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# The



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## FAMINE IN IRELAND.

Conditions Brought on By the Government Ours Wishes to Ally With.

DUBLIN, Ireland, May 22—It is possible that even amid the excitement of the Cuban War and despite the all-absorbing labors of the S. L. P. of America in its prosecution of the far more important class war, there may have reached the United States some information sufficiently explicit to bring home to the minds of our Comrades there the alarming fact that in Ireland at the present moment a large section of the population are suffering from a lack of food, amounting to actual famine.

But as such news is bound to be discounted in its importance by the fact that it only filters through to the people by the medium of a sensational press; and as it is almost certain to be accompanied by suggestions for remedies ridiculously inapplicable to the evil itself, I have ventured to set down here a few of the facts which came under my own observation, in a recent tour through the distressed districts, and also some of the reflections which as a Socialist were forced upon me by these facts.

### THE FAMINE STRICKEN DISTRICTS.

The particular district through which I extended my investigations is that known as the County of Kerry. My tour comprised within its area the portion of the county extending from the town of Kenmare round the southwest coast to what is known as the town of Cahreineen. This is the famine-stricken district of that county. It is composed almost entirely of mountains and bog land.

From the point of view of the picturesque nothing can be finer than this countryside, sea and mountain combining to charm the eye; but from the point of view of the people who have to extract a living from the cultivation of the soil no place on earth would be more dismal or less encouraging. There is no such thing as a large farm in the neighborhood, from five to twenty acres being as a rule the extent of holdings, and the dwellings of the people, exterior and interior, being of the rudest and most comfortable description. Almost all the population engage during the season in the fishing off the coast in their own boats, but as these vessels are only of the smallest description they can not venture far from land, and in consequence they have had, during the past year, the mortification of seeing the larger and better equipped boats of other nations come to their shores and reap the harvest of the sea before it reached them. At the same time the potato crop was attacked with the blight and the greater part of it destroyed, rendered quite unfit for food, and as the potato forms the staple diet of the entire people this second stroke to their misery. Round a great part of this district it is the custom for the shopkeepers to advance the necessities of life to their customers during the winter and spring, and to receive repayment for same out of the proceeds of the fishing in the summer, but the practical failure of the fishing last year rendered the latter engagement impossible. The debts remain unpaid, the credit of the customers with the shopkeeper and of the shopkeeper with the wholesale merchant is now exhausted, bankruptcy is imminent, and starvation walks abroad through the land.

### INTENSITY OF DISTRESS.

I have personally visited and verified numerous cases in which the whole family have not even had the luxury of potatoes since September, 1897, but have been living for months upon TWO DIETS, and for weeks upon ONE DIET PER DAY, and that diet composed exclusively of Indian meal and water, without even milk to wash it down. I have conversed with schoolmasters who told of children fainting on the schoolroom floor for want of food. I have seen women, mothers of families, for the sake of half a dollar's worth of provisions walk seven miles to a relief committee, wait three or four hours and then have to walk the same distance back, have heard from the lips of eyewitnesses (whose credibility I can vouch for) of the produce of shellfish mixed with meal and boiled in water being eagerly devoured by one famishing family, and of the carcass of a diseased cow serving as food to another, have visited districts in which disease (to which this physical weakness brought on by hunger makes these people peculiarly subject) had seized nearly every house, until the place was justly described as "one vast hospital," in short, I have in one short tour of three weeks' duration seen an amount of misery so great as to justify the sufferers and all humane men in taking every means in their power to hurl into destruction the power whose administrators and "statesmen" either could not or would not remedy the evil and prevent its recurrence.

### BOURGEOIS LEADERS AND GUIDES.

But the leaders of the Irish people at present are themselves as little capable of formulating any real remedy for the evil that even were the forces of England annihilated to-morrow, and our Home Rule politicians installed in power, the economic conditions which have produced the present famine would be left untouched and at full liberty to work similar ruin in the future. Greater promptitude in coming

to the relief of the sufferers we undoubtedly would have, more liberal application of public funds to the relief of distress might certainly be expected, but any statesmanlike effort to PREVENT FAMINE BY REMOVING THE CAUSE would only come by the application to agriculture of those "wild" Socialist theories for which our bourgeois patriots have, or profess, such an aversion. For these people I have spoken of are not suffering because of the existence in their midst of an "alien" government, but because of the failure of that system of small farming and small industry on which they depended for their existence, to overcome the natural difficulties presented by their rugged coast and moist climate. Even landlordism, the curse of the Irish race in times past, and the clog and hindrance of all administrative bodies in the present, is only in a minor degree responsible for the present crisis. The root cause lies in the system of small farming and small industry. Isolated on his little plot of ground which in the best of times scarcely affords more than a bare subsistence, the Irish peasant reaps none of the benefits of the progress of civilization, knows nothing of the wonderful results of the organization of industry, his mental horizon is bounded by the weekly "patriot" newspaper crammed with tales and legends of ancient Erin and her chivalry, and destitute of all scientific or economic enlightenment to help the Irish of today, and thus when the full hand of disease is stretched forth over the poor potato crop each peasant strives to avert the catastrophe by his own effort and thus falls an easy victim to the blight which an organized people could easily avert or render innocuous. In the present instance the two disasters which combined to produce the famine, were both directly due to the want of such co-operative effort as it would be the first duty of a Socialist Republic to organize, and without such Socialist reorganization the perpetual recurrence of these scenes of misery may be regarded as a certainty, no matter whether our government be Irish or English, alien or native.

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE IRISH AND ENGLISH CAPITALIST POLITICIANS in this matter may be briefly stated as follows: The Irish member of Parliament is invariably a political adventurer depending upon notoriety to demonstrate his usefulness to the party paymasters, therefore he must occasionally create a "scene" in the House of Commons, or make a "fiery" speech outside. Thus does he earn his salary and justify his existence to those who subscribe to it. The English member of Parliament, on the other hand, is as a rule a wealthy capitalist who occupies his position in virtue of his having made certain donations to the party exchequer, of being donor-in-chief to local charities and chief financial mainstay of the local branch of his party organization. Therefore he is not expected to show signs of political activity, but only of a plethoric purse. THE IRISH NATIONALIST POLITICIAN IS THE FINANCIAL DEPENDENT OF HIS PARTY, THE ENGLISH POLITICAL PARTIES ARE THE FINANCIAL DEPENDENTS OF THE CAPITALIST POLITICIANS. To use a homely simile, the difference between the English and Irish bourgeois politicians is simply the difference of attitude between the man who has caught a train and the man who is running to catch it. The English party politician comfortably ensconced in the train of fully dominant capitalism, only requires to SIT TIGHT and smile his scorn of the voting cattle whom he calls his fellow-countrymen, but the Irish party politician not yet able to realize an assured income independent of political activity, has not caught the train, and in his rush for it avails himself of every means possible to win the favor of his fellow countrymen that they might be induced to help him into the same position as his English rival.

### CLASS DISTINCTIONS AND POLITICS.

The mass of the Irish people being engaged in agriculture, the Irish "patriot" bourgeois seeks to win their favor by demanding legislative enactments in the interest of the farming community, Land Courts to give fair rents (?), compulsory purchase of landed estates in order to establish peasant proprietorship, State help in constructing railways, State subsidies for lines of Irish steamships trading for Irish ports, government loans for harbor construction; in fact, he invokes the aid of the State in a manner calculated to put to blush even the most hardened Fabian, and seemingly totally inconsistent with that individualism on which capitalism is based. But when measures in behalf of the working class are mooted, when legislative interference between capital and labor is the subject of debate, then the identity of interests between the English and the Irish bourgeois is made at once apparent by the all but unanimous front both parties present against such "interference with the liberty of the subject."

In this respect, it will be observed, they are only repeating the tactics of the bourgeois parties of all countries. Grasping the power of the State, they have ever used it remorselessly in their fight against the pretensions of the landed aristocracy, regarding it then as their savior and a potent instrument of the world's welfare; but once freed from the danger of aristocratic domination and confronted by a demand that the State power should extend its beneficent operations over the entire community, and raise the wage-slave in his

turn to freedom, then the State becomes to the bourgeois anathema, rarely fit to serve as a gigantic policeman for the protection of the private property and furtherance of the private interests of the possessing class.

