

THE WORKERS' CALL.

"Workingmen of all countries unite! You have nothing to lose but your chains; you have a world to gain."

SECOND YEAR.—WHOLE NO. 76.

CHICAGO, ILL., AUGUST 18, 1900.

PRICE TWO CENTS

THE MIGHTY DEAD

Wilhelm Liebknecht, the Man, His Life and Work.

FOUGHT WITH HAND AND BRAIN

An Uncompromising Champion of the Proletariat Passes Away on August 7th.

The life of the great German Socialist, Wilhelm Liebknecht, has the utmost significance for any student of scientific socialism, for it was passed in the midst of the European conflict during the years of tremendous importance—the years of early development.

Liebknecht was born in 1826 in Glessen, a small town of Hesse. His family was one of education, his grandfather being rector of the university of that place, but they were all more or less conservative, and Liebknecht was brought up among safe opinions and the love of books.

At some one of the three universities which he attended—Glessen, Marburg, and Berlin—he came across the writings of St. Simon. They filled him with enthusiasm for an ideal state of society and he soon felt the restrictions of the society in which he lived, and set out for America—the country where democratic ideals were being realized.

This was in 1847, and on his way to Hamburg he met a Swiss teacher who rather upbraided him for leaving home just before a political crisis, which he predicted would come in a few months. The young man was fired with the idea of revolution and turned at once to Switzerland as a vantage point for the careful observation of the growth of events soon to take place.

He studied law, attended meetings of workmen, and when he at last heard of the communist struggle in Paris, he started out at once to carry a gun if need be. But he was too late, for the fight, and after he had learned what he could from the commune in power he left for Germany to help in an uprising under Herwege, the impractical poet agitator. This was put down and he fled to Switzerland, only to leave in a short time to help Struve in Baden. There he was captured and was on parole nine months, which time he improved by courting his wife and making friends who found him "not guilty" when his trial came on.

Later he worked with Brentano of the provisional government of Baden, and his enthusiasm incurred another arrest. After that he had to leave for Geneva, where, in 1850, his educational work among societies of workmen was prevented by a further ban of exile pronounced by Austria and Prussia. He went to England and lived there thirteen years with his wife and child, in the most severe poverty. Lassalle was shocked to find Liebknecht writing, as correspondent for the "Augsburger Allgemeine Zeitung," for money. But that was, for a time, his only means of support, and he refused financial aid from Marx or Engels, both of whom wished to help him.

In 1861 an amnesty allowed him to return to Berlin, but he was constantly under the surveillance of the police. He held an editorial position on the "Nord-deutsch Allgemeine Zeitung" and was in comfortable circumstances when he found that the paper had been sold out to agents of Bismark, who soon approached him and asked him to accept a brilliant position in connection with the paper. This meant of course, a suppression of his activities and he refused and again spent several years in poverty and personal danger.

He went to Leipzig, met Bebel, and worked for international socialism with more vigor than ever. Together they drew up a platform in 1866; and in 1870 they both entered the first parliament of the new German empire.

In 1872 Liebknecht spoke against the navy appropriation bill, was arrested for treason and sent to prison, where he spent two years in study of the problems before his party. At the end of that time he again took his seat in the Reichstag, to which he had been re-elected while in prison, and he kept his seat up to his death.

His first wife had died, overcome by the distress of mind and body in which she was kept by poverty and German officials; and Liebknecht after some time married again a woman who has survived the hardships of the life she took up with him, and today she is who feels most keenly the personal loss to the country and to the world, for she has had his interests as her own and has been his companion in thought and effort.

After the new platform at Gotha Liebknecht was put in charge of the organ of the party, the "Vorwaerts," and except when he has been imprisoned, he has always written the leading editorials for that paper. In the Reichstag he constantly protested against Bismark's policy, and he won the hatred and fear of the German aristocrat to an extent which threatened

YOUTH AND OLD AGE

Man of 63 Seeks Work in Vain and Asks for Jail Sentence.

"NO PLACE FOR AN OLD MAN."

A Significant Story for Workingmen, Showing Their Future Prospects Under Capitalism.

"Socialism is a beautiful dream," say those to whom the system of the present seems the only possible and practical one, chiefly because they prosper or hope to prosper under it. The charges brought against socialism by these advocates, when examined, generally prove to be sins of which the capitalist system itself is guilty, but they find it convenient to use socialism as a scape-goat and burden it with the crimes of capitalism.

There are exceptions to every rule, however, and this is one of them. The Socialist, when this charge is made against the principles he advocates, cannot justly retort that capitalism is a "beautiful dream." On the contrary he will have to admit that it is a reality and a hideously ugly one to boot.

If asked to show proof of his assertion he might at first be rather puzzled to select from the innumerable evidences around him, but perhaps the capitalist press itself in its record of the daily happenings of actual life might be used to illustrate. In almost every issue such proof may be found, and we here reprint one picked up at random in glancing through the daily papers, and will guarantee by the evidence of thousands of men similarly situated that it is not a dream, but a reality, and we leave it to the good taste of our readers to say whether it is beautiful or not.

Old William Acton Acker walked yesterday into the Adams street court, Brooklyn, and asked Justice Eristow to send him to the penitentiary.

"I'm afraid of becoming a thief," he added. "People say I'm too old to work. They want young men. I've walked this city for six months looking for a job. There's no place for an old man. 'Youth! Youth! Youth!' That's the cry. I've got to step aside."

"My good man," said the judge, "how old are you? Sixty-three? Um—not very much older than I."

"That's right judge, but I can't get work. Send me away."

"Six months," said the judge, and William Acton Acker was taken to Crow Hill.

To a New York World reporter Acker said: "There's no use for an old man in this world. Business men want young men, high steppers—fellows who dress well and look chipper. Fifty years is the dead line of life. I've crossed over without making my mark, and people won't let me try any more. One day I walked up Broadway from the Factory to 42d street. I went into shops, stores and offices. 'Give me work,' I said; 'I'm strong and healthy. I don't drink and I have no bad habits. I'm just a healthy old man looking for a job.' They'd smile at me and say, 'Old fellow, it's too bad.'"

"I attribute my failure in life to the fact that I did not learn a trade or profession. When a youth I was carried away by big salaries paid to clerks

(Continued on page 4)

HARRIMAN ACCEPTS

Letter From the Socialist Vice-Presidential Nominee.

STATEMENT OF HIS POSITION.

Socialism As the Goal, Guided by the Material Interests of the Working Class.

Davenport, Ia., July 30, 1900.
Wm. Buntsch, National Secretary Social Democratic Party, Springfield, Mass.

Dear Comrade:—Your letter of July 18 is at hand, bearing the news that the treaty of union formulated by the joint committee of the Social Democratic party and the Socialist Labor party has been adopted by a majority vote of both parties, and that I have been nominated thereby for the office of vice-president of the United States.

The Socialists of America are to be congratulated upon the good judgment and magnanimity which they have displayed in erasing all party lines and merging the organizations into one powerful movement. The negotiations have been attended with some difficulties and misunderstandings. Yet it could hardly have been expected that the union should be accomplished without some friction. And now that union is effected and we are practically all together in one great party, let us forget the past, drop all discussion of past differences and march shoulder to shoulder, fired by one hope and fixed in one determination—the abolition of the wage system and the inauguration of the Co-operative Commonwealth.

