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Labor's Political Struggle

Notes Indicating the Progress of the World's Socialist Movement.

GERMANY.

On March 29th the Socialists of Germany will unveil a monument to William Liebknecht in Berlin.

During the legislative election in Stuttgart, Germany, where the Socialists made heavy gains, the soldiers were put in readiness as though some battle was about to take place. Now the "bad" Socialists in the legislature want to know what in blazes the authorities meant by such a formidable show of force.—Cleveland Citizen.

Emperor William's anti-strike bill, which was defeated, is the cause for a sensational situation in the German Parliament. A Socialist member made the charge upon the floor that the secretary of the interior requested the organized employers to raise 12,000 marks to aid in putting the bill through. The Socialists demand that an investigation be made and also that information be given of the government's connection with the organized employers in this and other matters. Some startling facts are looked for.

DENMARK.

In November and December local elections took place in one-half of the communes in Denmark. (In the other half only the highest taxpayers can vote.) One hundred and seventy Social Democrats were elected, as against 30 in previous elections. At the municipal elections of last year 556 Social Democrats were elected, as against 280 on the previous year.

AUSTRIA.

Comrade Adler, our candidate for the Reichsrath in one of the Vienna districts, received 25,248 votes—he was not elected. But in the Krain district two clerical-capitalist deputies to the Reichsrath were elected whose combined vote was—48. Such are the election laws in Austria.

The defeat of the anti-Semitic party in Vienna is described by the press of that city as a strong symptom of the break-down of its power. Three years ago there were 117,103 votes cast for the anti-Semites against 88,340 for the Socialists, but in the last election the Socialists polled 103,000 votes and the anti-Semites 95,000. The latter control the election machinery and are supported by the capitalists and the government. Thousands of Socialists were disfranchised in various ways.

ITALY.

The parliamentary by-election in the fourth district of Milan resulted in a glorious triumph of our Comrade Angelo Cabrino, the brilliant orator and journalist. Cabrino received 2,223 votes and his monarchist-capitalist opponent only 367.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The number of halls in London where Socialist meetings can be held is growing less. The comrades are now barred from Memorial Hall.

JAPAN.

"The Labor World," the Socialist organ of organized labor in Japan, published monthly at Tokio, is an attractive-looking paper of 16 pages—15 in the Japanese language and the front page in English. Its editor is Comrade S. Katayama. In rebuking an attack of "The New Buddhist," a capitalist sheet, upon its slight shortcomings in the use of the English language, the "Labor World" fires off this fine, effective shot: "We firmly believe that it is far better and more useful to preach the truth by coarse and imperfect tongue than to propagate a falsehood by refined and perfect language!" Right you are, Comrade Katayama. The propaganda meetings of the Socialist organizations at Tokio are well attended by workingmen. The Socialists are in close touch with the trades union movement.

UNITED STATES.

Local Dayton, O., is organizing a campaign band. Local Reading, Pa., has nominated a full city ticket.

J. Mahlon Barnes is on a tour in Pennsylvania, speaking for Socialism.

The Cleveland Citizen has just completed the tenth year of its existence.

The Workingman's Educational Society of New York now has 1,201 members.

Municipal election in Granite Falls, Minn., resulted in a Social Democrat landing in the city council.

Portsmouth, O., Social Democrats nominated complete city ticket, with Walter Bagley for mayor.

The comrades at Tacoma, Wash., have formed a Karl Marx Club—composed of women, too.

The locals at both Seattle and Tacoma have established debating clubs. They awaken keenest interest and are well attended.

Rev. Milton R. Kerr, Congregational minister of Westerville, Conn., has lost his job. Cause: preached Socialism.

Max Hayes of Cleveland has been elected to represent Ohio in the National Council of the S. D. P.

The Porto Rico territorial committee, S. D. P., appointed Comrade Santiago Iglesias as a member of the National Council for Porto Rico.

(Continued on Page 4.)

The Boytown Co-operative Railway.

FRED D. WARREN, in Bates County, Mo. Critic.

"Hi, Tommy, come and ride on my steam car." cried Bill Short as his boon companion passed the garden gate. Tom came over and inspected the "steam car." It consisted of a platform, about three by five feet, mounted on the running gear of an abandoned hand-car. A track made of old scantlings, boards, etc., was carefully laid out for a distance of a hundred feet or so.

"Ain't it a daisy?" said Bill, as he viewed his work with admiration. "Get on and I'll give you a free ride." Tom mounted the car and Bill started the thing going by pushing it along.

"Golly, but that's nice," exclaimed Tom as the end of the journey was reached. "Lemme ride back."

"All right," said Bill, "if you buy a ticket."

"Eh, a ticket? How much?" inquired Tom in surprise. "What's you got?" shrewdly inquired Bill, with the true financier air. Tom emptied his pockets and took an inventory. It disclosed the usual assortment of articles. Bill looked the collection over with a critical eye and said, "That will buy four tickets."

After considerable haggling the trade was made. By this time rumors of the new railroad project had spread throughout the village and boys of all sizes and descriptions appeared on the scene. Bill was soon doing a land office business. His exchequer disclosed the fact that he was getting wealthy. Soon he became weary of pushing the car and decided to hire a couple of boys to do the propelling act. This he did and soon the improvised train was going at a merry clip. Bill found this much more to his liking, and he made just as much "money" as before.

In a few days Bill had about every marble, every pin, every ball and ball bat in town, besides a miscellaneous assortment of kittens, dogs, cats, etc. But notwithstanding he distributed his favors in the way of labor to the different boys, there was a falling-off in business. He couldn't understand it. The boys were there and wanted to ride, the train was ready to start, and there were plenty of willing hands to do the pushing. Finally he hit upon the plan of giving reduced rates. This stimulated business a little, but after a short spurt the business fell again.

"I've heard dad talk about panics; maybe we're havin' one. Still I've got a plenty."

Bill, who was a shrewd financier, set about to relieve the distress. Bill had noticed that the "legal tender" which he paid to the boys to push the car, flowed back into his pockets rapidly and easily.

"Now, I'll just have these boys do a lot of things for me and get some more money in circulation, then my business will be good again." So, accordingly, Bill made it known that he wanted laborers to build a depot. The applications for places were numerous. He selected his gang and then made it known that he would buy boxes, boards, nails, etc. Soon the back yard of Bill's parents was the scene of active industry. Boxes, boards and fence palings were surreptitiously hoked and brought to the scene and exchanged by the boys for the very articles they had given for tickets on Bill's railroad.

It was a busy scene and activity in every department was stimulated. The railroad resumed operations on a larger scale, and the depot was rapidly nearing completion. The work was finished, but the miniature town had plenty of money, and the railroad still ran lively. In a few days, however, the railroad business dropped off and came to a standstill. Bill took an inventory and found that he had accumulated a large amount of wealth, besides having his buildings up and paid for.

"Must be another panic," he soliloquized, as, with hands deep in his pockets, he gazed through the little window of his depot at the anxious looking faces of the boys without. "I guess I'll have to do something to stimulate business again."

His fertile brain conceived numerous ways of giving employment to the boys who were anxious to ride. The yard was cleaned and the fences and trees were whitewashed; the garden was weeded, for all of which he paid liberally, knowing fullwell the "money" would come back. Business was good for a while, but was followed by the usual stagnation when the money was gone.

This time there was muttering among the boys. Tom, the first passenger, appeared to be unusually demonstrative. He saw that Bill was accumulating all the wealth of Boytown without the least effort on his part, and he began to cast about in his own mind for a means to circumvent the youthful railroad magnate. He first concluded to build a road of his own, but he abandoned this idea, for he realized that the boys would have nothing with which to buy a ride.

At last he conceived an idea. He called a meeting in Jimmy Simpson's barn, just across the alley from Bill's railroad project. Bill viewed the meeting with some misgivings. He did not altogether like it. He sent his bosom friend and lieutenant, Skinny Jones, over to report the progress of the meeting.