THE ENGLISH CAPITALIST PARTIES (LIBERALS OR RADICALS) had always looked upon the Irish with contempt in the past, until the year 1885, when a lightning flash of class-consciousness suddenly illuminating their understanding they recognized in the Irish Home Rulers the image of their own younger brothers, seeking to realize the same ends as themselves, by methods foreign to the English bourgeois of to-day perhaps, but nevertheless wonderfully similar to those his fathers had employed at a similar stage of their economic development. Out of the sudden recognition of this economic affinity arose, over the Irish Home Rule bill, the so-called Union of Hearts (of the Irish and English politicians), a pitiful travesty of that free union of free peoples which Socialism alone can bring to fruition. But this alliance from which Irishmen hoped so much was of necessity short-lived. The Englishman, at first cordial in his friendship to the Irish agitator who only wished to mould Ireland on the political and economic pattern of England, suddenly cooled off when he reflected that if the political freedom of Ireland would indeed hasten the economic development of that country, then English manufacturers would be the first to suffer by the entrance on the industrial battlefield of such a competitor. Better keep Ireland fettered, even at the cost of a standing military garrison, than to allow her freedom and see her develop into another rival in the race for the markets of the world.

The Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain and most of the wealthier men of the Liberal party had reasoned so all along and therefore remained Liberal Unionists, opposed to Home Rule and Irish measures in general. After the first flush of their love for Ireland had cooled a little, and given time for the selfish passions to reassert their sway, such arguments and reasoning made such wonderful headway among "the leaders of public opinion" throughout England that the Home Rule proposal at the very next election received a crushing defeat from which it is questionable if it will ever recover.

### THE HOME RULE BILL.

As Ireland lacks nearly all the requisites for an industrial country, the fear that inspired this revision of public opinion was, I believe, entirely baseless, but the result itself is by no means regrettable. The Home Rule bill was in fact perhaps the greatest legislative abortion ever foisted upon a people in the name of self-government. The net result of all this play and counter-play of political and social forces during the last twenty years is the utter discomfiture of the middle class politicians, the falsification of all their prophecies, and the wreck of all their organizations. Added to this the various "splits" in the Home Rule camp, by leading the politicians to attack one another, have revealed to the astonished eyes of the multitude the sorry character of the men whom they once idolized.

THE EFFECT OF THIS SITUATION upon the problem caused by the present famine may be briefly told. The English Liberal allies of the Home Rule party represent, as I have pointed out, a fully capitalist nation, or more accurately speaking, a nation in which capitalism is generally dominant and no longer requires the aid of the State to maintain its internal prestige over reactionary forces. In such a country and to such a party the State is a veritable Frankenstein, and to the dominant class a thing to be restricted and fettered in every way. But the Home Rule party represent an imperfectly developed country, in which LAND and not CAPITAL is dominant, and which, therefore, requires the aid of the State to free itself from the fetters of feudalism. The famine, the direct product of this imperfectly developed state of industry and agriculture, can only be effectually grappled with by the State, and thereupon the Home Ruler advocates State aid, but in so doing receives little if any aid from the English Liberal, who instinctively shrinks from any proposal which might tend to popularize the idea of State interference. Thus the Home Ruler, our Irish bourgeois politician, is landed in a hopeless dilemma. He knows he will be utterly ruined without the English Liberal alliance, nobody will believe in him, nobody will subscribe his salary, he will be dropped like a useless tool. And the English Liberals will not assist him in his demand for State aid, if he pushes it, they will relinquish him. But his constituents, the Irish agricultural population, who believe State aid to be their only hope, will repudiate him if he does not demand it. In such a hopeless quandary the Irish patriot parties, save the mark, flounder along without a definite policy, without a programme, without hope for the future, each separate party seeking to hide its confusion by emitting, like the cuttle fish, a shower of abuse upon its rivals, who retaliate in kind, until the waters of Irish politics stink in the nostrils of decent Irishmen.

Two recent plans prove this: First—Thanks to the clashing of bourgeois interests, the famine pursues its way unchecked. Second—The class-conscious Irish members grow in strength, in hope and in public confidence.

JAMES CONNOLLY.

The numerous calls that have come in for the New Bedford speech "What Means This Strike?" published in these columns a few weeks ago, has determined the National Executive Committee to reprint it in pamphlet form. It can be had at the Labor News Company, 64 E. 4th street, this city. Single copies, 5 cents; 10 copies, 30 cents; 100 copies, \$2.50.

## OUR TRAITORS.

The Debate in Congress on War Expenditures.

Attitude of the Silver and the Gold Deputations—They Are Agreed Upon Utilizing the War, that they Themselves Brought on, to the Purposes they Had in View by Bringing it on: Plunder—They are Violently at Odds how the Plunder Shall be Divided Between Them—Each Wants an Outlet for his own Metal.

It is now fully a month since a fierce debate is going on in Congress. The subject of dispute is a certain bill to provide ways and means to meet the present war expenditures. Roughly speaking, the combatants are divided on party lines—Republicans on one side, Demo-Populists on the other. On the Republican side, the bill, as presented, is supported, including a clause to issue interest-bearing bonds to the amount of \$500,000,000; on the Demo-Populist side, the bill, as a whole, is generally supported, but objection is raised to the bonds-issuing clause. The battle raged on that point in the House, where the bill originated and was put through; now it is raging in the Senate on the same point.

The arguments on the two sides are substantially suppressed by the capitalist press. Occasionally a casual remark is published as having been made by one side or the other. But nothing like a reproduction of the scene that has been enacting in Congress is given. And for good reason. An approximate photograph of what is going on could not fail to convey to the masses some idea of the treason that is going on in Congress, and which, not one, but both combatants are engaged in. This is the situation:

The Secretaries of War and Navy have submitted estimates of what the war expenditures are expected to be. The largest of these estimates does not go beyond \$25,000,000 a month, and all of them claim that the war will not last three months. Provision for \$100,000,000 would, accordingly, be ample. The bill, however, demands authority to issue interest-bearing bonds to the amount of \$500,000,000, i. e., for \$200,000,000 more than it is expected the war will cost if it last a whole year. Evidently the Republican capitalists are anxious to make hay while the sun shines. No less anxious are their Democratic doubles, as will appear.

Now, then, our two sets of "patriots" lock horns in Congress upon this issue. And what are their arguments?

On the Republican side it is urged that the country is in danger; at such times the chaffering over a dollar more or less is not only unbecoming but unpatriotic. Our soldiers are moving, our Navy is in the front, our flag is imperiled unless sustained. Is this the time for unseemly partisan wrangles? Is this the time for petty party quarrels? The country needs money. The country asks for it. It is the duty of every patriotic American to give it. Vote for this bill and for the bond issue. Thus speak the Republicans.

Thereupon the Demo-Populist side puts in as follows: It is true the country is in peril, it is true it needs money; and we are ready to give it; but we are not ready to give it in the way you want; you can have all the money you want, provided you take silver.

What does all this mean? It means that both sides are trying to sell out the country to their real foes—the Capitalist Class, with only this difference that each is trying to sell her out to his special subdivision of capitalism, and, above all, that both are united in protecting the robber class, that now holds the plunder, and in leaving exposed the robbed class—the working class.