In the enthusiasm consequent upon our union we must not be unmindful of the many problems and political issues we shall have to meet. Though we know that these issues are born of the conflicting interests of capitalism, yet we must remember that it is only by a correct interpretation of them that the propaganda of socialism can be advanced. We must show why the questions of money and tariff have lost their significance, why the trust has appeared, why the question of expansion and imperialism has come to the front, and what it means. We must show why labor struggles are constantly arising and what they signify. And we must set forth the Socialist solution for these living problems.

While our doors must be kept open to all who espouse our cause, from whatever class they come, we must ever bear in mind that scientific socialism is the solution of the labor problem and that our mission is, accordingly, to the working class. It is upon their backs that the world's burden rests; it is their sufferings that are to be relieved; it is their ears that will be most responsive.

No one can successfully deny that there is in this country today a working class and a capitalist class, and that there is a constant warfare between them. Their interests are opposed. The desire of the capitalist for high profits cannot be reconciled with the desire of the worker for the whole product of his labor. Hence come strikes, lockout, boycotts, blacklists, and their evil consequences. The cause of this struggle is inherent in the wage system which enables the capitalist to exploit the worker. This system the old parties defend, while the object of the S. D. P. is to abolish it and substitute an organization in which all industries shall be owned by the people, and each shall reap the full reward of his labor.

With the Co-operative Commonwealth as my goal and the material interests of the working class as my guide, and mindful of the great responsibility which such a position in our party implies, I accept the nomination tendered me and express my gratitude for the confidence my comrades have reposed in me.

Fraternally yours,
Job Harriman.

To the Subscribers of the Workers' Call:
Friends and Comrades:—We have sent to each of you a state petition list upon which to secure names so we may get on the official ballot. Please NOTICE the INSTRUCTIONS at the FOOT OF THE LIST and DO NOT fail to send the list in by date named, WITHOUT FAIL.

Fraternally,
The Campaign Committee,
Room 1, 35 N. Clark St., Chicago.

The pious property owner who neglects to place fire-escapes on his buildings on account of the expense, is generally satisfied with the precautions taken against danger of fire in the next world. He appreciates the fact that salvation can be obtained "without money and without price" and doesn't interfere with rent, interest and profit.

A SOCIALIST'S BURIAL.

Procession Seven Miles Long Follows the Remains of Liebknecht to the Grave.

SOCIALIST POINTERS

Let's play we were all new converts and go to work with corresponding enthusiasm.

The Socialist is the only party that presents the same issue North and South, East and West.

Socialism is such a beautiful dream that it will put both of the old parties to sleep if given time.

Have you got the friend spotted that you are going to convince and bring to the polls for socialism?

It seems as if some workingmen never would be satisfied until there was a bull pen in every state.

Perhaps the mills are shutting down because it is harder to buy the vote of the man who has work.

Between Roosevelt, Stevenson and Harriman it looks as if the workingmen should not take long to choose.

The size of the Socialist vote in November depends largely on the efforts of the men who are Socialists now.

Can it be that the growth of socialism in Kansas has sent Bryan down there to accept the Populist nomination?

You remember, the Democrats were going to smash the trusts before someone asked them how they were going to do it.

One vote for socialism does more to batter down the walls of capitalism than a dozen bullets fired by the assassin.

Capitalists who laugh at Debs as an agitator will not consider him any joke as a candidate with a million votes behind him.

The black man of the South knows from hard experience that the Democratic sympathy with the Filipino is for votes only.

If a vote for socialism is thrown away a vote for capitalism is worse than thrown away when it is cast by a workman.

The reason a vote for the Democratic party is not thrown away is because it will do so much good to men like Croker and Bobbie Burke.

Sometimes it looks as if the old party politicians got together and shouted: "The Socialists will cut no figure," just to keep up their courage.

The police will also make a few votes for socialism in different parts of the country by breaking up meetings. Every little helps, you know.

By the way, it can hardly be considered a tribute to the intelligence of the Socialists to assume that they would all vote for Bryan if Debs was not running.

HARD PRESSED.

Capitalist Journals Driven Desperate By Growth of Socialism Resort to Wilful Lying.

The Chicago American has during the past week descended to a depth of criminal lying regarding the Socialists that shows what a trifle of intellect prostituted to capitalism can accomplish in the way of libelous fabrication.

When the news arrived of Comrade E. V. Debs' letter accepting the nomination of the united party the Chicago American realized that the forces of socialism being united would make tremendous inroads upon the old party votes. Hence it was necessary for them to set in motion their batteries of falsehood and vilification. They sent a reporter to the office of the Workers' Call where he was given every opportunity to know the facts, so that what was said can be nothing but deliberate lying. The American then printed a libellous falsification concerning the individual members of the Socialist party and the movement in general, the main theme of which was that Mark Hanna had given a large sum of money to the Socialist campaign fund and that they were divided into rival factions as to who should have the spending of it.

It is of little use to point to the fact that the news which the American really spread was one of union and not disunion of Socialist forces, and that the Socialist party is the only one that prints the source of every dollar received on its campaign fund, and the manner in which it is expended. It was not through ignorance but through deliberate lying that the American was led to print the above statements. It was because they realized that unless the workers could be kept deceived into the idea that Bryan was the only salvation of the laborers those laborers would begin to think for themselves and then good bye to the function of the American as a stool pigeon.

When the capitalist informs us that socialism will discourage inventors, he doubtless refers to those journalistic geniuses who are now so busy inventing lies about socialism.

The "reds" whom the "civilized world" are preparing to exterminate, must not be confounded with the red-shirted patriots who terrorized the negroes of South Carolina out of their right to vote.

Many good Democrats have expressed their sympathy with the Boers by lending John Bull money to help crush them.

Bryan says: "Standard Oil does not mix with the water of life." Wonder how Ice Trust and Copper Trust donations to the Democratic campaign fund mix with the anti-trust plank of Kansas City.

UNITED CONVENTION

Of All Socialists of Illinois.—Call for Convention.

Chicago, Ill., August 15, 1900.

To all Socialist Organizations, all Labor Unions, Turner Societies, and Other Associations, in the State of Illinois, that endorse the principles of Socialism, and desire to support the Socialist political movement as represented by the International Congresses of the Socialist parties of the world.

Greeting:—In response to a request from a delegated body representing a number of labor unions and turner societies desirous of supporting a united Socialist ticket in this state and county, having Eugene V. Debs as its presidential candidate, the State and County Campaign Committees of the Social Democratic party and Socialist Labor party met this p. m. at 55 N. Clark street, Chicago, and resolved:

That in response to the request of the delegated body representing labor and turner societies desirous of supporting a united Socialist ticket having Eugene V. Debs as presidential candidate. This conference of the Campaign Committees of the Socialist Labor party and Social Democratic party hereby issue a call for a convention of all Socialist organizations, all turner societies, and other associations endorsing the principles of socialism and desirous of supporting a united Socialist ticket and united Socialist campaign in this state and county.

That a committee of five be and

hereby is elected to issue this call and arrange for said convention."

The committee elected consists of Peter Knickrehm, Jacob Winnen, Fred K. Strickland and Joseph Holzinger of the Social Democratic party, and Thomas J. Morgan of the Socialist Labor party.

The committee have fixed on the 26th of August as the date, 70 N. Clark street, Chicago, as the place of said convention, 10 a. m., as the hour of meeting, and the basis of representation at three delegates for each organization.