Tom called the meeting to order and commenced: "Now, feller citizens it won't be enny use for me to explain the situation. Youse know it already. We fellers want to ride, but we ain't got nuthin' to ride with, notwithstandin' the fact we've worked hard. Of course there air times when we have plenty of marbles, pins, chalk, and sich, but, as Bill's got it all, we

can only get it when he has something for us to do, and then we uns go and spend it with him over again, and he soon has the money and the product of our labor." At this point he was interrupted by thunderous applause.

"Now, feller citizens, I have a plan that I think will work, whereby we can have all the rides we want."

"What is it?" shouted half a dozen eager voices. "It's this way; we'll build a road of our own."

"Can't be did," shouted a voice in the rear. "Oh, yes, we can," replied the speaker. "We'll issue a notice to all the boys of this ere town and tell them that if they wants ter help they can have all the rides they want."

Contributions of material, etc., were called for and by evening an assortment of wheels, boards and timbers were gathered together. In a few days the Boytown Co-operative Railway was well under way. Little slips of paper were prepared on which was scrawled the number of hours each boy labored. When the road was completed lots were cast to see who would be the first passengers. After that the boys pushed and rode in turn.

Bill, the capitalist, was nonplussed. As he looked across the way and noticed the business the other road was doing he became envious. He viewed with alarm his now rusty car.

"I'll go over and see the blamed thing," he said to himself as he closed the door of his little depot and went out. He was greeted cordially by his former passengers, who took pleasure and delight in explaining to him just how the thing operated.

"I see that," replied Bill, "but where does the profit come in—who's a-making any money outen it?"

"There ain't any profit, and no one's a-making any money. We're all ridin' nad pushin' and every feller gets about six rides to one push. When we're workin' on your road we had to push twice to get enough to ride once. Oh, I tell yer, it's a great scheme."

"Believe I'll ride," said Bill, as he stepped on the car. He tendered the conductor some of the collateral that was good on his road, but that functionary refused it disdainfully.

"Dat don't go on dis line. If dat's all you've got you'll have to get off an' walk."

"Well, that's all I've got. How'm I to get what you fellers have got?" he anxiously inquired.

"Get off an' push de car an' den you can ride on dis line. Labor talks here."

The Queen's Coronation Robe.

Written for ADVANCE by JAMES ALLMAN, New York City.

Greppo is a weaver—it was he who when a proscrip in banishment in England made the coronation robe of Queen Victoria.—The History of a Crime. —Vic or Hugo.

In a squalid attic in Spitalfields
A weaver is plying his loom;
With work-worn hands the shuttle he wields;
But the wool and warp through the gloom
Is gorgeous in purple and crimson and gold,
With heaven's deep blue and with sunset red,
Like a rainbow-hued wave in a bright river rolled,
Quivers and glistens each silken thread;
But the weaver is poor and his face it is white
And the weaver's attic is empty and bare.
What means all that golden wrought vesture so bright,
Mid the want and the hunger and sadness there?
The weaver is weaving the robe of a queen,
But he weaves in his blood, and his tears in between.

Westminster Abbey's nave and aisles
Teem with a courtly crowd;
The Queen with her maids of honor files
Through an ocean of heads low bowed
She walks, and with bright iridescent sheen
Her robe glistens bright in each fold—
The gem-laden robe of a maiden queen
Tinctured with crimson and gold.
Bow, but draw back as the pageant nears,
Draw back in horror and dread!
The crimson is blood and the diamonds tears
By millions of laborers shed.
A rebel has woven the robe of this queen,
But he wove in his blood, and his tears in between.

Prof. Henry Davis, Yale University

"Following this harmony (establishment of universal peace) and conditioned upon it will come the co-operative state. As applied to economic reform this implies, of course, the removal of all restrictions of individual freedom and the equality of opportunity in all the means of production, and the distribution of wealth. This will be a necessity as far as the United States is concerned. For the population of this country will, at the present rate of increase, be 500,000,000 in 1999. If the wealth increases at the same ratio (which is not likely on account of the depletion of raw materials), there would soon be anarchy under the competitive system. The universality of education will make the competitive principle in any department of human affairs an insult to enlightened intelligence. Socialism is the next great political creed to occupy our attention, and the central problem in this creed is the question of the distribution of wealth. Hopeful signs are abroad that the problem will be solved peaceably, in the slow evolutions of things."

The tin plate trust proudly announces a dividend of 35 per cent on common stock. Have wages gone up 35 per cent in the tin plate industry?—Labor World.

Labor's Economic Struggle

Notes Showing the Strife Between Organized Labor and Capitalism

GERMANY.

A new factory Act affecting the labor of women and children came into force in Germany on January 1st. It raises the age at which children can be employed and it shortens the hours of labor. Work cannot begin before 5:30 a. m. or continue after 8:30 p. m. This is a slight improvement on the old law, but much might still be done.

FRANCE.

The employees of the underground railway of Paris have gone on a strike for higher wages and the reinstatement of men who have been discharged for "pernicious activity" in the union. The strike is general and the road is completely tied up.

BELGIUM.

A bitter struggle is on in Antwerp, Belgium, between the dock workers on the one side and the employers, their scabs and government officials on the other. In the great strike several weeks ago the men went back to work under a compromise, and then began a battle between the unionists and the allies for the mastery. The latter make no secret of the fact that they are attempting to destroy the organization, and the most tempting offers of promotion and financial rewards are being held out to the unionists, but so far with little effect. Arrests, fights and court trials are numerous and the end cannot be predicted, as neither side shows signs of yielding.

RUSSIA.

Upon the request of the great "Captains of Industry" in the governmental department of Kurland and Finland, there was established a "mounted factory police" which is kept by the government and the industrialists.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The Associated Iron Moulders of Scotland Society, which has a balance of £66,665, is relatively the wealthiest trade union in Great Britain.

Mr. Richard Bell, M. P., General Secretary of the Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants, in his new year's address to the members points out that the Union in twenty years has grown in membership from 6,300 to 6,500, while the funds have increased from £24,000 to £250,000.

English capitalists and their newspapers are greatly disturbed because American manufacturers are getting the best of them in the competitive field. The London Spectator wails that the cause for this sad state of affairs is that the English workmen, owing to trade union influence, refuse "to render an honest equivalent for their wages." The Times and other organs speak in a similar strain.

Another increase of 5 per cent in wages was received by the miners in the area of the Miners' Federation of Great Britain on January 12th, which will average about £1 or 14d per week. There is to be a similar advance in the first week in February and then wages will have reached a point not previously known in the history of mining in this country, namely, sixty per cent above the rates of 1888. The price of coal is also higher than at any previous date. A century ago only one-third the present amount was charged for it.

SPAIN.

At Gijou, a fortified sea town, more than 15,000 workmen are striking for the eight-hour day. The government, the "committee of the ruling class," tries to break the strike by sending troops, declaring the martial law, and furnishing scabs. Soldiers are ordered to take the places of the strikers in the bakeries and other workshops. They have also taken the places of the strikers on the railroad between Madrid and Portugal.

CANADA.

The first daily labor paper in Canada will soon make its appearance. The labor party of Nanaimo have decided to turn the Herald into a daily.

JAPAN.

Japan boasts of a number of well-organized trades unions. The first three labor organizations in Japan were the Railway Engineers' Union of the Japan Railway Company, the Printers' Union and the Iron Workers' Union. To these were added the Shintoku Kumiai (the Cooks' Union), the Kogio Domei Dantai (the Industrial Union), with some 800 members and a co-operative factory which employs 11 of the union members, and a cargo-boat sailors' union in the harbor of Tokio which counts 700 members. On the 15th of December these organized sailors struck for higher wages, and after a strike of only two days they won a complete victory.

UNITED STATES.

Chicago stationary firemen will strike for the eight-hour day in the spring.

A Chicago judge decided that boycotting was legal in an action brought by a contractor against building craftsmen.

Unions in Buffalo are warning craftsmen to remain away from that city, as too many workers are flocking in in anticipation of securing jobs during the exposition.

Judge Hall, of Oakland, has declared the law limiting the work-day on all state or political subdivision work, to eight hours, unconstitutional.