WE ARE at war. No use now and here inquiring why and how. That subject is of proper consideration only by those who understand it to be a capitalist (silver as well as gold) scheme to plunder the people. This being so, neither side cares to go into that question; both sides agree upon upholding its false pretences. WE ARE at war. How shall the war be supported? As it is not the honor of the nation that the Republicans are safeguarding by the war, but the material interests of the gold upper capitalists, the only use they have for the war is the use they are putting it to, to wit, afford opportunities for the bankers to invest their moneys, and incidentally to give contracts to favorite railroad and other companies. This purpose appears clear in the demand for a bond issue grossly in excess of requirements. What in sight of this fact should be the attitude of men, who, besides posing as patriots, pose as the representatives of the working class, as the Silverites are doing? It should be this:

"WE ARE at war. We shall presently look into and expose the secret springs that have brought us into this trouble. But this is not the hour. The war burns upon our hands; we must meet the exigency it presents. If we don't provide for it, the country will be invaded and ruined. Accordingly it is against ruin we must provide. Only in that sense can we provide for the war. But for that very reason, for the reason that our course must be to provide against ruin, it is political felony for us to provide AGAINST one sort of ruin by deliberately providing FOR another sort of ruin. If the Spaniard invade the country, the ruin that will follow is the enslavement of our people. Felonious is the proposition that amounts to providing against that by a scheme that provides for the enslavement of our people to the international capitalist. This bonds issue does that because it is a way of providing for aid from capital in a way that capital profits by, while we are providing for soldiers in a way that the soldiers cannot profit by. The money loaned on bonds is to be

(Continued on Page 4.)

## BUTCHERS' CLERKS.

A Letter to Them From Section Yonkers, N. Y., S. L. P.

That the present issues which any one's subdivision of the working class is confronted with in its particular trade are not private issues, peculiar to that one trade and settleable by that trade alone, but are the broad issue between the working class and its oppressor, the capitalist class; and that redress can come to none without the united, class-conscious effort of the subdivisions of the wage earners,—these are important lessons to be taught the workmen. The below communication, addressed by order of Section Yonkers of the S. L. P. to the butchers' clerks of that town, handles the subject well:

YONKERS, N. Y., May 17, 1898.  
To the Butchers' Clerks of Yonkers.

Brothers:—We have read with great interest your letter in the Yonkers "Herald" of May 16, 1898, and also the editorial comments of said paper under the same date.

We understand that your request for help and support is addressed more particularly to the working class, and, therefore, we, the members of the Yonkers Section, Socialist Labor party, believe that we have a right to inform you of what we think of your letter.

We must point out to you:

FIRST—That the issue that you have raised is not confined to the butchers but, in one way or other, concerns the working people of all trades and occupations.

SECOND—That it is not a local question, concerning Yonkers alone, but that it is of the utmost importance to the fifteen hundreds of millions of human beings who inhabit this earth.

THIRD—That under the present system of society, the capitalist system of profit-making, people who are necessarily divided into two classes, the interests of which are always conflicting: the class of the exploiters or capitalists, and that of the exploited or wage-workers, to which latter class both you and we belong.

FOURTH—That the class of the capitalists not only possesses nearly all the wealth, but also completely controls the government in all its branches—legislative, executive, and judiciary. Therefore it is able to keep you, us and all the wage-workers in subjection.

FIFTH—That, according to your own letter, the opposition of ONE MAN can, and does nullify all your efforts.

SIXTH—That any man may at any time do the same thing again and bring back the old condition of things, even if you should temporarily succeed.

SEVENTH—That your request could be easily and permanently satisfied, by means of legislation, and besides all the innumerable grievances of the working class could be rectified, if your own class were in power.

EIGHTH—That the working class is not in power but in contempt because you, and millions like you, put the capitalist class into power on Election Day by voting for its candidates.

NINTH—That all parties and all candidates, except the Socialist Labor party and its candidates, belong to the capitalist class. Mind you, they are not all capitalists, but those who are not belong to the capitalists in the sense that they are paid or hired by them and do their bidding.

TENTH—That we are speaking to you not only in our own name, but also in the name of three hundred and twenty Socialist voters in Yonkers, of fifty thousand Socialist voters in the United States, of more than six million Socialist voters all over the civilized world, who are all workmen, wage-workers like you, and finally in the name of all the Socialist women in the world, who as yet have no vote.

ELEVENTH—That we are speaking for all the afore mentioned Socialists, are willing to do as much for you, as you are ready to do for us, otherwise we must act on the principle that wise men cannot help but must leave stubborn fools to their fate. You must understand that all the poor, all the exploited wage-workers, are all in the same fix and can only emancipate themselves by casting their lots together, by uniting in one class-conscious labor party, such as the Socialist Labor party is.

TWELFTH—That if the poor prefer to buy their meat late, it may be for one or several good reasons, which arise from their present miserable condition as wage-workers, and for which therefore not they, but the upholders (to which you belong yourselves, as long as you have not joined us), beneficiaries of the capitalist system, are responsible, and which you may find out if you will take the trouble of investigating the matter, viz., because they have to go to work very early, or because they cannot afford to have ice boxes, and to have ice in the same, or for other reasons.

THIRTEENTH—That we do not attempt to deceive you, by giving you taffy, but are trying in a manly and straightforward manner to tell you what we believe to be the truth.

In conclusion, we offer to make all the arrangements for a lecture on this subject, by a competent lecturer, at our expense, if you will guarantee a full attendance of your people.

Yours fraternally,  
by order of the Yonkers Section, Socialist Labor party,

EDMUND MULLER,  
124 Waverly street.

P. S. Our headquarters are at the Chelsea Building, 36 North Broadway, where we meet every Tuesday night, and where you are all welcome, if you wish to get more information about Socialism.

## 'TIS COMING OUT!

Heavy Money Bribes Received by Anti-Socialist "Leaders."

A Capitalist Admits to Have Paid the Sum of \$10,000 to a Labor Fakir to "Settle" a Railroad Strike—The New Trade Unionist Theory that the "Pure and Simple" Leader Has an Interest in Cultivating Ignorance Among the Rank and File, and the Policy of Ruthless Warfare Upon that Traitor Approved by an Important Discovery.

DULUTH, Minn., May 23—Every passing day reveals more and more to the American Labor movement the wisdom of the policy of clear-cut, bold and uncompromising aggression pursued by THE PEOPLE, and that it is perfectly justified in its unceasing cannonade against the Labor Fakirs. It is not to be wondered at that those miserable, characterless specimens of "leaders" should squirm, and, drawing themselves behind the bulwarks of the "trade journals," revile and slander THE PEOPLE, and seek to poison the minds of their "pure and simple" dupes; tell them to "look out for the Socialists, they want to smash our unions," "We would have won against the reduction had not the Socialists scabbed it." Miserable wretches, they know full well the Socialists are not trying to smash the trades unions, but ARE smashing and WILL smash ONE UNION—and that is the "Brotherhood of Amalgamated Labor Leaders," i. e., Labor Fakirs.

It is to be regretted so many of the rank and file of the A. F. L. (for they are honest beyond question) do not cast aside these "journals" reeking with the fakirs' work, and use the brains, nature endowed them with. But, of course, were they to do this, they would land in the ranks of Socialism, no more to be the ignorant, unthinking dupes of the Labor Fakir, to be delivered by him, helplessly bound, over to the capitalist class for exploitation. The true meaning of THE PEOPLE battle cry, "Expose the Labor Fakir!" will in time be fully appreciated by the rank and file, and then—well, look out for the crash—extinct Labor Fakirs will be plenty.

The other day, on the streets of Duluth, Comrade Carl Thiel became engaged in conversation with Mr. J. G. Owens, a prominent railroad man; the conversation started with the great topic of the day—the war; it drifted from one point to another, until Mr. Owens, knowing Comrade Thiel to be a militant Socialist, made this admission, "It is plainly to be seen, the whole fabric of capitalism is crumbling and destroying itself and unconsciously ushering in Socialism." How's that!!!

From this Mr. Owens wandered to the industrial problem and incidentally—the trades unions (meaning, of course, the pure and simple). He said he had considerable dealings with them; "the trades unions will accomplish nothing permanently for labor, unless they form an independent political party; because the interests of the capitalist and workman are directly opposed to each other."

It is positively refreshing to hear such words from a capitalist. Mr. Owens is undoubtedly a better student of our capitalist system than the wage workers who imagine "the capitalist and workman are brothers." He also spoke of the labor "leader" (?) with whom he had transacted much business. He said while with the (Comrade Thiel believes Mr. Owens said the Duluth, South Shore and Atlantic R. R.) he (Mr. Owens) was authorized to settle the strike. And it was! This is the way it was done, in the words of Mr. Owens: "I, myself, paid over to President McArthur, of the Locomotive Firemen's Union, the sum of \$10,000 to settle the strike." What will this union think of that!!!