The credentials of all delegates must bear the names and addresses of delegate, name of the organization, union or society, the date and place of meeting of election of said delegates, and the signatures of the chairman and secretary of said meeting.

Duplicate credentials must be mailed before the 26th of August, to Thomas J. Morgan, 79 Dearborn street, room 228, Chicago, except those of German societies which must be sent to Jacob Winnen, 350 Blue Island avenue, Chicago.

The committee urge prompt action on this call, and urge all Socialists to participate in this effort to organize a solid united Socialist movement in this state.

Peter Knickrehm,
Jacob Winnen,
Fred K. Strickland,
J. Holzinger,
Thomas J. Morgan.

That a committee of five be and

THE WORKERS' CALL.

Issued every Saturday at 26 N. Clark St., Chicago, Ill. Entered at the postoffice at Chicago, Ill., as mail matter of the second class.

The Workers' Call is published for and under the control of Section Chicago of the Socialist (also Social Democratic) Party of Illinois, a corporation without capital stock, the whole revenue of which must be expended for socialist propaganda.

Subscriptions may be made by postoffice money order, express money order or bank draft.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES. One year \$2.00. Six months \$1.25. Three months \$0.75. Single copies \$0.10.

ADVERTISEMENTS. A limited number of acceptable advertisements will be inserted.

EDITORIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS. To secure the return of unused manuscripts postage should be enclosed.

National Socialist Ticket. For President-EUGENE V. DEBS. For Vice-President-JOB HARRIMAN.

CAMPAIGN FALSEHOODS. The Socialist propaganda naturally enough finds its most formidable opponents amongst those who avowedly support capitalism in its most highly developed phases.

The Socialist propaganda naturally enough finds its most formidable opponents amongst those who avowedly support capitalism in its most highly developed phases. The most ingenious, the most plausible and misleading articles against socialism as a rule appear in the columns of that portion of the press which is devoted to the support of capitalism up to date, "imperialism," "expansion," et al., as represented by the Republican party and the candidacy of McKinley.

Notice of Special Issue.

The issue of the Call for August 31st will be a special Labor Day issue. From beginning to end it will be an address and a compilation of facts and reasons why union men should vote for Debs and Harriman, socialism and their own interests.

Surrender Means Treason.

The claim that the Building Trades Council is about to dissolve has taken another turn. Now it is the carpenters that are going to withdraw, according to the capitalist press. The matter has been submitted to a referendum vote of the membership, and the press controlled in the interest of the contractors is using every effort to have that vote cast in favor of withdrawing from the Central Council.

THE "OPEN MARKET."

The long struggle between the building trades workmen and the contractors still drags on, and although the situation has not changed perceptibly, it is

interesting to note that the employers are beginning to talk of their intention in the future to buy "labor in the open market."

While such expressions may seem a trifle premature in the present stage of the conflict, for as far as we can see, the union men are not yet in imminent danger of defeat, they serve to show what the Socialists have always insisted upon, that all these struggles without exception have for their object the securing of a larger portion of the product of labor for one side or the other, and hence a perpetual struggle between them must always exist, and that the cessation or settlement of any particular struggle cannot be considered as permanent, but merely as an armed truce between the combatants, either of whom will re-open hostilities at what appears an advantageous moment.

In making the statement of their intention to "buy labor in the open market" the contractors throw off the mask they have worn all through the lockout, considering that pretence is no longer necessary. "Buying labor on the open market" simply means that the cheapest man will get the job, and this in turn means that a larger portion of the product of labor will accrue to the employing class. This is always the situation that faces the workmen in every similar struggle, and whatever pretext the war may be carried on under, this and this alone is the real motive.

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SNAP SHOTS BY THE WAYSIDE.

That "matchless, peerless," etc., leader, William Jennings Bryan, has accepted the nomination for president and has allowed his own "paramount" to be shoved aside, and the other fellows "paramount" substituted therefore.

It is sometimes disagreeable to tax the memories of people, but Socialists are compelled to do it once in a while so we would ask our readers to look through their school histories to verify the facts to which we call their attention.

Before the Kansas City convention Bryan insisted, nay more, made it conditional upon his acceptance of the nomination, that the "ratio" of 16 to 1 be specifically mentioned in the platform.

But in his speech of acceptance he dwelt entirely upon imperialism and expansion and while the platform pledges itself to the "time-honored" principles of the Democratic party, he attempted to fortify his position by liberal quotations from the speeches of Lincoln and Clay, which were delivered in opposition to the Mexican war, which was supported by the Democratic party of that day.

The Chicago Tribune in the course of a politico-economic article speaks of the difference of cost between a monarchy and a republic, and points out that the latter is more expensive. It says that the pending election will cost twenty-five million dollars, which will have to be borne by the two opposing capitalist factions.

For instance, Bryan's acceptance of the presidential nomination alone brought immense crowds to Indianapolis. It is claimed that about ten thousand went from this city. The railroad and hotel accommodations for these patriots was arranged at \$5.75 per head, not including the expenditure for whiskey, scab cigars, etc.

It has been estimated that every vote cast for the capitalist parties costs between ten and fifteen dollars. The expenses for the Socialist campaign on the other hand will show that for every vote cast, the sum of fifteen cents is laid out.

The decennial wrangle over the census returns is on hand again. Every city which does not show the increase of population that its real estate boomers pretended it had, expresses its indignation in its daily papers, just because the people are not there.

Then again the advantage of a flooded labor market is also a thing to be desired by our manufacturing capitalists, and in this dissatisfaction at the census returns the workmen are asked to interest themselves, and strangely enough, many of them actually do.

With Wilhelm Liebknecht passes away the last of the great trio which Germany furnished the proletariat of all lands. The brain, heart, and hand of modern socialism was exemplified in Marx, Engels and Liebknecht respectively. The first-named developed the brain by showing the historic and economic basis for the working class movement.

The civilizing influence of the allied powers in China promises to leave an impression on the inhabitants of that country that they will not easily forget. When we read in a press dispatch that the Cossacks after a battle slaughtered several hundred women and children, it brings to mind the fact that they are there as the representatives of that Prince of Peace, the Czar Nicholas,

originator of the Hague conference, the most abominably hypocritical performance of the century.

However, the news from China has been of such a baseless, lying character, that charges such as these may perhaps be more reasonably taken as a sign that the pioneers of civilization are preparing to quarrel with each other, and the charges of murder and torture with which they upbraided each other may be merely intended to excite "public opinion" in their respective countries.

It is already admitted in the capitalist press, that while wages are being gradually reduced in the metal industries, there are orders on hand sufficient to keep most of the plants running till the end of the year. This really means until after election, and then—then—well, then the fool workmen will have voted.

One of the features of Wm. K. Vanderbilt's residence on Long Island is a swimming pool, which will cost one million dollars. This sum has been extracted from the wealth producers, and they alone make it possible for this man to enjoy facilities for abluition which are denied to themselves.

This man Vanderbilt is now in London, his luxurious private yacht, (also built by the same "great unwashed"), having arrived in England a few days ago. He is evidently contented with the political situation, and has no fear that the wage slaves who are building his bath or the political tools who are looking out for his interests in Washington, will prove untrustworthy.

"How are you?" Mr. Vanderbilt said to an Express representative, who was known to him before. "What are you doing?"

"Looking for a millionaire." "Well, I suppose I am one of them," replied Mr. Vanderbilt. "I wanted one interested in American politics, and I do not think that is one of your strong points."