(Continued on Page 4.)

ADVANCE

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Constant Reader and many others: No! Harriman, the railroad organizer, is not "our Job," the Social Democratic organizer. The efforts of both, however, make toward the same end—complementary to each other, as it were.

San Jose capitalists will soon find out that Socialism cannot be choked off by their petty municipal ordinances or their pettier municipal official lick-spittles. The Social Democratic Party is determined to achieve complete liberty for the working-class and will not brook any interference with the liberty of speech that has already been gained.

The wave of reform that periodically sweeps over the country has struck San Francisco. When it subsides it will leave the afflicted community with a lot of cheap-notoriety, reform-humbog politicians perched in the high places, whence, like vultures, they will, from time to time, descend to feed on the carrion that festers in the city's slums. This is what has occurred in the past—witness Mayor Phelan and Chief of Police Sullivan.

The basis of liberty is economic independence—the ability to earn one's living without the aid or consent of anybody else. This, however, is a physical impossibility and we are obliged by the necessity of the conditions of industry to have regard for our fellows' interests and even to co-operate with others in order to produce wealth in any abundance. Instead of economic independence we actually have a most intricate and complex system of interdependence. Necessarily, therefore, liberty is restricted by the duties which our relations with others impose upon us. But what we of the Social Democratic Party desire to accomplish is that—accepting the necessity of interdependence, of mutual restrictions upon liberty—that there shall be in work and in the fruit of work equality of rights and duties.

The funeral of Queen Victoria has been exploited to a disgusting length by the daily press. The most minute details have been cabled across the continent for the edification of the humble Irishmen in the hovels of Tar Flat. The comments upon her career have been most extensive and adulatory. And yet, nothing that she ever did can be pointed out as of distinct benefit to the human race. The only notable thing of her reign was its length. She was a mere, unimportant, political figurehead and a social functionary of very doubtful value. Contrast this with the brief notice of the death and funeral of Wilhelm Liebknecht, a man whose fifty-five years of service to the cause of labor built up the Social Democratic Party of Germany and advanced the mighty international Socialist movement—a man who, in strength and nobility of character, towers above the deceased monarch as a mountain towers above the plain. It is a pointed commentary on the democratic pretences of the capitalist dailies.

W. D. Bliss is out with a paper, "Social Unity," in which he advocates the "unity of all the people" in one "organization," which shall respect alike the opinions of the Christian and the atheist, the millionaire and the mendicant (we presume also, the reactionary and the revolutionist). Having once gotten them all into this amorphous "organization," he purposes finding out what they all want and then working for that end. We humbly suggest that the United States Government presents a ready-made organization that includes all the people, and that its politics represents the efforts of its citizens to obtain what they want. What does Bliss want? And why does he not strive for it in the organization that is here?

Why do we advocate the class struggle? Why do we not preach love and harmony? Because we are determined not to remain wage-slaves. He is blind who does not see that in modern society, under the capitalist system of industry, there are two classes—one is the class of capitalists, who own the means of producing and distributing wealth, who extract, from the labor of wage-workers they employ, profit, rent and interest; the other is the class of wage-workers, whose labor produces all wealth, who are dependent on the capitalists for opportunity to work and who are forced to yield up three-quarters of their product to the capitalists when employed. To preach love and harmony is to preach contentment with present conditions. If we seek to establish harmony between the capitalists who plunder and the workers who are plundered we seek to perpetuate wage-slavery. But if we preach a class struggle, we tell the plundered to rebel against the system which enslaves and robs them. We organize them to fight against the class that seeks to continue the present system of property and oppression. We educate them to throw off all class-rule and establish equality and liberty. We seek love and harmony by abolishing the master class that plunders and oppresses the people. We seek to abolish that class by rousing in organized revolt to struggle against it—the plundered and oppressed, the working class. Are you answered?

THE LIBRARY PRIZE WON.

Comrade Theodore Molitor of San Francisco wins the first prize for the greatest number of subs procured for ADVANCE, topping the list with fifty and one-half yearlies.

Comrade J. J. McLean of Independence, wins the second prize with 33 bulls-eyes.

Comrade A. Sommers, of San Francisco, barely wins third place with 16 scalps at his belt.

The libraries will be distributed as soon as we get final orders as to choices from the successful contestants. To those comrades who just failed we extend our thanks and condolence, and hope that the next time they will hustle to better advantage.

UNITY.

The enthusiasm with which the Social Democratic Herald is now working for unity of Socialist forces has rushed it into the slight inaccuracy of claiming that it and the Chicago Board have all along been the staunchest friends and pre-eminent workers of that movement. This we are so glad to see that we will not urge our own claim further; but content ourselves with presuming that both sides sincerely desire a cessation of factional strife and are ready to engage in a reasonable discussion of the best method of uniting and organizing the consolidated factions of the Socialist movement.

The points of divergence heretofore have been the "spirit" of the parties, more definitely their tactics, the constitution and party press, and last, let us hope least, party name.

That the fear of the "spirit" of the S. L. P., of the "narrow, intolerant bigotry" of its tactics as seen in the "Kangaroo" has passed away from the dream-haunted vision of the Chicago Board is seen in the extension of the hand of fellowship to the followers of De Leon. We hardly believe that the S. L. P. will consider any overtures for peace and union. It will be a very great climb down on their part to do so, after their continual vilification of the "Deberie." One thing is sure: they will have to give up the S. T. and L. A. and their anti-trade-union tactics before we will desire to travel in their company. Before they will do that they, according to the adage, must learn by the experiences of justly deserved insignificance the utter folly of their ways. However, though the S. L. P. will probably remain by itself, we welcome this proposition from the Chicago Board as an indication that it sees no more "spooks."

The question of organization is a very grave one and should be thoroughly discussed. The Chicago Board has been reconstituted by the addition of members outside of Chicago, thus conceding the point that intelligence and executive ability exist beyond the bounds of the pork metropolis, and that circumjacent territory has some rights in the management of party affairs. The Springfield N. E. C., elected from three different States, works very well and is a more representative body than the Chicago Board. The new organization, if any results, will have this problem on its hands: What is the best possible arrangement in regard to the National Executive, regarding location, representative character and method of election? We invite discussion of this question and will be pleased to print the opinions of comrades on this important matter.

Besides the constitution the condition and method of support of party organs should be considered. The present method of quarterly paper due stamps is clumsy and impractical. It is expensive to the paper and unsatisfactory to the subscriber. Something else should be devised.

There are other things which we will suggest and ask for opinions on hereafter. We think that the plan of the Chicago Board can be made the basis of a permanent united Socialist party. We should take care in pursuing it so that each step will be the most beneficial to our cause. Only good can result from debating thoroughly everything in connection with it. Let us hope that temperate discussion, resolving on the wisest plans, will attend all negotiations that make for solidarity.

RAILROADS AND STEEL.

Within the past week two great combines have been effected. The Southern Pacific Railroad has been bought up by the Harriman-Vanderbilt-Morgan-Gould combine, and the Carnegie Steel Company has passed into the hands of Rockefeller and his pals. These two industries, the railroads and the steel, are now absolutely controlled by the two greatest industrial combines the world has ever seen. The vast wealth possessed by these trusts makes them the most powerful organizations that have ever existed. No one can deny that wealth is power. On every hand we see its dangerous and insidious work. Every branch of government is being made subservient to its demands. "Business interests" are always consulted, and never fail to dictate what legislation shall be enacted and executed. Not only the petty municipal offices and the State legislatures and judicial positions, but even the United States Senate has fallen under the complete dominance of millionaires; the executive department has become but an annex of the corporations and the Supreme Court stamps the sanction of the constitution on their acts of greed and plunder. Knowing the immense influence which corporate wealth exercises over government, now, it is not a mere calamity howl to raise our voices in desperate warning against the grave menace to our liberties and democratic institutions, which these new, stupendous combinations of wealth present.