As Mr. Owens has told several other people the same thing it must be the truth, otherwise he would not say such a thing! It pays the Fakirs to "keep politics out of the union!" It pays to keep the rank and file in ignorance.

On to the slaughter of Labor Fakirs!!! Comrade Thiel is willing to make an affidavit that Mr. Owens made this statement. Comrade Thiel got the information from Mr. Owens without "pumping," so do not wish to press the question as to what particular railroad he was manager for, and the strike he mentioned. Can The People throw any further light on this?

Yours fraternally,  
LOUIS DWORSCHACK.

Mr. "Go" will now have to turn his eyes for a while westward, and see to the "union wreckers" there. Disgusted with the fallacies of "pure and simple" and "Go's" bombast, a large chunk of the A. F. L., located in the West, has torn away; but as yet being very dark on the labor movement, the seceders have not joined the S. T. & L. A., but have organized themselves into a body variously called the "Western Federation of Labor" or the "Western Labor Union." On the whole, this Western body is built upon a superior plane. It may develop into the proper thing. Mr. "Go's" never will.

The receipt of a sample copy of this paper is an invitation to subscribe.







PACKINGTOWN.

A Tinsy Search-light on One of our Concentrated Plague-Spots. CHICAGO, May 25.—The fame of the Union Stock Yards and Packing Houses of Chicago is spread throughout the civilized world. No visitor to the World's Fair city thinks his tour of the sights completed until he has been piloted through the mazes of "Packingtown" and seen the wondrous machinery that whirls the animal along in his transforming journey from the pen to the barrel.

GENERAL SURVEY. The industry as a whole is probably next to the Standard Oil the best example of the completed evolution of capitalistic industry to be found in this country.

Under such conditions it was not long until "free competition" had run its course and given way to combination and monopoly. Soon all the savings that accompany monopoly, even under private management, began to appear.

AN INSIDE LOOK. All these conditions, it may be said, are outside the building, and the curious visitor must not be expected to be shown them. How about all within the buildings? Does the guide point out all the interesting features there? Does he take his party into the damp packing cellars, where from three to ten years ordinarily marks the limit of a man's working life before rheumatism breaks him down and sends his wife and children into the fierce labor struggle, or makes him a humble supplicant for charity?

THE POWER BEHIND THE THRONE. Where is the directive force of these mighty organs of production and oppression? Visitors often break forth in fulsome praise of the tremendous intellects and wondrous generalship of the owners that marshals all these armies of industry for the service of society.

here. The markets are being manipulated and the whole complex machinery of subsidiary plants and sub-agencies are being utilized for the destruction of those foolish parties who had not yet learned that legislatures are sacred to the use of the BIG capitalists.

"PACKINGTOWN."

Leaving now this general survey of the whole field of the industry and coming back to "Packingtown" let us look for a time at the conditions immediately surrounding this mammoth institution. The allied industries here located employ between 25,000 to 35,000 men, women and children, supporting a population of between 125,000 and 175,000.

Great volumes of smoke roll from the forest of chimneys at all hours of the day and drift down over the helpless neighborhood like a deep, black curtain that faintly would hide the misery it aggravates. The foul packing house sewage, too offensive even for monopolistic exploitation, is spewed forth in a multitude of arteries of filth into a branch of the Chicago River at one corner of the yards, where it rises to the top and spreads out in a nameless indescribable cake of condensed fogginess and disease-breeding stench.

THE WAGES. The question then arises as to the return received by the laborer for his share of what he is allowed to produce under such conditions. It may be said to begin with that any general exact statements as to wages are unattainable. No one who knows anything as to general conditions will talk concerning them and to gain the information piecemeal from employees is a well-nigh impossible task.

under which the children work, the State Factory Inspector in her report for 1895 says: "Some of the boys act as butchers, sticking sheep, lambs and swine; others cut the hide from the quivering flesh of freshly stunned cattle; still others sort entrails, pack meat, and make the tins cans in which the gods are shipped.

HOW THE TRADE UNION IS LOOKED AT. Some "Pure and Simpler" may arise at this point and ask why they do not have manhood enough to unite in a trades union and fight for better conditions. Occasionally a labor fakir comes among them and urges them to unite with "high dues" and call a strike.

THE CLASS STRUGGLE IN LOUISVILLE, KY. To THE PEOPLE.—May 1st a successful public meeting was held to protest against war in general and the American-Spanish war in particular, as being hostile to the interests of the working class and international class consciousness.

THE CLASS STRUGGLE IN LOUISVILLE, KY. (Continued). Economically, we have to announce the lock-out of the Common Beer Brewery workers, as a result of the ultimatum of the houses which said: "We give you ten days time to leave the union or your job."

THE CLASS STRUGGLE IN LOUISVILLE, KY. (Continued). From beginning to end the industry is organized, supervised, directed, controlled and operated by hired employees. To be sure wage differences and social distinction will exist, and the head superintendents would probably arise in parvenue horror at being assigned to the same economic class with the "hog driver" or tender of a sausage machine.

THE CLASS STRUGGLE IN LOUISVILLE, KY. (Continued). The English translation of Karl Marx' "Eighteenth Brumaire," that recently ran through THE PEOPLE, is now to be had bound in an elegant volume of 78 pages, with Marx' picture as frontispiece. This work is of great value. No Socialist, even though he be no student, and no student even though he be no Socialist, can afford to be without it.

THE CLASS STRUGGLE IN LOUISVILLE, KY. (Continued). The peculiar manner in which much of the work is done renders the pressing of the workmen to an ever higher speed particularly easy. The animal being transformed into meat generally moves along upon some kind of a mechanical contrivance, and each laborer performs his particular task while the carcass is passing him.

THE CLASS STRUGGLE IN LOUISVILLE, KY. (Continued). The task of superintendence has thus been reduced to a minimum. A mechanical "boss" has been evolved, more merciless, were it possible, than the human counterpart. In such a mechanical, intercompetitive community, with its hierarchy of superintendents, overseers and bosses it is hard to discover the social function of the owner.

THE CLASS STRUGGLE IN LOUISVILLE, KY. (Continued). The Bakers, in spite of the fact that they have two unions here, are working longer hours and getting poorer pay than ever before. In fact, their work is in many instances, simply UNLIMITED. Yet in the face of all these facts our local labor fakir organ, the "New Era," regularly announces in glowing terms new victories (?) for "pure and simple" labor.

THE CLASS STRUGGLE IN LOUISVILLE, KY. (Continued). Mayor Josiah Quincy paid the bills, and in return this labor skate (who worked his ways into the C. L. U. committee to arrange a Hamilton mass meeting) fixed it so that only 100 men were present; and the main speech was delivered by Mayor Quincy. But Quincy is Grover Cleveland's right hand bower, and stood by him when he sent the federal troops into Illinois, and you know Quincy is a Gold bug, while Harry is a Silverite!

THE CLASS STRUGGLE IN LOUISVILLE, KY. (Continued). Nothing but the incoming tide of new trade unionism will ever drown these rats. In the name of common sense strike these labor fakirs with the "battering ram of the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance."

Invitation to Buffalo Subscribers. To THE PEOPLE.—The American Branch of Union Buffalo, S. L. P., wishes to invite all Buffalo readers of THE PEOPLE to attend the discussion meeting of the Branch, to be held at the Labor Lyceum, 550 Broadway, near Jefferson street, this Sunday, May 29th, at 8 p. m. sharp.

THE CLASS STRUGGLE IN LOUISVILLE, KY. (Continued). The subject for discussion is: "Why the Socialist Labor Party endorsed the Socialist Trades and Labor Alliance." In view of the coming convention of the S. T. & L. A., to be held in Buffalo on July 5th, and in view of the latest events in the labor movement of this country, this subject deserves particular attention.