"No, I am afraid not. I leave all that to better men. McKinley will be re-elected, I suppose, for a moral certainty," replied the millionaire. "Does that portend continued prosperity in America?"

The letters of acceptance of our presidential candidates, Eugene V. Debs and Job Harriman, furnish a startling contrast by their conciseness and definiteness when compared with the incoherent rot put forward by the capitalist candidates. The former are subjective to the principles of socialism in every line, while the latter are deliberately contrived to dazzle and confuse the workmen, for whose vote these snares are laid.

Acting Mayor Walker states that the appropriation of city funds for the entertainment of the G. A. R. is illegal. That the aldermen have no right to use the city revenues for such purpose. No right! We may expect to hear next that the aldermen have no right to sell public franchises to capitalists.

As the political campaign proceeds, the oratorical efforts of capitalist candidates and politicians will be judged mostly by the length of their speeches. The Socialist speakers have no need to cater to such judgments. It is merely necessary for them to bring home to the workers in the plainest and most decided language an understanding of their distinct material interests as a class.

DON'T FORGET THE PICNIC TOMORROW!

A call for the Workers' Call will always receive prompt attention, which is an invitation to call again.

HE STUDIED SOCIALISM.

And Announces the Result in the Letter Which Appears Below.

Herrin, Illinois. Secretary State Socialist Committee, Chicago, Ill.

My Dear Sir:— I have been a Democrat all my life, and until recently have been an active worker in that party. I have devoted a great deal of my time to the support of democracy—was formerly editor of the Anna Democrat. All the time, at certain sane moments, I have realized that the game of politics between the two old parties is nothing more than a matter of auction.

While in Chicago last summer a few copies of the Workers' Call fell into my hands, I read them and attended several Socialist meetings. Since then I have applied myself with a good will to the study of socialism. For a while I was skeptical as to its practicability and regarded it as a beautiful theory only. I am now convinced that it is altogether practicable and that it is the only solution of the world's industrial problem.

I am willing to help the cause of socialism in every way that I can. There are two avowed Socialists with me at this place, both recent converts. There is plenty of material to work on. The whole city is intensely union. There are three locals U. M. W. and one A. F. L. I shall do all I can to place Socialist literature in the hands of the better educated unionists between this and election.

Please remember I stand ready to serve the party to the end of my ability. If you can give me any pointers to help me along in the work it will be a service to the party.

Yours fraternally, Peyton Boswell.

A SENSELESS "ISSUE."

"Imperialism" of No Interest Whatever to the Working Class.

Of all the fool schemes ever devised by the capitalist class to attract the attention of the workers and divide their strength while their pockets are being picked, the "imperialism issue" is a little bit the "foolest." Free silver at least possessed some attraction for the man who owed a few dollars and who hoped to be able to pay them with cheaper dollars, although as far as the workers were concerned they generally were too poor to have ever been able to contract any debts and so were never interested in the "divine ratio of 16 to 1."

How is the laborer interested in the question as to whether his master shall sell the products of his (the laborer's) toil under the stars and stripes in China, or whether they join with the exploiters of Europe in the policy of the "open door?"

Besides the whole thing becomes a vaudeville farce when the Chinese question enters. Not a politician on either side but what is howling for war with China. Now if the war with China for expansion is all right what is the matter with the Philippines?

If Hearst's Chicago American stands for Democracy and Democracy stands for publicity of the trusts, why, by the eternal shades of Jefferson, don't he give the public some publicity now?

If this experiment of living on 15 cents per day is successful, those two billions worth of products which "we cannot consume," will increase considerably and make the necessity of "hammering at the gates of Peking" still more urgent.

We haven't heard that the working class are exhibiting much sorrow over the death of Collis P. Huntington. And yet he had more money and gave more "employment" than Wilhelm Liebknecht.

CORRESPONDENCE.

For a Local Convention.

To the members of the S. P. and S. D. P. Greeting:—By the result of the referendum vote of the membership of the S. L. P. and S. D. P. the question of a national union has been definitely decided in the affirmative. It now only remains to carry that decision into practical effect locally by merging the locals of the former organizations into one united body (with a suitable constitution). For this purpose it has been thought desirable to call a delegate meeting of all the membership in this city for the purpose of adopting such a constitution and perfecting an organization of all Socialists who endorse the nomination of Debs and Harriman.

You are therefore invited to send delegates to a local convention which will take place at 79 N. Clark street, on Sunday, August 26th at 10 o'clock a. m. The basis of representation is five delegates for each branch of the S. P. and S. D. P.

By order of Local Chicago, A. W. Lindgren, Sec'y.

A Good Example.

Editor Workers' Call:— On last Saturday evening an open air meeting was held in the 3rd ward, on the corner of 323 and Commercial avenue. Miss Ashby, the English Socialist who is now investigating the conditions of the working class in this country, and Comrade John Collins were the speakers. The meeting was opened by Comrade Collins, who spoke for about ten minutes to a very large audience, when a Democrat who could not stand the fire which was being poured into his party, began to interrupt persistently, with the evident intention of bringing up the meeting. Miss Ashby, however, stepped on the speaker's stand and in a few moments shut the disturber up as tight as a clam. I wish we had a few more lady Socialists in Chicago possessed of the same courage as Miss Ashby exhibited that evening. We have the talent amongst our lady Socialists, if they would only take courage and follow the example of Miss Ashby. Comrade Collins then took the platform and the meeting ended with loud applause from the audience. There was but one drawback to our complete success, no Workers' Calls were on hand for sale, and it is to be hoped that all branches will not neglect to provide themselves with our party organ at their meetings.

A Suggestion for Unity.

Editor Workers' Call:— On Sunday, the 10th inst., a well-attended meeting took place in Lauterbach's hall, 53 N. Clark street, which was called together with the object of promoting unity of all Socialist forces in the coming election. There were present, representing the Brewers' and Malsters' union, two delegates; Metal Workers' union No. 2, two delegates; International Cigar-makers' Union No. 15, two delegates; Typographical Union No. 3, two delegates; Turn Verein Eiche, two delegates; Arbeiter Slick and Death Benefit Association, three branches with five delegates; four officers of the N. E. B. of the S. D. P., two of the organization-committee S. D. P., and the Central Committee (Bohemian) of the S. D. party with three delegates. The representatives of the union suggested that the officers present invite both Campaign Committees to meet and arrange a joint campaign for Debs and Harriman, then invite the unions to assist in and support the campaign morally and financially. A resolution was adopted protesting against the high-handed and illegal action of the police in prohibiting the meeting called at the Twelfth Street Turner Hall, thereby violating the constitutional rights of the people. A motion was passed sending a message of condolence to the comrades in Germany on the death of the veteran champion of the working class, Wilhelm Liebknecht, of the German Social Democratic Party. A resolution was adopted protesting against the high-handed and illegal action of the police in prohibiting the meeting called at the Twelfth Street Turner Hall, thereby violating the constitutional rights of the people. A motion was passed sending a message of condolence to the comrades in Germany on the death of the veteran champion of the working class, Wilhelm Liebknecht, of the German Social Democratic Party.

The greatest Socialist event of the year will be the Workers' Call picnic at Blue Island, August 19th. Every Socialist in Chicago will be there with all their friends.

The privilege of selling literature at the Liebknecht memorial meeting has been leased to the Workers' Call board of directors.