No nation has ever survived the concentration of wealth and power in the hands of the few. Babylon, Persia, Macedon, Carthage and Rome alike bear testimony to the degeneration and collapse of empires when "wealth accumulates, and men decay." There is but one hope for the American people. The tightening coils of the oligarchy of wealth may yet be torn from the body politic if, in their might and manhood, they will organize under the banner of the Social Democratic Party, and deal a death-blow to the system which nurtures their foe. There is no safety except in the complete destruction, the utter annihilation, of the capitalist system.

On every comrade in our cause a heavy responsibility rests. Every day that passes, the capitalists perfect their organization and consolidate their power. The Universal Trust is much nearer than is commonly supposed. Once it is accomplished, let no one think Socialism inevitable. It will not fall into our laps as the ripe fruit of industrial consolidation. The capitalists will not yield their places of privilege without a fierce struggle to retain them. To dethrone them, we will need the strongest organization, the ablest direction and the widest propaganda. To secure this is a duty incumbent on each and every comrade. We must spread the light, we must organize the movement, we must give our best thoughts to its aid; that, when the opportunity and the crisis comes, we shall not be found unready or unable to cope with the situation.

When purchasing goods see that they bear the union label.

IN THE

Industrial Arena

BY A. R. ANDRE.

Wage-workers, who belong to any trade that is not yet organized should send their names and addresses to the "Labor Editor," these names will be classified into their respective trades and as soon as enough are obtained of any occupation, a meeting will be called and a union organized. All unions organized through the medium of "ADVANCE" will be affiliated with the Labor Council and the American Federation of Labor. Address all communications to "Labor Editor ADVANCE," 134 Murphy Building.

The principle underlying organization is as vital as the principle of life. It is what makes for the next step in the progress of all organic matter. It takes the warring atoms, molecules, animals and groups of animals and binds them together to advance the social good. To carry the idea a step farther, without organization there would be no world, no universe. The unconscious process that worked through the ages upon the plastic mass we call the earth, brought it eventually from a whirling ball of fire incapable of supporting life to the complete harmony, the complete organization that supports the thousands of diversified forms of life we have today. The nebular hypothesis has withstood the test of time. The whirling mass cooled and took shape. Aeons passed before life appeared, aeons more before man came to dominate. The cause of his coming, like the cause of his dominance, can be traced to organization. Man is the most highly organized animal in the world. His brain is a mass of interdependent fibres, cells and nerves that are the acme of organization. The process that finally brought him from the simple one-celled creature that floated on the surface of the sea to the complex many-celled man, worthy of standing shoulder to shoulder with the gods, is the same process we now see molding groups and nations. Just as the individual was subordinated to the family and the family to the clan and the clan in turn to the principality; so the principality gives place to the kingdom, the kingdom to the empire and the empire to the world nation, the goal for which we strive. With the dawning of the world nation will come the end of waste production, the end of wars of conquest, the end of starvation, competition and class struggle; it will mean a higher organization, a truer life for all men; it will mean a co-operative commonwealth that will embrace the whole round world. Is it not enough to make the heart beat? And the only difference between this upward struggle of the groups we compose and the groups in the lower life is that ours is conscious. Advancement or retrogression is a matter of our volition. Back of the head there is something that urges us into association with our fellows. This is instinct. It is the first step to organization, but it is not organization. Organization by men comes from reason. The men who represent the highest intelligence of any given group are the men who recognize that in union there is strength. There is no trust of one person; there is no great corporation of one person. These great powers in our country come from combination, and the first to combine reap the reward. These trusts and corporations represent the organization of smaller organizations in the capitalist class. We have a parallel in the wage earning class. In the latter we have the union of the unions. The San Francisco Labor Council and the State Federation of Labor represent this development in California.

The State Federation of Labor held its first annual meeting on January of this year, in this city. It came into being for the express purpose of completely organizing labor in California; to establish better communications between the labor unions of the State; to secure united and harmonious action in all matters affecting the welfare of the wage-earner; to circulate labor literature and promote economic intelligence; to create a public sentiment more favorable to trades-unions; to prevent unfavorable legislation and make known the enemies of organized labor. The organization will collect statistics of California labor and see to the enforcement of all laws calculated to benefit the laboring class. It will prevent the growth of child labor and fight the practice of black-listing, which is the favorite pastime of some employers. Every effort will be put forth by the organization to secure a universal eight hour work-day. Unsafe and unsanitary conditions in the work shops and factories will be looked into. Efforts will be made to maintain just and equitable wage schedules; to conduct systematic agitation for all union labels; to give scope and power to all authorized boycotts. The Federated Trades organization will endorse and protest wherever the interests of the laboring class in California are involved.

Another chapter in "the tale of a tub" was concluded when the ordinance demanding sanitary conditions for the milkers passed the Board of Supervisors. The bill developed some freak antagonism. One of the Supervisors, Hotalling by name, discovered that the measure originated with the Milksters' Union and not with the dairy owners, as he had supposed; he therefore fought its passage with considerable vigor, though poor logic. With tears in the voice he pictured the children suffering for milk in the event of a strike. He shuddered at the growth of a union that would sacrifice the lives of an untold number of infants for the sake of a bathtub. He appealed to the finer sensibilities of his hearers; he hinted at his support for other bills being worthy of consideration; he bullied; he badgered—and got just two votes.

Perhaps the Board knew his emotion was feigned and his fears for the suffering children a matter to be doubted. Perhaps the Board knew that he had an economic basis for his make-believe tears. Perhaps the dairy Mr. Hotalling owns over the bay might possibly explain all these things and a great many more to the Supervisors and make them so inconsiderate of his feelings that an answer to his outpourings would be ridiculous. They took so little interest in him that he was unconscious of opposition till the votes were counted.

The fact that men never advocate laws that take money out of their own pockets was lost on this embryonic statesman. He thought the dairy owners, being of rich and luxurious tastes, wanted to compel themselves by law to put their cow-barns in a sanitary

condition. His childish reasoning powers appear in this, but they come to the full light of day when he champions a good cause if originating with employers, and opposes it if originating with employees.

There should be a decided improvement in the quality of the milk delivered in this city in the near future. Half the horrors of the dairies have not been told. If the ordinance is enforced,—and it will be enforced, if the working people, the great consumers of milk, insist on its enforcement—these horrors will be abated if they are not entirely done away with. And standing out clearly above all the rest is the fact that another section of the great proletarian army, the milkers, will have such conditions of life that they will be men again, not merely beasts of burden.

There is a pregnant thought contained in the references to the enforcement of ordinances by the working people. It is time for the producers of the world to awake to the fact of their coming supremacy in government and to make it more than a phrase that drops glidly from the lips. There is such a large majority of working-people in this city, that if they stood together for a while they could run it to suit themselves. Take, for instance, the matter of early closing. The stores that cater to fashionable trade all close at six o'clock. It would be a waste of lights and money if they kept open longer. The women of the capitalist class wish rest and recreation in the evening. They do not find it going from store to store, making the slaves of the counter dance attendance on them till their brains are on fire. But the wives and daughters of the workingmen do find this a recreation. At least, they put off their purchasing till after six. They go into the stores to buy a dime's worth of ribbons or a fifty-cent feather, and resent the first evidence of weariness or impatience from the man or woman behind the counter. They forget, or they do not know, that standing on their feet for ten or twelve hours, forcing people to take what they do not want (this they must do to hold their positions), these salesmen and saleswomen have their nerves worn so thin that irritation is habitual and premature old age is a logical inheritance.

These conditions can be changed. But how? The wives and daughters of the working class must become conscious that salespeople are human beings. They must learn, as they were compelled to learn in Australia, that to go shopping after six o'clock is a crime. In Australia there is a law against keeping any store but a tobacco or drug store open after six o'clock. Yet nobody starves in consequence, or even experiences serious inconvenience. What has been accomplished on the other side of the equator can be done here, with this difference, that while in Australia early closing is enacted into a law here it can be done by voluntary co-operation. In point of fact it is being done right here in San Francisco and very successfully, Quinn, the hatter, 136 Third street, being the only man who opposes the early closing movement. The boycott levied by the San Francisco Labor Council on his store is levied also by every fair-minded man and woman in the community.