LETTER BOX. [No questions will be considered that come in anonymous letters. All letters must carry a bona fide signature and address.] E. S. Nekomis, III.—Bellamy's "Equality" is, on the whole, inferior to his "Looking Backward." At least, the country is now so much further advanced than it was in '88, when "Looking Backward" appeared, that even if "Equality" were superior, as it may seem in parts, it is not sufficient for considering the intellectual progress of the nation.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Correspondents who prefer to appear in print under an assumed name will attach such name to the communication, besides their own signature and address. None other will be recognized.] The St. Paul, Minn., Municipal Election. To THE PEOPLE.—May 2d was designated as the date for our municipal election.

THE CLASS STRUGGLE IN LOUISVILLE, KY. (Continued). Next fall we will give the voters of Minnesota an opportunity to vote for Socialism, for the second time in the first being two years ago. CHARLES DAVIDSON, SAMUEL JOHNSON, St. Paul, Minn., May 1898.

THE CLASS STRUGGLE IN LOUISVILLE, KY. (Continued). Economically, we have to announce the lock-out of the Common Beer Brewery workers, as a result of the ultimatum of the houses which said: "We give you ten days time to leave the union or your job."

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As to that paper's claim that the Danish Socialists stood together with the middle classes, that also is a considerable extent, wrong enough to and done work with the Socialists. The Danish middle class, which is there quite large, understands that the capitalist class will crush it out and, having more sense than our American middle class, it does not join the class that will crush it and confiscate its property. It joins the class-conscious Socialist movement which will bring about freedom to all through the Co-operative Commonwealth.

J. A. Buriel and others of the Single Tax Society of Philadelphia.—Your anti-war resolutions are not published because they contain not one single solitary constructive thought. They are nothing but a string of humanistic-utopian exhalations, that might proceed from any Salvation Army gathering, or any other source that, not having its feet on the solid ground of science, which is the existence of the social class struggle, and imagines that peace on earth and good will among men can be brought about by elegantly spouting phrases that will gratify its egotism. Moreover, your resolutions echo allegations of fact that are false, and concoctions of the capitalist intrigue that brought on this war.

L. L. New Brunswick, N. J.—You ought to know that by this time F. G. Gordon, of Manchester, N. H., was engaged by the S. L. P. as organizer. While drawing pay in that capacity, he was writing to party members to pull out of the S. L. P. and join the Democracy. The swindle was proved to the National Executive Committee by the very letters, bearing his own signature and written in his own hand, and so on the fact was established his organizer's commission was withdrawn from him, and quickly thereupon he skipped the ropes to prevent expulsion. He is an all-around bad egg.

Old Boy St. Louis, Mo.—Yes, we have heard of such cases. You will notice tho' that the alleged Socialists, who object to the party's attitude toward the present Capitalist war, also object to the party's attitude on the S. T. & L. A. And it is quite natural. These people allow themselves to be bluffed. They allow the present Capitalist war to intimidate them into a pro-war posture, just as they allow the fakirs to intimidate them into a pro-fakir posture. Weakness in one respect will manifest itself in weakness in other respects.

T. L. W. Brooklyn, N. Y.—Yes, sir; every time it is fundamental in human experience that the best evidence is the evidence given against one self. We give credence to and quote capitalist papers upon that principle. The testimony of the Socialists and the fact that the system and the capitalist class may be relied on.

F. R. G. Yonkers, N. Y.—The subscription list of THE PEOPLE is increasing at the rate of over 100 a week. "Louis" Schenectady, N. Y.—True to its "democracy," the Colonization scheme of the "Social Democracy" is kept dark from its members. The plan whereby it is to be "located" in the amount that will cost, and even the full list of its Directors—all that continues to be withheld from the members. Rumor has it tho' that the silver mine owner Hearst, who recently bought the right to his "Journal" on the New York newpapers, is one of the Directors whose "names are still withheld."

G. G. Boston, Mass.—McKinley has been called the "Syndicated President," because three capitalists, Mark Hanna, that is, to whom he is heavily indebted, syndicated their claim upon him, and started the boom that landed him in the White House, and in that way sought to get their money back. The nickname did not originate in this office.

"American," N. Y.—No wonder you can't find in the New York "Press" the false report it gave of our Socialist indignation meeting, at Cooper Union, quoted in these columns last week. The paper seemed afraid to utter the lie in the city. We have subsequently ascertained that the report appeared in the "Press" only. It was meant for outside consumption only.

Mass Meeting and Entertainment

Wendell Phillips Agitating Sooy For the purpose of raising a CAMPAIGN FUND OF THE S. L. P. on THURSDAY, June 9th, '98, at 77-79 Essex St.

The Annual Meeting of the Stockholders of the Barton Mfg. Co. for the election of directors for the ensuing year, will be held at the office of the company, No. 238 Broadway, Manhattan, New York city, on Monday, May 30th, 1898.

The Scand. Soc. Dem. Club of Boston will arrange its 8th GRAND PICNIC in Amesbury, Mass., on DECEMBER DAY, Monday, May 30th, 1898.

HILLKOWITZ & HILLQUIT Attorneys at Law

H. B. SALISBURY, Attorney-at-Law. Office for Consultation (Tuesday to Friday, 11 to 5) 50 Union Square, (offices of Workingmen's Co-operative Insurance Ass'n, etc.) New York.

DR. C. L. FURMAN, DENTIST

JOHN DEHLER'S Steam Printing. 87 Frankfort Street 87 Cor. Pearl St., Franklin Square E. R. R. Station

Goldmann's Printing Office. cor. New Chambers and William Sts. works with 7790 Setting Machine. LABOR ALGEMIN, 949-955 Willoughby Av. (Formerly 81-83 Myrtle Street) Meeting Rooms. Large Hall for Mass Meetings. Books open for Sale and P.O. Orders. Workman Patronize Your Own Homes



THE DEBATE.

(Continued.) NEW YORK CITY, April 24, 1898. Debate of the Boot and Shoe Workers' Union (A. F. of L.) versus the General Council of Shoe Workers (S. T. & L. A.) at Teutonia Hall, 16th street and 3rd avenue, New York City, April 24, 1898.

Participants: John F. Tobin, and Frank A. Sieverman, representing the Boot and Shoe Workers' Union; William L. Brower, and Daniel De Leon, representing the General Council of Shoe Workers.

The meeting was called to order by Miss Katie Pryor, Secretary of the General Council of Shoe Workers. SIEVERMAN:—Let me say, to begin with, Mr. Chairman and fellow shoe workers and wage workers, that I wish to dispose of one question to begin with, and that is that I will answer for my right to wear a red button and for my right to carry a red card and for my right to work as a Socialist, to no individual. In the locality from whence I hail, my position as a Socialist is well known. It may be customary for the members of the Socialist Labor party here to owe allegiance and make obeisance to this gentleman [pointing to De Leon], but I carefully refrain; I respectfully decline. I know my position in the labor movement, and I do not hesitate to say that before I get through with this little discourse I will define where I stand, but I will say it does not come in reply to the interrogation of the gentleman. He has no more right to question my record in the labor movement than I have his. My record in the labor movement is not a recent growth; it is since I was able to toddle into a union and take part in union affairs that I have been a member of the revolutionary class-conscious army. Having done this all my life, I expect to do it until the end. I expect to do it until the end in spite of all people can do to oust me. I am going to be here until the finish: I am going to be in the S. L. P. until the finish, until there is a waving of the international flag of Socialism through the world; I am going to continue in the S. L. P. until that time approaches, in spite of all who do not agree with me, who do not like my statements and the color of my hair; in spite of all. So much by way of digression and in answer to the question.