The Coast Seamen's Journal is complaining that the government is hiring Chinese sailors to sail the ships carrying the troops to China for the present war. They are asking that McKinley be memorialized by the different trade unions of the country in order to stop the practice. Some day they will find that the only kind of a memorial that has any effect upon our present organization of society is a Socialist vote.

Drummers and the Trusts.

The National Democratic Committee of Commercial Travelers has just put out a tale of woe that would break a heart of stone. They complain that practically every kind of food product is in the control of a trust and a list of twenty-two such terrible creatures is given which are said to have dispensed with 16,576 commercial travelers. Just what these poor fellows expect that the Democratic party will do for them it is hard to say. Do they imagine that Bryan will pass a law instructing their former employers to pay them their former wages while they sit in the office, for there will never be any more need for them to go out on the road and lie about each others' goods? Society has found that this does not warm or house or clothe or feed anybody and that there is less profit in fighting than in producing, and so they will produce. If the drummers really want to do anything for themselves they had better get in line with the Socialists.

See that every union man in your locality has a copy of the Labor Day issue.

Bryan's acceptance speech is an excellent illustration of the "mountain in labor which brought forth a mouse."

The Political Situation.

GAIN our great country is thrown into the whirlpool of political excitement. We have scarcely recovered our breath since the "paramount" issue was threshed out. But here we are again in front of a "paramount-ER" issue. The "paramount" issue of four years ago sleeps in the cemetery—devitalized. We have no editorial ink to throw at anyone or about anything. We are not skilled in the use of diatribes. As a member of this big family of American brothers, however, we have some good-natured remarks to make.

Two great parties, the Republican and the Democratic, have locked horns over the "paramount-ER" issue, and are contending for the vote of the people, for the offices in the gift of the people, and for the consequent administration of the affairs of the people. There are other smaller parties as protests against some form of social and political wrong, or as standard bearers of some needed reform.

THE REPUBLICANS.

The Republican party, originally organized on the basis of the Declaration of Independence, and as the party of freedom and social justice, on behalf of the slave, is today the party of power and money, of conservatism and capitalism. Its convention was composed largely of the representatives of "business" interests, "financial" interests, "trust" interests, "corporation" interests,—in short of the representatives and supporters of CAPITALISM. The moving spirit, and high-priest of the convention was a millionaire, Mr. Mark Hanna, a man of such wealth and financial power as to be the very incarnation of capitalism. The only possible names before the convention were those of William McKinley and Theodore Roosevelt.

Under McKinley's administration, capitalistic prosperity has almost come to a climax, and under his tender care, and tender policy the "Trust" octopus has become in reality a huge and uncontrollable brute, the ruler of the State, the controller of the press, and the hypnotizer of the pulp.

A low type of militarism is the natural accompaniment of capitalism in order to extend markets, to protect property, to suppress labor riots, and to be the necessary plea for a cheap and sickly patriotism. So the Republican nominee for vice-president stands for the present spirit of war and militarism that is sweeping the country. He is the chief of the "rough riders." And some Republican editors have suggested that the campaign slogan of the Republican party be the yell of the "Tough Rider," chief at the battle of El Cañey, "Give 'em hell, boys!"

Capitalism, and its necessary inglorious militarism, have joined hands at the head of the Republican party in the person of William McKinley and Theodore Roosevelt.

THE DEMOCRATS.

The other great party is the Democratic party. We need not mention its two leaders. It has but one, Wm. Jennings Bryan. Mr. Bryan is the man who discovered the "paramount" issue on which the people divided four years ago: 16 to 1. And he is likewise the man who discovered the "paramount-ER" issue of the present campaign: Imperialism. And William Jennings Bryan is an honorable man—a very honorable man. He is rather the most honorable man before the American public in the old parties.

Now the Democratic party has had a peculiar history. Its priests quote Jefferson's immortal phrase, "Equal rights for all and special privileges for none;" but at present it is strangely silent about its attitude fifty years ago when the Republican party was organized for the freedom of the slave. As the Republican party has forgotten Lincoln the Democratic party had then forgotten Jefferson; and it was the party of the slave power, the most ghastly and horrible privilege which up to that time had cursed men. The Democratic party, during that whole long struggle for human liberty has a record that had better remain in the dead past. Since that time I fail to see one iota of good for which they have stood. A Democratic editor, with keen sarcasm, speaks of some of the words in the Republican platform as "weasel words," that is, words like eggs from which weasels have sucked the meat; hence meaningless, though pretentious. If I might good-naturedly return the satire I would say that the Democratic party is the present "weasel" itself which sucks the meat out of every reform egg which the people bring forth. Witness how they have "weaseled" the Populists and now they are creeping on the Socialist ranks. We can only say, "Beware!" Of late years they have been discovering "the other side." While refusing to stand bravely for the real issues before the people, it has forced upon us comparatively useless or partial issues.

THE REAL ISSUE.

The Republican party is the capital-

ist party. But the Democrats are not anti-capitalist. They are anti-imperialist. But imperialism is the side-issue of capitalism. Imperialism is to capitalism what Teddy Roosevelt is to Wm. McKinley—Imperialism is the VICE of capitalism (ardon the pun).

We live in a great industrial, competitive, capitalistic age. For a century the workshops of the various countries have been competing: formerly for home markets, now for foreign markets. Capitalism is rising to its climax. It must and will practically cover the world. And "militarism," "expansion," "imperialism" are the necessary accompaniments of the industrial nations of the world in the extension of foreign markets for the vast unused production of EIGHT HOME workshops.

DEPEW QUOTED.

On this point let the ringing speech of Chauncey M. Depew at the Republican convention bear witness. This was the speech that stirred the convention to the very soul:

"What is the tendency of the future? Why this war in South Africa? Why this hammering at the gates of Pekin? Why this marching of troops from Asia to Africa? Why these parades of people from other empires and other lands? IT IS BECAUSE THE SURPLUS PRODUCTIONS OF CIVILIZED COUNTRIES OF MODERN TIMES ARE GREATER THAN CIVILIZATION CAN CONSUME. IT IS BECAUSE THIS OVER-PRODUCTION GOES BACK TO STAGNATION AND TO POVERTY.

The American people produce \$2,000,000,000 worth more than we can consume, and we have met the emergency, and by the providence of God, by the statesmanship of William McKinley and by the valor of Roosevelt and his associates (applause), we have our market in Cuba, we have our market in Porto Rico, we have our market in Hawaii, we have our market in the Philippines, and we stand in the presence of \$50,000,000 of people with the Pacific as an American lake and the American artisan producing better and cheaper goods than any country in the world, and my friends, we go to American labor and to the American farm and say that with William McKinley for another four years there is no congestion for America. Let invention proceed, let production go on, let the mountains bring forth their treasures, let the factories do their best, let labor be employed at the highest wages, because the world is ours and we have conquered it by republican principles and by republican persistency in the principles of American industry and of America for Americans." (Applause.)

Putting Chauncey's eloquence in a word it runs thus:

"Why this militarism, expansion, imperialism? The only answer is—Capitalism! The capitalists, by the providence of God and by the statesmanship of William McKinley, controlling the natural resources by which the workers of America live, have annually two billion dollars worth of goods left after the workers are paid 2/3 more than we can consume. Foreign markets must be opened; therefore, expansion, militarism, imperialism." Chauncey showed the whole hand of the capitalist party in that stirring republican speech. That is what I call, imperialism is to Capitalism what Roosevelt is to McKinley—the VICE thereof and necessary accompaniment, the ally.