The milk-drivers, another section of the proletarian army, have decided to seek the benefits of organized effort, to better their condition. They have also caught the spirit of the times, and none too soon. They work from twelve to eighteen hours, seven days a week, and receive the princely salary of twenty-five to thirty dollars per month and board. The board consists of the usual combination of indigestible food-stuffs that are thrown to a hired man who is "found" in this part of the civilized world. Civilized world! Can it be? The milk wagon drivers will put in their demands at an early date for a day of twelve hours, sixty dollars a month, or forty dollars and "found."

These men are quite intelligent. But for their long hours of toil which rob them of all opportunities of study, they would undoubtedly catch from books the inspiration to be great. Some would succeed. If only one, and he did no more than write a poem that would brighten for a moment the gloom of life of some fellow-creature, or if he invented a machine or added a wheel to a loom that would lighten the burden of human toil, that alone would make the struggle for leisure a worthy one. Even without the poem or the invention as the result of the leisure, still are these members of our class worthy of our sympathy and our support. They are overworked and underpaid. You can help to change this by insisting that the man who brings your milk shall have a Union card.

The last bit of information we have for the "Arena" readers is in some respects the best. It concerns the women who have responded to the chief demand of the twentieth century. The milliners first, cloak-makers next, and now the laundry workers. Over one hundred women and girls responded to the call issued for a meeting at 1159 Mission street. The Laundry Workers' union presented an invitation to have the women join with the markers, distributors and washers in unionizing the steam laundries of the city.

President Goff, of the Labor Council, addressed the assemblage and assured the members they had no better champions to fight their battles than the union men of this city.

There is a cohesiveness in the ranks of labor today that is indicative of awakening consciousness on the part of the workers. This consciousness of kind contains within itself the germ of consciousness of class. With this feeling awakened in the breasts of the producers there is more hope for their eventual victory in the struggles of the future than if they had every one a diploma from a university, and sought freedom each in a different way. Unity of action on the part of this great class will inevitably mean the supremacy of the class. And why should it not be supreme? A large and ever-increasing majority of the people are workers. Without them the world would be a barren, unproductive waste. With them it is a cheerful, pleasure-supplying, comfort-giving abode, where man can find leisure to develop his higher nature. The only fault is that the cheer, the pleasure, the comfort belong to a very small class. And this class does nothing, or next to nothing, to produce these good things. The problem confronting us today is this distribution of the good things of life.. Or-

(Continued on Page 3.)

Correspondence

Eureka's Mass Meeting.

Sunday evening, January 27th, Rev. R. D. Clark, under the auspices of the Social Democratic Party, in Pythian Castle, addressed a very attentive audience, not a few of which were ladies, on the subject of "Co-operation vs. Competition." Mr. Clark acknowledges that he is not well read in Socialist literature, but his heart seems to be in the right place, and when the heart is right, the mind can be educated. This is the rock upon which we build our church. First, we must see the necessity for better conditions; then we must cultivate a desire for the change, after which a man will work for right conditions, guided by such light as he has. The Rev. Clark expressed a desire to address us again and as often as we may desire.

After Mr. Clark had finished his address, Comrade Levin gave us a speech of about fifteen minutes; he undertook the task of proving to the audience that it was not love for one another, that love was not the prime motive force that urged men forward in the effort to better their economic conditions; that it was not love that prompted the cannibal to abandon the luxury of human flesh, to turn vegetarian or seek his food in a wilderness of jack rabbits; but instead of this the cannibal came finally to see that his human prisoners were worth far more to him as slaves, to do his work, than to be served up on his table as "roast mutton" or "fried pork chops." The comrade then went on to show that love was impossible between two men who were scrambling for the same piece of buttered bread, when life itself depended upon the getting of that bread. There is no love between the man who gets the job and the one who was after it at the same time, who now finds himself hungry and desperate; none between those who have all the ease and luxury in this world, and those who suffer all the cold, hunger, fatigue, and face all the horrors of blighted hope.

The comrades were called to order after most of the visitors had left the hall, to make arrangements for future meetings. This being settled, Comrade Levin's case was brought up. It was moved, seconded and carried that the Eureka Section take up the case and fight it out, "if it takes all summer," reliable news coming to our ears that those who are pushing the case against Comrade Levin intend to make a test case out of it, being successful in having the case decided in their favor and against our comrade; the "move on" ordinance is to be enforced against the Salvation Army, Penn Mission and all other intruders; no more meetings are to be held on the streets of Eureka, except by sound money advocates and high-tariff cranks. All meetings on the streets hereafter, if the "move on" ordinance is declared constitutional, shall be carried on strictly under the supervision of old party frauds, green goods and bunco steers, and no speaker shall be allowed to take the stand who has not trained at least ten years in the school of hypocritical deception; he must have supplied himself with the latest stock of catchy phrases, phrases that are warranted to kill reason at the distance of two hundred feet in all directions from the sounding medium or center of disturbance, which is generally the escaping gas from an overloaded stomach of lager-beer and pea-nut candy.

If the city fathers are successful in their noble efforts to clear the streets of brains and wit, it need surprise no one if our jail is soon filled to overflowing with Socialists, Penit Missionists and Salvationists. It will do our religious brothers some good if they will look into this matter a little; they may learn that there are different kinds and qualities of salvation; that some kinds may keep over without spoiling, but that there are other brands that need their immediate attention. If we go off the street, they must go too; if we remain, they can stop or continue to hold their meetings at the "same old stand." Is it worth your while to look into this "move on" ordinance, brothers; or are you not interested in this brand of saving grace?

FRANK REED, Eureka, Cal.

A Capitalist Knight of the Scissors and Pen.

Editor ADVANCE: "We, the people of San Jose," meaning one man who, for a salary, has assumed the editorship of a paper generally known as the "Mercury," and is willing to prostitute his mentality at the behest of the men for whose interests he is employed, "arrogates" to himself, in the name of his masters, pretentious assumption of knowledge of what constitutes the right of the masses as against those of a comparatively few property holding capitalists, who object to men with the courage of their convictions and absolute knowledge of what they speak; and he tries to hide his ignorance behind pretended scientific phrases, like ugliness trying to hide itself behind artificial beauty.

In an editorial of today's "Mercury" he misconstrues the Socialist movement, as any good hiring of the powers that be would endeavor to do in order to securely hold his position as falsifier of public sentiments. He states in an "exotic and not necessarily choice" way that three men had been arrested, one of them "imported from Colorado," knowing full well that Mr. Harry Ryan has been a resident of this city for more than nine years; that Mr. F. C. Malkines is in this city over three years, and came from New York; and that Joseph J. O'Brien has been in this city since July last and is a Native Son of San Francisco.

He concedes the right to the police to violate the city ordinance, forbidding street-meetings in any part of the city, by saying that we could hold such meetings on the corner of Market and Santa Clara streets in front of some one else's store. We certainly did and will "turn a deaf and contemptuous ear" to any such requests, whether they be made by the police or any other so-called authority, who attempt to put themselves above the State and National Constitution. We most certainly claim the right to speak when and wherever we please in public places. We further claim the right to defy any self-assumed au-

thority and even ordinances, which are calculated to restrict the right of the great mass, as against those who are trying to obtain control of the country for private gain and self-aggrandisement, and are opposed to any science or philosophy not in accordance with their material interest, as was recently demonstrated in the affair of Prof. E. A. Ross, who had the limited courage to enunciate some academic truths on economic subjects in opposition to the material interests of the capitalist class. Was not Galileo tortured and imprisoned for having the courage to state that the earth revolves around the sun, contrary to the teachings of a certain class who lived by keeping others in ignorance? Did not Prof. Harvey share the same fate for maintaining that the blood circulates in the human body? Was not Charles Francis Darwin condemned and ridiculed for having announced the theory of evolution? Not because these men were wrong, but because their teachings interfered with the interests of a certain class, who made a living by having the people think and act as they would have them do. "That reform is needed," the knight of the pen and scissors, otherwise known as the editor of the "Mercury," frankly admits; but he has no remedy to offer for the ills that afflict the social organism. His ideas of Socialism are gathered from Herbert Spencer's "Coming Slavery," and he repeats it without first investigating the subject, thereby betraying his ignorance along that line. Parrots will repeat, you know.