Let us first take up my friend, Mr. Brower. He makes certain statements that are unqualified falsehoods. He says that when a member of the Shoe Council of New York came to Rochester I, in my capacity as agent, repudiated that card. That is absolutely and unqualifiedly a falsehood. If the man who represented himself to be a member of this organization, and who used the worst kind of Billingsgate about the movement in this city, and who no doubt was a fair representative of the genus tramp, if he was an honest Socialist, he was a first-class scallawag, that was prepared to offer any kind of excuse in order to get out of paying one cent of dues into any organization; he would have nothing more to do with them; he came from Brooklyn and saw the fallacy of it, but when I told him that he had no choice in the matter, then did he hide himself behind the Shoe Council of this city; and upon the statement of this man, Comrade Brower, upon the statement of this man who comes from this city, you take his word, though unsubstantiated and uncorroborated, you hold me up to the public ridicule of every Socialist in this city, in this country that reads THE PEOPLE. There it is made to appear that I have been guilty of some things that a Socialist ought to be ashamed of, and I have never done that, nor will I ever do that. I advised this man, in view of the statements that he made, I advised him not to disconnect himself from the Shoeworkers' Council, and I hoped that he would by his presence and by his co-operation and by his assistance do all he could to make this movement a success. That is what I said to your member and I expressed sorrow to him that I was unable to take him into our organization. He paid \$1.00 initiation fee, and before the week expired I went down to our organization and placed the case before them, and then said, in future this organization will initiate anybody that holds another card in another organization, provided his card is square; and when I went back to this man, he was gone; he had taken up his tramp. Now because I was unable to bring him in and continue his membership here and get him in there also without any cost, I am held up to the public ridicule, probably with the expectation that Sieverman would consider it the last straw that would break the camel's back and get out of the S. L. P. But I tell you it takes more than one statement in THE PEOPLE or any other publication that will drive me out of the Socialist Labor party.

Now I want to say to you that my intention in coming here is not so much for the purpose of dwelling upon the objects of the Trades Union, as for the purpose of showing that we are an organization that is headed in the direction of Socialism; for the other Council is a manifest and complete failure. You can go down into the headquarters of the Boot and Shoeworkers' Union, and you won't find an American flag waving over the picture of General Fitzhugh Lee; you won't find them there, but here in the headquarters of the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance, most assuredly you will find them, and see the officers neglecting other matters to discuss the more important subject of whether the Cubans will whip the Spaniards or not.

But when we are able to show to you that three years ago when the conference was called of shoeworkers through this country, when we found that by simply organizing isolated trades we were going down and down; and when the shoeworkers realized the importance of forming an organization that recognized at least some of the principles of solidarity, we issued a call to every shoemaker in this country to meet in Boston in 1895. Comrade Tobin responded to the call. Comrade Brower (Section New York certainly has cause to be proud of his course, because while

Secretary Tobin was on to Boston with a Socialist programme in his pocket, what was Brower doing? He was printing this insignificant Labor Day Souvenir that our friend De Leon makes fun of, and calling the attention of the Shoeworkers to the fact that you have got such gigantic machinery! Class-conscious, surely! It is manifested in the course of Comrade Brower when we put it opposite the course of Comrade Tobin. Comrade Tobin went to the City of Boston, and there helped to formulate the Boot and Shoeworkers' Union; there he tried to get that union started on progressive lines, and although he was defeated by an overwhelming majority, he stood as a father and sponsor of that resolution; and he was as father and sponsor of that resolution elected President of the Union. And what as a result? We see that THE PEOPLE published in its issue at that time a long article rejoicing because this Union has shown a distinct sign of progress. We are glad that Comrade Tobin is elected President of the Boot and Shoeworkers' Union, as a Socialist, in 1895! What has transpired since that should change the views of our friends on the other side? Since that time from this organization has come absolute, straight Socialist declarations, defended by Socialists with all the power and all the eloquence and fire at their command; at each succeeding convention of the Boot and Shoe Workers' Union there was an increasing number of votes for those Socialist declarations of principle, and at every succeeding election our friend Comrade Tobin was returned and returned as the head of that organization. In the ordinary course of things should not that have added to the pleasure experienced by the management of THE PEOPLE in 1895? But in the meantime "we" organized a little Mutual Admiration Society; "we" have found ourselves unable to capture these organizations, unable to deliver the goods for which bargains were made, such as editorships, and so forth, and "we" come to New York and do what? and "we" come to New York and take the tag end of that organization which was organized five years ago and "we" organize it into the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance; "we" call that the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance, and henceforth there is a new qualification for a Socialist; henceforth there is a new test; you must subscribe to this S. T. & L. A.; you must say that is the only trades union or organization in which Socialists are made. Comrade De Leon says that I threw all the light possible against the Alliance in the Convention of the S. L. P. He tells a falsehood. It is true that I threw all the light possible on that question, but I had just ten minutes, and when that ten minutes expired, it was the gentleman that preceded me, who, when he saw delegates coming toward me with the evident intention of supporting me, rose quickly in his seat with a parliamentary trick, and notified the Chair that the time for adjournment had arrived; and the next day when I looked for those men who wanted to give me time the day before, they were not to be found. What was the interference? That they had been "seen."

I have some time to throw light upon this question to-day; I have as much time as anyone. We say we view this question from the standpoint of Socialists. We say it is the duty of Socialists to go out in the labor movement and make Socialists just as speedily as we can do so, and any labor movement which will give us the opportunity of entering the field and advocating Socialism or propagating progressive ideas, that is the place for a Socialist. But no, these people say it must not be so; you can only be a class-conscious, thorough-going Socialist, unhampered and unstained with a stigma of hate, if you hold a card in the S. T. & L. A.

Comrade Tobin stated that the endorsement of the S. T. & L. A. was secured by false pretences. The gentleman who preceded answers that it is passing effrontery, to make that statement. I say it is so. On the floor of the Convention I raised the question and I warned the delegates that this meant there would be a new qualification for Socialists; that only such would be looked upon as Socialists that would withdraw themselves from their respective organizations and connect themselves with the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance; and men who favored the S. T. & L. A. said that is not so; "Sieverman has misconstrued the fact; we believe here is our position," and this is the statement that they made and I challenge contradiction within the lines of truth. They said at that Convention, Mr. Hugo Vogt, who, I believe, is one of the shining lights and champions of the Socialist Labor party, he said, "I believe there are 150,000 shoemakers in this country, and you claim 12,000. What about the other 138,000?" He said, "Do you claim a monopoly on them?" I said, "Certainly not." He said, "this is the motive of the S. T. & L. A.; we can get the unorganized; we shall hammer the fakirs on the head; we shall do all we can to down the fakirs,"—a theory and a determination which I am entirely in sympathy with. Now there appears in the issue of THE PEOPLE a week ago a statement in answer to "True Friend" by which it appears that the S. T. & L. A. MUST succeed; it says that the S. T. & L. A. MUST succeed the present movement, etc. I want that to go into the record to have it understood that the theory of the S. T. & L. A. differs to-day very materially from that which was promised on the floor of the Convention. On the floor of that Convention the unorganized were to be taken care of; now we have got to hammer down the organized. In spite of the fact that three years have passed since there was a joyful article in THE PEOPLE, "We have been making progress in the direction of Socialism," and about we Socialists filling a convention. We are not prepared to apologize for our standing in the labor movement. We say that the Boot and Shoeworkers' Union is the organization that is best qualified of any economic organization to protect the interests of our organization. I say the standing of our officers, the repeated declarations of our conventions from time to time, is a sufficient guarantee that we are not political skates, and a notice that nobody can do business with its responsible officers other than candidates on the Socialist Labor party ticket. This is evident,

and still in spite of all that was stated on the floor of the S. L. P. Convention, here we are called upon to defend our right to come to the City of New York and organize the unorganized. How many years have the S. T. & L. A. been active in bettering your condition in this city? I have it upon fairly good authority that whenever there is an advertisement that the S. T. & L. A. is going to have a debate, and especially when Daniel De Leon is going to speak on the affirmative side, they turn out in force. Where are they to-day? Comrade Brower informed me yesterday that three of them, three of the committee that were on the S. T. & L. A. side, were so busy discussing the Cuban question that they did not have time to make arrangements for this meeting. Class-conscious! I believe that if you asked the average member of the Boot and Shoeworkers' Union what he thinks of the Cuban question, he would say, "Is it good without salt?"