But the Democrats fail to see this. Four years ago they failed in a similar manner. What imperialism is to Capitalism now, the gold standard was to Capitalism then. They then fought the tail-end issue. They could not see the head of the animal for his bushy tail. They shot at the tail and lost ammunition—not their cause. They had no cause to lose. A cause never dies. Their false issue is as dead as George III.

It is the same again today. The Democrats have discovered the animal in his lair—TAIL out. And they seize upon the tail and mistake it for his head. It is barely possible that they may pull his tail out, and therewith adorn Tammany braves, but the real devil that is destroying the people, and menacing the republic, will still live.

CAPITALISM VS. SOCIALISM.

Capitalism is the only issue before the American people, and before every other people of western civilization. It can be met by one principle only—SOCIALISM.

Either capitalists and capital will own the people or the people will own the social capital.

The trusts will own the masses or the masses will own the trusts.

The former is Capitalism; the latter Socialism.

On a thousand details we may differ, and many such details will have to be threshed out, but on the fundamental principle those who care for men before money must and will unite.

WHAT THE PEOPLE SOCIALLY NEED THE PEOPLE MUST SOCIALLY OWN. That is, SOCIAL ownership in the original resources, and PRIVATE ownership in the products of one's toil.

The editor of this magazine, while refusing to be partisan in any sense of the word, and while refusing to enslave himself by partisan politics, shall cast his vote this fall for SOCIALISM, and for the Socialist candidate, Eugene V. Debs.

As Mr. McKinley is the natural nominee of Capitalism, and Mr. Bryan, the natural nominee of those who are not capitalists but would like to be, so Mr. Debs is the natural nominee of the WORKERS of America, and one solid million of us should go to the polls and

vote for Socialism, to show, at least, our sense of justice and our common sense analysis of the present political situation.

None of us can prophesy what will happen three months hence. I would wish to see Mr. McKinley properly installed to carry Capitalism to its proper climax. But the flourishing of the animal's tail—Imperialism—may so annoy many peaceable citizens that they may rally to pull the tail out, and elect Mr. Bryan. Panic untold would immediately follow. Capital, wounded, would lie sick. And the Democrats HAVE NOT ONE SINGLE PROPOSITION AS TO WHAT SHALL BE DONE, except to withdraw the thousands of our troops from the islands and add that many more men to the "army of the unemployed" at home. But I would risk the prophecy that McKinley will be elected.

For ourselves, now is the supreme moment in which to educate the workers in the principles of social and political righteousness. We will use the excited hour as a fit one in which to call the people to the principles of justice and righteousness which must be put in our social, industrial, and political life. When the smoke of the political battle is cleared away you will find us still at work as before and during the campaign preaching righteousness, justice, and brotherhood, and teaching those forms of socialism and of renewed political machinery in which this Epochical hour shall find expression.

J. Stitt Wilson, in Social Crusader.

LABOR ITEMS.

Notes From Trades Union Journals and Exchanges, Throughout the United States.

Sweeping injunction has been issued against the striking cigarmakers of Dayton, O.

Trouble on the Canadian Pacific railway. The company is attempting to disrupt the unions.

Canadian miners have taken up the study of socialism, and meetings are being held under auspices of unions.

Now the marble cutters are catching it. A recent invention enables the workman to strike 6,000 blows per minute, as against 20 by the hand process.

The Kieckling S. D. P. branch of Philadelphia fell in line with the united party. Eight trades unions also sent delegates to the combined party convention.

The electrophone is a London innovation. Now the aristocrats may sit at home and hear the opera as presented in leading theatres. Bellamy was a dreamer, was he?

W. C. Bowman, the famous California Populist orator, refuses to take the stump for the reformers, and states in a letter that if he does any speaking this year it will be for Debs and Harriman.

Striking fishermen of Vancouver, B. C., 1,500 in number, lost their fight. The capitalists combined and now the fishermen are seriously considering the advisability of taking political action along the lines of socialism.

The metal workers have organized a national union with 27 locals. They appear to be conscious of the fact that there is a class struggle on, for they declare the capitalists and laborers do not have interests in common, and for that reason they call upon the laborers everywhere to organize.

The Miners' Magazine, national organ of the Western Federation of Miners, after studying the old party platforms, says: "We fail to distinguish any difference between the Republican and Democratic parties, and Eugene V. Debs and Job Harriman have done more for the laboring people than all the politicians in the two old parties, and deserve the vote of every workman in the United States."

DeLeonism in the state of Massachusetts has received a body blow in the courts, where its adherents miserably failed to prove their title to recognition as a political party. The decision informed them that they had no legal standing, thereby upsetting their claim to represent socialism in that state. This is not a favorable year for one-man movements anyhow, as the worshippers of the "professor" will find out to their cost.

A funny thing happened in New York. One of DeLeon's S. T. and L. A. strike breakers named Gellerich, with his wife, was given a job in Mondy & Lederer's, a non-union cigar factory. As soon as the other employees saw the Gellerichs they called a shop meeting and demanded that they be discharged or a strike would follow. The employees said they were bad enough in being unorganized, but they were no traitorous strike-breakers. The Gellerichs were discharged.—Cleveland Citizen.

DON'T FORGET THE PICNIC TOMORROW!

Are you a Socialist? Then we'll see you at Calumet Grove on the 19th, of course.

There will be prizes for bowling and other contests, games of all kinds on hand and every possible inducement to ensure a good-time.

The increase of the Socialist vote in Germany will convince the Kaiser that his satisfaction over the death of Liebknecht was a trifle premature.

Are you still hustling for subscribers?

LOCAL NEWS AND NOTES.

At a convention held by the 4th ward branch on Monday, August 13, at the 4th ward club rooms, Comrade Louis Dalgaard, 3540 LaSalle street, was nominated as state representative from the 5th senatorial district.

Members of the 14th ward branch are requested to attend a meeting of the 14th ward Scandinavian branch at Brewster Hall, 789 W. North avenue, on Wednesday, 22nd inst., for the purpose of amalgamating the two branches. Full attendance requested.

A meeting was held at 176 Dayton street to form a 20th ward branch. On account of some business some members were unable to be present, so the meeting was postponed until Friday night, August 17th, when a branch will be formed and open air meetings arranged for.

At the convention held at Oskaloosa, Ia., the Socialists declared unequivocally for unity of all Socialist parties, and declared their intention to support organic union. They will however, withhold their support until that unity is perfected. The candidacy of Eugene V. Debs and Job Harriman as president and vice-president, respectively, was unanimously endorsed.

The members of the 15th ward held a business meeting at Shoenhofen's hall, Ashland and Milwaukee, and elected a committee of two to meet the Scandinavian branch, (Fourthteenth ward), to amalgamate the two branches. The meeting was enthusiastically in favor of union and has made a call upon its members to attend in a body, the Scandinavian branch meeting, Wednesday, August 22, for the purpose of joining the branches. The branch subscribed \$6.50 for the campaign fund. Keep up the good work, comrades.

A mass meeting held by enthusiastic workers for socialism at Dyas Hall, Kimball and Cullom avenues, formed a new branch of the 27th ward, known as No. 2. Twelve members joined the branch and repudiated Democracy and Republicanism. Officers and delegates were elected to Central Committee. Their business meetings will take place 1st and 3rd Saturdays; open air meetings Sunday nights, corner Irving Park boulevard and Elston avenue. Unattached Socialists and all workmen in the vicinity should join the branch and help the cause of socialism.