Paul Hartmann.

"Nation"-alizing the Liquor Traffic

For more than eight centuries the world has laughed at the institution of chivalry as seen through the eyes of the immortal Cervantes. But Cervantes lived too soon. Had he lived in the beginning of the Twentieth instead of the Twelfth, he would have found a subject far better suited to his genius. Instead of chivalry he would have had Prohibition. Instead of Don Quixote and Sancho Panza, with their shining armor and prancing steeds, he could have pictured the substantial form of Mrs. Carrie Nation of Kansas, marching to the attack upon some illicit joint with her trusty hatchet in her belt and blood in both eyes.

The fact is statutory prohibition has never been anything but a huge though somewhat serious joke. Under the present economic conditions it has never stood the remotest chance of complete success. At rare intervals and in some few localities, it has seemed to do some good; but on the whole it has been a dismal failure. The difficulty has not been, primarily, to get the law passed. The trouble has really begun with the attempt to enforce it. The outer works of the enemy have been carried many times and oft; but the main citadel has always proved itself able to resist every attack. And the second difficulty has reacted upon the first; for the failure to enforce the law in prohibition States has operated to discourage its adoption in other States. Altogether it is a tough proposition, and Mrs. Nation has tackled it with her little hatchet. She has put her shapely foot down, and there is trouble a plenty in the land of the jimson weed, hard times and boot-leg whisky.

Prohibition has failed, and the Prohibitionists themselves are furnishing the evidence to prove it. For, when an advocate gets mad and begins to throw hatchets and hard names, it is more than evident that the case is desperate.

Socialists believe in "Nation"-alizing the liquor industry, but not with the hatchet. They believe that the ballot, rightly applied, while not as spectacular or dramatic, would be more effective.

The saloonist is in the business to make money; he must make money in some way, or society will turn him adrift on the highway. Judged by ordinary human standards, he is a fairly good man; he makes no lofty pretensions, but he is far from being a brute. He probably has no more of the original savage latent within him than the rest of us. He sells liquor for profit. It is not an ennobling profession; neither is killing innocent children by selling poisoned milk. The liquor business is reprehensible, but—there are others.

Now the Socialist would destroy the business by destroying the motive that gives it life—the motive of private profit. He would have the general government take charge of the entire business, wholesale and retail, and carry it on "for use and not for profit." The government would drive all private competitors out of business, not by statute law, but by the law of economics. There is no written law against the private carrying of mails; but no one attempts it.

Under government operation the evils of intemperance would be reduced to a minimum—few saloons, no poisoned liquor, no treating or public drinking; limited sales to adults and none to minors, saloons open and scrupulously clean, no questionable accessories such as lewd pictures, gambling rooms, private entrances, etc.; no side inducements, such as free lunches, salaried employes having no private interest in the amount of liquor sold; no saloon politics.

The Socialist, to destroy an evil tree, would not wildly slash at the branches, but would quietly cut the tap root. To kill a venomous snake he would not (as the Prohibitionists do) strike at its tail, occasionally snipping off a piece—which the snake can manage to do without—he would strike at the head, the vital part.

W. A. COREY.

Los Angeles, Cal.

Levin Defense Fund.

The undersigned have contributed to the "Levin Free Speech Defence Fund" the amounts opposite their names: Twenty-fifth Senatorial District Club, \$10; D. P., \$1; H. Grover, 50 cents; Emil Leiss, \$1; H. Lilienthal, 50 cents; Oliver Everett, 50 cents; John Messer, 25 cents; O. Johnson, \$1; R. Fleming, 50 cts.

Are you a Socialist? Then you believe in co-operation and organization. Be logical and join the party.

Local Riverside, Calif., has opened its headquarters and "Free Socialist Reading Room" at 972 Main street. Comrade A. Anderson, literary agent of the Local, is in charge of the same.

Labor and Politics.

Written for ADVANCE by JOHN PENNY.

London, January 13, 1901.

An Antidote to Hooliganism.

At a meeting of the Battersea Borough Council a week ago one of the most keenly debated points was whether it was right and proper to spend £30 on a series of free weekly lectures in the town hall on "Studies in Carlyle and Ruskin," and a further sum of £90 upon the performances by the borough choir and orchestra of "Hero and Leander" in February, and the "Messiah" on Good Friday. It was contended by the opposition that the people of Battersea cared not for high class things and would much prefer to have something of a more popular nature. On the other hand it was stated that the policy of providing these high class concerts and lectures had been fully justified by results. It had produced a definite diminution of crime in Battersea, especially of juvenile crime—so much was admitted by the police. I suppose the evidence of police is taken as final in Battersea. Anyhow the Council voted the money with cheerfulness. What strikes one about the debate is the wonderful development of municipal institutions in the borough. Municipal lectures, municipal concerts, municipal choir, municipal orchestra! How many other boroughs could show the like. An the debate turned not upon the advisability or otherwise of spending money upon free concerts and lectures, but merely whether the entertainment should be high-class or popular. It looks as if the provision of communal amusement had become such a recognized feature in Battersea as to be beyond discussion.

Two Reasonable Strikes.

Even the ardent labor advocate looks upon some strikes as frivolous and ill-judged, and consequently the capitalist is not always to be blamed when he sets himself in opposition to his workpeople, but two strikes have just occurred which bear their reasonableness upon their face, and even the sourest critic of labor would hardly dare to cavil at the men for their action. The first was in connection with the work being done on the royal yacht, *Victoria and Albert*, at Portsmouth. The carpenters complained that charcoal braziers have been kept burning day and night in order to evaporate the acids from the non-inflammable wood. The fumes from the charcoal were no doubt quite successful with regard to the acids, but they also partly asphyxiated several of the carpenters who finally came out in a body, to the number of fifty, and laid down their tools, refusing to work under such atmospheric conditions. The second and more important strike also occurred last week at the coal mines in the Clydach Vale, South Wales, where three thousand men refused to descend the pits, alleging that, owing to an insufficient supply of timber, their working places were unsafe. Who would decline to sympathize with the men on strike under such circumstances? This note contains the inevitable moral. Admitting that the men in the cases enumerated are justified, let no man declare henceforward that all strikes are unreasonable and due to the unscrupulous tactics of wicked, professional agitators.

I have been favored with particulars of the above association, which, if the expectations of its promoters are realized, is destined to play an important part in the social life of the nation in the near future.

The Public Houses Trust.

It cannot be too frequently pointed out that the liquor traffic presents one of the greatest problems that the workers of this country have to tackle. I am not writing this from the teetotal point of view, nor am I attempting to preach a temperance homily, but as a student of social questions I may be allowed to deal with some of the social and political issues without committing myself either to teetotalism or its antithesis.

We are all agreed that drunkenness is an evil. Even the individual who succumbs to temptation, "not once nor twice, but oft," will uphold the virtues of moderation in all things. Yet we have a vast amount of drunkenness in the country. How is it to be removed?

The extremist will cry for prohibition of the drink traffic altogether—probably without realizing that prohibition, if properly carried out, would mean, not merely the closing of the working man's club, the public-house, but the stopping of the sale of drink in the rich man's club and the draining of the wine cellars of the aristocrat, and, therefore, is as remote from possibility of accomplishment in this country as is communication with the inhabitants of Mars today; and probably without knowledge that where prohibition has been tried, as in some of the States in America, it has been worse than an unmitigated failure, for it has led to open violation and disrespect for the law and the corruption of its administrators. Prohibition as a remedy is, so far as this country is concerned, impossible of realization, and in those countries where a prohibition law can be passed, it is futile and harmful.

Drunkenness, then, is an evil, and it must be remembered that the tied-house system is conducive to drunkenness, because the publican is compelled by the terms of his agreement to take so much liquor every week, which forces him in his turn to press his customers to drink and drink again. And that the tied-house system is extending needs no statistics to demonstrate. Any one can prove the fact for himself by reading the sign-boards.