A gentleman has also asked whether we believe in the declaration of the International Socialist Congress. I wish to place myself as unqualifiedly agreeing with what is said in that International Congress, and with them I do not believe in the foolishness of engaging in an economic struggle in not permitting each Socialist to enter that labor organization where he thinks he can do the most good; and the economic organization to which I belong, in that we are promulgating no other than Socialist ideas; and this organization did so to my knowledge, and I believe I may say proudly, with my assistance, place in the pockets of certain wage workers in this country the little insignificant sum of \$75,000 per annum. I hold in my hand THE PEOPLE of Sunday, September 6, 1896, and here is an article headed, "Duty of Trade Unions," and this trade union article reads as follows: "In order to make the trades union as effective as possible they are commanded to organize as national trades unions in their respective countries, thus avoiding the waste of power by small individual or local organizations. Especially difference of political views ought not to be considered a reason for separation in the economic struggle. On the other hand, the nature of the class struggle makes it the duty of the labor organizations to educate their several members up to the principles of Social Democracy." [Applause from Winchewsky, Cahan, Casson, Modest, etc.] This is the position which has been taken by the International Congress, and that says distinctly that difference of political belief should not keep us from organizing; but here the Boot and Shoeworkers' Union, because we do not belong to the S. T. & L. A., since our organization does not recognize the importance, the supremacy of the S. T. & L. A., we are howled down as a fake organization, innuendoes are hurled out here by the responsible editor of THE PEOPLE that possibly there is some money consideration in this thing—men who have spent all their lives, all their hopes for the purpose of being on the same political side, denounced for no other reason than because they do not join this little Mutual Admiration Society! Now is that the kind of tactics calculated to advance the Socialist movement, to give us the largest and best organization attainable under modern conditions? I do not think it is.

I have referred to the United Brewers' Federation. In the City of Rochester, where I live, up to a few days ago, there was controlled by the Knights of Labor Brewers every brewery in that city, the men were working at from \$9 to \$11 a week, and less for the drivers, and whoever some saloon-keeper or ward politician recommended got a job; there was an agreement which made absolutely no provision as to wages, but simply stated that the employees of the brewery should be members of the Knights of Labor. Now my friends of the United Brewers' trade came into the City of Rochester, and what did they do? They took the economic organization that had some strength in this country, and they said to this organization, "Gentlemen, you are organized labor; we desire that you shall desist from consuming the Rochester product, until we have compelled these people to give us good wages, and as a result, without a strike of one single day, we curtailed the product of that institution five-sixths. Instead of being sold through the country to these people who belong to the American Federation of Labor, instead of being sold in Baltimore, and Philadelphia, and in Chicago, and in Boston and St. Louis, and everywhere where there is an organization; instead of drinking their beer they notified these beer dealers that unless they bettered conditions they would cease to handle their product, and as a result not a single brewer in Rochester is working for less than \$13 a week, not a single cellar-man is working for less than \$15 a week. The National Brewers' Union fought the capitalists in the city of Rochester and reduced their bank accounts \$75,000 per annum, and turned over the money to the brewers. Do you think that is worth striving for? Do you think that can be accomplished in a mere Mutual Admiration Society? In which you have no outside support? I stand here as an unqualified critic of the American Federation of Labor, and I say that until we have successfully ousted the fakirs out of that great organization, until we have gone to the head of that organization and placed there honest men, reliable men, Socialists in fact, I say until that time, as sensible men, as class-conscious men, we must avail ourselves of the force that is in that organization. I tell you it is ridiculous nonsense to assume that an organization is of no earthly use or consequence because its leaders are corrupt; it is a piece of nonsense. I tell you that a trades union is the first manifestation of class-consciousness, involuntary sometimes, but from the fact that it is a trades union, hides itself in a closed room and discusses a question that is to their interests and against the interests of the boss, I say it is a manifestation of class-consciousness, and it is our duty as Socialists to stay in these part-conscious organizations and open their eyes to the true situation. They are better material to make Socialists of than a lot of people who have not got sufficient interest in their own interests to even organize. We pay four cents per year, however, to Mr. Sam Gompers towards salary, and because of that we should get out

THE DAILY PEOPLE

\$50,000 FUND.

Amount Pledged down to May 25th, 1898.

\$4,575.

Pledgers will please keep in mind the dates on which their payments fall due, as per printed list, and remit promptly. If any error appears on the list, correct with equal promptness.

THE DAILY PEOPLE COMMITTEE. 124 William St. N. Y.

GRAND PIC NIC OF THE WEST SIDE ASSEMBLY DISTRICTS, S. L. P.

Pfingst Sunday, May 29.

Prize Bowling and Prize Shooting for Gentlemen. Wheel of Fortune. Dancing.



Hudson County Park, cor. 5th St. and Bergenline Av., Union Hill, N. J.

Strict Union Arrangements. Music by L. A. No. 3, S. T. & L. A.

Outing Speech by J. ALLMAN, and with the kind assistance of the allied singing Societies and the Zither Class of the Free German School of the Westside.

For the Benefit of the Election Fund. TICKETS, 10 Cents a Person. ALL ARE WELCOME. 157 Hudson County Park can be reached from 4th St. and 14th St., Christopher and Barclay St. Ferris, direct to the Park.

Grand Family Pic Nic Section Philadelphia, S. L. P., for the Benefit of the Campaign Fund, MONDAY, May 30th, 1898, (Decoration Day) at DAVIS FARM (Mill St. Branchtown), only 5 minutes walk from the Willow Grove Cars of the 4th and 8th Street, and 15th and

OFFICIAL SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY.

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE—Secretary Henry Kuhn, 124 William Street, N. Y.

NATIONAL BOARD OF APPEALS—Secretary Robert Bandlow, 194 Champlain St., Cleveland, O.

NOTICE.—For technical reasons, no party announcements can go in that are not in this office by Tuesday, 10 p. m.

National Executive Committee. Session of May 24th, with Comrade Stahl in the chair. The financial report for the week ending May 21st showed receipts to have been \$27.15; expenditures \$47.41; deficit for the week, \$20.26. A committee from the C. L. P. appeared, presenting a grievance of the pressmen against the "Aberdeenblatt." The committee was asked to put the matter in writing and the Executive Committee would then investigate. A letter was read from Section Evergreen, setting forth that the section had no intention of ignoring the Board of Appeals, but had turned the matter over to the Queens County Committee, where it had been delayed on account of the May Day parade. The secretary was instructed to inform the section that they must themselves answer the complaint, because the only cause of the constitution that refers to all to a case of this kind (Art. 11, Sec. 13), speaks only of sections divided into branches, while Section Evergreen is a section itself. A call was ordered for a vote on the nomination of delegate to the National Convention of the S. T. & L. A. The candidates being comrades Avery, Keep and Morgan. Comrade Hickey reported as to his work in Massachusetts.

Mr. Brower lays stress upon the fact that this huge giant Ross is responsible for the loss of a strike. The great distress for an opportunity to labor cuts no more figure; it is because Ross, R-O-S-S it is because Ross goes from the packing room into another that we lost that strike! What nonsense!

Let me say when you come into the Boot and Shoeworkers' Union you are going to lose strikes, and in the Council also, right straight along, but we maintain and we prove that by maintaining an economic organization with the largest possible number striving for a solution of this question, we are, always will be, better off than if we have no organization at all. [Applause.]

OUR TRAITORS.

(Continued from Page 1.)

returned and interest besides; but the enlisted soldier's life or health is not to be returned to his dear ones, and, of course, no interest on top of that. If the purpose is, as is claimed, simply to raise money in defence of the nation, then let that money be raised in such way as may benefit the nation, and as the nation has a right to. What that manner is can be easily ascertained by the light of the views of the noblest and wisest of all the Revolutionary Fathers—Benjamin Franklin. He said: "Private wealth is the creature of Society, and Society has a right to the last farthing of that wealth whenever Society is in need of that creature of itself—PRIVATE WEALTH." Let it be taxed into the coffers of Society. Tus life would, at least, not be treated more cheaply than wealth. What is consumed of either by Society in Society's defence would be a just sacrifice."