DON'T FORGET THE PICNIC TOMORROW!

In Working Order.

—Springfield, Mass., Aug. 4th, 1900.

To the Comrades of the Social Democratic Party:—

I desire to inform you that due stamps are ready and are being forwarded to the various state committees, just as fast as it is possible to do so.

Due cards, applications for charters, applications for membership, constitutions and platforms have been or will be sent shortly to all state committees, to whom locals should apply at once for a full quota.

In states where there is no state committee locals can apply to the National Secretary; in states where such committee exists, locals must apply to them for the necessary supplies.

The following prices will be charged: Due stamps, 10 cents each; for due cards, 40 cents per hundred; constitutions and platforms, 50 cents per hundred copies; application cards will be furnished free by the state committees on demand.

Secretaries of locals should at once instruct the members to choose the party organ they desire, and send to the National Secretary a list of names and addresses of subscribers, together with the 10 cents from each for quarterly subscription. No papers will be sent on credit.

In order that a correct record may be had of all members in good standing in the Social Democratic party, I would request that secretaries of all locals furnish me as soon as possible a list of members enrolled.

Yours fraternally,
Wm. Butscher, Nat'l. Sec'y.

Literature at Meetings.

It is no uncommon thing to see an out-door meeting with neither papers, petitions or subscription blanks present. It is such work as this that discourages speakers and workers and doubles the task of those comrades who really have enough energy in them to work. If a branch asks for a speaker they should be prepared to do all they can to make his work a success. Every branch should at their next meeting elect a literary agent, who should be a member of the campaign committee. It should be his duty to see to it that there is a bundle of Workers' Calls at every meeting, also a good supply of Socialist pamphlets for sale and smaller leaflets for distribution. Another comrade should be appointed to see that petitions and subscription blanks for the campaign fund are circulated at the close of the meeting. These things are of equal if not greater importance than the work of the speaker.

New Socialist Arrives.

On Sunday, 5th inst., a son was born to our comrade John Gillespie of 1612 Washington boulevard. Mother and child both doing well. Comrade Gillespie came into our office the other day and appeared so well satisfied with himself that we suspected that something out of the usual had occurred, and upon inquiry elicited the information above given. The happy father informed us also that the new arrival would most certainly become a Socialist, a piece of information which we considered on the whole as being superfluous. Twenty years from now a non-Socialist will most probably be classed as a freak, and from what we know of Comrade Gillespie there is no reason to suspect him of being responsible for the production of anything that could possibly come under that head.

ECHOES OF SOCIALISM.

Comrades in Genoa, Ill. Reply to the Misstatements of the Local Capitalist Editor.

It seems that the visit of our Comrade Berlin to Genoa, Ill., has caused a ripple of excitement in the calm and peaceful bosom of the capitalist society in that locality, which was not yet subsided. The local Journal, true to the methods pursued by its metropolitan brethren, came out as follows, a few days after the meeting in question:

As announced last week, Mr. Berlin, a representative of the Socialist party, delivered an address to a small audience in the grove in the rear of the school house last Sunday.

His theme was directed, principally against the capitalists and the trusts. In the course of his remarks he stated that six years ago his party polled one vote in DeKalb county, four years ago two votes, and two years ago rallied a total of twelve in the county, and he expects to see a large increase at the next election.

Our townsman, J. Franissen was on hand and handed out Socialist literature to some of the crowd. This was the first campaign speech in Genoa and from now on we will hear of them often. Campaign taffy will be rye and thick but after election it soon soars.

The Socialist comrades in Genoa were by no means content to allow this misleading account to pass unnoticed, and have sent the following open letter in reply, requesting its publication in the columns of the Workers' Call:

Editor Genoa Journal:—

Sir:—In your issue of August 3rd, an alleged account of the Socialist meeting held here last Sunday appears. Notwithstanding the fact that the account in question seems deliberately intended to minimize and cast discredit upon the movement which represents the interests of the working class, the Socialists are thankful at least for the free advertisement they received through your columns. The misrepresentations which all capitalist journals, yours included, deem it their duty to publish about socialism, is expected by them and occasions no particular surprise. Nevertheless we cannot allow them to pass unnoticed, if by any possibility those who attended the meeting in question and the readers of your paper can be reached by a reply from us. It may be said at first, that Socialists are well accustomed to address much smaller meetings than the one held in the schoolhouse park, but that year by year their audiences have grown continually larger. In fact they are growing so large that Republicans and Democrats are now giving evidence of their displeasure by attempting to interfere, disrupt or prohibit them upon every possible occasion. You as editor of the Genoa Journal may perhaps not be aware of this, owing to the fact that your isolated situation combined with your ignorance of the growth and nature of the movement, precludes such knowledge upon your part, but it is not fair that your readers should suffer through your lack of knowledge, although like every other American citizen you have the inalienable right to make a fool of yourself if you feel disposed, and the Socialists would be the last to deny you that privilege. If you like to consider this "campaign taffy," it is your privilege to do so, but if you had listened and understood the remarks of the speaker you criticized, you would have discovered a remarkable resemblance to the plain statements which we now make to you. If it is "political taffy" to tell the working class that lack of intelligence as regards their class interests is responsible for the evils they suffer from, you will surely see that it is quite a different sort of sweetmeat from that dished out to them by Republican and Democratic politicians. Concerning the statement you make in your columns that the speaker "directed his remarks principally against the capitalists and the trusts," we would observe that it is positively false. Whether you are hard of hearing, or merely making a mistake, or willfully misrepresenting does not alter the fact that your statement is devoid of truth. Socialists do not now and never did "speak against" either. They could not do it if they would and would not if they could, lay one straw in the way of capitalist development. They recognize in the trust the highest, most developed, and best organized form of capitalist production, and they would rather push that development than otherwise, knowing that they cannot go ahead of it, knowing that socialism can not triumph until capitalism has run its course. It was along the lines here described that the speaker made his argument for socialism when referring to capitalists and the trusts, and it might be thought strange that you alone were the only one present who mistook the import of his words. But to the Socialists it is no mystery. He knows that in publishing falsehoods regarding socialism you are merely defending what you consider your material interests. The object of socialism is to further the material interests of the working class, but unlike capitalism, it must depend upon the truth for such furtherance.

Socialists of Genoa, Ill.

How many copies of the Labor Day issue will your branch distribute?

The exclusive right to sell papers and Socialist literature on the picnic grounds will be reserved for the benefit of the Workers' Call, who will have a stand filled with all forms of Socialist literature.

Comrade August Klenke will speak at Virden, Ill., on August 23rd, instead of Springfield, as advertised.

Readers of the Call will watch for notice of meeting in local papers.

CREDITOR AND DEBTOR.

A "Business" Letter with a Socialist Postscript Attached. Minneapolis, Aug. 6th, 1900.

J. H. Dear Sir:—Your note for \$500.00, secured by mortgage upon your home, and upon which you have paid something over \$300.00, the balance being long past due, has been given me for collection. Please call at 330 20th Ave. N., at your earliest convenience, between the hours of 8 a. m. and 6:30 p. m. and let me know exactly what you are able to do in the matter.

Respectfully,
J. E. Nash.