But the public-house is not merely a place where men may drink. It is probably the most efficacious political instrument in the country. It is a place where men resort. The publican cultivates friendly relations with his visitors, and at election times he wields an immense power over those who do not happen to possess very clear-cut opinions of their own. It is notorious that elections are not won by the party with the largest number of regular supporters, but by the party which can at any given moment obtain the temporary adherence of the largest number of waverers. Consequently the publican's power is almost unbounded. The trade united could make and unmake kings and governments, and that it is using its influence more and more every year, who will deny?

Many reasons, therefore, call for the grappling with

this huge monopoly. But the attack must be tactful. To cry loudly for abolition simply means forcing every publican, drunkard and moderate drinker to rally to the side of the millionaire brewer and distiller, and no progress is made. Hence one can appreciate the work of the People's Refreshment House Association which was established a few years ago, largely on the initiative of the Bishop of Chester who is chairman of the Executive Council. The Association has acquired a number of public houses in various parts of the country, all of which are flourishing and have been surprisingly successful in reducing the amount of drinking in their respective localities.

The salient features of the Association are:

(a) The manager is paid a fixed salary and has no interest whatever in the sale of alcoholic drinks.

(b) He is, however, allowed a commission on the food and non-intoxicating refreshments sold.

(c) Tea, coffee, cocoa and other beverages are supplied to customers as willingly and promptly as beer or spirits.

(d) Great care is taken that all the refreshments sold, intoxicating or otherwise, shall be absolutely pure and of the best quality.

(e) Not more than five per cent is paid to the shareholders, the surplus profits under the articles of association being devoted to objects of public utility.

The People's Refreshment House Association has been so successful that a big extension has been decided upon, and consequently we have the newly-formed Public Houses Trust, Limited, the object of which is to acquire as many public houses as it can in the metropolitan area and conduct them on the same lines as those adopted by the People's Refreshment House Association. It is the intention of the trust to apply for every new license which the magistrates may find it desirable to create. A similar Trust has already been formed for the County of Northumberland and steps are being taken in other districts with the same end in view.

Pending the complete municipalization of the traffic, which seems to me to be the ultimate solution of the drink problem, we can heartily recommend the work which the Refreshment House Association has done and that which the Public Houses Trust is about to undertake. If the demand for the prohibition of the traffic, either national or local, could be transformed into a demand for proper management and regulation, what a vast amount could be achieved in the direction of Temperance reform in the next few years. And if we once get the drink question out of the way what a great reforming force will be set at liberty to work wonders in the industrial and political world.

IN THE INDUSTRIAL ARENA.

Organization will solve it. Organization into trades unions to learn how to think and act collectively, how to manage great enterprises, and above all how to manage themselves, is the duty of the workers. This done, they will be in a position to take over and run for their own benefit the tools of production and exchange and assume all the functions of government. This is Socialism, my dear laundry workers and other slaves of the wheel, but so is everything that is worth while in human affairs in this age and time, Socialism. There is an all-embracing spirit about Socialism that you cannot escape, go where you will. The women and the men are included on absolutely equal footing. That is why the Socialists can arise and say with sincere honesty to milliners, cloak-makers, laundry workers, and all other intelligent women of the working class, welcome to the ranks of the organized! It is your duty, as it is your privilege, to fight for the emancipation of your class. FIGHT!

California Items.

In the case of Comrade F. C. Malkmes in San Jose, arrested for speaking on the streets, the court fined him thirty dollars or thirty days in the city jail. This is the second comrade arrested and there are four more cases to be tried.

The question of the validity of the ordinance giving a policeman unlimited discretion to stop any public meeting on the streets was brought before the Superior Court of Santa Clara county and the city ordinance was sustained.

The attorney for the party, Comrade Cameron H. King, will now bring the matter before the Supreme Court of the State.

This struggle to obtain the right of free speech is of vital importance to the party.

BOOK REVIEWS.

"The Communist Manifesto." International Publishing Company, 38 Turk street, San Francisco, Cal. Cloth, 25 cents; paper 10 cents.—This is the best edition of this Socialist classic that we have seen. The good paper, good type and good binding contribute alike to make a very neat and attractive pamphlet. No Socialist should neglect to have "The Communist Manifesto" in his library. Every paragraph, every sentence is replete with suggestive thought and strong philosophy. It is one of the most, if not the most, remarkable pamphlets ever issued. With its publication Marx and Engels made what future historians will consider the beginning of an epoch. For a library copy the present edition, bound in red cloth, with gold lettering, is the best we know.

"Science and the Workingmen," by Ferdinand Lassalle, translated by Thorstein Veblen, U. of C. International Library Publishing Co., 23 Duane street, New York.—To those who study Socialism Lassalle is always a fascinating figure. His great learning, his keen logic and his brilliant oratory made him the best agitator the proletarian movement has had. The pamphlet before us is an excellent example of his ability. It is the defence he made when tried before the Criminal Court of Berlin for "inciting hatred and contempt" of the bourgeoisie by his address, "The Workingman's Program." It is chock full of wit and wisdom. As a forensic effort it is well worth careful study. As an agitational speech it contains many excellent parts. It is published with the usual typographical excellence that characterizes the International Library Publishing Company books and pamphlets. Price, 25 cents. 84 pp.

Standard oil magnates are reported as having gobbled up the Rochester, N. Y., local lighting combine.

Call For General Vote.

Springfield, Mass., December 29, 1900.

Comrades: The National Executive Committee has received a number of resolutions on the subject of unity from various Locals of the Party, and it now becomes our duty to submit the propositions contained in the same to a general vote of the members in accordance with the provisions of our constitution.

In order to give the membership an opportunity to pass upon all questions involved in said resolutions, we hereby summarize them in the following:

Question 1.—Shall a National Convention of the Socialists of the United States for the purpose of effecting a union of Socialist forces and establishing a solid party organization be called for an early date?

Question 2.—Shall all Locals of the Social Democratic Party affiliated with the Springfield N. E. C. be invited to participate in such convention?

Question 3.—Shall all branches of the S. D. P. affiliated with the Chicago N. E. B. be invited to participate in such convention?

Question 4.—Shall all Sections of the Socialist Labor Party be invited to participate in such convention?

Question 5.—Shall all Socialist State organizations not affiliated with any National Committee be invited to participate in such convention?

Question 6.—Shall all other Socialist organizations recognizing the class struggle and the necessity of independent political action of the working class be invited to participate in such convention?

Question 7.—Shall the only condition of participation in such convention be a pledge to abide by the decisions of the convention?

Question 8.—Shall the basis of representation for all such organizations be one delegate for each local organization and one additional delegate for each one hundred members or major fraction thereof?

Question 9.—Shall two or more organizations be permitted to co-operate for the purpose of sending delegates on the above basis?

Question 10.—In what city shall the convention be held? Name city.

Question 11.—Shall the N. E. C. be authorized to fix the date and change the place and basis of representation of the convention with the Chicago N. E. B. or any State organization if requested by such organization? Respectfully submitted,

WM. BUTSCHER, Nat'l Sec'y.

The vote on the above propositions closes in California February 23d, at 6 p. m. All votes, in order to be counted, must be in the office of the State Secretary by the expiration of that time.

JOHN M. REYNOLDS, Sec. S. D. P., Cal.

Springfield, Mass., January 29th, 1901.

To All Locals of the S. D. P.: On the 1st of February a new system of keeping a record of the Party membership will be introduced whereby the N. E. C. can tell at all times the exact membership of any Local of any State or of the entire Party.

Heretofore all applications for membership were filed either by the Locals or the State Committees. Hereafter the National Secretary will keep a record of all members, and all Locals and State Committees are notified to forward all applications dated February 1st or after to the National Secretary.

In addition to the above all Locals are requested to send at once a complete list of members on the roll on January 1st.

Secretaries are requested to give this matter prompt attention so that a complete list of the Party membership may be had at an early date.

Beer Bottlers.

The regular meeting of the Bottlers' Union, No. 102, was held at the headquarters of the Union, 1159 Mission street, on last Tuesday evening, President Cohen in the chair.

