908 and 1909. The greatest Socialist gains were evidently made by disgruntled Democrats who couldn't swallow Bryan in 1904. Nothing else in the world can account for it and the results are surely shown here as the affected the Parker vote. Every state and the cities show a tremendous carve-in for him; in some over 50 per cent, and everywhere the Debs vote from 50 per cent to 800 per cent. Parker's total vote in the United States fell 1,800,000 short of Bryan's in 1900, and Debs gained in the same period 300,000. In 1908 Bryan regained 1,320,000, or 120,000 more than had been lost, while Debs gained only 20,000 in that same period. In the eight-year term from 1900 to 1908 we gained 320,000 votes, while Bryan, the Peerless, could swell his party's total only 120,000.

There is a tremendous significance in this. The Democratic party is disintegrating, and but for its idol, William J., it would now be in rapid decay. On the other hand, a party of 95,000 votes in 1900 has 420,000 in its credit in 1908 and is rapidly increasing in party members and in subscribers to its press. Had Bryan run in 1908 Debs would not have exceeded 225,000. There is every reason to believe we made an actual, though not apparent, gain of 200,000 votes from '04 to '08. Is there anything the matter with our party? It has gained in strength, and, what is more important, in the improved character of its voters and rank and file of membership, from election to election. When we fully realize this there will be no room for complaint.

Personally, I believe in the tactics employed in Wisconsin and the above bears out the fact that such tactics brings voters and clinches them, too. We sustained a loss of 50 votes in Berger's halliwick, though Bryan gained 42,000 at the same time. No state having 25,000 votes in 1904 can show as good a record, although California is not far behind. As the skipper at sea who is anxious to creep up against the wind, I am in favor of tacking to the right or to the left, although steadily keeping the main direction in mind. The impossibilists try the direct course and get the hardest wind that ever blew. The fool sailors have never kept the helm in any Socialist party in the world and made good gains. Tack, comrades, but keep the main course clear.

JOHN M. CROOK, Chicago, Ill.

Rotation in Office

Even the Appeal has at last been drawn into saying something about the party situation. That is not bad—we understand the Appeal a little better. Now the Appeal is a dandy agitator. But it has shown in several cases that it has poor judgment facilities in the organization of anything but the "Appeal Army." In that matter it is a hummer. And we are all glad of that. However, that is one thing, and political action and organization is quite a different thing. Some day we shall have a real political Socialist party in America. Then perhaps the various and sundry independent and individual propaganda wings will not be going out to the Philippines in the middle of the campaign and dragging in by the hair things which are not issues at all, to the distraction of the party from the real issues.

The Appeal believes in "rotation in office," otherwise, the well known American capitalist political principle of "Give every good man a chance at the Pie Counter." We might learn a few things from the European Socialists—since they have been pretty successful. When they have found and tested their servants, and found them efficient, they do not believe in "rotation in office." Perhaps they ought to have its value explained to them—in which case we will delegate the Appeal Army to do the explaining.

Of course, the European Socialists also make the sad mistake of accepting with perfect calmness the services of plumbers for plumbing, carpenters for carpentering, printers for printing, and writers and speakers for their respective tasks. They have enough others of these respective crafts inside their party so that there is no lack of intelligent critics and cheerful knockers. But really, they ought to put some blacksmiths at their bookkeeping; then they would have a real proletarian movement. Now it is only a party of intellectuals—about three millions of them in Germany. What foolishness!

In France, Jaures has had official position in the party for years. In Belgium, Vandervelde has long been a party official. In Germany, Bebel, Singer and Kautsky have long years held party office; while in Austria also, Victor Adler has had opportunity to prove his merit by long service. But these are "foreign ideas," I suppose.

"The little ole Appeal" would have done better. Just about the time when he was in a bind about the working class political situation to be of some use and to discover the most effective methods of organization—step down and out in favor of another equally honest comrade, that the latter might also have an opportunity to pry open the mysteries of administrative processes as they must be carried on under present conditions—only to give way in his turn about the time that he discovers himself too unfit for the job.

The Appeal says that "the true mission of the party is to develop the intellectual capacity of the units (party members), and of them, and fit them for industrial and social self control." Well, then the Socialist party has the same mission for its members that Booker T. Washington's Tuskegee Institute has for the negro race. Wow! I had thought that the Socialist party was a political organization, constituted for the purpose of political action by the working class. And all of a sudden I learn from the Appeal that its mission is to serve as a kindergarten for intellectual. Perhaps the Appeal will modify that a little, if we give it time. Meanwhile, of course, if a comrade has served with advantage to the party

Jerome, Ariz.

Dreams

"A remarkable and lucky thing happened to me once when I was dead broke," imparted the aspiring poet. "It was near to the Christmas holidays, and I, needing money badly, sent a poem to a certain magazine. On the third night after, I dreamt that my poem had been accepted for fifty dollars. Of course, when I woke up I was much disappointed. But the very next day, lo! there came the fifty dollar check for verses!" "Oh, you were in luck!" "Wait. Two days subsequent, back came my poem, accompanied by an explanatory epistle from the editor. In this he said that owing to a dream his treasurer had dreamt the third night previous (same night as mine) the treasurer, under the impression that his dream was a reality, forwarded my check on his own hook." "Remarkable," indeed! Did you return the check?" "Oh, no! I sent back the poem, together with a note, stating that under no circumstances could I dream of returning the fifty."

An Impossible Combination

They were talking of the strange sights to be seen in a great city, and one man paid his tribute to New York. "I don't believe one of you could think of any combination of circumstances that hasn't at some time, occurred on the streets there," he said. "I reckon I know of one that's never occurred there," said Hiram Fowle. "What's that?" asked the other, curiously. "I guess," said Hiram, slowly, "that you've never seen, nor ever will see, a brass band going in one direction all the best of the folks going the other."

Value of a Reputation

"Why," exclaimed the astonished court, "the prisoner has admitted his guilt, and yet you find a verdict of not guilty!" "If your honor please," explained the foreman, "with due deference to you, this jury knows this much better than the court does. We have decided not to believe him under oath. We don't think he is guilty, even if he swears to it!"

He Wasn't Worth It

A woman went into a newspaper office in Moberly and wished to advertise for her husband, who had disappeared. When told that they charged \$2 an inch she went out, saying it would break her up at that rate, as her husband was over six feet long.

Her Own Invention

"It was Satan," said a mother to one of her children, "who put it into your head to pull Elsie's hair." "Perhaps it was," replied the hopeful, "but kicking her shoes was my own idea."