P. S. I write the above as a matter of business, and it will be to your advantage to give the same your early attention; yet in doing so I am constrained to add a few words in hopes it may set your mind at work to discover the reason why a hard working-man should be forced into such a position as to practically run the risk of losing all his hard-earned savings. Why are laws made to favor the rich and degrade the poor; why the rich, though producing nothing, and living in luxury, often in riot and debauchery, are growing rich more rapidly than at any period of the world's history, and why our workmen, (the producers of all wealth), are steadily and surely growing poorer. Are you aware of the fact that there are supposed to be about 16,000,000 voters in the country, 12,000,000, or three-fourths being producers or workmen, and the other one-fourth, or 4,000,000, being non-producers, consisting of the capitalist class and their henchmen.

Of this class I will only mention the banker as the representative of the capitalist, and the lawyer as his paid attorney or agent, and ready to embark in any scheme to favor the interests of his clients.

Are you aware that there are only about 70,000 lawyers and 19,000 bankers in the country. A number so small relatively as to be almost imperceptible, and yet are you aware that 250 out of our 330 congressmen are lawyers, while they are, in proportion to their numbers, only entitled to one and a fraction vote? Did you know that these 250 agents of the capitalists are assisted by nine bankers, whom the votes of the laborers of the country have sent into the halls of congress? And do you know the great study of these nine capitalists and their 250 attorneys or agents is to make laws that will permit their class to absorb the greatest possible amount of the fruit of the laborers' toil, and excite the smallest amount of suspicion while so doing? Are you aware that the producers, whose numbers would entitle them to 243 congressmen, send not a single one of their own number to represent their own class interests, when common sense should teach them, they have it in their power to make laws that will forever put an end to the trust, the great monopolies and the wealthy generally, from riding upon their backs and absorbing the product of their labor? Are you aware that the great daily press is owned by the capitalist class; being run exclusively in their interests? That it is in fact their mouthpiece, and run to fool and deceive the producer; to pull the wool over his eyes, so to speak, and induce him to vote for the very system by which he is exploited and degraded? These are all solemn facts which should be thoroughly studied by everyone. And now, last of all, permit me to ask: Do the capitalist class use your vote to help perpetuate a system so unutterably damnable?

Respectfully,
J. E. Nash.

Socialism in Quincy.

Quincy, Ill., Sunday, Aug. 12, 1900. Comrade Robert Rives LaMonte spoke at two open air meetings here today and stirred things up. The evening meeting was specially successful. The audience showed deep interest, and a gust of wind which burst with great suddenness and seemed to be the beginning of a violent storm was powerless to disperse them. The audience lingered a long time asking questions, and listening to the speaker's answers.

The local comrades are much encouraged and expect to organize a strong and active local during Comrade Klenke's visit this week. Besides the old guard of faithful workers who have always supported Section Quincy, Comrade Wilbur Costello of 223 N. Fifth street, who has not hitherto been identified with the organized movement, did much to contribute to the success of Comrade LaMonte's meetings. Quincy will be heard from in November. Miles Laboris.

"Free Speech" Again.

We have received a copy of the Cleveland World containing an account of the arrest of our comrade, Max Hayes, editor of the Cleveland Citizen, for outdoor speaking. The pretext for the arrest was the stereotyped one of "disorderly conduct," the police alleging that Comrade Hayes called the mayor of the city a "foul name." From our own experience in Chicago we know exactly the amount of truth which such charges usually contain. Comrade Hayes, however, intends to fight the case to a finish, and it is most likely that the powers that be will find their efforts at suppression repaid to by an increased Socialist vote.

Democracy is the Dead Sea fruit of politics; all is fair to the eye but inside nothing but ashes.

Youth and Old Age (Continued from page 1.)

and bookkeepers. At last a younger man took my place. Then came the women; salaries were cut and again I was out of work. I haven't tasted liquor in fifteen years.

"Since I've been looking for a job I've seen things lying about. I began to argue that I might take them—might pawn them for food. I wondered why some people had no much and I so little. My hands began to itch. The temptation I'm here—to prevent myself from becoming a thief."

Acker comes of an old New York family. He has documents to prove that his grandfather was a drummer boy in the continental army. His grandfather lived on Great Jones street and was the first clerk in Washington market.

There is nothing particularly unique about this. Nothing which would justify the raising of a calamity howl over the woes of this aged individual. It is merely an ordinary, everyday experience of thousands similarly situated. The details of course may be exactly alike. Some men in like circumstances rid the earth of their unwelcome presence by hanging, drowning, shooting or poisoning themselves, or by some other method of suicide. Some become wanderers, beggars and tramps, others seek the shelter of workhouses, and others again find their way into the penitentiaries, having first tried what this unfortunate old man attempted to avoid, that is, theft. Others, again, and these last perhaps the majority, are still engaged in the hopeless quest for work, with the prospect before them of ending up with the jail, the almshouse or suicide.

We can well believe that this old man didn't drink. He could not very well indulge the appetite. But it is not so certain that he had no bad habits. Isn't the habit of growing old to be considered a bad habit when it brings results like the above? And unfortunately we are all without exception addicted to that habit. What a beautiful world we might have if people didn't insist upon growing old!

This old man didn't want to become a thief. He doubtless thought that to secure a six months' jail sentence without giving way to the temptation. "What is a thief anyhow? A thief is a fellow who takes what doesn't belong to him without giving an equivalent for it. There are two sorts of thieves. One species steals under cover of the law and the other steals outside of it. It is generally the latter sort that get sent to jail. The former make the laws and can operate safely under their protection. Old man Acker couldn't get in amongst the first set. There was too much competition. Besides he most likely didn't recognize them as thieves, because they are generally called some other name, such as financiers, capitalists, smart business men, etc. And they didn't want anything to do with him because he was too old—had already been robbed—there was no swag, no profit, no surplus product to be gained by employing him.

When he was younger he most probably helped by his vote to put this class in a position to make or continue making the laws by which they were enabled to rob him and his class. He was a good Republican or Democrat, also a patriotic American citizen, but unfortunately for himself, he contracted the evil habit of growing old, and paid the penalty for his wickedness by going to jail for six months.

This isn't a "beautiful dream" by any means. Neither is the system which makes such things possible. Every individual wage earner is growing old and has a similar prospect before him. With the suggestion that the study of Socialist literature might show how to avoid it, we take leave of this subject.

They Dare Not.

To those who are inclined to be fooled with the rot about Republicans contributing to the Socialist campaign fund it might be well to say that up to the present time the only party that has dared to publish the complete list of all contributions to its campaign fund is the Socialist party. Will the Chicago American do the same for the Democratic party? We fancy it would read something like this: New York Ice Trust, \$500,000; Copper Trust Clark of Montana, \$500,000; Perry Belmont, \$300,000; Standard Oil and Idaho Mine Owners, (for services performed in the Coeur d'Alene), \$1,000,000, etc.

Men Versus Horses.

An unconscious commentary upon the value of human life may be found by those who can read between the lines the news furnished in the capitalist press. In giving a list of deaths which occurred recently, due to the intense heat which prevailed during the last ten days or so, the Chicago Tribune of the 12th inst. also furnishes a list of the number of horses which succumbed to the hot weather. It makes a careful calculation of their value in dollars and bewails the loss incurred by their owners, but not one word is said about the value of the human victims who in many cases were teamsters actually engaged in driving these horses. The laborer and his children and those otherwise dependent upon him are about the cheapest product of the century. The loss of a horse can be replaced with difficulty, but the human being of the wage working class, not being the property of any particular capitalist, is therefore never missed, thousands being always ready to take his place.

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