A communication was received from Mr. Ernest Koenig, late Secretary of the local Union, No. 7, thanking the Bottlers' Union for the traveling case which had been presented to him as a token of their esteem.

The Secretary of the Milk Wagon Drivers' Union was admitted, and he requested drivers to see that at their houses the milk-drivers should show their Union cards.

It was announced that Quinn, the latter of Third street, was under a boycott from the Labor Council, and the clerks' efforts to establish the early-closing custom was approved and the boycott endorsed.

Brothers Raymond, Grosse and Rauer were appointed a committee to visit the newly organized Milk-drivers Union at its next meeting to assure them of the sympathy and active support of the Beer-bottlers' Union.

It was announced at the meeting that John Kroger, the proprietor of the Seal Rock Bottling establishment, was violating the agreement of the Association by employing non-union bottlers.

Respectfully submitted, MAT. O'BRIEN, Recording Secretary.

LABOR'S ECONOMIC STRUGGLE

Boiler makers' strike on the Erie railroad is imminent, and may result in a general strike amongst the shopmen of the system. About 3,000 men would be affected.

The total number of non-union bakers who deserted the bosses and joined the strikers in the big New York fight numbered over 600. The bosses are paralyzed and turn out very little work.

Miners were in their annual convention in Indianapolis and gave "trade autonomy" a black eye by deciding to take into the organization all workers employed in and about mines, including engineers, fire-

The switchmen are getting back to their old-time form. Their union was reorganized just a year ago, and at present it numbers 185 locals. The switchmen were always the most progressive and sympathetic of the railway organizations.

Employers in Fort Worth, Tex., combined and decided to destroy all unions. Lockouts are declared on every hand. Oh, no; there is no class struggle! The interests of Bro. Capitalist and Bro. Laborer are identical!

The miners and operators are now in session in Columbus. The latter want a raise of 10 to 20 per cent and minor concessions, and the bosses want to enforce a reduction. Both sides are making threats and sparring for advantages.

A labor secretary to compile statistics, watch legislation and fight cases in the courts and attend to other legal matters is to be elected by the New York Unions. Sixteen unions having a membership of 10,000 favor the idea.

Hodcarriers' union of Philadelphia has the unenviable distinction of being the only organization in the country to endorse the ship subsidy bill. As the Philadelphia hodcarriers are all ship-owners on the side, they are evidently in quest of some of the spoils.

The Colorado coal miners are striking for living wages and undergoing dire hardship. The capitalists controlling the mines cleared over a million dollars last year. The miners' demand would increase their wages by \$100,000 a year, leaving \$900,000 to the capitalists, but the latter refuse to yield.

Brooklyn Labor Lyceum, the mutual home of organized labor in Brooklyn, N. Y., which was destroyed by fire, is to be rebuilt. Appeals to all trade unions are being sent for a contribution of \$1, which may be sent to 949-957 Willoughby avenue, Brooklyn. It is a worthy cause and deserves support.

LABOR'S POLITICAL STRUGGLE

It is reported that a conference of Socialists was held in Asheville, N. C., in January, at which a committee was chosen to organize that state.

Students in University of Cincinnati formed a club to investigate socialism. Wilbur C. Benton, who has been connected with that institution for a number of years as registrar, has resigned and will put in much of his time speaking and organizing for the S. D. P.

The new national executive of the Chicago S. D. P. now consists of: Seymour Stedman, Victor L. Berger, Corinne S. Brown, Isador Ladoff and Frederic Heath; Louis E. Miller, New York; Margaret Haile, Massachusetts; G. H. Goebel, New Jersey; C. G. Clemens, Kansas; F. A. Lymburner, Iowa, and Alfred Hicks, Colorado.

Judge Doster of the Kansas Supreme Court, has come out in an address that is creating wide comment. "Young man," he said, "socialism is the coming power. Make your peace with it. It is an oncoming tide which will sweep this and every other civilized land in the next twenty-five years and down every party and politician that try to impede its flow."

And now the Italian-speaking Socialists are following the Hungarian sections and leaving DeLeon's sinking ship. Sixty delegates met at Newark, N. J., and resolved to sever their connection with Socialist parties and to start an independent organization, the question to be submitted to referendum.

Socialists of Chicago hold twenty meetings a week and are working like beavers. Prof. Herron's Sunday afternoon lectures crowd one of the largest theatres in the city, the audiences being enthusiastic and spontaneous. He has trained four young men as speakers who are about to set out on tours through the country to speak and organize.

Citizens of San Jose Protest.

Despite the rain a large crowd attended the mass-meeting held in San Jose Saturday evening, February 2d, to protest against the suppression of free speech and the arrest of Comrades O'Brien, Ryan and Malkmes.

Comrade Harry Ryan presided and Comrades Costley, King, Jr., and Malkmes spoke on the growing power of the capitalists and their increasing despotism.

The importance of free speech was defined and the audience exhorted to give their heartiest support, as the battle for this right was a battle for liberty and progress.

At the close the following resolution was introduced and carried, with three rousing cheers:

"Whereas, the authorities of San Jose, in obedience to the desires of the Capitalist class, have unjustly and unlawfully arrested and imprisoned Joseph J. O'Brien for exercising the constitutional and inalienable right of free speech; therefore, be it

"Resolved, That we, the citizens of San Jose, in mass meeting assembled, enter our emphatic protest against such despotism;

"That we demand the immediate release of those who have been unwarrantedly thrust in jail;

"That we pledge our earnest endeavor to securing that end."

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ANNOUNCEMENTS.

LOCAL OAKLAND, of the Social Democratic Party, has regu at Wednesday evening lectures at Fraternity Hall, 1156 Washington street bet. 14th and 14th 1/2 sts. Lectures begin 8 o'clock. Admission free. O. H. PHILBRICK, 1841 Myrtle st., Organizer.

LOCAL ALAMEDA, of the Social Democratic Party, holds regu. free public lectures every second Sunday evening at Foresters' Hall, cor Park street and Santa Clara ave. Educational meetings for members every Tuesday evening at 1325 Park street, room 8. Address communications, J. C. STAMER, 3061 Euclid ave.

LOCAL SAN FRANCISCO, Social Democratic Party holds regular weekly lectures every Thursday evening on social and economic subjects at Academy of Sciences Hall, 8.9 Market street. Meetings begin at 8 o'clock. Open discussion follows each lecture. Questions answered; free platform; public invited. Admission free.

THE SOCIALIST DEBATING CLUB holds regular Sunday evening meetings at Pythian Castle, 909 Market street, beginning at 7:30 p.m. To educate and develop class-conscious Socialist speakers to champion the cause of the working class. Vocal and instrumental music, etc. Questions answered. Public invited. Admission free.

ACTIVE SOCIALISTS will find Comrade Bersford's "Derringer book of Statistics" and "Scientific Socialism" of great value. We mail the two books for 25 cents.

S. D. P. SENATORIAL DISTRICTS. Time and Place of Meetings.

17th—227 5th, 1st and 3rd Friday each month 8 p. m. 18th—408 5th, 2nd & 4th Monday each month, 8 p. m. 19th—3111 24th nr. Folsom 1st Monday each month. 20th—624 Guerrero, 1st and Wednesday, 8 p. m. 21st—901 G. G. ave every 3rd Wednesday, 8 p. m. 22nd—1912 Webster, 2nd & 4th Friday. 23rd—3 Ivy ave Wednesday, 8 p. m. 24th—No 1 Margaret Place off 12 Turk. 25th—410 Kearny, room 28, 1st & 3rd Monday, 8 p.m

Bottlers' Union Bulletin

(Revised Weekly.) THESE SHOPS EMPLOY ONLY UNION BOTTLERS.

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OAKLAND. American Brewing Co, American beer National Bottling Depot, National beer SACRAMENTO. Buffalo Brewing Co, Buffalo beer SAN JOSE. Fredericksburg Brewing Co, Fredericksburg beer San Jose Bottling Co, C. Maurer VALLEJO. Philadelphia Brewery

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