Do the Silverites hold this language? No. They dare not. They want a market for their silver. Admit that wealth is the creature of Society and at Society's disposal whenever needed would be a denial of the basic principle upon which Silverites, no less than Goldites, stand; to wit, the principle that the product of Society does not belong to its creator but to those who have succeeded in stealing it; which is another way of defining capitalism.

Agreed upon this fraudulent principle, the Silverites and Goldites in Congress are engaged in battle not to protect the Nation but to draw out of the Nation's troubles such advantage as each can; and as their interests conflict they are "debating."

The Roman soldiers at the foot of Calvary contented themselves to throw dice for the Vestments that were not enough "to go round"; the Praetorian Guard in Congress, less easily satisfied, are sending one another for the Vestment of the crucified Nation.

Michigan. DETROIT.—A grand open labor meeting will be held at Trades Council Hall in Hillsdengeen Bldg., corner Monroe Avenue and Randolph St., under auspices of the State Committee, S. L. P., on Sunday, May 29, at 3 p. m. L. H. Chappell, of Plymouth, and other good speakers will address the meeting. Subjects: 1. Who Should be a Socialist? 2. The positions of the Capitalists and of the Workers respectively towards the War.

Missouri. ST. LOUIS.—The Eleventh Congressional District, Socialist Labor Party, will hold a convention on Tuesday evening, June the 7th, cor. 29th and Penrose streets, in Union Press Club Hall. None but members in good standing will be entitled to a voice and vote in the convention. JULIUS KNOBLE, Sec'y of the Committee on Call.

New York. Branch 2, Thirty-second and Thirty-third Assembly District, Meeting of May 26, 1898. Comrade Cooper in the chair. Several comrades from the Thirty-third appeared and requested to form a joint organization for both districts. Five new members were accepted. Comrade Milch resigned as delegate to the General Committee and Comrade F. C. Fulling

elected in his place. Committees elected to look for a hall and also to see the Thirty-fourth and Thirty-fifth Assembly Districts about organizing "The Harlem Agrarian Committee. All members were instructed to pay up their dues in the old district and to pay in this branch beginning this month. Next meeting of the Branch is on the first Friday in June, 8 p. m., at 172 East 197th street, 1st floor.

PARLIAMENTS OF LABOR.

General Executive Board, S. T. & L. A. At the last meeting J. Schlossberg was chairman.

Charter was granted to the Egg Candler's Union. Max Weber, of Buffalo, N. Y., sent notice that the convention could be held at Fillmore Hall, 953 Broadway, and the Secretary was instructed to issue a call and credentials to the affiliated bodies.

R. Schwemmer, Knecstakers' Alliance, Johnstown, N. Y., wrote that the office of President had been abolished and that all future communications should be addressed to him at 115 Washington Avenue.

W. H. Thomas, Bureau Vista, Pa., explained the urgent necessity of sending an agitator through the mining districts. A good field was open for earnest agitation. It was resolved to ask for money from the local S. T. & L. P., as to what comrade could attend to this.

H. Ubricht, Detroit, Mich., wrote that after many attempts he had succeeded in organizing the Cor. Makers' Union, and was making the proposition to join the S. T. & L. A. would be made.

B. Schlessinger, Chicago, Ill., wrote that the United Hebrew Trades there applied for a charter. Granted as soon as the \$5 fee is received.

Progressive Musical Union, of Brooklyn, was again requested to carry out the former decision and join the S. T. & L. A.

It was announced that D. A. 49 had organized the Kard Marx Club and a charter was granted. The next meeting will be held Wednesday, June 1st, at 64 E. Fourth street, 8 P. M.

Trades and Societies Calendar.

Standing advertisements of Trades Unions and other Societies (not exceeding 500 words) will be inserted under this heading hereafter, at the rate of \$5.00 per annum.

Organizations should not lose such an opportunity of advertising their places of meetings.

Carl Sahn Club (Musicians Union). Meetings every Tuesday at 10 a. m., 214 E. 4th street, New York City. All bona-fide trades and labor Unions should be represented. Comrades interested in the new work of the Club, Secretary, Ernest Bohm, 64 East 4th street, New York City.

Central Labor Federation of New York. Meetings every Sunday afternoon at 64 East 4th street, New York City. All bona-fide trades and labor Unions should be represented. Comrades interested in the new work of the Federation, Secretary, Ernest Bohm, 64 East 4th street, New York City.

Carpenters' Progressive International Union No. 90. Office and Employment Bureau: 64 East 4th street—District 1 (Bohemia), 234 East 7th street, every Saturday at 8 p. m.—District 2 (Brooklyn), 214 E. 4th street, every Saturday at 8 p. m.—District 3 (Manhattan), 127 E. 4th street, every Saturday at 8 p. m.—District 4 (Manhattan), 243 West 42nd street, every Saturday at 8 p. m.—District 5 (Manhattan), every Tuesday at 142 2nd avenue, at 8 p. m.

Empire City Lodge (Mechanists), meets every 3rd and 4th Wednesday evening at the Labor Lyceum, 64 East 4th street. Secretary: PETER STAPLE.

German Waiters' Union of New York. Office: 285 Bowers, Union Hall, 1st floor. Meetings every Friday at 4 p. m. Board of Supervisors meets every Wednesday at 4 p. m. at the same hall.

Musical Protective Alliance No. 1099. Office: 240 E. 2d St., N. Y. Headquarters: 79 E. 4th street. Meetings every Friday at 8 o'clock noon. Fred Hartmann, Pres.; J. B. Will, corr. Sec'y, 79 E. 4th St. J. S. Krings, Business Agent.

Metal Spinners Union of New York and Vicinity meets every second and last Friday in the month at 8 1/2 o'clock at 281-283 E. 33d Street.

Section Essex County, S. L. P., meets the first Sunday in each month at 8 p. m. in the hall of "Essex County Socialist Club," 79 Springfield Ave., Newark, N. J.

Scandinavian Section, S. L. P. Meets 2nd and 4th Sunday in each month at 10 o'clock a. m. Tuition Assembly Room, 125-126 S. Ave., New York City. Subscription orders taken for the Scandinavian Weekly, SCAND. AM. ARBEITAREN.

Socialist Science Club, S. L. P., 84th St. 85th A. D. S. E. Cor. of 3d Av. and 11th St. Open every evening. Regular business meeting every Friday.

Progressive Clothing Cutters & Trimmers Union, L. A. 68 of S. T. & L. A. Headquarters, 64 East 4th street, Labor Lyceum. Next meeting every Thursday evening, at 8 P. M.

Workmen's Children's Death Benefit Association. Meetings every second Wednesday in the month, at 8 o'clock P. M., in M. T. Hall, bet. 81st and 82d St., Second Ave. Financials: Robert H. Reichard, Lachner, 20 West 44th Street.

Albanian Adnan-uno Dierro-Kasso für die Ver. Staaten von Amerika.

WORKMEN'S Sick and Death Benefit Fund of the United States of America.

The above society was founded in the year 1884 by workmen imbued with the spirit of solidarity and socialistic thought. Its numerous strength (at present composed of 1500 members) branches with more than 16,000 male members is rapidly increasing among workmen who believe in the principles of the modern labor movement. Workmen belonging to the fund, and years of age may be admitted to membership in any of the branches, upon payment of a deposit of \$4.00 for the first class and \$2.00 for the second class. Members belonging to the first class are entitled to a sick benefit of \$3.00 for 40 weeks, and of \$4.50 for another 40 weeks whether continuous or with interruption. Members belonging to the second class receive under the same circumstances a length of time \$2.00 and \$3.00 respectively. A burial benefit of \$25.00 is granted for every member, and his wife and minor dependents of members between 15 and 45 years of age may be admitted to the burial benefit upon payment of a deposit of \$1.00. Monthly dues are levied according to age and locality. Cities and towns where no branch exists, a new branch can be formed by 25 workmen in good health, and men adhering to the above principles and socialistic thought. Address all communications to HENRY STAHL, Financial Secretary, 25-27 2nd Avenue, Room 53, New York City.

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